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Government Victory.

The by-election for the House of Commons held in Chateaugay County, Quebec, on Saturday last resulted in the return of Morris, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 144. Under all the circumstances this is a most signal victory for the Borden Government. This Quebec constituency has elected Liberal members ever since Confederation and the electors are almost seventy per cent French Canadians. On their very face these conditions would strongly argue in favor of the return of the Laurier candidate. The Liberal candidate was Mr. Sydney Fisher, who had been Minister of Agriculture in the Laurier Cabinet, during the whole existence of the Liberal administration. In addition to all these circumstances, Laurier made the fight his own and took an active part in the election campaign, as did all his ablest lieutenants. But all their efforts and devices proved vain; and the Conservative triumphantly carried the election as above stated.

Our Liberal friends entertained very strong hopes of winning the election, and their press left nothing undone in their line to bring about such a result. The leading Liberal newspapers, the Toronto Globe, the Montreal Telegraph, the Halifax Chronicle, as well as our own Patriot declared the election was "fought out on a straight issue between the Liberals and Conservatives." Very well, on this straight issue the Conservatives won a signal victory and the Liberal policy received a humiliating rebuff.

As above stated, Chateaugay has been Liberal since 1867. The majorities have varied considerably in the different elections, being highest in 1896 and lowest in 1911, as the following table shows:

1867 Luther Halton (Lib.)	427
1872 Luther Halton (Lib.)	238
1874 Luther Halton (Lib.)	892
1878 Luther Halton (Lib.)	179
1882 Edward Halton (Lib.)	61
1887 Edward Halton (Lib.)	358
1891 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	98
1896 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	700
1900 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	420
1904 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	464
1908 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	305
1911 J. P. Brown (Lib.)	42

Reports indicate that the vote polled on Saturday was the largest cast by the constituency in any Dominion election. In the riding, as a whole, 80 per cent of the total registered vote was polled; many individual polls cast 95 per cent of their total votes, and in one poll with a list of 127 all voted but 2. This goes to show how much interest was taken in the contest and gives a very full expression of the opinion of the electorate. The verdict of the electors of Chateaugay is a most important pronouncement of public sentiment, as this was the first by-election since Premier Borden's presentation of the Government's naval aid proposition. The election of Mr. Morris brings the Government majority in the House of Commons up to 49.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, who took a prominent part in the campaign and whose exposition of the Government's policy, did much to put the issues clearly before the electorate, said: "The result of the

Chateaugay contest is a matter of unusual importance and significance. Two great questions have divided political parties and engrossed public attention during the past three years, viz: National trade and imperial defence. Mr. Fisher in common with his leader re-affirmed the Liberal party's views on reciprocity and justified the senate action in defeating the naval bill. The verdict of Chateaugay is a crushing reply to Sir Wilfrid's arguments. Coming from a Quebec constituency historically Liberal, the reply is of double importance and will be rightly regarded throughout Canada and the Empire as a timely expression of the national feeling on matters of great national importance. On these two questions and on the agricultural and highways policies of the Government both of extreme interest in a rural constituency, the electors were well informed through public discussion and by means of the press. Mr. Morris whose majority represents the united voices of French and English speaking Canadians, has the high privilege of showing to the country that the races are one in their common devotion to the Empire and in their desire to work out the economic salvation of Canada along the lines laid down by the people two years ago."

An English Opinion.

The financial News, of London, according to a cable through the Central News Cable Service, to Canadian newspapers, deals with the new United States tariff in an interesting article. The Financial News says: "The most interesting feature of President Woodrow Wilson's work is that this gives Canada for practically nothing all that ex-President Taft promised in return for considerable sacrifices which were demanded under the so called reciprocity agreement. Hence those sturdy Canadians were amply justified who argued in 1911 that it was superfluous to make far-reaching concessions which might have an incalculable effect upon those precious ties that bind the Dominion and the Motherland."

Concerning the effect upon current Canadian trade, the News declares that as Canada is not likely to admit American wheat flour free, it is probable that the act will remain a dead letter respecting those items. The market for Canadian lumber in the United States will no doubt be enlarged, but the Canadian prohibition against export of pulpwood will check the expansion of American saw and pulp mills at the expense of the Canadian raw materials. On the other hand Canadian fisheries receive healthy stimulation.

It has been proposed in the U. S. Congress that the first Sunday in June each year shall be established as "Father's Day," and that a rose shall be the sentimental emblem of the festival. The selection of the day may meet the approval of the "old man." A Sunday celebration will not interfere with his work for keeping the other members of the family fed and comfortable. —Montreal Gazette.

The old grandiloquent and flamboyant style has given place to a trenchant, concise form of commercial truth-telling, which is not only far more appropriate but far more convincing. Advertisers, too, have come to recognize the value of white space and margins. Their matter is no longer verbose and crowded. They have reduced the number of words, and now allow illustrations to tell the tale. —Cincinnati Star.

The Sun has proven that the World and the Times do not understand the (currency) measure. The Times has proved that the World and the Sun do not understand it. Let the campaign of education go on.—New York World.

There has not been a Canadian newspaper, whatever its party affiliations, that has failed to approve of Mr. Doherty's action in the Thaw case. The Minister of justice is a politician of the quiet type, but anybody who takes this as indicating any lack of force of character makes a serious mistake. —Edmonton Journal.

The governor of Woodstock jail has been suspended because two of the prisoners to whom keys of the prison were loaned failed to return. Incidents like these shake one's faith in human nature, but it is to be sincerely hoped that the guests will not add to their abuse of hospitality by failing to return the keys. —Vancouver Province.

Swiss dairymen assert that cows will yield a larger quantity of milk if they listen to music during the milking process. A gramophone that could render "The Old Oaken Bucket," "Shall We Gather at the River," "Where the River Shannon Flows," and other aquatic selections ought to be installed in every well equipped dairy. —Vancouver Province.

Taking courage from a preacher college president, who spanked his father, an Illinois minister has undertaken to chastise a newspaper editor. If we had to be thrashed, we suppose a minister might as well do it as anybody, but we don't mind saying it would suit our purpose just as well, and save our feelings, if the case could be submitted to arbitration. —Mail and Empire.

It is significant that the three places in Chateaugay —Orms town, Chateaugay Basin and St. Martins—in which Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke, all gave Conservative majorities. The enthusiasm said to have been shown at the Laurier meetings, was largely manufactured, and the thousands carried in by special trains from Montreal and other adjacent points, failed in their object of impressing the electors of Chateaugay with the Liberal Chief's greatness. Sir Wilfrid would have been wise had he retired in 1911, as he said he would if defeated. —Moncton Times.

Reset By Fire And Big Gale Many Die.

London, Oct. 13.—The latest accounts of the disaster to the steamship Voltorno, burned and abandoned in mid-ocean on Friday morning, confirm that the loss of life will be limited to about one hundred and thirty-six. The Carmania, first of the rescuing ships to reach the burning steamer, arrived off Queenstown this morning, but owing to the gale proceeded direct to Fishguard, where she is due to arrive at 11 a.m.

A graphic story by the solitary survivor aboard the Carmania was received by wireless and presents a terrible picture of the horror, the panic and confusion aboard the burning liner. Walter Trintepohl, a German who tells the story, however, is clearly suffering from the stress of illness and awful experiences, and his story is too incoherent to be accepted in every detail. Most important, if true, is that two boats got away from the Voltorno. According to other accounts, Captain Inch was the last to leave his vessel, which was still burning last Friday night, and was a danger to navigation.

Forty of the one hundred and thirty-six persons lost from the steamship Voltorno in mid-Atlantic were in the two boats which succeeded in getting away from the burning vessel and which

without doubt were swamped. The majority of the other victims lost their lives when four other boats were smashed against the steamer's sides in an attempt to launch them.

All this occurred before the arrival of the Carmania, and the other liners summoned by wireless calls for help. The Carmania, with one lone survivor of the Voltorno aboard, found it too rough to stop at Queenstown and is proceeding direct to Fishguard. From the survivor however comes a thrilling story of the burning of the steamer, of the terror of the struggle for the boats the death of those who went over the sides and his own desperate struggle for life.

Arthur Spurgeon, a passenger on the Carmania, in a wireless message, supplemented his own description of the race of the Carmania to the burning vessel and the rescue of the passengers of the Voltorno by the story told him by the survivor, Walter Trintepohl, a German who swam to the Carmania and was rescued in an exhausted condition. Since being taken aboard the Carmania, Trintepohl has been in the ship's hospital, threatened with pneumonia. He told his story to Mr. Spurgeon before he became seriously ill, but owing to his exhausted state and his broken English, his account of the disaster was somewhat incoherent.

Trintepohl had been employed at Barcelona and took third class passage on the Voltorno, to secure a position offered to him in New York.

"All went well," said Trintepohl, "until six o'clock Thursday morning, when the fire alarm sounded. We were aroused and told to go on deck, as fire had broken out in the hold. As we assembled life belts were handed around, and much time was occupied in fastening them. We were told that the fire might soon be quenched, but the captain thought it wise to have belts as a precaution.

"The fire frightened the children, who cried bitterly. There were many babies in arms.

"The fire grew worse. We saw things blazing down below. At about ten o'clock there was a cry to lower the boats.

"The captain behaved splendidly. So did the officers, who were English, I am sorry to say that the crew who were Germans and Belgians, behaved very badly. The people rushed about wildly and the crew seemed to think they ought to get first place, and instead of quieting the passengers they made the panic worse.

Massachusetts Politics Badly Mixed At Present.

Boston, Oct. 6.—Massachusetts politics continue in a mixed state, but not quite as much so as in New York, where the Republicans, Wilson, Bryan and Silk Stooking Democrats, Silver Democrats, Hearst men, Bull Mooses, Socialists and Fusionists are out to do up Tammany Hall in November. The impeachment of Sulzer, ex Tammanyite, is expected to hurt Murphy's candidature for mayor seriously and with the Croker influence at least neutral, if not with Sulzer, Tammany's enemies expect to throw that corrupt organization.

In this state the Republicans are hopelessly split, and the Democrats are by no means united, as the Washington administration is opposed to the Boston ring, headed by Mayor Fitzgerald and Martin M. Lomasney, the West end boss. Gov. Foss formerly a Republican, nominally a Democrat, but really an Independent, he of Canadian reciprocity fame, is expected to go to the polls next month for reelection on an anti-trades union, anti New Haven railroad platform, and lock horns with Congressman Gardner, regular and radical Republican and Progressive League (Roosevelt) candidate.

Many unbiased and many biased folks suggest that Foss may win again but the situation is so complicated that the politicians themselves are not only at sea but are lost in a fog.

Although Boston's Tammany objects to Edmond Billings, a native of St. George, Nfld, for the post of collector of customs here, it seems to be a certainty that President Wilson will nominate him within a few days.

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Full information can be had from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Charlottetown, October 15th, 1913.—t.

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