

The Borden Government Wants Another Extension

Will Throw the Onus of a General Election Upon the Grits if It is Not Granted---Making Poor Use of the Extension Granted Last Year---Some Reflections by Gadsby---Government Friends Have Taken Full Advantage of the Opportunities For Graft.

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—The Borden Government has announced, via the rubric of the Hon. A. E. Kemp, that it will take another extension if it can get it. The stipulation is, however, that Parliament must be unanimous and that if the Opposition is reluctant about it the Government will go to the country, throwing the onus of a wartime election with a dull sickening thud on the wicked Grits.

When he made this announcement, having come straight with the dreadful news from a cabinet meeting at Ottawa to a Conservative Ward Association meeting in Toronto, Mr. Kemp registered extreme horror. As a registered extreme horror Mr. Kemp is a false alarm. His performance lacks conviction. His touch is too heavy—like an elephant playing the piano. Ostensibly, Mr. Kemp was horrified at the possible infamy of the Grits in refusing to grant the Borden Government another year's extension from October 1917, in which to make their profiteering friends in the food and shell industries rich. What he really was horrified at—although of course he would not admit it publicly—was the prospect of a general election that would turn the shilly-shallying Borden Government out before its cold storage masters had squeezed the last dollar out of the Canadian people.

Talking With Full Mouth.

It is quite true that the Borden Government is enjoying an extension right now at this moment of which eleven months is still unused, but that doesn't prevent Mr. Kemp reaching out for another. The honorable gentleman is guilty of talking with his mouth full. The answer to his protestations is, of course, "Get rid of what you've got first."

Just here the question arises, what is the Borden Government doing with its present extension of power? Is it making good use of it? Has it done anything that would entitle the people of Canada to grant it another year of power—making altogether seven years at a stretch for a Government that wasn't intrinsically worth three?

And of those seven years, moreover, three—perhaps four—have been characterized by opportunities for graft vaster than have been; opportunities,

by the way, of which the Borden Government's friends have taken full advantage. Some of the shell profiteering companies actually showed nine hundred per cent. profit. Naturally, the friends of the Borden Government don't want it to abandon the trough while the gorging is good. Hence these outcries for another extension on top of the one that is already being so fully utilized.

Keen for an Extension.

The Government's keenness on these extension movements has two main objects—exercise and more time. The object of the exercise is the same as the object of all these Swoboda movements—to remove the paunch, to reduce the swell caused by the war profiteers so that it will not be observed by the public eye. The Government reckons in two years that the war profits of their friends, which now cause an unsightly lump in the very middle of the body politic, can be shifted by way of taxes to the backs of the people, thus putting the hump where it belongs and at the same time relieving their profiteering friends of an all-too-obvious obesity.

What this metaphor means to say is that in the long run the people pay the profiteers and the Borden government trusts to the healing effects of time to make the people forget that they are being taxed to make the Borden Government's friends and masters rich.

Time to forget. Yes, not that only, but time to sop up the rest of the gravy. "Let well enough alone"—that was the Tory slogan in 1911. In 1916 it still is "Let well enough alone" with this addition "and we'll get anything that's left."

Known By Its Fruits.

Meanwhile what reason can be urged why a government which has not used one month of its present extension of a year, should be given another year's mortgage on the future? Has it made good with its present extension? What are the first fruits? Well, the very first fruit is Col. Bruce's report on the rotten state of the Canadian Army Medical Service in Great Britain, loaded up as it is with incompetents, dope fiends and party hacks. The Canadian end is not much better in some places. A court martial has

just investigated transactions at the base hospitals in Toronto in which non-commissioned officers are said to have looted thousands of dollars worth of supplies. For this stupid blundering hospital commandant, or whatever they call him, has been relieved of his job and transferred to an ornamental position where his fatheadedness can do less harm.

The Recruiting Muddle.

The next of the first fruits is the recruiting muddle, the appointment of a non-partisan National Service Commission with eleven out of twelve Tory recruiting directors, the resignation of the chairman, Sir Thomas Tait, when he found that there wasn't enough non-partisanship to permit him to choose his own secretary, the selection of R. B. Bennett, as chairman—R. B. is so non-partisan that he thinks of God as a Tory—and the famous attempt to hand Sir Wilfrid Laurier a lemon, that is to say, to hand him a full share of the blame, while holding out of the glory, to which he was not entitled because up to that moment Sir Sam and his humble and inferior associates of the cabinet had conducted it as exclusively a Tory war. Whereat, as Mark Twain says, "Yey all laughed except ye lady Alice Dillbury, yaisy old thing."

These are the first fruits of the present extension and it rests with the people of Canada to say whether the Borden Government ought to get another to do the same things with.

There isn't much chance that they will do any better. You can't teach a six year old dog new tricks—even if you do extend him another twelve months. It goes without saying that the Government doesn't want that other year to reënt in—it has more pressing matters than repentance to get busy about.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Kemp's horror was genuine enough. The trouble, as I said before, is that he wasn't at liberty to reveal the true object. Still, everybody knew it. So why dissemble? What Mr. Kemp was horrified at was not the prospect of a general election, but the prospect of what it would do to the Borden Government. His horror was no doubt intensified by the thought of what general elections had done to Conservative

Suffered From Severe Headaches FOR TWO YEARS

Headaches are many and varying; but when the head starts to ache you may be sure there is some chief cause. The stomach may go wrong, the bowels become constipated, the blood may not circulate properly, but the presence of the headache clearly shows that unless the cause is removed some other baneful disease is liable to assert itself.

Burdock Blood Bitters has, for the past forty years, been curing all kinds of headaches and has proved itself to be a remedy that cures where others fail.

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RECRUITS WANTED.

Army Service Corps Wants Men of Many Trades.

The Canadian Army Service Corps is calling for 2,470 recruits, classified as follows:

Horst transport drivers 900, supply clerks 180, mechanical transport drivers 1,000, bakers 200, butchers 50, farmers 30, wheelers 40, saddlers 25, fitters and turners 30, blacksmiths 10, electricians 5.

The men enlisted here will be billeted in St. John and sent forward to Toronto in parties of six to ten.

RUSSIANS BRING DOWN ZEPPELIN

Petrograd, Nov. 18.—Russian troops near Sarny, southeast of Pinsk, have brought down a large Zeppelin airship. The crew of sixteen was captured.

CURE YOUR COUGH BY BREATHING "CATARRHOZONE"

You may dislike taking medicines, but coughs are best cured without medicine. The modern treatment is "CATARRHOZONE." It isn't a drug. It's a healing vapor full of pine essences, and healing balsams. It spreads over the surfaces that are weak and sore from coughing. Every spot that is congested is healed; irritation is soothed away, phlegm and secretions are cleaned out, and all symptoms of cold or catarrh are cured. Nothing so quick, so sure, so pleasant as Catarrhozone. Beware of dangerous substitutes meant to deceive you for genuine CATARRHOZONE. All dealers sell Catarrhozone, large size, which lasts two months, price \$1.00; small size 50c.; sample size 25c.

DEPORTATION OF BELGIANS.

Germans Have Sent Away Between Thirty and Forty Thousand.

The Hague, Nov. 18 (via London).—The number of Belgians deported by the Germans up to date, according to information given today from a reliable source, apparently is between thirty and forty thousand, and they are being deported at the rate of about 2,000 daily.

EIGHT MINERS MEET THEIR FATE.

Greensburg, Pa., Nov. 18.—Eight men are reported to have been killed in the Ocean mine of the Berwind-White Coal Co. at Herminie, Pa., today, by a fall of slate.

One report said the men were caught while passing through an entry far in the mine, and others declared that they were descending the shaft when the sides collapsed.

governments in Manitoba and British Columbia. Mr. Kemp's horror and that of his colleagues is horror at the abyss into which they are due to plunge.

The Chief Trouble.

The people of Canada do not feel horror now at the prospect of a federal election such as they felt in 1914 or again in 1915, when the Germans still had the edge on the Allies and victory was none too certain. Now that our ultimate triumph is assured, Canada turns with a lighter heart to its troubles at home, and the chief trouble there, she finds, is the Borden Government.

What Canada will do to the Borden Government when she gets a chance will be horrible enough, but that is no reason why Mr. Kemp should try to blame it on the Grits. Everybody wants to get at the Borden government—it doesn't seem to be a party question at all. In one sense it won't be an election, it will be capital punishment. Instead of lingering on for a year from October, 1917, the Borden Government ought to take the first opportunity to drop out with as little fuss as possible. The sooner it's over the sooner to sleep. No flowers.

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IN OUR great-great-grandfathers' time many New England families had a cask of rum in the cellar.

It was freely offered to guests (except children) and freely partaken of, even as tea and coffee are today.

This old-time custom gradually passed out of existence, for our forefathers recognized it was harmful.

Another old-time custom—tea and coffee drinking—is slowly passing in the same fashion and for the same reason.

The abandonment of tea and coffee drinking is made easy nowadays by the use of *Instant Postum*, the pure cereal beverage with a delightful, snappy taste.

Unlike tea or coffee, this delicious table drink contains no "caffeine" or other harmful substance.

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