

active men are inspired with their cause and the exceptional opportunity of still further advancing it.

LEWIS H. BERENS.

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THE CANADIAN FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

Winnipeg, Can., Nov. 28, 1910.

Arrangements have been completed at Ottawa for the adjournment of the Dominion parliament on December 16 to enable Premier Laurier and his colleagues to receive the monster Grain Growers' deputations which will assemble there on that date to present their demands to the government. It has been stated authoritatively that the Western representatives will number four hundred. These will leave Winnipeg by special train on the night of December 12 and will be joined at Ottawa by two hundred representatives from Ontario and eastern Provinces.

The writer has interviewed R. McKenzie, secretary of the Western Grain Growers' Association, who is preparing the memorials to present to Parliament. Mr. McKenzie, speaking with authority for all agricultural organizations, informed your correspondent that the farmers would ask that the terminal grain elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur be taken over and operated by the government. These elevators must properly be classified as public utilities. In private hands they are a natural monopoly and have been utilized to the benefit and enrichment of the present owners and to the detriment of the public by mixing inferior grades of wheat with the better samples. The demand will also be made that the proposed Hudson Bay Railway be constructed, owned and operated by the government for the benefit of all the people. A determined effort is being made by certain parties to secure a charter, franchise and subsidy for this purpose. The farmers will make it plain that "no railway" is to be preferred to one in the hands of the monopolists that now control Canada's three transcontinental systems.

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Speaking in relation to the tariff Mr. McKenzie stated that a demand would be made for an immediate increase of the preference on British goods imported into Canada to fifty per cent, with a stated annual increase (amount not yet determined) until Free Trade with Britain is obtained. Mr. McKenzie made it plain that no reciprocal preference was desired in return; all the Canadian farmer wants is a continuance of the open door for Canadian farm products. He demands an increase of the preference for his own good and as a logical step toward Free Trade as it is in Britain.

The writer was further informed that a request will be made for reciprocity in natural products and timber, and for Free Trade in agricultural implements, with the United States. A general reduction in customs duties will also be asked, especially on woollens, cottons, sugar, cement, iron and leather manufactures.

Mr. McKenzie stated that the farmers would suggest as a means of supplementing a possible decrease in revenue which might ensue as a result of

the freer trade policy, the gradual introduction of the taxation of the values of coal, timber, agricultural and urban lands, with a view to absorbing for public purposes a portion of the enormous unearned increments now enriching speculators.

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The associated farmers' organizations in Canada, west of the Great Lakes, now embrace a membership of some thirty thousand. It is a significant fact that so many should undertake an arduous journey of one to two thousand miles at a cost to them of fifty thousand dollars, to place the government in possession of their views.

ROBERT L. SCOTT.

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POLITICAL FLAVORS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 3.

Honors are easy, surely, as to personal and official dignity, between Governor-elect Foss and Senator Lodge of Massachusetts. Whether 'tis ignobler for the triumphant Foss, who has been mercilessly snubbed by Lodge for years, even when running as a regular Republican, to seize Lodge by the scruff of the neck and confront him with the plain showing of the overwhelming popular vote of his own rock-ribbed Republican State against his ascendancy; or ignobler still for the repudiated Boss to try to sit tight, in spite of Foss's strangle-hold dragging him into the spot-light of supplementary campaigning to ratify this verdict in the face and eyes of the legislature, is a question which "the gentleman in politics" himself seems to be struggling with in a bewildered, pathetic way. Mr. Foss may be vindictive, may have brought his personal wounds into a public matter; he may have strained the rights of his vantage-ground as victor at the polls and as Governor-elect in demanding the withdrawal of Lodge. But how about Lodge's sense of propriety and public duty in the situation?

In the face of the unmistakable and unquestioned desire of the people of the State to be rid of him and to reverse his policy, is he going to stand upon legal and technical quibbles—to try to pick up, through the still-hunt and gum-shoe methods of his senatorial colleague, enough purchasable Democratic members of the legislature to piece out the ragged edge of the Republican contingent? Whatever may be lacking of courtesy, of conventionality, of Constitutionality, in Foss's grappling with Lodge and holding his crushing humiliation up to a pitiless publicity; as much may be said, must be said, in condemnation and reproof of Lodge's evident determination still to work back, by hook or by crook; to steal a base in the game, to flout and cheat the plain purpose of the great majority of the voters of Massachusetts to retire him. He has made this much of concession to the simple and manifest requirements of decency—he has ostentatiously retired—to New York! It is only five hours away, to be sure, and there are means of communication, at a pinch, that take less time. But it can at least be said that he is not personally running his campaign to re-elect himself according to the forms of law and legislative procedure, no matter how obnoxious

the voters consider him and how much they wish to induct the right-about-face to the course of public policy he has engineered.



Beyond the personalities in the case, however, loom the great general issues of the failure and the reform of our "representative institutions." The democracy of the Twentieth century is clearing out the "representative institutions" set up by the aristocratic American "Fathers" of the Eighteenth century. The Electoral College, constituted to elect the President of the United States, long since went the way of knee-breeches and silver shoe-buckles. The election of Senators by the legislatures, must go, and is going,—all but gone. It was the presumption that only "gentlemen," with the "gentleman's" instinctive honor and sensitiveness to his constituents' sentiments in his representative character, would be the outcome of this mode of selection,—that above all no gentleman thought of in such a relation would be capable of engineering his own election. The cases of Lodge and of hundreds of other Senators of the United States have amply proven the futility of this early calculation. Foss, willy-nilly, has been, from his first entrance into politics, an opponent of the entrenched machine and an advocate of direct nominations and all similar appeals to the voters over the heads of the professional middlemen. Lodge has with equal necessity and consistency fought off all approaches to direct nominations and all other infringements upon the grip of the machine through perverted "representative institutions." The public interest is even greater, then, than the personal in this resounding battle that has been joined between Foss and Lodge in Massachusetts.



Nor is the battle confined to these two champions. That interesting young and rising Republican leader, Speaker Walker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, has within the past year shocked the regulars by declaring for the direct nomination system, so far as State officials are concerned. At the same time he has shown a purpose to break into the system of entailing the succession to the Republican gubernatorial candidacy, by which Lodge has kept his ascendancy in a self-perpetuating State machine. Worse and more of it, he has declared for tariff revision that will really revise. To be sure, he has reaffirmed his undying devotion to the principle of Protection. The bridge by which he crosses over toward liberalism on this subject, without sacrificing his party standing, is the device of that luckless politician, the President, for a tariff commission, with revision schedule by schedule. The Speaker still clings, as in party duty bound, to the old hypocrisy, that the tariff exists to equalize the cost of production as against the pauper wages of Europe; and that the tariff commission can tell exactly what is necessary to effect this amount of protection to wages of American tollers, and will guarantee the consuming public against any exaction in excess of what is necessary to accomplish this beneficent object! It will be seen that the Hon. Joseph Walker (who may be the next Governor of Massachusetts) has a sufficient amount of the wisdom of the serpent along with his dove-like good-

will toward safe and sane advance. He is the son of the late Congressman Walker of Worcester who used to allow that he was the only member of the currency committee who knew anything about the currency question and that he coached Speaker Reed (finding him a very thick-headed pupil) on the silver problem. The father used to say that his son and heir was destined for the United States Senate, and many worse things might happen than that Joseph—I had almost written "Surface"—should get there by and by!

He has won the cordial good wishes of a new host of observers recently by a plucky and enterprising attempt to commit the old Bourbon Home Market Club to the Taft tariff-commission and piecemeal revision policy. "Let us never forget," said Joseph Walker, at the Home Market Club meeting where he sprung his proposal on that scandalized body, "that there is a vast difference between the preservation of the home market for home industries, and the exploitation of the home market by special interests." The president of the Home Market Club, one MacColl, a Providence mill-man, had denounced piecemeal revision of the tariff as depriving protected interests of the advantage of consolidating their claims by arrangements with one another. Speaker Walker had the courage, in his speech following, to hold up to reprobation as log-rolling and corruption. Young Walker had the valuable honor of being voted down by the assembled members of the Home Market Club in his proposed endorsement of President Taft's programme. But he subsequently made a postal-card canvass of the full membership and secured a vote of about three to one in his favor, and in rebuke of the notorious Whitman, MacColl and other ruling spirits of the moribund club of stand-patters.

E. H. CLEMENT.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, December 6, 1910.

The British Elections.

The first pollings in the series of British elections that began on the 3d (p. 1139) were reported by the news despatches to have been keenly disappointing to the Tories. Mr. Balfour, the Tory leader, had aroused hope of union of his Protection and anti-Protection followers by promising no Protection legislation without a referendum. He had also advocated the Referendum as the best means of breaking deadlocks between the two Houses. But Mr. Asquith, the Liberal leader and present prime minister, described Balfour's proposal as a "caricature of the Referendum;" he explained that it would mean a referendum on all