

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1919

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LIBERAL DISUNION.

A number of Liberals in this constituency attended a meeting last evening and made it clear that they do not want anything to do with Liberal Unionists. They would seem to prefer defeat to reconciliation. Perhaps on second thought they will change their minds, but it must be confessed that the outlook is not bright. They are not looking forward but backward. If when the elections take place the Liberals should win in the country at large but lose in St. John, those who caused the failure here would not enjoy a marked popularity either here or in Ottawa. It is idle to pretend that the calling of a convention on one day's notice, especially in view of what was said by some of the speakers, has resulted in any other purpose than to squeeze out the Liberal Unionists. The meeting held last evening does not, however, represent the whole Liberal party of St. John-Albert. The party as a whole would respect the wishes of the acting party leader, Mr. D. D. McKenzie; but last night's meeting rejected his advice and that of Premier Foster, as well as that of Mr. W. M. Ryan, secretary of the Liberal Association, and a number of influential Liberals who were present. It would be unfortunate if two groups of delegates from St. John should attend the Ottawa convention, asking recognition, but it is perfectly clear that those chosen last night do not represent a united Liberal party. The Liberal Unionists are not going about with a ship on their shoulder, but they are not it all repentant so far as their action at the last elections is concerned. They acted on conviction and believed the whole party should hold the same views. One fact stands out very clearly. There will be a re-united Liberal party in a defeated Liberal party in St. John. If it is to be the latter the responsibility will not lie with those who sought last night to follow the advice of Mr. D. D. McKenzie and reunite the party, but with those who rejected his advice and sought to make permanent the split in the party ranks.

What action will follow remains to be seen, but it is fair to assume that the friends of a reunited party will not desire to remain silent or unrepresented when the Ottawa convention is held. The Times-Star commends to all a careful reading of the report in this issue of last night's meeting. There was first an attempt to suppress Mr. McKenzie's telegram, and Mr. Ryan's letter accompanying it was not read. Dr. Emery appears to have described Premier Foster as not a good Liberal. Motions to seek a general reconciliation were voted down. Delegates for St. John city and county were elected, but none for Albert county. There was an utter lack of harmony, and efforts to promote it were blocked at every turn. The report of the meeting will be read with the greatest satisfaction by the Conservatives.

LIBUT. COL. McLEAN, M. P.

The Canadian Club yesterday gave a very cordial greeting to Lt.-Col. C. W. McLean, the gallant St. John soldier who is now member of the British parliament for Brigs, Lincolnshire. Military as well as political honors have come to him in an small measure since that stormy night when, a mere youth, he set out from the old barracks in his city en route to the South African war. He has been twice on service in India, living for some three years in that country. He won distinction in that great war recently ended, and is now ennobled on a political career in the north of parliament. His former fellow citizens are glad to have him with them for a season, and to know that he is as genial, as glad to greet old friends, and as thoroughly democratic as they would wish. Col. McLean pleads for the closest possible sympathy between Canadians and Englishmen, and deprecates any criticism tending to interfere with comradeship. Returned soldiers will appreciate the plea he makes in their behalf, and his appeal cannot readily be disregarded by those who can extend a helping hand to give every returned man an opportunity to earn a comfortable livelihood. His cure for Bolshevism is the comradeship that holds men together in mutual effort for the general good. The future career of a man who has won so much distinction while yet young will be followed with sympathetic interest by the citizens of St. John.

There is to be an autumn session of parliament. Meanwhile the Liberal party will gather in as many Liberals as possible under the Conservative banner, and if the non-union Liberals freeze at all their former associates the chances by the government will be much improved. Addressing the United Farmers of Ontario yesterday Mr. E. C. Drury asserted that there could be no union with the Liberal party, which he said was "defunct and discredited." Of course Mr. Drury is hounding for a farmers' party, but his remarks are not without their lesson for those who would perpetuate a split in the Liberal party.

It is said the ex-Kaiser plans to follow the ex-Crown Prince back into Germany. Why did they leave it?

In Ontario yesterday the provincial Liberal convention ousted the Liberal Unionist who was leader and elected Mr. H. H. Dewar. Mr. Proudfoot, who was defeated, remarked that his 26 votes out of 512 demonstrated the fact that no one who had anything to do with union government would receive any support from a Liberal or "no-called Liberal" convention. The Conservatives will be highly elated.

An investigation by a civil service commission shows that in one department for the same work different employees get \$600, \$500, \$1200, \$1800 and \$1800. In another a man gets \$1000 while men under him get \$1200 to \$1400. That is a nice state of affairs.

The Winnipeg policemen have agreed to return to work pledged not to affiliate with the Federation of Labor Council or take part in sympathetic strikes. The fact is not without significance for other cities.

Ottawa boot and shoe dealers testified yesterday that they made from \$8 to \$40 profit on a pair of boots. One dealer said he got \$18 for leather boots that cost him \$12.65. Evidently there is no real competition, and the consumer pays.

The president of G. W. V. A. of Winnipeg hits the nail on the head when he says that the profiteers of capital and the reds of labor are the worst enemies of peace and prosperity in Canada.

And now it appears the Grain Growers Company has been profiteering more or less. The trail of the serpent seems to be everywhere.

The death of Eric Donald Berton, aged twenty-five years, occurred in Pueblo, Col., where he has resided for the last five years. The news was received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Berton, of this city. In addition to them, he is survived by three brothers, Louis, Ernest and Chauncey, and four sisters, Mrs. George Warwick and Miss Margaret Berton of St. John, Mrs. Geo. Roy of Kentville, N. S., and Miss Lucy W. Berton of Boston.

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SIX MONTHS IN JAIL AND FINE FOR TWO GERMANS

Coblenz, June 27.—(By the Associated Press).—Sentences imposed upon Julius Mayer and Hugo Oshier, managers of German steel works, near Prum, within the occupied area, were approved yesterday by Lieut. General Hunter Liggett, commander of the army of occupation. They were convicted of failing to deliver to the American forces 300,000 shells and shell fuzes. They were sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 marks each.

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o'clock.—H. W. DeWille, 199-201 Union street.

Conservative Candidate. Toronto, June 27.—Hon. I. B. Lucas, attorney-general for Ontario, yesterday afternoon was unanimously tendered the conservative nomination for Centre Grey.

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| —For Two | Oriental—For Two—Dedola |
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