

CANADA'S HIGH COMMISSIONERSHIP.

WORD comes from London that the position of High Commissioner for Canada is to be filled by the appointment of Hon. Robert Rogers.

This must not be. This Honourable gentleman stands to-day with the verdict of "no credence" pronounced upon him for making statements under oath which a judge of the Supreme Court of Manitoba refuses to accept. His debaucheries brought disgrace upon one Provincial Government; surely the Dominion is sufficiently humiliated having him as a Minister of the Crown without seeing him appointed to this high and honourable position. The High Commissionership for Canada, in London, with the right of entree into all the inner official circles of the Empire must not be entrusted to his care.

SOLDIERS VOTE.

When the Soldiers Voting Bill was under discussion in the House of Commons in 1915 not a few of the electors of Canada will remember the attacks made upon the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other members of the Liberal party when they stated that it seemed impracticable for the soldiers' vote to be taken in the trenches.

Vindication of the opinions thus expressed came on January 22nd, 1917, when Sir Robert Borden speaking in the House of Commons stated:—

"I know something of the conditions at the front, and I venture to put this thought before the House and the country: the men at the front will be not only practically, but actually, disfranchised if an election does take place in this country while they are in the trenches. That is my conviction. I say they would be actually disfranchised because, although I render every tribute to my hon. friend the Minister of Justice (Mr. Doherty) and the committee which had in hand the preparation of the Soldiers Voting Act of 1915, I am not disposed to think that the arrangements made in that Act or in any other act that could be devised are such as to enable those men to vote, or at least any considerable number of them. You cannot predict what conditions may exist. Supposing an election came on in this country when the fiercest drive of the war was taking place. Do you imagine that the paymasters of those regiments and their commanding officers could busy themselves with handing out ballots to men whose souls were engrossed and whose lives were at stake in the enterprise in which they were engaged?"

Sir Robert has evidently seen the "handwriting on the wall" or in other words the result of the soldiers' vote in the recent British Columbia elections.

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But after all why did the Borden Government ever pass a Soldiers' Voting Bill for if there was to be no election until after the war?

IMPERIAL WAR COUNCIL.

In the House of Commons on January 22nd, 1917, when speaking in regard to the Imperial War Council, the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated:—

"We (the Liberal party), therefore, are prepared to say at once to the Government that if they will postpone all other measures of public consideration, we are ready immediately to vote the necessary war credits that may be demanded, and also to grant a vote on account of the ordinary expenditures of the country for the time during which my right hon. friend will be absent from Canada, and to adjourn the House whenever it is convenient over any time that may be necessary to give him ample latitude for his business. I conclude by saying that, though we may differ on many things, upon this thing at all events we shall endeavor to meet the views of our friends on the other side, and to offer every possible facility for the carrying on of the Government of His Majesty the King."



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