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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1917

THE LIBERAL MINISTERS

Liberal Ministers seem less ready to accept the union government than the Conservatives, probably because they have less confidence in the leader of it. A large percentage of the Liberals are ready enough to support the new administration, but many others, good Liberals and good citizens, are not yet convinced that it is a real union government, in which the Liberal party is well represented. They are still inclined to believe that a Conservative government, with some Liberals in it.

A careful and honest examination of the new members of the cabinet should lead to a different conclusion. Mr. Fielding declines to become a member of the new administration. Mr. Fielding may represent Nova Scotia. Both men, as well as the Halifax Chronicle, one of the strongest Liberal papers in Canada, are strongly in favor of union government. Mr. Fielding was one of the foremost ministers in the Laurier government. He was one of the strongest men in that administration and was always a Liberal. He was the creator of the British preference act, which the Liberal party, to its credit, accepted even though it led to its defeat. Against the Liberalism of this man whose public life has been pure and above reproach, no person can say a word. Surely he will not surrender to an opponent merely to get into a cabinet and assume the responsibilities of office.

If Mr. Fielding declines to decline to enter the cabinet because of his age, Mr. A. K. McLean, an able and progressive Liberal, will join the government.

Frank Carvell is a stalwart Liberal, a fighting Liberal, one of the strongest forces in the opposition, since the party went into opposition. He is a supporter of his party and a stronger supporter of Liberal principles. He is a true representative of the Liberal party.

If there is one exponent of Liberalism in the province of Ontario who has stood closer to the true principles of the party than any other it is N. W. Rowell. He has made many sacrifices for the party and for his country. He is making a personal sacrifice without doubt, in going into the Dominion government. T. A. Cramer is more than a Liberal. He is a radical. He goes further in his progressive ideas than most of the other members of his party. He is not a politician, but he is one of the strongest forces in progressive ideas in Western Canada. He is not going into any administration to sacrifice his principles.

A. L. Sifton has been the strongest force in Liberalism in Alberta during the last seven years. He abandoned one of the most sought-after positions possible to save the Liberal party from collapse in 1910. It was recognized then that because of the members of certain members of the party that he alone could save it. He succeeded admirably, as the recent election proved. He has joined the union government, not to sink his personality or his principles in a Tory administration, but to do his duty to his country at a time when the country needs all the best men. The men who brought the Liberal party to the point of disruption in 1910 are talking most loudly of loyalty to the old party and to the old Liberal leader and criticizing Mr. Sifton. It would be well if the Alberta Liberals would consider that fact. They prepared now to accept the leadership of Mr. C. W. Cross?

Mr. Calder, in Saskatchewan, has been a successful administrator and the sort of a man who is going to sacrifice principles for any office he might get.

These men are real representatives of the Liberal party. They are stronger men than most of the men with whom they will associate. There are two other members of the cabinet, General McBurn and Mr. Ballantyne, neither of whom has taken any active part in public affairs, but both have good reputations. There has been some comment about Mr. Ballantyne because of his association with the Manufacturers' Association. Such criticism is hardly fair. We hear the complaint that at this time every interest should be represented. Business men, they said, should be selected for business jobs. That is what Lloyd George did in Britain, when he called Lord Borden and other prominent business men in his cabinet. Yet when a business man is placed in office these

same people see the trail of the big interests. They are too critical. Whatever may be the fault of the union government, this much is certain, that it is really a union government as far as the two old parties are concerned. The Liberals have no serious complaint to offer, and they have no good reason for suspecting the motives of the newly-appointed members of the cabinet.

FORFEITED GERMAN APPROVAL

German approval must have had a moment of satisfaction when they read—if they were allowed to read—the report of the speeches delivered at the National Socialist congress in session at Bordeaux. For, early in the proceedings, one of the orators announced, with the apparent approval of all his hearers, that it would be useless at this time to raise or discuss the question of starting the war. He was responsible for starting the war. That is good German doctrine, and, coming from a French Socialist, the assertion was calculated to cause much joy in the country where the desire to let that dangerous question severally alone and to talk only about the present and the future, is naturally very strong. Unfortunately, from the German point of view, however, the speaker who made the contention so pleasing to the Germans hastened to explain that discussion of responsibility for the war was needless because that question had already been settled beyond dispute, and further debate, to be profitable, would have to be based on the certainty that the central powers began the great conflict.

As the truth of that assertion seemed self-evident to the delegates who heard it, the whole German case, in effect, was thrown out of court by these French Socialists. Therein they agree with the whole non-Terzian world, or with so much of it that the remainder is undeserving of consideration from anybody except professional mathematicians. The facts with regard to the starting of the war are indeed on record, and the record can never be changed.

The Germans can say, accurately enough, that they are fighting in self-defense now, but their contention that the war was forced on them is veracious only if they mean that there would have been no war had there been no opposition to their advance against their neighbors. And that, really, is what they do mean—that it is this man whose public life has been pure and above reproach, no person can say a word. Surely he will not surrender to an opponent merely to get into a cabinet and assume the responsibilities of office.

FROM DAY TO DAY

A BATTLEFIELD A YEAR AFTER
Nature Did Her Utmost to Cover the Havoc Where Men Died

(A British Private in the English Magazine, Oct. 22)—I have just traveled up the line again for the second time. I am not so very far away from the spot where I was last time, but the change that has happened since I left the line toward the end of last year has impressed me very much. I have crossed the old battlefield of a year ago—the ground we were fighting for so hard—and it is unrecognizable from what it was as I saw it last. Nature has exerted her very utmost to cover up all the terrible havoc that has been done, and it is now a most beautiful garden. It is absolutely covered with flowers as far as the eye can reach, and the effect is most pleasing. The banks of the old trenches are covered with big white dog daisies, and the vivid red of great patches of poppies has a splendid effect. There are thousands of beautiful mauve sweet scabious and pink and mauve double poppies. The loveliest flowers to be seen, however, is the cornflower. It is such a rich, intense blue; there are whole fields of it, and the sight is most glorious. There are some tall yellow flowers, very much like mustard, and the reddish brown seed of the dock plant adds to the effect. Here and there are large pools of water, caused by the shell holes. The trees, too, that were blown to bits have thrown out shoots to cover up the ugly stumps. The uneven nature of the ground adds a great deal to the beauty of the scene; truly a most lovely wild garden. Last year it was a horrible inferno; this year a veritable paradise. It proves what the Great Gardener can do.

MOVE MUNITION WORKS
London, Oct. 22.—All important works dealing with munitions have been removed from Petrograd, according to a dispatch to the Times from the Russian capital. German Zeppelins, it adds, are attacking towns some distance from their fighting front.

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Here's Health
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HUNS' BOMB FRENCH HOSPITAL
The Germans seem to be very keen on bombing as many hospitals as possible, and our photo shows the Huns. M. Poincare with the head doctor view the ruins.—London Daily Mirror photo.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE "WIN-THE-WAR" MEETING
Editor Albertan—No intelligent person will doubt Dr. Lafferty's patriotism, his liberalism, or his honest endeavor to forward what he believes to be the best interests of the country. It is to be regretted, however, that, by implication, he places everyone who does not agree with him as being against winning the war, or having wrong ideas of winning the war. The fault is not his. The phrase, "win the war," is the common everyday phrase of the common people of Canada. It is to be regretted that the speaker, who is so well known, should have used such a phrase, which, knowing full well what the country would do to it if it had an opportunity to make a slogan, hoping to win the election on a wave of patriotism. I take every opportunity to say that the common people of Canada are opposed to the war. Everywhere I find the utmost determination to do everything that will help to defeat the war in Flanders—and in Canada. There is no doubt that the meeting called by Dr. Lafferty will fill the largest auditorium in Calgary with an enthusiastic crowd—composed of Tories and well-to-do Liberals. This is exactly what has happened in other cities, and the result has been to divide the people instead of uniting them. Any person who cares to acquire will find that the common everyday people of the west are in no mind to be deceived again. They were flummoxed by the whole whorl of Toryism—or a change—put the Tories in power in 1911. They found themselves added for three years to the Tories, and the result was the ruin of power in Canada. They are suspicious of union government. It is a device to save Borden. It is "the old bunch under another name." Such are the expressions we hear.

The election platform of the Unionist government reads like an echo of the past. We have heard it all before. The same vague promises, the same generalities, the same promises, the same generalities. When I was a youngster and boarded at school we had once a week what was called "resurrection" and the speaker would say so—of all the left overs of the week. The Borden platform is a "resurrection" of the Tory platform of 1911. The people of Canada are tired of promises. They want to see something done. Do those who profess to serve us suppose that the people can be put off election after election with vague and unfulfilled promises? Do they desire to suit our intelligence by supposing that if they wave the flag and shout "win the war," holding the matter and the people can be driven like sheep into the governmental fold? I have confidence in the common people of this country. They will live under the British flag. They themselves can do all the necessary flag-waving. They will do the necessary flag-waving. They will do the necessary flag-waving. They will do the necessary flag-waving.

Are Ordered Back
The drunkest of the three was not more than 20 feet distant when a high officer arose from his seat and ordered them back. They had to obey. Two of the three later reappeared in their box. At this juncture came the usual minor recess of the conference. Kerensky, not knowing his narrow escape, passed the press tables; his face set in a stern line, and went slowly to the royal green room, where Catherine Breshkovskaya, "grandmother of the revolution," awaited him with hot coffee.

Suddenly across the press tables toward the green room lurched the three Cossack officers: a small group of their friends vainly endeavoring to pull them back. A fourth Cossack came to the press tables declaring excitedly that Kerensky had called the Cossacks cowards and that he would be challenged to a duel. One shot would have sent the audience in a panic, pell-mell dash from the hall. In the streets outside thousands of troops kept back a crowd of 10,000. The audience in the building sat restless, not knowing the cause of the delay in reconvening. Those who did know sat breathless, wondering if Kerensky would dare come out again.

UNION GOVERNMENT SHOULD EXTEND PEACE OFFERING

A French-Canadian Organ Points Out Path of Duty for Union Gov't; French Tribunals in Quebec

Quebec, Oct. 22.—Commenting editorially on Sir Robert Borden's address, L'Action Catholique on Saturday said, in part: "The first war measure to be enforced should have been to bring to an end the prosecution to which the French-Canadians and the Catholics are subjected in places where they have the misfortune of being in the minority, and if the problems as some maintain as an excuse, is too complicated to be settled so quickly, the federal government, which makes a display of good will that we are happy to accept, by scrupulously respecting certain susceptibilities in having, for example, French forms for medical examination and exemptions at the disposal of recruits, at least in the province of Quebec."

PREMIER COWD FIERY COSSACKS AT CONVENTION

Kerensky Subdued Drunken Officers While Audience Feared Tragedy; a Tense Moment When the Prime Minister Defied Foes

(By William G. Shepherd.)
Stockholm, via London, Oct. 22.—Premier Kerensky played fearfully with death at the recent Moscow conference and won by his sheer unflinching nerve. He stood on a platform unarmed, facing three drunken Cossack officers, red with anger, and twice flung the hat "Cowards!" in their faces, while the vast audience, breathless, fearfully awaited for their revolver shots to stretch Russia's man of the hour bleeding on the platform. Premier Kerensky presided at the conference. On the final night of the meeting a group of Cossack officers appeared as usual in the reserved seats of the stage. Korniloff himself was not present. The officers who lounged in his box gave every evidence of intoxication. On the stage behind Kerensky sat a thousand prominent Russians. Three of the Cossacks in the box repeatedly interrupted the speakers as the meeting proceeded. From the stage almost directly below them Kerensky repeatedly appealed for quiet. The Cossacks ignored him. Several speeches were interrupted with wild bursts of laughter.

Officers Take Umbrage
Finally a Cossack private soldier, a member of the Soviet (Petrograd) Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies' spoke. He declared the Cossacks were cowards and "not slaves of their Cossack masters." The three officers took instant umbrage. All arose. One shouted: "That sounds like German talk; no real Cossack speaks thus!" Kerensky stood up. He looked coldly at the flushed faces and soldiers' and remarked: "The officer who addresses a man like that on such an occasion as this is a coward."

Three hurriedly left the box and hastened downstairs toward the door of the stage. Several friends followed them, begging the lurching trio to return. Though Kerensky is carefully guarded at all times, none of his private soldier guards crossed the progress bar the three officers. The trio went on, forcing the guards aside. They turned back from the stage door and went down the aisle toward Kerensky. The premier's back was turned to them.

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even a challenge. Inside I saw a dozen officers in a fever of talk pointing toward the box. A moment later Kerensky, inscrutably cool of face and demeanor, walked quietly to the stage. At that moment the Cossack officers hurried into their box. A scant dozen men stood near Kerensky. The premier saw the Cossacks. He did not hesitate. With grim haste he faced the audience and rang the bell reconvening the meeting. Not one of those on the stage who had witnessed the affair expected it to terminate otherwise than in a tragedy. Kerensky, rising, said simply: "I called men that interrupted a speaker 'cowards,' and I repeat that." The Cossacks sat silent. Kerensky had won. A fortnight later came Gen. Korniloff's revolt—with the Cossacks in his rebel ranks.

LEON DAUDET SAYS FRANCE WAS NEAR END LAST SPRING

German Money From Three Funds Was Employed, Paris Editor Says, and Nearly Attained Results
Paris, Oct. 22.—Leon Daudet, editor of L'Action Francaise, who has taken a prominent part in the exposure of German intrigue in France, writes under the heading: "I am doing my duty in the plot against France. Everyone has noticed since the war began that there was something rotten somewhere which delayed the victory of the allies."

"This something was German money employed within the allied countries. There was the Bolo Pasha fund for corruption of the press, the von Eulow fund for diplomatic intrigues, and the Honelove fund for promoting crimes and sedition.

"The last-named fund, in my opinion, was by far the most important. It was employed to promote the plot, carefully prepared for months, which broke out in both the army zone and the rear formation in May and June of this year. This plot nearly attained the results hoped for by the German government."

Failure of the French army fully to attain the objectives in the great smash against the Aisne front last spring first disclosed the fact that military secrets were going to Germany. A prompt inquiry was made and the disclosures caused the fall of the cabinet. This was followed by the arrest of a member of the chamber of deputies for treason and the disclosure of Bolo Pasha's activities and his arrest. Rumors have been prevalent ever since the early summer that the arrival of American troops is all that prevented an outbreak against the government to force an ending of the war.

WESTERNER DIES IN FRANCE

Winnipeg, Oct. 22.—Relatives received word today that Lieut.-Col. Glen Campbell died in France yesterday. On Friday he was reported "seriously ill" in the casualty list. Lieut.-Col. Campbell took the 67th battalion overseas. Before going overseas he underwent an operation for kidney trouble.

HEALTHY ADVICE FOR BACON KNIGHT BY TORONTO PRESS

Editorial Comment of News and Globe Advises Sir Joseph Where to Head In; Flavelle Hit by Boomerang

Toronto, Oct. 22.—Discussing Sir Joseph Flavelle's statement in the witness box admitting responsibility for the operations of William Davies Company, resulting in huge profits, the Globe editorially says: "Abnormal profits can be made in war time without violating the established code of business ethics, but it is wise to do so with a view to the hardships of many, and of the effect upon the public mind? After the war, too, when colossal debts must be paid out of the labor of millions as a ransom for deliverance from the Hun, the making of large fortunes may be regarded as distinctly anti-social, and every man held to account for his wealth. Perhaps one of the fruits of the war will be a new code in the world of business and a new social dispensation in which the rule of conduct will approximate that so picturesquely advocated by Sir Joseph Flavelle himself when he admonished munition makers to consign their profits to warmer regions."

PROFITS TO PATRIOTIC FUNDS

Toronto, Oct. 22.—The News says editorially in regard to "the Flavelle case": "Let the nation concede that the William Davies Company has made its large war profits out of a small profit on a huge turnover. Let it be granted that if the company had been content with no profits the Canadian consumer would have got his bacon no cheaper. But if the public goes this far would it not be good business for the company and Sir Joseph Flavelle to transfer to the state all or most of their war profits after deducting their expenditures on war plant, the war taxes they have paid and the contributions they have made to the patriotic and other relief funds. The adoption of such a course and the pensions board and that official action is likely to be taken at any time. Members of the pensions board today would neither deny nor confirm the statement that there is to be a general increase in pensions of 25 per cent, but they indicated that steps would soon be taken to implement the promise made by Sir Robert Borden that at an early date an increase in pensions would be authorized upon a percentage basis. According to the prime minister's statement the percentage increase would be a temporary solution of the problem which would be finally dealt with by the new parliament to be elected."

COST OF LIVING BRANCH

Ottawa, Oct. 22.—The cost of living branch of the department of labor is about to extend its scope of operation. A new section will shortly be established which will give special attention to investigation of costs in textiles and clothing. The Flavelle donations to the various war funds might go far to allay popular feeling."

GERMAN MONEY FROM THREE FUNDS WAS EMPLOYED, PARIS EDITOR SAYS, AND NEARLY ATTAINED RESULTS

Paris, Oct. 22.—Leon Daudet, editor of L'Action Francaise, who has taken a prominent part in the exposure of German intrigue in France, writes under the heading: "I am doing my duty in the plot against France. Everyone has noticed since the war began that there was something rotten somewhere which delayed the victory of the allies."

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PENSION INCREASE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN A SHORT TIME

Understand That Temporary Increase of 25% Will Be Made

Ottawa, Oct. 22.—While no order has yet been passed increasing the pensions of soldiers, it is understood that the matter has been under consideration by the government and the pensions board and that official action is likely to be taken at any time. Members of the pensions board today would neither deny nor confirm the statement that there is to be a general increase in pensions of 25 per cent, but they indicated that steps would soon be taken to implement the promise made by Sir Robert Borden that at an early date an increase in pensions would be authorized upon a percentage basis. According to the prime minister's statement the percentage increase would be a temporary solution of the problem which would be finally dealt with by the new parliament to be elected.

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