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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY,
LIMITED.
London, Ont., Wednesday, Dec. 5.

The Government has set at naught the military act in an attempt to save the rural vote. Farmers should beware of that well-known political device known as the "double-cross."

GERMAN SECTION OF BORDEN GOVERNMENT.

WHO would be free, themselves must strike the blow," is accepted as a truism. We have always felt that the German people would sooner or later strike the blow for their own freedom. That view seems to be shared by Frank H. Simonds, the war correspondent, in his latest letter.

While we were wondering how long it would be before the German people would take the necessary steps to democratize the German Government, the German section of the Borden Government got in its work on Canada. The war franchise act, particularly the sections that fail to give all Canadian women a vote, is German work, the work of the German section of the Borden Government. No one who understands British methods would usurp the government of the country, as is, with malice aforethought, sought to be accomplished by that act. All loyal citizens should unite to shut out German methods in Canada.

THE NATIONALIST MENACE.

THERE is in Canada a force, encouraged for years by the Borden Government and left unchecked by this same Government during the war, which has become a distinct menace to the Dominion—the force of Nationalism. Its leaders, who talked of shooting holes in the British flag, have been embraced by the premier and given place in his cabinet; its agitators, who fought bitterly against the idea of ever helping Britain in war, have been allowed to preach sedition and treason and have been welcomed to the Borden platforms to propound their disloyal theories and purposes.

Now the time has come, election time, when the friends of the Borden regime are proving an embarrassment to the Conservative party. Sir Robert and his colleagues would gladly get rid of them, but the Government is too weak to handle them. It has fostered their growth and underestimated their strength, and now is helpless.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier does not make the fatal mistake of underestimating the Nationalists. Henri Bourassa he describes as "a very able man." He continues: "No one knows that better than I. I have suffered by his blows." The Liberal leader sees, as he has seen for years, what danger lay in the Nationalist propaganda. He is prepared to deal with it and to handle it without gloves in a way that Premier Borden never dared to attempt.

If any alliance now exists with the Nationalists, it is between them and Sir Robert Borden. He it is who piled them into his cabinet and still retains Blondin and Sevigny. He is the one who has allowed the word to go forth in Quebec that there is no need to fear conscription. He has protected Lavergne, Marcell and Bourassa from the law under which Ontario men were thrust in jail for lesser offences.

As for Sir Wilfrid Laurier, his own words truthfully tell the whole tale: "I have no alliance with anyone."

"The principle of Liberalism is trust in the people qualified by prudence; the principle of Conservatism is mistrust of the people qualified by fear."—William Ewart Gladstone. Has Sir Wilfrid Laurier deserted the Liberal party and principles or have those who have joined the Borden Government?

STRIKE FOR DEMOCRACY.

WE IN CANADA are not ruled by the mailed fist. This is a free country. We will not submit to arbitrary measures. We will not bow down in flunkeyism before any self-appointed and Tory-anointed patriots. All men who come to Canada are free to express their convictions. The ballot must not be taken from any man or woman who deserves it. The ballot is his or her birthright.

Laurier stands for the rule of the people. The greatest of all Canadians, he was relegated to the background by lesser Canadians since war began. He has never prated of his loyalty; but he acted loyally, in the broad spirit that has proved the British Empire sound in its day of awful testing.

Laurier has made Canada ring and react with the sincerity of his conviction. He embodies those qualities which appeal to the British instinct—fair play, justice for all, and honest effort toward the great goal of everlasting peace.

AFTER-ELECTION PLANS.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that shortly after the elections Major-Gen. Mewburn, minister of militia, and Hon. N. W. Rowell, president of the privy council, will go to England to confer with the minister of overseas service.

Will they? For their sakes it is hoped they will not go to any great expense in making preparations for the trip, as it may be they will have to forego it. Shortly after the elections they may

be occupying the positions mentioned, and these two gentlemen may not be so situated that they can travel as Government representatives. It is more than possible that Gen. Mewburn and Hon. N. W. Rowell's tenure of office will be brief, at least under Sir Robert Borden.

However, it is interesting to learn that these two men whose one professed aim is to get reinforcements over to France at the earliest possible moment do not consider their presence in Canada necessary to this project once the elections are over. Evidently most of the haste is to be made prior to December 17 to show the people how earnest they both are, but after that date a slowing up will be permissible if the Borden Government is again in power.

Every day evidence piles up that the conscription act was a party measure, introduced and passed for party purposes. Delay has followed delay in its enforcement and in getting the called men into uniform. Premier Borden announced his purpose in May, and on December 5 the day has not even been set when the first men must join their units. The whole thing is becoming farcical. If anything is to be done, a new government will have to undertake it.

A Borden government or a national government under Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the choice. Will voters choose the wobbly, spineless, mind-changing and promise-breaking Sir Robert or the unchanging, brilliant, unifying statesman, Sir Wilfrid?

NO VOTE FOR STEP-MOTHERS.

F. O'CONNOR, general returning officer, has issued a statement declaring that step-mothers of soldiers, sailors or nurses are not entitled to vote on December 17. This is a ruling which should be noted and acted on at once. Some enumerators in this city may have worked on this hypothesis, but others have admitted the right of a step-mother and placed her on the list. So far as has been noticed, no special ruling has been given touching half-sisters of men at the front, but presumably they occupy the same position at the polls as step-mothers.

This statement is given out by Mr. O'Connor after the enumerators have finished compiling their lists. During their work they have been allowed to interpret the act as they pleased. Could anything be more ridiculous? The fault is not Mr. O'Connor's, but lies with the Government which framed and carried the disgraceful Prussian bill and left it wide open to misinterpretation.

Liberals of London have had experience with some enumerators which justifies them in guessing that step-mothers known to be in favor of the Borden Government will appear on the voters' list. It will be well if these are carefully culled out, and an appeal entered in each case. Every vote polled counts in this election.

Would the Allies be satisfied to deal with a new German Government with Wilhelm, von Tirpitz and Bethmann-Hollweg at the head and a few Socialists thrown in for balance? Would they consider that a changed form of Government? They would not. Neither would Canadians be blinded by the Conservative trick.

THE TORY POLICY.

"There are no Nationalists opposing Laurier candidates in Quebec today."—The Globe of Tuesday.

"Armand Lavergne is a candidate in Montmagny tomorrow."—The Liberal. —Sir Wilfrid Laurier on Monday.

LAVERGNE not a Nationalist? Is Montmagny County not in Quebec? Has the power which drew the Globe over to supporting the leader and Government it has condemned consistently until the last few months been strong enough to force its policy of bare-faced misrepresentation on the Globe? Desperate tactics these.

It is not surprising that she is unable to credit Sir Robert Borden with giving the vote to women, but the fact that such mercilessly unjust discrimination has been shown in giving the privilege ought to be ample proof that the Almightiness was not responsible. God would not have denied His favor to the women who have worked day and night, in addition to doing their usual labor, for the soldiers' safety, comfort and preservation, and granted it to those whose relatives had crossed the ocean.

The wartime election act may not have originated in the will or brain of Sir Robert Borden; if it did not, the credit (1) might be given to Hon. Robert Rogers. It bears the stamp of his fine hand.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Germany's last colony has gone; so has her last hope.

Ludendorff need not worry about the length of a general armistice. It will not last quite one second at present.

Hon. T. W. Crothers, so-called minister of labor, cannot be bothered to answer letters from London City Council, yet words are his forte.

If Laurier were to shoot Bourassa, the Borden press would declare he did so in order to make a martyr of him and to increase the Nationalist's following.

Of course it must be understood that the "war purposes" for which the Victory Loan is to be used do not include the Conservative war on Canadian democracy.

Unfavorable atmospheric conditions hinder the German offensive in Italy, says Berlin. What was wanted was a condition which would destroy the Italians and leave the Teutons untouched.

There has been no explanation yet of the statement made by W. G. Weichel in Waterloo that he had overruled the elections act and secured the enfranchisement of his German constituents. Presumably his assertion is true and, if so, it shows that the Conservatives do not fear the German vote, but trust to it for support.

CANADA ALREADY HAS A CLASS OF PRUSSIAN

To the Editor of The Advertiser: A great deal of being said of what would happen should the Prussians reach Canada, and the people of this country are no doubt endeavoring to divert the attention of the people from the principles and practice of the Borden Government and the beginning of the Prussianization of the Government conform to the standards of the German system.

Carefully cloak under plausible excuses of necessity and expediency—the thin edge of the wedge has been driven in and the wedge has been used to establish and intensify this thing that every country ought to be free from. It is a pestilence. Only now in the stress of an election campaign a few of the less wary supporters of the Government are unguarded enough to give voice to the real purposes and designs of the party which is in power.

It is only too plain that Canada is in the midst of the gravest political and social crisis in her history.

The deliberate attempt is being made to establish in this country a ruling class of whom even under the thin disguise of democratic government all other classes must be made to serve. We all know what this has meant in Europe, and yet we have allowed ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of security by the promise of a "win-the-war" speed-up system, they also decrying the method of an election campaign and are already deciding on the method of a "win-the-war" speed-up system.

A WIN-THE-WAR CANADIAN.

IF ENGLAND HAD...

By William H. Moore, in the Canadian Empire Based Upon Universal Franchise.

But England didn't. She is bearing the big end of the imperial burden, and bearing it without complaint, without reproach to the partners in the empire. She has not only borne the burden, but she has also borne the cost of it. She has borne the cost of the empire, and she has borne the cost of the empire.

Of the 439 million people within the British Empire, only 100 million are British. The other 339 million are from other parts of the Empire. They are the "other parts" of the Empire, and they are the "other parts" of the Empire.

It is not surprising that she is unable to credit Sir Robert Borden with giving the vote to women, but the fact that such mercilessly unjust discrimination has been shown in giving the privilege ought to be ample proof that the Almightiness was not responsible. God would not have denied His favor to the women who have worked day and night, in addition to doing their usual labor, for the soldiers' safety, comfort and preservation, and granted it to those whose relatives had crossed the ocean.

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The shipping clerk, he was engaged in a business which was not a business, and he was engaged in a business which was not a business, and he was engaged in a business which was not a business.

But did Miss Eileen Danvers have a salary of eight dollars per week was undergoing a terrible strain. She had taken up stenography in the first place because she had to support herself, and the next because a girl had given her a list of eighteen names of men who had married stenographers and loaded them down with love and money.

Miss Eileen Danvers had been a stenographer with White & Co. for four years, and had come to acknowledge to herself that she was a bit past twenty.

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picked up only after a full hundred pedestrians had walked over it. And was the name of the man that picked it up Guy Taylor, who was out for an evening stroll and ready to meet his romance half way?

Hand it to the nearest policeman! Not if his true name was Guy Taylor. He would make the rescue alone, and unaided, or he would prefer trying to find the girl who was waiting for him.

He saw at a glance that the floor-walker was a stranger, and as he tried to show her aside she took him by the neck, in their struggles both rolled down into the hall, and both shouted for the police.

The police came. They drew the girl from the stairs, and as soon as they could get her breath he told his story and exhibited the note. The police went bounding upstairs, and he went bounding down.

Every room on the upper floor was searched. No kidnappers found. They came across Miss Eileen, of course, but she could tell them nothing about the premises where the search called for a detective in charge of the search called for a detective in charge of the search.

"One of you wrote this note," he said. "It was done as a joke, but I must know who did it or I'll look up the whole batch of you."

Miss Eileen was given away as a guilty party. Indeed, her face told the story. "I just did it out of romance," she sobbed.

"Romance?" exclaimed the detective. "Who ever heard of romance in a second-class boarding-house? You'll be in the lock-up for a week, or more, if you don't come up with the girl who wrote that note."

"It's against the law," he stammered. "I'm thinking of turning to Mr. Taylor with my bail in Chevalier. You for the girl who wrote that note?"

"I can't take the law," he stammered. "I'm thinking of turning to Mr. Taylor with my bail in Chevalier. You for the girl who wrote that note?"

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Borden candidate's picture was thrown on the screen, followed by that of Charlie Chaplin. The latter had some what the better of the applause. Quite some vaudeville.

We ain't mad. Elections are most comical at times. They are safety-valves for humans. When they get all the abuse out of their systems they are much more pleasant afterwards.

After the Charlie Chaplin episode, and a few others that might be mentioned, the Borden candidate in London might well pray to be saved from his friends.

Woodrow Wilson is taking hefty slams at the Huns these days. He's even got Bill Bryan enthusiastic for fighting.

Life is not as pleasant as it might be. The crown prince has not got a good beating up in some weeks. Tuh badi!

When a newspaper continues to shout about its sincerity, a woman about her virtue, and a man about his honesty, it's time to look for a reform in the press.

The campaign has discovered swordless soldiers, footless foot soldiers, laborless labor ministers, fearless soldiers, various politicians, and a host of other "less things," but the best of all has been overlooked—a gabble campaign.

The way the Globe is pleading for the Borden candidate in Britain reminds one of the hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."

We had a paragraph the other day about baseball players being paid more, and the sticklers for the right thing had it spelled down. We were wondering from our esteemed sporting editor.

What has become of the old-fashioned gent who used to camouflage his breath before he met Friend Wife?

Millions for Flavelle, and liver (at least) for the rest of the folks. The Borden Government will not write an ode on "The Succulent Liver."

A happy man is Henry Honts. And he's contented, too, you bet. And all because he never wants. The things he knows he can't get.

Foosy! "I'm your husband gained any strength since he joined that athletic club," asked Mrs. Naybor.

"Oh, yes, my dear," said Gabb. "It is remarkable how strong his breath is after he has spent an evening there."

You Know Him. He'll never make a hit with me. If you trust him, you're a fool. He knows just what to do, but he does not know how to do it.

Paw Knows Everything. While—Paw, what is the difference between an optimist and a pessimist? Paw—An optimist is the man who is selling mining stock, and a pessimist is the man who is buying it.

Correct. In these four lines I'd have you know, I'm saying quite a heap. Man wants his head below, But wants that little cheap.

Justifiable Homicide. "Why did you beat this poor man into a pulp and continue to mangle the remains, even after he had died?" asked the Prosecutor.

"Well, it was this way, Your Honor," explained the Prisoner. "This fellow asked me what I do for a living, and I told him that I run an elevator in a building on Broadway. He said, 'If I believe in the influences of heredity, and then he asks me to take him to his apartment. My children will grow up to be shop-lifters.'"

To a Girl on a Magazine Cover. Darling, you are growing bolder. You will drive a man to drink. In your wealth of hair and notice Purple threads among the pink.

Is That So? [The Docket.] The following suits were filed in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Kentucky, on Thursday, March 14:

Robert Shuck, divorcer, Our friend Luke McLuke would head this, "Oh, Shuck."

Help! Our mate that the once joke is the one about the man who boarded a vessel and approached a stewardess and asked her, "are you the mate of this vessel?" No, your honor," replied the stewardess, "the man that cooks the mate."

Gosh! If some of the other fellows will shove their heads in and look at the Anatomical Museum in the Club.

Names is Names. I. Fryatt lives in Burnsville, W. Va. A Real Bird Man. Hugh Sparrow, of Nashville, Tenn., has collected 175 bird species and will do some dying for Uncle Sam.

Oh, Joy! Sarah Alford lives on Divine street, Columbia, S.C., and Cann B. Wright.

Wait a Minute! Sir Robert Borden will finish his campaign on December 13. That's enough to tell the folks who are going to be elected.

A college professor wants a new hell to fit the Kaiser. It must be a place of torment not adequate to meet his case.

A wise printer spelled it "Fool" Controller Hants. Many a word is spoken in jest, so to speak.

A lot of preachers are a dogzone sight stronger for union government than they are for a union church.

At a certain concert this week the

Bits of
Byplay
by Luke McLuke
—COPYRIGHT, 1917.

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