

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 15, 1917.

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AFTER MONDAY—WHAT?

To those Liberals, who still feel that they should have nothing to do with union government, this journal desires to present on the eve of the elections some considerations which ought to weigh with them if they will but set partisanship aside for the moment and look the situation squarely in the face.

In the first place the leading Liberal statesmen with very few exceptions and almost the whole Liberal press of Canada have deemed it their duty to lay partisanship aside for the period of the war. They are sincere in pursuing this course. They have not changed their views with regard to the old government. Hon. F. B. Carvell has made this clear in speech after speech, throughout the campaign. He might have entered the government last May. He would not have entered it at all if he did not believe the military service act and the sending of prompt reinforcements to the men at the front was the supreme issue at this time.

Are Liberals like Hon. F. B. Carvell to be forsaken by other Liberals because they listened to the appeal of conscience to support the men in the trenches? Let every Liberal ask himself or herself that question. Rev. Dr. Chown says: "To permit such patriots to be defeated would doom all independence of political thought and action in Canada, and forge the shackles of blind partisanship upon us."

But it is charged that the new government is merely the old government patched up, and that it has done nothing and will do nothing worth while. Can this charge be sustained? Let us be honest about it. The new government has been in office less than two months, and its members have been compelled to carry on a very bitter election campaign; but they have found time to abolish patronage and make merit instead of political pull the test in appointments to the civil service.

Neither wealth nor life will be worth much if the Germans win to Canada. The place to stop them is on the western front, where the Canadian soldiers are now urging us to keep our solemn pledge and send them reinforcements.

Here is an issue greater than party, greater than any issue that divides parties. It is the call of the blood; the cry of democracy in its hour of struggle for existence, the call of patriotism to every man and woman in Canada who has lived in peace and plenty for three years because that khaki line in France and Flanders preferred death to dishonor.

A vote for Elkin and Wigmore is a vote to save the Canadians at the front from being left without adequate support.

THE CALL FROM FRANCE.

Readers of the Times have read with intense interest the stories of Canadian heroism at the front, written by Mr. Stewart Lyon, the Canadian correspondent. Mr. Lyon is now in Canada again, and in an address in Toronto this week he said:

"I have seen these men under fire lying wounded on the battlefield, but there was no grumbling. Only once did I hear one cry out in his pain. But they would cry out if the news came to them from Toronto that their fathers, mothers, and friends had voted against sending them reinforcements, and their blood will be on the heads of those who refuse to send them the required aid."

"To emphasize the need of speedy reinforcements Mr. Lyon pointed out that 14,500 casualties were reported at Vimy and 9,500 at Hill 70. In addition, 80 men each day became casualties by artillery fire into the trenches. He predicted that unless reinforcements were rushed to the front, wastage would wipe out all the available Canadian troops now in France and England."

"This is the issue before the people of Canada today. Are our sons and brothers at the front to be wiped out that partisanship may achieve a triumph in Canada? Perish the shameful thought."

Let those who boast of Liberal principles give a little serious thought to this aspect of the case.

Toronto Star: "The financial critic of the opposition, Mr. A. K. Maclean, sits beside the Minister of Finance. The deadliest enemy of war scandals and profiteering, Mr. Frank Carvell, is Minister of Public Works. Not only does he control that department, but he is acquainted with everything that the government does as a whole, and we cannot conceive of him as giving a silent, submissive consent to any wrongdoing."

Hon. James A. Murray and Rev. Dr. Campbell aroused great enthusiasm at last night's meeting in the Imperial by their impassioned appeals in behalf of the men at the front. Very convincingly they showed why there should be no partisanship and no division among Canadians at home.

Kingston, Ontario, Ministerial Association passed a resolution declaring that Canada's need in this critical time is a strong union government. The Woodstock, Ontario, Ministerial Association unanimously "notes with sincere gratitude the formation of a union government for Canada."

The soul of Canada is in the keeping of the electors. The men in France are waiting to learn whether they rightly interpreted that soul when they placed honor above self-interest and above partisanship—above life itself.

Many men and women have given up days to further the cause of the Victory Loan and others of a patriotic character. There is a supreme call to them to give next Monday to their country and the men who are defending it.

E. C. Drury, Independent Liberal in North Simcoe, endorsed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, says he cannot follow Sir Wilfrid if he proposes to repeal the military service act, or to abandon the Canadian forces at the front.

At a unionist rally in Fawcett Hall, Sackville, this week, Prof. Bigelow was one of the speakers. He said he belonged to a Liberal family, but in this contest he was out for the union government candidate.

Some women have been told that if the union government is defeated their sons will be brought home from the front. What coward's trick is this?

Where will the rejoicing be on Monday night—in St. John or Berlin? How would you vote if you were in the trenches?

Electors of St. John-Albert

Mark Your Ballot This Way

1 WILLIAM PATRICK BRODERICK of the City of Saint John, Dentist

2 STANLEY EDWARD ELKIN of the City of Saint John, Manufacturer

3 ALBAN FREDERICK EMERY of the City of Saint John, Physician

4 RUPERT WILSON WIGMORE of the City of Saint John, Commissioner of Water and Sewerage

Vote Right and Win the Fight



STANLEY E. ELKIN.



RUPERT W. WIGMORE.

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Don't bomb the Canadian dugouts on the firing line with ballots against union government on Monday—those dugouts may contain your boy or your dearest friend, and a ballot against union government, will be a deadly missile to the occupants.



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FINE MEETING IN IMPERIAL THEATRE. In speeches throbbing with fervor Hon. J. A. Murray and Rev. (Capt.) G. M. Campbell thrilled a large and enthusiastic gathering in the Imperial Theatre last night.

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