

The Porcupine Advance

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THE BY-ELECTIONS

Patriotic Canadians have cause for alarm and sorrow in the result of the by-elections for the Dominion Government. No loyal citizen of the Dominion need worry unduly at the misfortune that may have happened to the Conservative party. The fortunes of any party are only of secondary importance in these serious days. But what has occurred is a calamity that oversteps party bounds. There were many who felt that Hon. Arthur Meighen was not the ideal man to lead the Conservative party, but even these will admit that the presence of such a man as Meighen was most desirable in parliament at this time. That it was felt necessary to defeat him by any means, foul or fair, suggests nothing else than that there are those who fear the light he might be able to throw on what is going on at Ottawa. In a nutshell, the position was this: The Conservative party management agreed not to oppose the election of the two new ministers of the Ottawa Cabinet. The record suggests that this agreement was fully implemented. On the other hand the King party machine promised not to oppose the election of Hon. Arthur Meighen in South York. No Liberal candidate was selected to run against Hon. Mr. Meighen. When the C.C.F. entered a candidate in the field, the implied pledge of the King party management was repeated. When Premier Hepburn appeared on the same platform with Hon. Mr. Meighen it suggested that the Liberal party was ready to forget party lines for the patriotic good. It illustrates the sad depths to which a narrow partizanship can fall when the presence of Ontario's foremost Liberal was taken as a signal to rouse all the petty partizanship of the other part of a party. Mr. Meighen on Tuesday was quoted as attributing his defeat to a combination of the government and the C.C.F., "with the Dominion Government dictating and directing the whole campaign," to use Mr. Meighen's words. Evidently here was a pledge that the King government did not hesitate to break, without the formality of taking any plebiscite of the people. But it is not the breaking of the pledge that worries loyal people, but rather, the only possible reason for such an action. That reason can be other than the fact that conditions now at Ottawa are such that they will not bear the light that a man of Hon. Mr. Meighen's power and parliamentary experience could bring to bear upon them.

PARLIAMENT SCUTTLED

It may be that honest and loyal people in Canada in the course of the next few months will be moaning the loss of self-government and saying, "Why, did no one warn us?" There have been warnings a-plenty. There is the example of the many nations of Europe who have lost their liberty because they did not take the trouble to guard it—because they allowed themselves to be misled by smooth talk and autocratic action—because they permitted party to take precedence over patriotism. Even more direct warning was given in the House of Commons at Ottawa on Monday by W. H. Moore, Liberal member of parliament for the riding of Ontario County. Mr. Moore, who has been a prominent member of the Liberal party for years—prominent enough to be given the position of chairman of the Federal Tariff Board for a time—apparently is honest enough and patriotic enough and free enough to speak his mind. One of the gravest dangers of the day for Canada is that there are only a very few in parliament who are ready to place the safety and freedom of Canada above the threats and the promises of party. "I venture to say," said Mr. Moore, "that in proportion to population, Canada is paying more people for making laws than any other country in the world. The cost is tremendous, the confusion appalling." Yet after all this cost, this confusion, the elected representatives have practically no voice in government. Practically everything is done by order-in-council. It is recognized that in times of war, time and need demand that action be taken without the delay that would follow appeal to parliament. During the last session of parliament, with time and opportunity ample for consulting the elected representatives, the order-in-council plan was utilized in a number of cases, and parliament did not even know what had been done until it was accidentally discovered after the sitting of parliament was concluded. As one glaring example of the iniquitous ignoring of parliament, Mr. Moore instanced the case of the price and wage control orders. These were announced by the premier over the radio just a few days before parliament met. There was no honorable or proper reason why the matter could not have been left for parliament to deal with. Instead, the clique in control took it upon themselves to put the regulations into force by order-in-council. If parliament has no purpose in a time of war, why have it sit one day and prorogue to meet the next as a new session, simply to enable the members to receive an extra \$4,000.00 each. If parliament has no purpose and is not permitted to do its duty, it does seem absurd to continue the excessive cost of governing the country under a pretended parli-

mentary system while the actual administration is done by a small group who have developed an order-in-council mania. The most unfortunate part of the matter, however, is that there is method in the madness.

The deplorable depths to which free government has fallen in this country was illustrated by Mr. Moore in his contrast between the action of the government in declaring war against Japan by order-in-council, and then talking about taking a plebiscite of the people as to whether or not men should be supplied to prosecute that war so blithely declared. The government could not wait for the voice of parliament in regard to opening another war front, but are cheerfully ready to waste months of precious time to let the people at large decide whether the old fronts are to be supported or the new one defended.

Despite the fact that the war has come down upon the heads of the people in Great Britain in most brutal fashion, they have preserved parliamentary government. Necessarily, they have their orders-in-council, but these are always under the review of parliament. In any case where it is practicable, parliament does the actual governing. The administration is most sensitive to public opinion. That is because not only does parliament actually rule, but also it is a free parliament—a parliament in which a generous patriotism takes precedence over a petty partizanship.

Mr. Moore's warning should make it plain to all that Canada is in serious danger of losing its democratic form of government. Much progress has already been made in establishing a "new order" in Canada. "I opposed a National Government," said Mr. Moore, "because I believed it meant the introduction of the one-party system of government that characterizes the new political order of Europe, only to find myself deprived of a right to present the views of my constituents in the making of laws that affect their livings. . . I confess I feel as if I had escaped the regime of a one-party system, only to fall into the deep blue sea of order-in-councilism."

The only solution to the problem is the immediate establishment of a National Government to replace the intense partizanship of the present. All pretend that "an all-out war effort" is desired as an essential. As The Advance has repeatedly asserted there can be no total war effort with a part of a party looking to nothing but its own. No one is silly enough or simple enough to pretend that the Red Cross, or the War Services, or the Loans, or the taxpaying, or the recruiting, or any other feature of the war effort can be run on any "part of a party" system. The only reason for holding to such a system in the matter of administration will not stand the light of day.

SUPPORT THE WAR LOAN

In a recent address Hon. Mr. Hislop, Minister of Finance in the Dominion Government, suggested that there were some people in Canada who planned to show their disapproval of the administration of Canadian affairs by refusing to support the Victory Loan campaign. If there are any who lack enthusiasm for the second Victory Loan—and it must be confessed that there are—then the blame for this must rest solely and wholly on the government itself. Mr. Hislop is quite right in asserting that lack of enthusiasm for the financing is nothing less than sabotage of Canada's war effort. The truth should be realized that no group in Canada has done as much to sabotage Canada's war effort as the part of a party at Ottawa. Surely, it is idiotic to expect that any government can emphasize and reiterate, day after day, by word and action, that it is exclusively and completely a part of a party war, and then expect total war effort at every financial call of the little group in the saddle. There is not a thoughtful Canadian who does not deplore this petty partizanship attitude of the folk at Ottawa. The very fact, however, that there is this evil attitude on the part of the government is but one more reason why the people at large should do their duty. The truth that one group is more concerned with personal and party affairs than with the support of the men overseas, simply leaves the greater responsibility on the rest of the people to see that there is money for the upholding of the men who are serving, money for planes and tanks and other equipment and supplies for the Canadians and other British people and their Allies fighting for the peace and security of Canada and of the civilized world.

Those responsible for presenting the war as exclusively a part of a party affair will have to bear the responsibility for their attitude. Some day they will have to answer to the charge that such an attitude must bring forth. In the meantime, it is the duty—the inescapable duty—of every Canadian to support to the very limit of his or her resources and opportunities any and every call that may be made. At the moment the call is for the second Victory Loan. Every dollar that can be invested in that loan should be given readily and promptly. The response to the Victory Loan should show beyond question that whatever may be thought or said about the government, the people are wholehearted in their support of every phase of the war.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

To-morrow is Friday the thirteenth. There are some people who are superstitious in regard to Fridays and are particularly doubtful about any Friday the thirteenth. Every year, however, there seems to be one or more of these "Friday the thirteenth" unlucky days. This year there will be three occasions when this supposed double run

of ill-omen will occur—Friday, Feb. 13th, Friday, March 13th and Friday, Nov. 13th. Last year there was only one Friday the thirteenth—in June,—but last year could scarcely be termed a lucky year. In any event it will not be the number of Fridays falling on the thirteenth that will make this year unlucky.

The Canadian Government may be trying to "kid" the people by ordering the clock turned on an hour, but that is a lot better than Hitler who is seeking to turn the clock back a thousand years to the dark ages.

Still stands the motto of the King:

"Put into your task whatever it may be all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshakable. Let us go forward to that task as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high, and with God's help we shall not fail."

"Parliamentary language" is supposed to be decent English without any objectionable words or phrases. In this meaning of the words few of the laws passed by parliament can be considered as in "parliamentary language," for few of the laws, and still fewer of the orders-in-council are free from the most objectionable paragraphs.

A heading in The Cochrane Northland Post last week reads:—"Girls to be Allowed Entry in Calf Club Project." And why not? Some of the Cochrane girls can display calves that would steal all the glances from any entries by the boys.

Further Increases Shown by Mutual Life of Canada

President Reports Insurance in Force Now Over \$600,000,000.

Assets of The Mutual Life of Canada have doubled since 1929, now totaling over \$206,000,000, while insurance in force is more than \$600,000,000. E. O. McCulloch, President, informed the 72nd annual meeting of policyholders at Waterloo. The increase was obtained in spite of the fact that many of the agency force are now on active military service.

Increased business activity and widening employment have tended to increase life insurance sales. The necessary emphasis placed on savings in war-time, and recognition by the public that life insurance is a most effective instrument for saving have also supported this trend.

\$15,000,000 for New Victory Loan
In addition to the substantial part already played by the Company in assisting Canada's war effort through investments in War Loans and other Government securities, Mr. McCulloch reported that the Directors had decided to subscribe for \$15,000,000 in the forthcoming Second Victory Loan.

Discussing Canada's war problems, the President emphasized the need for the greatest possible production in war industries. This would involve still further drastic decreases in consumption of civilian goods, both to release the maximum of men and machines for war industries, and to provide, through savings, the funds necessary to finance this mighty war effort. In spite of the great expansion in national income, spending for purposes of ordinary consumption must be reduced to approximately \$1,100,000,000 less than in 1933.

Must Fight Inflation
Recognizing that one of the greatest dangers to our national economy was that of unbridled inflation the Government had very wisely set a ceiling over prices, wages and salaries. This had involved a wide-spread control of our internal economy, which must be given wholehearted support. Most important was the emphasis on saving and restriction of consumer purchasing. "Never in our history," said Mr. McCulloch, has the need for the exercise of thrift and saving been so essential.

In this connection life insurance had a vital role to fill. Its lifelong activity in educating the public to the value of thrift and organized saving must now be intensified. Life insurance representatives, carefully trained to give competent advice on budgeting of family income, were in a position to be of special service in supporting a nationwide campaign for still greater savings. Life insurance had already been the largest single contributor to each of our three War Loans, having placed

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Full particulars from any agent.
Canadian Pacific
6-7-8

Mr. Clayton Revoir, of Normetal, Quebec, left last week to take up military duties at Huntingdon, Que. Before he left his friends naturally said "Au Revoir" to him.

A young lady stenographer in a local business office has gained a notable reputation for always having an answer and an excuse for everything. This is of value to the firm generally, satisfying customers who imagine they have a grievance. The young lady always explains. There are times however, when the talent works against the firm, and then it is not so popular. This week, for example, the young lady reached the office on Monday morning at ten o'clock by the new time. She had instant excuse for the lost hour. The family had forgotten to set the clock forward, she said. At noon she left for lunch and did not return until two o'clock by the new time. Asked by the employer as to why she was late, her answer was as ready as usual. "The family did not put the clock forward to meet the new time until noon to-day," she said. To the employer it seemed at first like a good excuse, but thinking it over afterwards he could not see how it could work that way. The more he studies it, the less he likes that excuse.

Last week Chief of Police Leo Gagnon warned motorists to be on their guard against tire thieves. The stealing of tires promises to be more popular (and more profitable) than blindpicking or high-grading. Recently The Austin (Texas) Tribune carried the following classified advt.:—"NOTICE TO TIRE THIEVES—My tires are puncture-proof. If you try to steal them, you had better be puncture-proof too."

Two Men Sentenced to Ten Years Each in Robbery Case

There have been several cases in the North recently where taxi drivers were assaulted and robbed by men pretending to need a car to take them some distance. The Rouyn-Noranda area has had a couple of such cases and now is taking measures to discourage the scheme. In a recent case where a taxi driver was assaulted and robbed, Magistrate A. Bally of Rouyn said that the next man up for a similar crime would be given ten years or more. The magistrate proved as good as his word. Last week Eugene Quivillon, 20 years old, and Marcel Moreillon, 21 years before him in Rouyn for robbery with violence, the victim being a taxi driver, Louis Godbout, Godbout said the men beat him and then robbed him of \$35.00 or \$40.00. "Crimes of this nature," he commented, "are very serious and you are liable to life imprisonment, with lashes. Society must be protected from bandits such as you."

Blairmore Enterprises—Some workers are much like matches—they'll strike anywhere.



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SAVE NOW!

Saving is now proclaimed a National Need if Canada is to carry on, full-out in this war. Upon the shoulders of each one of us falls some part of the responsibility for helping to finance the war.

The sooner you use your savings book more than your cheque book — the better for you and for Canada. Take your income seriously. Put every dollar you can into a savings account.

To Save is Practical
Patriotism

THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA