

LAURIER WANTS A REFERENDUM

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has introduced a Referendum Amendment to the Government Military Service Bill. By this he wishes to get the opinion of the electorate of Canada on the question of conscription, and to defer further consideration of the Bill till the question is submitted and the people have spoken at the polls. The amendment was seconded by Hon. Frank Oliver, the first man to advocate the adoption of conscription in Canada, and one of whose sons at the front has given his life for the cause. Sir Wilfrid in speaking on the amendment says: "I have taken the Referendum, not that I have been very favorable towards it, but I find that the referendum has made enormous progress in Canada, and that it has been adopted by the political associations in the western provinces as a method of political action."

He goes on then to say that when the verdict is given by the vote of the people, "I pledge my word, my reputation, that to the verdict, such as it is, every man will have to submit, and I claim to speak at least so far as the province from which I come is concerned."

This, under ordinary circumstances, and less trying conditions, would seem fair and reasonable, but when the house is on fire is a poor time to wait for a vote of the people to ascertain what effort should be made to extinguish the flames. We are at war now with a powerful enemy, and without parleying, it is necessary to have immediate action. Our Canadian boys are now in France, and every day they are growing weaker by the wastage of war. They need help, and they need it now, and there is no time to waste.

The voluntary system, when the war broke out in 1914, was satisfactory for a time, but the voluntary system is almost at an end, and the cry comes up from the trenches for more recruits and more help. Assistance is needed now, and no time should be lost in a useless referendum that would assuredly go against the conscription idea. The French in Quebec, and the Germans throughout the different parts of the Dominion would be largely against conscription. Not the French and Germans alone, but many of our British people would be unfavorable to the idea of compulsory service. Many who lost their lives in the trenches, and whose remains now fill unmarked graves, and many now hearing the brunt of battle would, if they could, mark their ballots for conscription.

It is not from the men who have given themselves voluntarily we have anything to fear. It is the voters at home in peace and comfort that would form the greatest barriers. Fathers of families who have stood in the way of their sons' voluntary enlistment, would vote against conscription; the sons themselves, who were willingly influenced by their parents to stay at home, would vote against conscription. The slackers and pacifists would vote against conscription, and there is scarcely a shadow of a doubt that conscription now would be defeated, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in the face of such conditions, must surely know what the result would be.

Let us see what The Globe says editorially. From Tuesday's issue we copy the following excerpts. It says: "With wiser statesmanship, Canadians might have remained on the common ground they occupied until the challenge of conscription was thrown into the arena."

"But Canada in common with every country arrayed against the Prussian monster, faces a crisis which overshadows the fate of parties and their shortcomings, and which demands that she shall make sacrifice to the limit of her endurance."

"Above everything she must replenish the decimated ranks of her heroic sons at the front, and she must do it without loss of time."

"The cry of the gallant Canadians in France and Flanders cannot go unheeded without an indelible stain on Canada's good name. To answer that cry immediately and effectively, what alternative to conscription suggests itself?"

"The voluntary system might be put to a further test, with compulsion in reserve, to be used if necessary; but that would not be voluntaryism, as Mr. Lloyd George shrewdly remarked of the Derby plan."

"A referendum would transfer the conflict from parliament to the hustings without changing its character, but with the loss of months of

time, when every day is vital if the wastage of the front is to be repaired. The military argument against it is overwhelming."

"The referendum would not be an innovation in Canada, but its history has not commended it as a method of speedily deciding disputed issues, however democratic it may be in theory."

"The voters' lists probably could not be revised until the autumn and there are serious obstacles to a complete poll of the men in the trenches, who, above all, have a right to be heard on the question."

"No one will impugn his (Sir Wilfrid's) good faith when he pledges himself to support the Military Service Bill if it be endorsed by popular vote. But unhappily, the emergency is too real, too overmastering to admit of the leisurely procedure of a referendum."

"Members on both sides of the House, who believe that selective conscription is the just and equitable thing, owe it to their convictions, and to the great cause for which Canadians are fighting to vote for the second reading of the Bill before the House. They should endeavor to amend it at the proper stage if they think it can be improved."

The paragraphs above quoted express the opinion of the leading Liberal organ of Canada, and a personal shows the organ is opposed to the Referendum proposal, as outlined in Sir Wilfrid's amendment.

The Toronto Star, which is often conceded as the most rabid of the Liberal newspapers in Canada, is even stronger than The Globe in its opposition to the Referendum idea. A special press despatch from Ottawa says in Tuesday's issue that three varieties of Liberals have been heard from (1) Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who demands a referendum and does not say how he would instruct the people to vote, although he is obviously an anti-conscriptionist, (2) Sir Frank Oliver, who says he is a strong conscriptionist, but who wants a Conscription Bill only if it can be administered by Sir Wilfrid, who is against conscription, (3) the variety typified by Hon. Chas. Meillon, who wants an election, says he is not opposed to conscription in itself, but argues that to have any effect it should have been in duration since the war began.

The despatch says further: "There are almost six other varieties of excuses yet to be offered by opponents of the Borden Bill."

"Conservatives are saying, and some Liberals are saying, too, that the sickening thing about Monday's debate was the lack of outrightness in dealing with the main issue—how best to get men."

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier demands a referendum as to whether there shall be compulsory service in Canada, but does not advise the people to vote 'yes' on such a plebiscite. He gives no lead."

"Sir George Foster demands action. To quote his own words, he takes ground as follows: 'I say that this House of Commons, not fresh from the people, but yet from the people, nevertheless, should give this country a lead. Do you grow so spineless and inert that we keep our ear constantly to the ground and do nothing of ourselves from our superior position of light and knowledge and leading to give a lead to the people?' For my part, if I favored a referendum I would not be willing to go out with it to the people without giving them my lead, and afterwards to that lead my unabated support."

The Star gives a number of opinions from Liberals who are out of harmony with Sir Wilfrid on his referendum amendment and are in favor of the passing of the Conscription Bill at once.

This is not a time for political quibbling, and it is a calamity that all parties can not work together harmoniously for the one great object—the winning of the war—and let the political difficulties be settled afterwards."

DARKIES' CORNERS
The Red Cross workers met at the home of Mrs. C. Ritchie on Monday. Besides the knitting done, 17 towels, 6 pairs of socks, 10 suits of pyjamas and two hospital shirts were finished and packed. Collection \$3.53. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Wm. Hargrave on June 22nd.

Mrs. David Watson and daughter, Miss Nellie, Mr. and Mrs. Elsworth Watson, Miss Bell, and Mr. Finch, Paisley, motored over on Sunday and visited their cousins, the Ritchie, Weir and Wilson families.

Several from this burg attended the Reay-Bailey wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Jacques visited on Sunday with Egremont friends.

Miss Nina Noble is at present visiting her sister, Mrs. John McGier.

Mrs. Winegarten and two children, and Mrs. C. Arnett, of Hamilton, are visiting at Mr. Wes. Arnett's.

Mr. and Mrs. John Crutchley, and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Moore, town, visited Sunday at Mr. Jas. Hopkins' home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Hopkins, and Mr. Geo. Hopkins, visited Wednesday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Herb. Allen, of the 4th.

Mrs. C. Ritchie, Miss Edna, and Mr. Murray Ritchie, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cushnie, of Toronto, visited the end of the week with Mt. Forest and Paisley friends.

Mr. Murray Ritchie, Mrs. C. Ritchie and daughter, attended the funeral on Monday, of Mrs. Robt. Cook, Ceylon.

NORTH-EAST NORMANBY
Varney Sunday school are this Friday holding their annual picnic in Blyth's bush.

Varney Red Cross sewing circle meet this week at Mrs. R. Gadd's.

Misses Julia Burns and Elva Morrice are writing on their Entrance this week in Durham.

Mrs. D. Allan, who has spent the winter at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. Backus, has returned to her home in Varney.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Leith and family, of Holstein, visited at the home of the latter's parents at Poplar Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kerr and baby, Marjorie, visited Hampden friends last Sunday.

FLESHERTON
Continued from page 3.

Few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Hickling and Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong.

Miss Annie Richardson of Toronto is on an extended visit with her brother, Robert, here. Her niece, Miss Annie Richardson, also of Toronto, accompanied her here, and visited over the week-end.

Mrs. Frank Tate, and three children, of Palmerston, arrived on Saturday to visit Mrs. Tate's father and sister, Mr. M. K. Richardson, and daughter.

Mrs. S. Pedlar has returned from visiting her daughter at Owen Sd.

Mr. Robt. Wright, principal of Leamington High school, is visiting his brother here.

Miss Aloda Mitchell is home from Whitby Ladies' College, for the college vacation.

Mrs. J. C. Miller and babe, of Toronto, accompanied by Mrs. Clark, are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Blakely.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wright motored from Owen Sound and visited John Wright and family, Sunday.

In the absence of the pastor at Conference, Rev. F.A. Lawson of Toronto, spoke in the Methodist church on Sunday morning in behalf of the Dominion Alliance. No service was held in the evening.

Miss Clara Chard, milliner, is home from her position at Galt for the holidays. A young gentleman friend motored her home, and holidayed over the week-end.

Sergt. Bert Jamieson, a German-gassed patient in the soldiers' convalescent hospital at Hamilton, is home for a week, and shows signs of improvement. Bert looks handsome in his kiltie costume, the Davidson clan plaid.

Mr. R. G. Holland is presiding at the departmental exams, in the High school, and on Wednesday will preside at the entrance exams. at Priceville. Mr. H.S. White will preside here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thurston, accompanied by Mrs. Dudgeon and Mr. R. Bentham, motored to Mitchell on Saturday, to visit the former's daughter, Mrs. Durrant, who, with her babe, returned with them for a visit here.


Mr. John Johnson of Dundalk was in town on Monday. He attended the funeral of the late W. Patton.

Messrs. Robt. Fisher and Jas. Pedlar, 4th line farmers, have purchased new cars.

Mrs. Jos. Blackburn has been, in Toronto several days with her mother, who is very low with heart trouble.

HEALTHIEST ONE IN THE FAMILY

No Sign Of Dropsy And Kidney Trouble Since Taking "FRUIT-A-TIVES"



HATTIE WARREN
Port Robinson, Ont., July 8th, 1915.

"We have used 'Fruit-a-tives' in our house for over three years and have always found them a good medicine. Our little girl, Hattie, was troubled with Kidney Disease. The Doctor said she was threatened with Dropsy. Her limbs and body were all swollen and we began to think she could not live. Finally, we decided to try 'Fruit-a-tives'. She began to show improvement after we had given her a few tablets. In a short time, the swelling had all gone down and her flesh began to look more natural. Now she is the healthiest one in the family and has no signs of the old ailment. We can not say too much for 'Fruit-a-tives' and would never be without them."

WILLIAM WARREN.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c.

At all dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

Lieut. Clarence Halliday, son of Mr. Wm. Halliday of Chesley, has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished bravery. Before enlisting he was a teacher in the Normal school at Ottawa.

Capt. Harry Pembroke, who went to France with the 20th Battalion from Meaford, was among those mentioned in dispatches last week. He was with the Pay Corps.

HEARD—BARCLAY
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Barclay, of Durham, announce the marriage of their daughter, Effie E., to Mr. Thos. George Heard, druggist, of Toronto. The marriage was performed by the Rev. W. R. Barker, of 173 Grenadier Road, at noon, on the 12th of June. The bride looked sweet in her travelling suit of navy chiffon tulle and pale rose tulle hat. Mr. and Mrs. Heard will be at home to their friends the last of June, at their residence, 985 St. Clarens avenue.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.
Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F.J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December, A.D. 1886. A.W. Gleason, (Seal) Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts through the blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Send for testimonials free.—F.J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Home Seekers' Excursions
Every Monday till October 29th.
LOW FARES FROM TORONTO TO—

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|------------------|-------|
| Albreds | 54.00 |
| Atchafalca | 48.50 |
| Edmonton | 47.00 |
| Stettin | 47.00 |
| Canora | 39.75 |
| North Battleford | 40.50 |
| Regina | 43.75 |
| Forward | 40.25 |
| Saskatoon | 42.25 |
| Dauphin | 37.75 |
| Lucerne | 53.00 |
| Calgary | 47.00 |
| Carmore | 46.00 |
| Hanna | 46.75 |
| Rosetown | 43.50 |
| Yorkton | 41.00 |
| Moose Jaw | 43.50 |
| Prince Albert | 43.50 |
| Brandon | 37.00 |
| Winnipeg | 35.00 |

For Tickets, Reservations, Literature and Information, apply to A. H. Jackson, Insurance, Durham, or write R. L. Fairbank, G.P.A., 68 King St. E., Toronto.

HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSIONS
MAY 8th TO OCTOBER 30th
Every
TUESDAY
"ALL RAIL" — also by
THURSDAY'S STEAMER
"Great Lakes Routes"
(Season Navigation)

Your Future is in the West

The fertile prairies have put Western Canada on the map. There are still thousands of acres waiting for the man who wants a home and prosperity. Take advantage of Low Rates and Travel via

Canadian Pacific
Information from Ticket Offices: 141-145 St. James St., Phone M 8125, Windsor Hotel, Windsor and Place Vigor Stations.

DURHAM MARKET
Corrected June 21st, 1917.

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|------------|---------------|
| Wheat | 2 25 to 2 35 |
| Oats | 75@80 |
| Peas | 2 00 to 2 00 |
| Barley | 1 15@1 20 |
| Hay | 8 00 to 10 00 |
| Butter | 39 |
| Eggs | 39 |
| Live hogs | 14 10 |
| Hides | 15 |
| Sheepskins | 1 00 to 2 50 |
| Tallow | 7 |
| Lard | 20 |

Comfort
The Sunsh...
most comfortable the winter, or heating...
vestigated shine."

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LONDON TORONTO ST. JOHNS
FOR

Rags, Rub...

I have opened up...
articles, and as I prepared to pay...
Don't sell till you on hand, let me

J. CADESK

It is...
success...
smart...
Gr...
the p...
extra...
Ha...
away...

Four...
In...
23...
Castles...