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THE TORY PLATFORM

Mr. Borden does not seem to have evolved anything new or startling in his address at Halifax, which was intended as an announcement of the platform upon which he and his party propose to appeal to the country for a mandate to undertake its government.

The people of Canada do not look to Mr. Borden for practical proposals or constructive statesmanship. While they regard him as a very estimable gentleman, a good lawyer, and a fair political opponent, they have seen and heard enough of him to realize that he has neither the breadth nor depth to grapple with the big problems that make for the development of this great country and its abundant resources; that when measured with the distinguished leader of the Liberal party Mr. Borden shrinks into insignificance.

Mr. Borden is, indeed, only a stop-gap leader—a compromise because the Tory party in the awful catastrophe that overtook them in 1900, were bereft of the men who had a national reputation.

Mr. Borden made such a failure in leadership from 1900 to 1904, that he was ignominiously defeated in his own constituency in the latter year, and failed to carry a single constituency in his native province. Nor was he much better off in all Canada, which declined to listen to his propaganda then as it is not seriously interested now in his made-over platform, which, while abundant in glittering generalities, is deficient in practical or suggestive or statesmanlike quality.

Mr. Borden himself is not recognized by many leading men in his party as fit to lead. There are factions and cabals against him and evidently he recognizes the force of the movement against him for at Halifax he sorrowfully admitted that he did not know whether he would be leader after the next election.

A party leader who enters upon a stumping campaign of the country with insurrection in the ranks, and a platform so barren as that enunciated by Mr. Borden at Halifax presents a pitiable spectacle, and can make no permanent impression on the electorate.

BOURASSA'S DISAPPOINTMENT

Mr. Bourassa, M. P., has had a serious disappointment. He has addressed another political meeting in the province of Quebec, and nobody has thrown a brickbat or a stale egg at him.

This is disheartening, and Mr. Bourassa may be expected to abandon his campaign if there are to be no rows raging around the forum where he unfolds his program.

A martyr, without the necessary martyrdom is a sickly thing. Mr. Bourassa is the kind of man who would flourish best with sticks and stones flying his direction.

There is nothing in his speeches that will arouse the country to a belief that he is a new Moses to lead the people out of the political wilderness, and if his opponents do not work up a row at his meetings, Mr. Bourassa will drop into seclusion and obscurity.

The history of third party leaders in Canada has not been encouraging. Peter Mitchell and Dalton McCarthy, now

passed away, were striking evidences of the fact, and Mr. Bourassa, while he may cut some figure as long as there are some people foolish enough to add to his advertising outfit by casting sticks and stones at him, will drop out of sight, ground to death between the nether millstones of the two great parties in Canada. Indeed, it is pretty certain that had his services been sought by his former party leader as a cabinet minister Mr. Bourassa would not now be posing before the country in his present capacity.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria, is 77 years old, but is still vigorous, mentally and physically.

Secretary Hooper says everybody is coming to the Fredericton exhibition and that it will be the biggest and best that has been.

The St. John Telegraph's independence, where is it. The cloak is off already, and it is backing Borden. Just what was expected of it.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, last, the province of Quebec has a surplus of half a million dollars. Premier Gouin, the Liberal leader, is giving Quebec splendid government.

Mr. Borden, at Halifax, said the Tory party did not go out of office soon enough, and everybody will cordially agree with that portion of his address. Having got the Tory party out of business at Ottawa, it is proposed to keep them out until at least they can show better reasons for their return than Mr. Borden put forward in his Halifax speech.

The Tory papers are taking credit for Sir Hibbert Tupper being poorer when he left politics than when he entered public life. As Sir Hibbert was pushed into parliament by an indulgent papa when he was only 27, he had not much opportunity of becoming rich, or even self-sustaining, previous to his advent at Ottawa. But what about Sir Charles himself. How did he get rich?

Mr. Hazen's Fredericton organ with glee asserted that the local government was unable to negotiate even a small loan, \$38,000, was it not, from the banks, and Premier Robinson's answer is the announcement that he has secured an advance of \$1,500,000 from the Bank of Montreal, at a rate of less than five per cent. Mr. Hazen should engage less sensational and better informed writers for his organs.

Mr. Foster, who was in St. John yesterday, says he is going to speak at Mr. Borden's meetings in Nova Scotia, and may also be heard in this province. What is the difference. Liberals do not fear him. It will take all his time defending himself against the revelations of the Insurance Commission. As one of the Tory upper province papers put it, Mr. Foster is "a dead duck," and "his attacks have lost their cogency."

ON THE SIDE

Well after all, perhaps Borden is taking Foster along as the terrible example of a wasted political life.

Mr. Borden has not taken Geo. W. Fowler with him on his stumping tour. The Tory leader can even stand Foster but Fowler, ugh!

The picnic projectors have evidently got the ear of the weather man.

Mr. Plunder will be on the lookout for a white eyed sheep when Deputy Commissioner Peters gets back from his Ontario trip.

Mr. Hazen's Sunbury political platform has vanished. The generous rains have kept the wells from going dry.

The people of Halifax listen patiently to Borden, but when they

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vote they mark their ballots Liberal.

Encouraged by Premier Robinson's successful financing the editor of this column is thinking of going home to England to float a \$40,000,000 loan.

"Yes! I married no less than eighty young people in my last parish."

"Then you oughter be erashed o' yourself (after a pause); you're worse than Solomon!" —The By-stander.

"This has been forced on me," said the blushing groom as he rose to reply to the toast to the bride. She at once left for South Dakota for a divorce.

"George, the cook has gone."
"Let her go. I never liked her."
"But she took all my current jelly and both my best tablecloths."

"O, let her go."
"And she carried off the recipe for waffles you like so well."

"What's that! Which way did she go? Why did you not call the police?"

CITY TAXES

The assessment roll for the year 1907 is now in the hands of the City Treasurer, and notices have been issued.

All persons therein assessed are hereby notified that they will be entitled to a discount of five per cent. on the amount of their respective taxes, if the same be paid to the City Treasurer, at his office in the city hall, Fredericton, on or before the 20th. day of August next, after which date executions will be issued, and 50 cents costs incurred on all taxes remaining unpaid after the said 20th. day of August.

Special attention is drawn to the fact that there will be no extension of time this year.

Dated at the Office of the City Treasurer this 15th. day of July, 1907.

ISRAEL R. GOLDING,
City Treasurer.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Copy for changes of ads. should be in the Herald Office before 9.30 o'clock, a. m. in order to insure changes being made,—dtf.

AUGUST 13, 1907.

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