

The Herald

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Canada's New Government.

As briefly stated in our last issue, and as is now well known Canada has a new Prime Minister. The arrangements for the change were concluded on Wednesday evening of last week, July 7, when Sir Robert Borden proceeded to Rideau Hall and tendered his resignation to his Excellency, the Governor General, at the same time introducing Hon. Arthur Meighen as his successor in the Premiership. His Excellency accepted Sir Robert's resignation, to take formal effect on Saturday. This margin of a few days was in order to afford Mr. Meighen sufficient time to select his colleagues and arrange for the presentation of the new Cabinet. Following is the official announcement, issued from Government House, on Wednesday evening: "The formal resignation of Sir Robert Borden will be tendered to His Excellency the Governor General on Saturday next, the tenth instant, and will be accepted by His Excellency with great regret. His Excellency has entrusted to the Honorable Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior, the formation of a new administration, and Mr. Meighen has undertaken that duty."

Sir Robert Borden, who has been obliged to relinquish the office of Prime Minister of Canada, in consequence of impaired health, resulting from his devotion to his country's cause, will go down in history as one of Canada's greatest sons. He has been a member of the House of Commons for twenty-four years, and Prime Minister for nine years. He safely and wisely piloted Canada through, by far, the most onerous, critical and dangerous periods of her history, and elevated her to heights among the nations, undreamed of before his time. In this tremendous ordeal he sacrificed himself, and he is now a casualty of the war, as much as if he had been in the trenches. Sir Robert Borden's greatness and power spring from his splendid attainments, his absolute sincerity and his extraordinary wisdom and moderation. These are the qualities that gave him such power and influence over all who came in close touch with him. Numerous tributes to Sir Robert's greatness have been published in the press, not only of Canada, but of Great Britain and the United States. We will present here only two brief extracts. The first is from the Montreal Gazette and is as follows: "Sir Robert Borden will go down in history as the great Canadian war minister. He proved himself equal to an occasion that called for courage, patience, confidence and inflexible determination. Not for one instant did Sir Robert waver. His sense of duty dominated him, and from the path he marked out there was no turning. From the sincerity of his motives, from his ardent loyalty, from his great attainments, nothing can detract, and in his quest for restoration of health he will carry the admiration, the gratitude, and the hopes of the Canadian people that, unburdened of the strain of office he will in many a coming year find that which he seeks."

The following excerpt is from an editorial in the Montreal Herald: "Canada's greater for having such a son as Sir Robert Borden. He has led her to heights that were not in sight when the control of her affairs passed into his hands. As the illustrious men who deserve to be remembered as the fathers of confederation wisely and boldly flung open the doors of Canada's true course in history, so, at another parting of the ways at which she passed forty-four years later, Sir Robert Borden directed her on the right course. His part in the war was worthy of Canada and her heroic defenders. He served Canada in the decade of its history most crowded with great events, and he goes out of office with the greatest reputation ever made by a Canadian statesman. What success may attend the administration of the new Prime Minister, Hon. Mr. Meighen, is something still in the womb of the future. But one thing is certain he comes to his task admirably equipped. He is a man of marvellous ability and application. He is a lawyer by profession and possesses a wonderfully analytical mind. In debate he is quick, logical, incisive and crushing; his opponent invariably comes out second best; he is certainly a giant in intellect and a power in Parliamentary activity. He has been a success in every position he has occupied since his advent to the House of Commons. He is the youngest of Canadian Premiers; he has just passed his forty-fifth year. He has been fourteen years in the House of Commons. He was born on a farm in Perth County, Ontario, and in his younger days taught school. Subsequently he made his way through college graduating in 1896. He then studied law and went west to Portage la Parrie, Manitoba, where he practised his profession. From this place he was elected to the House of Commons in 1908, and has been re-elected at each general election since then. He was not long in Parliament till he won his spurs. He showed his ability as an expert cross examiner in the Public Accounts Committee and other important Parliamentary Committees. In 1913 he became Solicitor General and in 1917 was appointed Secretary of State. On the formation of the new Ministry in 1917, he was assigned the important portfolio of Minister of the Interior. He has been the framer of most of the important and intricate enactments that have been introduced in the Commons during the present term. Take him, all in all, the new Prime Minister is a wonderful man, and all his Parliamentary associates, on the Government side at least, are proud of him. All the members of the Borden Cabinet continue under Premier Meighen, except Hon. Martin Burrell, who has been for some time anxious to retire, and Hon. Mr. Rowell, who returns to the practice of the law in Toronto; but retaining his seat in the Commons. Hon. Mr. Burrell becomes Parliamentary Librarian. Two new men from the Maritime Provinces join the Cabinet. They are, Mr. Wignmore of St. John, who fills the Cabinet seat for that Province, vacant since Mr. Carvell was appointed Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, and Mr. McCurdy, who comes in from Nova Scotia to fill the vacancy caused by Sir Robert Borden's retirement. Mr. McCurdy represents Colchester County. There may be some changes of the old members of the Cabinet, from one portfolio to another; but such changes do not involve the necessity of by-elections. Possibly other new men may come in; but it is not likely any very extensive shuffle will take place for the present. The complete state of the new Cabinet has not reached here at this writing."

Canada To Be Organized

Toronto, July 9.—Sir Thomas White said in an interview today that he had nothing to add to the statement which he gave to the press on Tuesday evening. He is well satisfied with the political situation at Ottawa, and expresses an affectionate personal regard for Hon. Mr. Meighen, as well as high admiration for his talent and character. "He is," he said, "an exceptionally brilliant public man, with an absolutely clean record, sincere, honorable and straightforward. Canada is to be congratulated that such a leader is available. He is also a most capable administrator. No one better knows the outstanding problems confronting Canada at this time; or has reflected more deeply upon them. His integrity of character is well known, and no one is personally more popular among his associates in the House, where his skill in debate has always incited the highest admiration." Sir Thomas has always been a warm admirer of the "baby" of the old Conservative cabinet; and is sure that his administration will be greatly to the advantage of the public. He states that the situation in the present cabinet is entirely harmonious, and he looks with confidence for a continuation of stable government at Ottawa.

Platform of New National Liberal and Conservative Party.

At the caucus of the Government held on July 1st, the ministers and their supporters approved the following platform as setting forth the principles of the new National Liberal and Conservative party, with such additions as may be found necessary from time to time: CONSTITUTIONAL. The firm adherence to British connection, in full confidence that Canada will find its amplest scope for development, usefulness and influence as a member of the British Commonwealth with the status of a self-governing nation equal to that of the other members. The maintenance of the autonomy of Canada and its existing rights and powers of self-government, the approval of the principle that no treaty, understanding or commitment which may involve the Empire ought to be undertaken except after consultation and by common consent. Approval of Canada's membership in the League of Nations, and a firm determination to maintain our recognized status as a member of the league. The upholding by every means within the federal power of constituted authority throughout the Dominion; the maintenance of Parliamentary control over all legislation; respect for the rights and powers of the provinces.

CITIZENSHIP.

The adoption of such measures as are necessary to maintain and protect the ideals of Canadian citizenship and co-operation with the provinces in their efforts to Canadianize alien immigrants; the fostering of a Canadian as opposed to any class or sectional spirit and the elimination of all prejudices that tend to retard or destroy national unity and development.

NATIONAL POLICIES.

Practical application of the principle that Parliament and Government exist to make and administer laws for all the people and not for any particular class or section to the detriment of the nation as a whole; the carrying out of policies that are nationwide in their application or effect and that look toward the growth and development of the whole of Canada and the prosperity and happiness of all its people.

THE TARIFF.

A thorough revision of the tariff with a view to the adoption of such reasonable measures as are necessary: (a) to assist in providing adequate revenues, (b) to stabilize legitimate industries, (c) to encourage the establishment of new industries essential to the economic development of the nation, (d) to develop to the fullest extent our natural resources, (e) to prevent the abuse of the tariff for the exploitation of the consumer and, (f) to safeguard the interests of the Canadian people in the existing world struggle for commercial and industrial supremacy. As a means of raising revenue the tariff should be so adjusted as to place the chief burden upon those best able to bear it. Articles of luxury should be heavily taxed through the imposition of customs and excise rates. Food commodities and other necessities of life, not produced or manufactured in Canada, should, if taxed at all, bear only such imposts as are necessary for revenue purposes. Those produced in Canada should be subjected to such customs duties only as may be determined after strict investigation from time to time. Apart from the question of revenue the tariff should have regard to the maintenance, stability and prosperity of Canadian enterprise in the development of all our natural resources in lands, forests, mines, fisheries—as well as our agricultural and manufacturing industries. Consideration must also be given to the importance of creating and maintaining conditions that will afford to Canadian industrial workers opportunities for steady and remunerative employment, and maintain proper and decent standards of living among our laboring population. It is undoubtedly in the true interests of Canada as a whole that Canadian workers should not be forced to seek in foreign countries employment and opportunity denied them at home by reason of the export of the natural resources, primary products and raw materials with which the Dominion is so amply endowed. For the purpose of encouraging the fullest development of our natural resources the tariff should be so adjusted as to permit machinery and the implements of production to be purchased at prices that will compare equitably with those paid in other countries for similar articles. The revised tariff list should be so framed and administered as to affectively prevent any customs duty being used to facilitate the formation or maintenance of any combine, trust, association or agreement among manufacturers, dealers, or producers for the purpose, at the expense of the general public, of restraining trade, preventing competition or unduly enhancing the selling price of any article of commerce. The principle of trade preference between the different members of the British Commonwealth should be maintained and extended from time to time to such degree as may be found practicable and consistent with Canadian interests. While a general revision of the Canadian tariff based upon the foregoing considerations is due, it must be recognized that, owing to the war economic and commercial conditions the world round, have been profoundly disturbed and that, as a consequence, it is neither practicable or possible in the national or public interest to undertake such revision until a thorough enquiry is made to ascertain the essential facts upon which tariff provisions must necessarily be based. The maintenance and continued application of the principle of direct taxation with a view to increasing the national revenue derived from this source. Such taxation should be so adjusted that the burden may be borne by those most capable of sustaining it. In devising methods of taxation and in fixing rates consideration must be given to the revenue necessities of provinces and municipalities, and care must be taken to avoid the creation of conditions that will discourage immigration or the investment in Canada of capital essential to our economic development.

Canada To Be Organized

Continued from page 1. The reorganization, upon a moderate scale, of the Canadian militia system, and the restriction of the permanent forces to such establishment as will constitute a nucleus for defence, maintain respect for constituted authority and ensure the public safety. The establishment and maintenance of an efficient nucleus of a Canadian air service, so constituted and administered as to be available for either military or civil duties.

EX-MEMBERS OF THE FORCE.

Continuation of the policy of aiding ex-members of the forces to become satisfactorily established in the civil life of the community. Should experience show the necessity of further special consideration of claims made upon behalf of the disabled, or the dependents of those who have fallen, in order that the nation may discharge its full obligations to those who have thus suffered.

LABOR.

The enactment of such laws as will carry into effect the ideals and principles embodied in the Treaty of Peace, regard being had as contemplated by the treaty, to the time and character of similar legislation enacted by other nations. The encouragement of confidence and co-operation between employers and employees.

AGRICULTURE.

The inauguration of policies conceived with a view of increasing the agricultural production of Canada, and of improving marketing methods and facilities in order to obtain the best net return to producers. With this object in view, and for the purpose of eliminating duplication of services and expenditures, the reaching of an agreement with the provinces respecting the future activities of the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture. Co-operation with the provinces in the direction of providing better rural credits and improved social conditions in rural communities. Regulation and control of cold storage and refrigerating facilities so as to provide for the satisfactory marketing of perishable products in the interests of both producer and consumer. Co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture in a united effort, having for its object the improvement of the live stock and dairy industries to the end that production may be increased and quality improved. To further facilitate and encourage all phases of agricultural production and experimentation.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Continued through study by competent experts of foreign markets and the opportunities therein for the development and extension of Canadian trade, and the collation and distribution of pertinent and up-to-date information in relation thereto to the business men of Canada. Efficient public agencies for making known abroad the commercial resources and products of Canada. The maintenance of continuous communication by correspondents and personal visits between our agencies abroad and our producers at home. A system of accurate and comprehensive statistical representation of our commercial and productive output and distribution.

IMMIGRATION.

A firm adherence of the principle that Canada as a self-governing nation has the absolute right to determine its own immigration policy. The energetic promotion of immigration of desirable classes of persons who wish to establish homes in Canada and to become loyal Canadian citizens. As in the past, encouragement will be continued to prospective land seekers, agricultural labor and household workers. The continuation and extension of the policy adopted to prevent the landing in Canada of mental or physical defectives of all such persons as are likely to become public charges, and of those whose ideals, customs and modes of life are such

Canada To Be Organized

Continued from page 1. as to render them incapable of assimilation within a reasonable time. NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION. The transfer under fair terms and conditions of the remainder of the public domain held by the Dominion to any province of Canada, in which such domain is situated, subject to such reserves as may be deemed advisable in the public interest. As regards the public domain and all other natural resources outside the provinces and owned by the Dominion, the adoption of such policies as will result in their use and development to the advantage of Canada as a whole. INLAND WATERWAYS AND HIGHWAYS. Such further development of the existing canal systems of Canada as is necessary to improve navigation and cheapen transportation, with the additional object in view of developing the production and use of electrical energy for domestic, agricultural, municipal, industrial and railway purposes, and under such prudent regulations as will thoroughly safeguard the interests of the people. The carrying to completion of the provisions made by Parliament for co-operation with the provinces in the matter of highways construction.

MAIL CONTRACT

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 23rd August, 1920, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Tignish Rural Mail Route, No. 4, from the Postmaster General's pleasure. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Tignish, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

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A firm adherence of the principle that Canada as a self-governing nation has the absolute right to determine its own immigration policy. The energetic promotion of immigration of desirable classes of persons who wish to establish homes in Canada and to become loyal Canadian citizens. As in the past, encouragement will be continued to prospective land seekers, agricultural labor and household workers. The continuation and extension of the policy adopted to prevent the landing in Canada of mental or physical defectives of all such persons as are likely to become public charges, and of those whose ideals, customs and modes of life are such

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