

Parliament was brought here to answer the question: Shall there be an extension or an election?

The answer apparently is expected to come from the opposition. To extend the term of parliament is the policy of the government as frankly declared in the speech from the throne. Indeed, it has been said that in the view of the government more importance was attached to extending the life of parliament than to carrying on the war. It was at any rate given first place on the agenda or sessional program.

Parliament will not be asked to answer the question of the hour until the debate on the address is concluded. When that debate is over the government's resolution for an extension of the parliamentary term will be given the right of way. If the resolution goes through it will be taken for granted that the elections are to go over until 1917. It will, of course, always be in the power of the government to go to the country; but, if both parties unite in bringing about the extension, there would seem to be a moral obligation on the government to dismiss politics for a time, and to devote itself entirely to the prosecution of the war.

It was observed that neither Sir Robert Borden nor Sir Wilfrid Laurier referred to the proposed extension of the parliamentary term in his speech upon the address. They did not anticipate the discussion which will not be in order until the resolution for an extension of the parliamentary term is reached on the order paper. Not at all of their followers, however, were so punctilious. More than one Liberal member intimated that he was not altogether in favor of the proposed extension. From the maritime provinces came objections to changing our constitution. Mr. Onésiphore Turgeon, the member for Gloucester, N.B., has always protested against any tinkering with the constitution. Constitutions, he says, are made to protect minorities, and those minorities should always oppose any change even though change would apparently be for their benefit. They should, he told the house the other day, suffer for the constitution even if they suffer from the constitution.

Judge McKenzie, the Liberal member for Cape Breton and Victoria, intimated that there might be some opposition to an extension. Hon. Dr. Pugsley did likewise. The doctor has, however, been on both sides of the question.

The Ontario Liberals fear an election as they would the plague, and the western Liberals are not keen for a contest. At their caucus a few days ago the Liberals are said to have discussed the whole question, and to have been anything but harmonious. Quebec and Maritime Province members desired to hazard everything on the chance of an election, but found no encouragement from their colleagues on this side of the Ottawa River. Sir Wilfrid Laurier asked the caucus to decide the question for him, but they replied, in effect, that he must decide it for them. That the Liberal chief personally favors an extension is pretty well known. It is therefore assumed in some quarters that the resolution for an extension will be passed by the house without a division. That, however, does not mean that it will be passed without criticism.

Upon the proposed resolution as amending a debate would be in order as the debate upon the address. The opposition might well propound many questions to the government. They might ask what fiscal changes are likely to be announced within the next two years. They might insist upon knowing what the government's policy is in regard to the railway situation. They might ask for some assurance that the government, after getting the extension, would not make a sudden dash to the country if, by any chance, the allies won a great victory in Europe. They might also demand an investigation into the operations of the shells committee.

The general idea here is that the government wants an election. That is in the ring. If the Liberals want the house dissolved they will be promptly accommodated. The Ontario Conservatives, however, shrink from an election during war time unless the responsibility for such an election can be placed on the Liberals. They are anxious for a dissolution but they want the Liberals to make them dissolve.

A good many Liberals are also of the opinion that the party responsible for precipitating a wartime election will fare badly at the hands of the people. Many of them would like to see an election but they want the responsibility for an election at this time to rest squarely upon the government. Some of them suggest that an extension should be refused unless the government agrees to investigate the shells committee. They think it would place the government in an awkward position if dissolution were resorted to for the purpose of staving off an investigation.

So it looks as though both sides were maneuvering for position. Not all members on either side want an election and few want one at all unless they can hold the other fellows responsible for bringing it on. The waiting time will come next week when the resolution for the extension is under discussion. The Liberals may take the stand that they will grant an extension provided the government grants an investigation of the shells committee. To this the government will reply that the investigation cannot be granted without the consent of the imperial authorities.

What then?

Quite obviously the Liberals will say anything like this: "If you really are willing to grant an investigation, join us in passing a unanimous resolution asking the imperial authorities to permit the investigation. We can cable that across and get an answer in 24 hours."

There are some who believe that the prime minister will decline to discuss terms with his opponents but insist upon the extension being granted un-

conditionally. The resolution could be put thru the house under closure but of course it is unlikely that the imperial parliament would amend the B. N. A. Act unless the request came from a united parliament. There would then be practically nothing for the government to do except to get ready for an election and, quite naturally, they might dissolve and get to the country as soon as possible.

One Conservative member said today that the party would not support the prime minister in a course which would lay him open to the charge of bringing on a wartime election in order to avoid an investigation. "It would tie a tin can to every Conservative candidate all over the country," is the way he put it.

Another interesting rumor is to the effect that His Royal Highness the Governor-General regards an election at this time as most inopportune. It is said that he would be slow to grant a dissolution and that he would urge the politicians to bridge over their difficulties in forming a coalition government.

Several rather notable speeches have been made during the past week in the debate upon the address. Mr. Carvell, the Liberal member for Carleton Place, presented what seemed to be a strong indictment against the shells committee. He came to grief, personally, by also assailing the department of agriculture for the purchase of hay in New Brunswick, but that is another story.

The remarkable feature of Mr. Carvell's attack on the shells committee was the vast amount of detailed information he had in his possession. No one seems to know where he got it.

The issue involved in the controversy over the shells committee is a somewhat complicated one. The critics of the committee start with the proposition that the manufacturers upon the committee occupied an inflated price as high as possible. It is not charged that higher prices were fixed for the benefit of the manufacturers; but they may have been. The second point made against the committee was that they did not make any undue profit. The committee will have less popular sympathy. It is that munition orders were distributed rather with a view to relieving the industrial situation in Canada than with a view to getting the best results from the least expenditure for the British Government. The munition business undoubtedly has been a boon to this country, and Canada is doing so much for the war that the committee could scarcely be criticized for doing what they could for Canada.

You may hear the real grievance against the committee voiced by a good many Conservative members outside of the chamber. It is the old story of manufacturers with good plants, being told that no orders were available, while at the same time orders were being given to people who were not in the manufacturing business. Mr. Carvell gave a startling list of companies, especially organized to get shell orders. They were incorporated and got the orders one after another within a few months' time, and yet, during that period manufacturers of good standing vainly applied for orders and were told over and over again that none could, or would be, placed. It is a curious feature of the whole business, which probably can be explained satisfactorily, but ought to be investigated.

There is probably not much in the contention that the prices were too high, although at first blush it seems strange that the shells which at first cost \$8.45 now only cost \$1.75. By comparison, Canadian prices were moderate and at present are very low, perhaps too low. The whole trouble would have been avoided if the government had gone into the making of munitions on a big scale at the start. Such action would not have interfered with private competition, but it would have served as a regulator of prices and we would know to a certainty many things concerning which we can now only argue, declaim or guess.

Mr. Carvell has long been a thorn in the side of the government, and there was much rejoicing on Thursday when he became a casualty. He was not so much hoist by his own petard as buried under his own hay. Hon. Martin Burrell, minister of agriculture, was the hero of the hour. He did not convict Mr. Carvell of doing anything very wrong, but he did convict him of having done the very things for which Mr. Carvell had unmercifully denounced others. In short, having a contract to furnish hay to

#### DON'T FORGET



Toronto World Sox Day,  
Feb. 15.

## JOIN THE WILLIAMS' ANNIVERSARY PIANO CLUB

Favorable trade conditions make it possible for us to present this great Piano Club again, with all its attractive features and savings.

### The Greatest Piano Offer in Canada

We have conducted this tremendous piano event for seven consecutive years. It has grown in volume and popularity because it is undoubtedly the most attractive piano offer made in Canada. Over 1,000 families are owners of instruments secured through this club. And they are pleased. Many families wait each year for the club to open. Its low price offer, easy terms, no interest and special privileges are the magnet that draws them. You cannot equal the value offered here.

### The Deal and the Pianos

The deal is a straight-out offer of 150 pianos. The instruments are of a most reliable and trustworthy character—THE WELL-KNOWN ENNIS & CO. PIANO, in which the real value is put on the INSIDE, rather than in fancy cases, although the cases are of genuine walnut or mahogany. We have known the piano for years. It is made by good, sturdy Canadian labor, in one of the best manufacturing in the world, by men, many of whom have been working in the same shop from twenty to thirty years.

### The Value of These Pianos is \$360

Hundreds of these pianos are being sold every month all over the Dominion of Canada at \$360. THEY ARE WORTH \$360. Measured by any standard of value you wish, they are worth \$360. The Williams' Club price is \$267.50. The price includes everything. There are NO EXTRAS of any kind. NO interest to be added. Nothing to be added for drayage, freight, stool—ABSOLUTELY NO EXTRAS. The saving to each Club Member—\$92.50—will pay for the musical education of one child for two years and five months at 75c a lesson.

Open Wednesday and Saturday Evenings During Club Event

CLUB OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF TORONTO AND VICINITY

**THE WILLIAMS & SONS CO.**  
R.S. *MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF QUALITY* **LIMITED.**  
145 YONGE STREET

the government in 1902, Mr. Carvell made contracts with hay buyers in his country, which stipulated that they should not in any event pay any farmer more than \$3 a ton for loose hay. It was business, but poor business for the professional friend of the

farmer. As Archie McColg observed on Friday: "We are all fond of the farmers, especially at election time."

Sir Sam Hughes made a remarkably good speech. There was scarcely a

touch of his old style, however. Responsibility, sobers, as prosperity follows the right kind of a man. Sir Sam will always be frank, fearless and outspoken, but he will never again be the happy free lance that he was before the war. Now and then, however, a little of the old Sam Hughes bubbles up and flows over before the minister of war can push down the lid. This, Mr. Carvell, the Liberal member for Cape Breton, who is of military age, but has not enlisted, learned to his sorrow. Sir Sam was defending himself from the charge of political favoritism. He said:

"I might point out that a gentleman has written me—I do not know whether it is true or not—that in one regiment in Nova Scotia twenty-four of the twenty-eight officers are Liberals and that three of those Tories are at the front, but the Liberals are all occupying soft jobs at home. Whether that is true or not, I would not recognize such twaddle anyway."

Mr. Carvell: What regiment is that?

Sir Sam Hughes: I shall be glad to tell my hon. friend privately, but I can assure him it is not the regiment to which he belongs.

On the whole, some hits have been scored by both sides in the debate. Next week when the house comes to discuss the extension of parliament we will come near to a show of hands and a trial of strength. Party feelings, I should say, runs higher than in any other session that has begun here for a contract to remove the garbage of New York City. Although the city has paid \$2,750,000 in seventeen years for removal of its garbage, a company now offers the city \$900,000 for that privilege for five years.

Counsel for the new bidder explained why the garbage had suddenly become so valuable by saying that the product of garbage after being treated with steam is grease, the value of which at present is high. From this grease, he said, comes glycerine, from which is made nitroglycerine.

## Toronto Can Save \$270,000.00 per Year

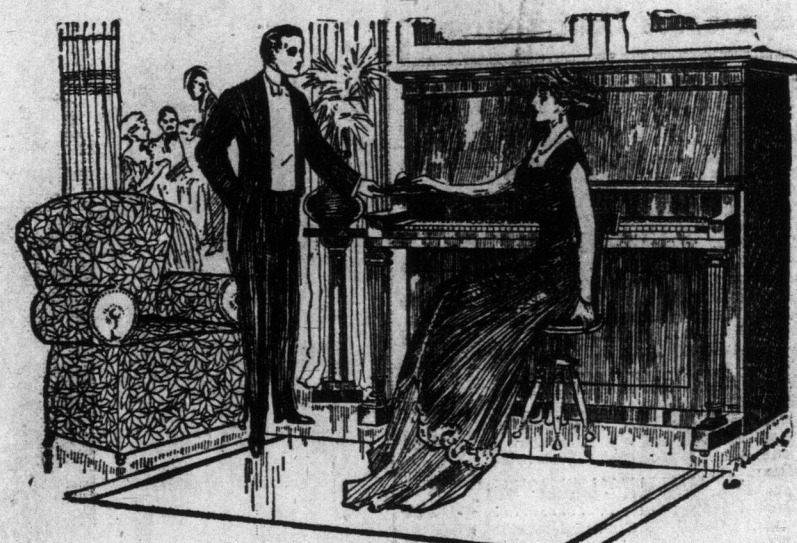
If Toronto citizens really and truly wish to economize and exercise thrift for their own good, and the good of the nation, they can save a cent a day in every household

### By Using LAWRENCE'S BREAD

There are about 90,000 homes in Toronto, and a cent a loaf saved on one loaf a day in each home makes \$270,000 saved by the city in less than a year. Try your part of this saving by using Lawrence's Bread in your home.

Order by Telephone  
College 321

GEO. LAWRENCE, Baker.  
21-31 Carr Street.



CLUB  
PRICE \$267.50

### Club Terms

(for Pianos)

\$5 Cash, \$1.25 Weekly

These 150 pianos will be sold for \$5.00 cash, then \$1.25 a week. The \$5.00 just about covers the postage and delivering—yet the \$5.00 payment made when you join the club is credited to your account. The piano is delivered immediately. You do not have to wait until the club is filled. You get your piano when you join. The remainder is payable every week. Club Members do not have to pay more than \$1.25 a week, if they wish. This gives them 210 weeks in which to pay for the piano, and still get it at the club price of \$267.50.

### Exclusive Club Advantages of the Williams Piano Club

CASH SAVING—Every member selecting a piano saves \$92.50 cash.

CLUB PAYMENTS—The special Club price is payable on reduced weekly terms—\$1.25.

NO INTEREST—Club members pay no interest on Club pianos. The club price includes everything. There are no extras of any kind. This is a great saving also.

PROTECTIVE INSURANCE—If a Club member dies, with all payments made as due, the heirs receive instrument without any further payments.

RELIEF INSURANCE—If a member is taken sick, or becomes unemployed, the privilege of making half-payments is granted for as long a period as he has previously paid in full.

REBATE FEATURE—A Club member can lessen the special Club price still more by paying faster than the Club terms call for.

FREE TRIAL—Every member gets ten days' free trial, during which he can return his instrument, and get back every cent paid in.

EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE—Club members have the privilege of exchanging their piano within one year, without loss, of any other instrument of equal or greater value.

GUARANTEED—Every Club piano is guaranteed for five years in writing.

FREE TUNING—Every instrument tuned once without charge.

FREE—Stool to match piano, and city delivery, FREE.

### TEUTONS MAKE CLAIM TO SUCCESS IN WEST

Report Capture of Thousand  
Yards of French Positions  
at Frise

ADMIT FRENCH ADVANCE

Official Report Says They Made  
Successful Attack on Position  
Near Neuville.

BERLIN, Jan. 29, via London, 3:19 p.m.—The capture of 1000 yards of French positions south of the Somme by German troops was announced today by army headquarters, prisoners to the number of 927 and 13 machine guns being taken.

The thousand yards of positions taken were south of the Village of Frise, which also was captured by the Germans.

Northeast of Neuville the Germans stormed trenches along a front of about 1700 yards, capturing 27 prisoners and 9 machine guns.

The text of the official statement given out today by the German war office says:

"Western front: To the northwest of the farm of La Croix, northeast of Neuville, German troops stormed 1500 yards of the enemy's trenches, taking

prisoners, 237 men, including one officer, and capturing nine machine guns.

Admit French Gain.

"Several French attacks against the position near Neuville, recently taken by the Germans, broke down, but the enemy succeeded in occupying the second mine crater."

No Great Teuton Win.

PARIS, Jan. 29, via London, 3:43 p.m.—The attack by the Germans on the French front south of the Somme yesterday along a width of several kilometres failed completely on the southern end of the line, succeeding only on the bank of the Somme against the Village of Frise, it was announced today by the war office.

FACTORY EXTENSIONS  
NUMEROUS THESE DAYS

Since War Began, More Permits  
Have Been Issued Than Any  
Other Period.

There have probably been more factory extensions made since the outbreak of war than during any period of equal length prior to that time. Four more applications have been made to the city architect for permits to make extensions and additions. The Dunlop Tire and Rubber Co. have applied for a permit to erect an addition to their factory on Booth avenue.

The Chapman Double Ball Bearing Co. wish to enlarge their premises on Sorauer avenue. The Canada Metal Co. has asked for permission to build a \$400,000 shot tower in connection with its factory on Fraser avenue. The Canada Pipe and Steel Co. has applied for a permit to make an extensive addition to its machine shop building on Atlantic avenue.

## Learn Music at Home

Piano, Organ, Violin, Cornet, Guitar,  
Banjo, Mandolin, Harp, Sight-Singing  
Easy Lessons FREE

No longer need the ability to play by shut out of your life. Just write us a postal to-day for our new Free Book, treat from the printer. Let us tell you how you can easily, quickly, thoroughly learn to play your favorite musical instrument in your own home, without a teacher, by our New Improved Home Study Method, without paying a cent for lessons. Different, easier than private teacher way—no tedious, dry exercises, no inconveniences. No trick music, no "numbers," but simple, wonderful, amazingly easy for even a child.

**200,000 Pupils!**

Since 1908 we have successfully taught over 200,000 people, from seven to seventy, to play the piano, violin, cornet, guitar, banjo, mandolin, harp, sight-singing, etc. We have learned more in one term in my home with your weekly lessons than in three terms with private teachers. "Everything is so thorough and complete." "The lessons are marvelous of simplicity." My eleven-year-old boy has not had the least trouble to learn.

We want to have our pupils in each locality as soon as to help advertise our wonderful easy system of teaching music. For a limited time we therefore offer our marvelous lessons free. Only charge is for postage and sheet music, which averages 12c cents weekly. Beginners or advanced pupils. We have hundreds of pupils, right here in New York, the musical centre of America, who prefer our Home Study method in place of best private teachers. Get all the proof, facts, letters from pupils, amazing free offer, and fact—nothing New Book. Just send, all free. Send coupon or postal to-day.

U.S. School of Music, 225 6th Ave., New York.

Please send me your free book, "Music Lessons by Home Study." I will just send, all free. Send coupon or postal to-day.

Name.....  
Address.....  
City.....  
State.....