

## THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

### Disgusting and Humiliating.

Ottawa Citizen:—It is disgusting and humiliating to loyal Canadians to learn of such a low state of political morality as the present exposure in Manitoba. But it should be remembered that the main difference between the Roblin and some other party funds is that Manitoba has found out. Hon. J. K. Flemming had to resign the Premiership of New Brunswick because of a Royal Commission exposure last year. But, after being found guilty of practically compelling a contractor to pay him money, ex-Premier Flemming has been accepted by the Conservative party as Federal candidate to oppose Mr. Frank Carvell in the next general election . . . and it would seem reasonable to conclude, ex-Premier Flemming could not run without the support of the Conservative party, without appearing to have the consent of the party's leader, Sir Robert Borden.

### Elections in War Time.

London News and Leader:—Sir Wilfrid Laurier has intimated his readiness to support, from patriotic motives, the Government of his opponents, provided there be no attempt at a dissolution of the Canadian Parliament during the war. In Australia and New Zealand, whose patriotism is as little suspected as Canada's, there has already, on the other hand, been a general election since the declaration of war. In this country the problem is complicated by the Parliament act and the political truce, and it is true, of course, that there is a difference between a change in the Imperial and a change in colonial Government. But it is in essence the same. The real objection to a general election here—as presumably in **Canada**—is the considerable proportion of electors who could not, owing to the war, record their votes. Even if it were not the fact that those opposed to it maintain, the defeated party would be sure to claim that it was, and the utmost rancor of party conflict would be excited at a time when nothing but evil can result from it.

### Foreign Schools in West.

Winnipeg Free Press:—For the future a different class of teachers for the Polish and **Ukrainian** settlements will have to be looked to. And this class is slowly emerging. It consists of Polish and **Ukrainian** boys and girls who have been through our Canadian elementary schools and our high schools. In the meantime there is no reason in the world why a certain number of English-speaking teachers, imbued with the missionary spirit, should not devote themselves to the foreign districts. If they were to go there in the right spirit, as the friends and social servants of the foreign settlers and their children, it would not be long before these people would rise up and call them blessed.

### Italy and the Alliance.

Westminster Gazette:—Italy, if a new comrade in arms, is an old friend whose affinity with this country has for sixty years been one of the abiding facts in a world of shifting diplomacy. Long ago a German Foreign Minister proclaimed that alliances with one group of European powers did not preclude friendships with other powers which were outside the group. Italy alone of the powers within the Triple Alliance acted steadily on that principle

until the behavior of her partners, compelled her definitely to throw in her lot with their enemies. She has not taken that step without grave searchings of heart, nor from any cowardly impulse to strike when her former friends are disarmed. She comes in manfully and honorably to take her share in a struggle of which the gravity cannot be disguised, with full weighing of all risks and liabilities.