

The War Situation Today

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maximum. We have certain reserves to draw upon through the Motherland and France are now unable to increase their forces in the field unless at the expense of vital industries. Victory must come sooner or later for the cause of democracy, but if it has to wait for the full force of the United States to secure it two years hence, the results may be fatal to Europe, the vital centre of progressive thought and life for centuries. In any case, we will have to adjust ourselves to a new world brought into existence by general indulgence in the game of mutual annihilation. This world can only be made tolerable for the mass of mankind by drastic socialization of domestic policy and internationalization of foreign policy. If profiteering is not prevented and capitalist society humanized, wage-earners and workers in every country will be faced with the alternative of slavery or revolution, and it is almost certain that they will choose revolution. Our governing and possessory classes must readjust their outlook on life or see the whole existing fabric of society transformed to their disadvantage and the old game of selfish national rivalries which has brought us to this writer of bloodshed must be for ever forever.

BANK ELECTIONS, JUNE 26

Write were issued on June 2 dissolving the Saskatchewan legislative assembly. Nominations will take place on June 19 and the election one week later. The election is deferred in two northern and three southern seats. Besides the regular party candidates there are five Non-Partisan League, one labor and two or three independent candidates in the field.

10 o'clock and the housework done thanks to HARDWOOD FLOORS. The modern farmer's wife no longer spends an entire day each week sweeping carpets and scrubbing hardwood floors. A few minutes with a dustless mop keeps her hardwood floors clean all the year round. THE SEAMAN-KENT CO. LTD. WINNIPEG, CANADA.

Live Poultry. Hens, per lb. 20c; Roosters (1 year old) per lb. 18c; Old Roosters, per lb. 12c; Turkeys, per lb. 20c; Ducks, per lb. 18c; Geese, per lb. 15c. Golden Star Fruit and Produce Co. WINNIPEG, MAN.

TRY FALL RYE. Write for Circular. Great seed killing crop; yields 20 to 30 bu. Prime high. Ready to cut and feed in fall of August. HARRIS McFAYDEN COMPANY Farm and Seed Specialists. WINNIPEG.

CORRECTION. An error occurred in the Waterloo Boy Kerosene Tractor of Canada, Limited advertisement which appeared on the outside back cover of The Guide on May 30, 1917. The Waterloo Boy Separator was described as 24-28. It should have read WATERLOO BOY 24-48 SEPARATOR. Wish our readers kindly note.

Our Ottawa Letter

Coalition Government negotiations between Borden and Laurier puts all else aside (By The Guide Special Correspondent)

Ottawa, June 1—Today parliament has arrived at a state of suspended animation. Business in the house is perfunctorily considered, while most of the committees have ceased to do business at all. But if the air of deadly inaction which has to some extent characterized this six year old house this session, permeates the commons chamber and the committee rooms—it is ever present in the Senate—there is plenty of excitement in the corridors, the headquarters of the two political parties and throughout the capital. It all arises out of an effort that is being made to galvanize a moribund parliament into some semblance of life, and to prevent a war-time election by the creation of a coalition ministry in which both political parties, and, perhaps, other influential bodies of public opinion, would be represented. The task is a difficult one and may fail of accomplishment, but that it has been undertaken there is no doubt. That it was urged upon Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier by the Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, who was in Ottawa early in the week, and his Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, is generally believed. They counselled peace and the avoidance of party strife until the German foe has been disposed of. A sincere effort is being made at the moment to bring order out of the existing state of chaos. But, as already stated, almost insurmountable difficulties stand in the way of bringing the divergent parties together after the conduct of the war for three years by a party government, it being realized now that Canada should have followed the example of Great Britain a couple of years ago and set aside party considerations for the country's good.

Conscription of Wealth. The move for win-the-war government has developed out of the somewhat precipitate announcement by Sir Robert Borden that it was the intention of the government to introduce a selective conscription measure. To put it in no exaggerated form the announcement stunned the house, because, less than two weeks before, Sir Edward Kemp in replying to a question, stated that the question of conscription had not been considered by the government. The statement was undoubtedly true. The determination to introduce the bill was reached at a meeting of the cabinet held after the return to Canada of the prime minister. Judging from the developments of the past two weeks the government did not sufficiently consider the effect of a decision to conscript men and not wealth, and the resources of the country; nor did they appreciate the extent to which such a proposal would be objected to, not only in Quebec, but in other parts of Canada, without consulting the people. Quite naturally the first criticism of the proposal was that conscription should not be enforced by a party government. Out of this criticism has grown the demand for a coalition government which must find a way to enforce conscription without disrupting the country, and failing that, have the matter submitted to the people before enforcing the measure. It is quite safe to assume that in the event of a national government being formed the cabinet will insist also upon the conscription of wealth. In this connection it is interesting to note that Ex-Premier Ward of New Zealand in an interview stated frankly that conscription of men without conscription of wealth would have been quite impossible of accomplishment either in Great Britain or New Zealand.

Coalition Proceedings. Just how the negotiations for a coalition were initiated is a matter of speculation. It is believed, however, that Sir Robert Borden approached Sir Wilfrid Laurier and asked for his support, and the support of his party, in the passing of the conscription bill as a war measure. The Liberal leader was unable to promise the support of his followers. Then, it was semi-officially announced that an attempt would be made to re-organize the government by bringing in big party men from outside parliament and a number of Liberals who favor the government's conscription proposal. The difficulties surrounding this proposition soon became manifest, because new ministers

from the outside would have to have seats in parliament. Then Sir Robert Borden proposed a coalition and Sir Wilfrid Laurier went to Montreal to confer with Sir Lomer Gouin, the Premier of Quebec, who is a great power with the French Canadians. Sir Lomer has given no definite assurance as to the likelihood of his coming to Ottawa, but he is at least endeavoring to size up the Quebec situation.

Balfour Condemned Partyism. The week started off on Monday with an event which will long be remembered at the capital—a speech by the members of the two Dominion houses by Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, British Foreign Secretary and a former prime minister of Great Britain. Mr. Balfour made a great hit, his urbane personality and democratic manner winning the hearts of everybody whom he met from the highest down to the page boys of the house of commons with whom he shook hands. His speech has appeared in full in the daily press and need not here be summarized. His clear-cut declarations that despite all the drawbacks of a democratic government it is the only form of government worth while struck home, more particularly his assertion that in all matters the final say must rest with the people of a country. In view of the conscription proposals and the demand for a referendum his statement appealed to the house in a very special manner. Having listened to Mr. Balfour no one was surprised to hear that he had advised the Canadian party to bury the hatchet and work together for the country's good.

The Tariff Reductions. On Tuesday, Hon. Frank Oliver's amendment to the budget favoring permanent free wheat, free agricultural implements and machinery, etc, free foodstuffs, a general reduction of the tariff and an increase in the British preference to fifty per cent. of the general tariff was voted down on a straight party division of 65 to 38, a government majority of 27.

Western members who voted for the amendment were: W. A. Buchanan, Medicine Hat; Dr. Michael Clark, Red Deer; Geo. McCraney, Saskatoon; Dr. Molloy, Provencer; W. E. Knowles, Moose Jaw; Thos. MacNutt, Saltcoats; J. G. Turfitt, Assiniboia. Western members paired in favor of the amendment: Robert Cruise; Jas. Douglas, Strathcona; Levi Thompson, Qu Appelle; Dr. Neely, Humboldt. Western members who voted against the amendment: Hon. Robert Rogers, Hon. Dr. Roche, Hon. Arthur Meighen, S. Donaldson, Prince Albert; Dr. Schaffner, Souris; R. B. Bennett, Calgary; D. Morrison, Macdonald.

Western members paired against the amendment: Geo. Bradbury, Selkirk.

Bank Act Amendment. Sir Thomas White has given formal notice of his bill to amend the Bank Act. The Bill recites that "the chartered banks may loan money to farmers, and those engaged in raising stock, upon the security of their livestock, that is to say, horses, cattle, sheep and swine, and the offspring of any such animals, and including wool clipped from sheep while such sheep are subject to such security, and further to provide for the filling of the security and the priority of the bank's claim, and entry, seizure and sale in case of default in payments due, and disposal of the proceeds."

Denmark—A Farm Kingdom

Continued from Page 31. 12 to 12:30—Barn work; engine work; power work; dairy work. 12:30 to 2—Dinner, meals, recreation. 2 to 3—Teaching and discussion on character; philosophy; science; government; history; agriculture; horticulture; music; recitation. 3 to 4—Teaching and discussion on books and literature; speaking; debate; open country songs. 4 to 5—Recreation, gymnastics, music; games; the open country; shooting; riding; driving; sailing. 5 to 6—Engine work; water system; sanitation; barn work; dairy; grain; fodder; silo. 7:30 to 8:30—Teaching and discussion on character; co-operation; civic government; music; declamation; songs. Saturday, 7 to 8—Same as other days. 10 to 12—Speaking bills; notes; checks; letters; receipts; co-operative forms; co-operative societies; recitation. Sunday—Farming church. 7 to 8—Teaching and discussion on morals; character; the virtues; prophetic sacred songs; music; recitation; music. This is the very antithesis of our high

school teaching. The aim is different; the method is different; the life is different; the outlook is different. When a Danish youth has spent two or three years at such a people's school he is a real man, he has learned to love work; he aims at service; he has character; he understands the government of the country; he can farm; he has the co-operative spirit; he can think and he can get up on his feet and say what he thinks. With us the great question as to education is, how much money can the student make out of his education? With the Dane the question is, how much service can he render?

The Folk Schools have real courses for girls, the aim of which is to prepare the girls for life. Space forbids me going into these courses, but they are just a real education in making efficient wives and mothers who know how to do and think and speak and dress and nurse.

The cost of attendance for a five months' course at these people's schools is under \$75, and at the special girls' course for three months, May, June and July, the cost is under \$40.

MRS. KENNEDY'S DEATH

In the death of Mrs. Donald Kennedy of Point Mara we lose possibly the last one of the original settlers of this district. Mrs. Kennedy was Mary Brown; she was born in Toronto in 1830 at the time of the serious outbreak of cholera, her father Harris Brown dying of the dread disease when she was a baby. Her mother came to Beaverton with Mr. Downie, who was grandfather to Mrs. Kennedy, and afterwards married the late James Ritchie of Point Mara. Mrs. Kennedy was a devout Presbyterian, and the writer remembers well that for years she would walk seven miles to the Old Stone Church.

She leaves to mourn her loss three sons, John, the eldest is Vice-President of The Grain Growers' Grain Co., Winnipeg, Horatio lives at Woburn, and Donald, a South African veteran, lives at Uxbridge; two daughters, Mary Ellen, living at Mossomin and Jennie at Oshawa, Ont. Besides these, two sons and two daughters are dead.

No woman living ever put in a harder and more honest life-long struggle in rearing a large family. She was respected and admired by all who came in contact with her.—From Beaverton (Ont.) Express, May 10.

CURRENT EVENTS

Secretary Redfield, of the U.S. department of commerce, has announced that some of the former German vessels seized in the Philippines will be used to bring hemp to America. There are large quantities of hemp in the islands and the diversion of vessels for war has curtailed the normal outflow of this necessary commodity. The amount now available will do much to relieve the hinder twine situation this year.

The exportation of wheat to neutral countries from Canada has been stopped. There will be co-operation between Canada and the United States in the arrangement for shutting off neutrals from supplies. The scarcity of foodstuffs for the allies and the possibility of leakages through neutral countries to the enemy are the cause of the action.

A consignment of 10,000 bushels of wheat is on its way from the Peace River to Fort William. It was shipped 200 miles by River steamer from Vermilion to Peace River crossing, then over the Edmonton, Dunvegan and B.C. railway to Edmonton. The freight rate is 20 cents per 100 pounds. The consignor is Sheridan Lawrence, who has been in the north country since 1885.

Mrs. McKinney of Claresholm, Alta., has been nominated to contest a seat in the Alberta election. She is the only woman candidate. She is a sister of Rev. Dr. Crummy of Winnipeg, and has been nominated by the Non-Partisan League.

Heavy frosts were general through out the west early last week. Temperatures ranging from 20 to 30 degrees were general. Russel, Man., reported 14 degrees of frost; Vegreville, Alta., 16 degrees, and Swift Current, Sask., 12 degrees.