

The Toronto World

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UNITED STATES.
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MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 11.

A National Government for Canada.

Canada must have a national government. The reconstruction of the British Government under a new premier on much broader national lines than the recent coalition is highly significant to Canada, and points the way to immediate action in the same direction. The World voiced on Saturday the absolute need of such a national government in Canada for the purposes of this war, taking the place of the more or less one-sided administration. We cannot afford to have party government in times of great national stress, when the demands of the day loudly call for national government, backed by a united parliament and a united people, all absolutely devoted to the winning of the war, and the great causes which Britain and her dominions and her allies have at stake.

We cannot stand, for a day longer, the policy that we have had in this country, any in regard to nickel. Nor should we have two parties bickering in parliament over the conduct of the war, and making an issue when there should be unity over the question of holding an election and extending the life of parliament. We should be united and not divided. Most of all we should be united for the supreme purposes of the war. We should avoid a war election and all its bickerings and consequent confusion.

We believe, therefore, that it is up to Sir Robert Borden to give this matter his most serious consideration; we even go so far as to say that we do not think it will be wise or good policy for him to delay until he returns from his recruiting trip to the west. In that trip he is really engaged in national service work, but that service can only be worked out in its best and fullest way by a national government, a union of parties, a united people.

If some steps are not taken in this direction we believe the people will make a clamor that cannot be neglected; and we know the women will be heard from as never before. So will the farmers and the workmen.

Perhaps the most outspoken declarations in this respect so far have come from Liberals, but Conservatives, and certainly the new party in the west, are also calling for unity.

East Toronto, where Hon. A. E. Kemp is seeking re-election, without any declaration on his part or his associates in regard to the present unpatriotic nickel policy of the government, or in regard to this greater question of national administration, may show the first outbreak of the people.

And if the responsibility is up to Sir Robert Borden and his associates so also is it equally imposed upon the leaders of the Liberal party and on any other political forces in this country; and we believe the outcry will be so pronounced that both parties will be forced to obey the call of the people for a policy that is absolutely in the interests of the national safety.

Submarining Acute

It was well for the German press to warn their readers that the reorganization of the British Cabinet was not a peace measure. Those who count upon any agitation for peace in Great Britain are entirely without knowledge of the British people. It was not because the people wanted less war, but because they wanted more war, that the navy has been put on a new footing, and the whole government of the country shifted about. It has not seemed to the British people that the management of the national affairs has been all it might be. Thru the press and thru their representatives there has been an ever-growing strength in the criticism leveled against the cabinet. A certain amount of muddling and mistake or failure is expected, and the British people have been marvelously patient over the Gallipoli and the Mesopotamia affairs. Whenever results have been shown they have balanced them with the failures

and waited to see. But the waiting of late has been less patient, and the Rumanian situation, combined with the comparative inactivity on the western front, and the merciless submarine warfare of Germany has made criticism insistent and imperative. German papers and pro-German papers in the United States, who interpret such criticism as a desire for peace, wilfully blind themselves and their readers to the true state of the case.

The new cabinet means, if it means anything, more united and aggressive action in all the phases of warfare, naval, military, aeronautic, submarine, or in ways yet to be devised, than has yet been attempted. It means necessarily a more united labor or industrial policy in Great Britain, more concentrated effort in the production of munitions and all other war supplies. There is no doubt that new methods will be adopted also, for there has been a council of research busy in Great Britain, similar to that which has recently been appointed in Canada, and the fruits of its labors will not be thrown away. There will be developments equally surprising in their effects as the activities of the "tanks," and the submarine menace has to be met and controlled. There can be no alternative to this necessity, so we may feel assured that it will be controlled.

The United States is more directly interested in submarine warfare than in any other phase of the fighting. Like a careful chess player, President Wilson has sacrificed many pawns to protect his queen. The Germans have steadily driven him from one peace position to another, until at present he has little peace ground to stand upon. A more aggressive war policy in Great Britain means a more ruthless policy for Germany, and the submarine problem is, therefore, likely to become speedily acute in American diplomacy. The only step left to the president is to break off diplomatic intercourse with Germany. The change in the British Cabinet brings such a possibility appreciably nearer. Does Germany wish to be on terms of warfare with the United States? That depends upon the support Germany is counting upon on this side of the Atlantic. The Deutschland has just arrived at her home port with private information, and no doubt this phase of affairs will be fully reported upon.

Preparing for the Future

While the war is proceeding at its usual pace we must not lose sight of some of the more important domestic problems. It has been discovered in the new artillery trench tactics that the bombardment must be maintained until the men are within a few yards of the zone of fire, so that the moment the barrage fire is lifted and the tanks can be over the parapets before the men in the dug-outs can come to the surface. The whole business should be a parable for all who are interested in industrial, commercial or other international after-the-war policies. The nation that is up on the trenches when the war is over, of its competitors' trade lines will be able to jump in and capture the business.

This is one reason, and a most excellent reason, why Canada should be forehanded with her hydro-electric policy. The Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission deserves credit for taking a wide-awake position on the question of developing power and conserving whatever resources are at our disposal for this purpose. It is not merely at Niagara that power is to be had, altho Niagara must be regarded as a main source for the older part of the province. The Kingston district and the Ottawa district are being considered at the present time, and wherever there is water power in the northern territories it is necessary now, and not to be put off to the future, to secure it and where required develop it for local consumption. There is a point where long distance transmission from water power heads cannot compete with local steam or producer gas or gas engine power. But within that limit all the water power that can be laid under tribute should be turned into the people's supply.

MRS. W. J. DUCKWORTH SUMMONED BY DEATH

She Was Wife of Plant Superintendent of the G. N. W.

Mrs. W. J. Duckworth, wife of the plant superintendent of the G. N. W., died on Saturday night, at her home, 240 Wellesley street, after an illness of about three months.

Mrs. Duckworth was a daughter of the late Robert Furness of St. Mary's, Ont., and was born in that town, but had lived in Toronto for the past 35 years. She was a prominent member of Carlton Street Methodist Church.

Mrs. Duckworth is survived by her husband, one son, William, at home, and one daughter, Mrs. Ralph H. Hornbrook, also of Toronto.

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TORONTO



DECLARES OPEN HOSPITAL WING

Duchess of Connaught Officiates at Chatham Naval Ceremony.

PRAISE LOYAL GIFT

Speakers Pay Tribute to Patriotism of Canadian Women in Raising Funds.

London, Dec. 10.—As already cabled, the opening of the new wing of the Royal Naval Hospital at Chatham on Thursday, November 23, constructed from funds raised by the women of Canada, was the happy consummation of a plan which had its inception more than two years ago; and it was fitting that among the fifty or so Canadians who went down by special train to attend the ceremony, Mrs. Albert Gooderham, chairman of the original committee, which set in motion the building of this wing, should be present. The Duchess of Connaught, who declared the building open, and the "sailors of high degree," Sir Arthur May, director-general of the admiralty, Sir George Callaghan, K. C. B., commander of the Nore division, and Sir George Housman, in charge of the Royal Naval Hospital.

In the first week of the war the good women of the Dominion were fired with what might not unfailingly be termed a sudden burst of patriotism, and an offer of a hospital ship was sent to the admiralty thru the medium of the Duchess of Connaught.

The idea was splendid and the sentiment of it caught on mightily from end to end of the Dominion; but unfortunately, Sir Arthur May explained at the opening ceremony the other day, the scheme was impracticable as the hospital ships sufficient for the whole fleet; and so the suggestion was made to use a part of the fund, at least, to provide one hundred beds for the wounded at Haslemar. And later, as the fund grew from the original £10,000 to nearly £40,000, the admiralty decided to use sufficient of the remaining amount to build the wing recently opened at Chatham. The women of Canada may take satisfaction from the thought that they have provided at least two land ships, one for the wounded and the other for the staff of nurses.

The Duchess of Connaught declared the wing open after being graciously introduced by Sir Arthur May, director-general of the admiralty, who said there was no one the Canadian women would rather choose for the performance of this ceremony than her royal highness, and he hoped that the building would serve for generations of British sailors as a continual reminder of the love, help and sympathy of Canadians in this hour of need.

Navy's Work Appreciated.
Sir George Callaghan, commander-in-chief of the Nore division, said a few words in introducing Sir Arthur May, who, he said, "desired to make a brief explanation of the disposition of the fund so generously given by the women of Canada." Sir Arthur added that the gift showed that the work our navy has been doing was appreciated by Canadians, even the watch and ward of the sea had little of the picturesque. These men go out to fight very little, for they can't find anyone to fight with." (Laughter) And a

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LOCAL.

According to report of the Soldiers' Aid Commission more jobs are now being returned than can be filled.

Fear is expressed that local garment workers may strike in sympathy with those of New York.

It is stated that Toronto Jail will be closed in three months.

Toronto coal dealers welcome investigation into their business.

Pte. F. Ludford, well-known Toronto man, member of the 76th Battalion, reported killed in action.

KILLED BY SHELL.

Brantford, Dec. 10.—Mrs. Henry Richards, 276 Brock street, has received a letter telling of the death of her son, Pte. Harry Richards, a former employe of Ham & Nott, and a member of the 44th. He was instantly killed by a shell.

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LIBERALS TO ASK LAURIER TO QUIT

Ottawa Gossip Selects Sir Wilfrid as Coming Victim of Party.

HAVE EYE ON ONTARIO

Malcontents Propose Premier Murray of Nova Scotia as Successor.

By a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—There is a good deal of gossip current here, in what ought to be well-informed circles, concerning the inside workings of the Liberal party in Canada, and bearing on proposed reorganization. It is even said that it has been agreed by the leaders and managers of the English section of the party that they cannot go to the country with Sir Wilfrid Laurier as leader, and expect to carry any of the provinces except Quebec, and they have, therefore, decided to take action to induce Sir Wilfrid to resign.

They have also decided, so it is said, upon Premier George Murray of Nova Scotia as his successor. They hope by this move to capture Ontario, where the mainstay of the Liberal party is the Scotch Presbyterians, of whom Premier Murray is one. Last session there was a canvass of the Liberal members regarding the succession to Sir Wilfrid the names submitted being Hon. George P. Graham, N. W. Rowell and Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux; and while none of the three got a majority of the members, Mr. Lemieux got the biggest support. However, it is believed that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is anxious to have Sir Lomer Gouin as his successor, and it was this that occasioned the gossip some time ago that Sir Lomer would be one of the Liberal candidates in Ottawa at the next election.

This important move in connection with the Liberal party, it is said, has been decided upon after discussions which have extended over several months, the Liberal committee of 100 being the active political spirit in the change contemplated. Of course, Sir Wilfrid and his followers among the French-Canadian members have yet to be heard from.

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COMMENCE NIGHT CLASSES.

J. W. Plewes Appointed Principal of Industrial Training School.

Chatham, Dec. 10.—J. W. Plewes, principal of the Central School, at a meeting of the advisory board for industrial training, was appointed principal of the industrial training evening classes which will be commenced in the city in January. Mr. Plewes will in all probability visit the technical school, London, with a view of adopting a system locally on smaller lines which is in use in that institution.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

THERE is no season of the year when the pleasures of the table are so much to the front. And this, the first Christmas in Ontario under prohibition, finds us with beers to meet the new conditions, while retaining all the old-time excellency of flavor and purity in the table beverages.

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