

THE LIBERAL WEEKLY

is issued by the Central Information Office of the Canadian Liberal Party. Hope Chambers, Ottawa.

One Year \$1.00—Three Months 25c.

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The Liberal party, facing the greatest constitutional crisis in the history of the Dominion, a time pregnant with the fate of our democracy, and confronted with the imperative duty of maintaining those constitutional rights gained by half a century of unceasing struggle and maintained by tireless vigilance, and jealous care, appeals to the thinking people of the Dominion, through the new medium of The Liberal Weekly, on the eve of the political crisis forced upon the electorate by a bureaucratic administration assisted by a servile press.

The Liberal party, standing upon the rock of constitutionalism, has refused to be swayed by appeals to prejudice and passion, by hysterical rhetoric and meaningless phrases. Behind the ostensible purpose of the formation of a union government stands revealed the handiwork of the predatory interests which have so long held power in the Dominion. To the furtherance of ends having to do with material gain and the exercise of privilege, has been prostituted the sacred cause of patriotism; under the guise of unity come dissension and race hatred and partisan greed. It is the duty of the Liberal party under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to expose the real causes of the formation of an organized menace to our democracy and to expose this conspiracy in plain and unequivocal language. It will be the function of The Liberal Weekly to present to Canadians of all sections of political thought the views of the Liberal party on the great issues of the day, to demonstrate in dispassionate terms the underlying motives of the alleged unity of sections of the two parties now combined in the furtherance and advocacy of measures which strike at the very foundations of our constitutional privileges and rights. Within the pages of the Liberal Weekly will appear the views and opinions of the leaders of true Liberalism in the Dominion. Nothing will be set down in malice. In every instance facts and not conjectures will be presented, and, wherever possible, all information will be confirmed from original sources. The mission of the Liberal Weekly, in short, will be to tell the truth to the electors of the Dominion regarding the various measures which will come before them for definite decision on polling day. In a spirit of true Canadianism we ask for our publication support on the part of Liberals and consideration on the part of all.

MISREPRESENTING THE WEST.

Union Government Means No Tariff Reduction.

JUST how the adhesion of Western Liberals to the new government is regarded by the responsible leaders and the party press of the Tory wing is revealed by a recent comment in the *London Free Press*, one of the stalwart Conservative journals of Ontario, and one which defended the notorious Fallis horse scandals and other deals in the interests of "patriotism," presumably, and for the purpose of winning the war. Discussing the entrance of Mr. Crerar into the patchwork administration the *Free Press* gave vent to the true sentiments of the party as follows:

In having allied himself with union government, Mr. Crerar has done the nation as a whole a service. The grain growers of the west have regarded protectionist governments as the basis of their prosperity. Mr. Crerar, by alliance with a government whose chief is a protectionist, will remove some of the unreasoning prejudice of the Westerner and will open the way to a sane adjudication of the whole matter.

In other words, the Tory press and party accept the adhesion of the Western Liberals as a surrender of their former principles and as an admission that the western farmer recognizes that protection is the "basis of his prosperity" and that the former expressions in favor of the abolition of the tariff in the West were not at all representative of the true sentiment of the West. Is this what the West understands or wishes understood by the presence in the Sifton cabinet of such leaders as Messrs. Crerar and Calder?

The fact is that the adhesion to union government of representative western leaders has done an incalculable amount of harm to the aims of the West. It has convinced thousands of eastern people that the former attitude of the West as regards the tariff on foodstuffs, agricultural implements and other commodities has been pretty much of a pose and a sham. It will require drastic action on the part of true Westerners to remove this impression and to convince the East and Eastern interests that the West has been and still is in earnest in its anti-tariff attitude.

A VOTE FOR UNION GOVERNMENT WILL POSTPONE REMEDIAL TARIFF AND OTHER LEGISLATION IN THE WEST FOR TEN YEARS.

THE FATHER OF UNION GOVERNMENT.

IT cannot be otherwise than amusing to certain interests in Canada to hear the union government referred to as an accomplishment of Premier Borden. As a matter of fact the premier was very much of a secondary factor in the institution of the new administration.

Who is the real father of the so-called win-the-war cabinet? On this point we shall quote one of the leading newspapers in America—the *New York Evening Post*, which has a reputation of the very