

OTTAWA LETTER

Tories Disgraced and Incompetent, they Dissipated Public Property

Men who Criticize the Government's Wise Policy of Building G. I. Pacific are the same who gave away the C. P. R. for Nothing

Canada's Trade Growth Compared with Results in Tory Times

OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—The Liberal Government seldom makes an unsuccessful appeal to the country. At four recent elections the Liberals have been the victors. If this has any meaning at all, it signifies continued confidence in the administration.

Canada's prosperity, the number of advantageous measures framed and enacted by the Liberal Government, the attention given to every detail of the public business, have been a sufficient answer to the slanderous attacks made by a small coterie of the Conservative party.

The people of Canada don't want nests of traitors, anonymous letter writers in the Cabinet, the population diminished, higher taxation, neither do they want the taxes placed in private pockets, as was the case in Conservative days, but in the public treasury. As no sane man wants a repetition of these abuses, the electors vote for the candidate who stands for pure government, prosperity, for national growth and development of natural resources; therefore it is reasonable and the course of wisdom for the people to support the Liberal candidate.

NOTHING TO IT.

The Conservatives have made a great deal of noise both in and out of Parliament on the subject of reckless extravagance, but their criticism has been as weak as the merits of their cause. In all the innumerable instances of alleged wrongdoing brought to the attention of the House, not in one single instance did the charge survive the first answer to it. In only one solitary instance did the Tories press for a committee of inquiry, and in this case the trivial character of the allegation caused the investigation to collapse most ingloriously. This was the case of the "Arctic," and since that time, while bringing on one matter after another to furnish material for campaign purposes and "get it upon Hansard," yet, in no single case was the matter pressed after its ventilation in the House. No better evidence than this could be introduced to prove how unsubstantial was the foundation upon which charges were made.

It will require more than rumors and malicious charges unaccompanied by evidence to shake the confidence of the people of Canada in Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government. When after eighteen years of misplaced confidence the electors dismissed the Conservative party from the management of their affairs, the country was in a woeful plight. Trade was at a low ebb, increasing at the rate of about one-half of one per cent; population was at a standstill, taxes were not only exorbitant, but were being diverted from the treasury into the pockets of private persons. Canada was a by-word for corruption from one end of the civilized world to the other.

RECKLESS GOVERNMENT.

It is true the Conservative Government had built a great transcontinental railway, but after building it with the money of the people they gave it away, lock, stock and barrel, together with an empire, to a set of railway promoters. How little these puny politicians realized either their responsibilities or the inherent greatness of Canada. How far they were from grasping ought the future might mean for the Dominion under wise administration. The Canadian Pacific, which was practically a free gift, might have been Canada's greatest asset. Last year its gross revenue almost equalled that of the Dominion itself, and the lands owned by the company, obtained free from the Government, are valued at \$100,000,000.

The men who now criticize the policy of the present Government for its very business-like and eminently statesmanlike method of building the Grand Trunk Pacific, are the ones who committed the political crime related above, when by their want of foresight they permitted the Canadian Pacific railroad to pass entirely beyond Government control.

CANNOT BE TRUSTED.

Are such men fitted to be entrusted again with the Government of the country? Can these people administer the really great affairs of today who were utterly disqualified from acting intelligently or honestly when Canada was a country of small things? Would the people be satisfied to hand over national affairs as they are today, with all their fruitful results of wise statesmanship to a party of men whose highest attributes resembles those of the ward heeler? Is it right or reasonable that the duty of statesmen should be delegated to mere politicians?

If the opportunities of grafting, robbing the treasury, dividing the public domain were comparatively small in Conservative days, and yet they

divided millions of the people's money parceled out tens of thousands of acres of timber among themselves, what would they not do now with increased opportunities and greater values to tempt them.

EXPERIENCED GRAFTERS.

To show how keen the Conservatives are on these points, one has only to follow their line of argument when pursuing an enquiry. The wish is father to the thought, as appears by the questions advanced. If the Conservatives cannot find fraud they at least appear to be well versed in the manner of committing the very acts they seek to prove, for upon all occasions they follow a line that shows how intelligent they are upon the system that should be followed to perpetrate fraudulent acts.

WOULD BE A CALAMITY.

For the Conservatives to be placed in power would be a calamity from which Canada would not recover for long years. Their occupancy of place and power would do an injury it would take years to remedy. The disturbance of fiscal conditions would be ruinous to the country. The practical application of the planks in the platform of platitudes would disturb the relations which every province bears to the Dominion. The surrender of proper government functions to an irresponsible commission of Conservative politicians would inaugurate a reign of graft, exceeding in its baneful effects even that of previous Tory years. The people of the new provinces would be brought to the verge of rebellion, having been promised something it is beyond the power of any government to give them. Our relations with other countries would assume a condition of chaos. The cordial relations subsisting now between Great Britain and this country would, to put it mildly, be strained. The credit of the country, sustained by men with a questionable financial reputation would reach a low ebb, and the general condition of affairs would be most deplorable.

IT CANNOT HAPPEN.

It is impossible that such things can happen in Canada. One must lose all faith in human beings to encourage the thought that Canadians desire to return to the dreadful days preceding 1896. Canadians learned their lesson then very thoroughly, and they are not likely to forget it very soon.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE.

The manner in which the west is being populated is probably best shown by the number of homestead entries and the number of acres passing into personal ownership. A comparison of the present government with what was done in Conservative times will reflect great credit on the sagacity and enterprise of the present government. The following table will be read with interest.

STATUTORY OR HOMESTEAD ENTRIES.

5 years ending 30 June, 1902,	41,803,688,480 acres.
5 years ending 30 June, 1907,	130,212; 20,833,920 acres.

The above shows what the policy of the department has accomplished within the past five years, and what substantial gains have been made in securing permanent settlers who will add greatly to the wealth of the Dominion.

For purposes of comparison, let us take ten years previous to the Conservatives going out of office, in 1896 and compare what they accomplished with the result of the next ten years under Liberal administration.

10 years ending 31 December, 1897,	32,300; 5,168,000 acres.
10 years, ending 31 December, 1907,	172,015; 27,522,400 acres.

Surely there cannot be better evidence put forward to justify a policy than is furnished by these figures.

Some figures in general immigration are also interesting as going to prove the class of citizens who are now entering Canada. This will disprove the arguments constantly advanced by the Conservatives that British immigration is falling off.

IMMIGRATION.

5 years ending 1901-1902.	
Gt. Brit'n and Other United Ireland countries States.	Total
56,043	86,242 73,982 236,866

An interesting comparison is made with the five years, just ended, which proves beyond peradventure the contention that an improved class of people are being encouraged to settle in Canada.

5 years ending 1906-1907.	
Gt. Brit'n and Other United Ireland countries States.	Total
56,043	86,242 73,982 236,866

300,112 187,705 230,874 718,691
Carpenter critics who alleged that British immigration was falling off will do well to study these figures, and if they are not inclined to give credit to the government, at least they should cease misrepresenting the facts.

DOMINION LANDS REVENUE.

A well-governed department should be able to show a revenue constantly on the increase. This can be shown by the department of the interior. The following table gives the Dominion lands gross revenue, for ten years ending June 30, 1907 but does not include the revenue from the Yukon territory:

Year	Amount	Five Years
1897-98	\$274,254.32	
1898-99	322,512.02	
1899-00	371,695.40	
1900-01	634,537.08	
1901-02	531,874.91	
	\$2,194,873.73	
1902-03	\$1,181,944.68	
1903-04	1,116,887.96	
1904-05	932,644.18	
1905-06	1,374,337.22	
1906-07	1,727,246.68	
	6,333,060.72	

Increase in 7 years to 30 June, 1907, \$4,138,186.99

Within the last five years the revenue from Dominion lands alone has increased over four millions of dollars, and is greater to that extent than it was in the previous five years and this in the face of the fact that the government is charged with carelessness of the public interest in the disposal of public lands. How absurd and untrue such a charge is may be determined by an examination of the figures here submitted. Tories would not believe in the honesty of a Liberal government, although one rose from the dead to testify. If the Liberals have sold lands they have the money in exchange for them, and the money was promptly paid into the public treasury. The Conservatives gave the lands away for nothing, and at the end had neither lands or money. Whenever the Liberal government disposed of lands they required an equivalent in money, and as money was more useful to the government than the lands, the people received a direct benefit, because the public moneys of Canada are usefully employed so that all the people receive a permanent benefit from the expenditure.

TRADE EXPANSION.

This is always an interesting subject, and reflects very truly the prosperous or depressed state of things as the case may be; after eighteen years of Conservative rule, the total trade of the country increased from 1878 to 1896 \$66,619,306 or equal to an average increase per year of \$3,704,106.

After eleven years of Liberal rule the total trade of the country increased from 1896 to 1907 \$378,939,529, or equal to an average increase per year of \$34,449,054. That is the average increase per year under Liberal rule, was equal to half the total increase under Conservative rule, for eighteen years.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

During eighteen years of Conservative rule the trade with Great Britain increased \$16,297,311, or an average increase per year of \$905,406.

During eleven years of Liberal rule the trade with Great Britain increased \$117,319,460, or an average increase per year of \$10,665,406. In other words the average increase per year under Liberal rule for eleven years was almost equal to the total increase under Conservative rule for eighteen years. Conservative loyalty to Great Britain was by word of mouth, Liberal loyalty is shown by preferential tariff, granted without quid pro quo, and the result is demonstrated by the figures given above.

In 1896 the trade commissions service, then known as the Canadian Commercial Agency Service, practically did not exist. It was in a chaotic state, without instructions, direction or control. The reports of agents were printed in some instance months after they were received. They are now published in the weekly report within a few days of their receipt, and distributed all over the country. The efficiency of this service has contributed not a little to the splendid expansion of Canada's trade, and is additional evidence of what intelligent administration of public affairs will do for a people. Canadians have much to thank the Liberal government for, and the manufacturers and merchants should be particularly grateful for the efforts which have been made on their behalf.

Again the question comes up—will the people of Canada exchange all the benefits they now enjoy, surrender the good things made possible by a Liberal government and turn affairs over to a lot of disgraced, disqualified and incompetent men? There can only be one answer to this, a most emphatic negative, and a grateful people will long continue in office a government that so well deserves, as it has gained public esteem and confidence.

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MAGAGUADWIC CAMP.

We would like to put a space in your paper about our camp, on the Magaguadawic. Our camp is situated on the shore of Lake Magaguadawic, two miles from Magaguadawic siding. Mr. James Scott is in possession, assisted by Mr. John McDonald, Charles Coburn is our cook, and he is a dandy, only he is a little blind in one

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etc. John Moffat is cookey, and he can do that job all right, only he is a little timid when he goes after water, for the wild animals are very thick. He was attacked by one on the ice and would have lost his life only for the timely assistance of Mr. Thomas James and Joshua Howard. Frank Pickard and Sandy McGirr. The muskrat was finally killed by Thomas James. We have a crew of 30 men and a jolly crowd they are. Edward James furnishes us with music on the violin in the evenings. We have five teams dragging logs to the lake. Richard James drives the leading team, a black and a grey. He has for sled tender Sandy Nelson. He says he loaded a pine today the length of a peevy stick across the but and forty feet long, the longest log hauled on the Magaguadawic. His choppers are T. O'Brien and Roy Swan. Cook Jones drives the fancy bays. He has for sled tender Andrew Sloot, and he is a good one, too. His choppers are Marsden Scott and Sim Vance. Frank Pickard drives the sorels. He has a wild and lively crew and has for tender Arthur Johnson, and for choppers Thomas James and Joshua Howard. The chips from their axes often darken the sun and the beasts of the forest from them run. Next comes William Emberton, who drives the handsome grays. He has for tender Arthur Farris and Thomas Patterson and Edward James. Two of the boys started for church last Sunday night, but only one returned. Sim says Harry never got to church and the boys have been very uneasy about him thinking he might be drowned, but he returned safe and sound. Harry is all right. He is only looking for a lady companion.

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INCREASING REVENUE.

The Canadian Pacific Railway's earnings for the year just ended have again beaten all records by over eight million dollars. The gross earnings from the weekly figures published, amount to \$75,254,000, as compared with \$67,142,000 last year, which was thirteen ahead of any previous records. The earnings for this year were two and a half times as great as the figures of 1906. In spite of this, owing to the recent financial depression the earnings for the last week in December showed a decrease of \$94,000 from the holiday traffic returns of the previous year. This was the first increase registered last year was the first decrease registered last year.

What do you think of that? Would it not be an astounding and alarming condition if the revenue of the Dominion did not increase in late years when the revenue of the C. P. R. increased so rapidly? The C. P. R. did not raise its rates, increase its taxation—merely did more business. The Dominion government in 1897 reduced taxation on imports 14 per cent, yet the revenue increased because the country did more business and there was more people to do business. Of all the cries against the government the most foolish and groundless is that they increased taxation. There is certainly not one word of truth in the charge.—Eastern Chronicle.

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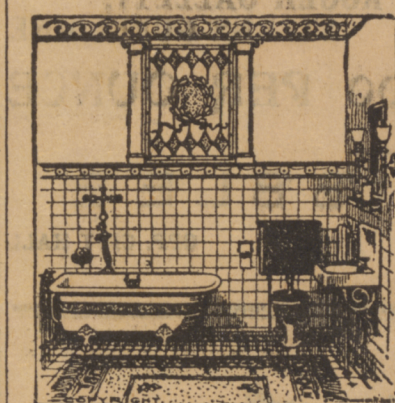
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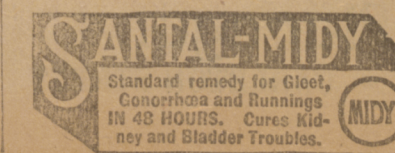
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