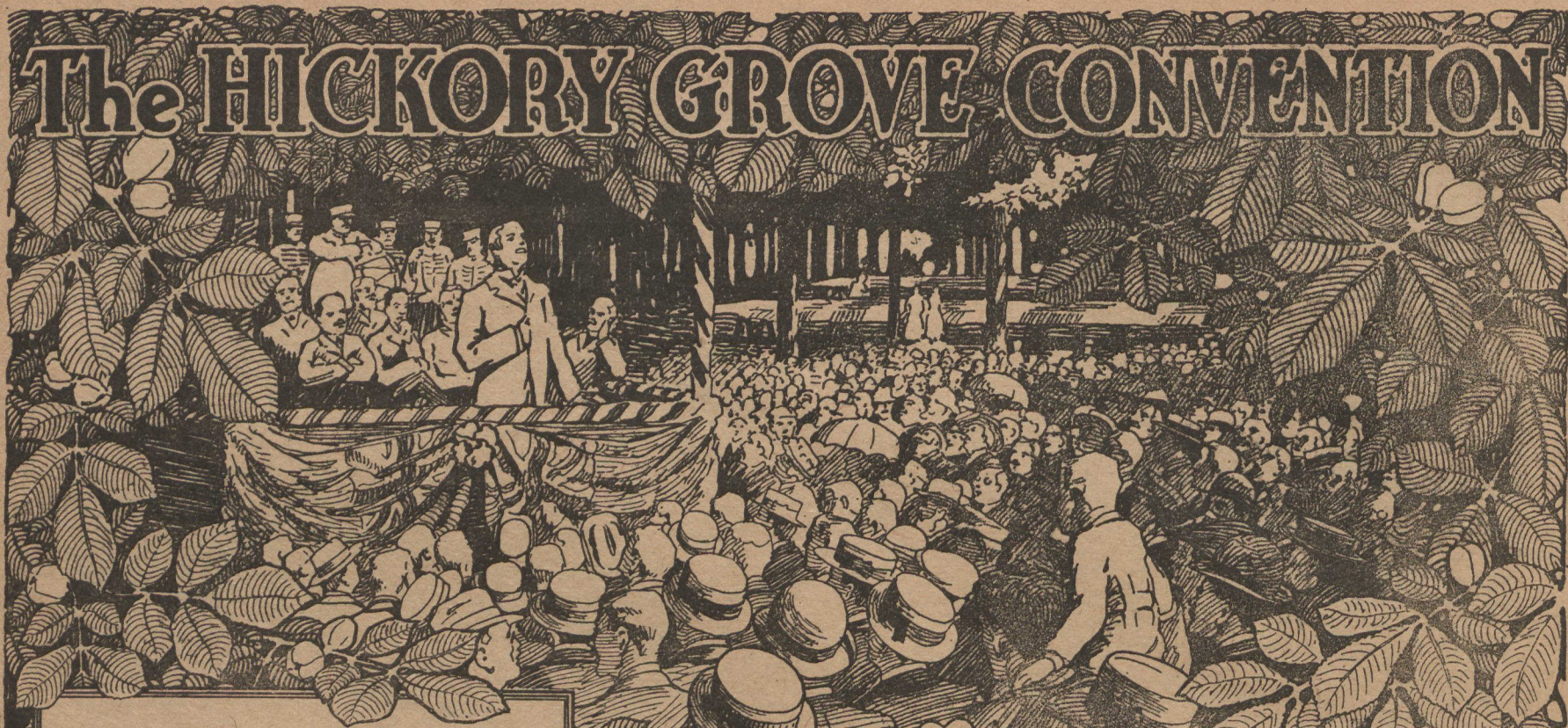


The HICKORY GROVE CONVENTION



THE Buxton Banner perhaps has the original half sheet poster fyled away. The top part of it reads:

A DOMINION DAY CELEBRATION

Will be held (D.V.)

In Greenwood's Grove, July 1, 1884

Among the extra special attractions on that occasion were a number of speeches by speakers of six townships. The hickory grove is still there. And in 1917 the Canadian Courier commandeered it for a convention of speakers. Advance copies of the speeches, all very brief, were sent in by request, from all over Canada. So many came in that we had to extend the original space allotted by three pages, and then to hold over several of the most important for the issue of July 7. We received a large number of letters and telegrams, including very sincere and cordial letters from Sir Robert Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Thomas White, Cardinal Begin, Sir Clifford Sifton, Hon. Arthur Meighen, and many others.

God Save the King.

Nova Scotia in 1917

Hon. C. A. Murray

(Premier of Nova Scotia.)

NOVA SCOTIA made the greatest sacrifice of any of the Provinces when she entered Confederation. She was self-sustaining, with a growing population and an extensive export trade. Nevertheless, the idea of Canadian Confederation appealed to broad statesmanship, and leaders in Nova Scotia induced the representatives of the people to forego certain undoubted advantages for the sake of the common good. That was Nova Scotia's first great contribution to nationhood.

After Confederation Nova Scotia was forced to the task of development within new channels. The minerals of the Province were more largely exploited until Nova Scotia became the largest producer and exporter of coal within the Dominion. The fisheries, also, were extended and new markets found. The wealth of iron ore and fluxes existing, together with the coal supply, naturally led to the establishment of the steel industry. Nova Scotia now possesses the largest steel plants in Canada, one of which is also the largest self-contained steel plant in America.

The best service, however, that Nova Scotia

has performed for Canada has been her export of educated men. Our sons have inherited the ambition as well as the blood of Old Scotland. Our public schools, our technical schools and our colleges have united in producing trained men who have gone forth to help build up Canada. And in the political as well as the educational life of the Dominion, Nova Scotia has played an important part. She has given three Prime Ministers to Canada and a score of other effective statesmen. Moreover, behind every parliamentary measure that has to do with national well-being the influence of her representatives is manifest.

It is the prayer of all true Nova Scotians that this Province, with a heritage of intellectual capacity, may take a worthy part in the testing time that has come to Canada. The people of Nova Scotia are prepared to help solve the new problems that face us. The present struggle has wrought a deeper patriotism, a stronger faith than ever before in our united country, and a steadfast resolve to build up within the Empire a loyal commonwealth welded in the principles of an enlightened democracy.

A Message from Ontario

Sir William Hearst

(Premier.)

ONTARIO extends to each and every Province of Canada cordial greetings on the occasion of this Jubilee of Confederation. We heartily congratulate our Sister Provinces on the great progress they have made since the first Dominion Day, fifty years ago. We congratulate them on the assurance they enjoy of still greater progress in the future. My message to the people of Canada is that our hope as a country lies in national unity and co-operation. Canadians have much in common. We are one in loyalty and fealty to the British Flag and British institutions. We are one in the desire to advance the interests of Canada and of Canadians. We have a common duty, and I believe a common determina-

tion, to maintain and perpetuate democratic institutions in the world.

Never was the spirit of unity, which, happily, brought about Confederation, more essential than at the present time, when the strength and vitality of free government the world over are being tested to the utmost. My confident hope is that the faith and foresight which guided and inspired our forefathers will, by the blessing of Providence, so control and shape our destiny that Canada will acquire and hold the rightful and the glorious place which should be hers in the Empire and among the nations of the earth.

A Message from Quebec

Hon. Sir Lomer Gouin

(Premier.)

Quebec, May 23rd, 1917.

Editor, The Canadian Courier:

DEAR SIR,—You have asked me for a few lines for your Confederation Number, addressed more particularly to the people of Ontario.

The fiftieth anniversary of Confederation, which occurs on the first of July, is an event calculated, amid these days of world-wide sorrow, to arouse the patriotic and grateful fervour of all Canadians, and more especially of those of Ontario and Quebec.

For more than a hundred years, we, of this province, and you, of yours, have lived side by side, rubbing shoulders together, so to say; we have often experienced the same joys and the same sorrows; we have partaken the same labours; we have nursed the same hopes for the future of our common country, and for a long time we were the only ones to bear the name—so glorious to-day—of Canadians. You were of Upper Canada, we were of Lower Canada. We were already brothers when all the fine provinces which now partake our destinies were yet non-existent, or lived a life altogether different from and independent of ours.

We are proud to be able to say that the success of all the great public movements which have contributed to the national liberty, prosperity and happiness of Canada are due to the friendly and joint action of the sons of your province and of ours. Take Responsible Government, for instance! This was a work for whose success Lafontaine and Baldwin put forth all their energy, all their intelligence and all their heart. And I know of no more inspiring incident in all our history than the