



# Liberal Weekly



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TWO CENTS

EXTRACTS FROM THE SPEECH OF  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR WILFRID LAURIER, OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 27th, 1917.

## The Mandate of the People.

"I am more proud than I can say that the Liberal Association of this city has given me as a running mate that bonny and good fighter, and prince of good fellows, Hal McGiverin.—(Applause). We are here, both he and I, in obedience to the mandate that has been given, to ask an endorsement of the wishes of that association, and to beg your suffrages in the next election.—(Applause).

## The Battle of Freedom.

"I am proud, in my first appearance in this contest before an audience of Ottawa citizens, to find a hall so full and representative, but proud as I am to see my fellow citizens whom I meet in daily life, yet prouder perhaps am I to see so many of our veterans, the boys who were at the front, who bore the brunt and heat of the day, who saw the enemy face to face, and who came back to us now to continue on our soil the battle of freedom which they commenced while they were on the other side.—(Applause).

## Free Speech the People's Right.

"I do not approve of any interference with free speech, and I am sorry the prime minister was not allowed to speak at Kitchener the other day. I want him to be given every privilege; it is due to his right; it is due to the position which he occupies, and it is due also to the efforts which he must make to support a bad cause.—(Laughter and applause).

## Against the "Gag."

"It is my opinion—and I want my remarks to be heard throughout the length and breadth of the land—I do not approve of any interference with free speech anywhere. The gag is the gag, whether it is applied by the turbulent crowd in a public meeting, or whether it is applied by the majority of a cold-blooded government.

## All Want to Win the War.

"We all in this country want to win the war. Mr friend here, Mr. McGiverin, wants to win the war, and I say, without any presumption at all, that in the position which I occupy in this country, a position which is inherent to the system of government which we have, the constitutional position which I occupy as leader of the opposition, there is not a man in any one of the belligerent countries who has done more in his position to help his country to win the war than I have done.—(Loud applause.)

## Stood Behind Government.

"The day that war was declared, I stood behind the government. It was not through any love of them, but it was through love of the cause which they represented. I thought it was my