

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS DELIVER STIRRING ADDRESSES AT THE PATRIOTIC LIBERAL BANQUET

Hon. Geo. F. Graham, Mr. N. W. Rowell and Mr. C. M. Bowman Discuss War-Time Issues in Eloquent and Convincing Addresses at Hotel Quinte Last Night—A Notable and Representative Gathering Taxes Accommodation to the Utmost

(From Thursday's Daily) Splendid in all its arrangements, completely in all its arrangements, thoroughly representative of the Liberal citizenship of every county and two cities, notable for the high character of the addresses delivered, and patriotic banquet held last evening under the auspices of the Hastings Liberal Club at Hotel Quinte will go down in local annals as the most outstanding event of its kind in our history.

The accommodation of the Quinte's spacious dining room was taxed to the utmost, but even that did not supply the insatiable demand for tickets. It was partly owing to the inability of the committee to supply more than a small part of those who desired to attend with the necessary card-board that the overflow meeting was arranged at the opera house.

The Chairman Mr. F. E. O'Flynn, chairman of the banquet committee presided as toastmaster. Mr. O'Flynn, in this happy capacity, is gaining a provincial reputation as a chairman who gets the necessary ginger and spice into the program and makes things serve. At the conclusion he was highly complimented by Hon. Geo. F. Graham, who moved a vote of thanks.

All the speakers were most eulogistic of the efforts of the host, Mr. Jenkins, to provide a feast that was fully up to the requirements of so noteworthy an occasion and so much in harmony with the high reputation of the hostelry. The arrangements of cuisine, service and menu were of a kind to delight the great company of guests.

Hon. Geo. F. Graham Mr. Graham delivered one of the most and most forcible speeches of his career and was frequently interrupted by laughter or hearty applause. He spoke in response to the toast, "The Old Guard," by humorously saying he didn't know much about the "guard" business, but might qualify for the Home Guard but he objected to being called old. Anyway he wasn't held, and perhaps if he used the same kind of dye as some of the others his hair might not be very silver.

Mr. Graham, entering upon a more serious vein, said the Empire was now passing through the gravest period in her history. One of the greatest statesmen the world had produced had resigned. He hoped all was for the best and that in the change of might, not lose the advantage of the great wisdom of Premier Borden.

Mr. Rowell showed how the government had been pressed by the opposition years ago to safeguard the interests of Ontario and the Empire in regard to nickel. The stock of the nickel trust was now 80 per cent. over par. Last year in dividends and increase in stock values this alien company reaped a harvest of more than \$16,000,000. From all this mineral wealth the people of Ontario received only a paltry \$40,000 in fixed assessment a year.

HON. GEO. F. GRAHAM, M.P. Who Presided at Yesterday's Patriotic Conference. Mr. Graham Resigned the Leadership of the Ontario Provincial Liberals to Become Minister of Railways and Canals in the Laurier Administration. He is One of the Ablest Debaters in Canada and is in Great Demand Everywhere to Address Public Gatherings Because of His Droll Humor and the Remarkable Clearness and Vigor of His Oratory. Mr. Graham's Great Speech at Wed. Night's Banquet Was a Notable Event and Even Enhanced His High Reputation.

to be a revision of taxation principles so that the burden would be placed more equally on the right shoulders. There would have to be a definite and clearer vision plan providing for the re-adjustment of employment conditions on the return of the men from the front; the cost of living problems would have to be grappled with seriously instead of merely referring it to Royal Commissions. As in 1906 he concluded Sir Wilfrid brought order out of chaos in national life, harmonized warring interests of race and creed and re-established national confidence and prosperity so to Sir Wilfrid could be trusted at the present time to repeat the brilliant achievement of the past.

Mr. Rowell received a tremendous ovation when he arose to speak. He had just returned from the opera house where he had also delivered a strong recruiting speech. Notwithstanding this heavy demand he spoke for more than half an hour to the enthusiastic banqueters who cheered him again and again.

He began by congratulating the Hastings Liberal Club upon the success of this, the first conference of the kind held in Central Ontario. He had never attended a function of this nature where the arrangements were more complete and more fitting to the occasion.

Fighting to Preserve Democracy We should never forget, said Mr. Rowell that our men at the front were fighting to preserve democracy. Democracy embodied all our ideals of freedom, and the trial of strength would determine whether freedom would survive or sink beneath the powerful wave of German militarism.

"Service." The motto of the Federation of Liberal Clubs was "service." He wished that all the people would get that idea during the period of the war. It was to be feared that many regarded it as an opportunity for exploitation. He hoped the clubs would increase their usefulness by emphasizing the idea of service throughout the state.

What Might Have Been He was sure that all had read with interest the reply of Premier Hearst to the deputations that asked for beer and wine licenses. These were not to be allowed. But had the wine and beer candidate not been defeated in St. W. Toronto he feared that no such answer would have been given.

Dealing with the specious loyalty boasts of the Conservative party, Mr. Graham noted that it was Sir Wilfrid and a Liberal Government which first gave the British preference and which in vain protested against imposing a higher tariff against British goods at a time when the Mother Country was straining every nerve to finance the war both for herself and for Canada and to keep the trade routes free. The public mind, he said, would not be diverted from the fact that Sir Robert Borden still kept in his Government men elected on the policy of "No participation in the wars of the Motherland." If Sir Robert Borden he added, had refused the demand of the Nationalists to dismantle the Niobe that ship would have been able to capture German vessels on their rush to cover when war was declared in sufficient numbers to pay for herself many times over.

After alluding to the various scandals which have been disclosed during the war in regard to munitions profiteering and after noting the lack of clear and courageous leadership Mr. Graham touched deeply on some of the problems which would have to be met after the war. There would have to be a revision of taxation principles so that the burden would be placed more equally on the right shoulders.

Mr. Rowell then took up the question of the development of Ontario's northland which would come into prominence after the war. He also devoted some time to the consideration of hydro development and the nickel question.

The Nickel Issue Mr. Rowell showed how the government had been pressed by the opposition years ago to safeguard the interests of Ontario and the Empire in regard to nickel. The stock of the nickel trust was now 80 per cent. over par. Last year in dividends and increase in stock values this alien company reaped a harvest of more than \$16,000,000. From all this mineral wealth the people of Ontario received only a paltry \$40,000 in fixed assessment a year.

Mr. Rowell closed with a brilliant peroration and was cheered again and again. Mr. C. M. Bowman Mr. C. M. Bowman liberal whip in the Ontario Legislature was the last speaker. He devoted the most of his time to a review of the great resources of this province, particularly of standing timber, and the patriotic necessity of preserving these by all safeguards for the people of Ontario. He condemned the criminal waste and

neglect, that had caused the great fire tragedy last summer in New Ontario, with its loss of \$6,000,000 in property and standing timber and 275 human lives. These appalling losses could be laid at the feet of the patronage system when political heeled were sent up to Algonquin Park and spent the summer in loafing, never doing an honest day's work.

Some Lovely Songs The success of the program was greatly contributed to by two of Bowmanville's splendid singers—Mr. H. J. Knight and Mr. Thos. S. Holgate. Mr. Holgate's needs no introduction to Belleville audiences, and last night he sang in great form "Up from Somers" and in response to an enthusiastic encore "Corporal Michael O'Leary."

Mr. Knight was also accorded a most appreciative reception, and his powerful baritone voice was heard to advantage in "Heroes and Gentlemen" and "Jolly Jack" as an encore. Prof. Hunt, of Albert College presided at the piano and for all the songs and choruses he gave a strong lead. The Club is greatly indebted to Prof. Hunt for his kindly services.

The function was brought to a close shortly after the midnight hour by the singing of "The National Anthem."

A MOIRA BOY KILLED IN ACTION

Charles Welsh, Eldest Son of Edward Welsh of Huntingdon Tp Has Fallen.

Mr. Edward Welsh of Moira received a message yesterday from the Record Office at Ottawa that his son Pte. Charles Welsh had fallen in action. He enlisted with the 80th battalion at Belleville and went overseas and thence to France where he has been for some months.

He is the first of the Moira boys to fall and his parents have the sympathy of all in their great loss.

THREE YOUNG MEN SLAIN

Soldiers From Belleville and Madoc Killed in Action

Three more Belleville and Hastings boys have given up their lives in France according to the latest casualty list: Leslie Nickle, of Madoc, J. H. Meloy, Church street, Belleville; Sherwood Marshall Wood, George Street, Belleville, formerly of the 80th Battalion.

WOMEN'S RIFLE CLUB.

The weekly shoot of the Women's Rifle Club took place at the Armouries on Wednesday afternoon, Sergt. Douch in charge. The scores were as follows:

- Miss M. B. Falkner—96
Miss H. Laster—95
Mrs. A. R. Symons—94
Miss M. Campbell—91
Mrs. E. Hyman—91
Miss A. Jenkins—90
Miss H. Vermilyea—86
Miss P. Doctor—80
Miss Helen Rabhun—70

The Shooting Gallery will be given over to the soldiers the moment they are ready for rifle instruction and practice, as it was last year. Cigarettes for Christmas, also weekly papers, have been sent to each member of the Belleville Rifle Club now in France by the ladies. The sending of newspapers will be continued during the war.

H. SMITH WON FROM THE CITY

In His Suit For Damages For Annoyance—City Restrained From Using Sewer.

The City of Belleville lost its action in the Supreme Court yesterday before Hon. Justice Sutherland in its defence of the suit brought by Mr. Harry Smith, ice merchant, Church street. After trial which lasted until late last night, adjournment took place this morning when the Judge awarded Mr. Smith \$250 damages for annoyance caused by smells from a drain used by the city to carry off coal refuse from the gas works. The corporation is also restrained under an injunction granted by His Lordship from using the said drain or sewer for the removal of waste matter. Porter and Carnew for plaintiff, S. Masson, K.C. for city.

DEED.

GUNSOLUS—In Cannifton on Thursday, Dec. 7th, 1916, Miss Drusilla Gunsolus, aged 71 years.

CONSCRIPTION LIKELY TO COME

Says Rev. Dr. Chown Speaking At Canadian Club Last Night.

FAIRNESS OF COMPULSION. Gains of the War—Old Aristocracy Breaking Down—That of Service Taking Its Place.

(From Friday's Daily) That conscription must come after all in Canada before the war is ended is the opinion of Rev. Dr. Chown, Superintendent of the Methodist Church, who was the guest of the Belleville Canadian Club last night at the high school at the opening meeting of the 1916-17 season.

"It is the fairest thing, it is the most democratic thing, it is in harmony with the highest principles of morality," said Dr. Chown. In regard to the British cabinet crisis he said he "did not feel hilarious tonight." Swapping horses crossing a stream is always attended with risk and we do not know how far down stream we may be carried before we recover our footing.

We are not fighting for the glory of victory. We are not fighting for conquest, as Britain needs no territory for colonization. We are not fighting in retaliation, but we shall give the Germans something that is good for them. We are fighting for the democracy, that "the government of the people by the people and for the people may not perish from the earth."

It is a sad fact that the United States cannot feel sympathy with us in the cause which is similar to that for which they shed their blood so freely over a century ago. It is strange that King George III had a strong German strain of oppression, that British soldiers would not enlist in the war against the American colonies and Hessians had to be hired and that Pitt and Burke declared against the war. The United States of that day rebelled because of their British blood against oppression. But today they seem to have forgotten their own history. They taught England in those days how to treat her colonies.

Dr. Chown dwelt upon the gains of the war, our new sense of responsibility, the new brotherhood of sympathy in suffering, khaki giving birth to noble principles. We shall not fall, Germany is an iron bridge, but it has been rusted by the blood of thousands of her sons. While the war has added cement to the parts of the Empire we are just growing to appreciate our vast resources. We as Canadians have risen to the very peak of manhood in the service of the Empire and of God, the Germans themselves bearing testimony to the fact that no greater warriors ever fought than the Canadians (cheers).

With few exceptions we are becoming spiritualized. There are a few who would scuttle the ship of state in Canada for the sake of fifty lucre, but they are thank God, very few. Then we have linked our fortunes to all that is heroic, sympathetic. "Three years ago we had our little circles, beyond which our sympathies did not move, but today there is not a selfish man or woman in Europe. We are not a bloodthirsty people, we are trying to keep our peace. There is a terrible temptation to vengeance when we hear of poisoned candles and delve into the report of Lord Bryce on German atrocities, but I trust we shall stand tip-toe over the heads of the war-lords and never stoop to vengeance.

How do you account for men giving up important positions to go into khaki? Because they feel it is a man's job. Canada needs a little change yet. In Vancouver in a store was a card with a legend "One good investment is worth more than a lifetime of labor." Think of that. If Canadians believed this, they would be a nation of gamblers and it would take all the strength of character away.

Throughout Canada today servant girls are working their fingers to the bone to pay the third and fourth instalments on lots which will never be worth anything but farm land. If Canada had gone on as she was doing three years ago, we should have been nothing but brass and paint. The war is opening our eyes to the curse of mammon. We must learn that our governments are trustees of God.

The aristocracy of land tenure is being buried deep in England. The codfish aristocracy of Canada is also fading out. The new aristocracy of service is displacing these false standards and in this way, the women are leading.

"Every man of military age and fighting strength must put it up to his conscience and satisfy himself in the dire needs of the Empire and answer why he is not in khaki tonight. I wish I were there. I joined the volunteers at 12 years of age and at sixteen I saw active service. When war broke out, I wired Sir Sam offering my services, but he has not accepted."

Conscription Must Come "There is a great deal of talk about conscription. I believe it must come after a while. It is the fairest thing, it is the most democratic thing. It is in harmony with the highest principles of morality. If I were to go to plunge a bayonet into the vitals of a foe, I would rather have the government say I must do so. The government seems to be in a dilemma. They believe it will be impossible to raise 500,000 men, and if we do not, we shall be disgraced in the face of the world. Patriotism must be dead and both sides should operate together to meet the situation.

The keen conflict between the manufacturer and the recruiting officer must be wiped out by the government. Manufacturers are offering \$5 a day to men who might enlist at \$1.10 as privates. I do not see how the government can remedy the economic situation until it takes control of all munition making.

Our French Canadians do not seem to understand. They have stultified themselves, refusing to enlist because they could not get a little more French language in the schools. French men would lose all their liberty and their language if Germany conquered. But a change is coming and I look for better results in the next few weeks.

We must understand that it is our duty to defend liberty as it is to work. Every man must feel he must stand as a citizen. Meanwhile there seems little to do except to raise the soul of our young men's manhood. Dr. Chown's son at the front says "It does not seem like death here, it seems like going up higher." An American lieutenant at the front said "we are fighting for humanity." A recruiting officer says "The government ought to close up all the pool rooms. That's where the shirkers gather. I feel that there are young men in Canada who will have to be brought to the armories with a guard with fixed bayonets. If it is true that Germany has one million men to throw into the field every year, where is our victory to come from, if we do not hurt a superior force into the field and crush her?" Dr. Chown closed with the question of what is life after all without honor.

HOW GALLANT BOY MET DEATH

Pte. A. L. Williams Hit By Burst Shell—Comrades Wounded.

Mrs. Eleazer Williams of Shannonville whose son was killed in France, has received from Lt. P. G. Leadley a very appreciative letter regarding his services and telling of the manner of his death. The communication reads: "50th Batt. (Can.) France. 21. 11. 16.

Mrs. Barbara Williams "Shannonville, Ontario. "Dear Madam:—

"It is with sincere regret that I write to inform you of the death of your son, Pte. A. L. Williams, who was attached to the platoon under my command and who was killed in action on November 15th. Pte. Williams was one of a party of five who were working in the support line trenches at the time when he was hit by a bursting shell which also severely wounded three of the other members of the party. His own comrades cheerfully volunteered to undertake the task, although they were subjected to heavy shell fire.

"I can assure you that the loss of your son will be keenly felt by every man in the platoon. He was always very popular, very generous and exceptionally cool under fire. Personally I always admired and respected him.

"In conclusion allow me to express my sincere regret—I know it will be a great loss to you, but you have the great satisfaction of knowing that your son gave his life for a great cause and for the country and race which we all love so dearly.

"Very sincerely, "F. G. Leadley, Lieut. "D" Company, 50th Batt. "France."

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Armstrong in defence did not dispute the taking of the horse, but contested the bill for damages, which with costs, amounted to \$57. The case was tried on Monday and judgment reserved. The judgment this morning awards the plaintiff \$29.25 in satisfaction of his claim. Porter and Carnew for plaintiff, W. D. M. Shorey for defendant.

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