

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1917

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THE VOICE OF THE WEST

Resolved, that this convention places on record its admiration for the greatest of all Canadians, Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

In a convention in which there were more than eight hundred selected delegates representing the Liberalism of the western provinces, the above resolution was adopted with only "about a score" who voted nay. In other words, western Liberalism is solid for Laurier, and the Liberals will sweep the west in the general elections. And, as the Standard this morning says: "It is doubtful if maritime province people fully realize the extent of the power that western Canada will wield in the next parliament."

The action of the western Liberals does not tally with what had been expected by the Conservatives; and indeed many eastern Liberals had been misled by reports sent out to the effect that the premier of Manitoba would declare against Laurier, and would be generally supported by the Manitoba delegates and most of those from British Columbia. As a matter of fact, the whole of western premiers supported the resolution which describes Sir Wilfrid Laurier as "the greatest of Canadians," and "only about a score" in that vast convention voted nay. These were evidently opposed to Sir Wilfrid's attitude relative to conscription, but they were in an utterly hopeless minority. The west believes, viewing the whole situation, that in this crisis the man who, in the words of Premier Norris, "had done more than anyone else to keep a united Canada," is still the man of the hour. The west believes also that Sir Wilfrid, and not Sir Robert Borden, is the man to organize a real national government. Premier Brewster of British Columbia, who declared that his province "stood as one man in the determination that the first consideration must be the winning of the war," declared also that he "believed the time was coming when it would be proved to Canada and the world that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had been the greatest friend and the greatest support in Canada in the winning of the war."

It will not do for Conservative eastern journals to charge the west with wanting to sneak out of the war. Premier Sifton of Alberta predicted that after the elections, "Sir Wilfrid and those elected to support him would represent the concentrated essence of the commonsense of the country, and would carry on the war the way the people wanted it carried on, and to a successful conclusion."

This is the voice of the west, for in the west Liberalism is triumphant and the Conservatives have no chance of winning. Moreover, the voice of the west will have a profound influence in the east. Whatever else is true, the defeat of the Borden government is assured, and there is to be a national government after instead of before the elections. It will not be led by the man who has led what Premier Sifton described as "the iniquitous government we have had for six years."

THE WINNIPEG CONVENTION

The west has begun to square accounts with Sir Clifford Sifton for his betrayal in 1911 of western interests, which were also the interests of Canada. Sir Clifford did not attend the Winnipeg convention. He went west to dictate its policy, but the sturdy and outspoken westerners made it quite plain they had not forgotten his former action, and were not at all disposed to listen to his insinuating suggestion that they should rally around Sir Robert Borden and the Hon. Robert Rogers. The Winnipeg correspondent of the Conservative Montreal Gazette has declared that the great tactical blunder, Liberals indeed have good reason to regard with suspicion any proposition of a national character which he undertakes to present. He did not remain in Winnipeg to see the convention through.

Dr. Michael Clark is another gentleman who found the western atmosphere quite too chilly for August, and hastily set out on his return to Ottawa. The west resented his savage attacks upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and he was given plainly to understand that he could not hob-nob with Rogers and Borden and retain the confidence of the west. He did not wait for the convention to tell him so.

The real lion of the convention, if there was one, was the Hon. Frank Oliver, who told parliament that while a conscriptionist in principle, he would never trust

the enforcement of the law to the Borden government. The west is so thoroughly sick of the mis-rule of the last six years at Ottawa that it makes the defeat of the Borden government the first consideration.

As to the attitude of the convention in regard to conscription, it cannot be charged that it is lukewarm or indifferent because of disloyalty. The recruiting record of the west disposes of any such charge. Moreover, the convention is pledged to the most vigorous prosecution of the war, and insists there can be no such action until a new parliament gives the country a new government that is not tied up to the profiteers.

The party most disturbed by the attitude of the west is the Conservative party. It cannot now set the rest of the provinces against Quebec, and snatch a victory by parading its loyalty and waving the flag. With that hope lost, its prospects of a victory at the polls have disappeared. When it goes to the country it will go to defeat, and no attempts Sir Robert Borden may now make to patch up a union government will do him or his party any good.

The western Liberals set out to lay down a platform that would appeal to the majority of the Canadian people. It is easy to charge them with partisanship, but their platform speaks for itself. They want a vigorous war policy, coupled with radical reforms in other directions, and most of the resolutions adopted will commend themselves to great numbers of people in the eastern provinces. They appear to have been firmly convinced that a deliberate attempt was being made by the Conservatives to split the Liberal party and gain party advantage therefrom; and they were determined to thwart the attempt and clear the way for a real national government chosen from a parliament fresh from the people. Whether the east likes it or not, the west has dressed the stage for the coming contest at the polls, and has put an entirely new complexion upon the political situation. It is known that Ontario as a whole did not take too kindly to the decisions arrived at in the recent convention in Toronto, and the western programme will find sympathizers in many Ontario constituencies. The Conservatives will assert that partisanship will thrust patriotism into the background, but since when have the Conservatives ceased to be partisans? The west believes they have never ceased, and that they never had any intention.

But what of conscription? Ask Sir Robert Borden that question. Does he propose to enforce the law? A considerable time will elapse before the elections can be held. There will be ample time to take measures looking to the prompt enforcement of conscription. Let us see what the government will do about it. The latest rumor is that Sir Robert is disposed to give the voluntary system one more trial. Meanwhile Sir Wilfrid Laurier has wired his approval of the war programme of the Winnipeg convention.

A POLITICAL TRICK?

Has the government been deceiving the people in regard to the need for immediate strengthening of the Canadian army by the enlistment of 100,000 men? A statement just issued shows that there are 80,000 men on the firing line and an effective strength of 150,000 in reserve. The wastage overseas, in three years of war, has been about 70,000. It is pointed out that even if the permanent wastage for three years were twice as great there would still be enough men available to keep the four divisions on the firing line up to strength, without counting the additions made from time to time by the voluntary system. Of course it may be said in answer to this that we should have more than four divisions on the firing line, but that will divisions on the firing line, but that will people as to actual present conditions. There is a feeling that Sir Robert Borden announced conscription for political purposes, and now regrets his action. The Standard's Ottawa correspondent says that at the conference at Rideau Hall, at which both Sir Robert and Sir Wilfrid Laurier were present, "the suggestion was made that the conscription measure might not be put into effect until Quebec had had another opportunity of answering the call to arms voluntarily." The Standard hinted yesterday that no attempt would be made to enforce the act until after the elections.

If once the country is convinced that the conscription measure was introduced for political purposes, to destroy the influence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and line up the rest of the provinces against Quebec, there will be very few Conservatives in the next parliament.

By what right does Sir Clifford Sifton sit in council at Rideau Hall? The west will be further antagonized against Sir Robert Borden because of it. It is recalled that on one occasion years ago Sir Charles Tupper declared there was not a constituency from Sydney to Vancouver mean enough to elect Sir Clifford Sifton, but today he sits cheek by jowl with Sir Robert Borden. Curiously enough there was no Nationalist at the Rideau Hall conference. Why this omission by Sir Robert?

LIGHTER VEIN.

Two Ways of "Workin'." It was obvious from his uniform that he was a messenger boy, and he strolled along with his eye fixed on a page of a blood-curdling story. At the corner of one street another messenger, running wildly, bumped into him, and immediately started running again. The amazement of the first messenger was almost too great for words. "Hi, there, Bill!" he called, when he recovered his breath. "What chee runnin' for? Ain't chee workin' today?"

How He Thought. A well-dressed lady having given the signal that she desired to alight, the tram was brought to a stop, but just there the rear step was directly over a small mud puddle.

The lady looked on an instant, and then asked: "How do you think I can get off here?"

And the conductor replied: "I cannot tell you, madam; but I do not know that we can't wait until that puddle dries up."

He Did Neither. Pat's wife, having very ill, so he made a bargain with the doctor. "Will you pay the bill, kill or cure?"

"Agreed," said the doctor. Pat's wife died soon after. The doctor sent in the bill, but Pat brought it back.

"Pat—'O'll not pay that bill. O'll make a bargain to pay kill or cure, so you didn't sere her, did you?"

"No," replied the doctor. "Pat—'Well, did you kill her?"

"No," replied the doctor.

KAISER THE GREATEST MURDERER OF ANY TIME

Hot Talk in Chicago School Board Over Spelling Book Pages

Chicago, Aug. 10.—A motion of Antony Carmeci to tear out of 180,000 public school spelling books a page entitled "The Kaiser" was defeated seven to three at a meeting of the school board here today. The board, however, granted a request of Superintendent of Schools Shepp to eliminate forty pages, including the offending page from 70,000 spellers still in the hands of the board.

Mrs. Emily Shodgrass, trustee, opposed Mr. Carmeci in a long speech, in which she said she thought such action would offend German-Americans of Chicago. Hises came from the galleries at this. Mr. Carmeci, in a hot reply, referred to the German Emperor as the greatest murderer of any time.

U. S. NAVY DEPARTMENT NO PLACE FOR SLACKERS

Washington, Aug. 10.—As an aid to the draft, Secretary Daniels has adopted as a policy that he will not employ as clerks or messengers in the Navy Department any men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one years. Men more than thirty-one, boys less than twenty-one and women of any age are being given the many extra places in the civilian naval establishment created by the war. Many young women are being enlisted as yeomen and assigned to duty at the Navy Department and at navy yards and stations.

Secretary Daniels takes the ground that the government should set an example for the rest of the country in disposing with slackers. He is subject to the draft, and it is expected that Mr. Daniels will refuse to make any claims for exemption in behalf of employees of his department who are selected for military service, leaving it to the exemption board to determine whether the claims are just.

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Time-Table of Murder Facts

Facts connected with the murder case arrayed in chronological order:

10 o'clock—Williams, the victim, calls wife on long-distance telephone, saying he will remain and finish some work.

10:50 o'clock—W. J. McGuire, a clerk in Durick's, goes into Williams' store to borrow brush, and sees him writing at desk.

11 o'clock—Stanley Hawkhurst, an employee in the victim's store, goes in, sees Williams at work on books and leaves him to continue the work.

11:20 o'clock—Policeman Jones passes store, sees Williams in there, apparently standing. Notices that blinds are arranged differently than when he passed up the street some time before.

Considerably after 11 o'clock—Edward Curran sees a man rushing out Elm street from Main and disappears into Lansdowne avenue.

About 11:20 o'clock—Mrs. John Wilkins reports hearing a shout, "For God's sake, help me."

11:55 o'clock—Leo V. McManis, a clerk in Durick's, finds body of Williams in store; door open.

12 o'clock—Stranger accounts man in Barker street, which is near Lansdowne avenue, and asks to be directed to Mill street.

\$16,000,000 CLOTH ORDER

Washington, Aug. 10.—The navy department has just contracted for 4,500,000 yards of woollen uniform cloth at a cost of more than \$16,000,000 to meet the enormous wartime requirements and provide for future needs. These contracts constitute the largest purchase of woollen cloth ever made for the navy, and one of the most important single contracts for goods placed in the history of the trade here or abroad.

With the placing of an order for 1,000,000 yards with the American Woollen Company of New York, substantially all contracts entered in the department's schedule in blue uniform cloth have now been awarded. The amount of wool in the grease required for the manufacture of the cloth is upward of 15,000,000 pounds. It will be sufficient for the manufacture of about 1,000,000 shirts or jumpers, 800,000 pairs of trousers, and 350,000 overcoats.

GUARD GIRLS AT TRAINING CAMPS

Quarter of The Million Dollar Fund Already Raised

To Build Hostess Houses

National Board of Y. W. C. A. Arranges to Place "The Lure of the Khaki" in Proper Light

New York, Aug. 10.—One quarter of the \$1,000,000 the big gathering of representative women of the country which met at the head of the National Board, Y. W. C. A., headquarters in New York, 600 Lexington Avenue, on the 6th and 7th of last June, voted to raise for its contributory war work among women has come in and the work in the vicinity of training camps is well under way, with a Patriotic League for Girls as its big idea. This league is being organized in all the cities or towns near the camps. It is under the direction of the Junior War Work Council of the National Board and is open to all girls without regard to race or creed, the member's one obligation being to sign the pledge of the league and to have the spirit to keep it.

In its efforts to develop the patriotic spirit the league workers believe there will be a relegation of what they call the "lure of the khaki" to its proper position. The Y. W. C. A. works only with women and girls, but this is distinctly a

war work, as the attitude of the young girls in towns and women in the vicinity of the camps will have a definite effect upon the young soldiers.

With the league clubs of all kinds for the girls are being formed to give them varied interests of their own. One of these is in the form of a camp for factory girls, workers of a factory now closed, outside Plattsburg. The girls have club leaders, recreation leaders, and they have hikes and athletics. The clubs and organizations are confined to no one class of girls. Many of them are among the high school girls of the different places.

The pledge is as follows: I pledge to express my patriotism by doing better than ever before whatever work I have to do; by rendering whatever special service I can at this time to my community and country; by living up to the highest standards of character and honor, and by helping others to do the same.

Practically nothing is done for the entertainment and welfare of the young girls when she is at the most impressionable age, the women of the association say. Now they are receiving calls for help from the different places where the bringing together of large bodies of soldiers and the emotional conditions developed in a country at war will be strongly felt by the young girls of the community. Through the patriotic league the girls will learn to express their patriotism worthily, and through the clubs organized they will be entertained and will have an opportunity to normally expend their emotions.

In addition to these special lines of work the National Board has a Social Morality Committee which has secured the co-operation of a number of trained women physicians who go to different communities to give series of lectures to women and girls. These are women of high ideals and their work is to create sentiment in favor of high moral standards. The talks are given to mothers, teachers, and leaders in groups and to girls by themselves in others. Requests

for those lectures come from widely separated parts of the country and recently there were twelve demands that could not be met at the time.

Hostess houses, to entertain the friends and relatives of the soldiers of the camps are being built out of the \$1,000,000 war fund. The hostess houses are put up only on invitation of the commandant of a camp or some one else in authority.

Due Notice. She—"Why, I'm not ready to marry, Mr. Freshman."

He—"Will you let me know when you are?"

"Certainly, sir. I'll send you a wedding card."

CHILD'S SEVERE STOMACH TROUBLE

Harrison (Ont.) Father Says Dr. Cassell's Tablets Saved His Child's Life.

Mr. Corby, Harrison P. O., Ont., writes: "Our little girl was weak from birth, and though we tried doctors' medicine and other things she got no better. She just lay in her cot and died, and neighbors all said we could not save her. The doctors said she had stomach trouble, and that her chances were small, yet Dr. Cassell's Tablets cured her. They have been worth their weight in gold to us, for we were just giving up hope of saving our little daughter. I don't think there is any other medicine for children like Dr. Cassell's Tablets. Publish this letter if you like; it may help others as the Tablets helped us."

A free sample of Dr. Cassell's Tablets will be sent to you on receipt of 5 cents for mailing and packing. Address: Harold F. Ritchie & Co., Ltd., 10 McCaul St., Toronto.

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