



Liberal Weekly



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OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 23rd, 1917.

TWO CENTS

COST OF LIVING INCREASES 67 PER CENT SINCE JULY, 1914.

Soldiers' Families Suffering, Yet Government Doing Nothing.

(These Figures are taken from the Labour Gazette issued by the Dept. of Labour.)

Article.	per Unit.	July, 1914.	July, 1917.	Increase.
Beef, sirloin steak.....	lb.	25c	32c	28%
Mutton, leg roast.....	" "	21	29	38
Pork, fresh.....	" "	20	30	50
Bacon, breakfast.....	" "	25	40	60
Lard, pure, leaf.....	" "	18	31	70
Eggs, fresh.....	dozen	27	39	44
Milk.....	Quart	8½	10	18
Butter, dairy.....	lb.	25	38	52
Cheese, new.....	" "	19	30	58
Bread, plain white.....	" "	4.2	7.4	76
Flour, family.....	" "	3.3	7.4	110
Rolled oats.....	" "	4	6	50
Rice, medium.....	" "	6	8	33
Beans, white.....	" "	6	16	166
Apples, evaporated.....	" "	13	16	23
Prunes, medium.....	" "	12	15	25
Sugar, granulated.....	" "	5½	10	82
Potatoes.....	bag	\$1.50	\$3.55	237
				increase. 67.7%

HOW CAN A SOLDIER'S FAMILY LIVE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES?

1914

Assigned pay and Separation Allowance to soldier's family August 1914. \$35.00 per month or \$8.75 a week.

1917

Assigned pay and separation allowance August 1917. \$35.00 a month or \$8.75 a week.

No Increase in Pay.

1914

Cost of Budget of food for family for one week as computed by Labor Department August 1914, \$7.42.

1917

Cost of Budget of food for family for one week August 1917. \$11.62.

Cost of Living Increased Over \$16.80 a Month.

AND WHAT ARE THE GOVERNMENT DOING TO REMEDY THE EVIL?

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FOOD PRICES AND THE WORKERS.

Out of the welter of Canadian politics to-day stands out with painful distinctness to the working-man and his family, viz., the increased and steadily mounting cost of a bare existence. In the hysteria of the hour, amid the tumult and the shouting, in the thunders of patriotic rhetoric and the frantic appeal to the passions of race and the hurling of charges of disloyalty, the worker is left to shift for himself and to face the combines and the merciless trusts alone and unaided. Yet the worker in the last analysis is the burden bearer, on him devolves the whole intricate machinery of finance and the maintenance of national credit.

The new administration, like the government which it hopes to succeed, has steadily ignored the workers of the Dominion in all its announcements and declarations of policy. The trusts and the combines, fully represented in the cabinet, have handcuffed and gagged the administration and by maintaining the farce of a food controllership, a subterfuge adopted by the old Borden cabinet to silence the workers of the Dominion at a critical time in the profiteering orgy of its friends, have indicated their determination to squeeze the last cent from the people of Canada in the matter of food costs. The bacon barons, the great milling corporations, and the tariff-protected food pirates of the Dominion have served notice on the union cabinet, as they did on the old Borden government, that they must not be disturbed in their work of fattening on the wages of the workers of this country, of plundering the savings of the toilers in field and factory. The pitiful spectacle of an administration subservient to the trusts, the willing servants of the legalized food buccaneers of the country, is presented to-day in the alleged reconstructed cabinet of Sir Robert Borden.

After months of pitiful deception and evasion the fact stands out clear to-day, despite the pettifoggery of Mr. Hanna, that food costs are higher than six months ago even, that the workers in many localities are unable to provide their children with the necessaries of life and that despite the unhealthy decrease in wages the food pirates have succeeded in taking their pound of flesh from the toilers of the country. In Montreal it has been learned that scores of the children of the poor worker are sent to school daily WITHOUT ANY BREAKFAST, because their parents cannot afford to buy food for them. This condition of affairs, a shame and an everlasting disgrace to Canada, is now being investigated by the Mayor of Montreal who has offered in the meantime to feed the children at his own expense. Yet daily we read of the millions of dollars of dividends of bacon houses, milling concerns and other allied trusts and combines—profits made because of the war. And day by day we are given our fill of bunkum respecting

the work of the food controller who has not yet succeeded in lowering the cost of a single article of food a single cent in all his tenure of office, and who is merely going through the motions of a food controller at the dictation of the food pirates of the Dominion.

IF THE WORKERS OF CANADA WOULD ASCERTAIN THE REAL MEANING OF THE FOOD CONTROLLERSHIP OF THIS COUNTRY THEY HAVE BUT TO COMPARE THE PRICES OF EVERY ARTICLE OF DAILY FOOD WITH THE PRICES OF THESE SAME ARTICLES SIX MONTHS AGO. THEN LET THEM COMPARE THE PROFITS OF THE PORK PACKERS, THE MILLING COMPANIES WITH THE PROFITS OF THESE SAME CONCERNS IN THE YEARS BEFORE THE WAR. THEY WILL LEARN THAT WHILE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CANADIANS HAVE GROWN POORER A NEW CROP OF CANADIAN MILLIONAIRES HAS BEEN GROWN IN THE LAST THREE YEARS. THIS IS THE PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENT OF THE BORDEN ADMINISTRATION NOW POSING AS A UNION GOVERNMENT.

COST OF LIVING—THE SOLDIERS' PAY.

WHILE the prices of the necessaries of life have almost doubled and wages have risen as high as fifty per cent and more since 1914, the pay and allowances of the soldier—the greatest patriot and the most important wage-earner of them all—remain the same as when he shouldered his rifle in 1914 and 1915 and marched away to do battle for his country.

The table appearing on the front page of this issue shows some remarkable changes in prices which have taken place in Canada since the outbreak of war and what has the Government done to rectify it. True, the Hon. W. J. Hanna, Canadian representative of the Standard Oil Company, was appointed Food Controller about six months ago. Outside of elaborately equipping a suite of offices in Ottawa and surrounding himself with a staff of highly paid clerks, and giving a little advice about eating green vegetables, nothing has been done.

Mr. Hanna drafted some regulations and an Order-in-Council was passed permitting the manufacture and sale of oleo-margerine in Canada.

This too, in Mr. Hanna's hands has become abortive, the same as lowering the cost of food, and now the whole matter of the manufacture and sale of oleo-margerine has been handed over to the Department of Agriculture.

The Department of Labour's family budget of food in the August issue shows a rise from \$7.42 in July, 1914, to \$11.62, an increase of 56.6%. The index number of wholesale prices rose from 134.6 in July, 1914, to 242.6 in July, 1917, or 80%. This includes woollen and cotton goods which more than doubled, boots rose 50%, fuel more than doubled. Can Mr. Hanna and his staff of experts not do something to remedy this?

MILITIA DEPARTMENT ON NOV. 10th, 1917, SUSPENDED EMPLOYEES WHO REFUSED TO DO POLITICAL WORK IN THE DEPARTMENT.

Politics in Government still rampant.

For refusing to compile from Government ledgers a list of women voters for the Hon. Mr. Doherty, Minister of Justice, employee was threatened and suspended.

For practically a month now the so-called Unionist Government, particularly Premier Borden, Mr. Reid, General Mewburn, Sir Thos. White, Mr. Calder and Mr. Rowell have been heralding broadcast throughout Canada the fact that Partyism and Patronage in the Government Service had been abolished.

It now transpires that the Government clerks and officers are being used to compile political lists for members of the Borden Government and that when an employee of the staff drew his superior officer's attention to the matter this employee was immediately suspended.

The incident occurred in the Separation and Assigned Pay Branch of the Militia Department. On November 9th the Minister of Justice, the Hon. C. J. Doherty, asked a Government official to compile a list of soldiers' wives, assignees and dependents for St. Anne's constituency in the City of Montreal, the purpose obviously being to secure a list of the women voters in this constituency. To compile such a list necessitated the taking away from their regular work some forty clerks. It involved the suspension of the Routine work of the Branch and the looking through of about 500 ledgers.

One of the employees protested, saying, "this political work in Government offices was not to his liking" and so reported to his superior officer, Captain Gordon, who in return referred the employee to Col. Ingall. Colonel Ingall immediately phoned General Paymaster Borden (brother of Premier Borden) who gave instructions that if the employee did not do what he was told he would be suspended. The employee refused and accordingly on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917, the employee was suspended and was dismissed the following Monday.

General Mewburn boasted in Hamilton last week that there were no politics in his Department. We believe he will have some difficulty in explaining the above incident which surely proves to the public that the department and its staff are being used for political purposes. Will General Mewburn reinstate this employee and dismiss Paymaster Borden and Colonel Ingall for permitting the staff and

Department to be used for political purposes?

General Mewburn's reputation as an administrator is at stake. What action will he take?

PATRONAGE ELIMINATED—NEVER.

The Experimental Farm at Ottawa wanted some electrical work done on the farm. An official telephoned an electrician in Ottawa to go and do the work. On arriving at the Farm on Tuesday, November 13th, 1917, the electrician was told that he had been called by mistake, that he could not do the work as he was not on the Patronage List. And the electrician was compelled to return to the City only to see a good Tory go out and do the work. The Hon. Mr. Crerar, who has charge of the Experimental Farm had better look into this or his colleague, Mr. Calder will not be able to preach "patronage abolished" on his next appearance in Winnipeg.

BACON, HAM AND BREAD CHEAPER IN LONDON, ENGLAND, THAN IN CANADA, YET GOVERNMENT DO NOTHING.

London, England.	Toronto, Ont.	Montreal, Que.
Bacon— Wholesale prices only Canadian Wiltshire 27½.	Canadian Wiltshire 28-31.....	Canadian Wiltshire 31-32.
London Economist.....	Canadian Grocer.....	Canadian Grocer.

(Bacon sold wholesale in England is usually the Wiltshire side, which includes ham, shoulder and sides.)

Ham— Wholesale prices only Canadian 27 5.30.....	Canadian 29½-31 Canadian Grocer.....	Canadian 31-32. Canadian Grocer.
London Economist.....	Canadian Grocer.....	Canadian Grocer.
Bread— Retail prices. 5¼ c. per lb.....	7 1-3c. per lb.....	8c. per lb.

(These figures were computed taking four lbs. of bread and costing 11½d. Quotations state that bread is selling in London as low as 10½c. for four lb. loaf.)

Flour— Wholesale prices. Strong Bakers 10.45	Strong Bakers 12.40 Canadian Grocer.....	Strong Bakers 12.50 Canadian Grocer.
London Statist.....	Canadian Grocer.....	Canadian Grocer.

(War flour, called Government Railway Food controller's order of April 4th, required that 81 per cent of wheat must be retained in the flour and a minimum of 10 per cent of flour from other grain, barley, corn, rice, etc., must be added, up to a maximum of 25 per cent.)

LIBERALS OF CANADA GROSSLY INSULTED.

Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance has perfected a most [elaborati organization for the sale of VICTORY BONDS. Bill-boards are being used Extensivly.

The so-called Unionist Government political organization of which Sir Thomas White is a member, have at the same time posted on bill-Boards alongside the Victory Bond Posters other large posters reading:

"How would the Kaiser vote?" which is an insinuation directed at every Liberal in Canada.

HOW CAN SIR THOMES WHITE EXPECT HIS LOAN TO BE A SUCCESS IF HE PERMITS INSULTS OF THIS KIND TO BE HURLED AT ONE HALF THE POPULATION?

OUR SOLDIERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

The High Cost of Living.

"The man who is prepared to volunteer his services and to risk his life in his country's defence is entitled to first consideration. Those dependent upon him, and who spare him from their midst are the next most deserving of the State's solicitude and care. A policy which will accord first place to the soldier and sailor in the concern of the State, will I believe, bring forth all the men necessary to fight its battles without the need of recourse to conscription. If returned to power I should adopt such a policy."

"The measure now in force for the maintenance, care and comfort of the soldiers' dependents, and families, are not adequate or equitable. . . . Prompt action must be taken to put the soldier and their dependents beyond any possibility of want after public subscriptions have ceased and the glamour and excitement of the War have worn away."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier in manifesto delivered Nov. 5, 1917.

THE policy laid down and carried out by the Borden Government since the War commenced has been the direct antithesis of that embodied in the manifesto of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The soldier and his dependents have ever been the last consideration of the Government; the profiteer and the food manipulator the first. The chasm which lies between the profiteer and the soldier is as wide as that which divided Dives in Hell from Lazarus in Heaven. Yet in Canada the relatives of the soldier at the Front must pinch to live and the returned soldier, shattered probably in his country's service, must limp the streets to seek a job; while the profiteer and his family safe at home live in affluence and spurn the dust of the street from the wheels of their motor car in the eyes of the man who limps.

The Rich Fatten while the Soldiers Fight.

The whole financial policy of the Government, in the first place, has been to make the War a "paying proposition" for those of its Big Business friends who remain at home. These men have shared orders, arising entirely out of the War, approximating a billion and a half dollars. The cost of the War so far approximates about half of that amount. In Great Britain and the United States the principle at the outset was laid down that those who benefit by the War shall help pay for the cost of the War and that so far as possible those who suffer in the War or by the War—the soldier and his dependents—shall be spared further sacrifice. It has been altogether different in Canada. Out of all the huge profits made from war contracts only an infinitesimal amount has been conscripted for the payment of the war expenditures—about fourteen million in the first three years of the War to be explicit. The War is being carried on by borrowing and by indirect taxes. The debt accumulated by the borrowing will be paid by the soldier when he comes back in common with all others. The indirect taxes bear as heavily in increased cost of living upon the poorly-paid dependent of the soldier as they do on the pampered and protected war profiteer with his 100 per cent dividends.

Borden Government Against Income Tax.

Sir Thomas White has ever been chary of direct

taxation. He was simply hounded by the Opposition into the imposition of an Excess Profits Tax. He was later hounded into the imposition of an Income Tax and the tax he did impose will sit very lightly on the shoulders of the men with big incomes who include himself and nearly all his colleagues. Moreover he stated that it would next year take the place of the Excess profit tax. Fear of "scaring capital" has ever been the plea of the Minister of Finance when urged to a further conscription of profit and accumulated wealth. In other words he always took the ground that men would not go into the munition or war supply business unless assured of substantial profits and the retention thereof.

Soldier's Dependents Suffer.

But the man at the Front who is asked to sacrifice all he has, must be content with a wage which in any other branch of War or domestic industry at home would be considered ridiculous and would create strikes. His dependents at home are asked to subsist upon an allowance which the family of a mechanic in these days would consider starvation wages. They are forced to move down the rungs of the social ladder and remove their effects to a cheaper part of the community, while their neighbors who have none at the Front remain where they are and the profiteer mounts to the very top of the social ladder.

Action of Government Discourages Men Going.

The Government has always feared "scaring capital" away from industry. It has never entered its mind that the policy pursued by it with regard to the subsistence of soldiers and their dependents may have "scared" many men away from the trenches, or disgusted other against going. Voluntary recruiting, the Government claims has failed! How far it may be asked has the Government's solicitude for its friends the profiteers and the food manipulators contrasted as that solicitude is with its miserable haggling over pension and allowances to soldier's dependents, been responsible for that so-called failure? It may be that the horror of the trenches to many men would be lightened if they could believe that their dependents at home were well cared for, and were not being ground to the dust by the food profiteer. It may be that many men have been made "slackers" by the present Government through fear of what may happen their families should they go, and through disgust against the saturnalia of profiteering which they witness among the favored friends of the administration who stay at home from the battle. If there be slackers in Canada the Borden Government must be held largely responsible for their existence.

"A policy which will accord first place to the Soldier and Sailor, and his dependents in the concern of the State", says Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "will, I believe, bring forth all the men necessary to fight its battle without the need or recourse to conscription. If returned to power I should adopt such a policy."

Had the Government made the soldier and the sailor and their dependents the "first concern of the

State", from the beginning the half million men "promised" by Sir Robert Borden on January, 1916, would be in khaki to-day.

But for three years of war the Government has pursued a niggardly and pernicious policy toward the soldiers and their dependents while exercising care and solicitude for the profiteer and throwing the doors of a heavily taxed treasury open to that coterie of financial pirates which has bled the country for the past six years. Such a policy was to be expected from a Government of millionaires, not one of whom could at the present time truthfully declare that he wasn't financially better off to-day than he was when War broke out, when as a matter of fact if he were stripped naked and penniless on the street his sacrifice would not be on equality with the man who has risked his all in the trenches or the woman who cheerfully saw him go.

Pay Too Small.

For three years the pay of the soldier at the Front has remained the same, though during that three years, wages in all other lines of business and industry at home have been increased many times. For three years the assigned pay and separation allowances to soldier and dependents, (quite meager enough at the outset) have not changed, though during that three years the cost of living has doubled and trebled.

Industrial Wages Increased. Soldiers' Pay remained the same.

Turning to the question of wages: In an article published by the *Financial Post* in January, 1917, based on statistics of the federal Department of Labour, a review is given of advances in the cost of living and the upward tendency of wages during 1916. In that year, according to the *Post* there were over 122 changes in wages affecting over 80,000 employees and with but one exception these changes in wages were increases. Towards the latter part of the year increases were rapid, mines, railways and the metal industries being chiefly affected. Many increases were in the nature of war bonuses in view of the high cost of living, and advances as great as fifty per cent over the wages paid in 1914 occurred, and ten and fifteen per cent increases were common. The greatest increases were in industries in a state of great activity owing to war demands. The *Post* article closes with the statement that "in recent months nearly every trade or industry has shown some increase in wages and no decreases have been reported."

The scarcity of labour due to the absence from the country of so many of Canada's producers has been such that manufacturers of munitions and others reaping golden profits from the "Business" of war, in some cases willingly, in others grudgingly, have paid increased wages, in order that they might "make their pile", while the workingman's higher wages were barely sufficient to keep up with the ever rising cost of living.

Taking the first quarter of 1917 it appears from figures published by the *Labour Gazette*, the Official journal of the Department of Labour, that there were 61 changes affecting approximately 27,000 work

people and all these changes were increases, running as high as 25 and 30 per cent. In the second quarter there were 150 changes affecting over 80,000 workmen, all increased wages or shorter working hours. In this quarter employees of railways alone to the number of 50,000 benefited by substantial increases. All classes of workmen were concerned in these changes with advances ranging from 5 to 25 per cent and in many cases where bonuses were granted increases were higher.

Wages Compared.

The assigned pay of a private soldier at the outset of the War amounted to about \$15.00 per month. Separation allowance (which is not given unless pay is assigned) amounted to \$20.00 per month or a total of \$35.00 a month which was the same whether he had a family of one or ten. To-day the allowance is the same as it was then though living expenses have increased tremendously. Some appreciation of the injustice of the situation may be gathered from the following comparative tables:

1914

Assigned pay and Separation Allowance to soldier's family August 1914. \$35.00 per month or \$8.75 a week.

Cost of Budget of food for family for one week as computed by Labor Department August 1914, \$7.42.

1917

Assigned pay and separation allowance August 1917. \$35. a month or \$8.75 a week.

Cost of Budget of food for family for one week August 1917. \$11.62

Assigned pay and Separation allowance remained stationary in the interval. The cost of living increased 56.6 per cent according to the figures of the Labor Department. In other words so far as the State is concerned the family of the Soldier must depend for charitable contribution from the Patriotic fund to make up the difference between its allowance and the cost of existence. The Labor Department's figures refer to "workingmen's families and are based on the standard of living of a workingman's family before the War."

As an instance of the views taken by many arbitration boards in regard to the increased cost of living, the following from the report of a Board which dealt with Employees of the Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission:

"The Board had to determine as to what elements should enter their consideration in deciding the question of pay, and they concluded that the cost of living—although not the only matter they looked into, is the primary basis of wages, and that an enterprise of the character of the Toronto Hydro-Electric System should have its calculations so made and its estimates so arranged that provision should be made for reasonable and moderate living expenses for all its employees.

"The Board received a very considerable amount of evidence both written, printed and verbal, with regard to the cost of living and with every desire to make it as reasonable as possible, in view of the complex conditions which exist in Toronto at the present time, taking a mechanic with an average family of say a wife and three

children, it would appear that to keep him in a reasonable condition of life, suitable to his position, it would cost probably \$90 per month without making any allowances for lost time, etc. This would be an average of about, in round figures, \$22.50 per week. If therefore, the Board is right in basing its calculation of the wages which a man ought to get upon the actual cost of living, then the wages should average \$22.50 per week instead of \$17 per week as at present."

Soldiers Underpaid \$65.00 a Month at Least.

This report was made in August 1915 and since that time, as shown by the Dept. of Labour's budget figures the cost of living has increased about 95%. Thus if \$90 was a fair wage for the mechanic in August 1915 it would mean that in August 1917 his salary should be \$120 per month. Admitting that the soldier is an equally useful man to his country and that his family is entitled to the same consideration we find that on the basis of the soldier's full pay amounting to \$35 per month and separation allowance to family amounting to \$20.00 per month (without considering Patriotic Fund allowance) he is underpaid to the extent of \$65. per month or is getting 70 per cent less than he needs to keep him in a reasonable condition of life." Even with the Patriotic Fund allowance he is heavily underpaid, and his family is told by the Food Controller (also a millionaire) to sign the Food pledge card and requested to "conserve" food supplies. But no attempt during all its regime of the Government was made to control food prices.

It was with a view toward improving the condition of the dependents of the soldiers the following resolution was moved by Mr. Copp, Liberal Member for Westmoreland in amendment to the Military Service Bill last Session:

"That the further consideration of the bill be deferred until such adequate provision has been made for the dependents of soldiers enlisted for Overseas as will remove the necessity for raising money by public subscription for their support."

The motion was derisively voted down by the Government and Sir Robert Borden petulantly declared:

"When my Hon. friend, at this hour attempts to delay indefinitely the passage of this Bill, I say that I have no sympathy either with his motion or his motive, and without any hesitation whatever I declare to this House that the Government cannot accept it."

SPECIAL TRAINS FOR SIR THOMAS WHITE.

That Sir Thomas White stands in well with the Canadian Northern Railway was amply proven a week ago when this Railway corporation ran a special train from Westport to Brockville to take the electors to Sir Thomas White's nomination. All along this line stock and perishable goods are delayed on account of railway facilities, yet when it comes to a Convention for Sir Thomas White the Railway Company have sufficient rolling stock to see that he gets a special train.

Another evidence of the Big Interests getting preference over the farmers.

In 1911 the Liberal party was whispered out of office. That was the work of the "Slanderbund."

In 1917 the Liberal party is to be sub-marined by "The Hidden Hand." That is the work of the "Moneybund."

GOVERNMENT SIDETRACKED PENSION BILL

The contrast between the solicitude of the Government for its friends, the financial interests, and its disregard for the dependents of the soldiers, is strikingly emphasized in a passage which occurred in the House of Commons on September 19th, 1917 during the closing of the Session. The Liberal members criticized the Government for having shelved the question of increased pensions and for having neglected to pass a notice on the order paper in connection with the Pensions Board which had been there from the beginning of the Session and which had been sidetracked through the Government anxiety to pass the Canadian Northern Bill, the Franchise Bill and other nefarious measures.

The following remarkable excuse for the Government's action was given by Hon. Dr. Reid, speaking on behalf of the Government:

"The reason no Pensions Bill was submitted this Session is that we have not had an opportunity of submitting one. I think every member of this House would agree that we have had most important legislation from the time the Prime Minister came back in May down to the present moment, legislation that had to go through, legislation that could not wait. The financial Bills and the other Bills had to go through. There can be no doubt about that. Even the Canadian Northern Bill was a Bill which had to go through otherwise there would have been a financial crisis in the country."

Mr. Macdonald: "It is going to make one anyway."

Mr. Reid: "No, it will not."

Mr. Macdonald: "It will make a worse crisis than if nothing at all had been done."

Mr. Reid: "No, that Bill had to go through and the other Bills had to go through and this Session has been kept busy. I believe that in the 26 years that I have been here there never has been so much important legislation passed as during the present Session."

Mr. Macdonald: "There never was so much bad legislation."

In other words the question of caring for the dependents of the soldiers was subserved to the question of providing relief for the Government coterie of financial friends in Toronto.

Since then an indecent attempt has been made to influence the soldiers' vote by the passage of a pre-election order-in-council, providing for certain flat increases which have no regard for special cases. The matter of adjusting the present inadequate Pension provisions will be left for another Parliament.



Alex. E. May
Liberal Candidate

Federal Riding of
East Edmonton

Honesty
Economy
Efficiency

THE BIRTH OF "UNION GOVERNMENT."



Sir Thomas White says, "Union Government is an accomplished fact, it was born of the will of the Canadian people." In this Sir Thomas is wrong.

Union Government was conceived immediately after the Extension of the life of Parliament had been refused. It was born immediately after the C. N. R. Bill, the Franchise Bill, and the War Times Election Bill had been passed by the "Gag", the reason being to save the Borden Government from immediate death. Its father was Sir Clifford Sifton and the Big Interests, and its mother, the Borden Administration. Its nearest relatives are the Pork Barons, the Food Manipulators and the Profiteers. Its full brother is High Tariff. Its mantle of respectability is its Liberal Members.

THE RICH FATTEN WHILE THE POOR SUFFER.

Mr. W. F. O'Connor, High Cost of Living Commissioner, told the people of Canada in his report on July 9th, 1917, that the William Davies Company, on bacon alone, had sold in:

1913—85,000 at a margin of \$3.63 per lb.	\$ 308,550
1914—14,000,000 at a margin of \$3.06 per lb.	3,840,000
1915—60,000,000 at a margin of \$3.67 per lb.	220,200,000
1916—100,000,000 at a margin of \$5.05 per lb.	505,000,000

A total margin of.....\$729,348,550

Sir Joseph Wesley Flavelle, head of the Wm. Davies Company, objects to these figures as given out by Mr. O'Connor, though at a later date, before the Henderson Commission his General Manager, Mr. Fox, presented a statement showing the profits of the Wm. Davies Company as follows:

1915.....	\$ 523,000
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1916.....	1,439,473
1917.....	1,342,087

Total three years.....\$3,304,560

As Sir Joseph Wesley Flavelle owns 51 per cent of the stock in the Wm. Davies Company, his profits would be:

1915.....	\$ 266,730
1916.....	734,094
1917.....	684,520

Total three years.....\$1,685,345

Speaking at Guelph recently, Hon. Hugh Guthrie, Solicitor-General in the new Borden Government, is reported to have asked whom the Kaiser would vote for if he came to South Wellington.

Answering the question at Toronto a few nights later, Mr. Hartley Dewart replied that if the Kaiser came to South Wellington he would vote for the man he could buy.

CONSCRIPTION OF FARM LABOR.

That the high cost of living will continue to soar if some of the Exemption Tribunals can have their way is a fact beyond dispute.

Lieut. Col. H. B. Smith, according to a report from London, Ontario, is printing instructions to the military representatives of the Tribunals in his district which states that a man and a half is sufficient for 150-acre farm. "Half a man" being interpreted as an old man, young man or a woman, and Col. Smith states: "Women must not regard themselves as too well bred for outside farm work."

If, as Col. Smith states, the man power of this country is to be so depleted as to leave only one man and a half to 150 acres, how are we going to secure greater production? Such undermanning of our farms will cause more pasturing and less grain, a minimum of dairy cattle and hogs, or in other words a reduction of the very products of which there is even now a world-wide scarcity.

Col. Smith seems to be following along the lines laid down by General Mewburn at Hamilton last week when he said that Canada was not in this war for 100,000 men but for 200,000 and 300,000 if necessary.

A FEW CHOICE EPITAPHS OF SIR JOSEPH FLAVELLE.

Addressing a meeting of Provincial Canadian Munitions Manufacturers in the Board of Trade, Toronto, Sir Joseph stated:

"As I stood in the trenches beside our brave Canadian boys, I said to myself, 'My God, what have I done in return for what these boys are doing for me.'" and a little later on in his address he added:

"What have we to do with profits in this war, I would like to send profits to the hell where they belong."

Speaking before the Canadian Club in Ottawa, on December 16th, 1916, Sir Joseph Flavelle stated:

"I ask you, gentlemen, I ask you in this Capital city, I ask you, do you mean to play a worthy part—to be worthy of these men?"

"Gentlemen, may I urge that you will seek to remove everything that is mean, and nasty, and suspicious, and partisan that we may commonly serve."

Speaking before the Canadian Club in Toronto on Dec. 14th, 1916, Mr. Flavelle is reported to have said:

"I ask you in place of scolding Governments and finding fault with profiteers, to ask yourself what part have I played in the game worthy of the men who are over yonder?"

To the Canadian Soldiers

"Vote for HERBERT HORSEY, INDEPENDENT LIBERAL candidate for PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY, ONTARIO, BY NAME in space for that purpose on ballot, as he stands for all round national service of every citizen of Canada to supply reinforcements of men to maintain your ranks and to keep up the greatest possible production of war supplies and necessities until victory is decisively won. The only certain way to have vote counted for MR. HORSEY IS TO WRITE HIS NAME PLAINLY UPON THE BALLOT PAPER."

QUEEN'S COUNTY, P. E. ISLAND

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