

CHEERS AND TEARS WERE SIR ROBERT'S PORTION

Cheers of Relief Because the Negotiations for Union Government Fell Through, Tears of Laughter at Premier's Offer to Resign---Tory Caucus Got Down Off Anxious Seat When Sir Robert Made His Speech.

(By H. F. Gadsby.)
Ottawa Sept. 6 — The Conservative caucus which refused to accept Sir Robert Borden's resignation as premier in order to bring about union government is said to have consisted of two parts—cheers and tears. A Sherlock Holmes listening at the door would have guessed it all from the noises that went on inside.

For instance, there was the cheer which greeted Sir Robert when he entered, his head still safe on his shoulders after those dangerous negotiations with the enemy. Sir Robert seemed to be in perfect health. Evidently he had not been choked to death on the proposition which Arthur Sifton brought to him from Winnipeg—namely, that he should step aside for either of two Liberals, or either of two Conservatives. Sir Robert had not tried to swallow it. Although Sir Robert has sought to acquire merit by stating that he would step aside cheerfully in the interests of freedom, democracy and national harmony, he is at liberty to choose whom he will step aside for. It certainly will not be for a Liberal and just as certainly it will not be for any Conservative who might be considered a better man. In short stepping aside is definitely off. There will be no union government if Sir Robert Borden is not at the head of it. Hence the first cheer.

The next cheer, a rousing one with symptoms of a tiger at the tail of it, was probably when he spoke of the progress of the C.N.R. bill—under closure—and the prospects of a fat campaign fund from Sir Joseph Flavelle's financial group who have bought up the bonds at forty cents on the dollar and who are also the pledgees of the six hundred thousand shares of watered common stock for which they expect to make the people of Canada pay at par. The vision of so much money to be applied to the weak spots stirred the caucus to the very core and it cheered until the welkin rang.

The third cheer burst forth when the premier detailed the measures that had been taken or were in contemplation to create a franchise which will allow everybody except the Liberals to vote. The caucus thought the government might have gone further and excluded all those who don't wear one shirt a day and take a bath every morning which would have limited the franchise to the upper classes and the financial interests, but on the whole it was well pleased with the means adopted to prevent the common people from expressing their opinion at the polls. These good sportsmen have done everything to head off a fair verdict and if anything has been forgotten it will probably be done before the session closes.

Defied B.N.A. Act.

The fourth cheer exploded when the premier told with some gusto how his brave and courageous government had defied the British North America Act by giving Sir George Perley, F. W. McCurdy and Hugh Clark, who have accepted offices of emolument under the crown, a dispensation not to go back to their constituents for re-election as the law provides. It was explained that laws exist only for stupid people and that when a Tory government composed of the ruling classes undertakes to rule it is going to go on ruling until it is ready to quit. As a matter of fact the people are to have nothing to say about it because—well, because all's fair in love and war, and the war isn't over yet. The people be damned. More cheering.

Hand-picked Voters.

The fifth cheer arose when Premier Borden went on to state that the Franchise Act would do a little more manhandling to the franchise, not by disfranchising anybody, but by enfranchising the women of British or Canadian birth and leaving out those of foreign birth, including Americans. This Act operated not to take votes away from anybody but to let a large number of hand-picked votes in. This was considered a triumph of skill and diplomacy and the caucus burst into rapturous applause. Not only cheers, but whistling and stamping of feet. The constitution was safe except for the hole the government would put in it to let themselves through.

The sixth cheer broke out when Premier Borden confessed that so far the negotiations which he and Sir Clifford Sifton had conducted for union government had signally failed. Beginning at the top with Sir Wilfrid and ending at the bottom with Arthur Hawkes, one after the other had turned the Dead Sea apple down until now there was no hope of union government except with Arthur Hawkes and one or two ex-Liberals who had got so far outside their party that they couldn't get back.

Caucus Went Wild.

When Premier Borden made this generous confession the caucus went wild with delight. It is evident that when the Hon. Bob Rogers left the cabinet because he was opposed to union government he represented the

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sentiment of the rank and file of the party. In short, Premier Borden has no opposition to his schemes of union government except the party caucus, and it, not to be outdone in magnanimity by its leader, says "Go ahead. We give you a free hand to fail again. We congratulate you on your disappointments." Could anything be fairer?

About this time Premier Borden inadvertently sadly on the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would help to choose the exemption boards. Sir Wilfrid, it was explained, took the ground that the measure had now become law and that therefore it behooved all good subjects to see that it was carried out as harmoniously as possible. One can't go behind the law—at least when one is a Liberal and thinks the law is something to be obeyed, not to be twisted for party purposes. At this news a great sigh swept the assembly. The caucus had hoped that Sir Wilfrid would be unreasonable. That he would be such a good patriot was a cruel blow. Hence the sigh. A

caucus can't always be one long round of pleasure.

Tears Came Next.

After the cheers the tears. The tears welled up when Sir Robert Borden said he was willing to step aside for Sir George Foster. Sir Robert wept, but not too much. Sir George wept too, as far as was consistent with good taste, which is not enough to dampen a handkerchief. The caucus wept also. Rarely have so many red, wet eyes been seen in a dry town like Ottawa. As the weather man would say, the precipitation was general. The caucus wept for various reasons—some, because Sir Robert was so kind to Sir George in offering him a chance to come a cropper—others, because Sir George was so kind to Sir Robert in refusing it—others again, because Sir Robert was so clever in offering to trade his poor chance to succeed with Sir George's no chance at all. Mostly the caucus wept through joy that union government was off and that the party could now get down to brass tacks without any more nonsense. And when the caucus thought it over—Sir Robert passing the buck to Sir George—King Stork advocating for King Log—it laughed till it cried.

Future Behind Him.

Sir Robert may not have turned out all that fancy painted him in 1911 but Sir George's future is all behind him. He is an admirable old gentleman with a taste, one presumes, for the classics, of which he was once a professor and all he wants now is to be left alone with his books and his memories. For some years Sir George has had what you might call an anepicene attitude toward politics—which means neither one thing nor the other. If you asked Sir George his inmost thought it would be—please go 'way and let me sleep.

At all events the caucus was deeply moved by the sweet, sad nothings which passed between Sir Robert and Sir George and the tears flowed freely. The rainfall was about six inches but Sir Joseph Flavelle still holds the world's record for the greatest individual downpour.

THE ARMY AS A SCHOOL.

(Peter Kyne in American Magazine.)
I think that of all the experiences and adventures I have had in my life thus far, those I gleaned during my 15 months in the regular army have had the most profound effect in shaping my destiny.

The recruiting posters will tell you that a year in the army will teach your boy courage. It will. Also, it will teach him to die, and in teaching him this it will teach him how to live. And he will learn how to obey, in order that in the later battle of life he may know how to command; it will teach him democracy and if, after he has learned to defend his country and himself, he is called upon to make practical use of his education for the benefit of posterity, he will learn tenaciousness and manliness and how to sacrifice without thinking about it. Yes, all pacifists to the contrary, notwithstanding, he will learn these things, even while killing his fellow man. And if you show me a man who has been through active service and is now a pacifist and denies this statement, I will take the short end of a modest bet that his record in the war department archives will prove him a malinger, on sick report when he wasn't in the guardhouse for being a dirty, careless, inefficient soldier. Military service in the United States army is a real job with variegated details, many of them unpleasant to some natures, but none of them degrading, and the army is the finest school in the world for catching a boy courage, self-reliance, cleanliness and efficiency.

LIBERAL M. P. P. WINS THE D. S. O.

Halifax, Sept. 7. — Announcement is made that Major J. L. Ralston, M. P. P., who, during Colonel A. Borden's absence in England, has been in command of a Nova Scotia battalion, had been awarded the D. S. O., a decoration next in point of merit to the Victoria Cross. A letter received in Halifax a day or two ago, stated that it was expected Colonel Borden would return to his battalion on the first of September. Major Ralston has been in the thick of the fighting in all the recent battles and the recognition of his bravery and soldierly qualities made in the bestowal upon him of the D. S. O., will be heard of with the utmost satisfaction by hosts of friends in Nova Scotia.

MACKENZIE AND MANN TO RETIRE

Reorganization of the Management of C. N. R. When the Canadian Government Acquires Control.

Ottawa, Sept. 7. — While no official intimation has been given by the Government, it is understood that when the Canadian Northern Railway stock is acquired by the Government there will be a reorganization of the Board of Management. It is likely that Sir William Mackenzie, Sir Donald Mann and Mr. R. J. Mackenzie will retire. D. B. Hanna will remain on the board and in all probability will be asked to act as general manager of the new system. The general operating staff will not be interfered with.

There is considerable interest in Ottawa in the speech made by Sir Robert Borden, in which he outlined his views as to the best way of handling the railway situation in the future. He proposed co-operative management in order to prevent duplication in capital expenditure, and to reduce operating expenses. He intimated that this will be the Government's railway policy for the coming election, the plan to be worked out by the next parliament.

He did not go into detail, but it is understood the plan is to have a board of experts representing at least the Intercolonial, the National Transcontinental Canadian Northern, all of which are now Government roads; the Grand Trunk Pacific, which is being assisted by the Government, and may also be taken over, and the Grand Trunk. This board will co-ordinate the operation and expenditure of the various lines in order to effect the greatest possible economy. The C.P.R. will probably not be included. Under its own management it is already one of the most efficient roads in the world, and will continue along its present lines. The other roads will act together under one system.

The Companies Act.

The new Companies Act finally passed the Banking and Commerce Committee of the Senate this week, and will come before the Senate on Tuesday. It will probably be passed by the Upper Chamber, but as Parliament is planning to prorogue by September 8th, there is no possibility of its coming into force by October 8th, there is no possibility of its ever being considered by the Commons, and will go over to the next Parliament.

NO TRICK TO LIFT A CORN RIGHT OUT

Says there is no excuse for cutting corns and inviting lockjaw.

Sore corns, hard corns, soft corns or any kind of a corn can harmlessly be lifted right out with the fingers if you will apply directly upon the corn a few drops of freezone, says a Cincinnati authority.

It is claimed that at small cost one can get a quarter of an ounce of freezone at any drug store, which is sufficient to rid one's feet of every corn or callus without pain or soreness or the danger of infection.

This simple drug, while sticky, dries the moment it is applied and does not inflame or even irritate the surrounding tissue.

This announcement will interest many women here, for it is said that the present high-heel footwear is putting corns on practically every woman's feet.

NAVAL MEN EXPECT LARGER SUBMARINES

London, Sept. 7. (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—In conversation with a representative of Reuter's, a high British naval authority speaking of the submarine menace, said it must be remembered that Germany was staking everything on U-boat warfare; the recent signs of its intensification were not surprising. There are indications, he said, of larger submarines of the cruiser type being turned out. However, Germany has no prospect of success within the time she is likely to have at her disposal, for with Germany there must be a time limit.

In combatting the submarine, he said, we are being greatly and increasingly helped by the United States and Japan.

About 70,000 church bells, destined for the smelter and ultimately for conversion into munitions of war, have been received by a big bell foundry at Apeldo in the Prussian province of Hanover.

Farinelli an eighteenth century singer, could sing 300 notes in one breath.

KEEP CHILDREN WELL DURING HOT WEATHER

Every mother knows how fatal the hot summer months are to small children. Cholera infantum, diarrhoea, dysentery and stomach troubles are rife at this time and often a precious little life is lost after only a few hours illness. The mother who keeps Baby's Own Tablets in the house feels safe. The occasional use of the Tablets prevents stomach and bowel troubles, or if trouble comes suddenly—as it generally does—the Tablets will bring the baby safely through. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIAL LIFE

(Home Companion.)

If you asked the folk who live out in Oak Mound, Minn., if they find farming hard and farm life dull, they would laugh at you. That community has learned the secret of co-operative social life, with the schoolhouse as a community centre.

The Oak Mound Farmers' Club is responsible for the building of this little schoolhouse, and also for the continuous series of educational programmes presented there. They conduct an open forum for discussion of the problems vital to the vicinity; they invite competent speakers to come before them and discuss topics of world-wide interest; their young people give plays, and they have a singing society with more than forty members.

Other co-operative ventures which have to do more with the business interests of the community are a farmers' telephone line and a farmers' elevator at Kraques, the nearest railroad station.

The success of the Oak Mound community is due to the fact that all work together; everyone helps, from the pastor of the church, who, by the way, organized the singing society, to the school children of the first grades.

The result is a farming community which has most of the pleasures and none of the drawbacks of the city—and this, we believe, makes a state of existence which is very close to ideal.

WAYS TO REDUCE COST OF LIVING

Here are forty suggestions as to how to reduce the high cost of living. Every housewife who wishes to plan her expenditures in the most economical way is sure to be interested.

1. Estimate food needs of a family, both children and adults, from standard tables.
2. Estimate present food costs, compare with market costs of standards noted above.
3. Budget your income and keep a daily expense account.
4. Analyze results of your expense account and make a definite plan for improvement.
5. Enlist the co-operation of the family in sticking to a reasonable standard.
6. Buy in reasonable quantities.
7. Take inventory of food on hand.
8. Buy foods in bulk.
9. Learn the laws relating to containers.
10. Post a table of weights and measures in your kitchen.
11. Demand standards from dealers.
12. Check weights at home.
13. Weigh food waste.
14. Find stores that sell cheaply.
15. Learn when so-called inferior quality in food is allowable without injury to health.
16. Ask for all trimmings of meat purchased.
17. Learn the apparent cost and the actual cost of different cuts of meat.
18. Study causes of high prices.
19. Learn equivalent food values.
20. Group buying.
21. Provide a fireless cooker.
22. Provide an iceless cooler.
23. Study methods of preservation.
24. Study flavorings.
25. Keep a window box.
26. Do not order perishable food by telephone.
27. Use skim milk in cooking.
28. Do not buy cooked food.
29. Learn to use a cook book.
30. Use butter substitutes.
31. Learn to cook tough cuts of meat.
32. "Extending the flavor of meat."
33. Use meat substitutes.
34. Keep a stock pot.
35. Dry all stale bread in the oven.
36. Master all principles of good cookery.
37. Purchase a meat chopper.
38. Buy foods that are grown near your home.
39. Study methods of serving.
40. Ask individual co-operation.

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