

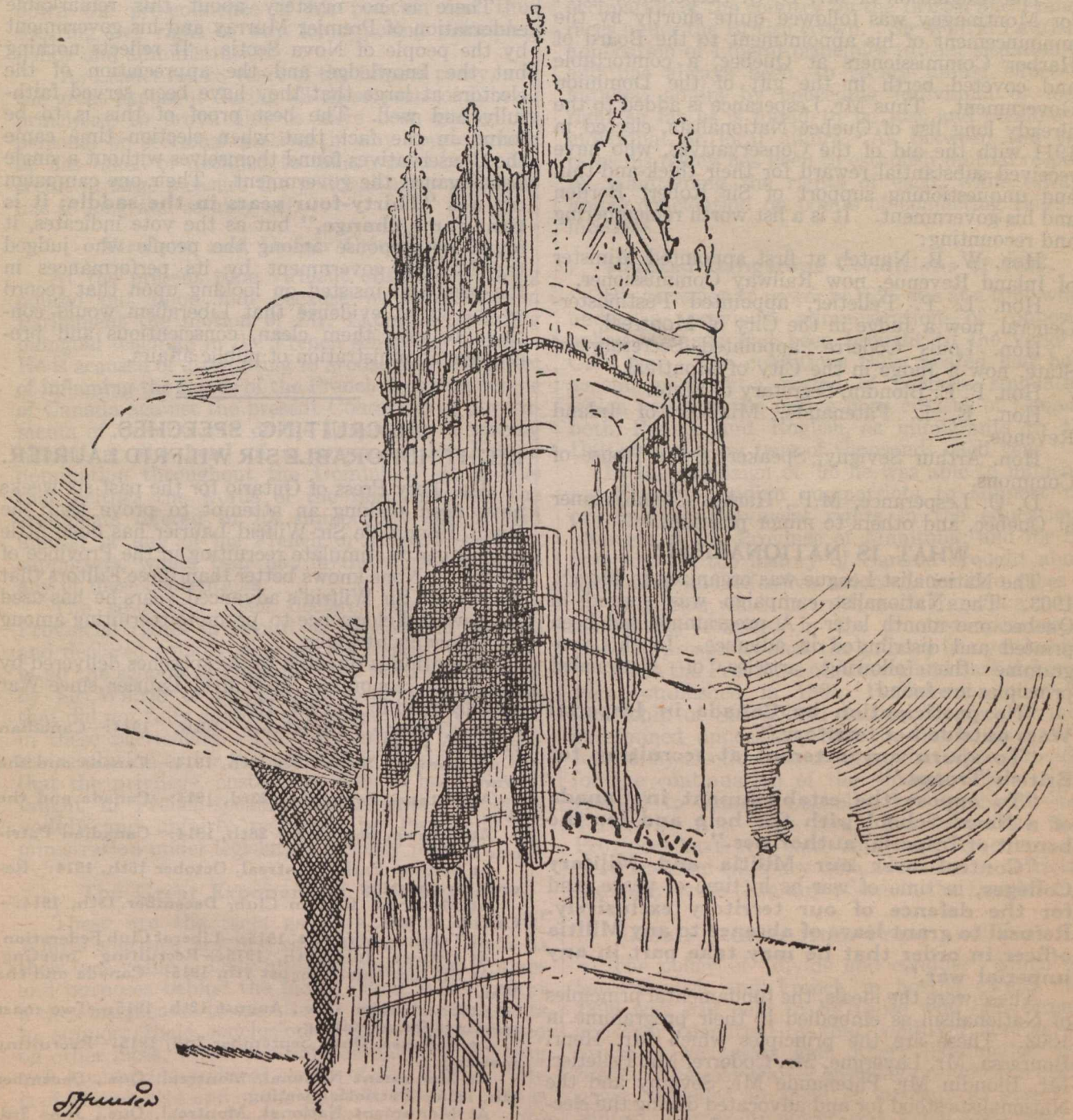
THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

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Two Cents

A SHADOW ON THE TOWER



From the Toronto World (Conservative)

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NEW NATIONALIST APPOINTMENT.

The resignation of Mr. D. O. Lesperance, M.P. for Montmagny was followed quite shortly by the announcement of his appointment to the Board of Harbor Commissioners at Quebec, a comfortable and coveted berth in the gift of the Dominion Government. Thus Mr. Lesperance is added to the already long list of Quebec Nationalists, elected in 1911 with the aid of the Conservatives, who have received substantial reward for their thick-and-thin and unquestioning support of Sir Robert Borden and his government. It is a list worth remembering and recounting:

Hon. W. B. Nantel, at first appointed Minister of Inland Revenue, now Railway Commissioner.

Hon. L. P. Pelletier, appointed Postmaster-General, now a Judge in the City of Montreal.

Hon. Louis Coderre, appointed Secretary of State, now a Judge in the City of Montreal.

Hon. P. E. Blondin, Secretary of State.

Hon. E. L. Patenaude, Minister of Inland Revenue.

Hon. Arthur Sevigny, Speaker of the House of Commons.

D. O. Lesperance, M.P., Harbor Commissioner at Quebec, and others to minor positions.

WHAT IS NATIONALISM?

The Nationalist League was organized in March, 1903. The Nationalist campaign was opened in Quebec one month later. A programme had been printed and distributed in advance. In this programme the following articles of Nationalist principles are found:

"No participation by Canada in Imperial Wars outside her territory."

"To spurn any attempt at recruiting for British Troops."

"To oppose the establishment in Canada of a Naval School with the help and for the benefit of Imperial authorities."

"Control over our Militia and Military Colleges, in time of war as in time of peace, and for the defence of our territory exclusively. Refusal to grant leave of absence to any Militia officer in order that he may take part in any imperial war."

These were the ideals, the fundamental principles of Nationalism as embodied in their programme in 1903. These are the principles which Mr. Henri Bourassa, Mr. Lavergne, Mr. Coderre, Mr. Pelletier, Mr. Blondin, Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Sevigny and the Nationalists stood for and advocated during the elections of 1911, and which up to this day they have not repudiated.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR LIBERALISM.

The provincial general elections in Nova Scotia on June 20th furnished further and striking evidence of the strength of Liberalism throughout Canada. The Liberal government of Premier Murray returned to power with an increased majority, a result without precedent in the political history of Canada when it is considered that the Liberals have been in power continuously for 34 years in Nova Scotia. The standing of the parties at dissolution was: Liberals 24, Conservatives 14. Five new seats had been added since the previous election. The unofficial returns show of 32 Liberals and 11 Conservatives elected.

There is no mystery about this remarkable endorsement of Premier Murray and his government by the people of Nova Scotia. It reflects nothing but the knowledge and the appreciation of the electors at large that they have been served faithfully and well. The best proof of this is to be found in the fact that when election time came the Conservatives found themselves without a single issue against the government. Their one campaign cry was "Thirty-four years in the saddle; it is time for a change," but as the vote indicates, it found no response among the people who judged the Murray government by its performances in the past and insisted on looking upon that record as the surest evidence that Liberalism would continue to give them clean, conscientious and progressive administration of public affairs.

RECRUITING SPEECHES,
RIGHT HONORABLE SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

The Tory Press of Ontario for the past six weeks have been making an attempt to prove that the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier has done little or nothing to stimulate recruiting in the Province of Quebec. None knows better than these Editors that in spite of Sir Wilfrid's advanced years he has used his powerful eloquence to promote recruiting among his fellow countrymen.

Attention is directed to the speeches delivered by the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier since War was declared in August, 1914:

At Toronto, September 10th, 1914:—Canadian Patriotic Fund.

At Toronto, September 12th, 1914:—Canada and the War.

At Ottawa, September 23rd, 1914:—Canada and the War.

At Ottawa, September 28th, 1914:—Canadian Patriotic Fund.

At Sohmer Park, Montreal, October 15th, 1914:—Recruiting meeting.

At Montreal, Reform Club, December 13th, 1914:—Canada at War.

At Toronto, May 21st, 1915:—Liberal Club Federation.

At Ottawa, July 16th, 1915:—Recruiting meeting.

At St. Lin, Que., August 7th, 1915:—Canada and the War.

At Sherbrooke, Que., August 12th, 1915:—Two mass meetings for recruiting.

At Napanee, Ont., September 2nd, 1915:—Recruiting meeting.

At Monument National, Montreal, Que., December 9th, 1915:—Patriotic meeting.

At Monument National, Montreal, Que., June 3rd, 1916:—Recruiting Meeting.

At Brome, Que., July 1st, 1916:—Red Cross rally.

SIR WILFRID AND THE BILINGUAL QUESTION

AFTER over 40 years of public life Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the outstanding political figure in our Country. What he does or says, or even thinks, is universally accepted as being of more importance than the actions, words or thoughts of any other man in Canada. Holding such a position he naturally becomes the object of criticism in connection with every leading public question. What he says or does—or just as surely what he does not say or do—is adversely criticized by his opponents, and motives are ascribed with a view to breaking down the pre-eminence of his position and thus securing free right of way for opposing principles, policy and administration.

As Leader for 28 years of the Liberal party, and the great exponent during all these years of Liberal principles, to prove him to have been guided by personal or sectional motives in any course which he has taken or declined to take, would be to discredit in large measure the political party which he has so long and so ably led.

Virulent and Unfair Criticism.

At the present time virulent criticism is being poured out upon him because he supported in Parliament the motion of Mr. Lapointe regarding bilingual teaching in the French schools of Ontario. He is accused of attempting to arouse race prejudice; of inflaming the minds of the French-speaking people of Canada against the present Conservative governments of Ontario and of the Dominion; of placing himself at the head of a movement for French domination throughout the Dominion. It is true that neither the words of the resolution nor the arguments offered in its support by Sir Wilfrid himself or any of his French or English speaking supporters, would bear out in the slightest degree any of these contentions.

The resolution itself declared specifically for Provincial rights in regard to educational matters and declared equally strongly for English education in all the schools of Ontario. No word was uttered by Sir Wilfrid or his French speaking supporters that did not fully endorse and support the resolution in these particulars. The only ground offered for the resolution or for the speeches in its support, was that the privilege, custom or right to have French taught in French-speaking settlements was being unduly and unfairly restricted by Provincial administration under legislation recently passed.

The Great Exponent of Liberalism.

These are the facts as they stand. But Sir Wilfrid's critics are not satisfied to take them at their face value. They insist on looking for motives and purposes behind the facts. That is their right if they are pleased to exercise it. But the arguments to support their conclusions must then be based on other facts, which can only be found in the long and honourable political career of Sir Wilfrid. He is of French race and of the Catholic religion. He is a proud and enthusiastic Frenchman and a consistent and good living Catholic. Not less he is, and has always been, the acknowledged and avowed

exponent of the principles of English Liberalism as expressed in the policy of the United Kingdom and the British Empire under the direction of Gladstone and Bright. Applied to the great, many, and varied problems of Canada during the past 40 years, these principles have been advocated in Opposition and applied when in power to secure the well-being of the State by first securing the well-being of the individuals who compose the State.

Ever since Canada came under the British rule its great and peculiar problem has been the joint occupation of the country by the British and French races under the British crown. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's application of Liberal principles to that situation is, and has always been, to secure united effort in national affairs by conceding individual or local right so far as is found to be just and possible in individual or local affairs. As between the two races his policy has been to establish mutual respect by maintaining the rights of each, while always urging conciliation on points of conflicting views or interests.

Righted Dangerous Conditions of 1896.

His accession to power in 1896 was at a time when under a previous administration—of opposite policy—Canada had been brought to the verge of Civil war. The conditions thus created had been accompanied by a period of business stagnation which had sent the native born citizens of Canada, both French and English, as immigrants to the United States by tens of thousands each year.

In the campaign of '96 he was able to influence his French-Canadian compatriots to support the principle of Provincial rights in the educational interests of the Province of Manitoba; and for the first time in the history of Canada brought about the active and effective union of the two races in the Dominion, which in truth made Canada a nation and finally resulted in the greatest measure of material prosperity that the country has yet known.

When the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were established in 1905, Parliament under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid and in the face of most determined opposition, both in the house and at certain by-elections occurring at that time, provided for the continuation of the separate school rights granted to Roman Catholics by the North-West Territories Act. The result has been that these Provinces have ever since enjoyed a higher measure of educational efficiency with a less degree of friction from any cause than any others in the Dominion.

Unfair Attacks from Front and Rear.

The policy of "divide and conquer" which had kept English and French in hostile camps until 1896 was still held to by those who had brought about or benefitted by that condition; and as well by their successors and others like-minded with them. The easy way of arousing prejudice to obtain power appealed to them as strongly as ever. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in power was made the object of attack both in front and rear; in Quebec because being avowedly pro-British he was guilty of treason

to his race and even his religion; and in Ontario because being French and Catholic he must be disloyal to Britain, and the instrument of the Pope to destroy Protestant rights and liberties.

Dishonest Opposition to Laurier Navy Act.

In 1910 he caused Parliament to take a step of Imperial significance in adopting the Canadian Naval Law which provided for participation by Canada in the building, maintaining and manning of ships by Canada and Canadians to take part in supporting the sea power of the Empire. The same political ideals that had led to the conditions preceding '96 were again brought vigorously into play by his opponents. In Quebec he was fiercely attacked for introducing an Imperialist and militarist policy, while in Ontario he was as fiercely attacked on the ground; first, that his naval proposals were insufficient and second, because in so far as these proposals acknowledged Canadian autonomy they were in fact an evidence of disloyalty to the Empire such as could only be expected from one of his race and faith.

Fiscal Policies Shared Two-faced Attacks.

The first important act of the Parliament of '96 had been to reduce the tariff in largest measure by establishing the British Preference. Again in support of the Liberal principles of lower taxes and freer trade, in 1911 he appealed to the country on a policy of tariff reduction and trade expansion under a measure of reciprocity with the United States. The manufacturers who had built up their enterprises as a result of the prosperity occurring under his Administration were not satisfied with the advantages they had received. Although they were not adversely or indeed directly effected by the reciprocity proposals, they attacked the arrangement on the alleged ground of patriotism; and their money and influence from one end of the Dominion to the other was used not only to maintain the tariff but to secure a Government that would give desired tariff increases, as the Liberal government would not. At the same time in the Province of Quebec, the Nationalist campaign, financed by the Conservative party, was an attack on Laurier because he had sacrificed French-Canadian ideals to British Imperialism by his Naval Law. And in Ontario the fact that he was of French race and Catholic religion was used to accentuate the feelings that had been aroused amongst Protestants by the discussion of the papal *Ne Temere* Decree and the occurrences at the Eucharistic Congress held at Montreal. The Anti-Imperialistic campaign in Quebec secured a turn over of some 20 seats, and the *Ne Temere* Decree and the Eucharistic Congress propaganda in Ontario, backed by the money of the manufacturers, reduced the Liberal representation from that Province to little more than a corporal's guard.

Racial Prejudice Great Weapon Against Laurier

Sir Wilfrid Laurier went out of power in 1911, when Canada was at her highest point of material prosperity. He was defeated in an effort to reduce the taxes and increase the earnings, by increasing

the trade, of the people. He was defeated by the successful revival of the old policy of arousing race and religious prejudices, in a campaign financed by those whose object was to raid the earnings and savings of the people by higher tariffs.

When War broke out Sir Wilfrid as Leader of the Liberal Opposition offered the support of himself and followers to the Government in all measures for the efficient prosecution of Canada's share in the War. He addressed public meetings in both Quebec and Ontario on behalf of enlistment for overseas service and from that time forward has maintained the attitude that he took in August, 1914.

Because this man occupying this position and with this record dared to be a party to a discussion on the floor of Parliament on a question that, for lack of mutual understanding between the parties, had become most acute, and threatened the most serious consequences, he is accused of sectionalism and of undue sympathy with the race to which he belongs and which he has so highly honored.

Groundless Attacks as in 1911.

In 1911 he was accused of all the crimes in the Calendar throughout English-speaking Canada, because he was a Catholic. Now he is being similarly accused because he is a Frenchman. There were no grounds for the accusations made in 1911, nor are there grounds for the accusations made to-day. He is the man who led Canada to the height of her greatest material success; a success that lasted only one short year after he relinquished the reins of office. His record is one of far-seeing and successful statesmanship founded on the truest principles of Liberalism and applied with the best judgment and discretion to the complex problems of Canada.

Net Results of Bilingual Discussion.

The result of the discussion in which he took part in the House of Commons was to establish that there is no difference of principle between Quebec and Ontario, between French and English, in regard to the education of children in French settlements in the Province of Ontario. The Ontario government concedes French teaching; the French people freely accept English teaching; neither French nor English ask for Dominion interference. These points being settled all that remains is to work out the details of the problem in a spirit of fair play having regard to all interests affected. These facts could never have been as fully and clearly exposed except by and through a public discussion in the House of Commons such as was promoted by Mr. Lapointe's resolution and the arguments upon it made by both sides of the House. The details are, of course, difficult, but when they are met in a fair spirit on both sides they can no doubt be worked out successfully.

The English-speaking supporters of separate schools in Ontario are those who at present have greatest fear that their rights and interests may be ignored. There is no reason for this suggestion in the fact that Sir Wilfrid claimed for the French-speaking settlements of Ontario the continued exercise of that which he held was a right, established

as such by immemorial custom. The rights of English-speaking supporters of separate schools are just as important to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, judged in the light of his 40 years record, as are those of the French-speaking supporters of these schools. In arguing for the rights of the one he was not arguing against the rights of the other. Every incident of his long and honourable career contradicts any such assumption, and contradicts just as effectively the suggestion that he spoke for a continuation of the

rights of the French, established by custom, merely because they were French rather than because they were Canadian citizens. Canada became great under the administration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Its greatness was due in large measure to his success in allaying racial and religious strife by methods of justice and conciliation. There is no reason to believe that a policy that was so successful during such a long period of such a brilliant career, is now reversed or altered in any particular or for any cause.

STILL MORE FOR THE RAILWAYS

Twenty-three million dollars in cash of the people of Canada goes to the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific as the result of the loan legislation forced through Parliament in the dying days of the past session by the Borden government. The insatiable maw of Mackenzie and Mann is appeased for the moment with the straight loan of \$15,000,000 to help them pay interest on their "bonded indebtedness." The Grand Trunk Pacific gets \$8,000,000 on the same terms and for the same purpose. The only defense offered by Sir Thomas White, who did not appear particularly proud of the business but showed himself very determined to put it through at any cost of dignity and prestige, was a plea of necessity. The poor railways needed the money, so of course, the people would have to give it to them because they could not get it anywhere else. As Sir Thomas put it, introducing the question on May 8th, "the loans in question are, in the view of the Government, necessitated from considerations of public interest by reason of the critical position of the financial affairs of these two companies." In other words, if they did not get the money, the railways might have to go into liquidation, and that would be bad for big business.

Will Soon Need More.

It was not only admitted but carefully explained that the paltry millions thus lent to the railways will only tide them over this year. Naturally they will be back again. And the question naturally arises: how often will they come again, how much will they need, **how** and when is the game to end? This is the question that the Borden government carefully avoided. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" was in effect the shut-eyed argument of both Sir Robert Borden and Sir Thomas White and the rest of the apologists.

All the Old Tricks Again.

The whole procedure of the Government in connection with the railway situation is typical of an administration which has not faced nor solved a single question of great importance in the five years it has been in office. "Never do to-day what you can put off until tomorrow" is the motto. The loan legislation was deferred until the last days of the session, thus preventing proper discussion and investigation. The information concerning the affairs of the two railways was meagre and there was nothing to prove its authenticity. Proper analysis of their actual financial condition was therefore impossible, even had there been time for it. But these are old tricks of the trade of the

Borden government which have come to be so well known that they hardly evoke a protest, especially when the only answer to the protest is the marshalling of the Government majority and the implied taunt "What are you going to do about it?"

A New Bit of Manipulation.

The Government manipulators, however, introduced one brand new trick this time, the callous audacity of which is worthy of the party that introduced the closure into the Canadian Parliament. Instead of bringing the loan legislation down in the shape of special bills, as has always been the custom, the loans were brought down as votes in the regular estimates. This not only prevented the Liberal Opposition from offering amendments which might safeguard the interests of the people by imposing reasonable conditions, but it also forestalled the possibility that the Senate might throw the bills out or amend them. The Senate cannot amend the estimates; it must pass them whole as they leave the House and the only alternative is to throw out the whole Supply for the year.

Railway Problem Must Be Solved.

Thus the Borden government oiled the ways and pushed the loans through with the minimum of discussion, without giving Parliament opportunity for careful consideration and running no risk of having attached to the loans conditions which might not suit their "poor" friends, the railways. For all this the Borden government will be called to answer on the day of reckoning, but there is another point of much greater importance. That is their inability to face the whole railway situation in Canada in its broadest aspects. It is a question which must be faced some day and which can never be settled by any temporizing methods such as reflected in the loans of \$23,000,000 this year. The possibility of Government Ownership of the railways was suggested during the debate. If this is to be the solution, the preliminary attacking of the problem should be well under way. It is true that Sir Robert Borden has thrown a sop in the direction of the problem by announcing a commission of three experts to make an investigation of the whole railway situation in Canada. One more Commission! One more Investigation! What has the Borden government done with the reports of any one of the numberless commissions it has appointed in the past five years? The answer to that would furnish a fair guess as to how much may reasonably be expected from a Commission on the Railway Problem.

A WORD WITH YOU SIR SAM!

You are a great claimant. Everything in sight in which there is any glory is claimed by you. It would be a pleasure to us to admit your main claim that you are the greatest military genius of all time, but being of an inquisitive turn of mind we want to be shown, and we decline to accept bulldozing and bluster for reasoning. And so it is that we propose having a short talk with you and asking you a few pertinent questions.

Why did you not provide Machine Guns?

As you will no doubt remember, one of your pet claims—indicating omniscient power—is that you are the only man in Canada who predicted the great War. You had been in Germany attending the army manoeuvres, and came back to Canada with the message to look out for bloody war soon. You were then, and had been for three years, Minister of Militia, with full power to put the Militia Department in first-class shape. Why is it then, that you did not make proper provision of machine guns, instead of sending the First Contingent to fight the Hun, pitifully provided with these modern weapons of warfare. Even when thousands of Canadian lives had been lost, largely through lack of machine guns—your Department evidently did not take the necessary steps to supply the deficiency in these weapons, because the public was obliged to step in with subscriptions of \$2,000,000 for the purpose. You may not think so, but the public taught you your duty in that important regard.

Shell Making Unknown Art in Canada Before War

Why is it also, that when War broke out shell making in Canada was practically an unknown art. We confess we expected better of you than that, Sir Sam. Hindsight is, of course, always better than foresight, and you may think it unfair to suggest these matters, but you blow and blather so much that really we find it necessary to show that you are not the superman you would, by your constant advertising, try to make the people believe.

It will not suffice to say that you could not get the necessary money for these purposes. Parliament never refused to vote what you asked—and it is general knowledge that you squandered millions of dollars in the construction of apparently unnecessary drill halls—money which might have been applied to better and more practical purposes.

Army Motor Trucks

Then take the matter of army motor trucks. You had been over in Germany and had seen what was going on there, and if you had any insight at all, you must have known that modern army practice necessitated the use of the motor truck for transportation of soldiers and war materials, yet when hostilities broke out, there were only two or three motor trucks owned by the Militia Department, and only one establishment made them in Canada, and it on a very small scale. The expert you employed to buy trucks after the War began, and who also acted both as buyer for and seller to the Government, declared on oath that your Department was in a state of chaos so far as organization for motor truck service was concerned. There was not an officer on your headquarters staff who knew an iota about the subject of motor trucks or motor ambulances. The result was that necessary motor trucks were bought at abnormally high prices, in a rush and scramble, and were in most cases junk, at first.

Although Canadian manufacturers have been for a long time, capable of supplying what you want in the way of motor trucks, ninety-five per cent of your requirements have been bought from Yankee manufacturers. You had a really great opportunity to help towards building up a substantial motor truck manufacturing business in Canada, but threw it away. We suspect your friend Allison's hand in the matter. You have stated that he got the price of Yankee motor trucks reduced—and we all know he does not work for his health.

Then there is your high-handed and strident attitude with reference to the Ross Rifle—upon which we need not elaborate—the facts being well known to the public.

Rotten Boots

As to boots, it beats us to know how you could have permitted such rotten foot wear to be supplied to our First Contingent. Even the man on the street, let alone a great military

genius, knows that good strong durable boots are a very essential part of a soldier's equipment. We do not say you knew the boots were bad and poor, but we do assert that it was your manifest duty to see that they were good, and you failed to perform that duty.

What, After All, have you done?

After all, Sir Sam, what have you done that is really wonderful? You have not been concerned with foreign policy or the conduct of the War. It was no direct concern of yours whether Greece, Italy or Bulgaria would join the Allies or not. You have also had nothing to do with the strategy of the War or with its financing. All you had to do was enroll the soldiers and equip and partly train them. Let us see how you have comported yourself in these matters. We know you take unto yourself a large measure of the credit for raising the 250,000 men, but honestly you are claiming too much. As respects the First Contingent, the men simply flew to the colors—over 80% of them were old countrymen—entirely outside of your kin or that of your Department—many of them were British Army Reservists. After that you issued your calls from time to time, and the public men and general public helped in the recruiting by your recruiting officers.

Recruiting

As to raising the soldiers, the part you and your Department played has not been a large one. The officers commanding the various regiments have done the lion's share of the work, in many cases at considerable personal loss to themselves. As a matter of fact, recruiting has been done by local effort in the various cities and towns without material assistance from your Department. So far as we can see, you merely appointed the heads of a regiment and left them to work out their salvation. You did not institute any advertising campaign to encourage recruiting—such as was instituted in England and Australia—and beyond appointing a few professional recruiting officers you apparently have done nothing. Now that recruiting is almost at a standstill, your Department appears almost helpless, without either suggestions or plans for improving the situation.

Training of Soldiers

Relative to the training of soldiers, it is a well-known fact that every Canadian regiment sent to England, has had to undergo a period of further training there varying from three to six months. All the training the Canadian regiments have got so far in Canada is in Battalion movements, and that has had to be supplemented in England by Brigade and Divisional training. After two years of warfare you have realized the weakness and insufficiency of Canadian training, because we understand you are now trying to make it complete.

Nothing could be worse or more subversive of discipline than your treatment of officers. Repeatedly, and in violation of all military ethics, to say nothing of the gentlemen's code, you have brow-beaten and openly insulted them in the presence of their men. Some people say your object in that is to make yourself solid with the privates—for political effect.

Horses, Patent Shovels, etc.

We have pointed out that in the very important matters of machine guns, motor trucks, shells and boots your accomplishments fell far short of what might have been expected from one claiming such pre-eminent powers. But there are other instances in which you were grossly at fault—Horses, for example, what a sorry mess was made of the purchases of horses in Nova Scotia and elsewhere. Then there is that fancy shovel with a hole in it, patented by your lady stenographer, supplies of which cost the country \$35,000—and were discarded in England. The expensive Oliver equipment, too, purchases of which were made to the value of \$373,000 and also discarded. Graft concerning bandages; poor quality but high-priced binoculars, and high-priced bicycles, medicines and Western oats all bought from political favorites, are also in the category to the discredit of your Department.

Playing Favorites

It is said too that you have been playing favorites all the time in the selection of officers—most, if not all the soft jobs free from danger like Paymasters having been given to good Conservative workers. Your own immediate relatives hav

been recognized by you as the salt of the earth and unblushingly promoted.

A Prince at Spending Other People's Money

No one, not even your Treasury fed satellites will give you credit for being an economist. You are a Prince, Sir Sam—at spending other people's money. Everything goes with you—the tail with the hide. In this respect you remind us of the old adage about putting a poor man on horseback. Translated by political accident or mistake from running a country newspaper to the control of hundreds of millions you lost your head and ran riot. As an interesting sample of this we find a regular fleet of the highest priced and most modern motor cars engaged chiefly in taking your headquarter's staff to their meals a distance of two or three blocks.

The Sordid Shell Story

You have taken unto yourself and your Shell Committee a vast measure of unearned credit for getting large orders for shells placed in Canada by the British Government. It has been amusing to witness your efforts at trying to make the public believe that but for you and your super-human energy no shells would have been made in Canada. The actual fact is that the British Government needed all the shells that could possibly be made in the shortest possible space of time, and it would have been an impossibility for them to have over-looked the manufacturing facilities of Canada. Because you were Canadian Minister of Militia you were appointed as trustee of the British Government to place shell orders. The British Government knew comparatively little about Canadian manufacturing conditions, and they naturally relied upon you as their trustee to see that they got a fair deal. Obviously, true patriotism demanded that the utmost economy be exercised in the purchase of munitions so that the financial strength of Great Britain and the Empire might be conserved to the best advantage. The responsibility for purchasing at fair prices was vested in you and your Shell Committee, and both you and your Committee failed lamentably in living up to your duty. The prices at which orders, running into hundreds of millions of dollars, were placed by your Committee, were so absurdly exorbitant that they make Canada stand ashamed in the councils of the Empire. It would be useless for you or anybody else to try to deny the truth of these statements. One has only to read the published financial returns of the prominent industrial companies in Canada for the last year to realize that the shell profits were of the "Get Rich Quick Wallingford" type. It is no exaggeration to say that the price paid for shells in this country represents an unjust depletion of the British treasury to the amount of at least \$60,000,000, and you, Sir Sam, and your Committee are responsible for it. It is no answer to say that the British Government approved the prices that were paid. The British Government had to get shells at any price, and they relied upon you, as their trustee, to see that they were fairly dealt with.

Loud mouthed loyalty has always been one of your pet professions, Sir Sam. It has been your political stock in trade. In season and out of it you have been the champion flag-flapper, but sad to relate when the time of test came you were found woefully lacking. Instead of regarding the Empire's purse as a solemn trust, you permitted your Shell Committee to play fast and loose with it, largely to the financial advantage of their own business concerns. No greater opportunity to make an imperishable name was ever afforded to any public man in Canada than was given to you in respect of the making of these munitions, and no greater failure to grasp an opportunity has perhaps ever been recorded.

"Foxy Allison"

We come now to the disclosures before the Duff-Meredith Commission and your relations with that national character, J. Wesley Allison. The general verdict is that the Liberals (to quote the language of the man in the street) "did not catch you," but it has sunk deeply into the minds of the public that Allison, whom you described as your Agent, Guide, Counsellor and Friend, benefitted to the extent of \$220,000.

To use the words of the Hon. Justice Duff, "The whole thing is that he (Allison) regarding himself as the confidential agent of the Shell Committee and the Minister, put his hand into the till to the extent of \$220,000."

The army of counsel employed by you did their utmost to put the best face on the fuse transaction, but it was established beyond question that \$1,000,000 was taken by men who per-

formed no service of any value whatever, as an unwarranted toll out of a contract for fuse placed for the British Government by your Shell Committee, through the intervention of your friend Allison, and ratified by you, Sir Sam.

That the prices paid for 1,666,666 graze fuse was \$4.00 per fuse (subsequently reduced to \$3.72½ on account of loading being dispensed with), and that Mr. Cadwell, who organized the company that is fulfilling the contract, had previously (shortly before then), supplied exactly the same unloaded fuse to the British Government at \$2.40 per fuse.

That at the time the Canadian contract was let at \$4.00 the J. P. Morgan Company of New York acting for the British Government had placed orders for exactly the same fuse at as low as \$1.75.

That no attempt was made by the Shell Committee or yourself to ascertain the price Cadwell had previously got from the British Government, or the prices at which the Morgan Company were buying fuses for the British Government.

That Allison, your confidential agent and bosom friend, shared in the \$1,000,000 rake-off to the extent of \$220,000.

That, you, Sir Sam, on your own testimony before the Commission told Allison that he could take commissions on British contracts, and you championed him for taking this fuse commission.

That the Imperial Munition Board, which in spite of your protests, superseded your Shell Committee, realizing the unconscionable price paid the Cadwell Company, took advantage of delay in delivery and reduced the price from \$3.72¼ to \$2.34.

That Allison assigned \$105,000 of his ill-gotten gains to his lady secretary. This circumstance by the way has greatly excited the risibilities of the populace.

And yet you still say that Colonel Carnegie, your Shell Committee expert is a wonder worker,—a truly great expert,—and that you would sooner trust Allison than any man at the Meredith-Duff Commission, Counsel and Judges included. No wonder Sir Wm. Meredith said, Sir Sam Hughes is the kind of a man who would stick to the devil. Your own political friends are disgusted beyond reason over the whole affair. They cannot understand, nor can anyone else, how you could take up with a man with the well known reputation of Allison, and it is still more difficult for them to see why you continue to champion him and refer to him as the purest of the pure. Some people are unkind enough to say that you stick to him because you have to, but as to that we make no assertion.

What Quality of Loyalty is Yours?

It puzzles us greatly to know how you could innocently persuade yourself at a time when the existence of the whole British Empire is at stake and when every dollar of Empire money should be carefully conserved, that it was perfectly proper for your friend Allison, to take toll by way of unwarranted and unearned commissions from the British Government, but that it would be wrong to take similar toll or commissions from the Canadian Government. What brand of ethics is yours? What quality of loyalty is it? What manner of man are you anyway?

Your Contradictory Evidence

You have boasted to the reporters for publication, that you made them "sit up" when you gave your testimony before the Meredith-Duff Commission, but oh! if you could only see yourself as others see you. We feel constrained to observe that on reading over your evidence we wondered whether you forgot that you were in the witness box under solemn oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. How can you reconcile the sworn statements made by you in evidence as follows:—

Under examination by MR. HELLMUTH:

Q.—General Hughes, did you (I have to find out if it is so and in what way you did) use your influence, or did you use any influence with the Shell Committee in regard to contract? A.—None whatever. What I did with those gentlemen was after suggesting that they should join the forces and go to the front and fight, that I would rather get them in there, if they still persisted in talking shells I said I had nothing to do with it. Then they would ask would I give them letters, and I said no, but that I would take a card and put "Bertram" or "General Bertram, please see Jones," or whoever it was, "S. H." General Bertram has quite a stack of these cards.

Q.—Were there any private marks on the cards you sent to the Shell Committee? A.—No, I sent over half a dozen fellows from my own county. Nobody from my own county got a contract until contracting was about over. I never got a contract in my own county, so I could not have had much influence with the Shell Committee.

Q.—Perhaps you do not want to favor your county? A.—Don't I?

Q.—Well, seriously, did you exercise any influence? A.—Never.

Q.—Let me finish the question—either upon the Shell Committee or the members of the Shell Committee to induce them to give contracts to anybody you might know? A.—Never, in any form or manner.

Under cross-examination by MR. JOHNSTON:

Q.—I think you said yesterday that neither directly or indirectly did you ever approach or interfere with, or try to influence the Shell Committee in getting contracts at all? A.—Not in a general way.

Q.—Did you do it in a particular way? A.—In giving contracts to people in Canada?

Q.—Yes? A.—I treated them all on the same basis.

Q.—You were asked to produce any correspondence that there might be in regard to that question, that is, as to whether or not there was any correspondence on your file relating to the intervention, if I may use the word, with the Shell Committee, to get contracts for friends? A.—I haven't got any friends who got contracts?

Q.—And none applied? A.—I have lots of friends.

Q.—That you recommended contracts to be given to? A.—None whatever, except in a general way.

Q.—What do you mean by "in a general way?" A.—I mean every man that came to me and asked for a card or letter of introduction to General Bertram got it.

Q.—What kind of a letter would you give him? A.—When I was in Montreal he would get a letter, and when I was in Ottawa he would get a card.

Q.—What kind of a letter? A.—Just to introduce John Brown.

Q.—Anything to introduce the contract? A.—Nothing special.

Q.—Anything general? A.—I would send the man, that is all.

Q.—Unless you recommended him? A.—Yes.

Q.—Let me call your attention to one or two matters here, and see how this agrees with that statement. Do you remember writing a letter to General Bertram, "My dear General Bertram? A.—That is what I call him.

Q.—Yes. "You know Mr. Wilford and Mr. Carew, M.L.A., of Lindsay? A.—Yes.

Q.—This is the letter:—

Militia and Defence,
(Crest)

Minister's Office,
Ottawa, April 29th, 1915.

"My dear General Bertram,—You know Mr. Wilford and Mr. Carew, M.L.A., of Lindsay.

"I am asking for my home town of Lindsay the small number of fifty thousand high explosive shells. These men and their associates, Messrs. G. S. Dukes, T. R. Hinds, John Carew, M.L.A., Dr. John MacAlpine and F. R. Wilford under the name of F. R. Wilford & Company of Lindsay, will do this work up to perfection.

Faithfully,

SAM HUGHES."

(Marked Exhibit 322.)

Q.—Who is Dr. MacAlpine? A.—A doctor in Lindsay.

Q.—Is he a relative of yours? A.—Brother-in-law.

Q.—You sent that letter? A.—Certainly, I expect so, I don't deny it at all.

Sir William Meredith:—That is a copy I suppose?

Mr. Johnston:—That is a copy, I have a photograph of the original with the signature. If it is required, I can get it.

You Told Allison to "Scratch Gravel"

Sir Robert Borden has not made a name for himself for doing things, but he is entitled to a large measure of credit

for refusing to accept your recommendation made early in the War, that J. Wesley Allison and General Drain should be the Purchasing Commission for your Department and for British orders. J. Wesley Allison is too well-known now to need further comment from us. General Drain we do not know, except that he is a Yankee, and that is sufficient to make him ineligible for the position for which you recommended him—not because he is a Yankee, but because there are hundreds of Canadians well able to act as purchasers for the Government. It really is ridiculous to hear you say that because the Government turned down your recommendation of Allison, you felt justified in telling Allison to go ahead and "scratch gravel" (to use your classic phrase) which means that he got commissions from the British Government, although acting as your Agent, Guide, Counsellor and friend, you being the trustee of the British Government. Again, we ask what manner of a man are you anyway?

The Slander of the Dead Kitchener

Of all the follies which you have been guilty, surely the worst and most vicious was the celebrated story you caused to be published about your talk with Kitchener over the Ypres salient. We quote it hereunder:

"The last time I saw Kitchener I strongly urged that Ypres salient be abandoned. I pointed out that it was being held more out of sentimental than military considerations. I told him how losses among British troops holding this bloody angle had been 10 per cent. Kitchener was deeply affected by what I said. There were tears in his eyes as he spoke of British losses in this sector; and he was altogether sympathetic with my view. He told me to give him my proposition in writing, and that he would communicate to General Sir Douglas Haig, the British Commander-in-Chief. Next day, however, I received a cable informing me of the charges made against me in Parliament. There was nothing left for me to do but to come home and face my accusers; the question of holding the Ypres salient remained in abeyance, and our boys were left to hold a position that was almost untenable. Had I remained in England I believe I would have succeeded in convincing Kitchener to abandon the salient, and the bloody battles of the past few days, with their losses of our best and bravest, would have been avoided."

Do you wonder that these statements given by you in an interview to a newspaper reporter have been described by prominent newspapers as slandering the mighty dead. Dead men tell no tales, and that abnormally developed ego of yours probably persuaded you that you could get away with the story. Your motive for it is easy to discern. It was a low political dodge on your part. You wanted to make it appear that if the wicked Grits had not been the means of bringing you back from England to face the Allison charges you would have got Kitchener to abandon the perilous salient and thus save many Canadian lives. Unfortunately for you, you did not pay sufficient attention to detail, and you convicted yourself out of your own mouth. You said Kitchener, who was altogether sympathetic and even had tears in his eyes, told you to put your views in writing, which he would communicate to Sir Douglas Haig, the British Commander-in-Chief, but the very next day you received the cable calling you home to face your accusers, and the question of holding that salient had, therefore, to remain in abeyance so far as you were concerned. Now it is an established fact that the cable you received from Sir Robert Borden calling you home was dated March 29th was received by you on the 30th, and that you did not sail from England until April 5th. You had, therefore, at least five clear days in which to make your report to Kitchener, and on your own admission you failed to make it, notwithstanding the terribly serious importance of the matter. You say the Ypres salient was an untenable position and that you believed you could have got Kitchener to abandon it, which would have avoided the subsequent bloody battle with the great loss of Canadian soldiers, yet you spent five whole days in England without preparing the report on the subject which you were asked to submit and which if submitted, might, according to your story, have led to the result you were pretending to aim at.

Once more we ask, what manner of man are you anyway, and by what standards can you be fairly judged? Certainly not the standards applicable to ordinary sensible men.

Consider also the direct snub and contradiction conveyed

to you and given out to the public by your Chief, Sir Robert Borden, as follows:—

“As the Canadian troops have been suffering very serious losses during the last fortnight when defending what is known as the Ypres salient, the Canadian authorities have asked for information from the British General Staff. The reply that was received was that the position was an important one, and that in spite of the serious losses sustained it was considered necessary to defend it.”

We could go on indefinitely with a recital of your inglorious record of bluster, braggadocio, self-praise and equivocation, but space forbids. We earnestly hope for the sake of Canada that your career as a Minister will soon end. For two years

you have strutted and brain-stormed your way through things, brow-beating here and insulting there, “canning” this officer and “damming” that, flaunting your colleagues and the public, until you have become the despair of everybody, including your own political friends.

In times of peace you might be tolerated as a dress parade figurehead, but in war your actions indicate that you are a positive menace to the State. You have all the qualities which a good soldier should not possess. A really great soldier is always modest, but modesty is foreign to your nature. A big soldier thinks more than he talks; you talk without thinking. A good military man sinks his individuality for the common good; you constantly flaunt your personality in the face of people, and, your main idea, judged by your actions, seems to be to glorify yourself.

THE ROSS RIFLE

When Sir Frederick Borden was Minister of Militia, he encouraged the establishment of a rifle factory at the City of Quebec. In this factory the Ross Rifle is manufactured. Sir Frederick's efforts were in some quarters stoutly opposed. Previous to 1911 debates took place in Parliament on the Ross Rifle and this rifle was subjected to investigation by the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons. The arm had a strong champion in the present Minister of Militia, and rifle associations and experts were high in praise of the weapon for rifle practice and inferentially for war purposes.

The test of actual war has come. It is not rifle practice experts that are now heard from. The voice of those who have to do at the front in the great world struggle still waging has been heard. Possibly the strongest voice is that of General Alderson, former Commander of the Canadian Forces at the front, when he says:—

“I may say that very soon after we got out here with the First Division I found that the men were picking up the Lee-Enfields whenever they could and throwing away the Rosses. I issued an order that this was not to be allowed, and prior to the second battle of Ypres that order was carried out. The experience of the battle showed that the Ross jammed so badly that I was obliged to let this order die a natural death. When the division was re-armed with the Lee-Enfields the men cheered loudly on hearing the news, and it was found that there were already more than 3,000 of the rifles in the division.”

Another disquieting report was published in the Toronto Telegram of May 25th, 1916, which was extracted from a communication received from London, England. This report stated that when General Alderson and his divisional commanders made known their objections to the Ross Rifle, they received a strong reprimand from Ottawa in the form of a mandate which was sent to every battalion commander in the Canadian Army. This mandate, it is stated, went so far as to tell these officers that no further criticism of the Ross Rifle would be tolerated; that henceforth no soldier must dare discard his Ross Rifle, and disobedience of this edict would be immediately punished.

Can it be possible that such a mandate was ever issued from Ottawa, and if so, what is the reason?

This same communication from London contained a somewhat defensive reference to the pattern of the Ross Rifle in the following terms:—

“Someone who has examined many hundreds of Ross Rifles has another explanation for its failure. He holds that the actual construction of the rifle is

not to blame. It is said that in almost every Ross he has examined some small part has been defective. Some bolt or lever, perhaps small, but important, some vital unit, calling for tempered steel of glass hardness, has proved to be fashioned of soft metal. It wears and, as in the case of the chain snapping at its weakest link, so this part ruins the rifle.”

Months ago a committee of impartial British officers and expert rifle men, appointed by the War Office, made a report on the Ross Rifle which was forwarded to the Canadian Government. Members of the Liberal Opposition, both in the House of Commons and elsewhere have requested that this report be made public, but so far without avail. Is this report adverse to the Ross Rifle? Obviously so, or the Government would gladly use it to disprove the adverse criticism of returned soldiers and others.

Sir Robert Borden on May 17th, 1916, informed the House of Commons that Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces, had been asked to make a thorough test of the Ross Rifle and to report to the Canadian Government. It is hoped that when this report is received it will not receive the same treatment as the report of the British experts appointed by the War Office.

From a Canadian manufacturing point of view it matters not whether it is the Ross Rifle that is manufactured in Canada or not. If it is as good a rifle as the best, let us keep it as our National Rifle and continue to manufacture it in Canada. If the report of these experts is unfavorable, let it be discarded and used for training only. There should be no mandates, no more threats issued from Ottawa.

If Canadian soldiers have been going into the trenches with an unserviceable rifle, false pride must be abandoned and our Canadian soldier equipped with the best. The Borden Government is responsible and cannot shift the responsibility by whining that the Ross Rifle was first manufactured when a Liberal Government was in power. That was before the War and before the Ross arm could be tested out under actual war service conditions.

A great responsibility rests upon the Government to give the whole facts to the people of Canada. Relatives of men who have gone to the front have in most cases made a sacrifice as great as that of the soldier himself. They are entitled to the assurance that Canadian soldiers are getting the best possible protection. If these reports of independent experts give that assurance, go on with the Rifles. If they do not give that assurance, stop manufacturing! **Let the reports be made public.**

SOME ANALYSIS OF CANADA'S FINANCES, 1914-15

It may seem somewhat belated to deal with that year now, but it is necessary to understand the present situation and as an introduction to a further discussion of the finances of 1915-16, when the full detail are officially given out.

War broke out after five months of the year 1914-15 had past. For comparison sake and for a true comprehension of the financial situation we ought to keep War expenditure entirely separate from our ordinary expenditure. The Government

has not done so and it is difficult to pick out all the expenditures properly due to War and confine the ordinary expenditures to such as have been customary in Canada for years. This will be done as much as possible in this analysis.

Here is a condensed statement of the ordinary financial situation in Canada for this year 1914-15 placed alongside of the corresponding statement for the year 1910-11, the last full year of the Liberal administration.

Revenue and Expenditure on account of Consolidated Fund	Total 12 months to 31st Mar., 1911	Total 12 months to 31st Mar., 1915
REVENUE:		
Customs.....	\$ 72,965,394.46	\$ 75,941,219.72
Excise.....	16,869,837.36	21,479,730.79
Post Office.....	9,146,952.47	13,046,664.68
Public Works, including Railways and Canals.....	10,818,834.05	12,953,487.18
Miscellaneous.....	7,979,311.44	9,652,379.36
	\$117,780,409.78	\$133,073,481.73
EXPENDITURE.....	\$ 87,774,198.32	\$135,523,206.54
Expenditure on Capital Account.		
	Total 12 months to 31st Mar., 1911	Total 12 months to 31st Mar., 1915
Railways and Canals.....	\$ 27,110,245.94	\$ 30,398,290.05
Public Works.....	3,742,717.44	11,049,029.98
Railway Subsidies.....	1,284,892.04	5,191,507.48
Total.....	\$ 32,137,855.42	\$ 46,638,827.51

THE ORDINARY OR CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT

This shows for the ordinary or consolidated account in the year 1911 a surplus on receipts over expenditure of \$30,006,211.46 and for the year 1915 a deficit of \$2,449,724.81. A difference in the financial situation of the country of \$32,500,000, in round figures, to the bad.

On Capital Account we find in 1911 a total expenditure of \$32,000,000, only a little more than the surplus on Consolidated Account.

In 1915 we find a expenditure of \$46,638,827.51 which in addition to the deficit on the consolidated fund makes a total deficit of nearly \$50,000,000 in round figures which it to be provided for by borrowing.

The year 1911 was one of abounding prosperity, rising revenue and great calls for public service. So much so was this the case that the Tory war cry in the elections of that year was "Let Well Enough Alone." The year 1915 was a year of serious obligations, necessity for unusual expenditure, decreasing revenue and general doubt and hesitancy in the commercial world of the country. Yet the expenditure of Canada was raised in this short term of four years from less than \$120,000,000 to over \$182,000,000, and it was openly avowed by the Minister of Finance that none of the War expenditure and obligations were in any way included in this statement of the country's finances. He

declared distinctly at that time all the expenditure for War purposes was to be borrowed from the Imperial authorities and as a matter of fact the Public Accounts show that the full amount spent on the War was so borrowed. There may possibly have been included in the charges for interest and management of debt some slight interest charges on the money borrowed for War charges, but at the end of the year 1915 these amounts were quite insignificant. The Public Accounts do not show how much they were, and they need not be considered in a general consideration of the finances of the country. So it is clear that the above increases to the burdens of the people of Canada were entirely due to the ordinary administration of the new Government on its ordinary affairs.

It is important that this situation should be clearly understood because there is a tendency on the part of the public at large to attribute all our increased expenditure and any financial difficulties that we may have to face to the expenditure caused by the War. The mixing up of War expenditure with ordinary expenditure helps to create this impression, whether it is designed for that purpose by the Government or not. This was the situation before the imposition of the War taxes and without the expenditure connected with the War. There were some War taxes imposed in the summer session

of August, 1914, but it is impossible to discover exactly how much it contributed to the revenue during the latter part of that fiscal year. However, we may give the Government the benefit of the doubt and suppose that the whole expenditure was derived from the ordinary taxation with the above indicated result.

There is one patent result of this—namely that

The following items of our ordinary consolidated fund expenditure account for a large part of the increase of burden.

	1911	1915	Increase
Interest on Debt.....	\$12,535,850.81	\$15,736,742.94	\$ 3,200,892.13
Civil Government.....	4,463,094.87	6,157,966.62	1,694,871.75
Legislation.....	1,655,418.53	2,376,983.66	721,565.13
Militia.....	6,868,651.29	10,060,617.74	3,191,966.45
Public Works.....	8,621,431.25	19,343,532.35	10,722,101.10
Post Office.....	7,954,222.79	15,961,191.47	8,006,968.68
Customs.....	2,187,174.76	3,775,364.31	1,588,189.55
Dominion Lands.....	1,804,250.49	3,701,179.88	1,896,929.39

\$31,023,484.18

These increases would be fairly accepted if the work of the Country, its administration, development, trade or commerce had been increasing. But unfortunately during these four years the former abounding progress has been checked. Every form of enterprise was at a standstill, except only raiding the Treasury, seeking jobs and providing for political favorites. Most of the increases in the above list are due to unnecessary additions to the civil service or various outlays without which the Country had in better times got along quite well.

Instead of economizing, the administration had recklessly, thoughtlessly perhaps, but none the less most unjustifiably gone into an orgy of expendi-

the Public Debt increased nearly \$50,000,000.

On the 1st of April 1911 the figure was \$340,042,052.02

On the 1st of April 1915 the figure was 388,625,607.20

Or an increase in the 4 years of.....\$ 48,583,555.18

While there is at the latter date, in addition, a War debt of \$60,750,476.01 to be provided for.

ture which has made infinitely more difficult the task now imperative, of meeting our new, extraordinary and very heavy War obligations.

The staffs in the Civil Government Legislation, Post Office, Customs, Dominion Lands have been inordinately increased, while the volume of business has decreased. Interest on debt has increased through additions to the debt with greater charges and higher interest rates. Until the War broke out there was no increase in the effective militia or new services to justify nearly 50% increased expenditure. The Public Works increase was largely on political jobs which, at all times objectionable, in a period of depression and financial stress were absolutely indefensible.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF CONSOLIDATED FUND.	Month of May, 1915.	Total to 31st May, 1915.	Month of May, 1916.	Total to 31st May, 1916.
REVENUE:	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Customs.....	7,012,082 43	13,288,459 83	12,258,722 63	22,605,294 80
Excise.....	1,782,518 62	3,082,348 52	2,088,104 90	3,704,368 47
Post Office.....	1,250,000 00	2,250,000 00	1,300,000 00	2,800,000 00
Public Works, including Railways and Canals....	1,474,920 80	2,291,272 07	2,221,766 43	3,261,008 27
Miscellaneous.....	611,986 90	847,215 76	629,113 53	802,083 04
Total.....	12,131,508 75	21,759,296 18	18,497,707 49	33,172,754 58
EXPENDITURE, ordinary.....	4,430,557 95	5,780,212 35	4,416,094 16	5,276,714 89
EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT, ETC.				
War.....	2,101,488 28	2,099,600 53	9,309,474 26	9,733,843 16
Public Works, including Railways and Canals.....	1,410,812 73	2,327,252 45	2,619,683 13	2,794,163 13
Railway Subsidies.....	43,953 53	43,953 53	185,298 20
Total.....	3,556,254 54	4,470,806 51	11,929,157 39	12,713,304 49

CANADA'S PUBLIC DEBT.

Total Net Debt, September, 1911.....	\$323,938,768.74	Total Net Debt, January, 1916.....	527,488,999.94
" " " September, 1915.....	484,841,633.73	" " " February, 1916.....	537,530,696.21
" " " October, 1915.....	492,528,492.09	" " " March, 1916.....	555,027,542.73
" " " November, 1915.....	501,668,167.71	" " " April, 1916.....	573,213,386.11
" " " December, 1915.....	515,144,019.37	" " " May, 1916.....	577,896,690.85

VACANCIES IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. D. O. Lesperance, Nationalist-Conservative member of Parliament for Montmagny, Quebec, has recently resigned his seat in the House of Commons, making the fourteenth vacancy in the House. Several seats have been vacant for nearly a year. The list includes Kings, N.S., where Mr. DeWitt Foster retired following investigation of his activities in the buying of War horses; Carleton, Ont., where Mr. W. F. Garland resigned after final proof of his connection with Militia Department contracts for drugs for the soldiers; Brandon, Man., and Lisgar, Man., where Sir James Aikins and W. H. Sharpe respectively resigned to lead the forlorn hope of the Conservative party in the Manitoba provincial elections of August, 1915, and both met defeat; Bellechasse, Que., where Mr. J. O. Lavallee, Conservative resigned to contest a seat in the recent provincial elections and was defeated; Antigonish, N.S., where Mr. William Chisholm, Liberal, resigned to enter the provincial field and won his provincial seat with a handsome majority; East Grey, Ont., rendered vacant by the appointment of Dr. Sproule, former Speaker, to the Senate. The remaining six vacancies were caused by death, the members passing thus being Col. Geo. H. Baker of Brome, killed at the front; Mr. B. B. Law of Yarmouth, burned to death in the Parliament Buildings fire; Mr. J. W. Richards of Prince, P.E.I., Mr. E. A. Lancaster of Lincoln, Ont., Mr. James Reid of Restigouche, N.B., and Hon. Sam Barker of East Hamilton, Ont.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

1916.
June.
- 1 Resignation of HON. P. A. LANDRY, Speaker of the Senate, announced.
 - 3 SIR WILFRID LAURIER at recruiting meeting, Monument National, Montreal.
 - 5 Death of COL. G. H. BAKER, M.P. (Brome, Que.), (somewhere in Belgium), announced.
 - 7 NORTH PERTH (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting addressed by H. B. MORPHY, M.P., and others.
 - 9 SIR GEORGE FOSTER appointed Imperial Privy Councillor. Meredith-Duff Royal Commission inquiry concluded.
 - 10 STORMONT-GLENGARRY (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Williamstown.
 - 13 Resignation of D. O. LESPERANCE, M.P. (Montmagny) (C), announced at Ottawa.
 - 15 Resignation of WM. CHISHOLM, M.P. (Antigonish) (L), announced.
 - 16 HON. T. W. CROTHERS, Minister of Labor, addresses Trades and Labor Council of Hamilton, Ont.
 - 17 SOUTH GREY (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Markdale.
 - 18 SENATOR DANIEL DERBYSHIRE died at Brockville. W. F. MacLEAN, M.P. (S. York), at recruiting meeting at Hamilton.
 - 19 HON. ARTHUR MEIGHEN addresses Canadian Club, Regina.
 - 20 Nova Scotia elections—Unofficial Returns give 33 Liberals to 11 Conservatives elected.
 - 21 SOUTH HURON (Ont.) LIBERALS, annual meeting at Hensall. SOUTH OXFORD (Ont.), CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Ingersoll.
 - 22 HON. JOS. BOLDDUC appointed Speaker of Senate. SOUTH GREY (Ont.), LIBERALS, annual meeting at Durham. SOUTH OXFORD (Ont.), CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Mount Elgin addressed by Hon. G. H. Ferguson.
 - 23 WELLAND (Ont.), CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Welland.
 - 24 NORTH GREY (Ont.) (New Constit.), CONSERVATIVES, in convention at Owen Sound, nominate W. S. MIDDLEBRO, M.P., sitting member for present constituency.
 - 25 Official announcement at Ottawa that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General, will return to England on expiry of his term in October, 1916.
 - 26 NORTHUMBERLAND (Ont.) (East and West Ridings) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Cobourg.
 - 27 NORTH PERTH (Ont.), LIBERALS, annual meeting at Milverton nominate F. W. Hay to contest coming provincial bye-election. French-Canadian mass meeting at Park Lafontaine, Montreal, addressed by P. E. Lamarche, M.P. (Nicolet).
 - 28 CENTRE HURON (Ont.), REFORM ASSOCIATION, annual meeting at Seaforth.
 - Officially announced Duke of Connaught to be succeeded as Governor-General by the Duke of Devonshire.
 - SOUTH PERTH (Ont.), LIBERALS, in convention at Tavistock, nominate Peter Smith as provincial candidate.

COMPETITION

THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

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