

Speech By Premier in Toronto

"No Deserters in Canadian Army Corps—Should be None at Home"—Ontario Campaign Opened

Toronto, Nov. 21.—Premier Borden tonight was given a royal welcome to Toronto. In his address he expressed the determination of the government to enforce the military service act without discrimination.

"There are no deserters in the Canadian Army Corps" he said of the issue of the election, "there should not be deserters at home."

The Union government, said Sir Robert, was not completed. He had pledged himself that it should be carried out on the basis of equality of representation of the two great parties with special recognition of agriculture and labor.

"That pledge will be carried out, or I will not remain the head of the government," he declared, amid loud applause, adding that labor would be given additional representation in the government.

Turning to the question of the Military Service act, the premier recalled the fact that while in the first three and a half months of 1916 voluntary enlistments had totalled 1,000 a day, by the autumn they had fallen to practically none.

"Two alternatives had been before him: To leave the Canadian army corps to dwindle from four to three divisions, perhaps only two or one, with their morale broken and their spirit destroyed, or enforce the militia act, or similar legislation.

"If I had accepted the first alternative, that of deserting our men at the front," he declared, amid great enthusiasm of the audience, "I would not have the hardihood to stand on this platform tonight."

"The war we are fighting overseas is for the defence of Canada," he said, quoting the language of the military act. The Military Service act created less compulsion than the militia act. It was more adequate to the needs of the hour, as it introduced selection by intelligent judgment and not by blind chance.

A paper found on a German at Vimy Ridge had stated that there were no deserters from the Canadian Army Corps. "If there are no deserters from the Canadian Army Corps, the Canadian Army Corps ought not to be deserted by the people of this country." (Prolonged applause.)

Delays With Referendum.
A referendum was not to be considered for a moment. In all human probability it would mean not one man would be obtained for a whole year. It would be Feb. 27 before complete results of the election would be in; parliament could not meet before the middle of March; the bill for a referendum would occupy two months and as many more would elapse before it could be consummated. By that time disaster may have come, the spirit of the men at the front might be broken.

"We intend to see that the Military Service act is enforced in every community, every district, every province, fairly, impartially and firmly."
The principle of the Military Service act was that each man, each woman in the land, should be called upon to do the

and other countries; and so far as Canada is concerned, we are doing our best to alleviate conditions.

"It is easy for the demagogue to inflame public opinion under the strain of war by announcing his intention of accomplishing the impossible. The united efforts of all the government in the world cannot alter such conditions as are dependent upon causes which are beyond the control of any government. During the past week the government has passed an order-in-council, conferring upon the food controller general powers to control the profits on foodstuffs and in this way to regulate prices so far as possible in view of world-wide conditions.

"The present administration has thus taken very important action, but it is unable to give, during the pendency of the present election the study, the time, the attention and the energy which, at a later date, it will bestow upon these questions. However, we have made some important provisions for the consideration of the cabinet have been constituted to deal with problems of the war and with the vital questions of development and reconstruction.

War Comes First.
"Our first and paramount duty is the vigorous prosecution of the war and the support of the Canadian army at the front. Closely associated is the duty of making just and adequate provision for the support and comfort of those who have been wounded for the treatment and re-education of those who desire to engage in new occupations, for settlement upon the land for opportunities of employment of those who desire to engage in industrial occupation, for the promotion of immigration and for the general development of the country.

"We pledge ourselves to the fulfillment of these tasks, to the best of our capacity. We shall devote to them all our life and energy that have been vouchsafed to us. The responsibilities of a government in time of war are very severe and almost overwhelming. There are few men, who having experienced this for three years, would not be content to lay them down, did honor permit. We are bound to our duty, as are the men in the trenches to do theirs. I pray that we may be guided in its fulfillment by the same spirit that has inspired them."

Hon. N. W. Rowell.
Mr. Starr's announcement that Hon. N. W. Rowell would be the next speaker was the signal for prolonged cheering and the ovation was as great, if not greater than that accorded the premier.

The former provincial Liberal leader commenced by declaring that he had no apologies to make for his action in joining the union government. He referred to the pledges made by men in public life to those men who had enlisted, and the voluntary system to the effect that Canada was behind them to the limit of her ability.

"I am in the union government because I believe there is only one way to redeem those pledges," he declared. "I could not be an honest man and say the pledges could be filled by a referendum."

"We have not left the party," he declared, "we are the party, the fighting Liberals. I was never truer to historical liberalism than I am at this hour. Nobody is allowed to read me out of the party."

In conclusion he referred to the spirit animating the men at the front, and stated that the people had either to up-

hold the new government, pledged to vigorously prosecute the war or a party pledged to a policy through which Canada would drop out of the war and the work the front be left without reinforcements.

Sir Robert Falconer, president of Toronto University, gave a forceful address in support of the new government. A resolution expressing confidence in the union government was moved by Sir William Hearst, premier of Ontario, and carried by the entire audience singing the National Anthem.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE OF N. B. S. S. ASSOCIATION

The executive committee of the New Brunswick Sunday School Association met yesterday afternoon in the Bible house, Mayor Hayes, the chairman, presiding. Others present included Revs. H. K. Boyer, P. R. Hayward, Robert Smart and William C. Ross, and Robert Reid, J. E. Arthur, C. R. Wasson, R. B. Jordan and R. H. Parsons.

The standing committees for the year were appointed. They include finance, field work, literature and supplies, summer school and co-operation committees, and committee on boys' work. The general secretary outlined the plans for next year, which include a tour of Charlotte and a meeting of the executive committee.

He also read the call of the fifteenth annual convention which will meet at Buffalo from June 19 to 25 next. The general secretary outlined the plans for next year, which include a tour of Charlotte and a meeting of the executive committee.

"While readily appreciating the magnificent opportunities of Christian service over here, I am every day becoming more and more impressed with the fact that the real constructive work of the kingdom is what is being done at home by the Sunday school, Y. M. C. A. and kindred organizations, for there seems little chance of a man coming through these awful experiences straight, unless his feet have been firmly planted on the rock before he leaves home. So I urge upon you, as this war may possibly be drawn out for years, to do your part with the older boys who are now being called to the colors."

The idea of increasing the pledge to the international committee was referred to the finance committee. Other matters discussed were of a routine nature.

The St. John county executive also held a meeting at which plans were set on foot to organize the county by districts and to hold Sunday school rallies. An effort will be made to organize community training classes to begin work the first of the year.

Dr. James Manning, H. L. McGowan, Fred E. Fiewelling, David Hipwell, and A. O. H. Wilson, of St. John, have been incorporated under the name of the Canadian Imperial League, Limited, with head office in St. John and no capital stock. The organization is patriotic in nature.

THE FAMOUS RODIN

French Sculptor Had Hard Time at The Start

Born Poor and Had to Fight Every Inch of His Way, Even Through Fifty Years—Some of His Works

The death of Auguste Rodin, famous sculptor, was announced in Saturday's Times.

Paul Laurens, a painter, said of Rodin: "He belongs to the race of those men who march alone."

And for most of the seventy-seven years of his life the great sculptor marched alone, first battling his way against the adversities of relentless poverty and hostile criticism and, later at the head of an international army of enthusiastic admirers.

When Rodin presented one of his early pieces to the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris he was told that his work did not "exhibit any evidence of talent" and some fifty years or so later critics in many places were hailing him as the greatest sculptor of the world—save Michael Angelo—since Phidias and Praxiteles. He faced starvation in his youth because he could not sell his statues, and in October, 1916, the French chamber of deputies accepted his gift of his works and art collections, valued at \$400,000, and gave him for life the use of the Biron mansion in Paris, which became known through the parliamentary act as the Rodin Museum.

Francois Auguste Rodin was born in Paris on Nov. 12, 1840, of wretchedly poor parents. He entered a free drawing school in the Latin Quarter at the age of fourteen and, after several years of study, made a model in clay of one of his companions, with which he tried to win entrance to the Academy of Fine Arts. He failed. Some time later he tried again, and again was denied. A third attempt resulted in the third failure.

His First Masterpieces.
Rodin was not discouraged by his failures at the Academy of Fine Arts. He had no means, and was obliged to consort with the very poorest in Paris, yet he struggled on and submitted his work at every public examination that was held, always without success. Fortunately he came at last under the notice of Barre, a painter and sculptor of animals, who carried his artistic education to the point from which Rodin could pursue it alone. At the age of twenty-three, before embarking on a determined struggle to fame and fortune, the future sculptor married. This move served as an incentive, and spurred him on to his task, for in less than twelve months he had produced his first masterpiece, entitled "L'homme aux nees caisses." This was submitted to judges at the Salon in 1864 and promptly refused; he took it home and treasured it carefully. One of his first careers when, in after years, his countrymen had recognized his talent, was to have this bust cast in bronze, in which form



it crossed the Channel, and was shown at the Grosvenor Gallery in 1861.

After the Franco-German war, during which he was forced to endure the siege of Paris, Rodin migrated to Brussels, where he executed a great deal of work, besides sending two busts to the Paris Salon; both were accepted, and were placed on exhibition in 1875. Two years later the master was further recognized with the "Age d'Alain," or "Primeval Man," which represents one of the first inhabitants of our world, physically perfect, but in the infancy of comprehension. The claims of this amazing statue could not be overlooked by the Salon committee when Rodin brought the work to Paris. So realistic, indeed, was it that some of the sculptor's critics hinted that the figure must have been moulded from the living model.

He Aimed for Realism.
But Rodin was not yet free from harsh criticism and ridicule. The school of orthodoxy in sculpture was as hostile to him as were the orthodox musicians to Wagner. Rodin did not idealize his subjects, but aimed for realism, going to nature for his inspirations. To him all nature was life, and life was art. He saw in the shaking form of an old man or woman, with bowed head and bent and twisted limbs, something as worthy of artistic expression as a Venus or Apollo. And he was a worker in mass, producing his subjects in detail only so far as would bring out his dominating conception. His work, therefore, had less of finished form than that of the conventional artists, and his recognition by them was, therefore, delayed until by the very power of his work he forced himself upon them.

Even after he had won fame Rodin's work was sometimes ridiculed. His statue of Balzac, for example, was received with jest and gibe. It was an extraordinary and unconventional conception of the great novelist, which Rodin executed upon commission from the So-

ciety of Men of Letters. The Parisian public became so worked up over the merits of the monument that the controversy for the time eclipsed interest even in the sensational Dreyfus trial.

Balzac was represented in a voluminous dressing gown, the features and figure roughly sketched. Critics exclaimed that it was "an enormous porpise standing upright, draped in a thick bath wrapper." They called it grotesque, ugly, and flippant; while, on the other side, there were those who saw in it "the incarnation of the great writer's soul."

The society which had ordered it, however, held the majority view that the work was incomprehensible, if not ridiculous, and it gave the commission to the sculptor Falguiere, who executed a more conventional work in the following year.

Rodin's Victor Hugo was received with more appreciation, and by many is considered one of his masterpieces. A Tireless Worker.

The sculptor was a tireless worker, the quantity of his work being as amazing as its quality. His greatest output in one year was in 1880. No fewer than thirty-one pieces of sculpture were put on view at the Georges Petit Gallery in that year among them being some of the best of Rodin's life-work, such as "Eugenie," "The Damsel," "The Thinker," "Bastien Lepage," and "The Bourgeois of Calais." For quality, quantity, and quickness the production was unique.

For years after the Balzac controversy Rodin devoted himself to a great creative composition—some twenty feet high, "The Portal of Hell," for the Museum of Decorative Arts. This work was inspired mainly by Dante's Inferno, the poet himself being seated at the top, while at his feet is the writhing of passion and anguish of despair. The figures of "The Thinker," which is one of Rodin's best-known works in America, has been exhibited in cast for several years at the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts in New York, and at various other places. It is one of the figures designed for this gigantic representation of "The Portal of Hell."

Rodin in his later life received many honors. Upon the death of Whistler he succeeded as president of the International Society of Painters, Sculptors and Gravers. Early in the European war he sent a collection of his works to England as a token of admiration of the British troops, and later, he executed a deed of gift to the French government of the entire collection of his own works, other art objects he had acquired, and the Hotel Biron in which they were assembled for a museum.

Rodin's drawings are almost as wonderful as his sculptor work. A valuable album containing over a hundred plates, with an aggregate of 142 drawings, was published some years ago by Messrs. Goupil. In more recent times, the engravings made by the great sculptor with his pencil were on behalf of personal friends. He illustrated Bergant's "Engenderers," Octave Mirbeau's "Garden des Supplices," and ornamented a copy of Baudelaire's "Fleurs de Mal."

Burpee Leigh Edge, Herman Spurgeon Dykeman and Arnold Vuermet Dykeman, of Jemseg, Queens county, have formed a co-partnership under the name of Jemseg Milling Company to carry on a lumber business.

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