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## STRONG DEFENCE OF UNION GOVERNMENT MADE BY DR. CLARK LIBERAL UNIONIST

Will Stand by Union Government Until There is Something Better in Sight—Flays Opposition for Its Lack of Constructive Ideas—Says He is Still a Free Trader, But Thought There Was Little to Expect from the Opposition—West Had No Confidence in Promise of Liberals.

Union Government and Government Preceding It Knew What Their Objective Was, Knew of the Difficulties and Did Not Shirk Facing Them—Opposition Was Raising Discontent Among Soldiers and Their Relatives.

Ottawa, March 6.—Dr. Michael Clark had the floor today in the address on the debate, and made a powerful defence of Union Government. He announced his intention of standing by Union Government until something better was in sight, and flayed the opposition for its lack of constructive ideas. Mr. D. B. Macdonald, opposition leader, he said, had stated that the latch string was out and the light was shining for the Unionist Liberals. After listening to his speech he should have added the warning, "Bring your own provisions." This was brought down the house. Dr. Clark announced himself still a free trader, but he thought there was little to expect from the opposition, and remarked that the West had little confidence in the promises of the Liberals.

Dr. Clark was in his best form, and was given an ovation by the government benches at the close. His feeling panegyric to Sir Wilfrid Laurier was a glowing piece of eloquence. He drew a parallel between Laurier and Gladstone. Speaking of the magnanimity of heart of the Liberal leader, he said he had once told him that you cannot afford to have resentment in politics. He had a striking example of this himself. When he told his son-in-law, the front of all letters he received was such an example of kindness and sympathy as that from Sir Wilfrid.

Dr. Clark was generous in his praise of the accomplishments of Union Government. Union Government and the government preceding it knew from the beginning to the end what their objective was, knew of the difficulties and did not shirk facing them. He said that the opposition was early, ample, continuous and to the very end. The Princess Pats were early in the fighting; the Canadian campaigner in the Hindenburg line and were in at the finish at Mons.

The conscription act accomplished, in the opinion of Dr. Clark, three great things. It was the first in an election at the crucial period of the war. This election result told friend and foe in no uncertain terms that Canada proposed to fight till the bitter end. In the second place it enabled the minister of militia to prudently boast that every Canadian soldier was going into the last great phase of the war at full strength. It was something of which Canada had reason to be proud. It enabled the government to bring home, earlier than otherwise, war weary wounded men who otherwise would have had to be nursed back to the fighting lines.

Turning then to the invitation to "the separated brethren" to return to the fold, Dr. Clark created great amusement by saying that he felt like

a copy young lady who was wooed by two suitors. It might be wise for the Liberal Unionists to continue to play the part of double crossing, and not run the danger of a hasty marriage. Continuing, the member from Red Deer said that the invitation implied that they had taken the wrong road. They did not admit that they had taken the wrong road. "I am asking one question," said the doctor, "if Great Britain, France or Italy had pursued the war in the method the opposition proposes, would it be over now?" It would not be. If it was going on, whose blame would it be for the extra loss of life and treasure?

This point called forth cheers. It was charged that they had left Liberalism. Had not Asquith introduced conscription in England? If they had fallen from the grace of Canadian Liberalism, they were in line with English Liberalism. "We left for the national good," said Dr. Clark. "If we can we will stay, if not we will leave, but we will always act for the country's good."

Continuing Dr. Clark said: "It is there something to come from the other side? I cannot see the opening of the new opposition leader. He had no constructive ideas, no political policies. When he said the lamp was still burning and the latchkey hung out, he should have added a warning, 'bring on your provisions.'"

Dr. Clark announced that he was still a free trader, but with little faith in opposition promises after their fifteen years record in office. He hoped that he could be able, in time, to convince Sir Thomas White to his way of thinking; he regarded him as his most promising pupil. He had already granted free trade and free ports. The Liberal party was more advanced twenty-five years ago than today. Then Sir Wilfrid announced he was in favor of free trade as they had it in England. Mr. A. R. MacMaster, Brome, the financial critic of the opposition, had announced a tariff for revenue only as the Liberal policy. "As a matter of simple fact," added the doctor, "the people of Western Canada are untrusting of the Liberal government. The Bolsheviks in the history of the last twenty-five years any differences between the records and performances of the two parties. There may be a difference in profession, but not in record."

Dr. Clark criticised the opposition for the spirit of some of their speeches. He could not help wondering what motive they had in raising discontent among the soldiers and their relatives. The solicitude of such members must be regarded with a shade of suspicion; they were men who, to say the least, were none too enthusiastic in support of the men at the front. He was positive the soldiers would not be deceived.

## ADRIATIC WILL ARRIVE SUNDAY

Has the R. C. R. and 42nd Battalion of the Third Canadian Division.

Halifax, March 6.—A message from the Adriatic tonight says the steamer will arrive at Halifax early Sunday morning. She brings the R. C. R. and the 42nd Battalion. The reception by Halifax to the Nova Scotia Battalion will take place on Monday, the disembarkation of the troops to be put through on Sunday. Halifax is arranging an elaborate reception and there will be a civic half holiday.

## NO SETTLEMENT OF THE BUENOS AIRES PORT STRIKE IN SIGHT

The Time Limit for an Agreement Has Passed and Port Workers Serve Notice They Will Not Maintain Longer a Waiting Attitude.

Buenos Aires, March 6.—The time limit set by the port workers for the city owners and the government to settle the lockout, expired last night, and the union leaders issued a statement today warning the government that they no longer considered themselves obligated to maintain a waiting attitude. Steps were taken by the strikers today toward forming demands which will govern their return to work under any new negotiations.

The laborers in the Mihanovich shops and ship yards struck together in sympathy with the maritime workers. These shops handle a majority of the river and coastwise vessels.

The harbor strike at Buenos Aires freedom of action by them.

## SIBERIA CONDITIONS GROWING BETTER

Military and Economic Conditions Are Steadily Improving.

Washington, March 6.—Advice received today by the Russian embassy from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government at Omsk, said the military and economic conditions in Siberia, as far west as Ufa, were steadily improving. It was said that the government, with the aid of the Zemstvos and municipal politics, was firmly counteracting the ideas of unimportant conservative groups.

## EXCELLENT CARE GIVEN WOUNDED

Elaborate Scheme Worked Out for the Comfort of the Sick and Wounded on the Murman Coast Front.

London, March 6.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—Reuter's has received some interesting details regarding the manner in which the wounded are dealt with on the Murman Coast front. Two hospital trains run periodically on the railway between Murmansk and Kem, while Canadian dog teams and reindeer are being used with great success for the transporting of wounded from outlying posts. The sick are placed on sledges and are wrapped in sheepskin bags with hot water bottles. The bags are so designed that the patient can be treated without exposure to the severe temperature. Despite the extreme difficulties of the country, medical aid posts have been established every ten miles in farms and tents. Thanks to the excellent clothing selected by Sir Ernest Shackleton, very few cases of frostbite have occurred. The only prevalent complaint is influenza.

## ITALY WARNED BY UNITED STATES

Washington, March 6.—Italy has been warned by the United States government that unless she puts an end to delays in movements of relief supplies to the newly established Jugoslav and Czech-Slav states, the United States will take to out of the flow of American foodstuffs to Italy.

## FAMINE SPECTRE OVER BOLSHEVIK RUSSIA

Starvation Prevails and is Killing off the Population by Thousands.

## CATS FOR FOOD SELL AT \$3 EACH

Food Situation is Indescribably Terrible and Inhabitants May Starve to Death.

London, March 6.—(British Wireless Service)—Starvation prevails throughout Bolshevik Russia, and is killing off the population by thousands. Diseases due to under nourishment are rampant and food is so scarce in Petrograd and Moscow that cats sell readily for \$3 each. The proprietors cannot cope with conditions, as there is not enough wood for coffins. These reports have been brought to the attention of the British government within the last week by British subjects recently returned from Russia. Several of the Britishers have lived nearly all their lives in Russia and left Russia because of the intolerable conditions. Their evidence is unanimous that the food situation is indescribably terrible, and that it means are not found to alleviate it the inhabitants of Bolshevik Russia may starve to death. The Britishers say that the pilot of Russia is a direct result of anarchy and terror instigated by Lenin and Trotsky. They declare that the Russian problem has ceased to be a political question and had become a question of common humanity. Thousands are dying daily from the great centres of population like Petrograd, Moscow, Kiev and Odessa. In Petrograd alone the daily ration of food is less than one-third of what it was three weeks ago. Typhoid and "hunger typhus" is carrying off young and old alike. There is no fuel for lighting and millions live in pitch darkness after nightfall. The troubles of the Russians are further aggravated by lack of coal and wood which can be obtained only by the very rich or by the favorites and friends of the Bolshevik government. The Kremlin, in Moscow, according to reports, is now using as a hoarding place for wood, fuel and light materials for the Bolshevik government. The Bolshevik food distributing system has fallen down and works only to the advantage of the government and its supporters.

Meat, milk and vegetables command enormous prices when they can be obtained. Horse meat sells for the normal equivalent of \$10 a pound and dog flesh can be had at from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a pound. There is a great lack of medicines and doctors. The Bolshevik paper money has no value in the country districts and the peasants refuse to exchange it for food. The only country produce which is in demand is that requisitioned by armed Red Guards.

In Petrograd three weeks ago, milk was selling for \$5 a pint, pork at \$10 a pound, butter at \$45 a pound, tea \$125 a pound and potatoes \$3.75 a pound.

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## PORT CONFERENCES ARE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., March 6.—Conferences between Mayor Hayes, Commissioner Bullock, and R. W. Wigmore, M.P., representing the City of St. John, and Hon. F. B. Carvell, Hon. A. K. MacLean, and Hon. C. Ballantyne, of the Dominion Government, in regard to the Nationalization of St. John harbor, are proceeding satisfactorily, but the matter has not yet been closed. Opposition developed today from Hon. Dr. Ballantyne, who is not wholly convinced that the government should raise its original offer of \$1,125,000, and this, despite the fact that the matter is expected to be closed up then. The St. John visitors, accompanied by Mr. Wigmore, will leave for home on Friday afternoon, arriving in St. John on Saturday.

## SUPREME COUNCIL PROGRESS TOWARD TREATY OF PEACE

Adopt American Proposal to Have Various Commissions Present Their Reports to the Council.

Paris, March 6.—A step toward the formation of a treaty of peace was taken by the supreme council today when it adopted the proposal of the American delegation to have the various commissions present to the council their reports and conclusions in the form of articles to be inserted in the final peace proposals.

The council also discussed the military, naval and aerial conditions to be imposed on the enemy. The next meeting will take place tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

## CZECH SOLDIERS AND CITIZENS BLOODY CLASH

Trouble Started When Germans Attempted to Hold Elections for the Austrian National Assembly in Vienna.

Vienna, Wednesday, March 6.—(By the Associated Press)—There have been sanguinary engagements between Czech soldiers and citizens in numerous towns in German Bohemia, according to reports received here. The trouble started when the Germans attempted to hold elections for the Austrian national assembly in Vienna, which the Czech government prohibited, because Bohemia is Czech territory. The Germans organized manifestations against the Czech rule, and Czechs used rifles and bayonets in suppressing the demonstrations. Three persons are reported to have been killed at Karlsbad, and ten at Sternberg.

## BOLSHEVIK ORDERS INCURABLE TYPHUS CASES BE KILLED

Stockholm, March 6.—Typhoid is raging with increased force in Petrograd, according to advice from that city. In one single hospital eight thousand persons die monthly, in the provinces the mortality is so great that the Bolsheviks have issued a secret order to kill the incurable cases, hoping thus to counteract the contagion which is almost impossible to stop by any means. Hardly any medicine is available.

## BRITAIN'S BIGGEST AIRSHIP MAKES MOST SATISFACTORY TRIP

London, March 7.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—Great Britain's biggest airship, the R. 33, which is 670 feet long, made a

## FINE MILITARY DISPLAY WAS ONE REDEEMING FEATURE OF THE LEGISLATIVE OPENING

## MARINE DIVISION AND MILITIA JOINS SPARTACANS

Spartacan Attempt to Storm Police Headquarters by Use of Hand Grenades and Shots.

## SCHIEDEMAN FORCED TO RESIGN

Ebert Considered His Withdrawal from the Cabinet as Chancellor Was Absolutely Necessary.

Berlin, March 6.—The volunteer marine division and a portion of the republican militia, which have been supporting the government, have gone over to the Spartacans. An attempt by the Spartacans to storm police headquarters this afternoon was repulsed. Towards one o'clock in the afternoon the Spartacans made an effort to smash the door of the headquarters by hand grenades and shots. This attack was accompanied by general firing against the building from surrounding houses and streets, the government troops replying from the headquarters. About eighty civilians and sailors tried to storm a building in a side street where the government had stationed its headquarters, but they were repulsed. During the afternoon, some sailors' detachments crept continually nearer the headquarters, placed machine guns in adjoining streets and erected barricades. Otherwise, according to this despatch the city was quiet at eleven o'clock at night.

Copenhagen, March 6.—The impending resignation of Philipp Scheidemann, as German chancellor is indicated in despatches received here today and dated Wednesday in Berlin. The resignation of Scheidemann from the cabinet is necessary in view of political events. The chancellor's attitude toward socialization apparently was under the compulsion of events and his fellow majority socialists regard his position as untenable.

## CANADIENS WIN DECISIVE GAME

Will Now Represent the National Professional Hockey League in the World's Series.

Montreal, March 6.—Leaving no doubt as to which is the better team, the National Professional hockey league in the world's series against the winners of the Pacific Coast League, Canadiens won the fifth and decisive game of the play-off for the N. H. L. honors at the Jubilee Rink tonight, defeating Ottawas by a score of 4 to 2. Canadiens were always in the lead, outplaying their opponents at all stages of the play.

There was no excuse to be offered by the Senators for their defeat as they went on the ice at full strength and Nighbor, whose absence was given as an alibi for the first three defeats, was the weak man on the line. Nighbor did not check back in any of the games played by him this season, and his work at shooting was lamentably weak.

## LONDON APPEARED APATHETIC OVER COUNCIL ELECTIONS

London, March 6.—Owing to preoccupation with the peace conference, labor unrest and other important matters, London appeared unusually apathetic today over the council elections. The large number of seats were uncontested by arrangement between the various parties. The full results will not be known until tomorrow but the municipal reformers have already

## "GENERAL" COXEY TO LEAD ANOTHER ARMY TO WASHINGTON

The Trip Will be Made as a Protest Against National Prohibition—Says Many Business Men of New York Are to Enlist in His Army Which Will Travel by Motor Transportation.

New York, March 6.—"General" Jacob Coxe declared here tonight that he proposes to lead another "army" to Washington as a protest against national prohibition. He has decided, however, that he will not go on foot, but will travel in a touring car and motor transportation will be

All Other Proceedings Were Characterized by a Cheerful Irrelevance—Speaker Elected Without Having Received Resignation of the Former Incumbent Although False Position Was Pointed Out by Hon. Dr. Baxter.

Speech from Throne Forecasted No Constructive Legislation—Federal Government Praised for Its Measures and Local Gov't Seems Content to Leave to Ottawa Solution of Vexing Questions—Apologize for Health Act and Valley Ry. Construction.

## Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, N.B., March 6.—A fine military display marked the opening of the legislature. The rest of the proceedings were characterized by a cheerful irrelevance. The House elected Dr. Hetherington speaker, without having received the resignation of the former incumbent, though Dr. Baxter pointed out that it was not in the province of the Lieutenant-Governor to adopt the resignation of a speaker who was elected by the House, and that there was no reason for the departure from the old custom which originated in struggles between the prerogatives of the Crown and the rights of the people. Dr. Baxter added that, while the Opposition felt that Dr. Hetherington would make a satisfactory speaker, they would have been pleased if the former Deputy Speaker, C. M. Legere, had been selected, partly on the principle of promotion, and partly because of his knowledge of two languages.

The Speech from the Throne dealt with various events and problems, not particularly relevant to the performances of the Government or the work of the Legislature. It foreshadowed a few legislative measures which may or may not prove important, but which, at any rate, do not appear to have a very positive character. Gratification was expressed with various achievements and purposes of the Federal Government, and it would appear that the local Government is quite content to leave that authority to deal with the main problems arising out of the resettlement of returned soldiers in civil life. Apology is made for the failure to complete the Valley Railway, and for the supporting of the Public Health Act.

In moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Dysart, of Kent, reviewed the achievements of Canadian soldiers and Canadian people in the war, and showed indignation because a former Government did not grant women the franchise at a time when they had not so patiently earned the right to vote as they have done during the war.

In seconding Mr. Robichaud, of Gloucester, spoke with real eloquence, but an eloquence so lofty that he overlooked the Government's record, or lack of it, and threw no light upon the Government's programme. The debate on the address was adjourned until Monday evening.

The Opposition caucus today adopted a resolution of sympathy with Geo. Y. Dibbles, Chief Clerk of the Legislature, who is seriously ill. (See Also Page 3.)

## THRIFT STAMP CAMPAIGN

Mr. Sainders Did Exceptionally Good Work in Organization Last Evening.

A. P. Sainders, the efficient delegate of the Trades and Labor Council in the interests of the War Savings and Thrift Stamp campaign, was on the war path yesterday, calling on the manager of the Maritime Nail Works Co., Ltd., and discussing the Thrift and War Savings campaign with that official, who in turn discussed the question with the employees of the plant, they at once forming a committee among themselves to further the subscription to the national cause.

In the evening Mr. Sainders addressed the members of the Chautauque and Teamsters Union in their hall, Union street, and after discussing the question with the members another committee was formed among the union members to advance the aims of which Mr. Sainders is an efficient advocate.

## FRACTURED THIGH.

Clarence Campbell, 42 St. Johns street, West, a four year old boy, sustained a fractured thigh bone and injuries to his hip and head, Wednesday afternoon, as the result of being run over by a team on the West Side ferry floats. The boy was reported to have recovered comfortably last night.

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