POLITICAL NEWS

The union government campaign for Ontario got under way yesterday morning when Hon. Frank Cochrane established his office at the Ryrie Building and settled down to work. He had a great many callers from all over the province, and was assisted by Senator Richard Blain. Both gentlemen expressed themselves well satisfied with the outlook, and stated that union government candidates had been practically decided upon in every riding.

The opposition to Mr. Rowell has come from the Liberals. This was the case in North Huron and Halton alike. In the great majority of ridings the sitting member is a Conservative who supported the government in passing the Military Service Act, Federal Franchise Act and other vital legislation at the last session of parliament. Mr. Cochrane has already stated, and Mr. Blain yesterday repeated what the government's policy is in such ridings.

As already stated, the friends of union government are being brought in various ridings to adjust their differences and agree upon a candidate. In some parts of the province the Liberal candidates will be frankly pro-Laurier, and make little or no pretence of being union government supporters. A visitor to The World yesterday from London, Ontario, claimed a number of seats for Laurier Liberals in western Ontario. He claimed the Liberals would carry London, East Middlesex, Kent, South Oxford and at least one riding in the counties of Essex, Perth, Huron and Waterloo. He also prophesied the defeat of Fred Pardee in West Lambton and of Duncan Ross in West Middlesex. Both these gentlemen are conscription Liberals, and supporters of union government, but they have Conservative unionists against them. Finally our friend from London told us that the economic issue rather than conscription was the theme under discussion in western Ontario.

Private advices from the country west of the lakes indicate that union government will have almost a walkover. A prominent official of the graingrowers, who is a low-tariff man, and has been in the past a severe critic of the Borden Government, writes The World that the western farmers feel they have no choice but to support the union government. They are not turning Conservative, he says, nor are they abandoning their tariff views, but they have no alternative but to support union government until the war is over. He adds that everybody takes it for granted that the union government candidates will sweep the country, and therefore little interest is being taken by anybody out west in the election. They look upon it as a foregone conclusion.

In London there may be a triangular, or even a quadrilateral contest. The veterans insist upon their candidate, Colonel W. G. Coles, altho the Conservatives have nominated Major Cronyn. Colonel Coles is described as "a returned soldier, a Tory and a Catholic," and religious as well as political differences may embitter the campaign. George S. Gibbon, the Liberal nominee, is a straight-out supporter of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The North York Liberals will meet at Newmarket today, and it is expected that they will endorse W. L. Mackenzie King as the opposition candidate, Mr. Armstrong, the sitting member, will be the union government candidate.

Postmaster-General Blondin has been named as the union government candidate in Wright County, Quebec.

Three prominent members of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association will be members of the next parliament. They are Hon. T. A. Calder, minister of agriculture and president of the United Grain Growers, Ltd., a farmers' company with a five million dollar capital; R. C. Henders, president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, and Roderick McKenzie, secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, an executive body representing the United Farmers of Ontario, the United Farmers of Alberta and the graingrowers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. All three gentlemen are members of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, and took an active part in the annual convention of that association held at Brandon last January.

The Toronto Telegram publishes the following special from Medicine Hat: The published statement of R. B. Bennett, K. C., late M.P. for Calgary, that he cannot conscientiously accept a nomination for this parliament because of fundamental differences of opinion between himself and Sifton dating back to the very entrance of Sifton into provincial politics, has created somewhat of a stir here, but it is no secret that Bennett's attitude on union government is sound, and he will exert his influence for the cause.

Robert Cruise, the Liberal member for Dauphin, who voted for the Military Service Bill and against the referendum at the last session, will be the union government candidate for re-election in that riding at the coming election.

TO SELECT UNIONIST.

Tillsonburg, Nov. 9.—At an executive meeting of South Oxford Conservatives here this evening a poll from the Liberal executive to drop their candidate, M. S. Schell, if the Conservatives will drop Donald Sutherland was considered and a committee named to meet the Liberals with a view to selecting a union government candidate.

ROWELL SPEAKS IN FRONTENAC

Kingston, Nov. 9.—Hon. N. W. Rowell has been invited to address the Frontenac County Liberal Association next Thursday.

SOUTH YORK LIBERALS TURN DOWN UNIONISTS

Decide, at Private Meeting, to Hold Their Own Convention Next Saturday.

Twenty-eight South York Liberals representative of every portion of the riding met behind closed doors in the offices of the Ontario Reform Association, Excelsior Life Building, yesterday afternoon and discussed the political situation. At the close of the deliberations the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"Moved by Alex. D. Bruce, seconded by A. F. Wilson: That whereas the advent of the present Borden government was proclaimed as the beginning of an era in Canadian politics in which the patronage evil would be abolished and "machine" politics would become a thing of the past;

"And whereas the government has already broken faith in both the foregoing respects—the first by the use of patronage to satisfy possible malcontents (e.g., the appointment to lucrative positions of discarded members of the cabinet), by using patronage to muzzle possible critics, by attempting to stifle the voice of the electorate at the polls, thru the judicious distribution of patronage (e.g., the approaches which, we are credibly informed, were made in North York to silence opposition to the election—in that constituency—of a very prominent member of the Borden cabinet), and by partisan appointments of returning officers; the second by creating the most powerful political 'machine' that has ever been operated in Canada, for the purpose of stifling the voice of the people at the polls:

"And whereas the whole attitude of the Borden government indicates fear and distrust of the people which is characteristic of Prussian rather than British ideals of government:

"Therefore this meeting of Liberals of South York respectfully declines to accept the invitation of the Conservative Association of South York to co-operate with them with a view to securing the election of a supporter of the Borden government; and further, be it resolved that this meeting places itself on record, first, by declaring that the electors of this country have an inalienable right to be given an untrammeled opportunity of pronouncing their verdict upon the tremendous questions of the day; second, by protesting against all attempts of the government to stifle the voice of the people by interference with the selection of candidates in the constituencies; third, by calling upon all lovers of freedom to unite and elect a truly democratic representative from the constituency of South York."

It was decided to hold the South York Liberal convention Saturday, November 17, at 2 o'clock in the Labor Temple if it is available, and if not, in Victoria Hall, corner of Queen and Berti streets. In the absence of William Pratt, Richmond Hill, president of the South York Liberal Association, Alexander Macgregor was chairman.

Among those present were Jonathan Nigh, A. F. Wilson, Robert McKay, R. Crawford, Alex. Bruce, James E. Billard, George Shaver, E. Dewart, Joseph Davis, R. J. Reesor, R. A. Mason, A. E. Hanna, W. L. Cuttell, Harry Cowan, George T. Williams, R. B. Jeffrey.

AUSTRALIAN COMES FOR CAMPAIGN IN CANADA

Crawford Vaughan, Former South Australian Premier, Supports Conscription.

New York, Nov. 9.—An Associated Press cable despatch from Sydney, New South Wales, dated Thursday, Nov. 8, says: Crawford Vaughan, former premier of South Australia, has sailed for America to take part in the conscription campaign in Canada. David R. Hall, attorney-general of New South Wales, expects to go to the United States in December.

The federal government has decided to postpone the meeting of parliament and conduct the referendum on conscription under the existing powers. The voting day will probably be December 15.

NATIONALIST SUPPORT PLEASES SIR WILFRID

Bourassa's Declaration Evokes Message for Quebec Followers.

Montreal, Nov. 9.—"I am much surprised, but it is so much the better." Such was the declaration made yesterday to a newspaper man by Sir Wilfrid Laurier before leaving this city for Quebec, after having read Le Devoir, in which Bourassa announces that the Nationalists accept the Liberal leader's program.

Asked if he had a message for the Nationalists, Sir Wilfrid, with his usual smile, declared, "Tell them I will do my duty."

HAROLD WILL NOT GIVE BRANT SEAT TO ROWELL

Cockshutt Offers to Resign if Harold Will Follow, But Liberal Replies His Own Offer Was Refused.

Brantford, Nov. 9.—Col. Harry Cockshutt, nominee of the Brant County Conservatives for the federal house, this morning by wire offered to resign his nomination if Mr. Harold would follow suit to allow Hon. N. W. Rowell to become the union candidate by acclamation. Mr. Harold's attitude is that as he three times offered to resign and did resign after being for two years the Liberal nominee, and as three times his offer was refused, he was compelled to take the field again. He had then stated that he had no intention of retiring in favor of anyone, and that is his present position.

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ESSEX LIBERALS ARE SWINGING TO LAURIER

Reject Hon. G. P. Graham and Select Anti-Conscriptionist, But Nomination is Voided.

Essex, Nov. 9.—The Liberal convention this afternoon at the town hall here was well attended. New officers were elected, C. E. Naylor, Essex, being made hon. president, and Norman Buckland of Gosfield, president. Three names were brought before the convention, that of Robert Atkins, Hon. Geo. P. Graham and Thomas Rowley of Mercy.

Robert Atkins made a short address. He said as a common man he wished to represent the common people. His leader was Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and had he been in the house when conscription came up he would have been a non-conscriptionist.

Hon. G. P. Graham delivered a lengthy address. He said Sir Wilfrid Laurier was the biggest man Canada ever produced, that he was as strong for Laurier as he ever was, and that he had never even squinted an eye at Toryism. He was with Laurier in '96 and was still there.

Disagreed on Draft.

The only time, according to Mr. Graham, that he and Sir Wilfrid differed was on the selective draft, and at that time he was only in favor of 100,000 men being conscripted.

Mr. Rowley made a short address, dealing totally with the government. He stated the government was so rotten that the man in the moon had to hold his nose when passing over Ottawa.

The result of the first ballot was: Atkins, 60; Graham, 31; Rowley, 32. The second ballot, taken with Rowley out, was counted: Atkins, 89; Graham, 38. As this number exceeded the number of eligible delegates, great confusion followed, which at times looked as tho it would break into a riot. Unable to get the delegates together, and finding it impossible to put a motion adjourning the meeting, the committee proclaimed the meeting called off until next Tuesday.

ETHIER OUT AGAINST PARTICIPATION IN WAR

Liberal Candidate for Quebec Seat Opposes Voluntary Enlistment.

Montreal, Nov. 9.—J. A. C. Ethier, late Liberal member for Two Mountains, signed last night a pledge by which he declares that, if he is re-elected, he will move in parliament, and will vote for the repeal of the Military Service Act, even if the Liberal party opposes such an attitude.

Ethier further says that he is opposed to voluntary enlistment and to all participation in the war.

PIM'S IRISH POPLIN NECKWEAR AT SCORE'S.

Men most naturally gravitate to the haberdasher's on Saturday, and this may just be the hint that many a careful dresser will appreciate when we give a special word to our magnificent assortments of Pim's Irish poplin neckwear, which—by special appointment—we are selling agents for in Toronto. The most exclusive and serviceable neckwear that any man could covet choice from. Extra Saturday display of $1.50 four-in-hand Pim ties for $1.25. R. Score & Son, Limited, 77 King street west.

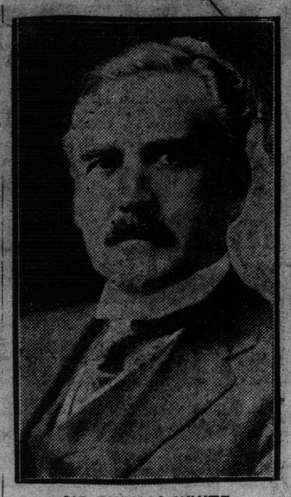
S. WATERLOO TORIES STAND BY F. S. SCOTT

Galt, Nov. 9.—The executive of the South Waterloo Liberal Conservative Association at its meeting held this afternoon at Preston, had before it a letter from South Waterloo Liberal Association suggesting that a new convention be called to choose a candidate for the riding and that a non-partisan man be chosen. In view of the fact that F. S. Scott had been nominated by union convention and was pledged to support the union government it was unanimously decided that it was impossible to accept the proposal.

Union Cabinet Supporters in N. Waterloo Call Convention

Kitchener, Nov. 9.—W. G. Weichel and Simon Bricker, president of the North Waterloo Conservative Association, this morning met Dr. Honsberger, Liberal nominee, and J. Stauffer, president of the Liberal association, and the four unanimously decided to call a mass meeting of union government supporters in the Waterloo Town Hall next Thursday afternoon to select a candidate for the riding.

The committees are endeavoring to secure the attendance of and addresses from Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, and F. F. Pardee, former Liberal whip.



SIR THOMAS WHITE, minister of finance, who launched the campaign last night for the Victory Loan of $150,000,000.

SIR WILFRID OPENS QUEBEC CAMPAIGN

Laurier Opposes Conscription, Wants Voluntary Enlistment to Proceed.

Quebec, Nov. 9.—Acclaimed by a great gathering of men, women and children outside and inside the Martineau Rink, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, opposition leader, tonight opened his election campaign with a speech that carefully analyzed the policy of the government on conscription, food control and the manufacture of war munitions.

Sir Wilfrid received such a welcome in Quebec East as could probably not be duplicated in any city of the Dominion. Forty years ago tomorrow Sir Wilfrid received his first nomination in the division, and a petition to run in Quebec North presented to him tonight bears one signature that appeared on his nomination papers nearly half a century ago—the signature of J. Gauthier.

"Laurier is with us; the people are with Laurier," ran a device in huge letters over the platform.

The crowd began to gather outside the hall a couple of hours before the meeting. An hour later traffic was stopped. The hall was jammed from wall to wall with a crowd that shouted "Down with conscription," and demanded that the correspondent of a government paper in Quebec should be thrown into the street. An appeal not to smoke "for Laurier's sake" met with an instant response. A blind man still bearing his plea for charity was allowed to work his way to the front of the crowd. With the rest he shouted his assent to every word.

Forty Years in Politics.

Sir Wilfrid, in opening his speech, referred to the changes which had taken place in Quebec East since he first accepted nomination there 40 years ago tomorrow.

In regard to public affairs, he said, all questions turned on the one great problem of the war which had devastated Europe for the last three years. The cost of living, scandals, all questions were minor as compared with that of the war.

Sir Wilfrid sketched the stand that he had taken at the outbreak of war, and declared that he held the same views still. Canada could not remain aloof at such a time.

"I took that stand," Sir Wilfrid went on, "not because I feared the invasion of Canada, as some people seemed to fear it, "but what I feared was hegemony, domination by a people who violated every human and divine law.

"It is our duty," Sir Wilfrid proceeded, "to continue as we began. It is our duty to give assistance to our armies with food supplies and men, and I say it is our duty to continue as we began—with the voluntary system. We began in 1914 by sending troops on the voluntary system. Everybody said there would be no conscription. (Cheers). The prime minister declared on many occasions that there would be no conscription. Then suddenly at the end he introduced conscription.

"Shame, shame," shouted the crowd, and the hall was in an uproar for a time.

Quebec Defended.

"Why," continued Sir Wilfrid, "did the prime minister take this step? Up to the present the only authority we have for inspiration is that of two of his colleagues—Mr. Crothers, minister of labor, and Dr. Reid, the minister of railways. These two ministers declared that the reason for the introduction of conscription was that the Province of Quebec had not furnished volunteers in proportion to its population.

"If," demanded Sir Wilfrid, as the crowd again broke into an uproar, "if this province has not furnished as many volunteers as the other provinces, in proportion to the population, whose fault is it?"

"Blondin's, Blondin's," roared the crowd.

"The responsibility," went on Sir Wilfrid, "must fall on the heads of those members of the Borden administration who, in 1911, just to flutter to a popular cause, declared that under no conditions should Canada take part in the wars of Great Britain."

The speaker was interrupted by cries of "shame."

Brutally Forced.

The leader of the opposition referred to the conscription bill as having been brutally forced upon the people. The Province of Quebec could be won over by appeal to its sympathy, but it could not be won over by compulsion.

In regard to economic questions Sir Wilfrid pledged a reduction of the tariff along the lines of his manifesto, and declared again that action was needed against profiteers. There were men, he said, speculating in the blood of the people. The audience burst out with loud cries of "Shame."

"It is indeed a great shame," said Sir Wilfrid. "These men have been denounced to the government, and what did it do? It appointed a commission. That commission made its report and the government appointed another commission and then nothing was done. I mean to say that the government has done nothing but appoint Mr. Hanna."

Here more interruptions took place, and for several minutes the crowd jeered the name of Mr. Hanna, and broke out into laughter.

"Mr. Hanna says: 'Eat less.'" said Sir Wilfrid. The crowd again laughed.

"Mr. Hanna says: 'Don't eat meat on certain days,'" he remarked. Again there was a roar of laughter.

Attack on Hanna.

"That," Sir Wilfrid declared, "is all that Mr. Hanna has done.

"But it was not the same thing with the proprietors of newspapers," continued Sir Wilfrid. "The manufacturers of newsprint paper complained they could not make it at the price required. But the price was fixed. If the government can dispose of the paper in such a way, why cannot it do the same thing with the bread, and with the bacon of Mr. Flavelle? It would be a simple thing to name a controller instead of a man who gives advice—such a controller as has been appointed in the United States and Great Britain, and in nearly all other countries—and let him exercise his authority over all food supplies as authority was exercised over the price of newsprint paper."

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REJECT MEWBURN STAND BY LAURIER

East Hamilton Liberals Denounce Union, and Follow "Old Chief."

Hamilton, Nov. 10.—Amid cheers for the "old man" and strong condemnation of the union government, Liberal electors of East Hamilton, in convention in the Sun Life Building last night, defeated a motion that Major-General S. C. Mewburn be endorsed as the Liberal nominee for that riding, and appointed a committee to select names for nomination on a straight Liberal platform at a meeting next Wednesday night.

An amendment by J. E. Brown, that the meeting adjourn without taking any action, was defeated. E. S. Bateman, Walter Evans and J. E. Brown were the committee appointed to select prospective names.

Thruout the meeting the old spirit of Liberalism was apparent, and every attempt by the orators to swing them to the support of the union government was of no avail. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was hailed as the "greatest man since Sir John A. Macdonald," and the manifesto as the "grandest document ever given to the country." Dr. Duval referred to the Hon. Frank Carvell as a "Liberal who was willing to put his Liberalism in cold-storage until after the war," while W. L. Goodron drew storms of applause when he asked: "Would Sir Robert Borden have formed a union government if he thought he could have won this election?"

Praises Mewburn.

President John Lennox, who presided, said: "I am a Liberal and not in favor of union government, but I want to say here that there is no better Liberal in East Hamilton than Major-General Mewburn."

Arthur O'Heir started the fireworks by shouting that the meeting was packed, and asked Mr. Lennox why the meeting had not been properly advertised. He asked if word had been received from Ottawa in reference to the meeting, and when informed to the contrary, charged the executive with "not being on the job."

"I have no confidence in the government and think Sir Wilfrid's manifesto is the grandest document ever issued to a country. I think that we should stand by the Liberal principles and have a candidate in East Hamilton who will run on a straight Liberal platform. I do not propose to support Gen. Mewburn. I will support a Liberal or laborite sooner,' said Mr. O'Heir.

Liberalism in Storage.

Lyman Lee, who submitted a resolution that the meeting go on record as endorsing Major-General Mewburn as the Liberal nominee for East Hamilton, which was seconded by Harry Wright, declared that he was a supporter of the union government, which he thought had been formed to serve the best interests of the country at the present time.

Dr. Duval occasioned rounds of laughter when he said that he was not a Liberal like Mr. Lee or "Mr. Carvell, who is willing to put his Liberalism into cold storage until after the war. I propose that we put a straight Liberal in every riding so as to get the expression of the people on conscription," concluded Mr. Duval, amid cheers.

That the opposing of the minister of militia by the Liberal party would "close the door," was the warning sounded by John E. Brown, whose resolution that the meeting adjourn without taking action was thrown out. "I am a Liberal and did not believe in Sir Robert Borden spending $6000 to whitewash Bob Rogers, but I think that we can help our cause better by taking no action until we know who the other candidates are," said Mr. Brown.

Chisholm Speaks.

Major Chisholm, who resigned as Liberal nominee in favor of the minister of militia, referred to his statement in the press as to why he had stepped aside for Major-Gen. Mewburn and emphasized his contention that any candidate running in East Hamilton as a straight Liberal would be defeated.

"A straight candidate would have no show as the majority of the Liberals are in favor of conscription. It would be a mistake to ally with labor, as all former alliances of a like nature have ended in disaster for the Liberals.

Major Chisholm stated that if he had thought there was going to be any saw-off he would not have resigned.

"We should have had conscription two years ago, and I would advise the Liberal conscriptionists to get behind Mewburn," said Alexander Thompson, editor of The Times (Liberal), in the course of a short address.

CONSCRIPTION VOTE.

Melbourne, Nov. 9.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—The conscription referendum voting day has been fixed for Dec. 22.

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