

THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

VOL. V. No. 6.

OTTAWA, FEBRUARY, 1918

TWO CENTS

THE ENUMERATORS.

TO THE READERS OF THE LIBERAL MONTHLY:—

Fragmentary information has come to the Central Liberal Information Office to the effect that gross irregularities, many flagrant violations of the law, were systematically resorted to by returning officers, deputy returning officers, enumerators, candidates and agents of the Government. The information thus received shows amongst other delinquencies, the following:—

1. That as a rule the enumerators kept no office, that it was difficult to locate them, that they left off names of persons qualified to vote, and left them off even after their attention had been called to the fact that such persons were entitled to vote, that the names of persons actually on the list as published were subsequently removed by the enumerators.

2. That Deputy Returning Officers refused to allow persons to vote on certificate.

3. That the D. R. O.'s acted as if they were the election agents of the Borden Government and challenged the right of persons to vote who were likely to vote Liberal.

4. That without regard to nationality, language or place of birth, persons, although naturalized, were not permitted to vote because of the fact that they were born in Norway or other European countries of which Germany or Austria has nothing to do.

5. That Germans and Austrians naturalized previous to April 1st, 1902, were not permitted to vote, although even the notorious act does not disqualify them.

6. That persons of European blood, although born in Canada, were not given the vote.

7. That Americans naturalized in Canada were not allowed to vote.

8. That the names of women and other persons not entitled to vote were placed on the list.

9. That soldiers were known to have voted more than once.

10. That the names of Indian women were improperly placed on the list and these squaws in some cases voted for the Borden candidate.

11. That the Returning Officer refused to supply the lists of enumerators to the Liberal candidate.

12. That sufficient ballots were not supplied at the polls and polls were placed in inconvenient localities.

13. That it was suggested to soldiers that in regard to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 in Form B that they answer by stating "I cannot say" and thus allow a further suggestion to be made that they designate a riding in which they wished their vote to be counted.

14. That discharged soldiers who under section 10 of the Military Voters Act were entitled to vote "as an elector of the polling district wherein he is resident at the time of polling" were requested to move for the day of the election to a riding where their vote would be useful when such sojourn is not residence within the meaning of the law.

15. That telegrams, letters, copies of papers, speeches, &c., were sent out by persons acting on behalf of the Government promising exemption from Military service without regard to the procedure set forth in the Act.

16. That cables or telegrams were tampered with as for example one soldier cabled "Home Christmas" and when the cable was delivered it read "Home Christmas. Vote Union Government."

17. That improper suggestions had been made regarding the disposal of the Patriotic Fund and other war-time efforts put forth by the people as a whole without regard to political views.

(Continued on page 78.)

THE LIBERAL MONTHLY

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ELECTION—CONSCRIPTION.

Two significant admissions have recently been made in the organs of the so-called Union government. One, in the Montreal Gazette, was to the effect that Ontario was making a constitutional error in not holding an election. One of the arguments of the Gazette was that an election in this province would not cause much disturbance; another was to the effect that by not holding an election a dangerous precedent would be established and one which, in the future, might be evoked to balk the will of the people. To those who recall the Tory arguments against a Dominion election last fall the position of the Gazette is amusing. The Liberals were accused during the campaign of precipitating an election that would only disorganize Canada's machinery to prosecute the war, and it was even stated that there was German propaganda behind the Liberal determination to attempt to ascertain the will of the people—a purpose which the government skilfully blocked by depriving thousands of voters of the franchise and bestowing it upon many thousands of others who were not entitled to it.

The second admission is far more significant. It is to the effect that the popular supposition that the Military Service Act is designed to raise 100,000 men is altogether erroneous. The Tory press apologists now assert that the Act nowhere mentions 100,000 men, or any number of men. This may be quite true, but the government organs forget the flamboyant declaration of Premier Borden that he would add enough men to the overseas force to bring it up to 500,000 in all. As there were something near 400,000 men at that time under arms, or had enlisted in Canada, the only reasonable conclusion is that 100,000 more were to be secured by the new legislation. But the truth is that the administration press is beginning to realize that the required number of men cannot be secured, that not more than 40,000 or at the most 50,000 can be enlisted under the compulsory measure. They are simply preparing a soft place for the government to fall when all the facts are brought out this session in the house of Commons.

FISH.

It is becoming somewhat of a monotonous occurrence to read of "cheaper fish" in the daily press. We are told every so often that the government is looking after cheaper fish and are regaled with descriptions of the manner in which the food is to be transported and retailed. As a general thing these reports are all of a piece. Some small shipments of fish have reached the larger centers but the whole effort is very much of a failure, if, indeed, it can be considered serious at all. Places like Ottawa and Kingston have received 500 or 600 pounds of fish at intervals of several weeks but it cannot be pretended that this is implementing the

rosy promises of our paternal administration. Would it not be better if the fish story were regarded in the same light as the piscatorial achievements of local Isaak Waltons, whose tales, while amusing, are lacking in the only substantial proof acceptable in the circumstances?

THEIR REWARD.

The patronage game as practised in Ottawa has proved almost too strong for even the converts to Union government. Following several flagrant episodes which were marked by the giving of soft jobs to party workers for the Tory machine, the announcement was calmly made that the administration had retired the veteran postmaster of Ottawa and had appointed in his place Mr. Andrew Acres, a former real estate agent and secretary of the local Tory machine organization. This was hailed by an angry protest from the Ottawa Citizen which advocated Union government during the campaign. The Citizen, in its simplicity, imagined that the new administration was out to abolish patronage but it has received a rude awakening. It is significant that the thorough-paced Tory journals in the capital emitted never a squeak while the Citizen was working itself up into a fury. The Citizen made the mistake of imagining that pre-election promises were to be respected after the ballots were counted.

PRODUCTION.

The truth of the Liberal contention that the enlisting of another huge number of men for military purposes would redound to the disadvantage of Canada and her Allies because of the greater need of more production is already being demonstrated. The provinces have made representations to Ottawa that some 35,000 men are needed at once for spring crops, while for the fall harvests over 50,000 will be required. All these men are needed west of Ontario—in the very provinces where conscription secured its largest vote in the general elections! Unless labor in sufficient quantity can be got Canada and the Allies will suffer severely from higher prices and actual lack of certain commodities. The only available market for labor is in the United States, and we shall have to look to the republic for such aid as may come to us in this crisis.

PATRONAGE.

We hear a great deal about the abolition of Patronage in the Civil Service and boast has been freely made of what a Union Government could and would do in that way. Some of the newspapers supported Union Government in the election on the ground that such a government could accomplish the end of this evil when a Party government could not. Some of these papers are now disappointed to find no sign of the reform they wanted. In fact, there is every evidence that it is forgotten. What could they expect from a Government headed by Sir Robert Borden? We must judge men's future actions by their past. What evidence is there that Sir Robert Borden is capable of Civil Service Reform?

In 1908 the Laurier Government introduced a

radical reform in the Civil Service, making entry to the Inside Service by competitive examination and appointing an independent non-partizan Commission whose control over the Inside Service was practically absolute and they evidenced their good faith by naming to that Commission Professor Shortt who was in no way connected with politics or the Liberal Party, and Mr. Larochelle who had They appointed as the Secretary Mr. Wm. Foran who is well known to be a Conservative. Provision was made in the act to bring in the Outside Service as justified. One clause provided for appointment of technical or special officers on approval of the Commission, but without competition. This was very sparingly used under the Laurier Government.

In 1911 elections Sir Robert Borden inserted in his program a clause for further Civil Service Reform. He came into power and fulfilled this pledge for a non-partizan Civil Service by dismissing or causing the resignation of 13,466 Civil servants and the appointment in their place of 25,613 partizans, many of them in direct defiance of the provisions of the Law or by a stretch of the clause above referred to. During the six years, from 1911 to 1917, practically no Liberal was appointed and nearly all the appointees were partizan active Conservatives. No improvement in the law was attempted.

It was hoped that Union Government would improve on this. So far there is no indication of change. It is true, some old time Liberals have been appointed, but only those who supported Union Government and are, therefore, just as much partizan Union Government as Conservatives under a Conservative regime or Liberals under a Liberal regime. Before the boast that the Service of the State is not used to reward supporters of the Government we must see some sound, capable and efficient straight Liberal in the last election appointed to some position in which he can do good work. No one asks for any other appointment. The very new composition of the Civil Service Commission shows no desire to make it non-partizan. Dr. Roche, the Chairman, is a good man, one of the best in the late Government, but still a straight strong Party man and one who never showed any great interest in Civil Service Reform. Mr. Jamieson, ex-Conservative Member of Parliament, is in the same class. Neither in any way qualified as is Prof. Shortt who has been removed to make place for them. When we find the appointments to the Civil Service Commission itself purely political and partizan, how can we expect the Commission itself to be other and how can we expect the Government to do other than continue its partizan appointments.

A plea has been put forward that legislation is needed to bring the Outside Service under the Act of 1908 and under control of the Commission. That is not so. Under a clause in the Act by recommendation of the Commission and order in Council based on it, any part of the outside service may be brought under the Act. For instance, the Customs and Post Offices in all cities and towns could be brought in at once. Inland Revenue officers are in the same category. For appointments in local post offices there would be difficulty in having competitive examination but appointments could be

made on recommendation of the Commission instead of political supporters as was the case of such a purely political appointment as that of Mr. Weldon to the position of Collector of Customs of Montreal. This is a case quite out of the ordinary departmental appointment. It is one of the big plums of the Civil Service. It is notorious, and well known in Montreal that Mr. Weldon withdrew from St. George-St. Lawrence Division to let Mr. C. C. Ballantyne have a free field on condition that he would get this office. He has it. The fact that for months the office has been managed by an employee of the Department in an efficient manner shows that promotion in the Service was feasible, and Mr. Reid's emphatic declaration on the floor of Parliament on April 20th, 1917, that he was keeping it for a returned soldier shows there was no excuse for this purely party nomination. Mr. Reid said: **"My understanding of the Order in Council is that if a returned soldier is entitled to a position as an officer of Customs at a salary of \$200, he is entitled to a position in the City of Montreal at \$4,500. I have, therefore, taken the same position in respect to this office as I have in respect to the other offices in Canada now vacant and which I am holding. I have sent men from other offices to fill positions temporarily until I can get men who have served at the front and who I believe could fill the position."**

Following is extract from the Order in Council referred to: **"In making all appointments to the Civil Service, whether in the Inside or in the Outside Service, preference shall be given to those candidates who have served overseas in His Majesty's Forces during the present war, and who have been honourably discharged therefrom, especially to those who through disability occasioned by active military services are unable to fill their previous occupations.**

Heads of Departments, Deputy Heads of Departments and the Civil Service Commission shall, within their respective jurisdictions over appointments, be responsible for establishing systematic methods for ensuring that such preference is given."

Mr. Reid's language above quoted was a promise that that office should go to a returned soldier. Mr. Weldon's appointment is not only a breach of faith as to the abolition of patronage but a further breach of faith to the returned soldiers, a commentary on the value of the promises held out before and during the last election to secure the votes of the "Boys at the Front."

Mr. Reid is an old member of the Conservative Government now in the Union Government, and such is his conduct and responsibility for it. Mr. Calder is a new member of the Union Government who has expressed himself as follows: **"A Union Government means better administration, more energy and less waste. I believe it will cut the very heart out of the patronage evil in Canada and place the Civil Service throughout the Dominion on a higher plane. Unless these things are done I will not stay in a Union Government. It has been the curse of our public**

life from one end of Canada to the other. The time is come when the people will stand it no longer. I mean business and I trust that every other member of the Government will see it in the same light."

Independent of the special Civil Service there are under the present Union Government as under the late Tory Government appointments to all sorts of public service—one of the crying crimes of Sir Robert Borden's Government has been the absorption of practically all of these for political followers of the Government, marking the whole work of Canada for and in the war one-sided and partizan. The Union Government is continuing in the same course. The appointments of Mr. A. N. McLean as Controller of Mounted Police, Mr. Boyce on the Railway Board, the above referred to members of the Civil Service Commission, Mr. Brabazon, Mr. M. E. Nicholl, and the Commission for the rebuilding of Halifax, etc., etc.

In the last case Mr. Fowke, an old Liberal, has been appointed but he was and is a supporter of the Union Government and though a very respectable honourable man, it cannot be claimed that he has any outstanding qualifications for that work beyond his energy in the last election in support of the Union Government.

Two other flagrant cases of partizan appointments made since February 5th, 1918, Mr. Andrew G. Acres, for years Secretary of the Ottawa Conservative Association and in the last general election organizer for the Conservative candidates, Messrs. Fripp and Chabot. It is true, Mr. Acres donned the King's uniform as paymaster in the 77th regiment, but never got past England, and has been in Ottawa for months looking after his own private interests and incidentally helping in winning the elections.

The other partizan appointment is that of Mr. A. H. Musgrove, Conservative M.P.P., for North Huron, as postmaster of Wingham, Ont.

It is the old story. Reward for political support. The loud appeal for support during the election on the ground of radical reform in this respect is forgotten as soon as a further lease of power is assured

As a matter of administration, this is bad enough and is to be deplored but there is a wider and more serious aspect of the case to be considered. Is it a practice to be condoned when public men make pledges to the people and then ignore them? As long as office seekers can do this with impunity, men of low political morality will do it, and it is only when they find they are punished for it that they will cease.

In the new Parliament is a large number of members new to the House, men who have ideals of duty and responsibility to their electors and regard for pledges. It is for these men regardless of party affiliations to enforce these views. Now and in this particular case is a test of them and it will indeed be a poor augury for the future public life of Canada if they submit to the continuance of party Patronage and disregard of pre-election pledges.

"LIBERALS AND LAURIERITES"

(From the London Advertiser, Jan. 24, 1918)

THEY must not be called Liberals; they must be called Laurierites," is the effect of a dictatorial article appearing in a Unionist paper. The real Liberals, we are told, are those who joined forces with Borden, White, Flavelle & Co., and by means of the war franchise act and a controlled system of "enumeration" secured power in the recent election.

Liberalism by whatever name it may be called is an imperishable thing. Its history has been to be beaten down, bruised and broken, and to arise again. Liberalism spoke with the voice of many men in England. Cromwell arose from the ruins of a bullied democracy to assert the essential zeal for freedom of British people. In Canada, a campaign of studied publicity may lead the people to call the Opposition which will assemble in March by the name of Laurierites. But what does it matter. The men toward whom his name is cast as bearing some strain of dishonor, will bear the name proudly. They are branded as the followers of a good man, a true man, a man who has stood with his head above the clouds of political deceit, a man who will be given his rightful place as a great Britisher ere many months have passed, a man who has been for the welding of the Empire and the Dominion, not by edict or dogma nor the stacked cards that any party in power may arrange, but by calm, reasoned, high-minded regard for the essential justice of the spirit that controls the Empire.

Liberalism as a political party may be anything, but Liberalism as a principle is undying. As a party it has attracted in the past men who were willing to bear the attacks of class-entrenched rulers in order that a people might finally win to freedom. These men formed into organizations, local, provincial and Dominion-wide. From each riding men were selected to attend conventions for the choosing of leaders. The system led back to the rank and file of the party in theory; it was unfortunately often left to a few men to name the men who should lead. These organizations of Liberals will continue to name men for the conventions. The conventions will choose the leaders. Insurgency may form itself into a separate party, but the will of the majority will decide. Who shall lead in the Dominion, who shall lead in the province, will be questions for the delegates. The voice of Liberalism will be heard in no uncertain tones. Those who arrogate to themselves the right to decide who shall be called Liberals, who shall control the fortunes of the party, who shall lead and who shall follow may discover that the matter does not lie within the powers of decision of any newspapers or any clique. When the time has come for the calling of these conventions, the real Liberals of the land will be heard. They will make it known whether Laurier is a Liberal or whether Rowell or some other is to be the chieftain. And it will be well for the Liberal party, whatever that may be, when the rank and file have been summoned, to say who shall have the right to bear a name and who shall have the right to choose a leader.

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PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Part 1—The Need for a New Method of Voting.

Edmund Burke once said: “The virtue, the spirit, the essence of the House of Commons consists in its being the express image of the nation.” If Burke was right—and few political thinkers have disagreed with him in this—then a brief examination of the conditions under which we elect our national Parliament will make clear the pressing need for reform.

For the purpose of ascertaining the people's will we have a method of election known as the “single-member constituency,” under which the country is divided up into a number of constituencies varying very greatly in population, and each constituency (with the one exception of the City of Ottawa) elects one representative to Parliament.

There are usually two or three questions of importance before the country at every general election. The citizens within one of these small areas may hold very different views on these questions; but nevertheless, the theory is that one man can speak on all questions for all the citizens who happen to live within one of these areas. That one man is he who polls the largest number of votes.

This simple statement shows how crude is our system of election. In addition to being crude, it frequently results in serious injustices and it limits very materially the freedom of electors, of candidates and of members of Parliament.

Minorities are Disfranchised.

Frequently minorities obtain no representation at all and are as completely disfranchised as if their names had been struck off the voters' lists altogether. The two examples following will suffice to prove the truth of this statement:

*Federal Election, 1904, Nova Scotia:—

Party.	Votes.	Seats.
Conservative.....	46,131	0
Liberal.....	56,526	18

*Federal Election, 1911, British Columbia:—

Party.	Votes.	Seats.
Conservative.....	25,622	7
Liberal.....	16,350	0

Minorities are Penalized.

Minorities may not only be disfranchised, they are often actually penalized. As an illustration, take the City of Toronto

—although any other large city might do equally well. In 1911, Toronto polled some 50,000 votes. The city is divided up into five single-member constituencies (approximately one member to each 10,000 voters), and the Conservatives, being in the majority in each of these constituencies, elected all five members. But considerably more than one-fifth of the votes polled were Liberal votes. Now, if it were not for the presence of those Liberal voters in Toronto, the city would only be entitled to four (possibly only three) members. The presence, therefore, of the Liberals in Toronto added **at least one seat to their opponents**. From this point of view it would be better for the Liberal party as a whole if the liberals in Toronto were blotted out.

Injustice to Majorities.

On the other hand there are occasions when the party polling the least number of votes have elected a majority of the representatives; as the following examples, taken at random, will demonstrate:

*Federal Election, 1900, Ontario.

Liberal.		Conservative.	
Votes Polled.	Seats	Votes polled	Seats
212,595	34	212,413	55
Acclamations	2	Acclamations	1

*Federal Election, 1896, all Canada.

Conservative		Liberal	
Votes polled.	Seats	Votes polled	Seats
416,640	87	405,506	117
Acclamations	1	Acclamations	1

All these injustices are due to the fact that in a single-member constituency the **whole of the representation** must of necessity be awarded to a **majority of the electors**, whether that majority is large or small. It directly follows then, that the election results depend, not upon the actual strength of political parties but upon the manner in which that strength is distributed over the country.

Gerrymandering and Corruption.

This fact, of course, is responsible for the election trickery

*Figures obtained from “Resume of General Elections” (Official) by the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

known as "the gerrymander." Gerrymandering is the art of arranging the boundaries of constituencies by the party in power in such a way as to give it an undue advantage over its opponents. The suspicion of gerrymandering nearly always attaches to Redistribution Bills.

As it makes no difference whether a member is elected by a large majority or a small one, so—in addition to gerrymandering—there arises another temptation to the party organizations: to switch some votes from a constituency where the party is very strong to a nearby constituency where it is weak. Unfortunately there is never much difficulty in getting venal voters who will allow themselves to be used in this way. In the United States they are called 'Colonizers' and in Great Britain 'Swallow Voters', because they migrate from one constituency to another at certain fixed periods. This form of corruption is encouraged by our single-member system which gives the whole of the representation to the party that secures a majority of the votes; and in many instances the representation of a constituency has been determined, not by the wisest and best electors, but by the most corrupt and least intelligent.

Sufficient evidence can be produced to show that such corruption is not unknown in this country. Earl Grey, Ex-Governor-General of Canada, wrote, while on his death-bed, to the London "Times" on April 3rd last, and said: "In Canada the necessity of the two contending political parties to obtain an electoral majority in every district is a corrupting influence which poisons the life of the people from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

Foolishness of the System.

In forming a Parliament we do not want to have certain square miles of land represented, we want to have the brains of the citizens represented. Do we have that? Do we tap

the brains of the people?

We take a geographical area, say a small city, and we say to all the voters in that city—liberal, conservative, labour, capital and the rest—we say to them all "Try to get together on some common ground and elect a man to represent all of you in Parliament."

Now the common ground, the common understanding, of all the voters in a city is bound to be extremely limited. Take two professional men, their education has been along similar lines, their environment is much the same and therefore their field of common understanding will be relatively large. Add a labourer and the field of common understanding shrinks for the reason that his outlook upon society is different. Add a grocer, a clergyman, a huckster, a woman and the field of common understanding has shrunk to a pin-point. About the only thing they can agree upon is the necessity for a new post-office or something of that kind; and, outside the straight party platform, that is about the only thing candidates dare to express an opinion upon. Any man who takes an active and aggressive part in public affairs makes many enemies; a candidate, therefore, if he hopes to be elected must see to it that he confines himself to generalities and so offend as few as possible of the various groups that make up the whole motley crowd.

By the single-member system, then, we neither tap the brain of the community nor do we give the slightest encouragement to the elected representative to give to the country the best that is in him. This is one of the reasons why our politics have not progressed very far beyond that variety known as the 'parish pump.'

It is not possible in this article to do more than indicate one or two of the evils of our present system of election but enough has been said to justify a plea for reform. The next article will show how the change may be brought about.

THE ENUMERATORS.

Continued from front page (73).

Other Corrupt Acts and Irregularities.

The purpose of this letter is to bring to the attention of persons who take an interest in public discussion to some of the workings of the special legislation passed by the Borden Government to retain power. While the foregoing requests for information do not deal with OTHER IRREGULARITIES AND CORRUPT ACTS such irregularities and corrupt acts SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED. A record should be made of them so that they may be exposed in due course.

The following inquiries and suggestions may be useful as a guide for action and can be taken locally in all the provinces to obtain redress for wrongs committed:

1. Several men whose names were on the Ontario voters' list of 1917, but not on 1916, were given a certificate by the enumerator and voted, and their ballots put in the box with the regular ballots of bona fide voters. In this Province and in some other Eastern Provinces the lists of 1916 were the basis.

This is in direct violation of section 32 and subsection 2 of 65A of the Act, which subsection applies to Ontario. Other subsections of this section apply to other provinces and the same general remarks prevail generally. These sections are very clear, and in addition to the clauses 284-5 and 6 as to procedure to obtain redress, see sections 249 and 250. For this offence both the enumerator and the deputy returning officer are liable.

2. In some instances enumerators granted certificates to names of persons not on the Ontario 1916 lists, but on the 1917 list, and their ballots were put in an envelope and the envelope put in the ballot box.

Unless the attention of the deputy returning

officer was specially directed to the fact that these persons were not on the Ontario list of 1916, he would appear not to be liable, but the enumerator would be liable.

3. Persons who were not residents and not on the list as they resided in another county were permitted to vote.

The onus for allowing this would be on the deputy returning officer, and he certainly would be liable.

4. Stepmothers were allowed to vote.

Section 33A does not give any such right, and the enumerator who put such names on the list is liable, and the deputy and others who may have aided and abetted in having the vote recorded are liable.

5. One man voted as the agent of his brother who is at the front.

It would appear that this man was guilty of personation, under section 272 of the Act. He and the deputy returning officer would be liable.

6. Some women voted whose sons had enlisted, but had been discharged, but had not been overseas.

Section 33A which gives the qualifications of female voters does not provide for the right which was exercised by these persons. If the enumerator put the names on the list he is liable and if the deputy returning officer had his attention drawn to the fact, and he allowed them to vote without being sworn, he is liable. Please note the words "without Canada" in section 33A.

7. Farmers' sons who had just turned twenty-one, and were not on any list were granted a certificate, and polled their votes.

By sections 32 and 65A they had no right to receive any such certificate, and the enumerator

who granted them the certificate is liable.

8. One man who voted in one township and also in another township, and the D. R. O. at the latter place, although informed did not swear the applicant, and the ballot was placed in the box in the ordinary way.

It is clear that the D. R. O. is liable. His was a wilful act.

9. An enumerator refused to put on the list a naturalized alien who had been naturalized 48 years ago, and has been township clerk for 47 years, and has a son overseas, and on election day this man applied to vote on certificate, but was refused.

The refusal here is also wilful. See subsection H of section 67 of the Act, and also section 67B. The Deputy returning officer himself could have put on such a person, and allowed him to vote, and in this instance, both the deputy and the enumerator are liable.

10. An enumerator put the names of squaws on the list, but did not furnish list of same to the candidate or his agent. The enumerator took an active part in having these squaws vote and they did vote.

The enumerator's acts were certainly wilful and he is liable.

The only power the enumerator had was to strike off names from the Provincial lists (in some of the provinces the list of 1916) the names of certain Germans and Austrians disqualified by the Dominion Act of 1917 and add the names of women entitled

by said act to vote.

The Information Office would be pleased to receive additional instances of the effect of the Franchise Act and the way that very vicious piece of legislation was used to affect the election. Address communications on this and other subjects to

The Secretary,
Central Liberal Information Office,
63 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ont.

UNION GOVERNMENT MUST RAISE 100,000 MEN UNDER THE M. S. ACT.

(From Toronto Telegram of Feb. 7th, 1918.)

Union Government was created to save the lives of Canadian soldiers, not to save the faces of Laurier politicians.

Union Government promises to degenerate into a Jack-of-all-trades instead of proving itself master of the one trade of getting 100,000 men into the Canadian expeditionary force.

Union Government is a success if Canada's soldiers on the fighting line are promptly reinforced by 100,000 men raised under the Military Service Act.

Union Government is a failure if the Military Service Act does not quickly reinforce Canada's soldiers on the battle front with 100,000 men.

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FEEDING FLOUR TO THE HOGS.

To the Editor of The Globe: The writer voted for the Union Government in the hope that it would work some improvement in the management of our affairs. He rented a back-yard garden last spring and spent his vacation in the harvest field. He is backing conscription and is doing his bit to help conservation. But if he and many others are to be encouraged to continue helping to save wheat and flour they will be pleased to have from you or Mr. Hanna or anyone who is capable of an explanation or justification of these facts.

When farmers take wheat to the mill to get it ground into whole-wheat flour the millers refuse to grind it; alleging that they are acting under orders from the mill-owners.

Men in this country refuse to permit their wives to sign the Food Service Pledge because whole-wheat or graham flour is so hard to obtain, and when it can be obtained both it and cornmeal cost more than first-class white flour.

This is a dairy district in which farmers buy much mill feed, but they cannot buy a carload of shorts or bran from the mills unless they accept as part of the load a certain number of bags of white flour. The farmers do not want it; they cannot find sale for it, but they must take it in order to get shorts and bran. And they are feeding it to the hogs.

A dealer in this town has on hand several hundred bags of flour obtained in this way, which he cannot dispose of in these times of threatened famine, when we might suppose there would be a world-wide scramble for flour.

Another dealer in this town is regularly selling good millable wheat as chicken feed. And the story is going around that wheat is being fed to hogs through the county.

“Canuck.”

Morrisburg, Ont., Jan. 15.

The Western representative of the Food Controller, Mr. J. D. McGregor, in addressing the Women’s Canadian Club of Winnipeg, January 8th, stated that the eating of bacon would probably be prohibited in Canada before very long.

We hope Mr. McGregor will see to it that Sir Joseph Flavelle’s pet “post-curing” system of filling the bacon with salt and water, thus increasing its weight by 5% is immediately stopped. The Cana-

26,000,000 packets of

“SALADA”

TEA

B380

are consumed annually, the fresh, clean flavour of the genuine young leaves make it the favorite tea in America.

dian people will gladly give up bacon but they want to know that the boys at the front are not being fed on “Flavelle brine.”

EVIDENCE OF PATRIOTISM.

The Hon. Mr. Carmichael, Minister of Education from Australia, who has served two years in the trenches, was wounded at Passchendale and awarded the Military Cross for bravery, visited the city of Quebec a few days ago on his way home to Australia and was asked: “Were you surprised at the result of the conscription referendum in Australia?” To which he replied: “No, not a bit surprised because the people of Australia are very patriotic.”

CONSCRIPTION AND EXEMPTION.

The following statement was given out by the Director of the Government Public Information, Ottawa, on January 10th, 1918.

	Total Number Registered	Total Claims for Exemption	Claims Allowed by Local Tribunals	Claims for Exemption Disallowed	Claims for Exemption not Dealt with	Appeals lodged against decisions Local Tribunals
Canada.....	404,895	380,510	278,779	47,868	53,788	67,122

The Figures by Provinces are:

Ontario.....	125,750	118,128	94,197	19,148	4,783	21,276
Quebec.....	117,104	115,707	89,575	3,711	22,421	27,683
Nova Scotia.....	26,354	23,831	16,158	2,774	4,899	2,815
New Brunswick.....	17,065	15,629	10,181	2,524	2,924	2,034
Prince Edward Island.....	4,425	4,176	3,648	1,332	196	348
Manitoba.....	22,879	20,858	14,241	5,221	1,396	3,982
Saskatchewan.....	46,733	44,203	25,138	5,783	13,282	2,359
Alberta.....	23,105	25,069	18,093	4,560	2,416	4,503
British Columbia.....	15,821	12,824	7,548	3,815	1,471	2,122
Yukon.....	159	85	No cases heard.			