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Persistent Misrepresentation.

Elsewhere in this issue, we publish a report of what took place in Parliament at Ottawa on Friday last, the closing day of the session. The Liberal majority in the Senate, yielding to the desire of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, defeated the naval aid bill, and Sir Wilfrid, elated over his success, undertook to gibe the Government over its failure, as he said, to convince the majority in both Houses of the existence of an emergency, regarding naval augmentation. He got his answer from the Prime Minister; an answer that we may be sure, he did not altogether relish. Premier Borden pointed out that the British Admiralty would at once commence the building of three extra ships, of the description the Dominion Government intend to supply, had they not been thwarted by the Liberal Senate. He further intimated that he would renew for the appropriation for these ships next session of Parliament. Should Parliament vote the money, the Canadian Government would assume responsibility for the completion of the ships, at whatever stage they would then be in.

If there is one misrepresentation of Premier Borden's course in this matter, that has been reiterated and persisted in more than another, it is the statement that the appropriation of \$35,000,000 was a part of the Federal Government's permanent naval policy. Side by side with this was reiterated the declaration that there was no emergency. There is ample evidence that both these statements are false and misleading. Premier Borden and his colleagues in the Government again and again expressed themselves in no uncertain fashion regarding these matters. But our Liberal friends persist in their false declarations.

On December 5th, when introducing the resolution Premier Borden said: "It will be borne in mind that we are not undertaking or beginning a system of regular and periodical contributions. I agree with the resolution of this House in 1909, that the payments of such contributions would not be the most satisfactory solution of the question of defence." On February 27th, when moving the second reading of the bill he explicitly contradicted Liberal assertions that the bill inaugurated a "permanent policy of contributions." He said: "I desire, speaking upon my responsibility as a member of this Government, to take the strongest possible exception to the statements which the right hon. gentleman (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) has made. I say in the first place that it is not a policy of contribution at all, and I say in the second place that it is not a permanent policy." On May 15th, on the third reading of the bill he contradicted a statement by Mr. Lemieux that he had "pledged Canada to permanent contributions." Mr. Borden said: "I want to remind him (Mr. Lemieux) that I stated distinctly the reverse of that."

Statements equally emphatic on the question were made by other members of the Government. Here is what Hon. Geo. E. Foster said on December 18th last:

Let me now, however, call attention to the fact that, whether designedly or not, there is a disposition, upon which many individuals have already acted, to declare to the country that there is only one branch to the Government policy, and that is the branch of contribution. That a permanent policy has been thrown to the winds, and that there is to be no Canadian Naval Service. This is an absolute misstatement of the Government policy."

And again on April 8th last, Hon. W. T. White said, "Is there, in the bill brought down by my right hon. friend a single word, or syllable, or letter indicating that we are about to make the payment of regular or periodical contributions to the Imperial treasury? There is not one word whatsoever. I am entirely against a policy of permanent or stated contributions."

Emphatic statements of this kind were repeated over and over again by the Premier and other Government members, during the long debate on this question. But our Liberal friends in their perversity brush these aside and persist in their campaign of misrepresentation. Could anything be more reprehensible?

The Highways Bill.

The Highways Bill was again discussed in the House of Commons on Thursday and sent back to the Senate with their amendments rejected. It is to be regretted that the Senate has prevented the country from having the benefit of good roads because some members of that body thought fit to obey the commands of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his discredited minority in the House of Commons. The country will suffer all the more, as one of the demands and needs of the Dominion is a good roads system. The Opposition based their support of the Senate amendments upon the contention that the Provinces should have the expenditure and control of the grant, rather than the Minister of Railways and Canals. It was a narrow exhibition of partisanship which will put the Liberal party back many years into the wilderness of opposition. They have not proven themselves worthy of the great trust reposed in them as representatives of the interests of the Dominion.

William German (Liberal), stated in the House that he had absolute confidence in the integrity and honesty of the present Minister of Railways and Canals in the administration of public funds, and straightway voted against allowing him to administer the good roads grant. The Liberal policy is founded on mistrust and suspicion. They have no great conception of what might be good for the people. Their only desire right to the end of the session was a mad scrambling for power and prestige.

It is only fair to ask if the Liberal contentions are founded upon reason and good sense. But an examination of the facts shows that the provincial governments in certain cases have not shown themselves capable of taking proper care of the roads within their jurisdiction, and it is time that the federal government stepped in and took the matter under its control.

It is plain that the Opposition is playing a game political in its significance. They wish that the administration of the good roads grant be left in the hands of the provinces so that the Liberal provincial governments in Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia get the credit of giving the money and so remain in power and attack the federal government which has been responsible for the grant.

In fact, it has already been pointed out by several members from Quebec that the provincial Minister of Agriculture in Quebec stated in public meetings that he had been the donor of certain agricultural grants made by the federal Minister of Agriculture. It is not to be wondered at that the government wishes to protect the interests of the people by keeping the administration of the good roads grant in the hands of the federal minister. It is a proper thing to do. The present issue is not a constitutional one but merely, as was pointed out by Mr. Andrew Broder, a representative of the farmers, that something should be done for the people.

Canada wants at the present time, as much as anything else, advertising of the real type. What more effective advertisement could there be than that of possessing good roads? It is a well known fact that the roads of Canada are a reproach among travellers from the United States. There are few good roads for travellers in Canada. Motorists cannot come into this country with any assurance of safety. And while their considerations should not be urged beside those of the farmers, yet if the question of good roads is taken up at all it is bound to have a correspondingly good result through improving the roads for the farmers.

Canada is devoting much of her resources to the question of railroads. It is time that the great natural highways also be looked after, and the fact that the Senate has, by pernicious amendments, attempted to kill a bill for the improvement of those highways will not be overlooked by the farmers of Canada, when they come to cast their votes in an election. They will be able to distinguish who are the real friends of the people. Those friends are not the Liberal party led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir George Ross.—St. John Standard.

The First Result.

The Ottawa Journal (Independent Conservative) says: "The sensational decline in C. P. R. stock from 240 to 219 is the chief topic in business and financial circles today. What is the cause? Is the question of the hour. Leading financiers stated to the Journal that the action of the Canadian Parliament through the rejection of the Naval Bill by the Senate had struck a bad blow at Canadian credit abroad. Of this there could be no doubt. The monetary situation alone did not account for the unfavorable reception of Canadian issues in London during the past few weeks. A change in sentiment on the part of the British investor was behind it all.

"It is impossible to estimate how far reaching the result of this change of sentiment may be," said a prominent stock broker. "Undoubtedly it has had something to do with the recent sensational decline in C.P.R. which is now selling below 219, as compared with a price above 240 a few weeks ago. The drop in this stock has been caused by selling on the part of holders abroad. How much further the movement will continue no one can say. Undoubtedly a change of sentiment in London toward Canada has affected the price of the stock. There is no other reason which can satisfactorily account for the action of the stock in the past few weeks. Of course, tight money, European unrest and other factors all help in depressing the price, but underneath it all is the attitude of the British investor. In this

way is reflected his disappointment in Canada."

There is no exaggeration in the above statement. All those who have the responsibility of dealing in finance know that the British investor is and has been the great asset of Canadians in the hour of need. But the Senate has shown that Canada does not want to maintain the integrity of Britain and as a result—and can they be blamed?—British investors are wondering why they should be asked to help Canada in her development if she shows such ingratitude. The decline in C. P. R. stock is but a forerunner of the bad days in store for Canada as a result of the mean and narrow action of the Liberal Senate.

Federal Parliament.

Opposition Leader Makes Sorry Spectacle Defending His Policy

Ottawa, June 6.—Parliament was prorogued this afternoon with all the pomp and ceremony that the ages prescribed. At fifteen minutes to five it was all over, the second session of this parliament had come to an end. The flag was hoisted from the masthead of the main tower, a battery of guns roared out a last salute. A bugle call re-echoed from some where down the line of march.

In the absence of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, parliament was prorogued by the administrator, Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Chief Justice of Canada, who read the speech from the throne.

The last day saw a thin house and the arrival of the red coats on Parliament Hill saw a rather smaller crowd than usual.

Black Rod arrived at the door of the Commons at half past four, knocked loudly at the door, and was admitted and solemnly delivered his summons, bowing three times on the way in and three times more on the way out.

The guard, which stood on Parliament Hill, was a detachment of the Governor General's Foot Guards, and an escort of the Princess Louise Dragon Guards, accompanied the administrator's carriage. These were the usual arrangements. But elsewhere there was a change. For the first time since parliaments have been prorogued in Ottawa the salute was not fired from Nepean Point. The guns are ancient twenty four pounders and are much the worse for wear. It was found necessary to fire the salute from modern shielded quick firers outside of the armories on Cartier Square.

The ceremony in the Senate was brief. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick occupied the throne, the consul in front of him, a knot of the officers of the headquarters staff to his right, and the members of the Commons before the bar. Premier Borden stood in front of the staff officers in his privy councillor's uniform.

The speech from the throne briefly outlined the legislation passed during session.

DETERMINED TO AID EMPIRE.
 The determination of the government to continue its efforts to provide for Canadian co-operation in the common defence of the empire was declared by Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden in the course of a vigorous reply to an ill-adviced question by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Commons today. The leader of the opposition attempted a gibe at the administration "because it had not succeeded in convicting parliament that there was such an emergency as was described in the speech from the throne" in November last. He demanded to know what were the intentions of the government under the circumstances. He learned and in such emphatic terms, he seemed some what taken back.

LAURIER STARTS TROUBLE.
 Sir Wilfrid Laurier called the attention of the Prime Minister to the fact that the government had placed in the mouth of the Governor General a statement, at the beginning of the session, to the effect that there were circumstances which made it imperative that there should be help given to the naval forces of the Empire. To that end a measure had been promised and introduced, but the government did not succeed in convincing parliament that there was such emergency as was shown in the speech from the throne. They had convinced this House but not the other branch of the

legislature where the bill did not pass. "We are entitled to know," said Sir Wilfrid, "what action the government proposes to take under the circumstances."

PREMIER BORDEN'S REPLY.

Right Hon. R. L. Borden said the question was one which certainly deserved serious consideration and a plain answer. "It appears," he said, "we have failed to obtain the consent of parliament to the measure which was brought down by the government. We obtained the consent of this House of Commons, which represents the people; we did not obtain the consent of certain gentlemen in another chamber who were merely the echo of the expressed intention of the right hon. gentleman, because it was announced by the members from the other side of the House, that it would be defeated in the Senate, and, notwithstanding the protestations of the right hon. gentleman everyone, including his own followers, admits that he has referred to the Senate as the upholder of democratic institutions and the liberties of the people. I want to say that, according to his own expressed intention of the British North America Act over ten years ago he deliberately violated the constitution of this country. That is a strong statement to make, but I challenge him to deny it, and I will prove it out of his own mouth."

LAURIER CONDEMNED.

The Premier then quoted the words referred to in which Sir Wilfrid Laurier said in 1896: "I charge here against him and his party (Sir Charles Tupper and his followers) that in so far as the Senate of Canada is concerned, they have all along for the last eighteen years disregarded the constitution of Canada as regards the appointments which they have made to that branch of the legislature. It was one of the understood principles at confederation that if the Senate was not elective, and if it was to be appointed by the Crown, then both political parties should be equally represented on the floor of the Senate. The hon. gentleman has forgotten that rule in practice although it may not have escaped his memory."

"That," said Mr. Borden, "was his conception, and I asked him to point out where, from the day he came into office in 1896 until he went out of power in 1911, he fulfilled his duty to the constitution as interpreted by him in his words just quoted. He cannot name one single instance. He charged Sir Charles Tupper with having violated the constitution and with having shown political partisanship in Senate appointments. Now having filled the Senate with members of his own party, he adopts a complainant tone and boasts that he is able to manipulate these gentlemen, so that they shall defeat the wishes of the people of Canada, as expressed through their elected representatives."

PROOF OF EMERGENCY.

Continuing the Prime Minister said: "The announcement that the government of the United Kingdom will be called upon to pay for three Dreadnoughts which are to be laid down in place of those which would have been furnished by Canada under the provisions of the Naval Aid Act is a matter for serious earnest consideration."

"In the first place that action of the British Government, according to my conception, shatters every argument and contention on the part of those who have reiterated over and over again in this house that there was no emergency."

"My right hon. friend is ready to give a guarantee of peace of the world. There was no need of any further provision for the naval defence of the Empire. He was in the secrets of all the chancelleries of the world."

He was thoroughly aware of all their specific intentions and could answer for Canada and the Empire that we might disarm. This was mere irresponsible vaporing as the right hon. gentleman must have known himself, and the best and most convincing answer to it is the action that the British government has found it necessary to take in view of the defeat of that bill in the Senate at its dictation. "Now the position in which the government is placed by the unfortunate and ill advised given to the Senate following his counsel is intensely humiliating to the people of the Dominion." (Laughter from opposition members.) "I repeat, intensely humiliating," said the premier. "It prevents Canada at the present time from undertaking a duty which the vast majority of the people are not only willing but desirous of undertaking. It prevents the people of Canada for the time being from

undertaking that duty. However it appears from the press despatches—and I have no official communication on the subject—that the British government has undertaken the duty which I think ought to have been discharged by Canada at this juncture under the provisions of the Naval Aid Act."

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—"A telegram from Windermere."
 Mr. Borden—"I don't know who the press correspondent is and I cannot answer for the accuracy of the despatch but it seems to have been accepted generally and for the time being I assume that it is correct."

"Now the defeat of this measure by the Liberal majority in the Senate at the dictation of the right hon. gentleman, prevents us at present from arranging that the British government shall proceed with the construction of these ships on behalf of Canada. Technically the parliament of Canada has refused this aid; in reality this aid has been refused by a partisan majority in the Senate at the dictation of the right hon. gentleman without any responsibility whatever to the people of Canada."

RIGHT THE PRESENT WRONG.

"But in view of the fact that these proposals were made by the government of Canada on information received from the British government through the admiralty which they regarded as disclosing grave conditions, it may be possible in the future to make right that which has been made wrong at present by the right hon. gentleman and his irresponsible friends in the other chamber."

"The construction of these ships is apparently to be proceeded with by the British government. It is quite out of the question for us to make any advice or to approach them under the conditions created because, technically, the measure has been defeated by the parliament of Canada although in reality only by a few partisans, and the decision of that body does not represent, in any sense whatever, the true desire and wish of the Canadian people."

CANADA WILL PAY.

"So that, as these ships are being proceeded with by the British government and are to be constructed and to be of the same character, and strength, and value, as those which we proposed and are to be for the same purpose, namely that of the common defence of our empire, such as we had in mind, I say that it is the intention of this government that it remain in power—as undoubtedly it will—bring down at a later date a proposal for the acquisition or construction of three battleships as was proposed in the Naval Aid Bill of 1909 and we hope in that way before the completion of these ships to be in a position to say to the British government: We shall now do what the partisan majority in the Senate prevented us from doing. We shall take over and pay for three ships and place them at the disposal of His Majesty the King for the common defence of this Empire." (Loud and continued applause.)

LAURIER'S REBUTTAL.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in reply, said "Though my right hon. friend has done his very best to be severe upon the Canadian Senate we must admit that his efforts in that direction have fallen far short of the purpose. Several of his large points have been done no appear at all to impress one. One would suppose that the Senate had committed some great error almost akin to a crime, whereas the Senate has done nothing but defend the rights of the Canadian people." (Opposition cheers.)

"If I have to follow my right hon. friend in the line of argument which he has taken I will say that the Senate has done nothing but defend the rights of the people against a servile majority in the House of Commons."

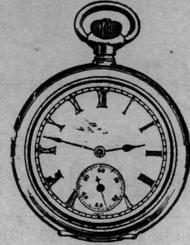
"What has the Senate done? Have they done violence to the constitution or infringed the rights of this House or of the people? They have simply provided that if this measure should be not rejected, as they might have done, they have simply said that they are not called upon to give it assent until it is submitted to the judgment of the country."

DEFIES EMERGENCY.

"This contribution which was suggested by my right hon. friend under the pretense of an emergency which has never existed, a contribution which is altogether opposed to the historical traditions of the country—the Senate might have been well justified if they had thrown it aside. But they would not take that course."

Sir Wilfrid repudiated the idea that the resolution of the Senate was in any way dictated to the Senate, declaring that the Liberals in whatever House they sat did not follow the dictation of any body. As to the suggestion that the Senate should be reformed, he said it was up to the Premier to see to that. "I have stated," he said, "that the constitution of the Senate is far from satisfactory, but the difficulty has always been to find a remedy. Perhaps my right hon. friend will keep his word and will reform it. If so we shall be willing to give him our help. But according to his view the Senate is to be constituted not according to the constitution, but according to the manner in which they exercise their powers. If the Senators are good boys, if they consent to be simple the recording machinery to register their vote at the will of the majority of this side or that side of the House of Commons, then their constitution will be maintained. They are an old institution, but if they have the audacity to have a will of their own, to exercise their own judgments and to put that judgment against the majority of this House, down with them. This is the basis upon which apparently, Senate

(Continued on third page.)



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