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# THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

VOL. IV. No. 3.

OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 1916.

TWO CENTS

## STILL IN COMMAND



"I am doing the work of 10 men, 24 hours a day. Does that look as if my powers were being curtailed."

Sir Sam Hughes in interview, Toronto, Nov. 8th, 1916.

## THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

is issued from the Central Information Office of the Canadian Liberal Party, Hope Chambers, Ottawa,

PRICE 25c A YEAR

### WHY CAMP BORDEN?

PRIOR to the outbreak of war Canada possessed 359,000 acres of military camp grounds, exclusive of Valcartier Camp. The purchase of Valcartier Camp in Quebec, which is approximately 13,000 acres in extent, brought the total up to 372,000 acres. It was considered at the time of its purchase that it would accommodate a large proportion of the Dominion's troops, while at the same time being handy to the point of embarkation at Quebec. Some idea of the number of men which could be accommodated there may be gathered from the fact that the first Canadian contingent of 33,000 men was bivouacked there, and they occupied only a small part of the site purchased.

In May of 1916, the public were informed that Camp Borden, 16,200 acres in extent, had been purchased despite the fact that the number of Canadian troops being trained in Canada were decreasing daily.

Apart from the fact that Valcartier Camp was capable of accommodating a very large body of men it may be interesting to enumerate the other military camps of the Dominion, and to thereby indicate how superfluous was the purchase of Camp Borden. The following are the camps of the Dominion with their respective areas:—

Aldershot, N.S.....	966	acres
Sussex, N.B.....	300	"
Farnham, P.Q.....	1,318	"
Three Rivers, P.Q.....	306	"
Levis, P.Q.....	1,248	"
Petawawa, Ont.....	70,400	"
Barrie, Ont.....	788	"
Niagara, Ont.....	656	"
Carling Heights, Ont.....	80	"
Camp Hughes, Man.....	90,000	"
Moose Jaw, Sask., remount depot training grounds.....	69,269	"
Medicine Hat, Alta., remount depot and training area.....	124,000	"
Sarcee Camp, Alta., and Vernon, B.C., areas not given.....		
Kamloops, B.C., Tunkwa Lake.....	5,760	"

This makes a total area of over 365,000 acres. Valcartier brings that total up to 378,000 acres, and the addition last May of Camp Borden brought the total up to over 394,000 acres. This is an acre of ground for the accommodation of every soldier who enlisted since the war began. These figures do not include large military areas, such as Dorval, Laprairie, Rockcliffe, Connaught Range and scores of others which have been utilised by the Militia Department for the training of soldiers.

Camp Borden has been in operation about four months, and is now closed down, perhaps never to be revived. Over two millions of Canada's money wasted for what, to give the egotistical Sir Sam Hughes an opportunity of exhibiting himself reviewing troops before the moving picture man.

### THE NATIONAL SERVICE BOARD.

Under which the Parliamentary Committee of seven Conservatives and five Liberals (the latter appointed by Sir Wilfrid) were asked to work.

The personnel of the Board of National Service appointed by the Borden government strikingly illustrates the fact that the Government's idea of National Service is Party first. We quote hereunder the names of the members of this Board. Read them over:—

#### G. S. Campbell, Halifax, N.S.—

A strong Conservative and a close personal friend of Sir Robert Borden.

#### Capt. L. T. D. Tilley, St. John, N.B.—

A lawyer, a strong Conservative and has been for years connected with the Conservative Association in St. John, N.B. He is a son of the late Sir Leonard Tilley, who was a Minister in Sir John A. Macdonald's cabinet.

#### Lt.-Col. C. A. Chauveau, Quebec, Que.—

A Conservative and law partner of the present Postmaster-General, Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, K.C., M.P.

#### J. H. Sherrard, Montreal, Que.—

A Conservative. At one time Hon. President of the Westmount Conservative Association, and at the present time on their Board of Directors.

#### Lt. W. N. Bowen, Lansdowne.—

A farmer and a strong Conservative and a close personal friend of Hon. Senator Geo. Taylor.

#### Lt.-Col. H. Brock, Toronto.—

A Conservative and a lawyer; son of the late W. R. Brock, ex-Conservative M.P. of Toronto.

#### Mr. K. W. McKay, St. Thomas, Ont.—

Mr. McKay's family traditions are Liberal and while he has not taken any active part in politics he has never departed from these family traditions.

#### E. R. Chapman, Winnipeg, Man.—

A very active Conservative and at one time was Secretary and later President of the Centre Winnipeg Conservative Association.

#### Mr. A. L. Haining, Saskatoon, Sask.—

Was organizer in 1911 for the Conservative Party in Saskatoon and recently has been organizing the City of Saskatoon for the Conservative Party for the coming General Elections.

#### R. B. Bennett, M.P., the Chairman.—

Conservative member of Parliament.

#### R. F. Green, M.P.—

Conservative member of Parliament.

We cast no reflection on the integrity and honesty of these gentlemen, believing most of them at least, to be honest, fearless men.

This, however, is the body of men in charge of the National Service Board which is for the purpose of stimulating recruiting in Canada, and it is under these gentlemen that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Parliamentary Committee were asked to work. When the Public understand this and are informed that each one of these gentlemen, except the last two members of Parliament, are to receive a salary of \$250 per month, with living and travelling expenses, they will, we believe, understand why Sir Wilfrid Laurier decided he could best serve the Country in his own way. If Sir Thomas Tait, a life-long Conservative found the conditions of servitude under which this Board was started to be intolerable for him, how could Sir Wilfrid and his four Liberal M.P. Colleagues expect to do really useful service.

Later:—

The newspapers have just announced the appointment of the Hon. A. C. Rutherford, of Edmonton to this National Service Board. Mr. Rutherford at one time was the Liberal Premier for the Province of Alberta. At the last Provincial Election he was nominated as an Independent Liberal, and recently he was nominated as an Independent Conservative to oppose one of the Alberta Liberal Ministers in the coming Provincial Election in the Province of Alberta.

### RECRUITING.

#### Canada's Premier Soldier Sidetracked

Sir Wm. Robertson, chief of the Imperial staff, declares that "we are not justified in expecting to win the war unless the service of every man and woman in the country be utilized to the fullest extent."

#### The Case of General Lessard.

"Major-General Lessard, C.B., is reported to have announced that he expects to retire to his farm this fall.

Canada is in a great war. General Lessard is Canada's foremost professional soldier. He expected, and everybody connected with military work in Canada expected, that he would be sent to the front in a high command. He was not sent. He has been kept at home, pacing the floor, caged, just to show him that he must not cross the path of a man like Sir Sam Hughes, or if he does he can take what's coming to him. What has come to him is that his ambitions have been squelched, his professional career ended, and the training of a quarter of a century turned to no use when they day for its use in the Country's behalf had arrived.

Sir Sam Hughes is not big enough to forget a spite, and in consequence Canada is denied the services of her foremost soldier. And although the Minister of Militia is not big enough to be just, yet nobody connected with the Government seems big enough to shoulder him aside and see justice done in this case.

So Major-General Lessard, C.B., goes to the farm and farmers go to the war.

Toronto Star, 22nd Sept., 1916.

### SIR SAM SHIFTS RESPONSIBILITY.

And now Sir Sam says the Canadian Army Medical Corps were never under his jurisdiction, that the British Government were responsible for the inefficiency as shown in Dr. Bruce's report.

### CIRCULATION OF LIBERAL MONTHLY.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER ASKS every reader of the Liberal Monthly and every Liberal in Canada to assist in increasing the subscription list of the Canadian Liberal Monthly. We pass on his message:—



Ottawa, October 26th., 1916.

Mr. C.M. Goddard,  
Secretary, Central Liberal Office,  
O t t a w a.

My dear Goddard,

I wish you would write to every active Liberal in Canada, and ask if it would not be possible for each one of them to devote a little time to the Liberal Monthly during the coming winter months.

There is reason for believing that scores of electors throughout Canada would subscribe to the Monthly, if it were brought to their attention. This can be done either through Liberal Clubs, or through existing organizations, or by individual canvass.

Please give this matter your prompt attention.

Yours very sincerely,

*Wilfrid Laurier*

You, Mr. Reader, after reading the Liberal Monthly can appreciate its value. We have exposed graft and corruption and pointed out the weakness of the present Administration. We have told you what the Liberal Party stood for. The Liberal Party in its effort to restore good government to this Country needs your assistance. Will you give this assistance by securing some new subscribers to the Liberal Monthly? The sooner you act in this matter the better. Sample copies will be sent on application.

For particulars, apply

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Ottawa, Ont.

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## NATIONAL SERVICE.

**T**HE Premier of Canada has issued a call to the manhood of Canada which has caused us furiously to think, and in our processes of thought we have reviewed the course of himself and his government since this awful War broke out.

No one, we think, will dispute the statement that the outbreak of war brought about an unparalleled and unprecedented crisis in Canada which called for unanimity of action and thought on the part of the whole people. It was, and is, a crisis the proper treatment of which was, and is, above and beyond politics, and demands the exercise of the best brains of the country, acting in unison and harmony for the good of the common cause. What happened? Parliament met within a few days after the bloody torch had been lighted. The Borden government presented its measures for aiding the fighting forces of the Empire, and the Liberal Opposition, forgetting party politics, willingly and cheerfully acquiesced. The Opposition had reason to hope that the Government would likewise forget Party and remember only the common weal. Gradually, however, the inner workings of the Administration came to light and revealed the fact that in the conduct of the War the public interests had been sacrificed to the interests and greed of their friends.

### Huge War Expenditures Exploited for Party Purposes

Think of it seriously for a moment. The vital interests of the whole country were at stake, and the citizens of all classes and politics were called upon to make, and willingly made, sacrifices of life, health and wealth, yet the political party which happened to be in office at the time was not big enough to appreciate the fearful gravity of the situation, and insisted upon playing the game of party politics with the huge war expenditures. We assert it gravely and deliberately that the Tory Party with Sir Robert Borden at its head have utilized the war expenditures ostensibly and purposely for the advancement of their party interests. The evidence of this is overwhelming. It is to be seen in almost every branch of the Military Service, in the purchase of supplies, in promotions and in the granting of favors. Providing the general results were good, one could almost overlook many of these flagrant abuses, but what do we find? Viewed from any angle you like the Administration of the Militia Department has been characterized by extravagance, by inefficiency, favoritism and what is worse, by graft. On top of that the people have had to suffer, almost daily, the grotesque exhibitions of childish vanity and bluster of that impossible personage, the Minister of Militia. Surely never in the history of civilization was a country so humiliated as Canada has been through the conduct of its Militia Department.

### Evidences of Graft and Maladministration

Lest you might be inclined to think that the foregoing statements are somewhat ex-

aggerated please recall to memory the evidence given before the Parliamentary Committee as to rotten boots supplied to the Canadian soldiers, and the testimony given before similar Committees, and the Davidson Commission regarding graft in the purchase of horses, bandages, binoculars, medicines, oats, bicycles, motor trucks, etc., and also in the sale of alleged defective ammunition.

Bear in mind too the Meredith-Duff Commission which established a rake-off of \$1,000,000, out of a \$6,000,000 contract granted at absurdly high prices, and the taking of a commission of over \$200,000 by the "guide, counsellor and friend" of Sir Sam Hughes.

Think also of the charges made, the truth of which cannot, and has not been denied, that through the operations of the incompetent Tory Shell Committee, prices were paid for munitions for the British Government which were nothing short of robbery—a robbery of the British Treasury to the tune of no less than \$100,000,000.

Remember too how the Minister of Militia spent millions on the Ross Rifle, and metaphorically speaking, rammed it down the throat of everybody, notwithstanding the strongest evidence that it was useless for trench warfare and was, therefore, a serious menace to the lives of our soldiers, and that the rifle was finally discarded by the British authorities, who, if well authenticated rumour be true, declared that it was nothing short of a criminal outrage to put such a weapon in the hands of the Canadian soldiers.

Think too of the useless patent shield shovel, the brilliant idea of Sir Sam's lady stenographer which cost the country nearly \$40,000, and which was discarded.

Then there is the matter of the Eaton Machine Gun Battery, purchased by the Government, and towards which they contributed over \$400,000—a battery which is absolutely useless and lies "somewhere in England," not in France, wrapped in its tarpaulins.

Consider also the recently made report of Dr. Bruce regarding the administration of the Canadian Medical Service. A more damning and formidable indictment was never made of a governing body in Canada. Elsewhere in this issue we quote pertinent paragraphs of this Bruce report which are grave enough to draw tears from ones eyes.

Throughout all this the Liberal Party and its Leader were ignored and their assistance spurned.

### Record of the Borden Government Regarding Recruiting

Adverting to recruiting. What has been the record? No effort was required as respects the marshalling of the First Contingent. The men simply flew to the colors. Eighty per cent of them were Old Country men, many of whom were British Army reservists, to whom the call of the blood was supreme. After that, and for a long time, no special effort was necessary to get recruits. The

patriotism of the people was aroused, and little persuasion was required to make men put on the King's Uniform. No live organization was affected for recruiting in the Militia Department. The practice was usually to give a Colonel command of a non-existent regiment and to leave him to work out his own recruiting problems, with the assistance of his officers, and in most cases at his own expense. With the exception of a few special recruiting officers, mostly political appointees, no organization existed until recently.

Six months or more ago it became increasingly evident that recruiting was practically at a standstill, and that something must be done to stimulate it, yet the Minister of Militia and the Borden government did nothing, so far as the public could see, to remedy the situation. Hughes instead of staying at home to affect an organization which might accomplish the results he promised (his promise being to raise 1,000,000 men if necessary), hied himself to England where he spent months chiefly occupied, judging by newspaper reports, in advertising himself. Days, weeks and months went by without a move being made. Regiments, some one-third strength, others half strength and some a little more, scattered all over the country were handicapped in their training by waiting to be brought up to full strength; in this way alone there has been an enormous financial loss to the country. Many battalions could have been formed by amalgamation of unfilled battalions, but nothing in that direction was done, economy evidently being a quality more honored in the breach than the observance.

### Borden Had No Policy of His Own

Finally Sir Robert Borden took action, and what was it? Did he formulate a policy of his own or of his Cabinet, as he was in duty bound to do? No, he shunted the responsibility by appointing a Board of Directors of National Service to solve the recruiting problems, such board consisting of a chairman and eleven directors, every member of whom, except perhaps one, is a Conservative in politics.

### The Borden-Tait Disagreement.

The Chairman of this Board, Sir Thomas Tait, quickly found himself in trouble—strange as it may seem, with the very Government that appointed him. To understand clearly the cause of this trouble one must acquaint himself with the powers of the Board as defined by the Government, which were:—

3. The powers and duties of a Director shall be as follows:—

(a) To make himself acquainted with the nature and importance of the various industries (agriculture, manufacturing, mining, lumbering, fishing and others) which are being carried on in any locality within his district.

(b) For the purpose of obtaining necessary information respecting conditions of industry and of employment from time to time, the Directors or the Board, as the case may be, shall confer with and receive communications from persons engaged in the industries hereinbefore mentioned and from any organization especially interested, such as Agricultural societies, Labor organizations and Manufacturers associations.

(c) For the purpose of maintaining and carrying on all important industries and of affording to the greatest possible number of men the opportunity of military

service, to take such measures as may be expedient to have all available labor in the Dominion utilized to the greatest advantage and with that view to make an estimate of such available labor.

(d) For the like purpose to arrange as far as possible for the employment of women in work within their capacity where additional labor is necessary.

(e) For the purpose of securing the largest available military forces in the present war, to co-operate with and to afford all possible information to the military authorities engaged in recruiting within his district.

(f) To take into consideration the character and importance of the employment in which any persons proposed to be recruited may be engaged; and to notify the Commanding Officer of any Unit which is being recruited in any such locality whether the services of such persons would be of more value to the State in the employment in which they are then engaged than if such persons were enlisted for active service in the military forces of Canada.

Pursuant to these powers Sir Thomas selected as Secretary of the Board, a man, who by reason of his official position had the highest possible qualifications in Canada for the position, namely, Mr. G. M. Murray, Secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers Association. Mr. Murray knows the manufacturing situation in Canada as few men do and consequently his knowledge would be invaluable to the Board. Obviously, therefore, his appointment appeared as an excellent one, but here the Government stepped in and pointed out to Sir Thomas Tait that Murray had criticized them some time ago, as they believed unfairly, and that he must apologize before they would consent to his appointment. Tait appealed to Murray, and the latter duly apologized, but being a man of spirit, he after apologizing, refused to accept the appointment, whereupon Tait feeling humiliated, and no doubt realizing the futility of kicking against the political wall, resigned. In his stead, perhaps the most bitter politician in the Conservative ranks was appointed, in the person of Mr. R. B. Bennett, M.P.

### The Suggested Parliamentary Committee

But before resigning Sir Thomas Tait and his Board of Directors adopted the following resolution:

“The Directors of National Service in conference at Ottawa, having regard to the duties imposed on them and to the work which lies before them, are strongly of the opinion that the following recommendations if given effect to by the Government would materially assist in that work:

“That a Parliamentary National Service Committee to be composed of representatives of all the political parties in Parliament be formed at the earliest possible date;

“That such Committee as soon as possible after its formation issue, by proclamation and through the public press and in any other expedient way:

(a) A strong and explicit call to the manhood of Canada of military age and fitness to enlist for Overseas Military and Naval Service.

(b) A similar call to the men and women of Canada individually and through their various organizations to serve the Nation in such capacities

as their services may be of the most value.

(c) A similar call to all employers to effect such industrial reorganization as is necessary to meet emergencies arising out of the war.

### A Political, not National Committee.

Sir Robert Borden, who as we have shown had no policy of his own, notwithstanding the responsibility thrown upon him as Prime Minister of the country and notwithstanding also that he had arrogated to himself and his government the full right and authority to carry on all Canada's war operations without seeking advice or assistance of any kind from the Opposition, adopted that resolution of the Directors of National Service and invited Sir Wilfrid Laurier to nominate five members of a Parliamentary Committee of twelve, the other seven to be nominated by Sir Robert Borden himself.

We direct special attention here to the disparity in numbers. The term National Service surely involves common service of a National character, but Sir Robert Borden proposed at the very outset that the Parliamentary Committee be political in character, to be dominated by the Conservatives through weight of numbers. In other words he was playing the same game of politics that he and his colleagues and party have played since the beginning of the war.

Analyze the situation for a moment. An almost exclusively Conservative Board of Directors of National Service was appointed to solve the recruiting problem; that Board advised the appointment of a Parliamentary Committee to issue a call to the people; Borden approved the advice and decreed that the Parliamentary Committee would consist of five Liberals and seven Conservatives. The five Liberals would have no say as to the work of the Board of National Service, even though at least half the people of Canada are Liberals. All they were to be given was a minority right to co-operate with seven Conservatives in issuing a call to the people, the terms of which would be dictated by the Conservatives and the almost exclusive Conservative Board of Directors of National Service.

### Calls, Innumerable Have Been Made.

A call to the people is a nice sounding phrase, but what would such a call avail unless it is backed up by vigorous, intelligent and aggressive effort well directed by men who know accurately all the conditions, and are acting solely in the National interest, and not in any sense as partisans. Calls innumerable have been made to the people since the beginning of the war. There is scarcely a member of Parliament on either side of politics that has not been heard, and heard repeatedly, on the platform, urging the able-bodied manhood of the country of military age, to fight for the cause. In this respect no one has done more than Sir Wilfrid Laurier. His eloquent voice has been heard not only in the Province of Ontario but in his own native Province of Quebec, and always he has preached the gospel of service. No one has been more passionate in his denunciation of the crimes of Germany, and none more zealous in urging his

own compatriots to rally to the standard and fight for the cause, not only of Canada but of civilization.

### How the Recruiting Problem may be solved.

The problem of recruiting will not be solved by any handful of members of Parliament, telling the people that they should enlist and serve, and it is as little likely to be solved through the efforts of a body of Directors not thoroughly representative of the people. Much might be accomplished we believe if the Government were to call into counsel, leaders of thought and activity, irrespective of politics, in all walks of life, explain the situation fully to them, and ask them to go out and sow the good seed. As it is to-day the people are not fully informed, and do not accurately or authoritatively know the true situation and the actual necessities of the case. Nor have the people been informed as to the extent to which recruiting may safely go without jeopardizing the production of foodstuffs which are essential to the maintenance of ourselves and the Empire, and without interfering with the necessary manufacture of munitions. These are two factors of prime importance in carrying on the war. Canada has already done wonderfully well in the way of enlistment and sending men to the front, and we do not for a moment say she cannot or should not do more, but obviously the drain of our best men has been severe, and further drains can only be made by the most intelligent, united and well directed effort.

### Real National Service.

National Service is an almost sacred phrase and in its best sense it surely means that every good citizen should do his bit according to his physical fitness, ability or means. On the contrary we are certain it should not mean, as we have daily seen exemplified by the Borden government, that the poor alone should offer themselves to the supreme sacrifice, while the rich and the well-to-do grow richer through war contracts and fat political appointments. If we are to have real National Service let Sir Robert Borden dismiss his Minister of Militia and house-clean the Department from cellar to garret, so that the men who enlist may have assurance that they will be properly treated and looked after. Let him also abolish root and branch the patronage evil which has obtained in appointments, promotions, favours and purchases. Let him in short start a fresh page with the intention to serve nationally and not politically, and he will do more to help recruiting than he has ever done.

### Sir Wilfrid's Attitude.

In conclusion one word. Can you wonder in the face of the foregoing description as we believe of the true situation, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier answered Sir Robert Borden in the following pertinent paragraph:—

"I feel that under the circumstances, in acceding to your suggestion my assistance to the cause which I have endeavoured to serve from the first day of the war, would not be untrammelled and consequently as effective as if I con-

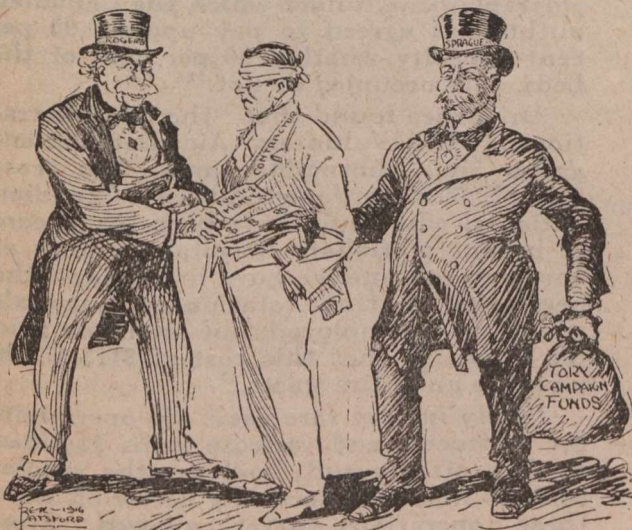
tinue to serve it according to my own ways as heretofore."

Sir Wilfrid did not say "NO" to real national service. He has issued call after call to the people of Canada in his numerous speeches, and will continue to do so, more especially to his own compatriots. But he properly objected to being made a party to a sham Commission, not representative of the whole people and therefore not likely to be productive of good results. Sir Wilfrid in a word asked that Sir Robert Borden take the proper view of national service and not the political view.

We Close With the Following Pertinent Extract from "Toronto Saturday Night," Sat., Oct. 28th, 1916.

The attempt on the part of Sir Robert Borden to hand a lemon to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in the shape of a seat on the National Service Board, has had little or no effect on the general situation. As often pointed out in these columns, the possibilities of any success crowning a movement of this sort, at this late date, are very doubtful indeed. Now that the beans are spilled, it was thoughtful of Sir Robert to ask Sir Wilfrid to come forward and share the responsibilities. The mismanagement of our man power in connection with the war has been such that nothing that can be done will ever repair the damage. Muzzling Bourassa would probably be the most effective method of still accomplishing a little something, but, of course, this will not be done. But asking the Liberal leader to share the responsibilities of Conservative mismanagement was rather a good idea, the only trouble is the Old Man saw the point of the hook, and concluded not to bite.

### AN ELECTION WINNER.



HON. ROBERT ROGERS: "My right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) and those who are associated with him will at least do me the tardy justice of acknowledging that, if I do not know much of anything else, perhaps I know a little about winning elections."

Extract from speech of Hon. Robert Rogers, delivered in the House of Commons on April 7th, 1913. See Revised Hansard, page 7269.

### THE ROGERS-GALT EPISODE.

THE cuttle fish when pursued by its enemies emits a black inky liquid which obscures the water and permits it to escape. That humans can emulate

the humble cuttle fish, and go it one better, was well illustrated in the Rogers-Galt episode at Winnipeg recently. The Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works in the Borden government, and the self-styled election manipulator for the Conservative Party, being harassed and driven into a corner, resorted to the palpable trick of confusing the issue by raising another of a quite unexpected and startling character. A brief recital of the facts leading up to the denouement may be interesting and instructive.

The Manitoba Liberal government appointed a Royal Commission to investigate charges of alleged graft in the construction of the Agricultural College in Manitoba when Mr. Rogers was Minister of Public Works for that Province, and they appointed as Royal Commissioner Mr. Justice Galt, who prior to his appointment had been a Conservative in politics, and, as a matter of fact, was appointed to the Bench on the recommendation of Mr. Rogers himself. That seemed an eminently fair appointment from the standpoint of the Manitoba Liberal government. If they had appointed a Judge who had previously been a Liberal, Mr. Rogers and the newspapers he controlled would have raised the loudest kind of a howl. Mr. Rogers surely could not have expected better treatment from his political opponents than to be tried by one of his own friends.

At the hearing startling evidence was submitted. Mr. Carter, a contractor, swore that his firm submitted a tender for the construction of the power house at the College, such tender amounting to \$60,229, and was given the contract at that price. His firm signed the contract and had started upon the work, when one day the Hon. Robert Rogers telephoned Mr. Carter and asked him if his tender on the power house was not low. Naturally Mr. Carter replied that it was, whereupon Rogers said the government would help him out, and subsequently a new contract was entered into for the sum of \$68,929. A few days after this a Conservative agent, named Sprague approached Mr. Carter and obtained from him \$5,000, and afterwards \$2,500 as political contributions. Mr. Rogers' defence is that the Provincial architect told him that the tender was too low and that the contractor would lose money and he, Rogers, feeling that it was not in the public interest to have any contractor lose money, decided to raise the contract price. Unfortunately the Provincial architect, Mr. Hooper by name, is dead, and so Mr. Rogers' statement cannot be verified.

We do not think we need say much more, the facts speak for themselves. The astonishing part of it is that in the face of these disclosures, the Hon. Robert Rogers is still a Minister in the Borden government. In England disclosures of that character automatically end the public life of any public man, but the Borden government has standards of its own and the highest political morality is not one of them.

### SIR CHARLES DAVIDSON'S REPORT.

IF you will pardon an atrocious pun Sir Charles Peers Davidson appears to be taking his own time about allowing the Public to peer into his judgment in the charges of graft in the Militia Department.

## THE CANADIAN ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS IN ENGLAND.

### The Worst Yet.

NO greater shock has been administered to the public mind than is contained in the terribly damning report of Dr. Bruce, recently appointed Inspector-General of the Canadian Medical Service. It would be impossible to conceive of a more scathing indictment of a Government Department than is contained in that report, from which we quote the following paragraph:—

### Medical Board a Disgrace.

"The present Medical Board situation is a disgrace to the Canadian Medical Service, and is responsible largely for excessive wastage of the Canadian Expeditionary Force and for the unsatisfactory estimation of pensions."

"The Medical Board Department practically runs itself; there is no central control, no uniformity of standard among the different boards, no supply of an adequately permanent and efficient personnel for medical boards, no records of a satisfactory nature available regarding very many casualties, no instructions regarding pensions."

### Canadian Medical Service Failed to an Almost Criminal Degree.

"The Canadian Medical Service have failed to an almost criminal degree. There have been no precautions to secure ready identification of the soldier. No thumb prints, photographs or record of marks. Records are hopelessly bad. The organization of the Discharge Boards has been bad."

### Personnel Bad.

"The personnel of the Canadian Army Medical Corps has been greatly hampered by the granting of commissions to medical men whose ability in civil life, and in some cases whose well-known habits were such as to reasonably preclude them from being honored with a commission in the Canadian Army Medical Corps."

### Officers are Drug Fiends, addicted to Alcoholism, &c., &c.

"It has been found on investigation that many of the officers who have been given commissions have been failures as medical men at home, or are over age or are drug fiends, or addicted to alcoholism, and these officers are not only of little or no use as Canadian Army Medical Corps officers, but their presence on an overseas unit is a detriment to the efficiency of that corps."

### Work of Voluntary Aid Hospitals condemned.

"It cannot be questioned that now—at

the end of the two years of war—the use of Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospitals by the Canadian Medical Service is most strongly to be condemned."

"In the Shorncliffe area there are 57 such institutions with a total capacity of over 3,000 beds. They are scattered over a wide area, and are in many instances inaccessible by rail-factors obviously increasing the cost of running and the difficulty of administering them."

### Surgery Bad.

"It is a grave indictment of the Canadian Medical Service to say that a fair proportion of the patients in Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospitals should never have been sent there; that inspections by competent medical officers are ludicrously infrequent; that a good deal of the surgery is bad, and that quite 25 per cent of the patients are retained in hospitals for weeks, sometimes for months after they should be sent out."

### Waste in Evidence.

"A constant effort seems to have been made to keep these institutions filled, often at the expense of Canadian Convalescent Hospitals, and in at least four instances agreements existed for a considerable time, under which the Canadian authorities agreed to pay upon a 90 per cent capacity whether 90 per cent of the beds were occupied or not."

Dr. Bruce found that "the administration of the Voluntary Aid Detachment group in Shorncliffe area has cost \$113,972.00 a year for a total of 443 Canadian patients, who could have been taken care of by one stationary hospital, because at the present time we have in England the personnel of three stationary hospitals which are unemployed, but are being paid for by us, so that this cost of \$113,972.00 a year is an entire waste."

"Only in very rare cases are operations for varicocele and varicose veins justified by the after result, and on the whole, soldiers would be decidedly better off were these operations never allowed. Even where the operation has been well performed (which is far from being the rule), its success is too frequently visited by a continuance of aching, stiffness, etc."

"In conclusion I may say that evidence of a broad and comprehensive policy, which would ensure that most efficient care and treatment of our men, with due regard to the prevention of waste of public money, has been sought for in vain, and appears to be conspicuous by its absence."



## THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CLUB FEDERATION OF ONTARIO, HELD AT LONDON ON OCTOBER 11, 1916.

**L**IBERALISM has awakened. Any apathy that has been apparent on the part of Liberals in Ontario, seems to be a thing of the past. More Liberals were gathered together in London, Ontario, on October 11th, than have been gathered in conference in many a day, and the general tone of the discussions and the high plane of the speeches of the Liberal Leaders make it plain that the future of Liberalism in Federal and Provincial fields is in good hands.

The Annual Gathering of Delegates from the Clubs in the Federation was held in the afternoon at the London Liberal Club, and the evening meeting took the form of a banquet at the Princess Winter Garden.

At the banquet, where more than sixteen hundred attended, the principal speakers were Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. N. W. Rowell and Hon. T. C. Norris, Premier of Manitoba, with Hon. Geo. P. Graham and Mr. S. W. Jacobs, K.C., of Montreal, making short speeches at the close of the meeting.

The London Liberal Club co-operated with the Federation in the matter of the arrangements and the programme developed fine speeches on many subjects of interest to Liberals at this time.

Agriculture was debated with much enthusiasm by some of the agricultural experts of Western Ontario, and to close the discussion on this important branch of Governmental activity, Mr. H. B. Cowan, Editor of Farm & Dairy, Peterborough, gave a ten minute address outlining the Legislation that the farmers of Ontario were desirous of having passed. Those who took part in this discussion were: Mr. Walter Rogers, Aylmer; Nelson Parliament, M.P.P.; J. G. Turriff, M.P.; J. D. Wylie, President of the Cardinal Liberal Club; Thos. McMillan, Seaforth and others.

The subject of Labor and Social Reform was one that created much enthusiasm, and the speakers did not hesitate to flay the Corporations and the Government for the way in which Labor had been trodden upon for the benefit of the favored few. Claude Sanagan of London, and R. S. Muir of Toronto, dealt with different phases of the situation, and to close the discussion, Sam Carter, M.P.P., of Guelph, gave a fifteen minute address that took the delegates by storm. Mr. Carter was in his best form, and proceeded to detail the many grievances of the laboring classes, and the fact that he is himself a manufacturer, gives him an insight into this subject that few men are able to get.

A pleasing feature of the afternoon was the presence of Mrs. J. A. Macdonald, Toronto, President of the Provincial Women's Liberal Association and Mrs. Ross Stewart, bringing greetings from their Association. Mrs. Macdonald dealt with different phases of the work undertaken by their Association, and made a special appeal to the women of Ontario to assist in the foundation of Women's Liberal Clubs. Mrs. Macdonald specially requested any women interested in this subject to communicate with her in Toronto.

The subject of Citizenship embodying Graft and Patronage Evil, were dealt with by Alderman Ramsden of Toronto and Dr. Rogers of Tillsonburg.

Mr. George Wilkie of Toronto who has made a special study of Nickel, gave the delegates the history of Canadian Nickel and his arraignment of the Government for their policy in this regard was very strong.

C. C. Grant, President of the University Liberal Club, Toronto, opened the discussion on the work of the Liberal Club Federation in a telling speech in which he appealed to the young men of the Province to take a more active interest in politics. W. C. Lewis, W. P. Charlton and C. M. Goddard also dealt with different phases of the work to be undertaken during the ensuing year.

Mr. A. R. McMaster of Montreal brought greetings from Quebec Liberals and received a tribute that showed the feeling among the Liberals of the two Provinces was for better and more friendly intercourse.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee brought forward the following list of nominations which was unanimously adopted by the Meeting:

President—George S. Gibbons, London, Ont.

First Vice-President—J. D. Wylie, Cardinal.

Second Vice-President—Dr. J. M. Rodgers, Ingersoll.

Secretary-Treasurer—B. H. McCreath, Toronto

Executive Committee:—

H. E. M. Chisholm, Ottawa

W. K. Murphy, Toronto

J. R. Marshall, Hamilton, Ont.

A. E. Moore, Owen Sound, Ont.

Claude Sanagan, London, Ont.

Sydney McPherson, Belleville, Ont.

James Devine, North Bay, Ont.

W. B. Preston, Brantford, Ont.

The Session was attended by more than 800 people and the enthusiasm augers well for the most successful year the Federation has yet experienced.

We quote herewith extracts from the Speeches delivered at the Banquet.

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier.**

**THE WAR FOR CIVILIZATION.—**

"I need not tell you that we meet under the shadow of a terrible war, which for the past two years has been desolating Europe and engrossing the attention of the civilized world. Neither would it be amiss if once more I recall that this war is a war for civilization. If there be anyone in this audience, or elsewhere, who may be of the opinion that this has been said too often, that it might be left unsaid, I beg to dissent.

**STILL AGAINST MILITARISM.—**

"And so saying I abate not a jot of my lifelong profession, reiterated in the House of Commons and upon many a platform of this country, that I am a pacifist. I have always been against militarism, and I see no reason why I should, on the contrary, I see many reasons

why I should not change, but still stand true to the professions of my whole life. But it has been clear to all the pacifists in the world; to the Radicals of England; to the Labor party of England; to the Radicals, nay, to all classes, in France; to the Radicals of Italy, that in face of the avowed intention of Germany to dominate the world, in face of their blatant assumptions and complacent belief in being the "superman," in face of their brutal assertions that force, and force alone, was the only law—it was clear, I say, to all pacifists that nothing would avail but such a victory as would crush forever from the minds of the German authorities the belief in atrocious theories and monstrous doctrines. (Cheers.)

#### LIBERALS' ENDEAVOR TO AVOID PARTY STRIFE.—

"Hence it was that when war broke out those of us who were entrusted with the confidence of the Liberals of our country had no hesitation in declaring that it was the duty of Canada to assist to the full extent of her power the mother country in her supreme task of maintaining civilization by resort to arms. In this conviction we acted together as members of the party, and pledged support to all war measures. It was no time for mere party strife. Yet occasionally—yes, more than once—we were confronted by measures brought forward by the Government so vicious in principle, so grievous in effect, that we could not be true to those we represent and ourselves if we permitted them to pass without taking the position of irreducible objection.

#### DISAPPOINTED IN GOVERNMENT.—

"Liberalism at the outbreak of the war had deemed it a duty to abandon party considerations and to endeavor to assist the Government. "We expected and hoped the Government would realize the new conditions created by the war, and would set itself with earnestness and consecration to the great tasks before it. But in this we, and the people of Canada, have been to a large extent disappointed." (Cries of Hear, Hear.)

#### REHOBOAM'S ANSWER GIVEN.—

"Sir Wilfrid recalled how Mr. R. L. Borden in Opposition had stated that an annual expenditure of sixty millions suggested corruption, yet, under his regime, the annual expenditure had mounted year by year till it had reached one hundred and thirty-six millions. The answer of the Borden government to appealing people was the answer of King Rehoboam to the subjects who asked a reduction of the burdens laid upon them by his father. His answer was: "My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins. And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father hath chastized you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."

#### NOW TIME IF EVER TO GET RID OF PATRONAGE PLAGUE.—

"If patronage had been eliminated from the Budget of this year, from the estimates of this year, it would have made an appreciable reduction. The patronage was there—patronage is a ubiquitous, omnipresent, omnivorous rover, devouring anything, everything in which there is any public money. It has a voracious, insatiable appetite. Patronage is a plague, and if ever there was a time to be done with it, it is this calamitous time in which we are now living, in which everybody should be determined to have the biggest possible economy, the greatest possible reduction in the burden of the people.

#### STRENUOUS TIMES DEMAND THE STRICTEST ECONOMY.—

"In the meanwhile let me again repeat that we must win this war. We have made every possible sacrifice, and we are ready to do more if need be. We have assisted, we have sent our boys to the front where they have fought on the battlefields of Europe and on the soil of France with the same bravery which characterized their ancestors. They have shown that the blood which flows through their veins is still the same as that which was poured upon the soil of France. (Cheers.)

#### BRITISH INSTITUTIONS THE BEST YET.—

"I ask you if anything has taken place in this war to lead any man to the conclusion that Britain has erred in her policy of anti-militarism, or of maintaining as her objects in life the arts of peace, which have led her where she is to-day? Is Britain in the wrong? For my part, more than ever I am a believer in British institutions such as they came to us by our ancestors, from those who made Britain and the British Empire. (Cheers.) Does anyone imagine that if Great Britain had adopted the German system she would have displayed the same power she has since the beginning of contest? Does anyone suppose that if Britain had adopted the German system, and had taken every generation year after year as they came of military age and removed those young men from the farm, from the shop, from the professions, from schools and universities, and placed them in camps and barracks, and taxed the rest of the nation to keep them under the charge of the Drill Sergeant, non-producing—does anyone believe that England would have been able to stand the strain of spending \$25,000,000 every day to finance not only her own part, but Russia, Italy, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and that on a gold basis, out of her own resources? The answer by contrast is that Germany to-day has been obliged to have recourse to a paper currency, which is every day depreciating.

#### MILITARISM MUST GO.—

"Prussia has dominated the German Empire, and it is an admitted fact that Prussia impregnated Germany with that abominable lust of conquest which is now desolating the world. Prussia is the creator of the system of militarism. The first King of Prussia, Frederick William, invented the system. It has been extended again and again by his successors, but it has not produced peace. On the contrary, more than one-half of the wars which have desolated Europe in the last hundred and fifty years are due to Prussian militarism.

#### CONFLICT OF THESE IDEAS HAD TO COME.—

"Between these two ideas there had to come a conflict, and the conflict came. We are in it to-day? I ask you how shall it end? Sir, how it shall end is not now a question. (Loud cheers.) Without haste, without undue exultation, with calm and confidence, with clenched fist and teeth, British subjects all over the world are determined that this conflict shall end in victory. (Loud cheers.) But after victory comes the problem. That will be the question. What will follow? Shall we suppose that the old ideals, the old theories, which have made England and the British Empire what they are, shall it be supposed that the theories and the notions shall be thrown aside and a new military England and Empire be substituted for the old? Shall we have to say at the close of the war that the old England is not the same?

#### LET BRITAIN BE TRUE TO THE PAST.—

"For my part, British Liberal as I am—(Cheers)—I do not know what the future may bring, but I have no hesitation in stating what my aspirations and hopes for British Liberalism may be. Let Britain remain true to the glorious past. (Loud cheers.) Let her be in the future, as in the past, in the van of progress to that higher civilization which is now on trial, but which we hope to see, nay, are confident of seeing, emerge from the ordeal of blood and fire victorious, more glorious and more beneficent than ever. (Loud cheers.)

"I repeat, sir, this war has got to be fought to a finish. So it is that firmly, resolutely, we go on until victory is won. But then, let the better angels of our nature guide our course. There are many speculations now as to what should be our relations with Germany after the war. Sir, this is an idle question at the present time. It will depend on the extent of our victory. At all events, if the victory be great or small, and I repeat that I think it ought to be great and thorough, it is not revenge that we are seeking. It is simple justice and freedom for the rest of Europe. (Cheers.)

**FIGHT STRONG, SPARE THE WEAK.—**

"The German people are to-day under the ban of civilization on account of the atrocities which have been committed by the Germany army, on account of the innocent lives which have been taken in methods that are not sanctioned by war, for the victims of the Lusitania, for the babies killed by the Zeppelins. Yet for these atrocities the only persons to be held responsible are the German military authorities.

**NOT ALL GERMAN PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE.—**

"Sir, I think we must hold the German authorities responsible. It would be unfair and unjust to hold all the German people to answer for such crimes. I believe, on the contrary, there is every reason to believe that when the new conditions will arise as must follow the war there will be an advance of democracy among the nations which compose the German Empire. There is every reason to believe that when the slaughter which has been going on for two years in Europe has come to an end the German people will realize that it is time the people, the common people as Abraham Lincoln used to say, who always in the end have to pay for the ambitious designs of despotism, should assert themselves. During the two years of war there have been many German victories. Till to-day a portion of France, the whole of Belgium, the whole of Poland are under the subjection of Germany, while already the German people are paying a heavy toll of suffering for the victories which they have won, and that suffering shall be intensified one thousand fold. There is every reason to believe that when the conflict is over the eyes of the German people will be opened, and as a consequence despotism, feudalism, militarism shall be swept away by democracy, and democracy means peace, harmony, good-will amongst friends. (Applause.)

**FAITH BETTER THAN DOUBT, LOVE BETTER THAN HATE.—**

"And as for you, my young friends, the Federation of Liberal Clubs, you who stand to-day on the threshold of life, with a wide horizon open before you for a long career of usefulness to your native land, if you will permit me, after a long life, I shall remind you that already many problems rise before you; problems of race division, problems of creed differences, problems of economic conflict, problems of national duty and national aspiration. Let me tell you that for the solution of these problems you have a safe guide, an unflinching light, if you remember that faith is better than doubt, and love is better than hate. (Applause.)

"Banish doubt and hate from your life. Let your souls be ever open to the strong promptings of faith and the gentle influence of brotherly love. Be adamant against the haughty; be gentle and kind to the weak. Let your aim and your purpose, in good report or in ill, in victory or in defeat, be so to live, so to strive, so to serve as to do your part to raise the standard of life to higher and better spheres."

**Mr. Rowe's Speech.**

**T**HERE were several well-defined main topics in the speech of Mr. N. W. Rowell, K.C., M.P.P., Leader of the Liberal party in Ontario. In direct reference to the War, he told some of his experiences in Great Britain and France during the past summer and reiterated his belief that the successful prosecution of the War transcended in importance all other considerations and problems.

He thought that self-government and democracy as represented in the British Empire had been triumphantly vindicated by the voluntary and effective co-operation of the Dominions in the War. While on his trip he met an officer of high standing in the Japanese Navy who summed up what he thought were the two most noteworthy features of the War, as follows:—

First.—The marvellous spirit of France. The united courage and determination of its people that the liberty and civilization of France should survive and, Second—The spontaneous response of all the British Dominions to the need of the Motherland. "This latter," said Mr. Rowell, "is the finest proof that democracy can stand the test; that loyalty is begotten of liberty and that freedom breeds devotion."

Mr. Rowell was also emphatic in his belief in the importance of the part played by manual laborers and working men in this War. Sixty per cent of those Canadians who have enlisted have been manual workers. These men, thought Mr. Rowell, were not going to offer their lives for the world's freedom and then return to Canada to live in conditions where only a low standard of living was possible. They would expect and deserve sufficient remuneration to enable them to live and keep their families in comfort. Mr. Rowell, while in England, attended the Annual Meeting of the Trades Union Congress in Birmingham and was deeply impressed by the ability and earnestness of the labor leaders of Great Britain. To a greater extent than most people realized, he thought, the future of Britain, governmentally, socially and industrially would be in the hands of the workingman.

Prohibition, nickel, hydro and the disastrous fires in Northern Ontario were other topics discussed by Mr. Rowell. It was in the City of London on the 1st of July, 1912, that the "Abolish the Bar Campaign" had been opened by himself and his colleagues. At that time, he stated that the campaign would not end until every licensed bar was closed in the Province of Ontario. That campaign had ended, for every licensed bar had been closed. "The Legislature," he continued, "by the consent of both parties, has put the responsibility of finally determining the issue upon the people themselves, and no political party dare withdraw from the people that right now conferred upon them."

On the nickel question, Mr. Rowell told of the opportunities he had had in Europe of ascertaining how vital a part nickel played in modern warfare. He reviewed the efforts made by himself and his colleagues in the Legislature to persuade the Government to secure a more effective control of the production, manufacture and export of nickel, and told how the government had refused to act. He also told the story of how the Government illegally had allowed the International Nickel Company to escape taxation they should have borne.

In reference to Hydro Electric affairs, Mr. Rowell contended that one of the most striking developments of the War had been the extension of Government control over industries and transportation. Everywhere he had found the views entertained that we would not revert after the War to the old conditions, but must look forward to an increasing development of Government control, in these departments. Applying this to Hydro Electric, Mr. Rowell felt that however much men might have differed with reference to the initiation of this project or as to certain methods pursued in connection with its development, they must all recognize that it

was now here; that it was by far the greatest municipal industry in the country and one of the largest, in any country in the world. "It is of the greatest possible moment" he said, "that this industry should have not only the most efficient management, but that its development should be along sound business lines." Mr. Rowell attacked the government's policy of last session which tended to make the Hydro a part of the political organization of the government and contended that the municipalities should have at least one member on the Hydro Electric Board.

Mr. Rowell reviewed and emphasized his policy of further social reforms dealing, among other topics, with agricultural life, education and conditions of living among the working men.

With reference to the fires of Northern Ontario, Mr. Rowell quoted from the Ottawa Journal (Conservative) which described the government's laxness as "a provincial disgrace" and said that in the matter of forest fire protection the government of Ontario had shown amazing lack of progressiveness and intelligence and had shown, rather, feebleness and negligence.

In conclusion Mr. Rowell referred again to the War. "For what is life without liberty" he asked; "what is existence here without free government? I express your judgment, I know, when I say that to the limit of our resources in men and money we are in this fight for civilization. We are in this fight until liberty is achieved, and our children possess the heritage handed down to us from our fathers."

#### Hon. T. C. Norris, Premier of Manitoba.

"The day was dawning for a new era of Liberalism, declared Premier Norris. 'Liberalism is coming rapidly to the front,' he said amid wild cheering. 'The grand Old Man (Sir Wilfrid) is returning to the throne of public confidence at Ottawa, and let me tell you there is no doubt about that.'

#### PROHIBITION A SUCCESS.—

Premier Norris modestly disclaimed that Manitoba had enacted last session more progressive legislation than any other Legislature in the world. Nevertheless there were two or three things he would mention. They had promised prohibition on a straight referendum to the people without any conflicting issue. That had been adopted and even passed in Winnipeg, the first city of its size to vote itself dry. "Prohibition," said Mr. Norris, "is working up to the fullest expectations of the strictest temperance people of the Province. It is giving general satisfaction. There have been a few violations, but even the gentlemen who were engaged in the traffic have accepted the judgment of the people remarkably well, and prohibition is a success in Manitoba." Mr. Norris mentioned the compensation act, which he said was one of the most up-to-date and progressive pieces of legislation that had ever been enacted in Western Canada. Then there was the enfranchisement of women, which had been enacted on it being shown that it was desired. They also proposed amendments to the election act, and had appointed a committee to consider them. It was believed this would prevent political corruption if it was possible to do it.

#### BELIEVES PEOPLE WANT CLEANER POLITICS.—

"I believe, that we have arrived at a time when the people of Canada want cleaner politics. I have never believed it necessary to be dishonest in public life while being honest in private life. I believe the people of Canada are looking for better things, and are expecting service from the public men, men who occupy positions of trust in the different Provinces. And never in the history of Canada has there been a more opportune season than while this struggle is on.

#### Mr. S. W. Jacobs, K.C., of Montreal.

"When Sir Wilfrid Laurier is called back by the Canadian people to conduct their affairs a few months hence," began Mr. Jacobs, when he was interrupted by a remarkable demonstration—"Canada will have her opportunity to win her rightful place in administrative confidence and leadership, as her brave sons have already won their glorious place in service.

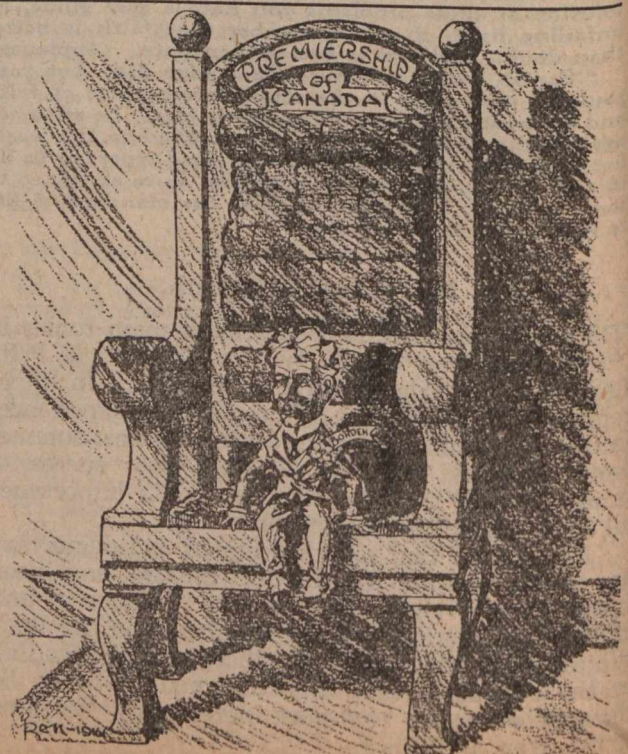
#### Hon. George P. Graham.

#### LIBERALISM'S "GRAND YOUNG MAN."—

"Young Liberalism, he declared, was led by its "Grand Young Man, as full of steam and energy and patriotism as the youngest Liberal in this organization." He urged Liberalism to be true to the high ideals of the Laurier message."

"The problems which confronted Liberalism were what Canada is to continue to do in the war, and what she was to do after the war was over. There was call for Governmental leadership in the solution of these problems. In spite of the inactivity and negligence of the Borden Government, Canada's young manhood had made a name for itself and for the Dominion. With Laurier soon to be at the helm, Canada's administrative action would no longer be retarded by the Borden consultations and negotiations with the Pelletieres and the Blondins. Canada would have real leadership—a leadership which would give the Dominion its rightful proud place in the Empire at this time."

Mr. Graham said Canada had resented Sir Robert Borden's supine attitude and his failure to call Sir Wilfrid to his counsels at the outset of the war. The Liberal Chieftain was never more trusted and honored in Ontario than he was to-day.



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## CANADA'S SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

WE are not pessimistic. We have an abiding faith in the greatness of the future of our Country, but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that Canada is faced with serious problems which only constructive and far seeing statesmanship can successfully solve. Look at the most important of them for a moment or two.

### Care of Returned Soldiers.

First, and of prime importance, is the problem of properly caring for the returned soldiers. This alone will tax the ingenuity of the wisest minds. Transcendent is the question of tending the poor fellows who have been disabled and maimed. The great heart of the nation must go out to them, and it must be our paramount duty to look after them not in a charitable spirit but gratefully, and with the broadest and kindest generosity. The public mind forgets quickly; the deeds of the heroes of to-day are oft times forgotten by to-morrow. We believe, though, that helped by strong Government initiative the people will rise nobly to the occasion.

### The Transition Period After the War.

Then there is the matter of tiding over the transition period between the close of the war and the full resumption of peaceful pursuits. A very considerable number of our industrial establishments are now engaged exclusively in the manufacture of war munitions, and it cannot be expected that their plants and businesses can be transformed to meet the demands of peace conditions in a month or perhaps even a year. This period will be a difficult and dangerous one for Canada. Foresight and good judgment exercised now, with the right Government lead, would do much towards solving the problem. We must get ready against that time—not wait till we are hit.

### Methods of Taxation.

How best to raise the additional revenue that will be necessary to meet the enormously increased fixed annual charges of the nation is a question the solution of which will require master minds. When the war is over our public debt will not be far short of a billion dollars which on a five per cent interest basis will cost 50 millions a year to carry. The pension list will likely not be less than 20 millions a year, and a sinking fund to provide for the public debt at maturity will absorb 10 millions annually. Railway obligations may cost us more millions per annum for a long time. At the very least our fixed annual charges will be about 70 to 80 millions as compared with less than 13 millions before the war. There has also to be taken into consideration the direct loss to the Revenue through the adoption of Prohibition by many of the Provinces.

The Government has so far not attempted to solve the problem in a permanent manner. Its war taxes on imported goods and business profits are makeshifts, and would be quite indefensible in peace times, because they are unsound in principle and inequitable in operation.

It would be the part of wisdom to scrutinize and

revise our whole methods of taxation. The principle that should be adopted in framing the new plan of taxation should be to tax directly and indirectly, and equitably, the individual according to his earning power, and wherever possible to bear less heavily upon those least able to bear the burden.

The best Customs Tariff ever made in the world contains concealed undue privileges. A watchful eye should be directed towards these, and they should be ruthlessly cut off. The present Borden Tariff with the 7½% superadded is in many respects an iniquity, and an outrage on the common people. A scientific revision of the Tariff based on a full knowledge of the facts and **with special regard to the needs of the revenue is desirable** and absolutely necessary, not only in the interests of the manufacturers but of the whole people. The old Liberal government simplified and reduced the Tariff substantially to the great benefit, not only of the country as a whole, but of the manufacturers themselves, who under the Liberal regime prospered amazingly. Similar results can be accomplished again by the exercise of the same Liberal policy of justice, and moderation towards all, and compromise between conflicting producing interests.

In considering the Taxation question the idea of taxing land values should not be passed over lightly. Revolutionary it may be, but it is correct in principle and logically sound. Building lands increase in value by the indirect and involuntary efforts of the community. Why then should not at least a portion of such increase belong to the community which creates it?

Sir Thomas White has not so far placed his hand on the accumulated and inherited wealth of the country constituting the nest eggs of the rich and well-to-do. He has put additional burdens on the poor in the shape of import taxes on foodstuffs which enhance the selling prices of all foodstuffs in Canada, while the rich escape just taxation. A change is evidently needed here and would be welcomed by the poor.

### Railway Problems.

The Railway problem is extremely difficult and serious. It looks like an awful muddle. Obviously we cannot go on in the old way throwing away millions yearly on the Intercolonial, Transcontinental, G.T.P., and C.N.R., without apparent reason, system or reasonable hope of return. A policy based on operating only the railways that will pay, and operating them so that they will pay seems necessary.

The greatest want of Canada to-day is a sound and comprehensive system of technical and vocational education. There is no use shutting our eyes to the truth. We are behind, and far behind, European countries in skilled industrial development, due to the absence of proper provision for technical training of our people. The war will surely bring about a new economic era. There will be a furious industrial rush on the part of the nations now at war to recoup their losses, and unless Canada gets to work at once she will lose in the race.

Good roads too are a crying necessity. The losses to the farming community through the existing highways are incalculable.

## "NO TRUCK OR TRADE WITH THE YANKEES."

**D**URING the 1911 election campaign one of the most popular slogans with Conservative candidates, and party workers was "No Truck or Trade with the Yankees." This striking battle cry was sounded on all platforms, and in all parts of the Dominion. Since then the Government which came to office partly as a result of that slogan have been truckling and trading with the Yankees more than ever. Trade with the United States, despite all tariff barriers has increased tremendously since 1911.

But there are other directions in which the present administration has been "truckling with the Yankees." When Sir Thomas White found the London money market closed to him he turned to New York for a \$75,000,000 loan. He paid New York brokers \$4,061,250 for floating it. In other words Canada, instead of getting \$75,000,000 only secured \$70,938,750. Sir Thomas has since found that he could have secured the amount without trouble in Canada, where \$300,000,000 has since been raised. He would thereby have kept the interest in the Dominion, and saved heavy brokers' fees.

When the Canadian Shell Committee wanted fuses for shells contracted for by the British Government it went to the United States for them, disregarding the representations of several prominent Canadian firms, which have since proven themselves to have been in a position to make the fuses. By virtue of this transaction Col. J. Wesley Allison (since reduced to the ranks) divided with several other promoters a million dollars in commissions. And the prices paid for the graze fuses in particular were exorbitant.

Millions and millions of dollars worth of Shells and component parts were ordered in the United States, and a deaf ear turned to Canadian manufacturers.

When the Government decided to construct a three million dollar arsenal at Lindsay, Ont., it gave the contract to the firm of Westinghouse, Church & Kerr of San Francisco, Chicago and New York. The work was let on a percentage basis, approximating ten per cent on the cost, and no Canadian architect, or contractor was given an opportunity to tender. In explanation of this transaction Hon. A. E. Kemp declared that the Westinghouse Co. had had experience in building arsenals and that no other Canadian company could be counted upon to undertake the work. Several Canadian firms have since voiced their protests, and have declared that they were in a position to undertake the work if given an opportunity. The **Chief Engineer** on the work comes from **Connecticut**, the **architect** is an **American**, the **chief carpenter** is an **American**, the **concrete superintendent**, and the **plumber** are both from **New York**. And it is stated that the **accounts are kept in New York**, and the **Plans and Specifications are prepared there**.

When the Government decided to make an investigation into the Canadian Railway situation it appointed a board consisting of A. H. Smith,

Chairman, Sir Henry Drayton and Sir George Paish. Mr. Smith is head of the New York Central Railway. He immediately set to work, in conjunction with Sir Henry Drayton to appoint an advisory engineer in the person of Professor Swain of Harvard University, and instructed him to organize a corps of engineers for valuation and advisory work.

It is only necessary to quote the interpretation which the **Canadian Society of Engineers** placed upon this action in order to make clear the injustice of it. In a circular letter of protest the Society says: "The inference to be drawn from the employment of aliens in the above connection are that the Federal Government considers:—

"1. . . . That the Canadian engineers who built the railways are not competent to report upon them.

"2. . . . That the Canadian universities in many cases enjoying Government subsidies are not producing competent engineers; and

"3. . . . That the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, though embracing a membership of about three thousand is not considered worthy of consultation on an important engineering question."

In attempted justification of the affair Sir Henry Drayton said: "The work is of course merely temporary. Only Canadians should, in my view, be appointed to permanent government positions, which I believe to be the rule in the States; but so far as temporary work and advisory work is concerned, if proper results are to be obtained the best men ought to be secured irrespective of his parish, province or country."

In other words Sir Henry Drayton takes the view that the "best" men can be obtained in the United States in this particular case.

Countless other instances might be quoted. **Motor Trucks in large number** have been purchased in the United States when they could have been made in Canada. The steel for the **new Dominion Observatory at Victoria** was brought from the United States, though there are in Canada many steel plants capable of turning it out.

Altogether it would seem that the old slogan has been abandoned together with most of the planks of the Halifax platform.

**T**HE Sir Thomas Tait incident is only another instance of the apparent inability of the Borden Government even to blunder into doing the right thing. They appointed Sir Thomas Tait as Director of the National Service Commission and refused to give him a free hand in the appointment of his Secretary because foresooth that Secretary had criticized the Government. The Borden Government idea of National Service evidently is to subordinate it to the game of politics.

Is it any wonder that the people are sick and disgusted with the Conservative government and are itching for the chance to get rid of it?

## GREAT BRITAIN DID NOT EMPLOY COL. J. WESLEY ALLISON.

**NOTWITHSTANDING** statements made in the House of Commons and elsewhere by General Sir Sam Hughes, and which are quoted below, we now find that J. Wesley Allison has not at any time since the war started acted as an agent for the British War Office in New York or elsewhere in connection with the purchase of supplies.

On Wednesday, August 9th, 1916, the Under-Secretary for War, Mr. Forster in answer to a question asked by Mr. McVeagh, M.P., in the British House of Commons made the following reply. (See British Hansard, Page 1073.)

### Question:

Mr. McVeagh:—To ask the Financial Secretary to the War Office, whether he can say if Mr. J. Wesley Allison has been operating in New York for the War Office; and, if so, in what capacity and to what extent has he purchased picric acid?

### Answer:

Mr. Forster:—I cannot find that this gentleman has been acting for the War Office.

This is a remarkable statement, particularly in view of the fact that General Sir Sam Hughes has on various occasions led the people of Canada to believe that Col. J. Wesley Allison was acting for the British Government. In order that there may be no misapprehension as to what Sir Sam Hughes stated we quote the following:—

“On tri-ni tro-toinol, picric acid, copper, brass, zinc, ammunition of various kinds, Col. Allison undoubtedly saved upwards of 50,000,000 to Great Britain and Canada. Even when the British Government wanted a hundred rifles for testing purposes, they applied to Col. Allison for them.”

(Sir Sam Hughes in House of Commons, March 2nd. See Daily Unrevised Hansard, page 1409.)

Again on another occasion Sir Sam when speaking of the sale to the British War Office on defective Canadian ammunition stated:—

“This ammunition was first ordered, I say by the members of the Vickers firm. Finally, it was ordered by Col. J. Wesley Allison, who has the honor of being the Vickers representative, and who had, and still has, the honor of having been selected by the special representative of the British Government as agent in the United States of America in respect of very large matters of international concern. He is a gentleman who to-day stands high in the estimation of the people of the country, not from fear.”

(Sir Sam Hughes in House of Commons, May 13th, 1916. See Daily Unrevised Hansard, page 4051.)

Again on May 31st when Sir Sam Hughes was giving evidence before the Meredith-Duff Commission he made the following statement in reference to Col. Allison being a representative of the British Government:—

“The point that is not made clear is the position I put Allison in at first, to go down to New York or to the United States at the time I told you about, when we were being importuned by the British Government, to get them this, that and the other.

“But there was nothing whatever settled as to what the remuneration of the gentlemen on

this proposed committee would be. I said that whatever the remuneration would be it would have to be determined by Lord Kitchener. . . . “The point I wanted to make was, in justice to Allison, because all this trouble about Allison started over the time I nominated him for that purchasing commission for the British Government.”

(See evidence Royal Commission, May 31st, 1916. Unrevised edition, pages 1240 and 1241.)

With this official statement from the British War Office it can be settled once and for all that J. Wesley Allison was never agent for the British Government. The question now arises, who was he acting for, and the only answer that can be given is that it was for the Canadian Government and the Canadian Government alone must be held responsible for his actions. We believe they recognize this or he would never have been deprived of his honorary colonelcy.

## THE WATCH DOG OF THE TREASURY.

**JOHN FRASER**, Auditor-General of Canada has been sent by the Government to England upon an important mission. Mr. Fraser is armed with authority from the Governor-in-Council to investigate, and report upon expenditures in connection with the Canadian troops overseas. It will be his duty to ascertain the value of Canadian equipment in England, to make a survey of the accounts of the Paymaster and Quartermaster-General, and to discover what is the amount of the Dominion's indebtedness to the Motherland for expenditures incurred in connection with the Canadian troops in England and at the front. So far Canada's recorded war expenditure totals something over \$300,000,000, but this does not include amounts being charged up by the War Office.

Since the war commenced no man has had a more difficult, and delicate task assigned to him than Auditor General Fraser. He has been compelled to carefully survey all expenditures, and to make sure that constitutional authority has been secured for such expenditures. Through his efforts several attempted raids upon the treasury have been nipped in the bud, while several refunds have been secured through his agency. In the course of his duties he has incurred the bitter displeasure of General Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, particularly in connection with his evidence before the Davidson Commission regarding the sale to the British Admiralty through J. Wesley Allison of several million rounds of small arms ammunition. So deeply annoyed was the Minister at the disclosure of the transaction that in the Commons last session he declared that “Col. Allison had more honor in his little finger than the auditor-general had in his whole carcass.”

Now the Government, alarmed because of the lack of reports from General Hughes' appointees in England, has sent Auditor-General Fraser overseas to look over their books, and to make a report upon the financial conditions over there. Hitherto those in authority overseas appear to have taken the ground that they were a law unto themselves, and not accountable for their actions to the Canadian Government.

## SOLDIERS WANTED—NOT POLITICIANS.

WHEN General Sir Sam Hughes left for England the beginning of July last immediately after Camp Borden review, the hope was expressed in the many Conservative circles that he would receive a Command at the front and that his services as Minister of Militia to Canada would thus be effectually disposed of.

Sir Sam has returned to Canada without this Command.

The following editorial which appeared in the Daily Mail of London, October 1st, may explain why:

"The Canadian press, reflecting the views of Canadian soldiers who have endured actual warfare are anxious lest in gratitude for his zeal in raising men Sir Sam Hughes be given a command at the front.

"Early in the War certain political soldiers received unwise commands but as the sanguine nature of the struggle developed it became obvious that the real front is no place for the politician, however eloquent, active and astute. The Canadian press and the Canadian soldiers need therefore have no anxiety. It is understood that Sir Sam now quite appreciates the changed situation and is not seeking active service.

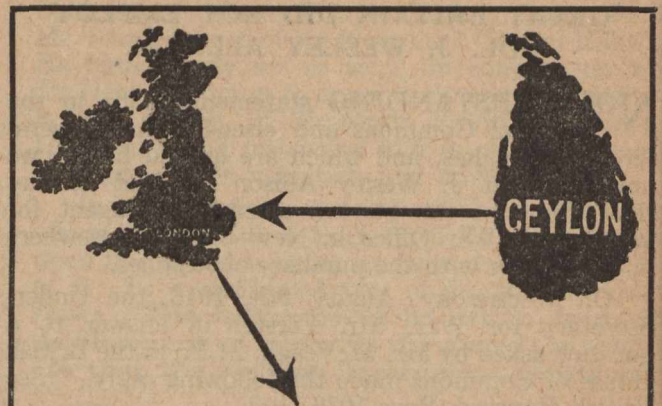
"We are glad to record the fact, for we agree with our Canadian contemporaries that a political appointment might bring about a disaster of the first magnitude to the Canadian army. Sir Sam is doing good work here in keeping the Dominion in the limelight and we are glad to have him among us."

## GOVERNMENT BY COMMISSION.

THE Government has appointed another commission to advise the Western farmers in connection with the retention of sufficient seed grain for next year's crop. This makes the 89th Commission appointed by the present government since coming to office in the Fall of 1911. Government by commission has become an established fact in the Dominion.

### The Greater Agricultural Production Commission.

Talking about commissions, has anyone heard anything recently of the one which was appointed on Oct. 19th, 1915 under the Chairmanship of Sir James Lougheed to investigate the questions of increased agricultural production, agricultural education, transportation, farm credits, and the providing for after-the-war conditions? The commission comprised Senator Lougheed, J. W. Flavelle, William Farrell of Victoria, S. J. B. Rolland of Montreal, E. N. Hopkins of Moose Jaw, Hon. W. B. Ross of Middleton, Nova Scotia, Dr. J. G. Rutherford of Calgary, William Smith of Columbus, Ont. and J. C. Watters of Ottawa. It held several sittings at various points, but for the past eight months has dropped out of sight. Meanwhile Sir George Foster announces that he will call a conference of business men shortly to consider after-the-war



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problems. And the Senate has appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of Hon. F. L. Beique to consider the same question.

### Where is the Report of the Davidson Commission?

Another commission which is about due to report is the Davidson Commission which was appointed in the Spring of 1915 to enquire into charges of graft, and corruption in connection with war purchases. That Commission has taken evidence on a score or so of matters, but so far not even an interim report has been received from it.

## CANADIAN EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES.

The Emigration from Canada to the United States for the past six months as per the official figures supplied by the Immigration Service of the United States Department of Labor show that 33,340 male aliens have entered the United States from Canada.

With the urgent call for recruits which is being sounded each day, with the special appeals which have been made by munition and other manufacturers and the condition of labor in Canada, it would appear that nothing is of greater importance than to stop this emigration of citizens from Canada to the United States.

