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THE DRIFTERS AT OTTAWA.

The absolute independence of Mr. Guthrie, M.P., has been extolled by the conservative press. It is worthy of that that has been said about it. The average liberal is not a hide-bound politician. That has been exemplified by the present session of parliament, and on the occasions on which representatives of the opposition have differed with their leader with regard to conscription. Only in one instance, however, was the difference of opinion couched in language that was not most respectful to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. All of the liberal conscriptionists paid him tribute. All of them expressed the regret that they could not follow him on this subject. All of them, save one, told of their affection in the most cordial terms.

On the one subject the liberals agreed to disagree. They did more. These men have surely had a vision of the war which nerved them to extraordinary efforts, namely, to exercise every power and influence which they possessed in order to advance the cause which they espoused. The example of Mr. Guthrie can be further pursued for the inspiration which it affords. He is a liberal who has laid aside his politics—the politics that are omnipresent—and devotes himself unreservedly to any service which will elevate and sustain Canada's place in the war.

There are those who, with friends at the front, on the fighting line, in the hospitals of France and England, in training for battle, who have been grieved because parliament is frittering away its precious time and doing nothing, or next to nothing, towards the building up of the army which Canada should supply. The call from Flanders, "Come over and help us," is pitiful in the extreme. "I hear them in the night watches," says a friend of the Whig; "I hear them in my work, and my blood boils when I think of the pettifoggery spirit which prevails at Ottawa."

Mr. Guthrie has been willing to see a union government with Sir Robert Borden at its head. The conservative papers have flattered him by accepting this as a testimony of the very highest value. But Mr. Guthrie must be disappointed in Sir Robert Borden, and so must every one else who has been putting any faith in him. Sir Robert has not been able to form a war government that will command the public confidence. But why does he not resign and let some other one, some new man, show what he can do? Canada is not wholly bereft of leaders surely. The man of the hour may appear when the obstructors have been cleared out of the way.

A VERY SEVERE INDICTMENT.

The Canadian Northern Railway purchase bill has received a second reading, despite the protests of those who are opposed to it and its provisions. The opposition, through Hon. Mr. Graham, did not like the general proposal and moved for the foreclosure of the mortgage in accordance with the Act of 1914. Mr. Bennett, a government supporter, made a slashing attack on the measure, and if it is not amended in several important particulars, in consequence, the government will deserve the severest condemnation.

Mr. Bennett preferred a receivership to a motion for foreclosure, but was contented to see the government purchase the road at a valuation, after a board of referees, not a

single judge, had got at the value of the common stock. He scored the finance minister for listening to the pledges. The government was not dealing with them; had no interest in them, and should have no business dealings with them. If the stock they held was not registered, they had no right to be enriched. The defect of the measure was that it did not put Mackenzie and Mann out of control, which was in his opinion the one thing essential, and it did not limit the liability of the government. "Practically," said he, "the government under this bill may be required to pay any sum of money, and I object that it is not sound business for a government to hand a blank cheque to any body of men no matter how eminent they may be."

Mr. Bennett argued for a plan of valuation, on a pre-war basis, and with protection against the liability for millions of income bonds which may be exchanged for straight Canadian Northern Railway stock up to an. 1st, 1919. Was there any animus in all this so far as Mr. Bennett is concerned? One can infer that there is something amiss between him and the railway magnates when he said this of them: "There are three things these men have done to this country. First, they have exploited the credits of the provinces to their detriment and in some cases to their ruin. Secondly, they have brought about an inflation of values by the interest they have created. In places like the model city, Port Mann, which has brought about a financial ruin of many a smallholder in the Old Land and in this. Lastly, they have corrupted the public life of the country."

Presumably they are very bad men, but are they any worse than the stock manipulators who are behind them, and whose presence and service Mr. Bennett has so vehemently repudiated?

Have the restaurant and hotel-keepers been furnished with copies of the Canada Gazette, containing the food regulations? It doesn't pay to be ignorant of the law. There is a fine of from \$25 to \$100, or three months' imprisonment, or both, for every infraction which is proven.

CARE OF THE WOUNDED

The heart of the American soldier, as he enlists or is conscripted, must be heartened by the generous provision which is being made for his dependents. Bills are now before Congress which aim at making the service and future of the average soldier very satisfactory. The proposed legislation provides insurance, at a minimum of cost, for American soldiers, sailors and marines, the insured men paying the premiums; for family allowances to dependents of men in the nation's military or naval service; for indemnification or disabilities; and the re-education and rehabilitation, at government expense, of the injured men.

"All this," says one, "Canada provides for its soldiers." No, it does not provide insurance at any cost. The finance minister was approached upon this subject and intimated that the issue was impracticable. The allowance for injured and disabled men and their families, in the United States and Canada, will stand comparison. The American votes for disabilities, permanent and complete, run from \$40 a month to \$75 and up to \$200 when officers are affected.

The estimated amount for family allowances begin with \$141,000,000 in the first year, and reaches \$140,000,000 in the second; for mortuary purposes or death benefits, \$3,700,000 to \$22,000,000; for total disability, \$5,250,000 to \$35,000,000; for partial disability, \$3,200,000 to \$21,000,000; and for insurance, \$23,000,000 to \$112,500,000. The total estimated expenditure for the two years is \$556,150,000. An extraordinary vote, surely. A disabled man, wholly, is allowed, besides his pension, \$20 a month for a nurse; \$10 a month for a widowed mother; \$15 a month if he marries; \$10 per month for each child, with a maximum of \$105 per month. He is equipped with artificial limbs, educated, and if he wants to start up a small business, is allowed \$1,000 in lieu of compensation on the monthly plan. At this rate the American soldier who suffers in the war is very well provided for.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Toronto is to be supplied with coal at \$6 a ton. It pays to wait for service when one is sure of it. There is no combine in Toronto surely.

Sir Robert Borden has gone through the formality of repudiating Bourassa and his associate Nationalists. Is this a bluff or a make-believe?

Another business concern, the Canadian Explosives, a war enterprise, has paid a dividend of 300 per cent. on its common stock. How much does the government get of the excess profits in this case?

Justice Galt was called a grafter because of his fees for investigating

the Manitoba scandals. Will the Hon. Mr. Rogers apply the same term to the chief justice of Ontario for his investigation of stock values in connection with the C.N.R.?

Hoover, the United States Controller of Food, has forbidden speculation in sugar. Time for action, when the Cuban article which sold last year at 2c a lb., has been commanding 6 1/2c. Hope Hoover's club will knock the bottom out of this market.

The price of wheat, of the crop of 1915-16, has been fixed at \$2.40 per bushel, at Port William. The export to the United States has been forbidden. Dealing in futures has been stopped. War measures of which no one will find very much fault.

The Non-Partisan League wants the government to conscript the vacant lands in Alberta and cancel the titles thereto. This would be on a par with conscripting the C.N.R. and cancelling the mortgage upon it. Drastic steps are sometimes necessary.

The government, calculates that it will have practically the control of the soldier votes and they number about half a million. Why should it not mark the ballots in Ottawa, to save the cost of counting and trans-shipping and cabling the results of an election? Hon. Bob Rogers should be able to fix things up satisfactorily.

Bennett on Mackenzie & Mann.

Speech in the Commons. "Even if it cost us millions of dollars to rid of these men in the public life of this country, I say it would be cheap even in the midst of the great war. I do not submit that however great may be the millions that may accrue to the body politic, there is no excuse or reason why we should not utilize to our utmost extent the powers that we have to circumscribe and limit to the best of our ability the sums of money that may be paid to these men. I shall appeal to the Opposition to once more agree that these men shall have an opportunity of presenting their case to these references, and I appeal at the same time to the Minister of Finance to permit in committee these restrictions to be imposed on this legislation to prevent this country from becoming, as it has been too frequently in times past, the victim of the rapacity and greed of these men."

Plea For National Unity.

Mr. Turiff, M.P., in Ottawa. "I think it would be a mighty good thing for Canada if the two parties could bury their differences for the time and unite in forming a National Government until the war is over. Then no one would take his coat off with greater pleasure to fight the battles of Liberalism than I would. I have not much sympathy with honorable members across the floor of the House, never had, and never expect to have. It would be no great pleasure for me to work with them. But I say that in view of the conditions of to-day, when the fate of the Empire and the country is trembling in the balance, this is no time for us to be fighting out our party issues. We should drop them in the meantime, form a National Government, continue the war and win it, and settle our differences as best we may afterwards."

J. G. Turiff, Liberal Member for Assiniboia in the House, July 24.

Give your tongue more holidays than you give your brains.

SOME ADVICE TO BOYS

"Tempus fugit." Thus ran a Latin phrase which has been correctly translated as "time flies." It is a byword of the modern world and expresses a truism that should make a deep impression on the younger generation. Time flies and not a moment should be wasted. This is the hour of action when every boy and every young man should be making the best of his opportunities. Every moment is precious and something should be accomplished before the arm grows weak and the back is bent.

Perhaps the young boys of to-day do not realize the strenuous times in which they are living. It is they who in the future years will bear the heaviest burdens and have on their shoulders the responsibilities of planning and carrying out for Canada the brilliant future which every Canadian hopes she will have. Now is the time for every lad, who is able, to secure a thorough education. Diligent application should be made to lessons in the schoolroom for, when the war is over, there will be many of the soldiers come back from the front who have had their education neglected. Many who left their books in the universities to fight for a noble cause will be unable to carry on their educational pursuits, and it is on the younger generation that is now coming into the national life as a force that the responsibilities which are placed upon the educated men will be incurred.

There is no doubt but what the next age will be the age of practicality. It is being generally seen by educationalists that technical education must be added as a supplementary course to the curriculum in the public and high schools. The boy who leaves with matriculation standing at the present time is equipped with very little practical knowledge with which he might do much more than support himself. If he should take a university course opportunities for work which would occur but it is only a minority who are able to enjoy the advantages of the college course.

Generally speaking they are the men who hold the biggest positions in the country, the positions which bring them into the eye of the nation, but the man with the practical technique is able to live his life as most men do—providing for their family, enjoying the comforts of modern civilization, and adding their quota to the needed commodities of the day.

Therefore it is urged that the younger generation—the boys and girls from six years to sixteen should make the most of their opportunities at school so that in the great reconstruction period after the war they may be able to take their share in doing something to maintain Canada's position as a nation of the world.

Trial For Joy Ride.

Brockville, Ont., Aug. 18.—Morris Jackson, a taxi chauffeur, was committed for trial upon a charge of furious driving, and causing grievous bodily harm to Mrs. John Allen. While joy-riding Jackson, collided with a horse and buggy driven by Mrs. Allen, and both vehicles went into the ditch. Several persons were injured. The accused was liberated on bail.

Frequently the little green apple is compelled to occupy cramped quarters.

Rippling Rhymes

THE WICKED KAISER

The kaiser, so dispatches say, would bring us dire disasters, and loathsome agents, in his pay, are selling poisoned plasters. With deadly germs these plasters swarm, like skippers in old cheeses, and if you put one on your form, you'll die of punk diseases. O'er tales like this we groan and grieve, and wring our hands and sniffe; we are so many who believe such loathsome tales of piffle. The kaiser stole my short-horn pup, and killed my old cat, Tabby; he put some poison in her cup, and knocked her cold and flabby. The kaiser's agents come at night, when darkness o'er us thickens, and all the cops are out of sight, and steal my Leghorn chickens. The kaiser sent his loathsome spies to rob my humble dwelling; they stole some sinkers and three pies, and left me wailing yelling. The kaiser's pretty busy now, with gnomes all round him, who kick up such a beastly row the racket. Yet he finds leisure, while he kills, and dodges new disasters, to send out men with poisoned pills, and germey porony plasters. Oh, bunk and piffle! Tommy! Some Ananias told it! Say, will we ever learn to spot a fake when we behold it!

—WALT MASON.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



Store Closes 10 p.m. Saturdays. Bibbys Th Store that Keeps the Prices Down Sale Panama Hats All our high grade Panamas tonight at \$3.75 each. Panamas, regular \$3.75 and \$4.00 values, tonight at \$2.75. Sale Straw Hats All our \$1.50 and \$2.00 straws, tonight for 49c each. All our \$2.50 and \$3 Straws tonight for \$1.00. See Bibbys \$18.50 Suits Beautiful pencil stripe effects, smart checks, new mixtures in snappy colorings, Pinch Backs, two button soft rolls, etc. Ready to try on. Finished in four hours.

\$100,000 WAS PAID TO GET CONTRACT

Revelation at the Hearing in Connection With Valley Railway Suit.

St. John, N.B., Aug. 18.—The admission that the sum of \$100,000 was paid by A. R. Gould to Hon. J. K. Flemming, then Premier of the Province of New Brunswick, during the negotiations for the signing of the contract for the construction of the Valley Railway, was made by Mr. Gould himself. The revelation came at the hearing of the evidence, in connection with the arbitration proceedings before Chief Justice McKeown, arising from Mr. Gould's claim for almost half a million dollars as compensation for the railway out of their hands after the company had carried out construction.

The climax came with the question put by F. B. Carvell, K.C. "Did you pay anything to Mr. Flemming for the contract?"

With considerable reluctance, and at first only indirectly, Mr. Gould finally made the admission that he had agreed to pay Mr. Flemming the sum of \$100,000, and that he had paid more than \$75,000 to the then Premier, personally, and the balance at his direction.

He finally agreed to make the contribution, and it was arranged that the Prudential Trust Co., of Montreal, should advance him \$350,000 from the sale of bonds, out of which he was to pay Mr. Flemming the \$100,000 and use the balance, to carry on the work of construction. This arrangement was carried out, and the payment of the \$100,000 was made in the spring of 1912, prior to the provincial general elections.

Coralling the Soldier Vote.

Arrangements are being made quickly to see that little of the soldier vote gets away from the Government. The Administration has the scrutiny of all cable communications to overseas soldier centres; it will have control of the organization for both the taking and the counting of the "bayonet vote." It therefore counts upon going into the contest with a half million soldier, sailor and nurse votes practically recorded in its favor. This is more than a quarter of the entire vote to be cast.

Not only has the Government the counting of the votes but it will have considerable discretion in the allotment of that vote, so that narrow majorities in Canada may be wiped out by the proper application of soldier returns to the count in such contingencies.

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