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The London Advertiser Company, Limited.
London, Ont., Wednesday, August 29.

BORDEN GOVT., BOUGHT AND PAID FOR IN 1911, IS SERVING MASTERS WELL IN C. N. R. DEAL

The Canadian Government made a complete surrender to the Mackenzie-Mann interests and forced the C. N. R. bill upon the Canadian people by the most Prussian method known in the history of the country.

Here is a government that has been literally torn to pieces by the shots of criticism that were thrown from all sides. For three years it has played fast and loose with war administration, and now on the eve of appealing to the country, with the conscription flag at hand to wave, it presents a pair of bankrupt railroads with \$50,000,000 for stock that would not be worth a penny under ordinary business procedure.

The whole deal smells to high heaven and casts a dark blot upon the record of the present finance minister, who was hand in glove with the intense party enthusiasm for the bill which went so far as to apply the gag to all criticism.

The worst that should have happened was to take the railway and administer it, appropriating the stock at the same time. In the present state of affairs even that length may have been too great for any young country like Canada to go. We have the history of the Intercolonial Railway with its bad recent record to show what this country is likely to do with government operated railways. And when to this is added a great steal of millions, it is time for the whole country to question the motives of the present administration in any measure it may undertake.

In any ordinary times such a deal as the C. N. R. swindle would have set the country seething. It is to be hoped that the country will even now be aroused to the iniquity of it and will deal with its perpetrators as they deserve when the time has arrived.

Some day the "inside story" of the C. N. R. purchase may come to light. It will reveal with the influence of the Toronto group of capitalists from which the present minister of finance sprang, the same group that has dominated the situation from the commencement of the present administration in 1911. The Borden Government was bought and paid for in 1911, and it has been serving its masters well.

A democratic country like Canada will not stand for the domination of this country by a few titled personages, who can give their orders for "immediate delivery" and have those orders obeyed. And it will not stand for the riding to power of such a class of "privilege" rulers on the patriotic horse. Scandals like the application of closure, the gagging of the voice of Canada's people in a deal which will not bear the light of publicity and involves millions of the people's money and the saddling of the country with a white elephant, will bring down the just wrath of the Canadian people when the opportunity comes at the polls.

THE CROP RESULTS.

REPORTS from all parts of this province tell of wonderfully fine grain crops, and of excellent yields per acre, and prospects for overcoming the threatened food shortage without enduring much hardship seem bright. But can all these reports be accepted as accurate? No doubt they are furnished in good faith, but have the compilers gone deeply enough into their subject to get the truth?

A tour through some farming districts is calculated to decrease the optimism to some extent, and cast doubt upon the more optimistic reports. In some parts, regarding which it has been officially stated the number of bushels of wheat and oats is so-and-so, one is struck by the fact that a great portion of the former crop has not been threshed as yet, and much of the latter is still in the field, cut or uncut. Now, in the face of these facts, is the yield calculated? Through report sheet yielding as low as twelve bushels to the acre, while comparatively few crops are much over the 20-bushel mark, they say. All agree that oats in Western Ontario are certain to be far above the average of recent years. Possibly it may be taken as true that reports of crops apply more to the good ones than the poor, and the news of the big yields is given prominence.

But there are smaller yields, too, and the fact should not be ignored. There is a demand for 150,000,000 bushels more than usual this year from the American continent. The crops will not produce all this excess; that is almost certain. Economy and conservation will have to play a great part. These people who read of the fine crops and then decide that there is no special need of economy in wheat use this year, are making a mistake. If the need is to be met the nation must do its part to assist nature, and the food controller must help by sane, effective and timely orders.

PREMIER'S SHARP PRACTICE.

SHARP PRACTICE has been the stock-in-trade of some members of the Government for many years, but it has been hoped that Sir Robert Borden would manage to end his term as premier without exhibiting the deficiency which comes from too close an association with pitch. The hope can no longer be entertained, as Sir Robert has sunk to the level of his colleagues, and has employed sharp, if not dishonorable, methods to gain his end.

Mr. Lapointe, M.P., of Kamouraska, made a suggestion concerning the C. N. R. purchase bill when the Government resolution was under discussion, but did not press his point at that time, because the premier assured him that there would be ample opportunity for his consideration when the bill was before the committee. Mr. Lapointe courteously agreed to delay his argument, trusting to the premier's promise. He leaned on a weak staff. Instead of "ample" opportunity, he is prevented by the application of the closure from speaking for more than twenty minutes, and that allowance depends upon his luck in catching the eye of the chairman before the hour set for voting. It may be remarked that for a Liberal to catch Chairman Rainville's eye during the discussion of the C. N. R. question is no light task.

It is useless for Sir Robert Borden to say that the length of other speeches was to blame for Mr. Lapointe's disappointment. Mr. Lapointe could not control other members or the length of their deliberations. He trusted to the honor of the premier, and his trust was violated. The head of the Government apparently placed as little value on his spoken word as does the Kaiser on his written promise.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Just imagine the results if that aviator who flew over the city yesterday had dropped a score of bombs.

Equal pensions for all soldiers would be much fairer than the present system; of that there is no doubt.

Brute force is no argument, but it is the only substitute which the Ottawa Government can apply effectively.

The closure applied to push through C. N. R. bill. Let's see, isn't Canada fighting against Prussianism and democracy?

Sir Adam Beck would like the Government to take over the G. T. R. next; he would expect it to remove any portions which compete with hydro-railroads.

Rogers says his sole interests at present are the war and the returned soldier problem. Was it inadvertently he omitted the most important, the welfare of Hon. Robert Rogers?

The Mayor of Lethbridge, after hearing hydro-electric figures, declares London must be a city of conjurers. One can imagine what he would say after hearing some L. and P. S. R. reports.

There would be no fear of conscription if all Quebec farmers gave the same war service as the Delongchamps of Quebec. Four of them are "casualties" at the present time. And there would be few French-Canadians not acutely proud of them. Let the Delongchamps record be waved like a torch through the sister province.

The Advertiser's Daily Short Story

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AN ELEVATOR EPISODE.
[By Louise Oliver.]

"Hello, kiddo; how's the world going with you these days?"

Marion started. Undoubtedly, these words were addressed to her, as she was the only occupant of the elevator, besides its operator.

She looked up into a pair of very nice blue eyes, then at the thatch of matted, colored hair below a grey visored buttoned up to the chin in a jacket of severe military cut.

He looked particularly distinguished from the eleven other young men who lifted or lowered the general public to the various floors of the Arnsworth first just below the tax of over-

"Oh, pretty well," she answered with a smile. "Marion's smile was very sweet."

"Same as usual. Too long hours and too small pay, but pretty good, at that."

"The elevator slid down another floor. The man again jerked to a standstill—between floors."

"Good gracious!" said Marion impatiently. "Don't ask me. I'm off, I suppose."

"Can't you tell by the elevators? Have they stopped too?"

"No, they haven't. They're running. After 6 they only run two floors. Don't worry. I'll get word to the young man."

"But how long will he be? I'm in a hurry. I have important business to attend to that can't wait."

"Sorry, kiddo. Guess it'll have to wait. The elevator slid down another floor. The man again jerked to a standstill—between floors."

"Well, if he's as hard on his office as he is on the poor people he's a lemon to work for."

"Marion decided this was too good to lose. She had to tell her people. She had to go to his office. He had to go to his office. He had to go to his office."

"No, it isn't that. I have some business to attend to that can't wait. I'm in a hurry. I have important business to attend to that can't wait."

"John Marshall! Do you work for him? He's a district attorney, isn't he?"

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27 OF MAJORITY CLAMPS CLOSURE ON PARLIAMENT

Vigorous Protests Follow Call of "Time" as Speakers Are Gagged.

THIRD READING TODAY

W. E. Knowles Assails the Finance Minister's Tactics to Help M. & M.

OTTAWA, Aug. 28.—The twenty-minute speeches on the C. N. R. bill continued to the last minute. Mr. Lachance was the last speaker. At a minute past 2 o'clock Hon. Mr. Seavoy arose and spoke for the last time.

The motion of the bill was carried by 27 to 25. A Government majority of 27. Mr. Lachance spoke for the Government. He said that the bill was a necessary measure for the Government.

With the motion of the bill, the speeches of the opposition were limited to three hours. The Government side spoke first. The opposition side spoke last.

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COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE IS MADE LAW FOR CANADA BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN TORONTO

Duke of Devonshire Affixes Signature in Government House, Rosedale, and Messenger Returns to Ottawa With Historic Document.

(Special to The Advertiser.)
TORONTO, Aug. 28.—Conscription is now the law of the land.

As forecast in the London Advertiser this morning, the military service act of 1917 was signed by the Duke of Devonshire, governor-general, at Government House, Rosedale, at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon.

There had been many rumors as to what course would be taken, but in the end the urgency of the case apparently led to the dispatch of a messenger from the capital to Toronto with the bill for the signature.

The messenger arrived this morning and left for Ottawa with the bill again tonight.

Colonel Harold Henderson, the governor's military secretary, was present during the signing of the bill.

any definite arrangement, but did not confirm or deny it. He said he had "heard nothing of it," and subsequent developments would depend upon circumstances.

The rumor, however, persists that Hawkes is the nominee of Sir Clifford Sifton under a win-the-war auspices for candidature in the Kent constituency.

TO OPPOSE MCCOIG.
CHATHAM, Aug. 28.—A largely signed petition, bearing the names of some of the most prominent members of both parties, is being circulated through this city and county, with a view to forming a win-the-war party, and bringing out a candidate to oppose Archie McCoig, M.P. The petition has already the signatures of a great many Liberals who have split with the party on the conscription issue, and is headed by Mayor Kerr of this city, a life-long Liberal, and a strong conscriptionist.

NO UNION GOVERNMENT; WEST ASKING TOO MUCH.
OTTAWA, Aug. 28.—A dispatch sent out to Government papers today says that prospects for a union cabinet are dimmed, if not destroyed, by conditions which the western Liberals seek to impose on the prime minister. Among these conditions are said to be the retirement of the prime minister.

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HANNA GIVES HINT COLD STORAGE MAY BE NATIONALIZED

May Be Built and Operated as Public Utilities.

MEAT MAY BE CHEAPER

Action of Lord Rhondda in Britain May Affect Canada.

TORONTO, Aug. 28.—At the directors' luncheon at the exhibition today Food Controller Gen. W. J. Hanna made some startling statements on the food situation. Cold storage, he said, was an essential to the proper distribution of commodities when properly administered and organized, and added: "The day may come when these institutions will be listed among the great public utilities, and will be built and operated as such."

Regarding the price of bread, he said that they had not fixed the price of the loaf of bread because the investigation which has been conducted at Ottawa during the last six or eight months has shown that in the larger cities and towns the price of bread is not out of proportion to the price of the grain, and he hoped that with the co-operation with the food controller at Washington, it would result in a fair regulation of the price of wheat, flour and bread.

Retain Flour Standard.
The question had been raised as to the advisability of insisting on whole wheat flour. They had had a meeting at Ottawa, at which the millers and the grain commission were present, and the conclusion came to was that it would be a wholly unnecessary standard of her flour output, and the standard of the quality of the flour. The killing of calves and lambs had also been strongly opposed in certain quarters. There were two sides to the question. The department had therefore appointed a committee of representative men to deal with the Canadian interests.

As to the price of meat, cheaper meat after September in England had been promised by Lord Rhondda; it was expected that beef would be 12 cents a pound cheaper after Christmas. This action on the part of Lord Rhondda, he added, greatly influences the price of these commodities in Canada and the United States.

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