

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Likely To Support A Conscription Policy

Liberal Leader May Feel Compelled to Revise His Utterances and Stand Behind Government's Proposals Regarding Subject.

QUEBEC GRITS STRONGLY OPPOSE CONSCRIPTION

Half-Hearted Support of Some Liberal Elements Expected to be More or Less Conditional — Laurier May Have to Blow Hot and Cold.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, May 22.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier will probably support conscription. Placed in possession of information brought back from Great Britain by Sir Robert Borden, and followed by the possibility of a serious division in the ranks of the opposition, the Liberal leader is understood to have revised his well known anti-conscription policy and is expected to at least stand behind the principle of the government's proposals. Sir Wilfrid is said to be at present engaged in an effort to get certain of his Quebec supporters to follow him, and it is believed in parliamentary circles that the majority of them will bow before the rising tide of public opinion, and renounce the anti-compulsion sentiments they have recently been expressing among their compatriots.

Conditional Support.
But while the opposition is expected to support the principle of the government's measure it is anticipated in the best informed circles that their support will be more or less conditional. It is expected that the opposition leader will attach to any support of the bill certain conditions which, while satisfying the sentiment in English speaking Canada, for universal military service, will at the same time appease the anti-conscriptionists who are believed to exercise considerable influence in certain sections of Quebec. In other words an attempt will probably be made to please both conscriptionists and anti-conscriptionists at one and the same time.

Women Want Age Raised.
London, Ont., May 22.—Acting on behalf of all the women organizations of London, Mrs. H. A. Boomer, president of the Council of Women today telegraphed Premier Borden protesting against conscription of boys of eighteen.

Desire Referendum.
Montreal, May 22.—A petition was presented at the city council to protest to the government at Ottawa against putting conscription in force without a referendum to the people.

WAR VETERANS' CHURCH PARADE NEXT SUNDAY
Will Attend St. Peter's Church in Honor of Catholic Comrades Who Have Fallen in Action.

Conservative Quebec Loyal.
The Quebec members of the cabinet are standing squarely behind the prime minister, and it is not unlikely that they will continue to support his campaign of education throughout their province. The conscription bill, unless present plans fail, will be brought down on Friday. This will give an opportunity to the members to study its contents over the week-end, and permit of its being immediately taken up next week. The bill is being drafted upon a principle of absolute non-partisanship. Its details are being worked out, so that by no possible stretch of the imagination can it be attacked along partisan lines. Neither fear nor favor will be shown to any province, class or party. Only the military economic needs of the country are being considered.

Liberal Clubs Against.
Montreal, May 22.—At meetings last night in the Lemieux and Letellier Clubs, speeches were delivered in opposition to the conscription proposals. At the meeting in the Lemieux Club a resolution was adopted expressing confidence in Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the hope that he would protect the rights of Canadians and the Canadian constitution. At the Letellier Club it was decided to call an open air mass meeting for Thursday night and invite Mayor Martin and others to speak against conscription.

Bishop Sidwell Talks.
Kingston, Ont., May 22.—In his charge to the Ontario synod this afternoon Bishop Sidwell declared that it was the duty of the government to

FRANCE NOW WAKING FOR THE RUSSIANS

Premier Ribot Says that When Russia Takes Offensive France Will Force Peace.

Paris, May 22.—Parliament was reopened today and the expected interpellations regarding the conduct of the war were presented in the chamber. Addressing the deputies in regard to the interpellations, Premier Ribot said:

"The government has thought some changes should be made, and it has made them. It has re-organized the high commands to relieve it of every operation. The Minister of War now works in co-operation with the military committee of the chamber.

Submarine Warfare.
"In reference to submarine warfare I recognize that, while the tonnage loss has diminished, we must seek more energetic and decisive means of dealing with submarines.

"Taking up the Russian situation, Premier Ribot said it was necessary to combat dangerous sophisms which sought to treat the restoration of 'our lost provinces' as being a question of annexation and which also confused the question of indemnities for ravages in the invaded provinces.

"This indemnity is a contribution which is inflicted as a fine for wrong done," said the Premier.

"It is a requirement which both law and equity demand. The same reparation should be required for all small nations which have been crushed, for Belgium, Serbia, Roumania and Montenegro.

"No conquests and no covetousness—in that, in substance, is what the Russian government declares. France replies that it could not oppress any nation, even that of its enemies. It will call to its aid to defend the small nations not vengeance but justice.

"What France also wishes is a durable peace but we do not wish military dispositions to endure which can destroy this durable peace when it is once made. If the German people comprehend this, it would make peace easier to attain. Now let Russia make her offensive and we will be able to talk of peace not in an equivocal manner but openly and in peace, if they do not ask it of us, we will impose it.

"We are following the development of the Russian revolution with the utmost care and sympathy," he continued.

Special to The Standard.
Yarmouth, N. S., May 22.—D. G. Richards has received a letter from the Marine and Fisheries Department, Ottawa, informing him that an Imperial Service Medal has been awarded to Thomas Baker who became a lightkeeper at Pease's Island on May 19, 1879, and who was placed on the retired list August 1, 1916, at the age of 77 years.

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Will Attend St. Peter's Church in Honor of Catholic Comrades Who Have Fallen in Action.

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BLOCKED I. C. R. MAIN LINE SEVERAL HOURS

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CASUALTIES

Ottawa, May 22.—Last night's casualty list:

Infantry.
Killed in action—R. A. Stuart, Jr., St. Andrews, N. B. Sears, Bathurst, N. B. Liout, R. L. Perry, Cady, N. B. Lieut. H. R. S. Jones, Weymouth, N.S. Artillery.
Killed in action—L. E. Crossman, Dorchester, N. B. H. B. Watson, Woodstock, N. B.

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RED BALL BEVERAGE

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The pinch-backs in several models, the many styles of necks, including English soft roll and more conservative garments, are all tailored along lines that are recognized as correct this season.

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HUNS

General Haig and Pressure Against

The German armies in slow yielding ground be-
fenceless pressure exercised
Haig and Nivelle and the
tion is as to whether their
be maintained under their
pounding to which they ar-
day and night. Apparently
commanders have abandon-
icy of sudden thrusts at ch-
and are relying on a constan-
over a wide front in the
scooter or later the front
must either break or crack

PRIZES PRESENTED BOYS' CLUB LAST FOR GOOD ATTENDANCE

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