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483—Hibbard, F. A., residence
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132-31—Kierstead, A. F., George
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314-31—Parker, Chas. E., Charlotte
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 Church.

Parent, Bird & Co., Grocery Store,
 Corner Queen and York Streets.

Liberalism has Fought the Battles of the Plain People

At a great meeting in London on Dominion Day, Mr. N. W. Rowell, the Liberal leader in Ontario, in the course of a magnificent speech reviewed the achievements of Liberalism and enumerated some of the great triumphs won for the common people. He said:—

POLICY OF THE LIBERALS

"It will not be out of place, at this opening meeting in our educational campaign, if I briefly state the general attitude and policy of the Liberal party in this Province on the problems now pressing for solution at the hands of our Provincial Legislature. If we rightly understand the essential principles of Liberalism, we should not be in doubt as to the attitude and policy."

"While social and political conditions in Canada and Great Britain are very different, there is no doubt that the Liberalism and Conservatism of Great Britain have exercised and still exercise, a very marked influence in the character and policies of the Liberal and Conservative parties in this country. (Cheers.)"

"Liberalism and Conservatism are two distinct attitudes of mind—one Liberal, the other Conservative—towards public questions, not peculiar to Canada or Great Britain, but present to a greater or less degree, under various names, in every progressive country of the world."

CONSERVATISM DEFENDER

"Lord Hugh Cecil, one of the most brilliant leaders of the Conservative party in Great Britain, has recently written a book on 'Conservatism' in which he defines the three streams of influence which, combining, make up the modern Conservative party in Great Britain."

1. "Pure Conservatism," which gives name and character to the party. This he defines as a disposition adverse from change, and it springs partly from a distrust of the unknown and corresponding reliance on experience, rather than on theoretic reasoning."

2. "Toryism," the king and church party, which had grown up in opposition to the reforming Puritans. It believed in the divine right of kings, in the divine right of the church, and stood for maintaining the rights and privileges of both."

3. "An influence difficult to define, sometimes called 'imperialism,' and sometimes 'jingoism.' He says 'By this way of thinking, men turn their eyes away from the domestic conflicts... to the part the country, as a whole, can and ought to play in the affairs of the world.'"

"It may therefore be fairly stated that the Conservative party stands for the maintenance of the established order, the rights of the governing classes, and for an aggressive foreign policy. This does not mean that they are unmindful of the interests of the less favored classes; but they interests are not the immediate objective in view in shaping their policy, as they believe that the interests of the masses are best served when the established order and the rights of the ruling classes are maintained."

A BOOK ON LIBERALISM

"Professor Hobhouse, professor of sociology in London University, has just written a book on Liberalism. His definition and description of Liberalism is equally interesting. He points out that we enter the modern period of British history with society constituted on a thoroughly authoritative basis, the kingly power supreme and tending towards arbitrary despotism, and below the King the social hierarchy extending from the great territorial lord to the day laborer; that the protest against that order, a protest religious, political, economic, social and ethical, is the historic beginning of Liberalism. It finds humanity oppressed, and would set it free. He tells us that Liberalism was a struggle for liberty personal, civil, political, fiscal, social, economic, domestic, national and international. (Cheers) It was a struggle for the rights of the people as against privilege and privileged interests and classes; that with this struggle for liberty came the struggle of equality of opportunity for all men. The greatest victories of Liberalism during the past century were

necessarily along the lines of constitutional reform. They had to secure the right of government by the people before they could securely establish government for the people. The Liberal party was not indifferent to imperial and international relationships but imperial and international aspirations were not controlling motives in determining its policy. The welfare of the masses is the ideal that animates and inspires Liberalism in Great Britain today."

FOR FREE AND FAIR OPPORTUNITY

"It may fairly be stated that whatever else Liberalism in Great Britain stands for, above all it has stood and stands for enlarging the liberties of the masses of the people and increasing their opportunities for moral, social and industrial betterment. It is the urgent aim of present-day Liberalism to secure for the people social and economic conditions under which mind and character may have free and fair opportunity of developing themselves, and the normal man who is not defective in mind, body or will, can by useful labor feed house and clothe himself and his family. The accomplishment of this great purpose under the social and industrial conditions existing in Great Britain undoubtedly means social reconstruction. The Lloyd George budget, carrying with it reform in land taxation; old age pensions, and national insurance, in case of sickness and unemployment, are a few of the measures of social reform designed to accomplish this aim. (Applause.)"

"The history of Liberalism and Conservatism in Canada has been along somewhat similar lines."

LIBERAL BATTLES

"Liberalism had to fight much the same battles in this province as in Great Britain. The struggle for civil political and religious liberty and equality for the masses of the people was long and bitter, but was successful."

"The triumphs of Liberalism in Canada in the past century brought us great constitutional reforms:

1. Responsible government.
2. Representation by population.
3. The extension of the franchise.
4. Vote by ballot.
5. Disfranchisement of what was practically a state church, commonly called 'the secularization of the clergy reserves,' and putting upon an equality all religious denominations.
6. A system of common schools.
7. Municipal self-government.
8. Canadian confederation, with the right of provincial self-government, of the recognition of Canada as a nation—one of the free nations of the Empire.

"The great measures were not all passed into law by Liberal Governments, but, where they were not, Liberal leaders created the public sentiment which demanded the reforms, and Conservative leaders granted them rather than retire from office."

"The battle for constitutional reform has been largely won. We have secured the right of government by the people. The governing classes are no longer the few but the many."

EFFECT OF LIBERALISM

"Liberal principles have also largely modified the character and policy of the Conservative party in this country. There are in the Conservative party a number of men, no doubt, who hold the Liberal view on many questions, and yet vote with their party, and their presence and influence, has doubtless resulted in the Conservative party sometimes adopting the Liberal view on public questions. It is equally true that there are some men in the Liberal party who hold the Conservative point of view on various questions, and yet still vote with their party, and their presence, no doubt, has on some issues, made the Liberal party more Conservative in its attitude than it otherwise would have been. It is also true that long tenure in office tends to make a Liberal Government more Conservative, while the tenure in opposition tends to make a Conservative opposition more Liberal. But after making all allowances, Conservative correctly describes the general attitude and policy of the one party, and Liberal the general attitude and policy of the other."

FIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE

"Liberalism has not accomplished its purpose or spent its force, when it has won for the people the right to rule. These victories must be defended against the forces of reaction and the growing power of corporate wealth and influence. The present Government during the last session procured an act whereby it put into the hands of the executive, and withdrew from the control of the representatives of the people, the expenditure of \$5,000,000 for the development of Northern Ontario. 'This act is a most serious blow at one of the most vital principles of responsible self-government viz., the absolute control of the Legislature over the expenditure of public money. Liberalism has not won the right for the representatives of the people to fight this battle over again, but the victory will be sure! These triumphs of the past should but put us in this province, as in Great Britain, in the position to undertake the still greater task of social reform."

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SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PEOPLE

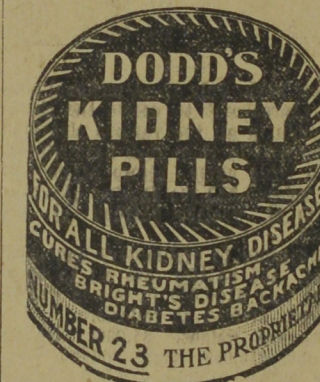
"If we are true to Liberal principles and traditions, we must insure that the government shall be not only in name but in reality, by the people and for the people. Liberalism believes in the sovereignty of the people. (Cheers.) She has secured for democracy the right to rule, but the success of this rule depends upon the people, accepting their full share of responsibility in the work of government. The engrossment of business, the pursuit of pleasure, or indifference to public affairs, lead many to forget that every citizen owes a duty to his country just as truly as he does to his family, his neighbor and his God. (Cheers.) He may shirk it, but he cannot relieve himself of the responsibility. Every citizen in a free, democratic country, who fails intelligently to discharge his political duties neglects to fulfill one of the primary obligations of his citizenship. One of our most crying needs today is an awakening among all classes of our citizens to a full recognition of these obligations. Liberalism must give itself to this task. We should be glad not only to vote for the cause in which we believe, but, to the extent of our ability and opportunity, to cheerfully and enthusiastically promote that cause. Just in so far as any considerable number of citizens fail to take an intelligent and active interest in our political affairs, they increase the opportunity for corporate and corrupt influence to determine our representation in Parliament and Legislature and to influence the course of legislation and administration. If we are to have in reality government by the people, we can only secure it by the people discharging their political duties. (Applause.)"

"The other great task of Liberalism must be to insure that the Government shall be for the people; that great measures of social reform shall be pushed to the front. The splendid achievements of Liberalism in Great Britain in the line of social reform are heartening true Liberals the world over. Questions of national trade, transportation and defence, questions of imperial and international relationships, are within the jurisdiction of the Dominion, but this province has jurisdiction over those social questions which are now stirring the hearts of all social reformers."

POSITION OF ADVANTAGE

"We have a great position of advantage in this province, as compared with other provinces."

(Continued on page 5)



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