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TELEPHONE CALLS:

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1912.

THE VOICE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Judging by a declaration made by Sir Richard Mc-Bride, by the tenor of a resolution passed and by the enthusiasm which prevailed at a public meeting in Victoria last week, the people of British Columbia hold no two opinions as to importance of an immediate contribution by Canada to strengthen the British Navy. The occasion was the annual gathering under the auspices of the Victoria and Esquimault Branch of the Navy League. From an extended report of the proceedings in the Victoria Colonist we learn that the outstanding feature of the meeting which was thoroughly representative of all classes in the Capital City, was the absolute unanimity of sentiment the Capital City, was the absolute unanimity of sentiment that the time has arrived when Canada must render that measure of assistance to the Motherland in the matter of the Imperial Defence which has been long overdue. A great wave of applause, we are told, swept over the vast audience on the reading of a message from Mr. Borden, with the significant statement that he could promise that the labors of the people of British Columbia to advance the cause of co-operation by Canada in Naval Defence had

n the course of his speech Sir Richard McBride, who In the course of his speech Sir Richard McBride, who had just completed a tour of the Province, said he was convinced that the people of British Columbia were determined to uphold the honor and might of the Motherland, and to that end were prepared to support a strong naval policy by the Ottawa Government. Sir Richard took occasion to commend to the audience what he termed a masterly analysis of the situation, which had been made by the Chief Justice of the Province in a letter to Mr. Wolley, the president of the Navy League, declaring that any Canadian who would decline to follow the advice

therein given was unworthy of his citizenship.

The concluding portion of Sir Richard's speech was in the nature of a prophesy to the effect that in his opin-ion it would be found when Mr. Borden presented his naval programme to Parliament that it was so fair and just a measure in the interests of Canada and the hand st a measure in the interests of Canada and the Empire

that it would be approved without a dissenting voice.

The letter of Chief Justice Hunter is worth quoting for the accuracy with which it defines the existing situation. He writes as follows:

Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 29, 1912.

Capt. Clive Phillips-Wolley: Dear Sir,—You have done me the honor to request my views on the navy question to be read at the ensuing meeting to be held under the auspices of the Navy League at Victoria, in view of the impending

The question naturally resolves itself into two parts, namely: First, the question as to the best permanent policy to be pursued; and, second, the emer-

As to the first question, it is one of fact; and one As to the first question, it is one of fact, and one which, in my opinion, is outside the pale of legitimate party politics. If the Imperial Government has ad-vised the Canadian Government that an emergency exists, which sooner or later is likely to ripen into a crisis, then that ought, I think, to be sufficient for the people of Canada; and the question ought to be approached, not in the spirit of how little we can contribute in order to avoid the charge of being a niggardly or penurious people, not even in that of how much we can afford, but rather in that of how much essary to ensure an Imperial victory in the event

that it is wrong either to make war or to make prepar-ation for war. If that were true, then our ancestors ation for war. If that were true, then our ancestors were wrong, when, Protestant and Catholic alike, they were wrong, week, Froesian and Carmada and to Keep
the Spanish dungeon out of England, and were equally
wrong when they upheld the flag of freedom against
the Corsican despot at Trafalgar and Waterloo.

If as a people we are not willing to the utmost of

If as a people we are not willing to the utmost of our power, to support the emblem which commands the respect of the world, and guarantees freedom and justice wherever it flies, but are ready to haggle over the performance of our manifest duty and to debate the worth to ourselves of the maintenance and defence of British institutions, then we should deserve to vanish from history as the degenerate sons of the Mother of Liberty. Faithfully yours, (Sgd.) GORDON HUNTER.

It is of interest to note that Chief Justice Hunter before he removed to the Pacific Coast was one of the organizers of the Young Men's Liberal Association of Toronto In 1887. He was appointed to the position he now holds by the Laurier Government in 1902. His eloquent statement of the case will appeal to all Canadians who realize how little the Dominion has done in the past in support of Imperial Defence. It presents a forcible reminder of the duty which devolves on the people of Canada to bear their share of the burdens with the Mother Country.

This point was also strongly emphasized in the following resolution moved by Mr. W. H. Langley and seconded by the Bishop of Columbia;

"That it is the duty, interest and wish of Crair and the contribute a single man for Imperial Naval Defence. It evidently is obsessed with the action of its reverted leader, Laurier, who had to be a contribute a single man for Imperial Naval Defence. It evidently is obsessed with the action of its reverted leader, Laurier, who had to be a contribute a single man for Imperial Naval Defence. It evidently is obsessed with the action of its reverted leader, Laurier, who had to be a contribute as in the way of entertainment is something that is clean, wholesome and not too intense. We suppose there is no use in expecting the material ment is something that is clean, wholesome and not too intense. We suppose there is no use in expecting the ment of another such combination as W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Suflivan, but we live in hope that the years will bring forth something that will be in the same class.

A Foriorn Hope.

(Saskatoon Star.)

What the public really wants in the way of entertainment is something that is clean, wholesome and not too intense. We suppose there is no use in expecting the advent of another such combination as W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Suflivan, but we live in hope that the years will bring forth something that will be in the same class.

"That it is the duty, interest and wish of Canada to meet the present Imperial emergency by a prompt, adequate and unconditional gift to the Empire of battleships or their equivalent, to be followed as soon as may be by a permanent policy which will assure to our Dominion representation worthy of her dignity in the defence of the Empire."

It is almost unnecessary to add that the resolution was carried with enthusiasm. Commenting upon the keen interest displayed, the Victoria Colonist points out that the meeting was indicative of British Columbia's recognition of the duty of the hour. "The time has come," it adds, "when our protestations must be converted into actualities." The strong Imperial sentiment which prevails in the Pacific Province is typical of the entiment of Canada. Factions criticism of Mr. Borden's proposals by a section of the Liberal press carries no weight against the loyalty and devotion to the Motherland which inspire the people of the Dominion.

#### THE PRESIDENT ELECT.

large Republican majorities in States never before capturd by the Democrats in a Presidential election. The State of Maine, for instance, will send six Democratic electors to the National College for the first time in the State's history. The division of the Republican vote between Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt, and the consequent division of Republican organizations accounted for Democratic victories in many States.

Mr. Wilson's excellent record as Governor of New Jersey was undoubtedly a powerful factor in securing his election. The problems he mastered in this individual State, his probity and personal popularity went far to convince the people of the United States that he was well fitted to be entrusted with higher responsibilities. From a college chair at Princeton University, three years ago, to President of the United States, is no small achievement. As a candidate for the Presidency his position was unique, but there is every reason to believe that he will measure up to the best traditions of past-Presidents of the Republic.

THE PRICE OF BEEF.

THE PRICE OF BEEF.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington a few weeks ago issued a compilation of prices for cereal, fodder, root and other crops, showing that the bounteous harvests for this year have made an appreciable reduction in the cost of living. It was predicted that as hay, so intimately connected with the price of meat, was lower in price it would not be long before the cost of meat declined in sympathy. A more recent report, however, is not sooptimistic. It indicates that beef, at least is quite reduction proof. Commenting on this conclusion the Toronto Mail and Empire points out this is not unnatural, nor should it cause much surprise. Beef is not a product of annual growth like grain or fruit. It requires several years to mature. Undoubtedly one of the chief causes in the persistent rise in the cost of beef is the increasing scarcity. Census figures indicate only too plainly that while the population of the country multiplies the supply of cattle diminishes almost as rapidly. Meat trusts, cattle rings, and other artificial methods of enhancing the cost to the consumer, while keeping down the producer's returns, may have a considerable hand in the high prices, but their operations cannot cloak the decay into which cattle raising seems to be falling.

In the Canadian West a Cattle Commission is at work investigating how best special assistance may be given

In the Canadian West a Cattle Commis in the Canadan west special assistance may be given the ranchers holding ranges leased from the Crown. But whatever may, at this late day, be done to restock the herds, it is plain that in so far as present high prices are due to the scarcity of cattle there cannot be material rellef for two or three years. If four or five years hence the price of beef is to be at the present level or lowered considerably, there must be prompt action today to revive the cattle industry.

Mr. Roosevelt in his campaign is given in a message he sent to members of the Union League on learning the result of the election. He declared that he had practically annihilated the Republican party, and that the Progressive party would be the party of the future and be in control of the national committee in 1916.

#### Current Comment

Direct Control.

(The Saskatoon Phoenix.)

What is wanted is control and administration of the What is wanted is control and administration of the city's affairs by the city's best citizens and that can best be had through the election of a Board of Control. The proposition we make is simply this: That the city should elect four men from the city at large, who would be members of this Board of Control, and who with the mayor would be the executive of the city, handling the administration of the city's business, and do all the important committee work, working directly with the council and having direct control of all spending of money which has een voted by the council.

#### A Tribute from the West.

A Tribute from the West.

(Moose Jaw News.)

Premier Borden's distribution of portfolios among the Western contingent of his party is in marked contrast to the policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who had but two Western Ministers, and men not stalwarts, but the most medicore of medicorities, as those well acquainted with Messrs. Oliver and Templeman well know. The Western Provinces demand recognition and when it is accorded them it is appreciated. Extremely vigorous, they desire to be represented by men of strong personality, a quality to be found in Messrs. Rogers, Roche and Burrell.

Equal Suffrage.

(Montreal Star.)

In Australia, New Zealand, some of the Commonwealths of the United States—in fact wherever women are today actually exercising equal suffrage with menthere have been no "militant" methods employed; where women have devoted themselves to stone-throwing, window breaking and other disorderly acts, the suffrage is as far away as ever. The inference is fairly obvious.

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One for Wm. Lyon Mackenzie.

One for Wm. Lyon Mackenzie.
(Hamilton Herald.)
The substitution of Mackenzie King for N. W. Rowell in the leadership of the Ontario Liberal party, as talked of, would mean a long drop in the moral temperature of the Liberal leadership. Mr. Rowell is something more than a politician; but maybe he isn't enough of a politician.

To Fit the Crime.
(Toronto Star.)

The practice of wife-beating is partly due to a popular delusion that a man has a right to chastise his wife, as he has to chastise his children. Nothing will dispel this illusion more quickly than a few floggings for wife-beat-

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Come in and make your selection now. We will hold it for you until you want it if you make a

We will have a hard time to beat last year's record, but will try to do it, and have already made a good start. Enter as soon as you can, so as to be ready for work when the call.

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LOCAL.

the prisoners were all remanded, Pet-cr Yapp was fined \$8 for drunkenness and remanded on a charge of stealing a pair of boots, the property of H. G. Green, Charles McKinnon, arrested on a warrant charging him with as-saulting William McKinnon, was found guilty and fined \$20. Andrew Craig, arrested on a warrant charg-ing him with using abusive language, was remanded.

#### GENERAL.

Wireless on Great Lakes.

London, Nov. 6.—The Marconi Co.
hanounces that they have signed a
contract with the Canadian government for nine additional stations on
the great lakes. The company will receive an additional subsidy from the
government of \$31,500 per annum. The
agreement is for 19 years.

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## WEDDINGS.

Gets Fine Deer Head.

John Burchill, of Frenchmen's Creek arrived in the city yesterday morn ing with one of the finest deer head taken out of the woods this year. The animal was shot near Spruce Lake on Mondow.

al commission yesterday received a deputation advocating an Empir trade mark. Col. Pelletier, of Quebec said that since he had been here had seen sold Canadian goods which he had been unable to trace. If the proposed mark was instituted it would mean that the province producing sucl goods would get the credit for it.

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received many handsome remembrances from their friends including valuable and useful gifts. On their return they will reside in Smythe street.

Steeves-Gilvear.

At the Zion church parsonage, last evening, Rev. William Lawson united boro to Miss Elizabeth Gilvear of Bristol, Eng. Both were unattended.

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