

Canadians Playing Prominent Part in the British Elections

W. M. Aitken will Contest Ashton-Under-Lyne Seat, the Key to Lancashire—Prefers to Fight Under Bonar Law's Banner in the Attack Upon the Citadel of the Enemy Rather Than Accept a Safe Seat—Prospects at Present Are That There Will be But Little Change in the Relative Standing of the Two Parties.

London, Nov. 22.—Notwithstanding his speech in the House of Commons on Friday last, when he said the Ministry had lost his confidence, Mr. Joe Martin has been unanimously invited by the Radical Association of East St. Pancras to continue as their candidate.

Addressing the usual open-air Sunday meetings of working men in his constituency, he declared his implacable hostility to the House of Lords, to the present land laws, to all privilege, and his unalterable devotion to "downright Radicalism." When the government had departed from Radicalism he had, he said, told them so, and had even voted against them. They needed punching up at times, and they would continue to do this.

Mr. Aitken accepts for Ashton-Under-Lyne. Mr. W. M. Aitken has finally decided to go into the hottest corner of the fight, namely, Lancashire. The young Canadian accepted this morning the invitation of the Unionists of Ashton-Under-Lyne, in the Manchester area, and leaves for that district tomorrow.

The polling in this constituency will be held on the second or third day of the elections, namely, December 5, or Tuesday, December 6.

Ashton-Under-Lyne has been a Unionist seat since the Home Rule days of 1885, except in the last two elections, when the solid Labor vote went Radical.

The figures at the last election, in January, were: Scott, Liberal, 4,032; Whitely, Unionist, 3,740; Gee, Socialist, 412.

Mr. Aitken, in reply to questions, said: "I am going into Lancashire, not because I am certain of winning, or because other preferable seats might not be obtainable, but because Mr. Bonar Law's candidature there makes it the key to the whole position. He is raising the banner of Empire and preference there, and I, as a Canadian, must stand at his side at a critical moment like this."

Mr. Hamilton Benn, who has himself a stiff fight in the London division of Greenwich, and who is supposed to be chiefly responsible for Mr. Aitken's acceptance of the candidacy of Ashton-Under-Lyne, says:

"It is magnificent. Mr. Aitken could have had a safe seat, but has chosen the part of the field where the battle is fiercest. Those who know him expected nothing less. If he wins Lancashire, we win England, and every Canadian must be glad to know that two Canadians are right in the van."

As Mr. Aitken is unknown in Ashton and the time which elapses before polling is very short, he cannot hope to make a complete window or even get at close grips with the electorate, but the Unionists greatly appreciate his pluck.

Canadian Candidates for London Boroughs.

Instead of York City where he lost in the last election, Hamar Greenwood is contesting Sunderland, an old time Radical industrial constituency, which Sam Storey, an ex-Radical tariff reformer, won in January after a sensational campaign. Sunderland is reputed to like spellbinders.

The London constituencies have a good sprinkling of Canadian and Anglo-Canadian candidates, as follows: At Bethnal Green, Dr. J. E. Molson, Unionist, who was 1499 behind at the January election; at Camberwell, Dr. Macnamara, the Radical Minister; at Croydon, Ian Malcolm, the Unionist ex-M. P., born at Quebec; at Finsbury, East, J. Allen Baker, Radical, born at Trenton, Ontario; at Greenwich, Ian Hamilton Benn, Unionist M. P., of the Quebec Lumber Association, now being opposed by a recalcitrant Radical Independent, an uncle of the prominent Unionist peer, Lord Malmesbury; and at Lewisham, Major Coates, Unionist, of Coates, Son & Co., Anglo-Canadian financial houses.

London, Nov. 22.—The political campaign is being waged with a ferocity almost unknown in England, both by politicians on the stump and suffragettes on the battlefield. The battle of Downing street which was fought this afternoon, when several hundred suffragettes attempted to storm the premier's residence, assaulted Mr. Asquith, and Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, and broke many windows in the government offices, surpassed all previous spectacles of the sort. About 150 women and several men supporters are in the police station tonight.

Following an announcement by the prime minister in the House of Commons, that if he were still in power at the next session of parliament, the government would give facilities for the consideration of a suffrage bill, a large body of women, inflamed rather than placated by this promise, which was characterized as "nothing more nor less than an insult to the cause," left Caxton Hall in search of the premier.

They came upon him on the way to Downing street, and immediately formed a hostile circle around Mr. Asquith, who recently has resorted to all kinds of subterfuges to keep himself clear of the hands of the militant women. One of them, Henrietta Williams, struck the government leader, and the premier would have fared badly had not large detachments of police come running to his rescue. The police had great difficulty in putting down the disorders and many of the women had to be dragged from the scene, with clothes half torn from their backs.

Attack Residences.

The rioting continued into the evening, when squads of women attacked the residence of Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, Winston Spencer Churchill, the home secretary, and Lewis Harcourt, secretary of state for the colonies. Stones crashed through the windows of the houses, Sir Edward Grey's bearing the brunt of the attack. One suffragette, Mrs. Birrell, strolling through St. James Park, to the Athenaeum Club and swooped down upon the aged statesman, knocking his hat over his eyes, and kicking him about the legs. When help came, and the women were driven off, Mr. Birrell limped to his motor car.

Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the leader of the suffragettes, was among those taken to jail. Her sister, Mrs. Grant, denied admittance, threw a missile through the jail window, and she was incarcerated. Miss Grace Johnson was the only American arrested. Miss Annie Martin, of Nevada, who was taken to the police station on Friday, and later was released, was not among those arrested tonight.

Mr. Churchill addressed a big meeting this evening from which several men adherents of the women's cause were dragged out by the police. Mr. Churchill strongly defended the priority of Irish-Americans contributing to the home rule cause. The cry of American dollars was likely to be used as a retort by the Liberals, he said, since Waldorf Astor had announced that he was again the candidate of the Conservatives for Plymouth. Battersea promises to be an interesting campaign ground, Sir John Harrington, who married the daughter of Senator McMillen, having thrown down the gauntlet, as the Conservative candidate to John Burns, president of the local government board.

Laborites Not Satisfied.

The principal move of the day was Premier Asquith's attempt to place the Laborites by promising to introduce legislation solving the difficulty which has arisen on account of the Osborne Judgment. The Labor party met tonight and declared that the scheme suggested by the Premier was wholly unsatisfactory.

The United Irish has issued a manifesto against the lords, calling land-lordism and the House of Lords synonymous.

The manifesto, which is signed by John E. Redmond, and T. P. O'Connor, is a violent arraignment of the House of Lords, as the only obstacle to home rule. It describes Lansdowne as an "Anglo-Irish landlord," whose family name is written deep in that coffinship, the Lansdowne hospital ward, and thousands of unmarked graves where perished our people driven from Lansdowne property in the days of the famine.

"At the door of the House of Lords," continues the manifesto, "lies mainly the guilt for all those laws for an increase in landlord power and for the rejection of all measures for tenant relief, whereby the great famine and the great evictions were the plain and direct consequence."

"The Radical press are spreading a report that the Prime Minister is now possessed of guarantees. It is not true. He has not asked for them, nor has he received them. The whole thing is a gigantic bluff."

GENERAL FRENCH'S REPORT GIVEN OUT

Found Undeveloped Organization and Lack of Knowledge of Conditions

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 22.—Sir John French's report on the Canadian militia was laid on the table of the House of Commons today.

He strongly advocates the maintenance of a large and efficient staff at headquarters and in the commands, saying that the present staff is absurdly inadequate.

He criticizes the organization of the militia on the ground that the proportion of the arms is not correct, there being only half enough field artillery and a great shortage of engineers, army service corps, and medical services.

In the Maritime Provinces he calls for the addition of one brigade of field artillery, one howitzer brigade, a field company of engineers, a telegraph detachment, a brigade of infantry and two companies of the army service corps.

He also criticizes the geographical distribution of existing corps. The arrangement as regards divisions is faulty, in that corps which would serve together in war are not trained together in peace.

He advocated the drawing up of a sound mobilization scheme, including the formation of a railway war council, on which the managers of the Canadian railway systems should sit. The scheme would involve the employment of a larger staff.

Colonizes Cavalry.

He recommends that the training of the cavalry be 16 days a year instead of 12. He criticizes the training of the cavalry generally, saying that only two out of the nine regiments which he saw in Eastern Canada reached a standard of efficiency commensurate with the organization.

The cavalry should be trained exclusively as mounted rifles.

He praised the sold artillery, but says that the infantry devotes too much time to ceremonial drill and that its training is not up-to-date. City corps should go to camp. General French saying in effect that they are not as efficient as rural corps.

Commanding officers are censured for keeping their company and squadron officers too much in leading strings and company officers are censured for roughness in dealing with their men. The Inspector General saying that they should appeal to their men's reason and intelligence. Neither do they maintain sufficient discipline. In the case of all ranks the full terms of service which a man contracts to render should be exacted.

Shortcomings Summarized.

His summary of shortcomings is:—"An inefficiently developed organization. "Inadequate knowledge in the higher command. "Qualifications for officers and non-commissioned officers on the active militia laid down in the regulations not being strictly enforced, and the staffs of the militia not being compelled to fulfill their engagements. "Only when the regulations which govern the constitution and maintenance of the Canadian militia are strictly enforced," he says, "will it be possible to say whether the present system meets the defensive requirements of the country or not. Judging from what I have seen of the excellent material and the fine spirit which is present in all the ranks and taking into consideration the marked progress which has been made within the past few years, and the evident signs of its continuance, I should be inclined to think that, so long as the present condition of affairs in the North American continent remains as it is, if the existing force can be strictly administered on a sound basis of organization, it should suffice to meet the needs of the Dominion."

Sir Percy Lake's Memo.

Sir Percy Lake submits an accompanying memorandum in which he recommends a number of steps to carry out Sir John French's proposals, and he desires to say that the report is entirely in line with the policy of the military council. With regard to the Maritime Provinces, General Lake says:

"Leave the Maritime Provinces command as it is, for the present, but organize the troops as far as may be as the 6th division, army troops. The troops of the 6th division could be trained together as a division, but attempts should be made to bring them together from time to time and give them the feeling that the formation really existed. The D. O. C. of M. D. No. 8 might command the N. B. mobile column and the district, training the 12th brigade with the former in Sussex camp."

"To every Irishman of this generation, appeal the voices of a million of our people who died of hunger and five millions driven to exile to detest the iniquitous body to which they owed their boundless suffering. True to its iniquitous history the House of Lords alone today stands athwart the path of Irish victory. Its fall is the rise of Ireland. If this election is won, the battle for home rule is won."

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Ask Your Doctor what he thinks of ABBEY'S Effervescent Salt. Boston, Mass., Nov. 22.—Caught beneath a freight elevator which descended upon them as they were at work in the pit, Charles H. Shattuck, supervisor of elevators at the south terminal station was killed and John J. Fitzgerald was seriously injured.

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