

1917  
END OF THE CANADIAN CAMPAIGN

Sir WILFRED LAURIER has been on the stump in the Canadian West. In British Columbia and Manitoba there would seem to be small hope for him. Liberals there are largely Unionists. Saskatchewan and Alberta are better grounds. They have a considerable population of Scandinavian origin that is said to be opposed to conscription, and in the northern region of both there is an element sympathetic with Sir WILFRED's friends, the Quebec-Nationalists.

It is distressing for Americans to read that "from North Dakota has spread into Alberta and Saskatchewan the Non-Partisan League, an organization under suspicion in the United States as more in sympathy with the pacifists than with the pro-Ally party in that country"; also that among the American Canadians in the two provinces are "many imbued with the doctrines of La Follette."

Sir WILFRED's defeat will be a victory for the Allies, for the United States, a victory over pacifism, American or Canadian, over the friends of Germany, over Germany. If we may judge from his speech at Winnipeg, it is with curious and feeble arguments that he supports a feeble cause.

For whom would the Kaiser vote? For the Government which does its level best to aid the submarine in destroying England's overseas trade.

That is, the tariff, raised to provide more war revenue, is an ally of the submarine; and for the want of labor to make and man ships to carry British goods, causing a reduction of imports to Canada, the tariff is to blame. Even the bitterest opponent of Canadian or any other high protective tariff will not, if loyal to civilization, seek tariff reduction by reducing the armies that are fighting for civilization. Sir WILFRED's harping upon the tariff string is hardly likely to make the Canadians forget that his Quebec allies demand not only the repeal of the Military Service act, but the return of the Canadian soldiers now overseas. England must fight her own battles, they say. What would happen to Canada if Germany should win?

The Canadian election today is not Canadian alone. It concerns every nation that is fighting Germany.

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