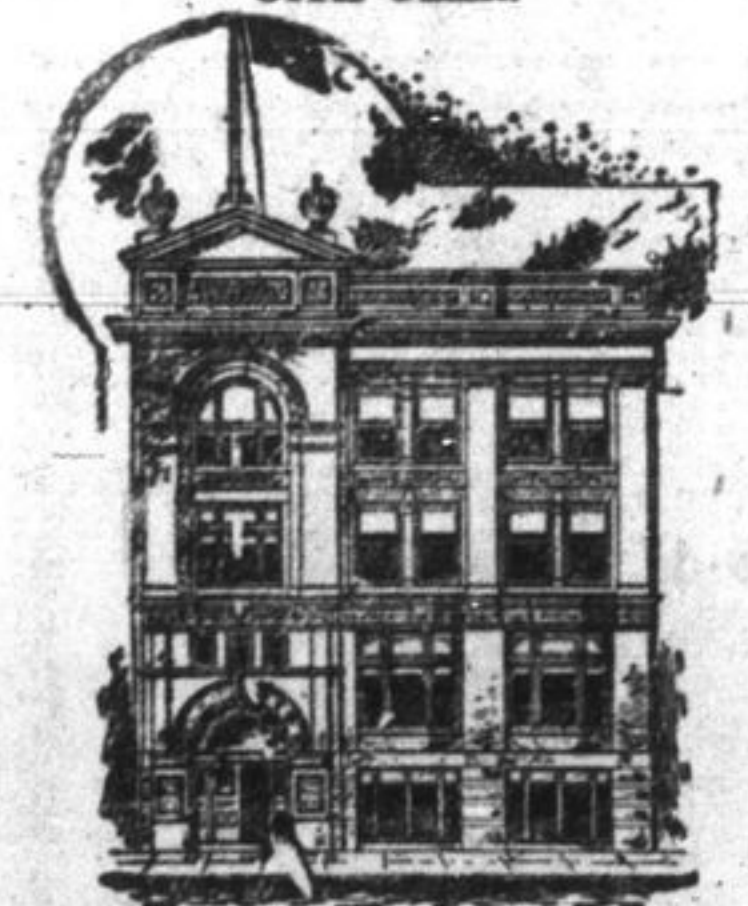


THE BRITISH WHIG



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Canada must hurry. Germany is aiming to win the war now—not next year. A few more days and the agony will be over. The fruits of father's war garden are demonstrating their value now. Yes, the British Whig will gladly help you play Santa Claus to the soldiers' kiddies. But you must act promptly.

A man's wife may lay down the law to her husband, but she is always willing to let him lay down the carpets. "Snow Comes to Italy's Aid," says a newspaper heading. Kingstons didn't regard the late storm in the same light. They considered it a nuisance. Not over 16,000 troops are available for reinforcements for the Canadians in France. And yet we are asked to delay while a referendum can be taken!

The forces, whether military or civilian, that are fighting or living for liberty may expect every kind of attack, open and covert, sly, bold, insidious and ponderous, until the end. Germany learned after many generations of weakness that its strength lay in unity. The Whig is trying to do its bit to drive home the fact that Canada's strength also can only be found in unity.

The Food Controller denies that he spent \$4.20 for a meal in a railroad dining-car. Our experience is that a hungry man might quite easily spend that amount, under like circumstances, and still find his appetite unimpaired. Our appeal of Wednesday, on behalf of the soldiers' kiddies and their Christmas Fund, met with a generous response. The \$1,000 mark is still quite a ways off. If YOU haven't already contributed, remember that it is not yet too late.

General Allenby has issued a proclamation to the people of Jerusalem. A reading of this historic document shows that the average British commander in the field is as good a writer as he is a fighter. That ought to be sufficient praise for any man.

"Some of our politicians will say Canada has done her duty. What are they going to do with the rest of us here? Leave us to be slaughtered? We have so much of the line to hold, and we have to hold it."—Letter from the trenches from Pte. Bryan, of Cornwall.

The United States Supreme Court has handed down a decision of considerable interest to organized labor. While reaffirming the right of workmen to organize for lawful purposes, the court holds that employers may legally operate their plants as "open shops" and prevent contracts to bring their non-union employees into labor organizations. This decision is likely to be vigorously attacked by labor leaders.

"THOU EXCELLEST THEM ALL." Britain, sorely pressed for men, money and food, and now fighting with her back to the wall, donates \$5,000,000 to the relief of Halifax.

This in addition to large subscriptions from individual cities. Under existing circumstances, such a relief vote is not only generous—it is magnificent. The Canadian Government and people have responded most creditably to the call of the suffering people of Halifax. Canada can never forget, how promptly and warm-heartedly the United States extended the ready hand of brotherhood. But Britain—good old, loyal, kindly Britain—fighting to-day as she has for over three years with every ounce of her strength, pauses long enough to harken and respond to the cry of suffering humanity. Verily, "Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all!"

MEN OR FOOD—WHICH? The Whig has been criticised because it upheld the Military Service Act and urged the sending of immediate reinforcements. The critics declared that England and the Allies needed food, not men. Both are, of course, essential; but most battles, we imagine, are won by human combat, not by growing more potatoes or more turnips or more cabbages. Perhaps the best answer to this fallacious argument is supplied by Ralph Connor, the Canadian novelist, who has been at the front. He writes:

"Is it right that you ask 500 men to hold a front line that requires 1,000 to hold? It is not right; it is not fair. You talk about raising grain. What is the use of raising grain if your men are all dead? Dead men don't need grain. What is the use of talking about wealth? Slaves don't need wealth!"

AN AWFUL ALTERNATIVE. Those who may feel inclined to vote against the Union Government might well pause and ask themselves the question: "Should Laurier and Bourassa by any chance win the election, what will be the personnel of the Government? What material is available for their cabinet? Who are the men likely to control the destinies of this British commonwealth, anyway?"

One guess is as good as another, but none of them is very reassuring. Here is a forecast. At Wednesday's luncheon of the Empire Club, Toronto, J. D. Perry read the following night lettergram he had that morning received from Montreal:

"It is framed up here that if the Union Government is defeated on Monday next, Sir Wilfrid Laurier will retire on pension and be succeeded by Sir Lomer Gouin with the following Cabinet: Bourassa, Minister of Finance; Lavergne, Minister of Militia; Lomieux, Minister of Railways; Aylesworth, Minister of Justice; Oliver, Minister of Trade and Commerce; Murphy, Minister of Customs; E. M. Macdonald, President of the Council and Hartley H. Dewar, K.C., M.P.P., Canadian High Commissioner to London."

LET'S MAKE IT UNANIMOUS. The Liberal and Conservative press of Kingston is in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. The Anglican bishop of Kingston and the pastors of all the evangelical churches of Kingston are in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle.

The Great War Veterans' Association of Kingston is in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. The Army and Navy Veterans' Association of Kingston is in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. The Kingston Board of Trade, representing the mercantile and industrial life of the city, is in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle.

The retiring principal of Queen's University, as well as many of its professors, are in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. The majority of outstanding Liberals in Kingston, as evidenced by their recently published manifesto, are in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle.

The women of Kingston, who will for the first time exercise the franchise earned for them by their soldier relatives, are in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. The great body of thoughtful, conscientious, loyal citizens of all creeds and of all shades of political belief, are in favor of Union Government and Mr. Nickle. Let's make it unanimous, and be done with it!

LETTING UNCLE SAM DO IT. Time was when the British people, confronted with an onerous task or a new and perplexing problem, dismissed it with the popular phrase, "Let George do it." And Lloyd-George usually did it, quite to everybody's satisfaction. To-day we are witnessing in Canada a somewhat similar attempt to shift responsibility to somebody's else's ready and willing shoulders. What matter how busy, how burdened, that other person may be, just so long as we can evade the effort? Not a very manly or courageous attitude, but still one adopted by a certain class of slackers.

Not a few of the Ontario champions of Bourassa et al—the admitted and outspoken enemies of British connection—are now whispering: "Let the United States do it!" Why should Canada sacrifice more men, they ask, when the United States has millions of them to send to the front? True, we have done well, but we have done enough. Let's retire and leave it to Uncle Sam to finish the job.

Did the Canadian boys, who went "over the top" at Vimy Ridge, at Passchendaele and on many another bloody field, ask Uncle Sam—or anybody else—to do it for them? ON YOUR LIFE, THEY DID NOT! They felt quite equal to fight their own battles, and they did so—and, what's better, they whipped the Hun to a standstill. These gallant fellows didn't ask for Uncle Sam to do their work for them, much as he might have been willing to do it. They didn't require the help of anyone. It was their job, and they did it.

Can we at home not measure up, in some small degree at least—for that is the best we can ever hope to do—to the fighting spirit, the fine independence, the splendid self-reliance, of our soldier boys in France? We shame them, beyond pardon, if we desert them now, and "leave it to Uncle Sam."

Yet, that is just what Quebec demands. But is not the United States already doing her share? She is today financing the Allies. Her navy is in Europe, co-operating with that of Britain and France and Italy. A powerful expeditionary force is now on the firing line, while millions of men are undergoing a thorough training at home. Her shipbuilding programme is a prodigious one. But

these warlike activities, powerful and far-reaching as they are, do not constitute her entire effort. An evidence of her splendid co-operation in the Allied cause is revealed in a statement made by Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British War Office. Speaking of the fall of Jerusalem, Gen. Maurice said: "In the campaign as a whole, the great accomplishment has been, not the defeat of the Turks, but the conquest of the Sinai Desert. The troops who fought at Gaza drank water from Egypt, pumped through an American pipe line, and were supplied over broad gauge railroad laid clear across the 150 miles of the Sinai Desert, which has defeated almost everybody that tried to conquer Egypt for centuries. Every ounce of material for the pipe line and the railroad came here from Great Britain or the United States."

"All the time this conquest of the desert has been going on the official communications have been able to say only 'Nothing to report,' and the public thought we were idle. The fall of Jerusalem was made possible by the industry, organization and help of material from the United States." Uncle Sam is doing his part, but that is no reason why we should not continue to do our part. Our army leaders appeal for men and still more men. The Union Government is pledged to send them the men they ask for by the operation of the Military Service Act. Laurier says he will suspend the act. Bourassa says we have done too much already. Should there be any doubt as to which side deserves—nay more, demands—your allegiance?

THE RECORD OF THE UNION GOVERNMENT

They abolished patronage in appointments to Government positions, in the purchase of supplies and in awarding of Government contracts.

Patronage Was the Worst Evil in Politics.

They controlled the packing houses by ordering that they must not charge a profit of more than two per cent. on their sales—that is to say only two cents on a dollar. They passed an order providing that the flour millers can make a profit of only 25c on each barrel of flour. They stopped the use of grain in the manufacture of liquor. They stopped expenditure on almost all Public works with the object of conserving our finances for the war. They greatly extended the powers of the Food Controller, giving him practically unlimited authority. They increased the separation allowance to wives and other dependents of soldiers under the rank of Sergeant from \$20 to \$25 a month. They are standing no nonsense from the Quebec Exemption Tribunals who tried to make a farce of the thing. Thousands of appeals from these Tribunals have been taken by the government representatives and will be tried promptly. The government are seeing to it that Quebec does not escape its duty. They have been in office only eight weeks and have been hampered through having to run an election forced upon the country by Laurier.

Rippling Rhymes

BLOOD AND IRON

Great Bismarck lay expiring, in trouble dread and drear; he saw this world retiring, and 'tother drawing near. Biographers have written how specious raked his brain; his iron soul was smitten by dire remorse and pain. "I made blood run like water," he moaned, again, again; and 'I have sent to slaughter eight hundred thousand men. It gnaws me like a cancer, the thought of all my dead; and now I go to answer for human blood I've shed." As mad as any hatter poor Bismarck must have been, to mind so small a matter—eight hundred thousand men! It's plain he was a martyr, to some imagined ill. It wouldn't be a starter, that lot, to Kaiser Bill. Such small and paltry numbers, as racked the man of steel, would not disturb Bill's slumbers, or make him miss a meal. They would not make him paler or draw a longer breath; he's not a cheap retailer in such a trade as death; when Wilhelm lies expiring, and from his royal lair, telegraphers are wiring the glad news everywhere, he'll see in shadow regions, the victims of his crime, and he will count their legions a million at a time.

—WALT MASON.



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CRAWFORD COAL SALES Will Be For CASH. At price current for the month when the order is given. The Coal situation in the United States compels this action. Foot of Queen St. Phone 9. has recently been sold for a considerable sum deposited as an option on it, by Peter Lyall of the well-known construction firm of Montreal.