

## A BLACK CHAPTER

The Roblin Government is up, tight and hard, against uncontradicted, uncontradictable evidence, linking one of its departments with a conspiracy to plug the voters' lists in this city.

The shocking conspiracy was revealed in all its hideousness before His Honor Judge Dawson at a sitting of the court of revision for Center Winnipeg.

J. J. Pickersgill, an employe of the Roblin Government's liquor license department, told of signing many fake affidavits in the office of the license department; that he was ordered by the assistant chief license inspector to do the work; how the naturalization fees were paid by the license department and by the provincial morality officer, and finally how these papers were afterwards distributed to the Churchill Club—"a club of that class"—and, so he surmised, to the various hotels of a class around the city.

This government witness, showing some signs of repentance, said he knew he was doing wrong, and said so to his boss, who told him to go ahead and everything would be all right.

About two weeks ago evidence was given to the public showing that a gigantic plot was on foot to plug the Winnipeg voters' lists with the names of men who had no existence whatever and the names of many who were not British subjects.

The confession we have today is a complete vindication of the charges of bogus naturalization made by Mr. T. H. Johnson, the Liberal candidate in Center Winnipeg.

J. B. Coyne, who acted in the Liberal interests at the court of revision yesterday, filed as an exhibit with the court a typewritten list of 321 names of persons to be naturalized that had been procured from the office of the license inspector. This document was a revelation in itself of the wholesale manner in which naturalization papers were made out to be used for election purposes. Each name was numbered, and the list ran from No. 325 to No. 646, showing that at least this number of papers had been made out. At the top of one of the sheets appeared the numbers 2399, which might be taken as an indication that this was the total number of names to be put on the list by the naturalization method. Opposite each name was the notation "C," "N" or "S." This was explained by Pickersgill to mean that the man was to be registered in Center, North or South Winnipeg. Pickersgill intimated that the work was all done away back in April.

What do the citizens of Manitoba think of the revelations of the sordid work of government hirelings?

Is it any wonder that the Roblin Government found difficulty in getting candidates for Center Winnipeg, and prevailed upon a former "Liberal," as he called himself, to run?

It is, in view of the revelations of yesterday, easy to understand why those "clubs"—not Conservative clubs, but Roblin party clubs—are running full blast night and day.

The whole dirty business may be described in one word—DEBAUCHERY.

It is not difficult to understand why hundreds, if not thousands of Conservatives, are determined upon ousting

the machine, boss rule in Manitoba.

An honest man's ballot in Manitoba would be worth little if the notorious pluggers had their way, and it seems as the official of the government said, that the pluggers have nothing to fear from those in authority at the present time.

Sir Rodmond knew what he was talking about when he referred to the mess of politics.

It is high time for a thorough house-cleaning in Manitoba. The work can only be done if all citizens, interested in the good name and welfare of Manitoba, join hands with a 'single' purpose in view.