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The Provincial Elections

One week more remains for campaigning in the General Provincial Elections contest. It is not unnatural to expect that strong arguments should be advanced, on one side or the other, in such a contest; but there can scarcely be any good reason why utter recklessness and absolute disregard of facts should be indulged in. But this is the manner of campaign employed by the Patriot newspaper. Surely the Patriot cannot entertain any hope of serious attention when it proclaims that utter defeat awaits the Government; that no conservatives will be elected, and so on. Certainly such extreme and unfounded declarations can have no other effects than contempt and repudiation by all sane sensible people.

At The Federal Capital

The busiest week of the late Parliamentary Session was that which closed on Saturday July 5th. Much important legislation passed through the different stages before twelve o'clock Saturday night. Members were anxious to conclude the Session and return to their homes, and generally speaking, were disposed to resist any temptation to make long speeches. Despite this laudable disposition, on the whole, to refrain from unnecessary discussion; there were some who talked by the hour. They scarcely illuminated the proceedings by the brilliancy of their speeches. But they talked.

The necessary legislation for the general purpose loan of \$100,000,000, the naturalization bill, amendments to the Criminal Code, the Highways bill, the Dominion Elections Amendment Act, the anti-combines bill and the bill creating a court of commerce, were some of the measures that reached parliamentary completion during the week. In addition to these legislative action was taken regarding subsidies to harbors and docks. The balance of the time of the House of Commons was occupied in voting supply.

Large appropriations both in the main and supplementary estimates remained to be voted until the closing day of the week. Voting of these supplies was proceeded with Saturday evening and the proceeding developed into a race against time. The chairman had his eye on the clock in front of him, and energetically applied himself to pushing the estimates through. Every now and then an item would be held up, while some member asked questions or aired a real or imaginary grievance. The hands of the clock moved on towards twelve, but the supply still held out. Finally the resolutions were reported and concurred in. On motion of Sir Thomas White, the House went into committee of ways and means. A resolution providing for over \$162,000,000 for the public service was reported and concurred in, and a supply bill granting the amount was put through all its stages. For some minutes the House was moving into committee and reporting back at a rapid pace, and the Sergeant-at-Arms was busy placing the items on the table and removing it therefrom. Finally the business of the session was practically concluded, and the House

been tried and found wanting and this truth should be impressed upon them in the most emphatic way on election day.

When the Conservatives assumed power in November 1911, the Provincial debt was \$1,072,000. At the end of the next fiscal year it was \$1,062,000, a reduction of \$10,000. It has not been increased since. In addition to increasing the Federal subsidy \$100,000 a year and reducing the Provincial debt, the present Government has paid an average of \$45,000 a year more to our school teachers, has spent much more than their predecessors on public roads, and has built more than three times the amount of steel bridges than the Liberals did in all their years in power. They have advanced the status of agriculture and have made many improvements in other ways. What they have done is an earnest of what they are prepared to accomplish in the future. Would you turn out such a Government and replace it by those who deceived the people, broke their promises and violated their pledges?

Prorogation took place on the afternoon of Monday July 7th.

The ceremonies were of the usual formal character, but were very simple and unostentatious. On Monday forenoon the House of Commons convened at 11 o'clock. The proceedings were mostly of a routine character, as all the important business had been completed. Sir Robert Borden, seconded by Mr. D. D. McKenzie, moved a resolution thanking the Canadian forces for their splendid achievements overseas. Sir Robert said:

"On many occasions in this House the valor and the deeds of the Canadian military forces in this war have been recognized in eloquent terms; but hitherto there has been no resolution expressing our pride in their glorious achievements and our gratitude for their notable service in the cause to which our country has consecrated its effort for five years. That effort infinitely surpassed all our first anticipations. The path has been long and the task at times seemed almost overwhelming. But the end came with the dramatic suddenness of the beginning, and already we have welcomed back to our shores the major part of the splendid forces that went beyond the seas to maintain the first line of our defence against the barbarous aggression of foes who deemed themselves invincible.

"Last March I traversed in France and Belgium the district around Ypres where the First Canadian Division in the face of overwhelming numbers and of horrors previously unknown in civilized warfare, held its own until the German hosts were turned back from their threatened march to the channel. For us that story will never grow old. Then I visited the scene of many a stubborn conflict during that terrible summer, in which the standard set by the First Division was never relaxed. Afterwards I passed through the desolation of many a town and village where Canadian valor and determination had made themselves memorable in the years of conflict that followed. Later I was privileged to see the country where the Canadian corps constituted the spearhead of the great attack that shattered the German menace against the lines of communication through Amiens. And then we went to Arras and followed the path of the Canadians in breaking the Quesant-Drocourt lines; thence on to the canal past the Boulon Wood, and finally to Cambrai. Time did not permit us to continue our journey to Valenciennes, to Mons, and of which our soldiers hurled the Germans on the very morning of the armistice.

"The story of the last hundred days is well told in the despatch of Sir Arthur Currie, already placed on the table of the House. One significant and outstanding fact is enough. During a period of a little more than three months the Canadian forces with the splendid assistance sometimes of one and sometimes of two British divisions, fought, and more than that, defeated, forty-seven German divisions, nearly a fourth of the entire German army. Of these no less than 15 divisions were so thoroughly defeated that they were never reconstituted. During these hundred days the path of the Canadians was the path of victory.

"But in France I saw something more. I saw the less spectacular but equally necessary and effective work of the Canadian Railway Corps of the Canadian Forestry Corps, of the units which held the lines of communication. I met Canadians who in the flying service or the like, had brought

notable service to the Allied cause and honor and distinction to their country. Everywhere I saw Canadian organization. No tribute would be complete which overlooked the glorious and unselfish service of our womanhood, of whom not a few yielded up their lives for their country's cause; or which forgot the efficiency of the Medical Service in caring for our men, whether at the battlefield or in the hospitals, and the unselfish devotion of those who for that duty put aside all material considerations.

"Let us not fail to remember those naval forces and those of Great Britain aided in the great task of guarding our commerce and ending the menace of the submarine; those also who in many varied occupations, whether in Canadian or British service, did their part as opportunity and occasion called them. A tribute also is due to the men skilled in science who went forth from our shores and whose notable contribution in foiling the undersea fleet of the enemy has not yet been fully told or adequately appreciated. And shall we forget those who reluctantly remained in Canada or in Great Britain at the command of duty, chafing under their desire to see service at the front; who during long hours and through lonely vigils toiled incessantly at tasks which lacked the inspiration of active service; and sometimes under unjust and unworthy reproach when in truth their most intense desire was to join their comrades in the fighting lines. I have spoken of Canadians who served in the British units. Let us not forget the distinguished service of many British officers who were attached from time to time to the Canadian corps, and whose names are inseparably associated with its record and achievements.

"Time would fall me to speak by name of the thousand of Canadians whose service brought distinction and high recognition. Of one, however, I should speak, the Canadian who during the latter years of the war took command of the Canadian Army Corps after it had, been relinquished by Sir Julian Byng. As Prime Minister I was brought into very close and intimate relations with Sir Arthur Currie, especially during the early summer of 1918 when the fortunes of the Allies seemed at their lowest, when we had reached that darkest hour which came before the dawn of victory. There has been a whisper of criticism that he was not sufficiently mindful of his duty to safeguard the lives of those under his command. In my judgment no criticism could be more unjust. Indeed, I know that on one notable occasion, he took a stand in defiance of military precedent, a stand which would have been impossible except for his independent position as Canadian General, a stand which involved risk to his own status and reputation. That stand he took for one reason, and one reason alone: his duty to avoid any needless sacrifice of the troops under his command. No General at the front more fully realized that solemn duty and during the last eighteen months of the war there was no General whose judgment was more respected, none whose ability and thoroughness were more relied upon, than he who then commanded the Canadian troops. There is one great essential in the development of a citizen's army into an effective fighting organization. That essential is an adequate appreciation and acceptance of discipline. This lesson the Canadians learned very early in the war and it served them always in good stead.

"It will serve them in good stead during the days of peace,

because in these times of dispute and unrest the steady influence of the men who hold our line in Europe will be needed here in Canada as much as their valor and devotion were needed at the front. Their responsibility is commensurate with the immense influence which they can exercise upon the national life and future destiny of their country. It is not only a collective but an individual responsibility of which no one of them can divest himself. Yonder in Eastern Europe the clamor of war still resounds, but pray God we may now be approaching the day of perfect peace. The sacrifice that we have made; the burdens that we are called upon to bear will have been of little purpose unless out of the war we can read some lesson, gather some example, and establish some ideals which will more truly serve the national purpose. Compared with conditions in Europe, opportunity stands at every man's door in Canada. Compared with the intense racial animosities which exist in some countries beyond the ocean our differences in Canada fade into utter insignificance. We have wasted too much time upon them in the past; for the future let us put them behind. There are virtues which have been hushed but which for us shall never be silent, the voices of those who died that the higher ideals of democracy and civilization might live. Sixty thousand Canadians who have given their lives for their country and for the world's peace speak to us of wider sympathies of broader understanding of more generous forbearance, of more united effort in all the tasks that lie before us in our national life. If these voices can make themselves heard above noisy clamor and unworthy controversy, the future of our country rests secure upon an enduring and eternal foundation.

"Beyond the seas at St. Julien and in the Sanctuary Wood, at Courelette and Vimy and Passchendaele, at Amiens and Arras and the Boulton Wood, there will be erected solemn and stately monuments commemorating the valor, devotion and sacrifice of those who died and of those who lived to see the final triumph. But neither granite nor graven words will be so enduring as the imperishable memory of their deeds forever enshrined in the heart of their countrymen." Sir Robert then moved that the formal thanks of the House be conveyed to the military and naval forces of Canada.

North Lake Boat Harbor

(Hansard July 4, 1919)
Prince Edward Island—North Lake—Boat Harbor, \$27,000.
Mr. McIsaac: I wish to thank the minister for bringing down this appropriation, which I have asked for many times. It is most important for the people it is intended to serve, and that is the reason I have been so persevering in asking for it. We are assured on the highest authority that if you ask you shall receive.

JUDGES SALARIES

(Hansard June 28, 1919)
Mr. McIsaac: If my hon. friend (Mr. Ernest Lapointe) has occasion for complaint regarding the inequality of judge's salaries in the provinces of Quebec, I, speaking on behalf of the province of Prince Edward Island, have much greater reason for complaint. Prior to the introduction of this resolution a very great discrepancy and inequality existed between the salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court of the province of Prince Edward Island and the salaries of like judges in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in other provinces as well. Confusing ourselves, however, to the Maritime Provinces: The Chief Justices in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia receive \$7,000 and the puisne judges in the same provinces, of courts of equal jurisdiction, \$6,000. On the other hand, the Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island received \$6,000, and each of the puisne judges, or as they are called, assistant judges—one being the Master of the Rolls and the other Vice-Chancellor—received a salary of \$5,200. Under the re-adjustment it was expected that this inequality would be removed,

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