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SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1917.

ALBERTA ELECTION

The Alberta election on Thursday, as had been anticipated resulted in re-election of the Sifton Liberal Government. Alberta is practically a new province, this being but its third general election. It has always been a Liberal province since it was carved out of the Northwest Territories by Act of Parliament in 1905.

It is interesting to notice that the Conservatives have made a clean sweep of the Capital, Edmonton sending three Conservatives to the House as against two Liberals and one Conservative at last election. Indications are that the Conservatives have made great progress throughout the province, fighting an up-hill battle against an administration that has had control of the power and patronage ever since the province came into existence.

A UNIONIST GOVERNMENT

The situation at Ottawa has now assumed definite shape and within the next few days the new government will be inaugurated. As anticipated from our Ottawa despatches during the past few days the new government will be neither Liberal nor Conservative, it will be a Unionist government made up of members of both parties who have agreed to sink their party differences for the time being and devote all their energies loyally and patriotically towards the winning of the war.

The successive steps which led to the abandonment of the former party programme are well known to our readers. During the early stages of the war when Canadians in every province from the Atlantic to the Pacific flocked loyally and voluntarily to the colours conscription was not thought of; it was not needed, and even if it had been, it would have been impossible while escape to the United States was practicable.

In the nearly three years in which we have been at war we have sent overseas nearly 400,000 men and our wastage in that time has been such that, without greatly increased enlistment, Canada would be very inadequately represented, if represented at all, at the end of the war.

The government found itself confronted with two alternatives: one, to let our Canadian Army at the front dwindle to nothing, to practically let the sacrifices we had made go for naught; the other, conscription.

No one wanted conscription, except as a last resort, although our Liberal friends,

when some new form of faultfinding was needed, occasionally expressed well feigned indignation because the Government had not enacted conscription.

When conscription, as the only reasonable alternative to adopt, confronted Premier Borden, he made overtures to Sir Wilfrid Laurier with a view to uniting all Canadians under a coalition government. He offered coalition on equal terms, on an equality of members of both parties. Sir Wilfrid refused. As a representative of Quebec he was opposed to conscription, and would not become a party to a government pledged to conscription. In his choice he no doubt depended upon his colleagues in Quebec. Those of his followers, some twenty-three or more, who could not see eye to eye with him in his objection to conscription voluntarily left him and allied themselves with Sir Robert Borden to form a government and a party to carry out his policy of conscription and to stand by him in every effort he may loyally make to bring the war to a successful issue and to enable Canada to take such a part in it as will be worthy of a loyal and liberty loving British dominion. This is now the situation and it is up to all true Canadians to stand by a Unionist Government, representing as it does the loyal and patriotic elements in both political parties.

THE WAR

A new chapter is now being opened in the war situation by the offensive begun on the Belgian front, reported in our telegrams yesterday. This drive is a continuation of the Battle of Arras and is no doubt intended to put the Germans out of Belgium and Northern France. The present drive, according to our despatches, is on a much more gigantic scale than any hitherto begun and while the possible and the impossible in war are always interchangeable there is good ground for the belief that in the drive now so auspiciously begun the German hold on both Belgium and France will be badly shattered before the summer is ended.

There have been both mystery and uncertainty about the movements on this sector. Through many sources it has been intimated from time to time that the great offensive to drive the Germans back beyond their borders was about to begin. It was also told that the Germans had drawn great numbers of troops from the Russian front thereby greatly strengthening the Hindenburg line. It would appear that the Germans had determined to stand fast on the whole western front in order to open another peace campaign in the fall or winter with the same old plea that their lines on that front are unbreakable and that the Allies are unable to drive them out. Should this peace campaign fail, the Germans will be able in the Spring to retire to their next line, as they retired last spring to the line on which they now stand.

The result of this original British success has been shown in the German tactics. At the Somme there was very little German counter-attacking. On the contrary, as the British pushed through one line of trenches after another, the Germans constructed new lines of trenches in the rear. When the battle began the country behind their regular system was practically open. By the time the British had penetrated their original line there were many other systems all the way back to and behind Bapaume. But in the battle of Arras the British penetration was immediate and complete, and as the German "switch" lines were unfinished and relatively weak, the Germans were compelled to throw in their reserves at once, and by sheer mass bring the British advance to a pause while they completed other reserve lines.

It is clear that the Germans have now used up a very large portion of that strategic reserve which they had organized behind the French and British fronts for an offensive of their own. It is clear that notwithstanding the fact that they employed vast masses of men, the best troops that they have, they have not succeeded in holding down the British advance, and this advance is still pushing forward toward that "switch" line running from Drocourt to Queant which covers the break in the German line made by the British. In the same fashion, after having actually been checked along the Soissons-Rheims front, the French are beginning to push forward again and have completely cleaned up the first and most of the second German lines on this front.

The new advance in the north around Messines appears to be in the nature of a crumpling up movement. If immediately successful, and the indications are very promising, the effect upon the German occupation of Belgium will be tremendous. The next few days will bring important revelations and will give a clearer indication of the possible end than any move hitherto made.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Now comes rare June. The year's sweet noon. With smiling ways. And gifts in days. And perfect hours. Made bright with flowers; And sunny skies. Like laughing eyes. To tell us of. Dear Nature's love.

When such things be. Then what of me? Shall I refuse. These gifts to use? Shall I deny. That smiling sky? Or shall I seize. Such gifts as these. And set in tune. My heart with June?

H. R. H. Princess Patricia of Connaught visited the Hampstead Garden Suburb recently, and took part in a very simple, yet withal impressive, service at the Calvary, which has been erected outside the east end of the Church, in memory of the soldiers fallen in the war. The object of the Princess's visit was to lay a wreath at the foot of the Saviour's Cross to the memory of the Canadians, whose parents and friends have done so much for the Garden Suburb Church. The Bishop of Willesden and the Vicar officiated at the service.

A London cable this week says Lady Drummond recently received \$5,000 from the Allied Bazaar held in Boston Mass., to be used at her discretion. Some of this has gone to the Prisoners of War Fund and Maple Leaf Clubs. Lady Drummond's most recent assignment has been a thousand dollars to the Canadian military authorities through the Red Cross for turbing and keeping in good order the graves of Canadian soldiers buried in the United Kingdom. The military authorities in acknowledging the gift undertake to proceed with the work as rapidly as possible.

Mrs. Macdonald, of Government House is visiting with friends in St. John having left for that city on Monday.

Mrs. McLean of Souris arrived in Ottawa this week and is a guest at the Chateau Laurier with Senator McLean.

Albert Brown, who made so many friends here in the presentation of The Black Feather is in Halifax this week in the big London success "A Little Bit of Fluff."

Professor and Mrs. McKiel, whose marriage took place last week in Picton are now in Ottawa where Professor McKiel will represent Mount Allison at the conference of Canadian Universities. Mrs. McKiel was before her marriage, Miss Harris of the Ladies' College Faculty.

Mrs. A. E. Morrison was hostess yesterday at a nicely arranged afternoon tea in aid of the W. M. S. of St. James Church. Her prettily appointed home was very artistically arranged for the occasion and the large number of guests present were most cordially received by Mrs. Morrison, assisted by Mrs. Goodwill and Mr. K. J. Martin. Dainty refreshments were served as the ladies wandered to and fro chatting with friends and enjoying the hospitality afforded.

Miss Marion Auld is in Halifax this week visiting very pleasantly with friends there.

Miss Janet Haszard after a delightful winter in Summerside is returning here this week for the summer months.

Sister Pope, matron at the station hospital, Halifax has been granted a short furlough and is taking a needed rest following very strenuous work.

The American women all over the country are emulating their English sisters, and it would seem, getting slightly in advance of their Canadian ones. Numbers of these enterprising females are already hard at work at the various agricultural colleges and schools in every State learning how to drive farm machinery, working tractors and bottom gang-plows as well as using the machines of older times.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS. Furnished by W. S. Louson.

KEPT. "The Lord will keep thy going out. Fear not, faint-heart!" The world across thy doorstep. With its hurry noise, and strife. With its war-cloud and its passion. With its greed and lust of life. Has no place where He is not. Though men tell, and doubt, and plot. "Fear not, faint-heart!" The Lord will keep thy going out. "The Lord will keep thy coming in. Fear not, faint-heart!" The life across thy doorstep. With its needs, its cares, its strain. With its many moods and tenses. With its quickening joy or pain. Has no breath where He is not—Trace His Spirit in thy lot. "Fear not, faint-heart!" The Lord will keep thy coming in. "From this time forth and evermore. Fear not, faint-heart!" Thy Father watches, day by day. His guardian care is sure; Under the shadow of His wing Thy heart shall rest secure. "Keep Thou that heart I cannot keep. Care free I'll lay me down to sleep; Fear not, faint-heart!" From this time forth and evermore." F. BALCH.

High school girls are turned loose in all public parks, where garden plots have been assigned for their use. A great many of the hospitals are turning their lawns and open spaces into truck gardens, where the doctors and nurses are finding that the convalescents, even the children, are getting both pleasure and profit out of the garden training, where spades and rakes are proving almost as curative as prescriptions and bandages. The season is rapidly advancing, but with us, beyond the "back yard industry," no practical steps seem to be open for those willing to start on the campaign of "Food Preparedness."

The many friends of Mrs. J. A. Mac Donald, Brighton, regret her recent accident which necessitates her keeping her room for some time, having severely sprained her ankle.

Miss Ruth Cocabs, of Brookline, Mass., is being welcomed by her young friends among whom she is visiting for several weeks.

"Back to the soil" costumes are the latest device of fashionable modistes—the blue overall is decorated and designed till it becomes a distinctive "flair of beauty" without in the least interfering with its utility. The price of course is a ?

A very nicely arranged chain tea was given by Mrs. J. L. Thomson on Tuesday evening which was much enjoyed by her guests.

Mr. A. L. Hyndman has gone on a visit to his brother in Edmonton. Mr. Hyndman is rapidly regaining his strength after his recent illness and it is hoped his trip west will complete the cure.

Judge Stewart has gone to Ottawa on a short visit.

Not only are women proving themselves experienced and capable aviators, but one, Mrs. Walter Pierce, of Boston, is about to establish a school for flying.

Mrs. Stewart, who has been visiting her sister Mrs. F. C. Jones of Moncton, has returned home after a most enjoyable visit.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Davies had as their welcome guests this week, Mr. and Mrs. Barabill and little son of Picton.

Mrs. W. K. Rogers is in Summerside this week the guest of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Neil Sinclair.

Sir W. W. Sullivan's many friends are deeply concerned over his illness. His daughters Mrs. McManus of Memphracks and Mrs. Scott of Ottawa also Major Sullivan are now visiting him.

The King's Birthday was again disappointing owing to the disagreeable weather and passed off very quietly.

Mrs. James McLeod who has been spending the winter months in West-ber Canada is now visiting her daughter Mrs. Thomas in Fredericton, N.B.

Mrs. S. D. Chown, wife of the general superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada, while in Ottawa this week met her son, Mr. Eric Chown, who has left again for the front. Mrs. Chown was among those who attended the reception given by the Government and the Duchesses of Devonshire, at Rideau Hall in honor of Rt. Hon. Arthur J. Balfour.

REV. H. SCOTT SMITH'S DONATION. Sir.—Not having the opportunity here of doing a little for my friends who are fighting on our behalf, I have much pleasure in enclosing check for \$5.00 towards the Tobacco Fund for the brave lads. I am Sir, etc., H. SCOTT SMITH, The Rectory, Millinocket, Maine.

REMARKABLE INCIDENT AT HUB CHURCH

BOSTON.—A woman sat on the edge of St. James Roman Catholic church threatened suicide for more than two hours today while three priests parleyed with her through a sky light, a congregation at mass below prayed that she might be stayed from her purpose, police reserves attempted to reach her, and firemen spread nets to arrest what would have been a 75 foot fall had she jumped. After Rt. Rev. Phillip J. O'Donnell had partly crossed the roof toward the woman, he prevailed upon her to approach for counsel and eventually she was escorted back, through the sky light.

SOCIALISTS GET ROUGH HANDLING

TORONTO.—A Socialist anti-conscription meeting at the Labor Temple tonight was broken up by a party of three or four hundred veterans, many of them on crutches, and for a time a free-for-all fight was staged, crutches and sticks being freely used, tables and chairs upset, and active resisters knocked down and hustled. The trouble began when a Finnish orchestra struck up "The Red Flag" the Socialist marching song. A Courcellette veteran demanded that the National Anthem be played and sung, and under compulsion the orchestra and a portion of the audience complied. The order was then given to clear the hall, and those who refused were roughly handled. Men, women and children fled screaming from the building, creating considerable excitement in the neighborhood. Having seen the hall properly cleared, the soldiers formed up on the street and paraded to the City Hall, singing the National Anthem and several favorite songs of the trenches. On the way they chased a man said to have displayed a German flag, and handed him over to the police. At the City Hall they held an impromptu reception meeting.

LARGE MACKEREL CATCHES.

YARMOUTH, N. S.—The run of mackerel is making phenomenal. Large catches are being made all along the shore and the boats and traps here are coming in for a goodly portion of the run.

Yesterday the traps took over two hundred barrels and today they took more. The netters and druggers operating in the vicinity of Green Rock and on the foul grounds, are loading up every trip. The New York and Yarmouth Fish Co. and the Gate-

way Fish Co. bought probably 4,000 pounds each yesterday, and S. Epstein secured over 10,000 pounds. Today Epstein had about all the fish brought in up to noon, about 15,000 pounds. The price offered by the big fish operators is from 3-3-4 cents to 4 cents a pound. It was at the latter figure that the fish changed hands today. A remarkable feature is the large size and fat condition of this spring's run. In today's catch there were a very few smaller fish, probably belonging to the second run which is following close on the first.

"The Haberdashery" Impossible? NO! Oh, you say, it is impossible to sell a decent sort of suit at \$16.50! Well, then, just come in and examine them for yourself; your own eyes and senses cannot deceive you. Ah, you think, there is a nigger in the woodpile somewhere. They may look all right, but they won't wear. Won't they? Well, with every Bachelor SUIT SOLD AT \$16.50 goes a positive guarantee of satisfaction or money returned. No strings—no nigger in the woodpile—just a revolution of the clothing business that puts \$10 back into your pocket. Sold by Henderson & Cudmore

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