

W. S. LOGGIE IS THE UNION GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE

Hon. John Morrissy Selected by His Followers as a Liberal Candidate.—Liberal Leaders Will Support Loggie.—
Hon. F. B. Carvell well Received

Tuesday last, the 13th, was a Red Letter day for Chatham, three political conventions being held there.

Liberal

The first was that of the county. About three thirty the meeting was called to order by the President, Hon. John P. Burchill. Mr. W. F. Cassidy, the secretary, immediately after reading the minutes of the last meeting, tendered his resignation as he had been appointed returning officer for Northumberland County and could no longer act as a party politician in any manner.

Mr. Burchill, on behalf of the Association, thanked Mr. Cassidy for his services. He had always been a faithful secretary, and a resolution of appreciation should be drafted and put on the minutes. To show how much his services as secretary was appreciated, he congratulated him on his appointment and had great pleasure in subscribing to his nomination as High Sheriff of Northumberland.

On motion of Chas. J. Morrissy and Jas. Craig, Ald. G. T. O'Brien was elected secretary.

W. S. Loggie

Mr. W. S. Loggie then addressed the meeting explaining his position as to the stand he would take if nominated as the choice of the Convention. Mr. Loggie desired first to thank the late secretary for his efficient service during the years he held that office. He also desired to thank all for the confidence they had reposed in him during the past fourteen years he had represented Northumberland at Ottawa.

He regretted that during the past summer he had had to break with his revered leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Canada had up to that time raised men by voluntary service. Men who loved their country had come forward and done their duty, had fought and died. In July last, Mr. Balfour who represented the British Government, had visited Canada and paid a splendid tribute to our soldiers in France and when the leader of the Government thanked Mr. Balfour for his message, he was heartily supported by Sir Wilfrid Laurier who said: "We think more of England today than we did four years ago." Why did he say this? It was because of her defence of liberty and freedom!

England found that enough men could not be raised by voluntary system, and was forced to adopt selective draft and when the Premier (Mr. Borden) came home from the Imperial Conference with the message that more men were needed, than Canada was providing by volunteer system, it was deemed necessary to enact means of getting more young men to serve their country. The Militia Act had been on the statute books since 1868, but, thank God, we never had to put it into operation. Now it was necessary in the interest of the state, of our homes and the boys who had gone overseas to enforce the Military Service Act, which was a moderate measure. It does not take men that are needed on our farms, our fisheries, our mills or our industries. It takes only the men that can be spared, that are not needed in Canada.

He had followed Sir Wilfrid Laurier for 14 years in every vote, but when it came to the Military Service Act, he could not see eye to eye with his leader, whose only alternative was a referendum.

We are bound to support our boys who have volunteered their lives, we had promised to support them. He believed when he voted for the Military Service Act he was right. He believed now that he was right. He would support the Union Government for the reason that he believed that the law of force could be best enforced by a United Canada.

If men were available, they must be sent. If they were not available then we have done our duty to our boys overseas. He would support the principle he had fought for through thick and thin.

His Platform

His platform he appealed for support was as follows:

I am a Liberal. I will support the Union Government during the continuance of the war on all questions that involve its continuance in office. I regard this necessary for the successful enforcement of the Military Service Act and the vigorous and effective war policy. I believe that our country is in jeopardy and that it behooves Liberals and Conservatives who share these views to throw aside for the moment all party issues and join hands in enforcing the present Military Service Act and also in making such further laws as will enable us to protect our

homes and liberties and all that these stand for.

Furthermore we are under a sacred obligation to support the boys who have and are still doing so much for us.

For Union Government

W. B. Snowball and George Stables moved the following resolution:

Whereas the awful war in which the Empire, of which we form so important a part, and our Allies are engaged on behalf of right and justice still rages with undiminished severity, and

Whereas the Dominion of Canada has repeatedly asserted her determination to render all possible assistance to Great Britain and her Allies, and

Whereas circumstances have recently arisen which render the war situation most serious, and

Whereas in view of the present situation it is deemed to be in the best interests of this Dominion and of the Empire at large that party lines and controversial questions should for the present be suspended and all parties in Canada unite both in doing all possible to bring the war to an early successful conclusion and in endeavoring to solve the problems, economic and otherwise, which have arisen in connection with the war, and

Whereas with this end in view, a Union Government composed of Liberals and Conservatives has been formed, therefore

Resolved that this Convention approve of this Union and pledge its support for the purposes set forth in the preamble to this resolution.

Mr. Snowball, in introducing his resolution, said that he felt that he was just as good a Liberal as he ever was. He had boys of his own at the front. It was our duty to send more men to send more money, to use every influence we have to win this war. Are we not the men we were when we sent these boys over to France? When the mothers of the boys who have paid the sacrifice find that we have gone back on their boys, that they died in vain, what will they think of us? Telegrams are coming every day to homes in Northumberland county, God only knows whose boy will be next. It might be his own. It was the duty of every citizen of Northumberland county to back up the boys that have offered their life for Canada.

Amendment Carried

C. J. Morrissy and W. M. Sullivan moved a long amendment condemning the Union Government and pledging the convention to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, one of the planks of whose platform is the non-enforcement of referendum is taken.

The amendment carried by a small majority. The Town of Newcastle delegates who supported the amendment were: C. J. Morrissy, W. L. Durick, D. J. Buckley and James O'Brien and three opposing it and supporting the resolution introduced by Mr. Snowball, were: Ald. J. H. Troy, George Stables, R. W. Crocker.

President Leaves the Chair

The chairman, Hon. Mr. Burchill said that, in view of the fact that the convention had passed the amendment submitted by Mr. Morrissy, he felt that he must define his position. He had always advocated Union Government. Union Government he always felt was the only government that could carry Canada through the present conflict. We now have the best blood that Liberal and Conservative can produce. It made his blood boil when he read of the bickerings in Parliament, and the way the boys fought in France. He had studied the question from all angles and could only support Union Government, and could not preside at a convention that did not endorse Union Government. He therefore left the chair. Mr. D. J. Buckley was chosen in his place.

It was decided to nominate in open convention.

W. S. Loggie was proposed by Michael Bransfield and A. G. Dickson and Hon. John Morrissy by W. M. Sullivan and D. V. Allan.

Following were appointed scrutineers: A. G. Dickson, W. L. Durick, F. S. Maher and W. A. Skidd. Mr. Morrissy won by 58 to 32. The successful candidate accepted and

spoke denouncing the Government and endorsing Laurier.

Mr. Loggie thanked his supporters and declared he would still support Union Government. No attempt was made to make nomination unanimous.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Buckley as chairman, and the latter was also elected permanent president.

Conservative Convention

The Conservative Convention met at 7.30 and adjourned to the Unionist gathering.

The Union Convention

The Chatham Opera House was filled at night at the Union Government Convention. Hon. F. B. Carvell was present. Mayor W. B. Snowball presided and on the platform were Hon. Robert Murray, F. D. Swin and many other leaders of both parties.

President John Betts of the Conservative Association and Ald. John H. Troy of the Union Liberals reported that the following nominating committees had been selected to choose a candidate:

Conservatives—Claude Brown, J. D. LaHay, John McColm, E. J. Parker, F. I. Swin, Miller, Stewart, Richard Gromley, Fred Fowle, R. A. Murdoch and Frank Manderson.

Liberals—W. B. Snowball, A. P. Williams, George Stables, John H. Troy, L. B. Amos, John W. Vandertack, H. T. Smith, Wm. Wisart, Fred Phillips and John Grogan.

The Unionist committees were out a few moments and unanimously chose W. S. Loggie, and their choice was at once ratified by the audience who gave Mr. Loggie an ovation.

W. S. Loggie

Mr. Loggie in a vigorous speech reiterated the principles laid down in his platform in the Liberal convention in the afternoon. He had regretted parting with Sir Wilfrid but was compelled to do so as a matter of principle. Mr. Loggie was received with enthusiasm.

Hon. F. B. Carvell

Hon. Mr. Carvell received another ovation. He was heckled a little at first but soon shut up the opposition. Mr. Carvell declared the twenty-six Liberals who left Sir Wilfrid Laurier had had to do so to obtain conscription. He himself had severely criticized the old government and had entered the Union Government for the period of the war and the time required for demobilization. The Union Liberals all agreed to the same. He would see that even handed justice in patronage and otherwise was handed out to all.

Hon. Mr. Carvell who was most heartily cheered, gave a short introductory speech.

All sorts of questions were asked him. To one who asked why he had not sent his son to the front, the minister said: "God help the cur who said that. He had no son. His own offer of service had been refused. His son in law had gone and died."

The Militia Act would have taken all men between 18 and 45 years. Selective conscription was fairer. He would not have voted for Conscription a moment before voluntary enlistment broke down. He took his political life in his hand and cared not whether he won or lost—he would do his duty no matter what happens.

What would happen if Germany won this war? Civilization would disappear from the earth.

Canada needs all the money now she can raise by tariff, by loan, or anyway. She is borrowing. Her debt now is nearly a billion and a half. More than twice as much will be needed after war than ever before. Pensions must be paid no matter how large, the country must care for its defenders. A revolution has taken place in this country the last three years. All our preconceived ideas of government and finance may have to be revised.

A voice—What about Home Rule? Mr. Carvell—I visited Ireland six years ago and came away an ardent Home Ruler. Regretted Ireland had not Home Rule. But we have nothing to do with it in Canada.

A referendum on Conscription would delay matters far too long. In view of Europe's terrible condition, can anyone justify himself to say that Canada should quit?

Cries—No! No!

A voice—Is the Liberal policy to quit?

Mr. Carvell—Referendum now could not be held before May nor finished before June. Australia turned down Conscription, failed to get enough men, and now is taking another referendum. She must apply compulsion or quit. You can't fight battles without men. He was right, he knew he was right and his audience knew he was right. The hundred thousand additional Canadians may turn the war. Britain had voluntary enlist-

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ment and very successfully for first year, then had to adopt selective conscription. In old times armies were small, now while nations are in the struggle, and must be thoroughly organized. Men needed in vital industries must not be drafted for battle. He hoped European conditions would never obtain here. Germany has been armed to the teeth since 1870, and compelled her neighbors to do likewise. There was no freer nation than United States, but they have passed same Military Act as we have.

A voice—What about the Franchise Act?

Mr. Carvell—I did not like all of the Franchise Act, but there is a bigger question before us than the Franchise Act. It is shall we go to the aid of our allies and of our own flesh and blood at the front?

Let every one ask himself shall I vote to save the boys at the front or for Canada to quit? He could not conceive of people deciding to forsake the soldier heroes. He believed they would stand by their country and see that Canada does her duty in this greatest struggle of the ages.

The first and only duty of every citizen of Canada today is to put his shoulder to the wheel and his back to the wall and fight until the war is finished.

Great applause

Mayor Snowball read a letter from the front describing the heroism of France.

God Save the King

Mr. Loggie then held a consultation with the many friends of the Union Government present.

At his request the delegates took up the formation of the Unionist County Association.

The constitution was read and approved and election of officers resulted as follows:

President—James Stables, Newcas

Vice Pres—C. P. Hickey, Chatham

Secretary—R. A. Murdoch, Chatham

Treasurer—John Betts, Millerton

Mr. Loggie exhorted all to work hard in forming the new association, to canvass all friends and neighbors and leave no stone unturned in this their fight for Canada's fair name.

SUNNY CORNER

Sunny Corner, Nov. 13—The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. William McAllister Nov. 5th and left a baby girl.

Mrs. Jeremiah Mullin spent last week with her mother, Mrs. James Hyland.

Miss Kathleen Dunnet was the guest of relatives here the latter part of the week.

Miss Frances Johnston spent the past few weeks with her mother, Mrs. Allen Nowlan.

Mrs. S. G. Parks, and baby are visiting Mrs. Allen Toscer.

Miss Ida E. Mullin has gone to Lytleton for a few weeks.

Miss Roberta Johnston was the guest of Mrs. Marshall Bryenton, Cassilis, Sunday.

FIELD CASHIERS

PAYMASTERS

IN FRANCE

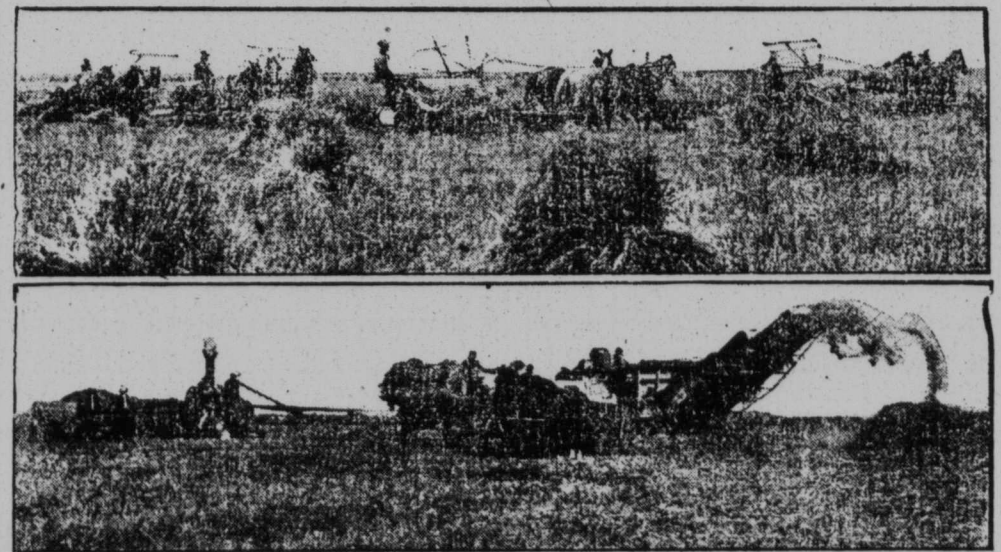
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CANADA AND THE WORLD'S SUPPLY OF WHEAT



(1) Reaping wheat in Portage-la-Prat, Manitoba. (2) Threshing wheat in Portage-la-Prat.

It was with considerable satisfaction that readers in all Allied countries received the statement, made a short time ago by the Institute of Agriculture at Rome, that 1917 had seen an increase in the wheat crop of the principal countries of the world, outside of the Central Powers, of 3.3 per cent over 1916. These figures were based on returns from Spain, France, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, the United States, India, Japan and Algeria. While the countries mentioned have done well their accomplishment shrinks into insignificance when compared with their possibilities. For instance, the three Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta could produce three times the total wheat crop above referred to. This statement may seem extravagant until submitted to the test of cold figures. Then we get data like this:

Manitoba	74,216,000 acres
Saskatchewan	83,459,000 "
Alberta	105,217,000 "
	272,892,000 "

The average wheat crop in these provinces for the last ten years has been: Manitoba, 18.29 bushels per acre; Saskatchewan, 18.4 bushels per acre; Alberta, 20.19 bushels per acre.

The average for the three provinces is therefore practically 19 bushels per acre. If you multiply the available acreage, as given above, by 19 you will find that these provinces, if entirely cultivated, are capable of producing in an average year 6,184,943,000 bushels of wheat—considerably more than three times the total which is being produced this year, 1917, by Spain, France, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, United States, India, Japan and Algeria combined. The single province of Al-

berta can produce as much wheat as all of these countries and have more left over than was grown in 1917 in all Canada.

Of course, it is impossible, as a practicable manner, to put every arable acre of land in any country in wheat, but if we say for the sake of illustration that one-third of the arable land in these provinces is summer-fallowed, one-third sown to coarse grains or pasture, and one-third to wheat, the proportion that is sown to wheat will produce a greater crop than that already mentioned as being grown by all the countries before referred to.

These figures may be interesting generally for the great comparison which they afford, but they must also carry the conclusion that the world is a very long way from having exhausted its food producing possibilities. Any scarcity of food production which may at present exist is traceable almost entirely to an improper distribution of population. In the older countries population is compelled to exist on such limited areas that production on a relatively large scale is impossible, whereas in the newer countries such as Western Canada the population is as yet totally insufficient to bring the country under cultivation. These are conditions which will doubtless right themselves in fact. Progress of civilization is going on very rapidly, and whatever difficulties may be experienced in feeding the world during the next few years, there can be no question that they will be solved as soon as sufficient population is found for the great open plains which are still awaiting the husbandman.