

KEEPING THE TRUCE

DURING the month of September, the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier appeared four times on public platforms at Ottawa and Toronto. True to the attitude adopted by the Liberal Leader before the War had actually commenced, an attitude which has been so heartily endorsed and adopted by the rank and file of the Liberal Party throughout Canada, Sir Wilfrid entirely eschewed political controversy in his speeches. The War, its causes, its certain result and effects, and the part which Canada is taking and will continue to take, has been the theme of uplifting and inspiring addresses in which the Liberal Leader, speaking on behalf of a united party which is but part of a united Canada, has proved by word and action his undeviating adherence to the "Truce to Party Strife"

SIR WILFRID AT TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 10.

SIR Wilfrid Laurier was one of the chief speakers at the great musical festival given by the American residents of Toronto under the auspices of the American Aid Society on Thursday, September 10. The concert was held in the Arena, and the entire receipts were donated to the Canadian Patriotic Fund. Being entirely the work of American citizens, resident in Canada, the occasion was unique in the history of the Dominion.

As he walked to the platform to deliver his address, Sir Wilfrid was greeted with tremendous cheering which was resumed with even greater volume as he assumed his attitude to speak. After paying graceful respects to his audience and to the speakers who had preceded him, Sir Wilfrid turned directly to the war and to Canada's part in the epochal struggle.

"Some few weeks ago Canada deliberated upon the situation, the stupendous struggle in which Britain is engaged and the part which Canada bears. All vestiges of political differences were eliminated. We found in comparing our views that we stood exactly upon the same platform. Without a dissenting voice it was the unanimous opinion of the Canadian Parliament that the war in which England is engaged to-day is a sacred war and that Canada must help to its last man and its last dollar."

For a Scrap of Paper.

"Yes, England would go to war for a scrap of paper," Sir Wilfrid declared, "and it is for that we are proud of England. That bond will be redeemed, as the German Chancellor knows now, though he did not know it then. The Kaiser stands before the bar of nations to-day charged with having broken his bond, and he must be made to redeem that bond. This war was commenced for the purpose of saving civilization; it is being continued to vindicate the right of humanity. The German Ambassador said a week ago that the war was ended. Whether or not the German Emperor is now ready for peace, Britain is not ready for peace and will not be until the bond is redeemed and Belgium granted her independence. She can never be recompensed for the loss of her sons and her cities. This war has been carried on with a cruelty that carries us back to barbarism. I do not think that the German people are by disposition a cruel people, but fifty years of Kaiserism and military rule has made Germany callous to human suffering.

After touching in praiseworthy terms of the American people and their sense of justice, and declaring: "I am proud to say as a British subject that there is

no man to-day in the United States, so far as my information goes, whose heart does not go with us" the Liberal Chieftain brought forth cheers when he exclaimed:

"We must face the situation as it is, and as Lord Kitchener told us some few days ago, we must have more men. There is a difference between the British nation and the nations of the continent. The nations of the continent get their soldiers by law, by conscription, and the enforcement of authority; the British nation get their soldiers not by law, but by appealing to the patriotism of men. Lord Kitchener tells us he wants more soldiers. If he wants more soldiers from Canada let him say the word, and we will respond to meet him. We are behind the mother country, and let us send them a message that this war must be fought out to a finish, and that arms must not be laid down until the principle for which it has been fought is vindicated, and until the day has come when right takes the place of might." (Loud cheering.)

AT DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON, TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 12.

AT the concluding luncheon of the directors of the Canadian National Exhibition on Saturday, September 12, Sir Wilfrid was the guest of honor and the chief speaker. His address, which naturally dwelt at some length on the exhibition, included a reference to the war which aroused the utmost enthusiasm. Freedom and justice—two basic principles of British institutions, were the keynote of a speech in which Sir Wilfrid again declared that Canada will do her full share in the cause of the Empire—in men and in money.

Sir Wilfrid struck a happy note in his reference to Peace Year and the marking of one hundred years of peace between Canada and the United States.

"That bond of friendship, which, I am glad to say, is ever growing stronger, will I hope forever banish the difference between these two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race."

Speaking of the war, Sir Wilfrid said the Exhibition was coming to an end under more popular auspices than it commenced. When the Fair opened the horizon was reddened and charged. People thought of one thing only—the war. The war had not been proceeding in a way that was cheerful to our hearts, but he was glad to see at the moment that the news was becoming more cheering, and they had every reason to believe for the time the tide of the German invasion had been stopped. But even in the prospect of victory war was a horrible thing. "But there is," he continued, "some consolation in this: that it teaches