

THE PACIFIC CANADIAN

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Vol. I.



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THE LIBERAL LEADER.

While Mr. Brewster, who will shortly be called on to form a new Government to assume the reins at Victoria, is the Liberal leader most in the public eye and mind in British Columbia at the present time, the reference at the head of this article is to the grand old Liberal chieftain of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who, unless all the signs fail, will, when the next general election comes round—and that may not be so long—crown his splendid public career of a lifetime by returning once more to power at the head of a united and triumphant Liberalism having majorities in nearly every Province of the Dominion.

Since the outbreak of the war, over two years ago, Sir Wilfrid has devoted himself almost exclusively to co-operating with the Government of the day in the great work which Canada has been doing as a portion of the Empire in assisting to carry to a successful issue the tremendous struggle in which the Allied nations are engaged. In pursuance of this work, the Liberal leader, about the end of last month, addressed a great open-air meeting of some fifteen thousand in the city of Montreal, in which, in burning words of eloquence, he urged his compatriots especially to do their duty to both their mother lands, Britain and France, and the cause of civilization and humanity, by answering the call for men at the front. Here are some of his appeals on that occasion, which are well worthy of being read, pondered and acted on by Canadians everywhere:

"We are a free country and we must always fight for our country. I go further; there are people who say we will not fight for England; will you then fight for France? Ah, gentlemen, remember that it is not on England that Germany throws her forces, it is on France and on Belgium. If England had refused to give her aid, those who say we should not fight for England would be the first to accuse England.

"Gentlemen, for my part I want to fight for England and also for France. To those who do not want to fight either for England or for France, I say: Will you then fight for yourselves? (Applause.) This war that has been going on for the past two years is the war of barbarity against civilization. This war interests all nations, even the neutrals; if Germany were to succeed, sooner or later those neutral nations would have to defend themselves against German aggression. Germany wanted to crush France, to annex Belgium and take domination from the North Sea to the Balkans and as far as Arabia, and then they could dictate to the world.

"Germany has resorted to the most savage form of warfare. She has committed all the crimes committed by a barbarous nation. The Germans did not scalp their prisoners as the American Indians did, but that is the only thing they did not do. With a contempt for all laws of civilized warfare, they bombarded undefended cities, cities like Louvain, one of the richest cities in monuments of learning and religion; they bombarded and destroyed the churches and the cathedral of Rheims.

"The Germans will tell us that this was not authorized, that it was simply one of the crimes inseparable from warfare. I say that these were not simply the acts of undisciplined soldiers; these crimes were authorized by the German authorities; they were part of their military programme; they gave rein to all the passions in order to terrorize the invaded nations and force them to sue for peace.

"Who will say that these crimes were not authorized? I will give an example of what happened in France, that part which is under German dominion now, in Lille and other cities. These cities are in the power of the Germans. An order came from the German authorities obliging all the families on a certain day and at a certain hour to present themselves in front of their doors. These families asked themselves what it meant. They learned soon enough, because at the hour appointed a detachment of the army appeared, and of the families assembled they took the young women and girls, took them from their families and dragged them away in order to affirm the brutality of the German dominion. And what day did they choose for this? Easter; the day of redemption. What became of these young women? We have no information yet, but they are captives in German territory, forced to work for the Germans, and happy if not subjected to worse outrages.

"Now I speak to you of French origin; if I were young like you and had the same health in my youth that I enjoy to-day, I would join those brave Canadians fighting to-day for the liberation of French territory. (Great cheering.) I would not have it said that the French-Canadians do less for the liberation of France than the citizens of British origin. I ask this, that for the honor of the French name, it may not be said that the Canadians of French origin have less courage than those of British origin."

For these splendidly loyal and patriotic utterances, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been denounced by Nationalists of the Bourassa stripe as "too British," as disloyal to the French-Canadian race, just as these same extremists, who afterwards had to be rewarded with a strong representation in the Borden Cabinet, did their part, in unholy alliance with the ultra-loyalist wing of the Conservative party, in 1911, to defeat Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government on that occasion, with the doubly dishonest cry of "too British!" in Quebec, "not British enough!" in Ontario.

A LIMITED COMPULSION.

The measure of compulsory service in Australia, which is to be submitted by referendum to the people shortly, is only a partial application of the principle of universal service. It is a proposal simply to apply compulsion to the extent of making up any deficiency in the quota which the Commonwealth has undertaken to supply. The Government policy, as set forth in the Australian Commonwealth Parliament by Premier Hughes, "is to take a referendum at the earliest moment on the question whether compulsion to the extent necessary to maintain the expeditionary force in full strength should be adopted. If the majority approves of compulsion to that extent, it will be applied, otherwise, not."

While preparations are being made to hold the referendum, certain classes of unmarried men without dependants are being drafted to the training camps under the provisions of the Home Defence Act. These men are now being trained, and, if the compulsory measure is approved by the people, they will be drafted overseas to make up the heavy wastage in the front line troops.

The compulsory service measure which is on the statute books of New Zealand, the Parliament having taken the responsibility of legislating without a reference to the people, is on the same lines as the Australian Act. It provides for compulsion sufficient to bring the voluntary drafts up to strength and to keep them there. It is intended only to apply in case voluntary enlistment falls short of the military requirements of the Dominion. Up to the present, New Zealand has supplied, and is still supplying, by volunteers all the men required as reinforcements to her expeditionary force.

If Canada were to resort to compulsion, or a measure of conscription so called, following the precedents set by the Antipodean Dominions, the measure would apply compulsion only to the extent of bringing the Canadian quota up to the promised half-million mark. It would necessarily have to be applied by military districts, and, it is admitted, would not touch Western Canada at all, which has very nearly if not quite supplied its full quota by voluntary enlistment.

In the event of unforeseen military exigencies calling for further contributions of men from the Dominions to see the war through, the limits of compulsion as now proposed by the Commonwealths might, of course, have to be raised or extended.

A "DRY" DOMINION.

It should not take very much of a boost to make the whole Dominion "dry"—with the exception, of course, of "the Great Lakes," Hudson Bay, and a number of fresh water streams like the Fraser, the St. Lawrence, and the Saskatchewan. An Eastern contemporary prints a "prohibition map" of the Dominion, on which the "dry" Provinces and Territories are shown in black and the "wet" or partially "wet" in white. The result is startling. Nearly the whole country, from the 49th parallel to the Arctic Ocean, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, appears "in silhouette"—the only exceptions being: The Yukon, which recently voted "wet;" for awhile, by the close shave of three majority; New Brunswick, which is marked "goes dry April, 1917;" and Quebec, which, through local option, is said to be nearly three-quarters "dry"—975 municipalities being "dry" and 183 under licence. Even Newfoundland, which is not yet in the Dominion, is ticketed as going dry Jan. 1st, 1917. British Columbia is included in the "dry belt," though the Act does not go into effect until July, 1917. Ontario, it should be noted, is under temporary war time prohibition, which will doubtless be made good afterwards. The Yukon "drys" have engaged permanent headquarters in the business district of Dawson, and declare they are there to stay until they convert their minority of three into an unmistakable majority. They are determined to banish booze from the Yukon also.

It is just because the Laurier Government was defeated in 1911 by such insincere and dishonest appeals both on the naval and tariff issues—the insincerity and dishonesty, shallowness and falsity, of which have been completely exposed by events and developments since—added to the fact that practically all the Provincial Conservative machines in Canada have been utterly shattered in the meantime, and that war graft and politics have smirched an admittedly energetic prosecution of Canada's part in the great struggle, that one can have no reasonable doubts that the Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and his party, will be returned to power at the next appeal to the people of Canada by the Borden Government, which, in the nature of the case, cannot be very long deferred.

HERE AND THERE.

Mr. Bowser, Premier for the time being, expressed himself to a newspaper reporter, last week, as considerably worried on Mr. Brewster's account, over the latter's supposed dilemma in the matter of the writ. Bowser ought to know better, according to John Oliver, at the Port Haney smoker, last week.

The final returns and recount in Trail District gave Schofield, Conservative, 560; Sullivan, Liberal, 463; and Goodwin, Socialist, 253, thus electing the Conservative as a minority candidate, instead of the Liberal, who was at first announced as elected. Thirty-nine Liberals to eight Conservatives is, therefore, now the standing in the Province, with a few changes possible as a result of the soldiers' vote. One change said to be almost certain is the defeat of Ross, Conservative, in Fort George.

Official endorsement of the advantages of prohibition in both social and business life is found in the reports presented last month at Toronto to J. D. Flavelle, chairman of the Provincial License Board, by Commissioners George T. Smith and John Ayearst concerning their investigations throughout the western "dry" provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Mr. Flavelle forwarded the reports to Hon. W. J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary. From official police records, from the testimony of governmental, municipal and business representatives, and from personal observation and investigation, the commissioners find unanimous and emphatic endorsement of prohibition legislation.

Canadian casualties from the beginning of the war until August 31 totalled 37,861. Of this number, 8,644 are dead—5,998 having been killed outright in action, 2,248 having succumbed to their wounds, and 398 having died of sickness. In addition to the above, 723 are presumed dead because they have not been heard of for six months. The wounded totalled 27,212, and the missing, including prisoners of war, 1,282. Of the wounded, probably a third at least would return to service. The proportion who have died of sickness is very small and is an indication of the high efficiency of military and medical methods and the absence of epidemic disease. In the South African war, those who died of sickness were more than those killed.

A new commission of investigation began work at Winnipeg, a week or so ago, when the sessions of the body inquiring into Manitoba's roadwork under the Roblin Government, presided over by Judge Paterson, commenced. John Probizanski, former Emerson road supervisor, one of the first witnesses called, broke down and confessed with tears that he had devoted \$500 or \$600 of public money intended for roadwork to "politics, booze and teams on election day." He said he had been directly instructed by the former Minister of Public Works for Manitoba to get campaign money out of the roadwork appropriations. There is more than a suspicion that the Bowser patronage machine has been using "public money intended for roadwork" quite freely and frankly for political purposes for a long time, in this Province. Whether it has been done quite so crudely as in the above Manitoba instance, remains to be seen.

One of the most recent discoveries of the Pasteur Institute at Paris has to do with the stimulating qualities of milk. While milk has always been considered an excellent tonic and known to be exceptionally rich in food value, it was not until the Pasteur Institute conducted a number of conclusive experiments that the stimulus in milk became a known quantity. For a number of months, milk has been given the French soldiers in the trenches, and to many of them it has been the one and only stimulant. The effect which the milk has produced has more than justified the claims which the institute made for it. It is claimed that the stimulating effect of milk is especially notable when given to soldiers just before a big battle or a dangerous charge, and also when administered to the troops when in great fatigue. The advantage of the milk stimulus over the alcohol stimulus so extensively advocated in previous years is that there is no bad after effects, and the keenness of the senses is in no wise impaired nor the coolness of judgment affected. The knowledge that milk is a stimulant of no mean force will come as something of a shock to those who have hitherto considered it synonymous with all things mild and peaceful. It is somewhat difficult to believe that the chief product of the patient and gentle cow should contain such an element of forceful stimulation. But as proof of the contention we have the word of the world's greatest research institutes, backed up by conclusive experiments in a place where stimulation of the most efficient sort is needed.

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NEW FIELD OF PIRACY.

The Hun pirates chose Sunday last for breaking out in a new place with their submarine outrages. This was right under the nose and eyes of Uncle Sam, off the coast of good old New England, in the immediate vicinity of the Nantucket Shoal lightship, right in the sea lanes of shipping going to and from the United States. The well planned initial enterprise in this vicinity, carried out, it would appear, by one German undersea boat, the U-53, was successful enough from the point of view of the world outlaws, "getting" no less than six ships going and coming—three British freighters, one British passenger liner, the Stephano, bound from St. Johns, Nfld., for New York, a Dutch freighter, and a Norwegian tankship. Fortunately for the pirates, three British cruisers patrolling the coast were at the time several hundred miles distant, which was doubtless known to the marauders. Thanks to the humane activity of a neutral patrol of United States destroyers, all passengers and crews, who on this occasion were warned and set adrift in small boats, were picked up, with the exception of the crew of the British freighter Kingston, some fifty in number, still reported missing.

Among the eighty passengers of the Stephano, some thirty were Americans, and, in spite of warning being given, many lives it is stated must have been lost (as it was, passengers lost everything but their lives) but for the calm weather and smooth water; so it may be seen how close was the call for raising another serious issue between the United States and Germany. A serious and complicated enough situation, diplomatically and commercially, has been raised as it is, in which the United States and Germany are more concerned than are the Allied Powers. The United States' commercial interests are obviously menaced by the great sea lanes contiguous to her shores being made the theatre of submarine piracy, while diplomatically she is placed on "pins and needles," not only with Germany, but with all the Allied and neutral nations concerned. To add to the embarrassment, it is Presidential year, with the fateful climax just at hand, and President Wilson has need of all his politico-diplomatic legerdemain to perform the delicate balancing feat on the international tight-rope stretched for him by Kaiser Bill across Nantucket Shoals, while one eye must be kept on the hyphenated vote and the other on the menaced commercial interests of the United States.

Meanwhile, Canadians have brought home to them very vividly, and not for the first time during this war, what a splendid opportunity for signal and glorious national and Imperial service they were cheated out of when they allowed themselves to be fooled, in 1911, into turning down the Laurier Canadian Navy Bill.

The City Council.

On account of Monday last being Thanksgiving Day and a public holiday, the regular weekly meeting of the Council due for that date was held on the previous Thursday evening, Oct. 5. The session was a short one and not a great deal of business was transacted, the principal item being the appointment of Mr. T. H. Barbaree as an extra clerk in the City Treasurer's office. This was made necessary, it was explained, on account of the extra work in connection with the tax sale and the suit against the C. N. R., which has caused the regular work of the office to fall behind, although the Treasurer and his staff have been working overtime Saturdays and even Sundays.

The city tax sale has been concluded, and nearly 300 unsold lots have passed into the possession of the city. If not redeemed within one year, title will be given the city. This property will then be sold as occasion arises. The tax sale yielded something over \$17,000 in actual sales, though \$50,000 of delinquent taxes was paid in previously to prevent property going to sale.

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J P's Weekly, with its forty-first number, bids its readers "Au revoir," until the close of the war or until the paper situation in Vancouver improves. Printed in periodical form, J P's requires "book paper," and can't get it for love or money these war times, and so suspends, as the editor J. P. McConnell (who achieved more than Provincial fame as "Bruce" in Saturday Sunset) trusts, "for a short time." Meantime, "Bruce" will effloresce as a special peripatetic in the columns of the Daily Province.

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- Men's Fine Work Shirts; worth \$1.50. Price.....95c
- Men's Fine Shirts; worth to 75c. Price..50c
- Men's Fine Negligee Shirts; worth to \$2.00. Price.....85c
- J. B. Stetson Hats; worth \$4.50. Price..\$2.85
- 65c Underwear. Price.....25c
- \$5.00 Stanfield Silk Underwear; now..\$2.95
- 25c Sox. Price.....15c
- 50c Ties. Price.....25c

- \$2.00 Nightshirts. Price.....85c
- \$1.50 Overalls. Price.....95c
- \$1.75 and \$2.00 Stanfield's Underwear. Price.....\$1.00
- \$12.00 Raincoats. Price.....\$6.75
- \$2.50 Hats; in black and brown. Price \$1.45
- \$2.50 Hats. Price.....85c
- \$20.00 Blue Suits. Price.....\$9.95
- W. G. R., Tooke Shirt; worth \$1.50. Now.....95c
- 75c Gloves. Now.....39c
- Work Pants; worth \$1.75. Now.....\$1.25
- \$25.00 Black Overcoats. Now.....\$14.95
- \$15.00 Raincoats. Now.....\$9.85
- \$20.00 Raincoats. Now.....\$11.95
- \$15.00 Overcoats. Now.....\$8.95
- \$1.75 and \$2.00 All-Wool Underwear. Now.....\$1.00
- \$2.00 Stanfield's Underwear; now.....\$1.00
- \$2.00 Sweater Coats; now.....89c
- \$12.00 Overcoats; now.....\$6.45
- 50c Silk Hose; now.....25c
- \$1.25 Ties; now.....50c
- Men's Pants in grey stripes and plain colors; regular prices \$3.50. Price.....\$1.95

ored; worth \$15.00. Price.....\$9.95
Up to \$18.00 Worsted and fine Tweed Suits; now.....\$10.95
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LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The open season for pheasant shooting commences on October 18, and lasts for one month.

Mr. F. J. Hart received official notification, this week, that his son, Kingsley Hart, had been wounded in action at the front.

A Hallowe'en social will be held in the Y.M.C.A. on Tuesday evening, October 31, by the association members and their friends.

The fall Assize Court will open Monday, in this city, with Mr. Justice Murphy presiding. There are only three or four cases on the docket.

The Y.W.C.A. held an enjoyable social evening in the association building Thursday (yesterday) at 8 o'clock. The annual rummage sale will be held October 19, 20, and 21.

The up to date plant and offices of the local branch of the B. C. Telephone Co. have been open for public inspection between 9 a. m. and 5 p. m., Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of this week, and many availed themselves of the opportunity offered them.

When you buy merchandise you patronize the merchant who reduces cost and gives careful service. Buy your insurance on the same principle and insure your home with the office that reduced your rate. Alfred W. McLeod, the Insurance Man.

The Young Liberals will meet in the Liberal Club rooms, this evening, to elect officers. An interesting feature planned for the winter months is an address each week-end by Mr. David Whiteside, member-elect, reviewing the week's work of the session.

Miss Nettie Trethewey, age 23, eldest daughter of Mr. R. A. Trethewey, of Abbotsford, died on Thursday at Enderby, where she had gone on a trip for her health about three weeks ago. The remains will be brought to Vancouver by C. P. R. train for interment.

There are a number of minor bush fires at various points in the Fraser Valley, started by farmers engaged in clearing land. The country is unusually dry for this season of the year, but the frosts and heavy fogs at nights are preventing these fires from spreading to any extent.

To-day is tag day in this city, in aid of the British Red Cross Society. "Our Day," for this purpose, is being observed throughout the Empire on Oct. 19, but the local committee decided on the 13th, on account of that being Market Day, the best day for the sale of tags in this city.

News was received this week that Lt. O. H. Hepworth, a former well known resident of this city, has been wounded at the front in the right arm and left thigh. Lieut. Hepworth was insurance man in the local office of the Dominion Trust, and later head of the Hepworth Insurance agency.

At night school in the Connaught High School, this week, classes were organized in English, arithmetic, steam engineering and cooking. Mr. Roy Henderson, B.Sc., head of the automobile department of T. J. Trapp & Co., has been appointed instructor in the night school class in motor construction and operation.

Rev. E. G. Thompson, of Knox Presbyterian Church, Sapperton, and Mr. W. F. Tate, of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, left this week, for Toronto, where they will attend a conference which has for its purpose the preservation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. At this conference, Mr. J. C. Brown, of this city, will, by request, deliver, either in person or by proxy, an address which he has prepared on "The Contribution of the Presbyterian Church by its Policies and Doctrines to the Rights of the People and Civil Government."

City Market.

Market square was a lively and typically market scene to-day, with rigs and autos of all kinds in evidence and an auction sale the centre of attraction in the forenoon. A goodly display of produce of all kinds decorated the stalls in the market building, the only drawback being the non-arrival until a very late hour, on account of the fog, of the steamer Skeena, from up river, with an extra lot of varied produce, principally meats. Prices in these ranged about the same as last week. There was as usual a large supply of poultry, with a brisk demand, hens selling at 15c to 20c, springs 16c to 20c, ducks 18c to 20c, and geese 20. Eggs were not so plentiful and retailed as high as 55c, wholesale 50c. Butter also advanced, retailing at 40c. Potatoes stood at \$16 to \$18, with just fair demand. Apples were in large supply and sold readily at 65c to \$1 per box; plums and prunes, 40c to 50c per crate; and pears, 65c to 80c per box.

Vampire Woman at Edison.

Miss Louella Parsons, the celebrated critic, writing in the Chicago Herald, delves into an analysis of Theda Bara, the wonderful French actress, who comes to the Edison Theatre, Friday and Saturday (to-day and to-morrow), in the latest William Fox photoplay masterpiece, "Sin," which was written and produced by Herbert Brenon. "Her hair," writes the critic, "is like the serpent locks of Medusa, her eyes have the cruel cunning of Lucretia Borgia, till now held up as the world's wickedest woman, her mouth is the mouth of the sinister, scheming Delilah, and her hands are those of the blood-bathing Elizabeth Bathory, who slaughtered young girls that she might bathe in their life blood and so retain her beauty."

"Can it be that fate has reincarnated in Theda Bara the souls of these monsters of medieval times? Scientists have questioned this most extraordinary of women to secure fresh evidence to support their half-proved laws of transmigration of souls, but the result has only been to prove that, though Miss Bara is greatest delineator of evil types on the stage or screen to-day, she is in real life a sweet wholesome woman who detests the abnormal."

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THE HANEY SMOKER.
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did not anticipate any great difficulty in carrying out that principle. Besides direct legislation and proportional representation, there was effective administration, a reformed land policy, and a settlement of the land policy. All these the Liberal party was pledged to. We were going to have new conditions in this old world, and we must prepare to face them. The great war debts that were being piled up would compel the people to get down to old, well nigh forgotten principles of frugality and economy, which would in the long run be much more wholesome than the recklessness, waste, and extravagance that had been too prevalent. We had much bigger questions to grapple with than mere questions of party advantage—nothing less than a reconstruction of the whole fabric of society. (Applause.)

Bowser's Foolishness re Writ.
Referring to the matter of Mr. Brewster's writ, Mr. Oliver said he noticed by the Province of that evening that Mr. Bowser was greatly exercised about the writ. He didn't know what Brewster was going to do about that writ, and, as on some previous occasions, he had been talking nonsense to a newspaper reporter. It was quite evident that he hadn't quit his foolishness. He suggested among other things that, if Mr. Brewster went on with the writ and got a decision in accordance with his contention that the Legislature expired on March 14th last, then he "proves that there has been no election and that he is not Premier." Mr. Bowser ought to know, continued Mr. Oliver, how a man became Premier. That the Lieut-Governor could call on any man whom he had reason to believe possessed the confidence of the country to form a Government. Mr. Brewster would be Premier, whether there was a Legislature or not. Then again Mr. Bowser said that Brewster was doing nothing about the writ. Why should he? The new Government could refer the whole question to the Court of Appeal in Victoria, as Mr. Bowser might have done long ago, and get a decision without delay and practically without expense. If the decision was in the affirmative, there would have to be another election. We would have to settle the questions involved in the writ, in any event. As Mr. Justice Morrison had said, they were constitutional questions and would have to be thrashed out. If they were not settled once and for all in this way, we should have the validity of such legislation as the Prohibition Act attacked by hostile interests through the courts. Even if the court said the legislation of last session was all valid, the new Government would take steps to have that put beyond all question of future attack. (Applause.)

Political Judgment Day.
A mandolin solo by Mr. Gabriel was the next number on the programme, followed by a short congratulatory address by Rev. G. H. Findlay. Although ordinarily, he felt ministers, while exercising the franchise, should stand somewhat apart from politics, he did not feel at all out of place in such a gathering as this, where he had enjoyed himself and got much valuable information on some points that were not quite clear. He did not look upon this election as an ordinary party election at all, but a rising up of the judgment and conscience of the people. The landslide, he felt convinced, was owing to some extent to the position taken by the ministers of various denominations. He had attended a meeting in Vancouver some time ago, where it was given out that the Government were going to bury "The Crisis in B. C." They found they did not bury it, but instead got buried themselves. (Applause.) It would be a public calamity if a Government could do as this Government had done without meeting their judgment day. The struggle was not over, however, concluded Mr. Findlay. There were many serious and difficult problems to be worked out. The abolition of patronage alone was going to be a hard fight. It ought to be carried through. In men of the stamp of John Oliver the people had every confidence, and the new Government to be formed ought to have the active support and the active sympathy of all good citizens in the great and difficult work before them. (Applause.)

A patriotic song by Mr. Campbell, in which the audience joined, Mr. Macness, of this city, playing the piano accompaniment, as he did during the evening, brought this part of the entertainment to a close, at about 12 o'clock midnight, when much appreciated refreshments in the way of sandwiches, cake, and tea and coffee, with real cream, were served by the hospitable Liberal associations of Haney and Hammond, who also furnished all sorts of smokes and smokers' materials throughout the evening.

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As briefly noted in last issue, a well attended and most successful smoker was held in the Agricultural Hall, Haney, on Thursday of last week, Oct. 5, in which the Liberals and their friends of both Port Haney and Hammond co-operated in a sort of testimonial of esteem and congratulation to the member-elect for Dewdney, Mr. John Oliver, who, with the splendid support of the electors of all parts of Dewdney, Liberals as well as Conservatives, redeemed that riding from Bowserism on September 14 by the handsome majority of 158, exclusive of the soldiers' vote, reversing at the same time a majority of over 700 obtained by the Bowser candidate, W. J. Manson, in the previous election.

As Haney and Hammond, like nearly every other polling division in Dewdney, had contributed royally to this exemplary "smashing of the machine," giving Mr. Oliver 51 and 57 votes respectively, to 45 each for his opponent, the feeling at the joint smoker in the Agricultural Hall, at which nearly a hundred were present, was naturally cordial and congratulatory in tone, as was well expressed by the chairman, Mr. Jas. Riddle, in opening the meeting, in a few well chosen words of congratulation and welcome to Mr. John Oliver, the guest of honor.

Skeleton at the Feast.

The chairman then called on Mr. Geo. Kennedy, of The Pacific Canadian, who was present, to open the programme proper with a short address. In opening with the conventional "Mr. Chairman and gentlemen," Mr. Kennedy observed that this was the last occasion of the sort in which the ladies could be counted out in post-election felicitations—either the ladies would have to learn to smoke or the men would have to be content to eat chocolates if "smokers" were held after the next election. As to the result of the late election, no single return had given more just cause for congratulation both to member and people than the election of Mr. John Oliver—it would doubtless soon be Hon. John Oliver—perhaps even, Sir John Oliver (laughter and applause)—as member for Dewdney. As to the Bowser Government and machine, which had loomed so big and formidable before election, its condition since reminded him (the speaker) of the small boy's definition of a skeleton—as "a man with his outside off and his inside out." The electors of Dewdney and of most of the rest of the Province had certainly stripped the "outsides off" and the new Brewster-Oliver, et al., Government would doubtless take the "insides out" when they got to work down at Victoria; and the people of British Columbia would see the first daylight politically they had seen for a long time through the "slats" of the "late" Bowser Government. (Laughter and applause.)

The next number on the programme was an appropriate and much appreciated patriotic song, with the refrain "Till the boys come home," well and feelingly rendered by Mr. Ben E. Gabriel.

Mr. W. J. Abbott then gave a recitation in fine style, and, when an encore was demanded, fairly brought down the house with his rendition of a humorous dissertation on "Politics." A well rendered duet by Messrs. Ferguson and Patson was the next number on the programme, after which Mr. Hector Ferguson, veteran Liberal and municipal administrator of the district, was called upon for a speech.

Reminiscence and Philosophy.

Mr. Ferguson's remarks were largely reminiscent in tone, but none the less interesting on that account: His first vote in British Columbia, he said, had been cast 38 years ago, for the late Dr. (afterwards Senator and then Governor) T. R. McInnes, who had run as a supporter of the Conservative Government of John A. (afterwards Sir John A.) Macdonald. We did not have party lines to any extent, even in Dominion politics, in British Columbia, in those days. The most interesting Dominion campaign that he recalled was that of 1896, which had been fought out in this Province, as well as elsewhere in the Dominion, on party lines, and the Liberals had then come into power, under Wilfrid (afterwards Sir Wilfrid) Laurier, after some eighteen years of Conservative administration. It was in that campaign that he (Mr. Ferguson) had first met and heard Mr. Oliver, and he had been much impressed by the sound, hard logic of his platform addresses, and had followed his career with much interest since. By intimidation, constituency bribing, and other machine methods, the McBride-Lowser Government had managed to force and keep Mr. Oliver out of the House for some years. He (Mr. Ferguson) when asked for his opinion before this election, had expressed the view that Mr. Oliver could carry Dewdney if anybody could—the machine was something fierce here—and, next to the Dominion wide result in 1896, the most gratifying day in his (the speaker's) life, politically speaking, was when the returns came in on September 14th, electing Mr. Oliver as the member for Dewdney. (Applause.)

During the course of his remarks, Mr. Ferguson gave utterance to some very interesting and philosophical reflections, born of his experience and observation of similar crises and conditions in other times and places, bearing upon the present depression and resultant hard times. You would hear people saying that the times would never pick up. He recalled the extremely depressed conditions about the end of C. P. R. construction in this Province, nearly forty years ago, when a petition had actually been got up and signed in the Fraser Valley, asking the Railway Company to delay the conclusion of construction as long as possible so as to continue a market for the farmers. Since we had had two great booms and the city of Vancouver had

come into existence where there was nothing before. Though real estate experienced a great slump after each boom, it was noticeable here as elsewhere, that it never declined to the old low figure—the new low water mark was always higher than the old—and so he predicted it would be in the future, and also that within ten years Vancouver would have half a million population, with the rest of the country in proportion. The preferential trade arrangements between the Allies that would follow this war, with the geographical and commercial position of British Columbia, as the meeting place of that trade, would contribute greatly, with wise administration of our public affairs, to bring about such a revival from the present depression as he believed was in store for the country.

Mr. Gabriel then favored the audience with another song, and Mr. Abbott with another of his inimitable recitations, after which the chairman opened the meeting to a number of short congratulatory speeches on the election of Mr. Oliver, to which Messrs. Metcalfe, Lilly, Drain, Murdoch Martyn, and White responded, most of the speakers tempering their congratulations by pointing out that the Liberal party would have no sinecure administering the Province under present conditions and after such an extravagant and wasteful regime as the country had had, but expressing confidence the work would be undertaken courageously and honestly. Mr. Martyn particularly gave credit to the Conservatives who had sacrificed their party predilections for the good of the country in the recent election, and called for three cheers for the same, which were heartily given.

Mr. Abbott, at this juncture, gave another well rendered recitation, being a "coster's" description to his pal of the Shakesperian play, "The Merchant of Venice."

Gaiety and Gravity.

Mr. J. W. Faris was then called on for a speech. We had overlooked one little matter, he remarked humorously on opening. Amidst our congratulations over the results of the election, we had omitted to pay our respects to "the remains." Perhaps it was something like the case of the Irishman who, making certain ante-mortem dispositions, was asked what he wished done with the remains. "Remains!" he said, "remains! there won't be any remains!" (Laughter.) He (the speaker) had chanced to be in Vancouver on election night when the returns were coming in, and, from the funereal air about Conservative headquarters, it was evident that at best it was only a question of "remains." It was with a sense of great relief that he had learned as the returns came in, that the Liberals had been returned to power. Evidently that feeling had been reflected in financial circles too, as the Vancouver bank clearings had gone up \$2,000,000 the next week! He had been especially gratified by the return of Mr. Oliver, whom he warned would have to reconcile himself to being called "Dewdney Jack," as that was a habit they had in Dewdney, their two former members having been dubbed "Dewdney Dick" and "Dewdney Bill," respectively. (Laughter.) Mr. Kennedy had referred to Sir John Oliver. There might be something in it ("Nothing doing!" growled "Honest John"), continued Mr. Faris, for a Dewdney young lady had complained of being disappointed at a certain meeting during the campaign as she had not seen "Sir John Oliver." (Laughter.)

Mr. Faris then grew serious, and, after a passing tribute to the gallant men at the front, including many from British Columbia and from that district, both Liberals and Conservatives, who were exhibiting a heroism greater and grander than the world had ever seen, he closed by referring to the many serious problems that the Liberals had to face in the administration of the Province at this time. In prohibition alone, they had a difficult problem. The proper enforcement of the law was going to be one of the most serious questions to deal with, and we might depend upon it that a determined and organized effort would be made to make its enforcement difficult. The land question was another very serious problem. The conditions of to-day were absolutely to be brought home to the present Government. If, however, we have many men of the stamp of John Oliver in the new Government, he (the speaker) felt assured we would have a good Government, and he hoped shortly to be able to congratulate Mr. Oliver on appointment to one of the most important offices in that Government. (Applause.)

The proceedings were then varied with another song by Mr. Ferguson, after which the chairman introduced Mr. John Oliver, member-elect for Dewdney, who was received with enthusiastic applause.

Reform and Reconstruction.

Mr. Oliver, in opening, said he was glad to have this opportunity of thanking the electors of Dewdney for the generous support they had given him. Congratulations might be premature, but he did not think we had any reason to believe that the gallant men at the front would vote differently than the majority at home. He himself had never put party or a party name above his ideas of right, and he was in the proud position that hundreds of men had put party in the background in this election and had put patriotism to the front. That imposed upon him an obligation, which he would not forget, to represent Liberals and Conservatives alike. He appreciated the many kind things said about him. He had been treated with great kindness and consideration by the people of Dewdney. When he accepted nomination, a year ago, he did not expect to be the next member. The reason was that men irrespective of party had put all lesser considerations aside and had voted in the interest of the country. (Applause.)

Continuing, Mr. Oliver referred to the two important new principles that the people had declared for in the election—prohibition and the extension of the franchise to women. These measures were now assured in any event, in accordance with the Liberal policy of di-

rect legislation. Proportional representation, another feature of the Liberal policy, would have made it impossible to have such a Legislature as the last. As an illustration of how proportional representation would work, in comparison with the present system, take the representation of Vancouver now, as by the late election. 51 per cent. of the electors of Vancouver elected all six candidates, Liberals, while the other 49 per cent. would not be represented in the Legislature at all. Proportional representation in Vancouver would have given three Liberals, two Conservatives, and one Independent or Labor representative. This was a reform to which the Liberal party was committed, and he

Concluded on Page Three

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