

THE DAILY ONTARIO

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1917.

CONVENTION IMPRESSIONS

It was our privilege to attend the convention of Liberals, who favor the policy of Conscription, held at Hamilton last Friday. It was a convention unique in the history of Canada and significant of new ideas and new purposes. Three members of the newly formed Union cabinet delivered addresses. One of the three had never been a member of parliament and never an active politician. The other two were new to cabinet positions. All three were lawyers by profession.

The convention itself contained a considerable representation of ladies, an additional element to our political life.

There was no uproarious enthusiasm among the 264 delegates assembled in the convention. The delegates appeared to be in a serious and yet somewhat uncertain attitude. They came apparently with open minds, and willing to be convinced but they were many of them from Missouri, especially at the beginning of the meeting.

It is very easily possible to overestimate as well as to underestimate the importance, influence and effect of this so-called win-the-war convention. Reading the reports in the Toronto papers, one would conclude that this gathering represented a tremendous political upheaval, a seething mass of enthusiasm, a movement representing the Golden Age when partyism, graft and unholy partisan strife shall be no more.

As a matter of fact the great majority of the delegates came from Toronto and Hamilton. There were a dozen or so from Brantford and a few from scattered points in the province. More than half the constituencies in Ontario were entirely unrepresented. Great efforts had been made to secure a large attendance but the efforts did not succeed in a large way.

Rural Ontario was conspicuously absent. There was sober, earnest attention throughout the sessions, but the shouting manifestations of approval, such as usually characterize political gatherings, were disappointingly few.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, we would suggest that the Hamilton convention is not to be dismissed contemptuously, as a matter of trifling moment, or as an enterprise foredoomed to failure.

The very quietness of the affair indicated a sincerity and earnestness of purpose that will make its power felt in various places later on. Those in attendance, while comparatively few in numbers, were for the most part men of affairs and influence in their respective communities.

General Mewburn, the recently appointed minister of militia, delivered his maiden speech in his new capacity as minister. He was in his home town but to the great majority of his audience he was an entire stranger.

Gen. Mewburn left a most favorable impression upon his hearers. Tall, straight and strong, he gives one the impression of being a soldier and a man. He did not appear on the platform in his military regalia, as a more famous minister of militia was wont to do. He was clad in a business suit and talked to his audience just as a business-man might do in laying before them a matter of serious importance. He made no effort at oratory. He used few gestures. He just talked plain business but it was all very interesting and very effective. He said many things that people would like to have heard three years ago and they have been waiting to hear them ever since. He was not in politics and he would never be in politics as long as he held office.

Gen. Mewburn is a lawyer by profession and of his profession he has made a success. He is respected by his fellow members of the bar as a man of clean character and honorable ideals.

In his address he gave one the impression of straightforwardness, sincerity, unlimited determination and of having a mind of his own.

Gen. Mewburn knows the game of soldiering well. But his present office is administrative. His practical knowledge of military affairs, will probably not be a hindrance and

neither should we assume that it will be as much of a help as many critics have supposed. We should not forget that Lloyd George, an untrained civilian, was able to accomplish more in a month in the War Office than Lord Kitchener was able to do in a year.

What we need in a minister of militia is horse-sense, will-power, executive ability, steady courage and the power to shake off blood-suckers.

Frank Carvell, would not be selected as the prize-winner in a beauty contest. He is a fighter and he looks the part. Tall and of athletic frame he possesses a face in which strength of character and great native shrewdness are plainly evidenced. Like Gen. Mewburn he does not orate or take flight into the clouds to admire the beauty of the empyrean dome. He is very earthy, and very practical. He too, talks business and he talks it in a way that everybody, including the ranks of his hated and detested enemies, can understand. He has more scalps of grafters dangling from his belt than all other members of the House of Commons combined.

And yet people admire and esteem Frank Carvell because they believe he is straight and true; they love him because of the enemies he has made.

The two messages that Frank Carvell delivered to the Hamilton convention were followed with the deepest attention. Yet the messages were not backed up by oratorical graces, mellifluous diction, or sonorous vocal effect. The messages reached home because they appeared to be the true expressions of an honest man.

Hon. Newton Rowell is the direct antithesis in manner, method and appearance from Gen. Mewburn and Frank Carvell. Mr. Rowell is all energy and activity. His speech is not particularly ornate but his periods are polished and well rounded. His language comes quickly and fluently. His pronunciation and grammatical construction are flawless. His gestures are animated and continuous but graceful. He is well groomed and his sartorial equipment of the finest and best fitting. While he can make a closely-knit and well reasoned argument he also makes frequent appeal to the emotions.

Mr. Rowell was not at his best at the Hamilton convention but he delivered an address at the evening session that was convincing in its earnestness and sincerity and powerful in its patriotic appeal.

That Sir Wilfrid Laurier still retains the affections of those who differ from him on the issue of conscription was evidenced in the clearest manner during the afternoon session. The most hearty applause that any speaker received in the afternoon was when Frank Carvell expressed his warmth of personal regard for the old chieftan and told in simple, unadorned language of the depth of regret it had caused him to break away from his revered leader and personal friend.

"I have venerated that man," declared Mr. Carvell, "I believe in his doctrines and I believe them yet so far as economic doctrines are concerned. My only regret is that he and I could not see eye to eye on the necessary steps to replenish the men at the front, and in order to do our duty in this fight. I want to give him just as much credit for honesty and sincerity in the course he is pursuing as I claim for the course which I am pursuing."

Gen. Mewburn cited a case of two Western battalions who were brought to an Eastern point. He found in one of these battalions, 22 officers, 22 bandsmen, 16 corporals and 110 men. He at once on learning this amalgamated the two battalions and discharged 34 officers. This was no fault of the officers, said the Minister, but of the rotten system. Within a few days he had more than 100 letters from Cabinet Ministers, members of both sides of Parliament and other people protesting. "My answer was that the Canadian militia was no charitable institution," he declared, amid applause.

The biggest outburst of the evening, however, followed the plain-spoken declaration of "Fighting Frank" Carvell that there were a lot of men in khaki hanging on to good soft "safety first" jobs in Canada who never had gone out of Canada and never intended to leave Canada. They and their wives were drawing big money from the national coffers, and the New Brunswick Minister proposed that they should be bundled out of the said jobs and the returned soldiers given a chance at the easier posts. The audience like that, "I see by the response," said Mr. Carvell after the cheering finally ceased, "that sort of thing is not confined to the Maritime Provinces."

"That this convention pledges its support to any candidate supporting the Union Government who shall be the nominee or choice of a joint or fusion convention called in pursuance of a conference of Liberals and

Conservatives, Labor and all parties and open to the attention by both Liberals, Conservatives, Labor and all parties in any constituency in accordance with the declared policy of the Union Government."

The delegate from Belleville did not favor that resolution, and there were many others that dissented from it strongly, although they were given no opportunity to speak against it.

That resolution and what it is based on is the very principle that we are fighting against in Europe. It embodies the essence of Prussianism.

What right has Sir Robert Borden to assume dictatorial airs and say who shall represent the various constituencies in this free country, on the veiled threat of turning against them a flood of unspecified soldiers' votes? That is perhaps the most iniquitous clause in the most unjust franchise measure that has ever been perpetrated in Canada.

HEAVY BRITISH GUNS BOMBARDING ROULERS

British Within Five Miles of Key to German Submarine Bases — Italians Retire on the Livenza River — British Hold New Ground Firmly.

PETROGRAD, Nov. 7.—The Soviets military committee today ordered the troops at Petrograd, Pavlovsk and Tsarko Selo to disobey orders from the war ministry. The government's authorities promptly disconnected all bridges connecting the workmen's quarters in Petrograd and now loyal troops are guarding the city. The Government has decided not to use armed forces against the Military committee for the present, but has ordered the ministry of justice to prosecute the members.

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 7.—A Vienna despatch says the seventh Austrian war loan will be at 5 1/2 per cent and will be issued at 92 1/2 maturing in forty years.

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Sir Arthur Lee denies the report that he is going to the United States to confer with Herbert Hoover and other U. S. officials.

NEW YORK, Nov. 7.—Practically complete figures of yesterday's election give Judge Hylan a plurality over Mayor Mitchell of 143,178. Hylan in an address last night declared emphatically that there was no "loyalty" issue at stake as claimed by Mitchell. The State vote on woman suffrage is expected to show a majority of 100,000 for the measure. Governor McCall, Republican, was re-elected in Massachusetts for a third term by 90,559 plurality. Women's suffrage was defeated in Ohio but it is still uncertain whether prohibition was carried. Local option was carried in New Jersey.

LONDON, Nov. 7.—The war office reports that the German made no effort during the night to regain the ground captured from them yesterday on the Ypres front.

LONDON, Nov. 7.—A despatch from the Flanders front says the British heavy bombers today bombarded Roulers the key to the German communication to the coastal submarine bases. Yesterday's advance brought the British lines within five miles of the railroad centre at Roulers.

ROME, Nov. 7.—The Italian war office announces officially as low water in the Tagliamento river rendered difficult the defence of the river the forces have withdrawn toward the Livnza. The retirement was accomplished in good order. The Livnza is the next river line, twelve miles behind the Tagliamento. The situation generally is clearing.

PARIS, Nov. 7.—French war office reports that the Germans last night made an attack on the Verdun front at Cheuse Wood, which was repulsed.

NEWS ACROSS THE BORDER

Day's Events in Brief—Latest Happenings in Big Republic Condensed for Busy Canadian Readers.

Ten million individuals subscribed to the Liberty Loan it is estimated. Oystermen found a crude bomb floating in Cold Spring, L.I. harbor. A vast fire is raging among Entente stores awaiting shipment from Baltimore.

The United States Department of Agriculture is appealing to farmers to raise more hogs.

A number of small bakeries in Brooklyn are hampered by a strike of journeymen.

The United States Red Cross will need another \$30,000,000 during the coming six months.

During the first day of the conscription campaign in the States, 2,155,704 food pledges were signed.

Mayor Hoan, Socialist, mayor of Milwaukee, has vetoed the purchase of \$50,000 Liberty bonds by the city.

About \$20,000 was bet Monday on Judge Hylan's chances of becoming mayor of New York at odds of 2 to 1.

The Switchmen's Union of North America, is about to demand a fifty per cent wage increase from U. S. railroads.

Dr. Karl von Edwards on trial for theft in Buffalo, testified in New York that he had been offered \$1,000 a week to organize strikes in Canada and the U.S. on behalf of the German government.

Thirty-five passengers narrowly escaped with their lives when the steamer Rising Sun ran on the rocks near Glen Harbor, Mich.

Turning States evidence, Hans Houser, formerly chief steward on the Scandinavian liner Kristianfjord,

told how rubber was smuggled to Germany in phonograph cabinets. Considerably over one hundred persons are under indictment in Chicago on charges of conspiracy. The bulk are said to belong to the I.W.W.

Possibly as the result of enemy activity, a quantity of anti-airballpoc vaccine distributed in Minnesota has been found infected with tetanus germs.

Emil Diamond, an Austrian, was given a six months' term in New York for desecrating the Liberty Loan. Owing it is said, to lack of car maintenance and steel plants relying on the western Pennsylvania collieries are having their output reduced for want of fuel.

Germany has sunk the first of her own ships seized by the United States. The vessel, a 3,000-ton craft, was sent to the bottom in the Mediterranean.

Eleven days after the death of his first wife, Thomas Fortune, retired New York financier, married Mrs. C. C. Cutler at Charlottesville, Va.

It is probable that New York's Great White Way will not radiate light until 8 p.m. this winter in order to save electricity.

The Food Administration promises a short shrift for retail profiteers. If prices are not kept at a reasonable level, stores will find themselves unable to get supplies.

Two thousand people are destitute at Valley Park, Mo., as the result of the Missouri Glass Co. passing into the hands of a receiver.

J. D. Baekus, a New York lawyer, has wired President Wilson demanding the immediate arrest of Morris Hillquit, Socialist mayoralty candidate, on the charge of high treason.

SOME OF THE FARMERS IN THIS locality have just completed potatoe digging.

The pie social that was to have taken place on Monday night, was postponed till Tuesday night on account of bad weather and was largely attended. About seventy dollars being realized.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Kelly and Mr. T. J. Kelly and Miss Annie spent Sunday with friends at Napanee.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster, of Belleville spent a day last week at Mr. J. Wilson's.

Mr. E. Lowery, of Hastings, spent Sunday last with his brother Mr. J. Lowery.

Mrs. Huff entertained the Red Cross workers on Thursday last.

Mrs. J. Wangor, of Madoc, spent a day last week at the home of her brother, Mr. R. B. McMullen.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Hoigh motored to Prince Edward on Sunday last.

Mr. H. Townsend and family spent Sunday at Napanee.

The weather has turned fine after the long continued rain and cold. The farmers are nearly through digging their potatoes and report a good crop.

Fall ploughing is fairly under way and if the weather keeps fine a great deal of land will be blackened over in a couple of weeks.

Mr. H. A. Bellow of Montreal, was here last week in the interests of mining operations.

Threshing is about completed in this vicinity with fairly good returns to the farmers for their labor.

Quite a number of the young men have answered the call and gone up for medical examination. We trust that they may never have to go any farther.

Mr. Thos. Carlin, Sr., is on the sick list. Slight hopes are held for his recovery.

Messrs. Mike and Timothy Dwyer have moved to Chatham mine.

Mr. Andrew Lyons has purchased the late Charles O'Neil farm in Portland and intends commencing fall ploughing immediately.

Mrs. Charles O'Neil intends leaving for Watertown, N.Y., in the near future where she intends to reside.

John Carrol, wife and two children have been visiting his mother, Mrs. M. Carrol, for the past two months.

It is with much grief we have to chronicle the death of the late Mrs. Timothy Dwyer. She passed peacefully away on Oct. 23rd, after a short illness of about a month. She was one of the pioneer settlers, having come to Canada in the year 1847, a girl about 20 years of age. She leaves to mourn her loss, five sons, one daughter, thirteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was remarkably smart both physically and mentally for her age. Her remains were followed by a large concourse of sorrowing friends, to the church of the Annunciation, Chippewa, where a solemn high mass was celebrated by Rev. Father McDonald for the repose of her soul after which they were conveyed to Centreville and placed in the vault to await burial in the family plot. May her soul rest in peace!

Quite a number from this way attended quarterly service at Wallbridge on Sunday.

Mrs. Chas. Lott has returned home from visiting friends in Corbyville.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bell spent Sunday at Mr. Geo. Clement's.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Pearson and Mrs. Foster were guests at Mr. J. Kierman's, Wallbridge on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Roe were guests at Mr. R. Spencer's recently.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Dafee spent Sunday in Frankford at Mr. S. Sine's.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Badgley of Thurlow, spent Wednesday last at Mr. J. A. Lott's.

Mr. Frank Dafee of Madoc, made a flying visit here on Monday.

The Kitchener Red Cross met at Mrs. M. Sine's on Thursday last.

The only assurance of victory is a Victory Bond. Which will it be? Fight for victory in France or buy a Victory Bond at home.

You take a first mortgage on Canada when you buy Victory Bonds.

Victory Bonds—Best investment in the world. Best returns on your money—Best cause in civilization's history.

Griffin's Next Friday Night. A new comedy drama with music. THE SEASON'S BIGGEST HIT "MY IRISH CINDERELLA" THE STORY OF A LITTLE IRISH GIRL AND HER ADVENTURES IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD. Some Company as plays Grand Toronto, week of Nov. 29th. Prices—25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Seats NOW at Doyle's.

Griffin's Tuesday Night 13 November. Prices 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1. The most pretentious Musical Comedy on the road. The Only Girl. Sumptuous Production, Notable Cast and a Galaxy and Gorgeously Gowned Broadway Beauties.

AUCTION SALE. There will be offered for sale at the Kirby House Striving on Saturday Nov. the 17th at 1 p.m. forty-five head of cattle rising two year old about twenty-six of those and Holstein heifers likely to be with calf, six bulls, Holstein and Durham grade, one pure bred Durham bull rising three, one Durham cow, a number of Grade Shorthorn Steers, some fat cows. Twelve months' credit will be given by purchaser furnishing approved joint notes, interest at six per cent. Henry Wallace Auctioneer, James H. Seenev, Owner.

"THE ONLY GIRL" AT GRIFFIN'S. BELLEVILLE, TUESDAY. Nobody objects to good music in musical comedy—so long as Victor Herbert composes it—and even less so when Henry Blossom writes the accompanying book, as one does not easily forget the delightful contributions of fun and melody which they supplied in "Mlle. Modiste", "The Red Mill" and other works of their joint writing. This new happy combination is a promise made in the presentation of the great musical comedy success, "The Only Girl" announced to be seen at Griffin's Opera House, Belleville, next Tuesday, Nov. 13th. "The Only Girl" which has to its credit a long and successful season of one year at the Lyric Theatre, New York, is filled with music that is gay, melodious, dashing and oftentimes the very best inspiration of its brilliant composer, Henry Blossom, too, has written both in story and in its lyrics, work of such quality that proves there is still left such an article as a sane, well constructed, smartly written libretto in a musical play.

TO-DAY'S CASUALTIES. Med of Wounds—F. W. Gibson, Bowmanville. Benj. Redgwell, Deseronto. V. P. Leahy, Peterboro. Wounded—J. S. Tilton, Corwall. R. M. Foster, Port Hope. James Newhall, Peterboro. A. A. Blake, Kingston. E. Ryckman, Picton. A dollar in Victory Bonds fires a shell at the Huns. Your money means Germany's defeat—Buy Victory Bonds. Lend your money to your country in Victory Bonds—She needs it. A most acceptable Christmas present—A Victory Bond is the answer.