

notes holds it timely to bear witness to the fact that while he had good occasion to know that Mr. W. J. Bowser was held answerable by reverend gentlemen and others, for much that was more than objectionable, he some time after last election had a lengthy conversation with an earnest D.D., not connected with "The Crisis in B. C." but well and favourably known in Vancouver and vicinity, who not only spoke in a most complimentary way of Mr. Bowser from long personal acquaintance, but who said his (the D. D.'s) one concern was as to whether Bowser would live long enough to be fairly judged; in which event that clergyman had no doubt he, (Mr. Bowser) would be better valued and would do good work for the Province.

Whatever happens, and whether or not there is a "turn-over" of Independents again, in favor of Mr. Bowser and his party this time, it is reasonable to assume that he himself will be re-elected.

The soldier candidates provide another query mark. It is fitting that there should be representatives from among them and the people of the Province are to have an ample selection of such candidates, party and Independent. Mr. Ian Mackenzie on the Liberal ticket and Mr. Black on the Conservative ticket should each have claims on the Moderationists who are Independent; the first by his work for the cause and the second by his very strong platform appeal to them.

It goes without saying that Mr. Mackenzie, as a follower of the legal profession, can speak, but his strong delivery is too well maintained, and to his own countrymen from other parts of Scotland, his steadily impassioned tone tends to suggest a Highlander in a hurry. But whatever we think of his "Moderation" views, he seems a thoroughly earnest fellow, and if we had to choose between him and Mr. Black, we would give Mackenzie the lead. Only there happens to be other soldiers to consider including the quiet-spoken undemonstrative Colonel Warden—no orator, but a man whose sincerity and service (notwithstanding his conversion from Prohibition) will probably give him a place among the six.

Attorney-General Farris is subject to much condemnation on the one hand and commendation on the other as the result of the situation created by the condemned Prohibition Act. Our opinion is that Mr. Farris has been seeking to rise to the occasion in more ways than one, and though of course, we may all be greatly surprised, we believe he will be among the successful candidates.

Alderman James Ramsay's speech may have caused him to be dubbed by some folk "merely a rubber stamp," but as a business man and a serviceable citizen with aldermanic experience, he may have as good a chance to get sixth place as any one nominated.

#### What Say You—"Men-Before-Party" Voters?

Without any desire to pose among the prophets, we venture to suggest the following as a possible "return" in the Vancouver election—should the Independents consider men before parties:

BOWSER.  
FARRIS.  
WARDEN.  
(?) MACDONALD.  
A LADY CANDIDATE, OR AN INDEPENDENT.  
RAMSAY.

The Independents are "too numerous to mention," and in any case will probably not have their dues until a Proportional Representation system of voting is introduced.

It is interesting to observe that while Mr. J. S. Cowper, the journalistic candidate, elected on the Liberal ticket last time, has dropped out, another journalist has come into the field as an Independent, or "Special interest" representative, in the person of Mr. Ashworth who is on the "World" staff.

As we understand Mr. Ashworth has been in British Columbia little more than a year, it seems somewhat daring of him to accept such nomination in a country or city where it is

some times suggested that ten-year old residents are comparatively recent arrivals. If however any Independent should have a chance on the basis of the "special interest" he represents, it is surely Mr. Ashworth; for his appeal in his representative capacity should be to every rent-paying voter.

On the other hand the organization concerned, whatever its present strength, is of such recent origin, that it has hardly had time to make its mission and its message widely enough known to ensure the election of its nominee.

We understand that though Mr. Ashworth has not practiced law, and therefore lacks the legal facility of address, he took a law course in the East, and as an earnest citizen and a journalist we should be glad to see him, even if he be held, or prove himself, only the mouthpiece of another body, given the position of the Independent.

Another Independent candidate worthy of more than passing consideration is Mr. W. R. Trotter.

From one source we hear it suggested that the inevitable or irrepressible "Joe" (Martin), who has also come out as an Independent, will have a chance. But many may hold that that gentleman is too much of a professional political dabbler, open for a cosmopolitan practice to be given a position in which ability for wordy warfare is in the long run, apart from the leading lights, among the lesser qualifications.

When we review the long list of candidates for Vancouver City it must be admitted that the "straight ticket" voter of each Party is saved a real mental exercise in not having to select his six.

On the other hand, the earnest Independents, who adhere to their British right to use their personal judgment in voting, not at the bidding of party leaders or special interests, but for candidates who individually appeal to them as capable Representative Citizens, have the satisfaction of knowing that, if the selection is a perplexing one their ballot markings have the greater influence and may indeed be the deciding factors.

## ARMISTICE DAY

11 A.M., NOVEMBER 11, 1920

STOP! for a spell let busy traffic cease,

Let all the air a solemn stillness hold.

Remember "WAR"—then "VICTORY" and "PEACE,"

Words which mean more than "Profit," "Bought" and  
"Sold."

Sheathed is the sword we Britons wielded long

And used so well; the dented blade

Crusted with blood, but still unstained by wrong

For many years—pray God! aside is laid.

But should a foe our liberties assail

Again they'll find the Empire not asleep;

Our sword—EXCALIBUR—will not us fail,

But bright, strong, sharp, again to life will leap.

But now a solemn silence for the dead,

For him who lies in distant foreign grave,

A sigh of sympathy for those who bled

But still adorn the land they fought to save.

Say—shall we grudge a hero his poor crust

When but for him OUR EMPIRE had been dust?

So, once a year—for many years to come

Our city sounds shall for a moment cease;

The distant waves to listening ears shall hum

A solemn Requiem—A Hymn of Peace.

"God help us do OUR destined work," we pray

"As THEY did theirs—we honor them today."

—FELIX PENNE in Vancouver Daily Sun.