

THE UNION ADVOCATE

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R. A. N. JARVIS,
Manager.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8th, 1917

SIR WILFRID'S MANIFESTO

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, has issued his manifesto to the Canadian people.

Sir Wilfrid claims that his "fundamental objection to the government's policy of conscription is that it conscripts human life only and does not attempt to conscript wealth, resources, or the services of any person other than those who come within the age limit prescribed by the Military Service Act."

The first duty of his Administration, says Sir Wilfrid, would be "to find the men, money and resources necessary to ensure the fullest measure of support to our heroic soldiers in the front; and to enable Canada to continue to the very end to do her splendid part to win the war."

To this he adds: "As to the present Military Service Act my policy will be not to proceed further under its provisions until the people are given an opportunity to pronounce upon it by way of a referendum. I pledge my self forthwith to submit the act to the people and with my followers to carry out the wishes of the majority of the nation as thus expressed."

Sir Wilfrid goes on to say that the economic situation is critical and promises to inaugurate "Tariff reform, control of food supplies and prices, and put a stop to profiteering."

Sir Wilfrid condemns the temporary disfranchisement of citizens born in enemy lands, and the only partial enfranchisement of women. He would take long steps towards free trade, would review the award to McKenzie & Mann for the Canadian Southern Railway and would, if necessary, fix the prices of the necessities of life. He finally calls upon the common people to rally round his banner and give him a majority of the next parliament.

And Sir Wilfrid Laurier never was the leader of a Canadian government nor the leader of the Opposition.

tion in the parliament, some plank of his manifesto would have more weight. He now proposes to fix prices where necessary, but we fail to remember any definite concrete motion of his as leader of the Opposition, in parliament during the war, to that effect. While Sir Wilfrid's party in parliament the last three years often severely criticised those who were managing the country and individual supporters proposed all sorts of remedies for the ills of the body politic short of the actual inauguration of the out-and-out collective ownership of the Socialist program, still his party as a party and its leader as leader fought shy of committing themselves to any drastic change of the country's time-honored economic system. Sir Wilfrid took office in 1896, on a free trade issue, but he did not inaugurate free trade. When he gave a referendum on the Prohibition of the liquor traffic in 1898, and the great majority of those voting declared for prohibition, his government did not inaugurate Prohibition. What guarantee have we that Sir Wilfrid's fair promises now will be any more faithfully observed in the future than they have been in the past, especially since so many of the best of Sir Wilfrid's recent lieutenants have, on patriotic grounds, left his following and gone into the Union Government led by Sir Robert Borden?

Conscription of Wealth is a catchword which is bandied about very much lately, and to which very few attach any very precise meaning. Sir Wilfrid must make his manifesto much clearer and much more definite if he expects many thinking people to transfer their allegiance to him from the Union Government.

Sir Wilfrid, while professing the greatest concern about winning the war, proposes to proceed no further with the Military Service Act until the people have an opportunity to vote on it in a referendum. Now the election is on December 17th. Parliament will meet on February 28th, and the organization of a new government and the preparation for a referendum on Military Service would, if Sir Wilfrid should win, take at least two months more, making it the end of April next before the Military Service Act, if endorsed by the people, could be again put into operation. And what would the Germans be doing in those four and one-half months in which Canada would be as completely out of the war as Russia now is? The Allies need more men at the front—need them now—and any delay in providing reinforcements to their war-worn battalions risks the winning of the gigantic struggle

on which such momentous issues depend.

SWEDEN'S NEW DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

The general election in Sweden held during the month of September, increased considerably the strength of the Socialist and Liberal parties in the House of Commons. The standing of the different parties after the election will be as follows:

Socialists	86
Extreme Socialists	12
Liberals	62
New Peasant Party (with Liberal tendency)	9
Conservatives	61

Total 230

As a result of the election, the Conservative Government has resigned, and was succeeded on Oct. 19th by a Government of seven Liberals and four Socialists. The new Prime Minister is Dr. Eden who has, for some time past, been the Liberal leader in the House of Commons, and of the Socialist members Mr. H. Branting is Minister of Finance, and Baron Palmstierna Minister of Marines. Mr. Branting, who has for a number of years been the leader of the Socialist party in the House, is a Statesman of international repute and looked upon as one of the foremost present day Socialists in Europe. He is considered strongly pro-Entente in his sympathies. Baron Palmstierna was formerly a naval officer, he is an active Y. M. C. A. worker, and although belonging to the nobility, an ardent Socialist.

The new Government stands on a broad Democratic platform, one plank of which is the granting of political suffrage to women on the same principles as men.

The most important and difficult of the problems which the new Government has to deal with, are those relating to the country's position towards the belligerent powers. After having been sworn into office, the Prime Minister made a declaration regarding the policy of his Government, in which he stated in part:

"Our most important task will be to maintain the strictest non-partisan neutrality towards all the belligerent powers in accordance with the intention repeatedly expressed by the Swedish State, and the direct stated wish of the Swedish people, and to carry on the commercial politics in conformity thereto."

Dr. Eden further expressed his and his colleagues hopes that the war may be followed by a lasting peace and an International state of Justice which will render it possible to

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

The GOOD WOOL BLANKETS

AT OLD PRICES---AT CREAGHAN'S

WE have been storing case after case of Fine Wool Blankets for over a year now—Every pair represents a saving that no economical buyer can afford to let go by. With wool at top-notch prices these Blankets will soon move with a rush and we want you to get a pair while these low prices last.

White Wool Blankets	\$4.50	5.50	6.50	7.50
Grey Wool Blankets	3.00	4.00	to	6.00
Heavy Cotton Blankets		1.50	1.75	1.95

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WHERE THE GOOD GOODS COME FROM

diminish the cost and burden of armament and guarantee the safety of the nation after such a reduction has taken place.

He further stated as follows:—"It is absolutely necessary that the Government and the whole nation unite all their strength in order to find means, if possible, to mitigate the pressure which we, at the present time, are subject to, and to go through the critical period without too much suffering. It is, therefore, necessary that every effort is made to make use of the country's own resources to the utmost, to encourage and develop the production of food stuffs, in particular such which is absolutely necessary, to equalize justly the interest of the producers and the consumers, and to maintain the commercial intercourse with foreign countries as extensively as possible."

Sweden has an area of 172,000 square miles, and is, therefore, one of the largest countries in Europe, although its population is only about 5,600,000. Its largest natural resources are its forests, which yield an income of about \$100,000,000. (Continued on page 5)

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

INCORPORATED 1869.
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

Capital Authorized.....	\$ 25,000,000
Capital Paid-up	12,900,000
Reserve and Undivided Profits.....	14,300,000
Total Assets	270,000,000

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL

340 Branches in Canada and Newfoundland

37 Branches in the West Indies

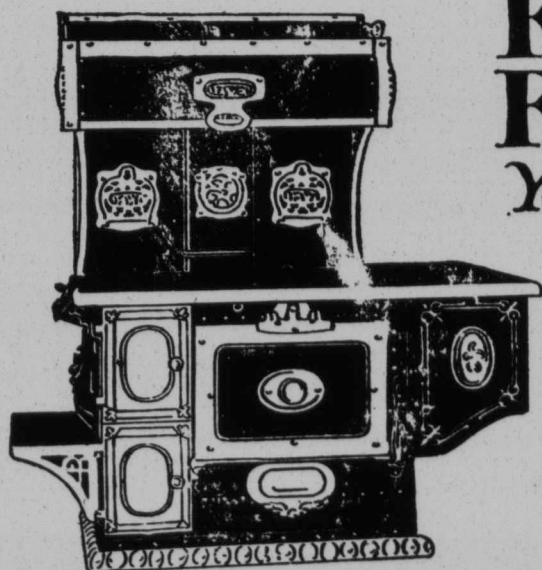
LONDON, ENGLAND: NEW YORK CITY:
Bank Bldgs., Princess St. E. C. Cor. William and Cedar Sts.

BUSINESS ACCOUNTS CARRIED UPON FAVORABLE TERMS
SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCHES

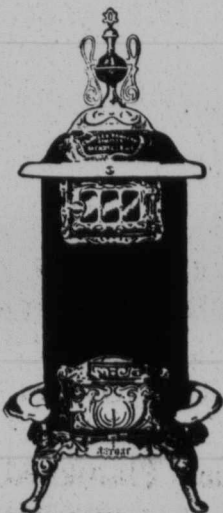
SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES

In the Bank's Steel Lined Vault, rented at from \$5.00 per annum upwards. These boxes are most convenient and necessary for all possessing valuable papers such as Wills, Mortgages, Insurance Policies, Bonds, Stock Certificates, etc.

Newcastle, N. B., Branch — E. A. McCurdy, Manager



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NEW RETORT HOT BLAST

FOR COOKING FOR HEATING

You get more for your Money

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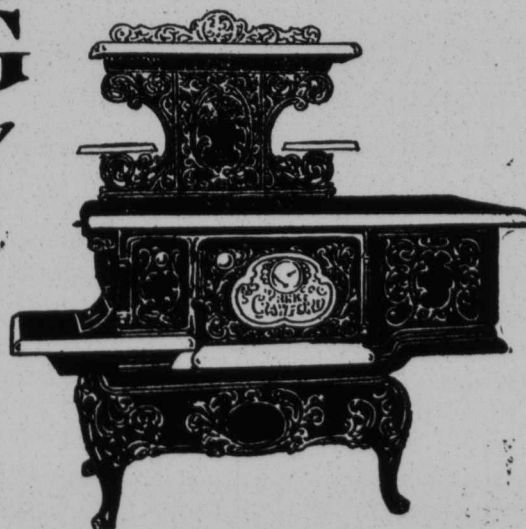
Ranges, Heaters
and Hot-air Systems
guarantee you this

HOW? WHY?

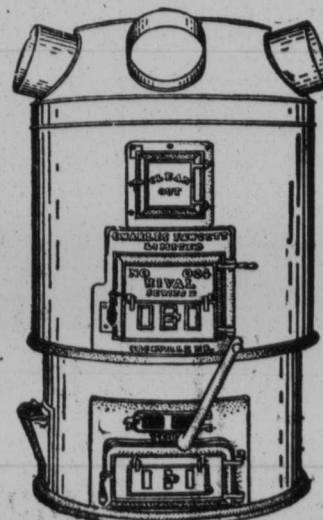
Fawcett Grates are all made to admit an immense amount of air from below the fire which forces the fuel to burn entirely to a white ash. Fuel burns longer and the gases and smoke are converted into fuel, because the fire boxes in Fawcett Ranges and Heaters are all built with hot-blast, smoke-consuming devices which burn the hot gases and smoke, thereby saving half the fuel.

These are only a few Fawcett features. Others can only imitate.

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