

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B. FRIDAY OCTOBER 19, 1917

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Sir Robert Borden has announced in general terms the policy of the new government. Its merits will be determined by the extent to which its provisions are carried out. Sir Robert has promised many things in the last half dozen years, but his performance has not encouraged the growth of popular confidence. No doubt the Liberals who have joined the cabinet will make a difference.

The people will want to know, for example, what the government regards as adequate taxation of war profits, and to what extent it will really intervene to reduce the cost of living and to prevent excess profits such as have notoriously enriched many people since the war began.

There is no specific reference to tariff reform, for which the Liberals as a party have stood, and which is urgently demanded by the west. The country will not fail to take note of the silence of Sir Robert on this subject, although it is suggested that the allusion to provision to encourage increased agricultural production may involve tariff reductions in the interests of the farmers.

Sir Robert is also silent on the question of national prohibition, which is certainly a needed war measure; and there will be a very keen disappointment that no action in this direction is promised.

With regard to civil service reform, woman suffrage, the care of returned soldiers, control of railways, improvement of transportation facilities, encouragement of co-operation among farmers, a shipbuilding programme, a national highway policy, and other matters touched upon by the prime minister, they all have a more or less familiar sound. If the people believe the new government is really in earnest, well and good.

It was told that there is to be a war committee of the cabinet, and another to deal with domestic affairs. This is a wise policy.

It is clear from Sir Robert Borden's statement of policy that the Liberal members of the cabinet are exerting their influence to good purpose, but until definite acts of reform follow the declaration there will remain an element of popular doubt. The political situation is clearer as a result of the announcement of the premier, but it is still clouded. Premier Murray has declined to join the cabinet and there is still doubt as to who will represent Nova Scotia. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has not yet spoken, but will doubtless soon be heard from. It is already clear, however, that there is a vigorous Laurier party in the west, and the failure of the government to take a pronounced position in regard to tariff reform may increase the number of supporters of the Liberal chief. In the maritime provinces the Halifax Recorder, Moncton Transcript and Sackville Tribune are out in support of Laurier and against the union government. Next week we shall hear from Hon. Messrs. Calder, Crerar and Carvell, and they will of course shed some further light on the situation.

THE NEW POLITICAL FACTOR.

The rest of Canada is invited to take note of the fact that the west will have a much larger representation in the next parliament, and that this will be notably increased again after the next census. The west will not have much sympathy for the interests which profit by a high tariff. The Grain Growers' Guide tells us what is in the western mind when it says:—

"Let us have a number of candidates elected on the farmers' platform who will really represent western opinion in the House of Commons. Such men can join hands with the government in the prosecution of the war in every possible way, but at the same time they can see that the west gets a square deal in other legislation that will come before parliament. What the west needs in the next parliament is thirty-five or forty strong independent western members. It is not necessary that they go down to Ottawa with an immediate demand for the complete fulfillment of the farmers' platform while the war is in progress. But it should be remembered that these men will be elected for five years, and the war may be over in a year or two at the most. Then will come the big problems where we will need our very best men. Let us select them now and have them ready in the House of Commons backed up by powerful western public opinion, so that when the war is over they can prevent any further betrayal of the best interests of this country."

If this is a correct interpretation of western sentiment there will be very little chance for Conservative protectionists in the coming elections. The west wants more, and a lower tariff and a longer free list are included. The Financial Post foresees a possible clash between the west and the manufacturers

and great financial interests of the east.

"The rise of the western political power is no doubt viewed with mixed feelings by the 'stand-patters' and the 'old guards' of both parties. And well it might be. It takes no wild imagination to make of Calder, Crerar or Sifton a Redmond of the British house, wielding the balance of votes and playing a prominent part in the dictation of policies by coalition formations. Whether or not the western people can forget their political allegiances and stand firmly on a farmers' platform remains to be seen. But those who know the power of the organizations which have been formed by the prairie grain growers are cognizant of a growing force which is overcoming party policies and party differences in favor of western interests. The strength which results from union is being tested. Students of our national economies cannot but view this new political factor with some apprehension. Should it control the balance of power it would do so on behalf of a part of the Dominion divided by many interests from the east—or, at least, a part of the Dominion which has long been self-enclosed in that impression. Changes of tariff and other policies would no doubt be brought about or attempted, the result of which, if carried out in the extreme spirit which pervades the western political atmosphere, might have serious consequences upon the Dominion as a whole."

Whatever the beneficiaries of a high tariff may think about it, the eastern consumers will welcome the aid of the west in bringing about some radical changes in government policy. Too many people in Canada have been made and are being made rich by legislation. It is time to call a halt and consider the welfare of the great masses of the people. No doubt the west is radical, and perhaps it will ask too much, but radical changes are necessary in the public interest.

The St. John Medical Society is heartily in support of Hon. Dr. Roberts in his plans for a complete reorganization of the public health service of the province. The need of a provincial bacteriologist and pathologist has long been recognized. Medical inspection of schools should be made universal. The whole system of health administration needs to be radically changed, and there should be a thorough system for registration of vital statistics. Hon. Dr. Roberts will lay the province under a lasting obligation if he can bring about the reforms he has in mind. This province is far behind in regard to the registration of vital statistics, medical inspection in schools, and hospital accommodation and equipment of the higher class. The time is therefore ripe for the institution of radical reforms.

There is trouble between the crews of German and Austrian war-craft in Adriatic waters, as well as mutiny among some of the German sailors who are ordered to go in submarines. There are increasing evidences of the trouble in store for the enemy when the people are convinced that they are to be beaten. A Socialist member of the Reichstag predicts revolutionary convulsions in all the war countries soon, but he knows nothing of the temper of the Allies. Perhaps he does know what is coming in Germany.

The manufacture and also the importation of oleomargarine will probably be permitted by the Canadian government. There is every reason why this should be done. There is undoubtedly a scarcity of butter, but it is also true that larger quantities are held for higher prices. A substitute is needed, and oleomargarine is a pure and healthy substance, approved by the medical authorities as a food. Now is the time to have it brought into Canada.

The announcement that the Russian government has decided to move to Moscow is ominous. Evidently there is fear that the Germans may win through to Petrograd. A portion of the Russian fleet is bottled up, and the German operations in the Gulf of Riga and toward the entrance to the Gulf of Finland are apparently meeting with continued success.

St. John's response to the appeal of the British Red Cross was splendid. It surpassed expectations, and proves once more that the heart of the people is sound in regard to the war and the necessity of caring for the sick and wounded among the fighting men.

When the new government goes after the profiteers it will have the hearty sympathy of everybody—except the profiteers.

The establishment of a central emergency fund would prove of great advantage to neighboring farmers. It involves the principle of co-operation.

Railway Strike Settled.

Buenos Aires, Oct. 19.—After twenty-three days, during which time the railways have been paralyzed, the railway strike has been settled.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Improving.
Wife—I think the cook is improving, don't you?
Husband—Why, at dinner tonight everything was bad but the coffee.
Wife—I know, but usually that's bad, too.

She Obeyed.
Some time ago, before we all got so dreadfully economical, a mistress told her new Scandinavian kitchen girl never to leave in the refrigerator anything old or left over, or to keep it clean and fresh by throwing away the old things every morning.

On the day following, the mistress happened to look out of the window and she noticed something peculiar in the yard. Calling Hilda she asked: "What is that and how did it get there?" "That's the old cat, ma'am, left from yesterday," answered Hilda. "I threw it a way lak you tol' me."

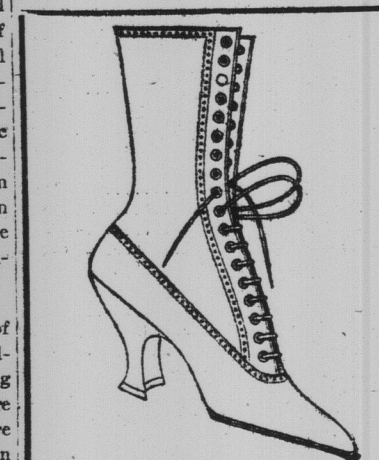
True Patriot.
"Why don't you get an alienist to examine your son?"
"No, sir! An American doctor is good enough for me."

NINE LIVES LOST;
VAST PROPERTY DAMAGE
IN B. W. I. HURRICANE

Georgetown, B. W. I., Sept. 29.—(Correspondence)—The island of Grand Cayman was visited by the most violent hurricane in its history on September 24. The wind reached a velocity of 120 miles an hour. This and a heavy rain and giant breakers from the Caribbean Sea combined in damaging shipping and property. The property loss exclusive of shipping is estimated at \$300,000. Nine lives were lost. The damage to crops of all kinds as well as that to property was greater than in the hurricane of 1876 and the cyclone of 1903.



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SENATE'S RECORD OF EXPULSIONS

U. S. Upper Chamber Has Dealt With Several Civil War Sets Precedent

Almost as Difficult to Arrange Expulsion as to Secure Admission; Recent Examples; The La Follette Case

It is usually a task of the first magnitude to become a senator of the United States, but even more difficult it is to get rid of a senator once he has established himself, except at an election. Throughout his own State of Wisconsin, as well as through the country generally, there is a strong, even a passionate, desire to get rid of Senator La Follette because of his efforts to temper the war and the belief that he is actuated by a desire to get the pro-German vote. Many resolutions calling upon him to resign and upon others to expel him have been passed. A speech made at St. Paul is being investigated by a senate committee, and though the enquiry is limited to the truthfulness of remarks he made in that speech, it is likely to be the first step in the fight to fire La Follette.

He will not go without a fight, and he has friends in the senate, probably half a dozen, who think as he thinks and who would vote for him in any circumstances. It is noteworthy, however, that after his speech in defence of all the fellow-senators took place in all circumstances, a member of that "little group of wilful men" denounced by President Wilson.

To expel a senator it is necessary that there should be a two-thirds vote in favor of the action, which makes it impossible that a senator should ever be expelled by a mere party majority. Half a dozen times in the history of the body the two-thirds vote has fallen against a member, although, looking over the list of expelled members, it is not easy to find a case that exactly corresponds with that of the member from Wisconsin.

Two Recent Examples

Only a few years ago two members were expelled, although this is not the word that was used. Senator Burton of Kansas was proved to have appeared before departments of the government in the interests of outside clients and thus to have forfeited his rights to remain in the senate. The case of Senator Lorimer created a political sensation in the United States a few years ago. Lorimer was accused of having bribed members of the state legislature to elect him as senator, and the charge was held to have been proved. In his case, although he had held his seat in the senate for some time, the verdict was that he was not properly elected, and so, without being actually expelled, he was merely fired out.

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2 lb. pkge. Sugar.....	28c.		
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Household Flour—24 lb.....	\$1.65	12c. Klovah Jelly.....	10c.
Purity Flour—24 lb.....	\$1.70	12c. bottle Ammonia.....	15c.
SPECIALS		12c. Bulk Raisins, per lb.....	15c.
2 pkgs. Aunt Jemima's Pancake	25c.	Comp. Cream Tartar, per lb.....	30c.
1 lb. Flour.....	25c.	Bulk Cocoa, per lb.....	32c.
3 lb. Grain Cornmeal.....	25c.	12c. bottle Olives.....	10c.
3 lbs. Rice.....	25c.	25c. bottle Olives.....	17c.
4 lbs. Oatmeal.....	25c.	45c. bottle Olives.....	40c.
2 Lipton's Jelly.....	25c.	Shrimps, per can.....	18c.
4 Jelly Powders.....	25c.	Scallops, per can.....	22c.
5 cakes Comfort Soap.....	25c.	25c. Liquid Veneer.....	21c.
5 cakes Castle Soap.....	25c.	50c. Liquid Veneer.....	42c.
4 cakes Gold Soap.....	25c.	Good Cooking Apples.....	30c. peck
1 bottle Pure Jam.....	25c.	Pure Maple Syrup, per bottle.....	38c.
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1 lb. Maple Butter.....	25c.	60c. Bulk Teas, per.....	58c.

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ters? I hope not." This was written before the war had actually begun, but it is a warning that was not heeded and expelled him.

The Case of Bright

A friend who had fought for Polk was next accused. This was Senator Powell of Kentucky, who had presided at a great meeting in his state which denounced Lincoln and demanded the removal of federal troops from the state. After a bitter fight Powell won out. Senator Stark of Oregon was also investigated, but, although he was apparently in sympathy with the south, no overt acts were established against him. The most curious case was that of Senator Bright of Indiana, who, before the war, was said to have written a letter of introduction for a friend to Jefferson Davis. The friend's business was to sell rifles and this he sought to justify on the ground that he did not know there was to be war. He was unable to explain why Davis would want rifles if there was to be no war. After a long fight he was expelled.

Soldier Husband To Be Handy About House

Not All The Wounded Need New Trades But Vocational Training Has Other Uses

Many visitors in the convalescent homes and sanatoria wonder why the inevitable wood-working shops conducted by the Military Hospitals. Commission's vocational training branch form such a popular feature with the soldier-patients. They can see at a glance that most of the men working at the benches have no intention of making their livings as carpenters. The commission has even been criticized thoughtlessly for emphasizing this trade.

Only one-tenth of all the convalescent soldiers passing through the M. H. C. institutions require to learn new trades in order to obtain positions. Vocational training is provided for all, however, for a variety of reasons. Occupation is recommended by the medical officers as an important factor in hastening recovery. Useful occupation assists in grad-

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of Chinese into France began and at the first of February the number had reached 100,000. It is now believed to be well on the way to double that number. Some may have believed that the participation of China in the war would be very slight; that while it signified the sentiments of China that except for the moral support it would be the case. While China stands ready to send troops across the water this assistance may not be called for but the same effect of furnishing fighting men is obtained by the system that is being followed. The Chinese workmen are their appearance behind the lines releases an equal number of Frenchmen and Englishmen to serve as fighting men.

If the troops are needed China has them. The Chinese have never been distinguished for military ability but they are valiant and courageous and with the training that could be given by the European officers would soon become excellent soldiers for they are adaptable and obedient.

There is another way in which China is making itself felt as a factor in the war, and that is in furnishing materials, metals and minerals. The declared enemies of munitions and of these natural resources China has an inexhaustible supply. China at war alone with Germany would not be a factor in the war, but as an aid to the Allies counts much and the same statesmen holds good in relation to the South American republics. China is ready to furnish men if called upon, as well as ships, food supplies and munitions.

Yale Has Big Deficit

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 19.—Yale's finances this year will show a net deficit of about \$238,866 as a result of war conditions. It is announced, despite savings of about \$200,000, mainly through decreases in the faculty salary list where members are absent in government service.

WOMAN SICK TWO YEARS

Could Do No Work. Now Strong as a Man.

Chicago, Ill.—"For about two years I suffered from a female trouble so I was unable to walk or do any of my own work. I read about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound in the newspapers and determined to try it. It brought almost immediate relief. My weakness has entirely disappeared and I am now strong as a man. I weigh 165 pounds and am as strong as a man. I think money is well spent which purchases Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. J. O. BRYAN, 1755 Newport Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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THE PART OF CHINA
(Bangor Commercial)

There have been frequent reports of the presence in France of a considerable number of Chinese workmen and it appears that this number is growing constantly. Following China's declaration of war against Germany the influx