

# THE ALBERTAN

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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1917**

## MR. IRVINE'S REASONS

In his address to a private meeting of the executive of the West Canadian Liberal Association, John A. Irvine, the opposition candidate, defended his position in declining to support the union government, by giving three reasons.

The first was that Sir Clifford Sifton and the big moneyed interests in Canada had largely organized and put through the union government, and were attempting to get control of Canada in the guise of patriotism.

This is a very important statement from one who has the responsibility of being a candidate for one of the biggest cities in Western Canada. This is a very serious condition of affairs, if true, and the people should be fully informed of the fact. The Albertan has enough confidence in Mr. Irvine to believe that he is not repeating empty gossip, but that he has some real information which he believes justifies him in making such a charge.

Because of the importance of this serious charge, The Albertan hereby invites Mr. Irvine to place before the people in the columns of this paper the facts which he has in his possession, which leads him to such a conclusion. It will not limit him to space, because if these things are true, the people of the province want to know about it, and should know about it. We shall give Mr. Irvine any reasonable time to prepare his information, but all will be much disappointed if he does not avail himself of the opportunity.

Mr. Irvine also says that he is opposed to union government because he does not like the way that the union government is selecting its candidates. This, too, is a matter which might be explained. If Mr. Irvine has been improperly approached to become a union government candidate, as he says some candidates have been improperly approached, it is his duty to the riding to expose the plot.

Mr. Irvine further says he is opposed to union government because he does not believe in arousing race against race. One race in Canada, the smaller race, which, according to the leader of the opposition, has failed in its duty to its country in this trying time, is opposed to conscription. The predominant race has done nobly, wonderfully. Mr. Irvine's idea of keeping peace between the races apparently is to join with the smaller race in opposing the reasonable policy of conscription favored by the dominant race. That is not a reasonable position to take. We believe that Mr. Irvine in this respect is wrong.

The fourth reason given is that Mr. Irvine does not want to join in supporting a government made up partly of Conservatives. That is the main point. Mr. Irvine, even at this time of terrible crisis, believes in standing by his party, opposing conscription, uniting with people who believe that Canada should draw out from the war, because he does not like the Conservative party.

The Albertan awaits with some considerable interest, as the people of the province await with interest, Mr. Irvine's facts, justifying him in making his serious charges.

The only politics that we can afford at the present time is Canada, the very truthful remark of Ralph Connor.

The Albertan is opposed to any attempt to extend the term of either mayor or commissioner without a vote of the people.

## SELECTING CANDIDATES

There is much resentment throughout Alberta at the report that the union government is giving orders that a Conservative shall run in this place and a Liberal in some other place. That is not democratic, and it is not the way that we have been accustomed to do things. And as a matter of fact, it is not the right way to do things, and it is not what is being done.

It has been explained that the soldiers' voting act will make it impossible or very difficult to have two unionist candidates run in one riding. According to the act, the premier must determine which is the government supporter. That would be an autocratic and difficult thing to do.

On the other hand, it is thought advisable to have as nearly as possible a fairly equal division of candidates from the old parties.

The members of the union government have given their advice in the matter. They have not set down any definite rule in the matter. They do not say that the unionists of this city or this riding shall have this man or that man, or of this party or of that party. They have made certain suggestions, which, without doubt, for the most part will be followed.

There is nothing autocratic about it. The nomination is still in the hands of the people.

And here let it be said that all this and many other difficulties would be solved if we had a proper system of voting at elections. If we had the proportional system, everything would be satisfactory, and we could have as many candidates as we pleased without making it impossible to elect the man whom the people wanted.

However, as we do not have proportional representation, the supporters of the union cause will proceed to select the candidates they desire, merely taking greater care in the candidate they select.

Before there is any extension of the term of office of the mayor and commissioner, the recall must be made somewhat more workable.

And while this question is under consideration, does Mr. J. A. Irvine's connection with the insurance business link him up with the Big Interests in the Dominion?

The Italian collapse, or partial collapse, means that neither the United States nor any other country can afford any unnecessary delay in getting troops to the front.

The next thing on the program is the Victory loan. You can kill two birds with one chunk of gold or its equivalent. You can make a good investment, and at the same time help the country along.

One of the serious features of the collapse in Italy is that it has occurred at the very time that Giolitti, former dictator in the Italian parliament, and at one time pro-German, has regained control.

The world is now looking for the United States to do its part in the great world struggle. Its adoption of the policy of conscription has greatly increased its chances of becoming a factor when such is needed.

Level-headed George Lane looked at the union government from all sides and angles. He is a business man, who is interested in developing the resources of the country. He took his time, and he decided to support union government.

And now the report is that R. B. Bennett will not run in Calgary or any other place, after all, after all. He is the changeable young person, and the worst of it is, keeping John A. Irvine in the utmost suspense respecting his method of campaign in West Calgary.

There is nothing mandatory in the suggestion of the Alberta members of the government about the candidature in the different ridings. A nomination carried out in this fashion at this time is much more democratic than the selection of candidates three years ago before any of the burning questions now under consideration were even thought of.

**FIGHT OR PAY**  
In their comfortable dugouts they lie,  
These heroes we all love so well;  
Eager to live yet willing to die—  
On us they are going through hell.

Our surroundings are cosy and nice,  
We are shielded from all harm and care;  
But we can't realize what a price  
They are paying for us over there.

Each is the son of some mother,  
Each knew the love of a friend  
Who cheered them away; they expect  
Us today  
To cheer them right through to the end.

Is each of us doing his bit?  
Are we cheering them still on their way?  
For they need all the help they can get.  
If you can't fight—for God's sake, pay.

—J. Ross.

## TURKS WANT KAISER DEFEATED

A Majority of Common People Inclined Toward United States

# KITCHENER And Other Poems

By  
R. J. C. STEAD

Gilbert Parker gave us prairie scenes in his tales of Pierre; Mrs. McClung and Ralph Connor have added to the literature of the prairies, and Robert W. Service has been the Kipling of the Yukon. In their various spheres these authors have made valuable additions to Canadian literature, but it remained for Robert J. C. Stead, a quiet Calgary author, to write books and poems that make Western readers involuntarily exclaim, "This is the living truth, and a story of mine own people."

Many of the poems included in this, Mr. Stead's new volume, have appeared in the leading newspapers in Canada and England. The title poem, "Kitchener," is already well-known wherever the English language is spoken. It was eulogized by the London Spectator, was reprinted by English admirers for distribution in the army hospitals, and subsequently found its way around the world in the press of east and west. It is probably the only poem by a Canadian which was ever included in its entirety in a telegraphic news service.

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**Luke MaLuke Says**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer.

When a 17-year-old girl marries a 70-year-old man it is our belief that she should keep in her head and heart, in black all the time.

A lot of men didn't realize that there was such a thing as a girl who is young until whisky jumped from a dime to 15 cents per shot.

Maybe the man of few words would be more popular if he didn't repeat them so often.

Any old time you feel like an also-ran when you face the barrier you are going to run like one.

When you see a fellow trying to get drunk, it is hard to tell whether the girl threw him over or married him.

There are a whole lot of rules through which you may achieve success. But this one is as good as any: Keep your feet warm and keep your head cool.

Some men have such poor memories that if they could live their lives over the chances are that they would make the same mistakes.

It is hard to make a prince believe that some day she will be so old that she will want to lie about her age. But she will.

It doesn't help a narrow-minded man to wear padded shoulders in his coat. It doesn't pay to knock a man. It is a mighty poor man who hasn't enough friends to make it dangerous to abuse him without a comeback.

The difference between being wedded and being wedded to is that the first is a sweetheart is that you are not likely to neglect your art.

Some morning Lovey is going to forget to crush Dovey to his heart and carry her fondly before he leaves the house in the morning and will merely peek at the side of her face with his lip. And that day the honeymoon will sneak down to the crematory and crawl into the oven.

Women are natural born actors. That is why it is so easy for a girl to make a man believe that it is her first experience when she is being kissed by him.

Distance lends enchantment to the cooking that mother used to do. If you had to eat her indigestible dough and drink her muddy coffee today you would raise Cain. If this be inconceivable, make the most of it.

**MANY WESTERN SEATS WILL GO BY ACCLAMATION**

Doubtful if R. B. Bennett Will Contest West Calgary

Ottawa, Oct. 29.—Arrangements for many acclamations in the west, so far as they can be arranged for by the organization of the old parties, are reported here. The proposal is to have the union government represented by eight former Conservatives and seven Liberals in Manitoba; six Conservatives and 10 Liberals in Saskatchewan; five Conservatives and seven Liberals in Alberta and nine Conservatives and four Liberals in British Columbia.

R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, has left for the west. It is understood that he will not be a candidate in the coming election.

## PROF. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

The inventor of the telephone, who says, people may some day be able to see as well as hear over the telephone wire.



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## ORIGINAL FIRSTS SHOULD BE GRANTED LEAVE TO CANADA

Late C.P. Representative to Allied Front Urges Petition; Believes War Will Be Won on West Front

Toronto, Oct. 29.—Stewart Lyon, late representative of the Canadian Press, Ltd., in France and Flanders, returned to this city this morning.

"The people of Canada," he said, "ought very seriously to urge on the military authorities that leave to Canada should be granted to the 'original firsts.' It is the thing that the Canadian corps in France wants more than anything else."

"The number of the 'original firsts' as the men of the first division are called, is pitifully small. The highest number in any battalion is 110. That means that of the 1,000 men who originally formed the battalion, just one-tenth remains in the field. In some battalions the number of 'original firsts' is less than 50."

"There is no military reason," said Mr. Lyon, "why they should not come back."

As to conscription Mr. Lyon said that the feeling among the men at the front was the shrewdest folly to try and minimize the Italian and Russian disasters. "But the war will not be won in the east," he asserted. "It will be won in Flanders and northern France. We may feel confident during this trying period that ultimately the three great democracies—the British peoples, France and the United States—will make an and of the whole automatic system of government. It must go if civilization is to remain."

Referring to the Canadian contingents, Mr. Lyon said: "The Canadians have proved themselves really excellent shock troops. The fighting around Lens, at Vimy Ridge, Hill 70 and other places adjacent there involved considerable initiative on the part of the troops. This is particularly applicable to the suburbs of Lens. Among the ruined towns there it is quite easy for men to hide themselves until led forward by their commanders. It can be said with a great deal of confidence that all the Canadian troops needed was restraining rather than leading when a battle was on."

The experience of the arms of the men at home 'out on their own' was also invaluable when it came to fighting in the cellars, often in the dark, or crawling from shell hole to shell hole to stop the Boche. To this more frequent use of initiative is due, very largely the reputation the Canadian troops, British-born and native-born, have acquired in the various assaults launched this season. In the early part of the war they showed up their tenacity in holding positions in the Somme that they were equally valuable.

**Morale Splendid**  
"The morale of the men is splendid. That the utmost confidence is reposed in them by the allied leaders is evidenced by the fact that they were utilized as shock troops around Ypres. The relationship between the Canadian and British troops is cordial. Closer contact between the two has led to a better comprehension and appreciation of each other's abilities. The British troops are ardently admired by the men of the Dominion as courageous and un-

selfish. There are very few of the original first contingent left. From reliable sources I learned that the highest number in any battalion of those who left the shores of Canada in 1914, was 110. Many of these units are reduced to 50 men each, one-twentieth of their original strength. All told there probably will be no more than 3,000 men, not more than two shiploads to transport. This does not apply to the men who have been drafted in to make up the strength of the original battalions, but to men who enlisted with the first contingent, went overseas, and have fought right through. These men rightly feel that they are entitled to a 'turlough.'

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**THIS ONE**  
Is luxuriously easy; made with full spring construction in seats and back. Has 3 loose cushions. The upholstery is a soft shade of green in verdure pattern tapestry. All exposed wood is mahogany. Price ..... \$99.00

**THIS ONE HAS THE "WING" ARMS**  
Arms at the top as high as the back in the "wing" style. Has springs in the back and bottom with 3 spring filled cushions to give it comfort. The tapestry is a beautiful green and rose color. Price ..... \$90.00

**THIS PARTICULAR ONE**  
Is upholstered in a tan conventional pattern tapestry. The feet are mahogany. The back is high and comfortable. The seat is low and soft, easy, being of spring construction as well as the back. Price ..... \$92.75  
Rockers to match ..... \$60.00

**THIS ONE HAS RECLINING ARMS**  
This style with the low seat and wide reclining arms is very popular. It has 3 loose cushions, all on spring bottom. The back is wide, and seat is deep and easy. The feet are in turned oak. Price ..... \$125.00

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