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## E. A. FOSTER

Central Drugstore

### HON. F. B. CARVELL'S SPEECH IN S' SIDE

(Continued from page two.)

be remedied! It is past all human remedy! Therefore, I say, there come times in the lives of nations when you cannot apply the same principles as govern ordinary business affairs. There come times when the strong men have to take things in their grip and go ahead and do things and leave the people. And then again I looked at it from another standpoint. When I realized it might be possible that on a referendum constitution might be defeated; when I realized that it was just possible, because it was a new proposal, something which I knew was entirely new to the people, this question might be defeated on a referendum,—when I realized this possibility, the question always came back to me: What then? Suppose on a referendum constitution is defeated, what then? Where are you going to get the men? AND IF YOU DON'T GET THE MEN, WHERE IS CANADA GOING TO BE; AND WHAT POSITION WILL CANADA BE IN AFTER THAT? And after revolving the question over and over in my mind for a fortnight and discussing it with my friends, we came to the conclusion we could not take the responsibility of delaying the matter until the people of Canada should say whether we would do our duty or not; and the result was that 26 of us voted against the referendum and voted for the Conscription Bill. (Applause.) So far as we are concerned—and I am voicing the sentiments of my colleagues—not one of us regrets it. The election is a referendum. It is up to the people of Canada to say whether they approve of our conduct or not.

I want to tell you, it is not very much pleasure to me to be travelling around making speeches against the election of men who have been my former friends and associates. IT IS THE HARDEST TASK I HAVE EVER SEEN CALLED UPON TO PERFORM. Sometimes I wonder whether I can stand up to it for the next ten days; but after all, I look upon the matter as of such great importance, and when I realize that so many of my former friends are with me, and that so many hundreds of thousands of true Liberals of Canada believe as I do,—I LOOK UPON

uprightly, and I will do it! But the whole object of the Government is to successfully prosecute the war and carry on affairs of the country in the best way possible, and to do our full duty so that we may bring the war to a successful termination; and when that has been accomplished and the army brought here and disbanded our contract will have ceased, and what will take place after that I don't know and I don't care very much. I have not given it very much consideration, because the whole object for which we are banded together will have been accomplished, and the people will then have the right to say whom they want to govern them, because it will then be only a matter of carrying on the ordinary affairs of the country in peace times. I think, however, I would be justified in saying that we may all have to revise many of our political ideas after this conflict is over; all our pre-conceived ideas of commerce, trade, finance, etc., will be turned upside-down. I suppose you all know that up to the present time our revenues have been obtained practically from customs duties and excise duties. Perhaps no man in Canada has criticized the policy of taxing the people by customs, to the extent I have done. I am not a free-trader, but I have always preached against high tariffs. I did not believe they were right. I wish the tariff could be cut in two today; and if I had the power I would do it tomorrow. But I want to tell you that until the war is over we are going to need all the money we can get in every shape and form, and all the money we can borrow, and then we won't have enough money. For a year after the opening of the war we could get money in England by borrowing it. That revenue was cut off. We then went to the United States, and for a couple of years got all the money we wanted there. That was also cut off last May when the United States entered the war, and today the only source in the world from which we can get money to carry on the affairs of the country is simply by going to our own people. We have accomplished a remarkable achievement in the past three weeks, and I never was as proud of Canada as I am now. If any man had told me three years ago that the people of Canada would in three weeks lend Canada the sum of Four Hundred Millions I would have treated the statement as an idle one, and yet they have done it. Prince Edward Island has done a more than a million dollars; Nova Scotia, nearly Twenty Millions; the Province of New Brunswick, Ten Millions, is a feat of finance thought impossible four years ago. But it only shows you what can be done when the people get aroused and their patriotism and nationhood become paramount. What is considered impossible in normal times is easily done; and I believe that Patriotism of the people is such that you could almost raise Four Hundred Millions more. When the war is over we are going to require Three Hundred Millions Dollars a year in order to carry on the affairs of the country. Our debt will be Two Billions of Dollars, and the interest on that will be One Hundred Millions a year at least. And then we are going to owe another debt of at least fifty millions a year which must be paid no matter where the money comes from, no matter what sacrifices have to be made, no matter what form of taxation has to be levied, no matter whether the tariff may be as high as Hamon's Gallows,—that the debt we owe in the way of Pensions. That cannot be less than fifty millions a year, and you will require Three Hundred Millions a year to carry on the affairs of the country, and we shall have to entirely revise all our ideas in regard to raising money.

#### THE ALL-IMPORTANT QUESTION.

I will ask the question again: Are you going to stand by the men at the front, or are you going to quit, There are men in Canada, and I presume there are men in this audience, who believe that this conscription idea is something new, some new form of torture devised by the Government, to take the young men away—something which the world never knew before. This idea is as old as the hills. Travel through Continental Europe and you will find for more than half a century the whole country has been one organized army, every young man of eighteen years is as a rule taken into the army and made to serve two or three years and is turned out a finished soldier, and the next man comes in, and so on. When this war broke out in 1914 the Germans sent a command to every man "you appear to be a young man" and next morning they appeared in their millions, all uniformed and were sent to the battle front. The British Empire for a long time has boasted that it could get along with the voluntary system, and they did pretty well; and when they entered this conflict the still believed somehow they could get enough men to defeat Germany without recourse to conscription; but inside a year and a half they only raised two millions of men and they commenced to realize that the only way to prosecute

a war was by men, and they introduced the Lord Derby scheme, which said to the men: "If you don't enlist by a certain time we will enforce conscription." That brought some men but not enough. Then the great men of Great Britain made up their minds they had to get men one way or another. Then the greatest Democrat of modern times; the greatest Radical who ever occupied a position in the British Government, "the man who was hated by the classes worse than anyone else; the man who was opposed to the Boer war because he thought it was a war of Conquest.—David Lloyd George said "we must have Conscripted!" (Applause.) David Lloyd George and his colleagues were big enough to say: "We don't care what we may have Preached in the Past, we don't care what the traditions of the British Government, may have been in the last hundred years, we are up against a serious condition of things and we must have men! We cannot get them voluntarily but we are going to get them! He introduced a bill in Parliament just like ours and it passed through in a few weeks and became law, and they raised between five and six millions of men,—the finest fighting machine the world has ever known, and all done by business methods. Not only have they organized an army; they are building more ships than they ever built before; and performing feats that seemed impossible three or four years ago; cutting down the great forests for agricultural purposes. Every man and woman, boy or girl is organized. The men who can best be spared to fight have gone and the men who should remain at home are working there. They have selective conscription exactly as in Canada, and the result is, they have held back the German Army for three years and a half and placed themselves in a position by which they can hold back the German hordes until further help comes. It is all possible by their business organization.

Most of you have friends in the United States, and you know there is no nation on Earth where individual liberty is held more sacred than

there. It has been the haven of the oppressed for centuries and when they decided in May last to join the conflict, their first act was to introduce Conscription, the same as in Canada and Great Britain, and they have raised Twenty Millions of Dollars for war purposes in less than a year, a feat never excelled by any nation on earth. They have organized an army of two million men already and sent half a million overseas; they will have a million and more men there by next May; and perhaps there will be no nation in the world to do as much in the end to bring about victory as the Great United States,—all because methods in the organization of the Army. They are organizing their country as never before.

Now I want to ask you this question: If all this business organization is a good thing in Great Britain and in the United States, and we know it is a good thing in Germany, why is it bad in Canada? Do you believe the Government of this country are bringing this matter forward simply to wreck some form of vengeance on the young men, or because they realize it is a real necessity? Surely no man can entertain the idea that we do this thing simply because we want to get after somebody? I don't know how this matter has been worked out in your mind. I can only tell you that as strangers are sent here to administer the law. There are two members of each tribunal, your own people and neighbours. One of these men is chosen by a Judge of the County Court. He may be Liberal or Conservative, and I presume he is both; probably at this time he has no much politics of any kind. The other man is chosen by a committee of two men one of whom was appointed by the Leader of the Government and other by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Leader of the Opposition; and the tribunal thus constituted are the men upon whom is cast the burden of saying a certain man shall go and a certain man shall stay at home. There may have been mistakes made; I presume there have been. There may have been different treatment meted out to one man as compared with another. Possibly that might be; but there is always a right of appeal, and once you can realize that you will get justice, and realize also the great principle that the first duty of every man is to stand by the state when the state is in danger, you must come to the conclusion that the Conscription Bill is the only business method which could have been adopted by the Dominion of Canada to properly carry on the war to the end of it.

I have tried to impress upon different audiences this one proposition. I do not say that the one hundred thousand men we are going to raise will decide the war; but when the two armies are so evenly balanced as

(Continued on page five)

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