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Morning Daily (founded 1891), \$3.50 per year, (Delivered in advance; \$2.50 per year (mailed) in advance, in Canada, and \$3.00 for U. S. A.

Evening Daily (founded 1907) \$2.00 (delivered or by Mail in Canada, and \$2.50 for U. S. A.

Saturday Weekly (founded 1887) \$1.50 per annum by mail in Canada or U. S. A.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9th 1917.

WHAT THE MANIFESTO MEANS

The coolness with which Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his manifesto grapples with the war situation and Canada's part in it is simply astounding, would be unbelievable if it were not for the fact that it has been issued over his own signature and addressed to the Canadian people. If returned to power, he tells those "Canadian people," he will not proceed any further under the provisions of the Military Service Act, but will relegate to a referendum the question as to what Canada shall do. This would mean a delay of probably a year before, even if the referendum demanded that Canada should send her full quota of men, any effective help could be sent to our army in Flanders. First of all must come the general election on December 17th. If Laurier is successful he must form an administration and summon parliament. At this parliament the question would be threshed out for probably six or eight weeks. Preparations for the referendum would then be made, a campaign pro and con would follow. Laurier and his new lieutenants would stump the country opposing conscription; Canadians desirous of doing what they could to support the army would also stump the country. Arrangements might or might not be made to give the soldiers at the front a voice on the question. It would be well along in the summer before the decision of the referendum could be ascertained. Suppose the Canadian voice should demand conscription the new army would be mobilized and, after the necessary six months of preparation would be sent to the front, probably by January or March, 1918. Meanwhile, volunteering has ceased in view of the present Military Service Act. If Laurier should be successful at the coming general election and his principle of a referendum were supported there would certainly be no volunteering after the election. Laurier's manifesto then means that Canadian contribution of men to the war must cease totally until after the referendum and that if the referendum defeated conscription there would be no volunteering afterwards. As a Win-the-War policy the Laurier manifesto simply means let Canada sneak as gracefully as possible out of the war, sneak out of it waving the flag and shouting loyalty, for the manifesto furnishes many passages of eloquent lip loyalty to be used on occasion. It is no use mincing matters. Laurier's manifesto "to the Canadian people" is an appeal to Quebec and Quebec is already responding. In the province of Quebec up to November 1st the registrations were filtering in slowly while almost all the registrations were claims for exemption. Since that date there has been such a rush for registration that the officers cannot keep up with the work and in Montreal, Mayor Martin, according to our despatches yesterday, asked Premier Borden to instruct the medical boards to sit at night. And why this rush at the last moment? Simply because the man who does not register will have no vote. These men are registering now to enable them to vote for Laurier and his candidates. There should be no mistake about this, and no fooling or palavering with candidates. There is but one issue in Canada today, namely, shall we do our part towards winning the war; there are but two parties in Canada today, one standing for a united Canada to win the war, the other opposing it. Electors will take their choice.

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NO GRAIN FOR LIQUORS

An Order in Council has been issued that "on and after the first day of December, 1917, and until the Governor General in Council has by Order declared that the present abnormal conditions have ceased, no grain of any kind and no substance that can be used for food shall be used in Canada for the distillation of potable liquors." The penalty for violation of this order will be a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or imprisonment for six months, or both. This order while doing much to prevent the waste of foodstuffs in the manufacture of stuff that is of little use and of much evil, will also do very much for the cause of

prohibition as the cost of liquors has a good deal to do with the quantity consumed. The price of liquors is at present almost prohibitive, and with the addition which will inevitably result from the embargo on grains for distillation no doubt the price of the ardent will make another leap upward which will place it beyond the reach of those who now can afford it only by putting all their means into it.

It is gratifying to know that this step has been taken by the Government. The quantity of grain used in distillation has been enormous and when thrown into the country's food bin it should make a very marked difference not only in the quantity of available food but in the price as well.

AS TO CANDIDATES

There will doubtless be candidates and candidates in the coming federal election. The strength of the appeal for the Union Government is now being generally recognized, being recognized as the only logical stand that Canadians can maintain if they are to have not only the support but the respect of the electors. And right here lies the serious question for the electors who intend to cast their votes in the interest of Canada's continued participation in the war. It will not be enough for them to support a candidate who professes to be in favor of the Union Government and of the Military Service Act. Those who from the first strenuously opposed both, but who, at the last moment, in a sort of death-bed repentance, expressed their allegiance to the principles of Union Government will require some watching, and some pledging as well as some repentance and confession. In the coming election there is but one issue, namely, shall we place in power in the Dominion of Canada for the next five years a government of British impulse and purpose that is prepared to keep faith with our soldiers overseas, or a government made up of men who have shown by their record that they are subservient to those who are lacking in British sympathy and that are not prepared to keep faith with our men overseas. The record and not the eleventh hour profession must be the guiding factor. The issues at stake must not be obscured by the sectional cries of partisans nor by the "pussy-footing" tactics of party leaders who, professing friendship for the Military Service Act and the war in British communities stand both in the back by standing behind Laurier. Laurier has himself taken his stand and we know exactly where he is.

THE SITUATION IN QUEBEC

Politicians in this province, while professing their desire to win the war, preach the cardinal virtue of democracy as a yet greater issue. They would win the war by means of those who choose to fight, and in their view the sacred principle of voluntary action is more important than the cause at stake. What a vain thing it is! These professional politicians of selfish mould are as chips in the whirlpool, carried here and there by a mastering current, and trusting to be cast upon the land by a favoring chance. If they have the conviction of duty, they fail in courage to perform it. The French-Canadians are a great race, an admirable people, and if properly directed will respond to the call of service in defence of the land of their birth and love. But they are being led by the blind, by men whose ambition does not extend much beyond the position of a parish beadle. This attitude of misleading is not fair to the French-Canadians, who are a well-meaning, homely, and inherently patriotic people, who if wisely led will not hesitate to follow.—Montreal Gazette.

NOTES

An effort is being made in Montreal to test the legality of the Military Service Act. An effort ought to be made to test the legality of the effort.

Russian agents have placed orders in the United States for a million and a half pairs of boots for the Russian army. May those boots be put to the Kaiser!

Frequent German communiques announce, "On the remainder of the front there is nothing to report," and one of these days we shall read, "There are no remainders of the front to report on."

Beware of the politicians who are craftily seeking to distract attention from the war issue by talking about profiteers, "conscription of wealth," and the high cost of living. There is only one issue in this election, shall Canada stay in the war and stand by the boys, or shall she sneak out. No other question matters.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From our own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, November 5, 1917.—Well, the fight is on. December 17th will be the polling day, but the new year will be well advanced, and before the official declaration of the vote is made, and in all likelihood Parliament will not meet until March. In the meantime public meetings are being held at various points, and others are being arranged for. The issue is the winning of the war, at least that is the issue that is being publicly discussed. But there will be other issues, any number of issues in the effort to stampede the individual voter, and these issues may cut a wider swath than is anticipated. There is the vote of the soldiers' relatives, which will complicate things, and put all guessing as to the result of the election in the "extra hazardous" class. The Prime Minister issued a manifesto a few weeks ago in which he made public the policy of the official Liberal party, and today Sir Wilfrid is stated, Premier Borden is to issue another pronouncement making clear the views of his Government and replying to some of the statements of Sir Wilfrid. Whether Sir Wilfrid's manifesto is not known at the moment, however, it looks as if President Wilson would have to look to his laurels as a writer of "notes."

By the time this letter finds its way into the Guardian readers of your paper will have become familiar with the contents of the Liberal leader's manifesto so I shall not deal with it at length. Suffice it to say that it is a skillful bit of electioneering literature showing clearly the final Italian hand of the writer, and is among the lines of Sir Wilfrid's attitude in the last Parliament. His declaration that if elected he will not carry out the provisions of the Military Service Act will cause little surprise to those who have followed the Liberal leader's course in the House. There are some who thought that Sir Wilfrid would not interfere with the workings of the Act pending the holding of the referendum, but his manifesto makes it abundantly clear that such a step is contemplated. His words are interpreted to mean that he would proceed to disband all soldiers called to the colors under the draft. Sir Wilfrid talks about a referendum. But to whom would he submit this referendum? To the electors of the war time franchise? Not every citizen of Canada of legal age whether native born or naturalized, every person of alien birth, no matter how short his citizenship in Canada nor how strong his antipathy to the cause for which our brave soldiers are fighting, would be given the ballot.

It is more than likely that a large draft from the Signalers Training Depot here will shortly proceed overseas as reinforcements for the "Princess Pats." There is no official pronouncement in the matter as yet, but judging by present appearances it is almost a certainty. The Militia Department, it is stated, asked the Signallers if they could raise a draft of the infantry, and when this was called for over two hundred and fifty volunteer officers and men volunteered almost immediately. A mark of commendation for the men who had enlisted in the Signaller but who were willing to transfer to the infantry to go overseas, the militia authorities decided to make this a reinforcement for the Princess Pats. Since the announcement of this draft, it is stated, a large number of other have volunteered. The latest pronouncement by the militia authorities state that the men must hold themselves in readiness for orders to proceed overseas and they are waiting to be called upon.

The statement is made that no more than twenty per cent. of non-Canadians under the new conditions of the Union Government have so far taken place in Canada, and the two weeks which intervene before nomination will necessarily be a time of great political activity. Upwards of fifty conventions are called for this week. Before Union Government was accomplished the Liberals had more candidates in the field than the Government, but so large a proportion

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson, GRATITUDE It beautifies character, it adorns the life, it sweetens the nature. Gratitude opens the mind and the hand, it purifies the purposes; it chastens the spirit; it softens the heart and strengthens the will. Gratitude gladdens. It gratifies and satisfies the soul; it ennobles and enriches the heart where it blooms, and brightens the soul that it serves, and the lessons and lightens the loads of life and fills the cup of life with the fragrance of peace. Gratitude blesses others. It rewards; it compensates; it honors; it satisfies. It cements friendships, disarms foes, produces peace, it makes crooked ways straight and rough places even. It prevents discords and produces harmonies. A thankful heart, and life cheers, comforts and inspires all who come near to it. Gratitude helps others to do their best and to stand the test of gracefulness. Gratitude tends to smother and snuff out the generous spirit of others. Even God himself withholdeth his best gifts from the thankless heart. Let us then "be thankful."

LET'S ALL KEEP HENS

Sir.—We are threatened with a meat famine—in fact, it is actually upon us, for all but the wealthy. And in the midst of it all the average Canadian goes right on overlooking the one best bet in the way of supplying the quick-growing, wholesome, nutritious, palatable and eggs. An average family, for some reason or other, would rather grow chickens in the back yard, which are good to look upon, but not worth a cent from a food standpoint, or a help to winning the war. Some families will shrewdly allow the back yard to grow up in weeds, which not only are unsightly but not good to eat and really an absolute menace, rather than go to a little trouble and the imaginary humbug idea of having a few hens and growing chickens. There is a wasteful tendency to throw table scraps into the garbage cans, rather than feed them to a flock of laying hens in the back yard. This argument has been raised that should be a good reason for growing chickens. Some good grain that should be used in making feed, etc. While the poorer grades of grain, the best grade of grain and feed, they do not demand it, thriving quite well on the poorer quality of grain and seeds. There is a wasteful tendency to throw table scraps into the garbage cans, rather than feed them to a flock of laying hens in the back yard. This argument has been raised that should be a good reason for growing chickens. Some good grain that should be used in making feed, etc. While the poorer grades of grain, the best grade of grain and feed, they do not demand it, thriving quite well on the poorer quality of grain and seeds. There is a wasteful tendency to throw table scraps into the garbage cans, rather than feed them to a flock of laying hens in the back yard. This argument has been raised that should be a good reason for growing chickens. Some good grain that should be used in making feed, etc. While the poorer grades of grain, the best grade of grain and feed, they do not demand it, thriving quite well on the poorer quality of grain and seeds.

Fresh eggs are practically sure to sell for \$1 per dozen the coming winter. Why? Not especially because of the high prices of grain, but because, in many other cases, we have let the supply to such a limited number of producers to produce. In other words, the eaters are away out of proportion to the producers. This should not be. You can't keep a hog or a flock of sheep but you can and should keep a few hens. Some people may claim that it does not pay with prices of grain, etc. as high as at present. At a Government Dept. Agriculture farm an experiment was covering an entire year, during which times feed prices were very high, showed that the cost of feed per dozen eggs produced by Leghorns averaged about 13 cents and the larger breeds, or general purpose fowls, it averaged 17 cents. High prices of eggs have been low enough at any time, and the year to limit of any doubt as to the profitability of poultry when authorities, the Dept. of Agriculture prove that the cost of producing a dozen eggs does not exceed the figures given above. So fall in line—keep as many hens as your space will allow—help to put Mr. "High Cost of Living" out of business. I am Sir, etc.

A HANNAITE.

These have since veered around to the Union idea, or are flirting with it, that an extensive readjustment as become necessary. In some of the constituencies the fight promises to be essentially on party lines regardless of the new order of things. Generally speaking, however there will be a division between Liberals and Unionists. Liberals fear that the new conditions will upset their organization, but it is asserted that candidates will be put in the field in very constituencies where a Labor man is not nominated. With reference to the Military Service Act the question is asked how in Canadian subjects resident in the United States claim exemption or re-employment for overseas and whether they will be looked upon as trying to evade the Act if they fail to do either of these things. The Military Service Act provides that provision has been made for these persons to report or claim exemption through the medium of a special department created by the Department of Justice, Canadian in the United States should write to his Department whereupon a blank exemption form and a blank report service form will be mailed them. However, one of these forms is destroyed can be filled out, but the forms must be returned. Another way for such persons to report or claim exemptions is by proxy, that is have some relative in Canada given power of attorney to fill out the forms for them. Unless they adopt one or the other of these courses they will be regarded as trying to evade the Act. The patriotism of Ottawa women is to be organized. A mass meeting of mothers, wives and sisters of soldiers is planned for the near future to form a movement designed to throw the polls the full force of the Win-the-War women of Ottawa behind the Union Government and conscription. It is estimated that under the War Time Elections Act upwards of five thousand women in this city will have the right to vote at the forthcoming election. The division of the Interior Department is formally promulgated by the Council. The immigration branch, along with a new one to be established to deal with and promote colonization, will be under the Hon. J. A. Calder. Provision is made for a Deputy Minister, who will likely be W. D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration. The other branches, such as lands, water powers, topographical and geodetic surveys, and the astronomical section, will be administered by Hon. Arthur Meighen. Mr. Donald Nicholson was here Monday and had several interviews with Ministers when the political situation was discussed. Mr. Geo. J. McCormac and Mr. Colin McDonald, of Charlottetown, were in

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

MR. NEIL McLEOD, K. C., SUMMERSIDE, A FORMER LIBERAL, EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS ON THE PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO THE SUMMERSIDE JOURNAL.

Dear Sir—To many persons throughout Canada—now women as well as men—it is becoming an anxious and pressing question how in the coming election they are to cast their ballots. Hardly a day passes but my advice is asked as to matters pertaining to the existing political issues in Canada. Especially is this true of the women who are now to cast their ballots for the first time. What is the meaning of this Union Government we read about? "Is it only the old Conservative party under another name?" "Will Laurier and his party, if returned, carry out the Military Service Act, or will he yield to his Quebec supporters in their avowed intention to have it repealed?" "I am for winning the war at all costs. For whom should I vote in this election?" "Ought we in any case to support men whom we believe to be guilty of graft, petty or otherwise?" These and other questions are being asked and are pressing for answer on the Canadian voter with a new insistence, born, it seems to me, of a new political faith and new ideals. Never before in the history of Canada—not at least since Confederation—has the Canadian elector been faced with graver issues, or conditions more perplexing than are now presented for his decision; and in this complex condition he finds himself more or less at sea. The old party lines have become obliterated, the old shibboleths that have done service in times past have lost their meaning. The issues to him have become clouded and obscure—clouded partly by his own party prejudices and partly by the recent history of the waning confidence in the judgment, leaders and he is thus thrown back on his own judgment and his own initiative. A Union Government has been organized under the leadership of Sir Robert Borden, the Conservative tower of strength, and the Liberal reed shaken in the wind. With the avowed policy of conscription, the whole of the man-power and the natural resources of Canada for the winning of the war. Opposed to this Union Government, though perhaps not altogether the remnant of the old Liberal party mainly from the old Province of Quebec under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on the other some scattered representatives of the Conservative party who refuse to have any truck or traffic with Liberals and appear to resent Borden's alleged desertion of his party. The leader of these latter has not yet been announced, but may not unlikely be the redoubtable (Bob) Rogers. Coming down to conditions in our country which are perhaps of more immediate concern to us, we have two candidates in the field, Mr. A. A. Lefurgey, and Captain Joseph Read, nominated some time ago at their respective party conventions. These nominations were made before the existing political crisis had assumed its present acute form. It is not unlikely that both political parties might be able to agree on a candidate for this constituency who would be acceptable to both and who would support the Union Government. But even if this were done, it is extremely doubtful if either of the present candidates would be willing to retire. I have indeed reason to believe that some such proposition has already been made to both Mr. Lefurgey and Captain Read and has been flatly turned down by one and the other. Captain Read the Liberal candidate has already made public announcement of his opposition to the Military Service Act and his adherence to the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Mr. Lefurgey, I understand is prepared if elected to support the Union Government.

I am, Sir, etc. NEIL McLEOD.

WAR MENUS

How to Save Wheat, Beef and Bacon for the men at the front. Issued from the Office of the Food Controllers for Canada. MENU FOR SATURDAY Breakfast Carried Fish, Milk, Sugar, Toast, Tea or Coffee Luncheon Cauliflower Soup, Baked Potato, Cornmeal Gems, Syrup Dinner Meat Pie, Mashed Potatoes, Turnips, Tapioca Pudding, Oatcakes. The recipe for Cauliflower Soup, mentioned above, is as follows: Cauliflower Soup—Make a thin white sauce of:—1 cup milk, 1 cup of water in which cauliflower was cooked, 2 level tablespoons flour, 2 level tablespoons butter, Pepper and salt to taste. Cook until done, and add to this the cauliflower that has already been cooked and strained.

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