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H. V. MACKINNON, Managing Editor.
ALFRED R. MCGINLEY, Editor.
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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
 TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE WIN-THE-WAR LIBERALS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

One of the peculiar features of the present political situation is the fact that many Liberals who favor conscription and who claim that they are genuinely desirous of supporting every movement that will tend to the winning of the war continue loud in their criticism of the Borden Government.

That the Liberal mind, under normal conditions could not bring itself to approve of any action of the Borden Government is, perhaps, not unnatural in the breast of the true follower of Laurier sufficient time not having elapsed to heal that wound. But we are not facing normal conditions. The danger that confronts the Liberal who wants to win the war does not come from the Borden Government or the Conservative party. On the contrary the win-the-war Liberals must work with the win-the-war Conservatives if they wish to attain the object they profess to desire.

There are now three definite political parties in Canada, the Conservatives, the conscriptionist win-the-war Liberals, and the Laurierites who oppose conscription. At the last general election the Conservatives had the majority of the whole and there is no evidence to show that this condition does not still exist. There is evidence that the Liberals are hopelessly split on the win-the-war question. This gap cannot be bridged unless one or the other of the sections of the party abandon their position in regard to the war measures on which they differ. The Laurier following in Quebec is against conscription and candidates in that province who espoused it will probably fail of success in the next election. This will be conceded by every man at all familiar with the situation there. In Ontario and the West the feeling is different. There the sentiment is for conscription and candidates who run contrary to it are equally certain to fail in the great majority of cases.

Therefore it follows that conscriptionist win-the-war Liberals must unite with the Government pledged to winning the war or see Canada's effort slacken and cease altogether. If win-the-war Liberals are willing to coalesce with the Conservatives for the winning of the war what is the use of continuing to attack the men with whom they must work?

Suppose there is a union Government. In such an event win-the-war Liberals will become publicly identified with some of the men they are now assailing. In such a case it is not advisable to call a halt to the criticism now, rather than by joining the Government to proclaim that they are pleased to unite with an administration which they are denouncing as largely incompetent, insincere, dishonest and unfair?

Suppose there is no union Government. In that case Premier Borden's Government would be forced to go to the country alone. There is no doubt that it would win if it did, but suppose it didn't win; suppose the Government should be so weakened by the Liberal and Quebec attack that it could not command a majority over all other parties in the House. In any event it would probably be the strongest party as the Liberals would still be hopelessly divided on the conscription measure. Laurier would probably head the next strongest group, with his solid Quebec and the Kyles and Mackenzies from the Maritime Provinces. He might be called upon to form a ministry. What would happen then? Why the very first move in the ensuing Parliament would be a Conservative war resolution and, to be sincere, the conscriptionist win-the-war Liberals would have to vote for it and against Laurier. Thus the new government would be defeated before it had really got started. Possibly win-the-war Liberals would then be called upon to form a Government and if they opposed the Government in the campaign, it is reasonable to claim that the Conservatives should support them in the House? Would it be wrong for one side to play politics when the other side did it?

Therefore the win-the-war Liberals have the choice of two courses. They can unite with the Conservatives in a sincere win-the-war union or they can fight the Conservatives, possibly put Laurier in power, and assuredly put Canada out of the war. They cannot assist the Conservatives by abusing the Conservatives, for such abuse only helps the Laurier game. Instead of continuing to criticize the Government for this or that petty fault the conscriptionist win-the-war Liberals should be assisting the Government to meet the opposition of the Laurier anti-conscriptionists, and this opposition is certain to be bitter and well organized.

Liberals and Conservatives who have the same aim, the winning of the war, should not waste time and effort fighting amongst themselves. There is a common enemy to be faced when the next elections are called on and it is folly to underestimate the strength of that enemy.

Those who really want to win the war should bear in mind that the Conservative party is pledged to that end. Laurier and his satellites, Pugsley, Graham and Oliver, Lemieux, Martin and Murphy are not nearly so anxious to win the war as to win the elections. And that is the element against which the united win-the-war party must unceasingly strive.

FEEDING UPON "FABLES."

D. Thomas Curtin, the American war correspondent, who has spent months in Germany, has written a remarkable book, "The Land of Deepening Shadow," in which he summarizes the result of his observations in the Kaiser's land. The book is valuable in that it destroys false impressions which many have held in regard to Germany and the war attitude of the German people.

One of Mr. Curtin's most interesting statements is that there was no war party in Germany, insofar as that term may be employed to characterize one section of the people as opposed to the rest. Up to the time the book was written, in the autumn of 1916, all the German people were behind their government in the conduct of the war. There were complaints concerning food shortages and other inconveniences but these were always dispelled by the news of a German "victory" which, Mr. Curtin declares, was specially prepared for the occasion, and carefully circulated after the government had made it certain that by no chance could the people learn the truth. To this end the sale of foreign newspapers in Germany was absolutely forbidden and nothing allowed in the country that did not print only what the German government desired to have printed. Such a system made it possible for the Battle of Jutland to be announced throughout the length and breadth of Germany as a great victory for the Kaiser's fleet. The fall of Douaumont made the German forget, for a space, the pangs of hunger, and so it continued for months.

It is impossible however that such a condition of scientific misrepresentation can continue. The growing casualty lists, which cannot always be concealed must tell their own story and must eventually impress civilians with the idea that all is not right with the army. The increasingly severe food regulations will also show the falsity of the claim that the conquest of Roumania with its rich food stores was all the Germans required to increase their abilities to hold out until victory was achieved. The German civilians are docile and obedient but they will not always remain so and there must come a time, if indeed, it has not already arrived, when fictitious "victories" will not take the place of bread.

Indeed Mr. Curtin sees advance signs of that period in the discontent manifested by the bread lines in various German cities, by the muttering crowds in the squares of Berlin, and the appearance of incendiary publications, quickly suppressed by the police but which, nevertheless, sow their seed during their brief life, and, most of all, by the changed tone and spirit of the whole German nation. Formerly the slogan was "glorious victory," "a short war and a merry one." Now it is "we must hold out." That, in itself, tells eloquently of the German beyond the promises of the Kaiser, may not arrive after all. When this fear becomes absolute knowledge the German people will be ready to quit on any terms. Those who were loudest in crying "Hoch Der Krieg,"—hurrah for the war—will be equally as ready to shout for peace. The expected revolution in Germany may not come, the government method for combating such movements is highly efficient, but it is certain that the enthusiasm for war has departed. The German people refuse to be fed upon fables.

UNDIVIDED IN DEATH.

There are a great many people who to this day do not believe that Brigadier-General Sir Hector Macdonald is dead. They do not believe that he committed suicide in Paris, or that the body quietly, almost surreptitiously buried in the Dean cemetery at Edinburgh, was his. Everybody has met the man who knows a man, who in turn has met an ex-sergeant who

had recognized him drilling troops in China or, since this war began, on the Russian front.

Now arises no less a person than the sister of Lord Kitchener to declare her conviction that her brother was not dead, was not drowned when the Hampshire went down, but has simply disappeared. These two men were the great figures in the military history of the Empire succeeding the generation of Lord Roberts. They both graduated in India and both found opportunities in the Egyptian army denied them in the regular army. Now they are both the objects of a similar myth of disappearance. Where the myth differs is that in Macdonald's case an exceptionally good reason for his disappearance has been alleged, while in Kitchener's case, no reason whatever has ever been hinted at. On the other hand a body purporting to be that of Macdonald was actually buried while the sea has never given up the body of Lord Kitchener. Both stories, says the Winnipeg Telegram, are evidence of the human tendency to invest the fate of heroic figures with tales of legendary mystery.

CONSIDERABLE BUSINESS TRANSACTED BY COUNCIL AT SESSION YESTERDAY

Proposal to Build Retaining Walls Turned Down—Protest from J. A. Likely—Change in Traffic Law Made—Commissioner Russell Appointed School Trustee—The Assessment Commission.

The proposal to build retaining walls on Main street and St. James street, West, was again turned down by the city council at yesterday's meeting. J. A. Likely, who protested against the proposed walls, stated that the walls would be a hindrance to the traffic law, making it plain that no person has the right to leave a horse unattended without being tied to a post. It was suggested that the walls be placed on a concrete sidewalk in front of the respective premises according to the conditions set out to them by the Commissioner of Public Works, be complied with, the city's portion of the cost of the work to be paid for by bond issue.

The Commissioner of harbors, ferries and public lands recommended that the request of Richard J. W. Lathrop, Catherine Gallagher, Agnes Collins and James S. Byron, property owners on Clarence street, for a concrete sidewalk in front of their respective premises according to the conditions set out to them by the Commissioner of Public Works, be complied with, the city's portion of the cost of the work to be paid for by bond issue.

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He reported that the engineer had prepared a report on city land available for cultivation, but as the report only dealt with the removal of vegetation on Manawagonish Road, it was referred back for particulars on all the land available.

The commissioner of public works reported that the rebuilding of the retaining wall on Main street from Murray to Sherbrooke streets, recommended in June, is apparently becoming more urgently needed, as the condition of the sidewalk at the corner of Murray and Sherbrooke streets, and the wall, and recommended that specifications be prepared and tenders be invited for the rebuilding of the wall with cement concrete, and that payment for the work be made from the proceeds of a bond issue; that measurements have been taken and an estimate made of the cost of rebuilding a section of the retaining wall on St. James street, St. John West, from Ludlow street westward about 115 feet in length, this being the portion most urgently needed; and recommended that this wall only be dealt with in connection with the public works department, cost estimated at \$1,750, and that payment for same be made from the proceeds of a bond issue; that consideration has been given to the letter from Messrs. Corey & Stevens with respect to the Main street granite block paving, asking that they be allowed to substitute a three years' maintenance bond for the five years' bond provided for in the contract; and recommended that the request be not complied with, as it would be unfair to the other tenderers for the work, and would also establish a bad precedent.

That a request has been received from the New Brunswick Telephone Co. for permission to place another pole on Spring street, near the northern end of the street, an extension of the line; also for permission to place three guy wires and anchors in connection with the supporting of cables, these wires and anchors to be located as follows:—One on Spring street near the northern end; one on Stanley street, opposite Wright street, and one on Winter street, south side, near Wall street. All shown on plans submitted by the company, and that permission be granted to place the matter is not likely to cause any trouble.

That the letter from Mr. Roy Davidson asking compensation from the city for props placed on Mr. James R. McLeod's lot, Chesley street, for support of the street retaining wall, is being answered in a manner approved by the city solicitor, and the matter is not likely to cause any trouble.

Sections one and two, dealing with retaining walls were lost, requiring

Little Benny's Note Book.

Me and Puds Simkins and Leroy Shooter was wawking past Sid Hunts house, and Sids quiet little cousin Joe was setting on the top step rolling a shank of yarn into a ball of yarn, wick about every minnit it got tangled and Sids quiet little cousin Joe wood haff to stop winding it and untangle it, and me and Puds and Leroy Shooter stood there watching him a wile, and then I sed, G. Joe, the no way, w dont you put the shank over your nees so it wont get tangled.

Wich Joe jest kepp on doing it he same way as if he didnt think to untangle it he didnt have eay time to roll it, and Puds Simkins sed, G. Joe, thats a heck of a way, w dont you hang it on the door nob, it wont get tangled if you hang it on the door nob.

Wich Joe jest kepp on doing it the same way as if he didnt think anybody was tawking to him, and Leroy Shooter sed, Do you wunt me to hold the shank for you so it wont get tangled, Joe?

No, sed Joe.

He must wunt it to get tangled, I sed.

Do you wunt it to get tangled, Joe? sed Puds Simkins.

Yes, sed Joe.

WY, sed Puds.

Because w I get throo doing this I haff to go back in the yard and help Sid beet carps, sed Joe.

O, sed me and Puds and Leroy Shooter. And we kepp on wawking, and Sid Hunts quiet little cousin Joe kepp on setting on his top step taking out the tangles.

a unanimous vote, as they entailed a bond issue.

Section three was lost, and on motion of Commissioner McLellan, the request for three year bond was granted. Section four was referred to the committee of the whole for further consideration, and section five was adopted.

J. A. Likely wrote protesting against the payment of a bill for top wharfage to a representative of the clerks, too much. Commissioner Russell explained that as far as he could learn the charge was all right. The communication was received and the harbor master instructed to collect the bill.

An invitation to send delegates to the meeting of the Union of Canadian Municipalities was received. A notice was received from the Board of Trade that Messrs. A. H. Wetmore and W. F. Burditt had been appointed representatives of the board on the assessment commission.

The question of the appointment of the commission was brought up by Commissioner McLellan, who said it had been brought to his notice by the Mayor that some of the clerks, who had no representation on the commission, namely, the clerks, and he thought, perhaps, some of the old commission might feel like dropping out to give them a representative. The Mayor said that he would be very glad to be relieved of serving on the commission, but the council would not hear of it, for as head of the finance department he should be on the commission. It was finally decided to leave the matter of appointment until next Tuesday.

Commissioner McLellan moved that the traffic by-law be amended by striking out the words "for a longer period than five minutes," in section 35. This was read a first and second time and became law.

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