

# HON. R. L. BORDEN TELLS OF CANADA'S WAR WORK

## LAURIER GOES AFTER UNIONISTS BUT DOES NOT GET VERY FAR

(Continued from page 1)

The fact that there is a union administration did not, apparently, lessen the disposition of opposition critics to assail the government for its record.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in his speech, was frankly critical of the administration. Sir Robert Borden, in his reply, came back at the leader of the opposition with considerable vigor, but for the most part his remarks were devoted to an explanation of what has been accomplished by the administration since it assumed the reins of office.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier maintained that there had been no change in the government and that there could not be any change with the same prime minister at the head of affairs. He was willing to admit that the administration had been strengthened and claimed that this was due to the inclusion of Liberals in the cabinet. He accused the government of having violated the electoral law of the Dominion, as well as of having acted unfairly in administering the wartime election act. Sir Robert Borden, in referring to the infusion of Liberal blood in the cabinet, said that such was the intention when the government was formed. The plan was to have Conservatives and Liberals equally represented and that the plan would eventually be carried out. Liberals, he had entered the cabinet, he said, had done so from a strong sense of duty.

The prime minister, in resenting the criticism of the opposition leader, said the wartime elections act had been fairly administered and that the cabinet had voted for the government because they realized that the administration was disposed to support them by every means in its power.

The prime minister emphasized the urgent necessity for increased food production, declaring that the issue of the war may depend on the quantity of food produced on this continent.

Ottawa, Mar. 19.—The debate on the address was continued without delay when the House met this afternoon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was greeted with applause by the members sitting to the left of the speaker. He plunged at once into the subject of the contents of the speech from the throne, which he described as a document of unusual length, made up of subjects, old and new, but chiefly old. The matters referred to were familiar to the people of the country. In regard to some of them, they were awaiting the decision of the government and he would refrain from comment until the government had introduced its proposals in concrete form. Sir Wilfrid noted that the speech did not contain any mention of a subject which did not require any legislation. Since the former parliament prorogued quite a change had taken place in the government. "I did not," said Sir Wilfrid, "say change of government, but change in the government. I see no difference in the old and new government. There is no new government; it is the same old government which has existed for the last six years. As long as there is no change in the membership of the government, it is the same principle that prevails."

Sir Wilfrid went on to say that while there had been no change in the government, there had been a change in its composition. There had been not only an alteration, but an improvement in the administration. There had been infused into the government a rosy red color, (rouge) which is pleasing to the eye. The government, he said, had disclosed that unless a copious draft of rich red blood were infused into its decrepit system, things might go badly with it.

The opposition leader asserted that there was no such thing as a new government because the country happened to be at war. Duties remained the same in war as in peace, but war undoubtedly intensified duty.

"It seems to me," Sir Wilfrid went on, "that nothing has changed in the principles of the British system of government, but that the principles should be discarded in war times, put into cold storage and taken out again after the restoration of peace." If the principles of the British system of government were true and sound and efficient in peace, they were equally sound and efficient in war. And if there was a feature of the British system which was essential it was that of vigilance was the price of liberty. Unless there was eternal vigilance by a strong and resolute opposition there was the universal testimony of history

to show that encroachments would take place on freedom, and injustice would be brought about.

Sir Wilfrid said: "There is evidence of it today. The parliament of Canada meets today by a violation of what is left of the electoral law of the Dominion. Last session those who sat in the house were divided upon the question of conscription, but there was no divergence of opinion in the opposition upon the outrageous bill which was brought in as the wartime elections act. We were opposed unanimously to every feature of it. Every feature of that law was an outrage and a violation of the very foundation of our system of democratic government."

He said the act had created a special electorate by granting the franchise to some and refusing it to others. He claimed that the provisions of the act had not been observed when the general returning officer accepted telegraphic reports of the military votes cast overseas. It might be said that this was a formality. But if it was a formality, why did the act require complete mailed reports before a member could be declared elected? This acceptance of telegraphic reports was not in accordance with the law. How was it then that the general returning officer could publish a list of members, such as was available today? He believed Mr. O'Connor was able and high-minded servant of the public and he did not think Mr. O'Connor capable of doing anything wrong in making such decisions. But where was the authority for it? Sir Wilfrid had been told that an order was passed authorizing the general returning officer to accept telegraphic reports. If so, he was at a loss to know under what authority such an order-in-council was passed, unless the government once more had resorted to their war measures act of 1914.

"The war measures act already covers a lot of sins," Sir Wilfrid added, "but there is a limit to the war measures act."

The appeal which had been made at the last general election, Sir Wilfrid contended, had not been made to the solid electorate of the country. It had been made to a specially manufactured electorate. The great question before the people was that of conscription. If it had been submitted to the people on a referendum, he was satisfied that it would have been defeated, but the government would not submit to the possibility of being defeated on such an important question. It wanted to make absolutely sure of winning. Therefore the wartime elections act had been introduced and passed.

This act, said Sir Wilfrid, was conceived in iniquity. It was a piece of legislation which absolutely denied fair play to the opposition. He would give some instances to show how unfairly opposition candidates had been treated at the last election.

"There is a constituency called Edmonton West," said Sir Wilfrid, "which was represented in the last parliament by as brave a man as ever sat in the house. In this constituency there was nothing short of a conspiracy to defeat him. In seven polls there were insufficient ballots to satisfy the election officials, and those who came to vote were unable to do so. In three of these polls the electors were so insistent that ballots had to be substituted in order that they might vote. In the fourth of these polls the returning officer refused to count them."

Sir Wilfrid went on to say that in this same constituency that three polling booths had not been opened at all. The doors were locked and men who had driven long distances to vote could not do so.

In the constituency of Bow River the returning officer had notified naturalized citizens that proof of their naturalization was absolutely necessary before they could exercise the franchise, and that they must produce their papers their names on the voters lists were not sufficient.

"There could not," said Sir Wilfrid, "even in Germany or Russia, be more arbitrary action."

It shocked the sense of justice and fair play. British subjects naturally of Frenchmen, Belgians and Americans refused the right of the franchise. He had been informed that this had occurred in other western constituencies as well as Bow River. The leader of the opposition then turned his attention to the soldiers vote, which, he admitted, had proven very favorable to the government, but said he "did not draw the attention of the House to some interesting facts. In the month of November I had the pleasure of listening to an address by the minister of militia in the city of Ottawa, during the course of which he stated that there were 35,000 soldiers in Canada. On the 17th December 54,200 soldiers voted."

"In less than one month the number increased in Canada by 20,000. Where did they all come from? Was a certain number of men put into uniform, not to win the war, but to win the election?"

As to the soldiers vote in Europe, Sir Wilfrid drew the attention of the House to a picture which, he said, was a photograph of one of the London polling booths, on December 2nd. This photograph, showing the interior of the booth and soldiers voting, was interesting, because on the wall of the booth was displayed a poster which read: "A vote against the government is a vote for the Hun." Such a poster in such a place was, said Sir Wilfrid, a violation of the law. If the law could be thus blatantly violated, it was easy to understand how much liberty the soldiers felt in casting their votes.

Continuing, Sir Wilfrid said it was the misfortune of the government that, by their own conduct, they have failed to obtain the moral support which would be theirs if the campaign had been fought under fair and honest methods. As to what is left of the franchise by these vicious methods, it would be asked: "What is to be our attitude?"

"The answer," said Sir Wilfrid, "is easy. Liberals, Democrats and law-abiding citizens we came back from this fight. We are not as strong in

numbers, but we are much stronger before the people, because we stood by our own views. We stood behind the government in all that it did, and we stand behind them now, with the same reservation.

Sir Wilfrid thought that the government must be disposed to question its own methods as not being the correct way of winning the war. He quoted the order-in-council passed on December 3rd last, which set forth that persons engaged in agriculture who had been refused exemption could secure exemption if they proved to the satisfaction of the minister of militia that they were essential to the promotion of production. This order-in-council had been passed, despite the circumstances that the military service act provided that judges only should decide this question. This order had been passed during the election, because the government had received so many complaints that agriculture would be disorganized.

Sir Wilfrid resented the correspondence which had passed between himself and an Ontario farmer, to show that the deputy minister of justice had addressed a letter to the farmer stating that no ministerial officer accepted telegraphic reports of the military votes cast overseas. It might be said that this was a formality. But if it was a formality, why did the act require complete mailed reports before a member could be declared elected? This acceptance of telegraphic reports was not in accordance with the law. How was it then that the general returning officer could publish a list of members, such as was available today? He believed Mr. O'Connor was able and high-minded servant of the public and he did not think Mr. O'Connor capable of doing anything wrong in making such decisions. But where was the authority for it? Sir Wilfrid had been told that an order was passed authorizing the general returning officer to accept telegraphic reports. If so, he was at a loss to know under what authority such an order-in-council was passed, unless the government once more had resorted to their war measures act of 1914.

"The war measures act already covers a lot of sins," Sir Wilfrid added, "but there is a limit to the war measures act."

The appeal which had been made at the last general election, Sir Wilfrid contended, had not been made to the solid electorate of the country. It had been made to a specially manufactured electorate. The great question before the people was that of conscription. If it had been submitted to the people on a referendum, he was satisfied that it would have been defeated, but the government would not submit to the possibility of being defeated on such an important question. It wanted to make absolutely sure of winning. Therefore the wartime elections act had been introduced and passed.

This act, said Sir Wilfrid, was conceived in iniquity. It was a piece of legislation which absolutely denied fair play to the opposition. He would give some instances to show how unfairly opposition candidates had been treated at the last election.

"There is a constituency called Edmonton West," said Sir Wilfrid, "which was represented in the last parliament by as brave a man as ever sat in the house. In this constituency there was nothing short of a conspiracy to defeat him. In seven polls there were insufficient ballots to satisfy the election officials, and those who came to vote were unable to do so. In three of these polls the electors were so insistent that ballots had to be substituted in order that they might vote. In the fourth of these polls the returning officer refused to count them."

Sir Wilfrid went on to say that in this same constituency that three polling booths had not been opened at all. The doors were locked and men who had driven long distances to vote could not do so.

In the constituency of Bow River the returning officer had notified naturalized citizens that proof of their naturalization was absolutely necessary before they could exercise the franchise, and that they must produce their papers their names on the voters lists were not sufficient.

"There could not," said Sir Wilfrid, "even in Germany or Russia, be more arbitrary action."

It shocked the sense of justice and fair play. British subjects naturally of Frenchmen, Belgians and Americans refused the right of the franchise. He had been informed that this had occurred in other western constituencies as well as Bow River. The leader of the opposition then turned his attention to the soldiers vote, which, he admitted, had proven very favorable to the government, but said he "did not draw the attention of the House to some interesting facts. In the month of November I had the pleasure of listening to an address by the minister of militia in the city of Ottawa, during the course of which he stated that there were 35,000 soldiers in Canada. On the 17th December 54,200 soldiers voted."

"In less than one month the number increased in Canada by 20,000. Where did they all come from? Was a certain number of men put into uniform, not to win the war, but to win the election?"

As to the soldiers vote in Europe, Sir Wilfrid drew the attention of the House to a picture which, he said, was a photograph of one of the London polling booths, on December 2nd. This photograph, showing the interior of the booth and soldiers voting, was interesting, because on the wall of the booth was displayed a poster which read: "A vote against the government is a vote for the Hun." Such a poster in such a place was, said Sir Wilfrid, a violation of the law. If the law could be thus blatantly violated, it was easy to understand how much liberty the soldiers felt in casting their votes.

Continuing, Sir Wilfrid said it was the misfortune of the government that, by their own conduct, they have failed to obtain the moral support which would be theirs if the campaign had been fought under fair and honest methods. As to what is left of the franchise by these vicious methods, it would be asked: "What is to be our attitude?"

"The answer," said Sir Wilfrid, "is easy. Liberals, Democrats and law-abiding citizens we came back from this fight. We are not as strong in

**PUT CREAM IN NOSE AND STOP CATARRH**

**Builds New Tissue and Stops Catarrh**

You feel fine in a few moments. Your cold in head or catarrh will be gone. Your clogged nostrils will open. The air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more dullness, headache, no hoarseness, no mucus discharges or dryness; no struggling for breath at night.

Tell your druggist you want a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic cream in your nostrils, let it penetrate through every air passage of the head; soothe and heal the swollen, inflamed mucous membrane and relief comes instantly.

It is just what every cold and catarrh sufferer needs. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable.

Here Sir Robert glanced in the direction of the opposition leader. "He acquiesces," declared Sir Robert. Sir Wilfrid Laurier vigorously shook his head. "No," Sir Wilfrid said, "the outrage was in giving the vote to some and in taking it away from others."

This remark aroused loud cheers from opposition members.

"We did not take it away from anyone," Sir Robert retorted. "We gave it to some women and we hope this session to give it to all."

And this time it was the turn of the government members to cheer.

"The election is over now," interposed Hon. Jacques Bureau.

"I said," warmly replied Sir Robert, "if we had given the vote to all women the honorable gentlemen might not have been here."

Sir Robert referred to a statement he had introduced in the election, requesting returning officers to appoint enumerators of both political parties, in the history of confederation, Sir Robert declared, never was an election conducted so fairly.

An outburst of opposition laughter greeted this declaration.

"I suppose," Sir Robert continued, "that the subject which excites the mirth of my honorable friends is the right of denying free speech in some parts of the country," and again government members cheered.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier had referred, in a speech, to a supposed conspiracy to defeat Mr. Oliver. "If he has any charge to bring against the government, against any member of the government, or against any officer of the government," Sir Robert declared, "let him make his charge and we will investigate it." In regard to the soldiers vote overseas, Sir Robert was convinced that the men had voted for the government because they realized they had an administration which was disposed to support them by every means in its power. In that the soldiers would find they were not mistaken.

Then Sir Robert outlined the work done by the government in the reconstruction committee of the cabinet, in regard to the Military Service Act. He said that since the proclamation of October 18th last, 25,240 men had been enlisted in Canada and 26,839 sent overseas. Of the 25,240 so far enlisted, 23,206 were enrolled directly under the Military Service Act and 7,946 obtained through the British recruiting mission in the United States. Further, of the 23,206, 3,896 had been apprehended for failing to report.

"I should like to say further," Sir Robert added, "that our forces in France are maintained at full strength. The C. E. F. in France was never at a lower strength than today, and more determined or more confident."

The necessity for increase in the production of food was emphasized by the premier. He asked the minister of agriculture, who had secured the complete co-operation of the provincial governments. He then went on to read a memorandum dealing with the work of the Canada food board, the results of the conference of representatives of the provincial departments in Ottawa last month, and his efforts to increase food production.

He said that the reports received showed that the acreage this year under cultivation would be larger than ever before. He also stated that plans had been made to secure the enlistment of 25,000 boys in the greater production effort.

"I should like to say too strongly," said the premier, "the absolute necessity for increased food production. The issue of the war may depend upon the quantity of food produced in Canada and the United States."

Turning to the subject of shipbuilding, Sir Robert said that this was another matter of vital importance. He gave figures showing the work which is being done by the Imperial Munitions Board. This organization had spent forty million dollars for the construction of steel ships and twenty million for building wooden ships. Forty-three steel ships and forty-six wooden ships had been constructed for the Imperial Munitions Board.

An appropriation of twenty-five million dollars had been authorized by the Canadian government for the present year. In connection with the shipbuilding programme, yards at Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Quebec, Colingwood, Vancouver and other ports were being uncovered by the Imperial Munitions Board and the Canadian government. The department of marine and fisheries had completed plans for four steel ships totalling 23,500 tons. Arrangements had been concluded with the United States for steel building programme. The United States were due to the United States government, which had allowed the purchase of eighty thousand tons of steel in that country at the same price as paid by itself. Sir Robert referred to the legislation in connection with the prohibition of intoxicating liquors and also to the government regulations in regard to packing houses. He also stated that consideration had been given by the government to the suggestion that outside civil service be brought under the civil service commission. This matter had been carefully gone into by

members of the government and the civil service commission and it had been found impracticable, under the present act.

The demobilization of troops, said the premier, is another matter which had engaged the attention of the government during the recess. The department of militia and defence, it had been decided, would retain control of returned soldiers until they were discharged. Then they would come under the control of the new department for soldiers' civil re-establishment. He referred to the valuable and important work which was being done by the military hospitals commission.

The work of the Canadian war mission in Washington, the Canadian war trade board and the war purchasing commission, was also mentioned by the premier.

He stated that the government would later have proposals to submit to the House with regard to relief for citizens at Halifax, who had suffered through the recent disaster.

**TORONTO PRODUCE**

Toronto, Mar. 19.—Quotations are as follows:

Ontario Wheat No. 2 winter \$2.33 basis in store Montreal; Manitoba wheat, No. 1 northern, \$1.83 including 2 1/2% tax store Fort William; No. 2 Northern, \$2.30 ditto; No. 3 Northern, 2.17 1/2 ditto.

Oats, Canada western No. 2, 98 in store Fort William; No. 3 Canada western 95 1/2 ditto; Ontario No. 2, white 94 to 95, according to freight; No. 3, white 93 to 94 ditto.

Peas, No. 2, \$3.50 to \$3.60 according to freight outside.

Rye, \$3.50.

**Simple Way To Take Off Fat**

There can be nothing simpler than taking a convenient little tablet four times each day until your weight is reduced to normal. That's all—just purchase a case of Marmol Prescription Tablets from your druggist (or if you prefer, send 75c. to Marmol Co., 884 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich.) and follow directions. No dieting, no exercise. Eat what you want—be as lazy as you like and keep on getting slimmer. And the best part of Marmol Prescription Tablets is their harmlessness. That is your absolute safeguard.

**WICE**

**ing Coats**

**ORATIVE THEY**

**attractive camou-**

**and these light**

**l be very nece-**

**ngly Spring.**

**ad to wear his**

**because his win-**

**heavy and he had**

**ving himself with**

**ing Coat. Prices**

**this way for pro-**

**68 King St.**

**ATHER.**

**and milder, with**

**nds.**

**ar. 19.—The weath-**

**throughout the**

**ild from British**

**ALMANAC.**

**OF THE MOON.**

... Sh. 4.4m. p.m.

... Sh. 5.2m. p.m.

... Sh. 30m. a.m.

... 11h. 33m. a.m.

**THS.**

Ritchie, beloved

as Barker, at the

F. B. March 19th.

**ARY.**

erstead.

7.—The death of

aged 74, a prom-

ashwaakts, took

at his home, with

the deceased, who

his usual state of

and performed

nce. After that he

time. A search

and he was found

ere he had fallen.

after. Deceased

his county but had

lition at an early

is are his wife,

two sons.

**IT ATTIRE.**

at a man in his

was seen wander-

street at an early

It is thought that

ate of one of the

**ASTORIA**

**Children.**

**ow That**

**astoria**

**Use**

**er Over**

**Years**

**ASTORIA**

**at all dealers or mailed direct**

**on receipt of price by The T. Milburn**

**Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.**

**TROUBLED WITH CONSTIPATION**

From 16 to 20.

Constipation is one of the commonest ills of mankind, and one too often allowed to go unlooked after until some serious complication sets in. If the bowels are properly looked after there will be no constipation, jaundice, sick or bilious headaches, heartburn, coated tongue, sour stomach, floating specks before the eyes, etc.

Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills will keep your bowels so regulated that in no time the constipation will disappear entirely.

Miss Emma E. Melanson, Halifax, N. S., writes: "I am now 29 years of age, and since I was 16 I have been greatly troubled with constipation, so much so that at times I would be in bed 2 or 3 days. I tried all the old-fashioned remedies, castor oil, cascara, etc., with only temporary relief until my sister-in-law gave me some of Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills. From the first they seemed beneficial and I gave them a fair trial. This was two years ago, and with an occasional dose I have kept entirely free from constipation for the period mentioned."

Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills are 25c. a vial at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

**GOT WET FEET TOOK AWFUL COLD**

Could Not Sleep for Cough.

A bad cold accompanied by a distressing cough that keeps you awake at night is attended to at once may develop into something very serious.

Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup is the remedy you should take. It heals the mucous surfaces, relieves oppression and tightness of the chest, removes the accumulation of phlegm, quiets the most obstinate and distressing coughs, and secures rest and sleep at night, not only to the sufferer, but to others whose rest would be otherwise broken.

Mrs. Esther Acker Lake Pleasant, N. S., writes: "I got wet feet and took an awful cold; could not sleep at night, and would do nothing but cough. My husband got me a bottle of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup, and I can say that of all the medicines I ever took, it is the best and believe me the quickest of anything I ever saw."

"Dr. Wood's" is put up in a yellow wrapper; three pines trees the trade mark; price 25c. and 50c.; manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

**A Book Not of Creation But of Evolution!**

**It was not made—IT GREW!**

We urge every reader to lose no time in owning this wonderful book, containing all the old songs while our supply holds out. To oblige our readers we have now fixed the terms on the few remaining so that **ONE COUPON NOW GETS THE BOOK!**

Clip the Coupon! Elsewhere in Today's Paper

**HEART SONGS** has become the most famous song book in the world!

A volume of 400 priceless songs, out of the Longago into the Now. The songs to which your cradle rocked the time; the lullabies of centuries; old love songs that stirred the hearts of sixty years ago; the plantation melodies of Dixie; hymns hallowed by age. Songs of land and sea; war; peace; home; travel; youth and beauty; age; church, state and nation. 20,000 people put them all into this great book of songs.



**Drawing to a Close! Our Great Heart Songs Distribution**

**THE ST. JOHN STANDARD**

is today compelled to announce the early closing of its campaign in the most startling distribution of a book ever undertaken by a newspaper.

**HEART SONGS** has become the most famous song book in the world!

A volume of 400 priceless songs, out of the Longago into the Now. The songs to which your cradle rocked the time; the lullabies of centuries; old love songs that stirred the hearts of sixty years ago; the plantation melodies of Dixie; hymns hallowed by age. Songs of land and sea; war; peace; home; travel; youth and beauty; age; church, state and nation. 20,000 people put them all into this great book of songs.

**A Book Not of Creation But of Evolution!**

**It was not made—IT GREW!**

We urge every reader to lose no time in owning this wonderful book, containing all the old songs while our supply holds out. To oblige our readers we have now fixed the terms on the few remaining so that **ONE COUPON NOW GETS THE BOOK!**

Clip the Coupon! Elsewhere in Today's Paper

Copyright by World-Synthetic Co., Inc.