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are increasingly popular, being among the most healthful and invigorating pastimes. In our Sporting Department you will find a very complete line of the most reliable productions in BOXING GLOVES AND PUNCHING BAGS at the following

PRICES:

Boxing Gloves	A Set, \$2.00 to \$3.10
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SIR WILFRID'S GOOD REASONS FOR DECLINING

The Correspondence Between the Two Leaders on the Belated Question of a Parliamentary Branch of the National Service Commission—The Premier's Attempt to Play Politics.

Ottawa, Oct. 22.—Following is the correspondence which passed between Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier regarding the proposed formation of a parliamentary branch of the National Service Commission. Sir Wilfrid refused to accept the belated invitation of the premier, pointing out that Sir Thomas Tait had resigned owing to political interference. Sir Wilfrid felt that he could do much better work by continuing as he has done. He has been one of Canada's most active recruiting agents since the war began:

Sir Robert's Invitation.
The correspondence is as follows. Sir Robert's first letter reads:

"Ottawa, Oct. 14, 1916.
"My Dear Sir Wilfrid Laurier:—I beg to enclose herewith copy of a letter which I have received from Sir Thomas Tait, as director-general of National Service. With the letter he transmits a recommendation unanimously made by the directors of National Service in conference at Ottawa as to the formation of a Parliamentary National Service Commission, and the issue of calls to the manhood of Canada as set forth in his letter and in the resolution.

"You may remember that during the last session of parliament I suggested to you the formation of a parliamentary committee along somewhat similar lines. I am quite prepared to accept the proposal of the conference and to undertake the formation of such a committee, and I trust that you will be good enough to co-operate. Of course, parliament itself is the final authority for the appointment of a parliamentary committee in the ordinary sense, but it seems to me that a committee composed of members of parliament for the purpose set forth in the resolution might be formed in the meantime. I would suggest a committee of twelve, and I would ask you to name five members of whom I hope you will be one. If you should think a larger number desirable I shall willingly acquiesce."

Sir Wilfrid's Reply.

"Ottawa, Oct. 19, 1916.
"Dear Sir Robert Borden:—On receiving Monday last, the 18th inst., your letter of the previous Saturday transmitting to me the resolution of the directors of National Service for the formation of a Parliamentary National Service Commission to assist in the work entrusted to them, I find you ask me to co-operate with you in the formation of such a committee, and you add that during last session you made me a suggestion on similar lines.

Suggestion Must Have Been Casual.
"As to the latter observation, I must say at once that your suggestion must have been a very casual one, in the course of conversation on other matters, for I have no recollection whatever of it. As to your present proposal it seems to me indispensable that I should acquaint myself of the exact powers and duties assigned to the directors of National Service, as defined in the order in council creating the service, and I at once caused a search to be made for it in the file of The Canadian Gazette.

Order Creating the Service.
"The search satisfied me that it had not been published, and on Tuesday I asked you for a copy, which I received the same day, and I think I ought to reproduce it here in its entirety:

"(1) The governor-in-council may appoint a director-general of national service (hereinafter called the director-general), who, under the prime minister, shall be charged with the duty of directing, supervising and co-ordinating the work of the directors of national service (hereinafter mentioned).
"(2) The governor-in-council may appoint for each military district one or more directors of national service (hereinafter called directors) who, under the director-general, shall be charged with the duties hereinafter mentioned.
"(3) The powers and duties of a director shall be as follows:
"(a) To make himself acquainted with the nature and importance of the various industries (agriculture, manufacturing, mining, lumbering, fishing and others) which are being carried on in any locality within his district.
"(b) For the purpose of obtaining necessary information respecting conditions of industry and of employment

Duty to Find Available Men.

"It is obvious that under the above instructions the duty of the directors of national service is to find out the number of men who can be removed from the various industries (agriculture, manufacturing, mining, lumbering, fishing and others) which are carried on in any locality within each district; and to provide that no person be allowed to enlist whose services would be of more value to the state in the employment in which he is now engaged."

Would Have Consulted Sir Thomas.

"In that view it seemed to me that the first thing to be done would have been at once to enter into communication with employers of labor, agricultural and industrial, in every locality, as the persons best qualified to supply the desired information, and I would have deemed it my duty to communicate at once with Sir Thomas Tait and discuss with him this aspect of the subject in connection with the resolution of the directors of national service for a parliamentary committee.

New Complexion on Proposal.

"Unfortunately Sir Thomas Tait has resigned from the position of director-general of national service, and his resignation, and especially the reasons for his resignation, put a new complexion upon your proposal.

"Sir Thomas Tait resigned not only on account of 'what occurred in the case of Mr. G. M. Murray, who had been offered the position of secretary of national service,' but chiefly, as I understand it, on account of that incident as indicative of what may be anticipated in connection with the future organization and work of national service."
"I feel that, under the circumstances, in accordance to your suggestion my assistance to the cause which I have endeavored to serve from the first day of the war would not be untrammelled, and consequently as effective as if I continue to serve it according to my own ways as heretofore."

Sir Robert Borden's reply is as follows:

"Ottawa, Oct. 20, 1916.
"Dear Sir Wilfrid Laurier: I beg to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, which has just reached me; and I observe that you decline to co-operate with me in the formation of a committee of members of parliament for the purpose set forth in the resolution of the directors of National Service, which is as follows:

"That a parliamentary national service committee, to be composed of representatives of all the political parties in parliament be formed at the earliest possible date.

"That such committee as soon as possible after its formation issue, by proclamation and through the public press and in any other expedient way,

"(a) A strong and explicit call to the manhood of Canada of military age and fitness to enlist for overseas military and naval service.

"(b) A similar call to the men and women of Canada, individually and

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You are proud of your boy and naturally wish him to look his best. His suit for school or dress-up occasions must be fashionably cut of good materials and workmanship.

We have just such boys' garments, strong and durable, with enough style to please the most particular.

FANCY SUITS in great variety	\$3.50 to \$9.50
SAILOR SUITS—Navy serges and tweeds; 5 to 10 years,	\$4.25 to \$6.75
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NORFOLK SUITS—7 to 12 years,	\$3.50 to \$10.00
NORFOLK SUITS—13 to 18 years,	\$6.00 to \$12.00
NORFOLK SUITS—Extra bloomers; 7 to 12 years,	\$7.25 to \$12.00
NORFOLK SUITS—Extra bloomers; 13 to 18 years,	\$8.75 to \$15.00

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Sanitary Durable Inexpensive

From an artistic standpoint most desirable. The soft ground colors seem to blend with almost any surrounding woodwork or furniture. Everywhere extensively used in demonstrations of modern home furnishing.

PLAIN OR FANCY DESIGNS in browns, greens, rose or blues, 2x4 ft to 9x12 ft. 90c. to \$13.00

CARPET DEPARTMENT

Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited

"SCARBORO BEACH" CLAM CHOWDER

This delicious CHOWDER is made from the famous Maine Coast White Shell Clams, diced potatoes, choice pork, a bit of finely pounded onion, and a dash of cayenne, cooked ready to serve, and only requires heating. Serve a chowder tonight, the family will enjoy it.

Scarboro Beach Clam Chowder, 3 lb. tins 35c.

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through their various organizations, to serve the nation in such capacities as their services may be of most value.

"(c) A similar call to all employers to effect such industrial re-organization as is necessary to meet emergencies arising out of the war."

Deeply Regrets Refusal.

"A united appeal for this great national purpose seemed to me especially desirable, and it is with the deepest regret that I learn of your refusal to join in such an appeal.

"Without presuming to question a decision which must rest upon your own judgment, you will permit me to confess my inability to realize in what way your future action would be transacted by naming five members on your side of the house to serve upon such a committee.

"The conversation to which I alluded took place when, among other things, I discussed with you the proposals of the government with regard to railway legislation, and I have a perfect recollection of the answers which you made.

"Believe me,

"Yours faithfully,

"(Signed) R. L. Borden."

A short little woman and her tall husband went to a cafe of the cheapest sort for dinner. "Will you have oysters?" asked the husband, glancing over the bill of fare. "Yes," said the little woman, as she tried in vain to touch her feet to the floor, "and, Henry, I want a hassock."

"Yes, and bring the lady a hassock," "One hassock?" asked the waiter with what Henry thought more than ordinary interest, as he nodded in the affirmative. Still the waiter did not go, but brushed the tablecloth with a towel and rearranged the articles on it several times, while his face got very red. Then he came around to the husband's side and, speaking in a whisper, said: "Say,



mister, I haven't been here long and I'm not on to all of these things. Will the lady have the hassock broiled or fried?"

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