

# The Borden Government Composed of Poor Sports

**Now Engaged in Loading the Dice Against Its Opponents--Some Suggested Reason Why the Government With Its Shady Record Wants to Cling to Office--Franchise Act Gives Government a Chance to Skulk Behind the Skirts of a Few Women.**

(By H. F. Gaisky.)

Ottawa, Sept. 13. — The great Conservative party, which claims to number in its ranks all the good sports, all the thoroughbreds, all the hearty fellows who refuse to do certain things because it "isn't cricket," is now engaged in putting through Parliament a Franchise Act which kicks the other contender in the ankle, strews tacks on the track and then tells him to go in and run the race.

For some reason or other the Borden Government wants to win the next election. Whether by hook or crook—but mostly by crook—it has set out to win. Why it wants to win is a mystery. It is not because it has made a record for good government. The Ross Rifle, the paper shoes, the spavined horses, the fuse scandals, the profiteering by Sir Joseph Flavelle and other of its cold storage friends, all say no to that. It must be that the

country hasn't been bled white enough yet. There must still be a few dollars in this distracted land for the looters to get. The goose hasn't reached its limit of golden eggs. Being a goose it goes on laying. When it quits laying the high cost of living will quit too, and the Borden Government and its friends will be willing to quit also, satisfied that there is nothing left worth taking.

## The C.N.R. Deal.

Another reason why the Borden Government may wish to remain in is to see the C.N.R. deal through. The C.N.R. deal, not to put too fine a point on it, is a deal to take over an insolvent railway, which the people of Canada own already, and give Mackenzie and Mann and a band of Toronto pirates sixty million dollars for a block of six hundred thousand shares of watered stock which is worth considerably less than nothing. Financial institutions with which Sir Joseph Flavelle is connected, and whose man Finance Minister White is said to be,

are intimately connected with this deal. Most of the plans revolve around E. R. Wood, another planet in the Flavelle system. In fact, a C.N.R. train can't run off the track without spilling Mr. Wood out of Sir William's private car.

## Will See It Through.

The Borden Government wants to remain in to see this highly important C.N.R. deal through. The loose ends can't be gathered up until after the next general election. Hence these desperate attempts of a rotten government to remain unburied for a few years longer. Meanwhile there is a big campaign fund in the C.N.R. deal as soon as it gets past Parliament, but the Borden Government must earn the money by sticking around long enough to get it past the arbitrators who are to be called upon to value the worthless stock. A deal like that requires a lot of guidance.

There are many ways by which the Borden Government can linger superfluous on the stage for some time to come. The extension lapses this coming October, but a Government that wants to wait and see may very well string things along till next spring by one trick or another. If money gives out, that is to say, if the appropriations voted by Parliament are exhausted, the Government can manage on orders-in-council, governor general's warrants, and other constitutional subter-

fuges. It will be a dead government, of course, and it will stink up the face of the earth against the will of the people but it will serve. Yes, it is like Mercutio's wound—it will serve. At the very shortest it takes to hang on until next January and then murder Sir Wilfrid with a winter campaign.

## Have Another Card.

After these good sportsmen have done their damndest to dodge consequences until next January or later, they have one last card up their sleeve. The franchise is not only a means of delay, because, if a new franchise is created it implies new voters' lists in plenty of time in which to compile them, but it may also be a means under Providence — a long way under — of re-electing the Borden Government if it can be so handled as to let everybody vote but the Liberals. The excuse that will be offered for a new franchise is that the Canadian Parliament is the only assembly of similar size and dignity in the world that lacks a franchise of its own.

Up to the present the Canadian Parliament has got along fairly well by making use of the franchises employed to elect the provincial legislatures. But the Borden Government wants to change all that because seven out of nine of the provincial legislatures are now in the hands of the Liberals. Consequently the Borden Government wants a special franchise that will hand-pick public opinion in its favor, if such a thing is possible.

## War Time Franchise.

The outrage to freedom is so flagrant that even the Borden Government wants a special franchise for a war-time election. That is to say, it promises never to do it again if the people will only elect it this once. After that it will allow Canada to be good again and get back to the old, honest franchise.

The first thing this outrageous Borden Government proposes to do with its new Franchise Act is to skulk behind the skirts of a few women. The women who are to have the vote are the adult female relations—wives, mothers, daughters, sisters—of the soldiers, whether they are in Canada, in England or at the front. There are thirty thousand dead soldiers and their womenfolk are to have the vote, too. The argument is that these men who fought and died for their country have every right to be represented by their female proxies at the next general election. And so they have. The men have done their bit by fighting for their country and the women have done their bit by giving up their men to do the fighting. But what about all the other women in Canada who have done their bit by helping the Red Cross, collecting funds, making com-

forts for the soldiers in the trenches, not to mention bearing the ills that the high cost of living, due to the Borden Government's profiteering friends, have imposed upon this country.

## How It Will Work.

This hand-picked women vote may disappoint the Borden Government after all because the separation allowances have never been able to keep pace with Sir Joseph Flavelle's bacon and naturally some women may feel sore. But such as it is, it works out strangely enough. Take a case in point. Mr. F. B. Carvell's daughter is married to a soldier who is at the front. She will have a vote, but her mother, who is presumably as good a patriot, will not. Many similar complications could be cited. And what about a German or an Austrian woman who may be married to a soldier? Fearful though it is of aliens the Borden Government is not so afraid of its own people.

(Continued on page 3.)

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## PROROGATION NEXT WEEK

Ottawa Sept. 13. — The military voters' bill was put through the committee stages of the House this morning. There is now no prospect that parliament will remain in session until it goes out of existence on October 7. The Liberal opposition in the senate will not attempt to hold up the war time election act which will be ready for the consideration of the Upper House by Saturday. Three or four days will probably suffice for the bill in the Upper House, and other work which will be left to discussion after the end of this week, can be disposed of in a day or two. It is probable that the senate will not attempt to dispose of the new railway act, but it will probably be left over for final consideration by the Upper House next session.

Prorogation may be expected towards the end of next week.

A brass band composed entirely of young women is one of the boasts of Ogden, Utah.

# Cold, Calculating Common Sense



We print in this announcement a list of the states showing the great progress that Prohibition had made on its own merits in the United States before the Union entered the war. In connection with that list we want you to see what is the view of a business man's periodical devoted to commercial, economical and other financial questions (The Analyst, New York). Its Kansas correspondent writes:

"To-day the argument for Prohibition is simple and direct—namely, that human experience and medical research and experimentation have showed beyond doubt that alcohol is a poison, and that in its toxic qualities and effects it differs in degree, and not in kind, from cocaine and opium. This conviction is the strength and support of Prohibition, and the cause of its uninterrupted progress. It is clearly seen to be an economic measure rather than one of morals only."

"All the pleas and arguments of personal liberty, of the social delights of alcohol, of the charm it adds to life, of the employment it affords to thousands, seem futile and ineffective in the light of the fast-spreading belief that alcohol is the greatest known deterrent to economic efficiency. The fight against its use is no longer a matter of emotionalism, but of cold, calculating common sense."

## A Comparison

Here is the plight of a large city still under license:

The result of alcohol is to breed vice and crime and to cause both mental and physical inefficiency among men. The license system has been a sickening failure. For a typical instance, listen to Governor Foss of Massachusetts: "In the last fifteen years (Boston) the arrests for drunkenness have increased from 18,000 to 57,000, 300 per cent. Over 60 per cent. of all the arrests in Boston are for drunkenness. It is very evident that our license system in Boston has increased drunkenness instead of checking it."

The Sheriff of Denver testifies for Prohibition, which went into effect there January 1st:

"We have about three-fifths the arrests we had formerly. The police court record for drunks and disturbances has fallen over forty per cent., the habitual loafer has disappeared, the can-rusher, the old soak who came home with a quarter in his pocket and sent his eight-year-old, ragged, barefoot girl to the saloon for a can of beer and then tossed her a crust of bread while he swigged the beer and snarled at her through his drunkenness, is no longer a resident of Denver."

## Help to Enforce Prohibition

Does New Brunswick want to go back to license? If not, then she must, right now, **enforce** the Prohibition laws with all her might. It must be enforcement by the **whole people** in co-operation with the appointed officers of the law.

## Dominion Temperance Alliance

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"A business that tends to produce idleness and disease, pauperism and crime."—U. S. Supreme Court.

### The Situation in United States

(From New Jersey "Issue")  
These States are "Dry."

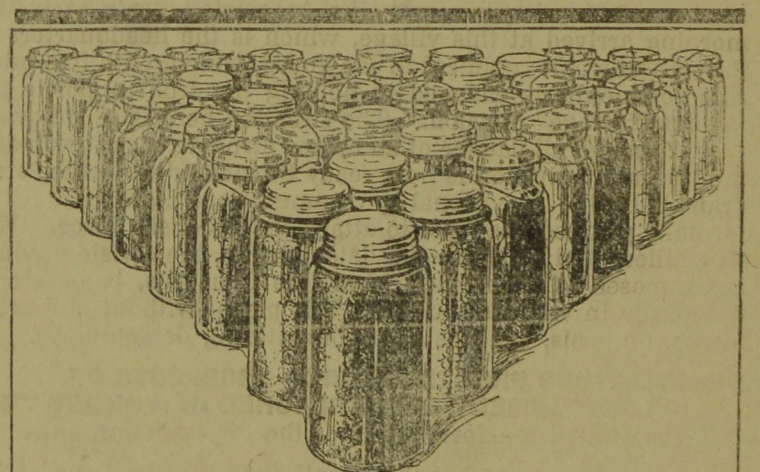
Maine  
Kansas  
North Dakota  
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Tennessee  
West Virginia  
Virginia  
South Carolina  
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Arkansas  
Iowa  
Arizona  
Idaho  
Colorado  
Oregon  
Washington  
Michigan  
Montana  
Nebraska  
South Dakota  
Utah  
Indiana

Total—25

### Preparing to Vote

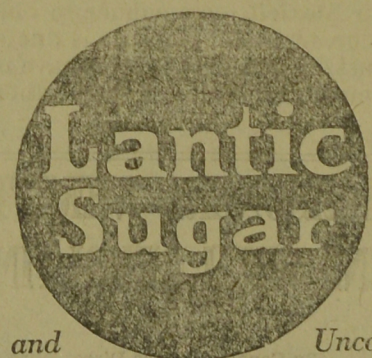
Wyoming  
Florida  
New Mexico  
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Texas  
Kentucky  
Ohio  
Illinois  
Nevada  
Delaware  
New Hampshire  
Vermont  
Maryland  
California  
Missouri  
Massachusetts  
Rhode Island  
Connecticut  
Louisiana  
Wisconsin  
Pennsylvania  
New Jersey  
New York

Total—14



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