

The Parliamentary Term Will Not be Extended

Interesting Discussion on Sir Robert Borden's Motion and Hon. G. P. Graham's Amendment--The Government Scored by Liberal Speakers--Sir Wilfrid Laurier Says That Coalition Proposal Came too Late.

Ottawa, July 17. — Hon. George P. Graham, speaking on Sir Robert Borden's motion for an extension of the term of parliament joined with the prime minister in his expression that the great duty of Canada today was to play her part in the fight for civilization and to provide every man who could be spared for the work. Canada, he was sure, had risen to the occasion. She had sent men and women and money. She had made great sacrifices and was ready to make any sacrifice requisite to completion of the war.

At the same time, he said, there was a danger of losing our sense of proportion. The prime minister, he thought, had lost his sense of proportion in introducing such a resolution while the conscription act had still to be disposed of and while parliament had still several months of life ahead. "Before such a proposal is introduced," he said, "there is a duty incumbent upon the government which demands more immediate action than the discussion or the withdrawal of the resolution for the extension of parliament. We have three months before this term expires. During that three months this parliament should grapple with the conditions existing at the front and in Canada and prove themselves equal to working out a scheme by which the conditions shall be fully met."

"Mobilization of Resources." One of the duties upon the government—the taking of action to supply reinforcements—had been met, the others had been left in abeyance. As one who had supported the conscription bill and was ready to support it to the end, he believed that the government should now proceed with the rest of the programme. Hon. Mr. Graham then proceeded to pave the way for the introduction of his "mobilization of resources" amendment, which, he explained, he had not moved as an amendment to the military service bill lest it be construed as an attempt to block that measure. He urged that Canada was not paying her way sufficiently and was leaving too much to posterity to pay. The men of wealth were most certainly not paying their share. There was not one man of ordinary means who was paying at all in comparison with the washer woman who was giving her fifty cents a month to the patriotic fund.

"This parliament will not be doing its duty if it separates from the present session without making every man who is able to contribute pay his full share for the carrying on of the war," declared Mr. Graham. He said he would not impose income taxation on the ordinary income, but the large incomes should be made to pay. The member for South Renfrew dealt with the need of organizing the transportation service of the country, increasing rolling stock and of establishing under government encouragement and supervision a shipbuilding industry. He closed by moving the following amendment:

"That consideration of the terms of the resolution be deferred until the government brings before parliament a measure providing that those best able to pay will be asked to contribute their full share of the cost of the war, and by which the agriculture, industry, transportation and the natural resources of Canada will be organized to give the greatest possible assistance to the empire and the war, and reduce the cost of living to the Canadian people."

Sir George Foster, who followed, agreed with Mr. Graham that the need was for men, money and munitions or equipment. The first great essential, however, was men, and the government had taken that up first. Today Canada's four divisions were at the front working day after day and night after night without relief, with dead always with them.

Sir George maintained that in spite of the general impression that in some way the government should conscript wealth there was no way that wealth could be made to pay that had not been resorted to except the taxation of incomes.

"And income taxation it is the intention of this government to introduce to this house and to pass."

Turning to the other declarations set out in the amendment the minister dealt at length with the inferences that the government had not adequately encouraged agriculture. The assertion that the industry had not been organized had been already answered by the tremendous development in Canadian industry. The results of the past three years could not have been achieved had industry not been thoroughly organized. Sir George met

Mr. Graham's complaints about transportation and shipping, asking him how he would proceed to build vessels and secure rolling stock when it was a matter of common knowledge that steel and other equipment could not be secured, when orders for steel vessels for instance, could not be filled for eighteen months, even if the money were available.

As to the cost of living, Sir George was doubtful whether any measures could have been taken that would have materially kept down the cost of foodstuffs since high prices were due to a world scarcity directly due to the war. A food controller had been appointed and it was suggested that that action might have been taken before. What could have been accomplished by a food controller while the great agricultural country to the south was subject to no such control?

Hon. Wm. Pugsley. Hon. William Pugsley chose to discuss extension rather than the amendment when he began. He dealt with the last extension which had been unanimously agreed to because of an understanding that there should be nothing done that would divide the country into hostile camps. Yet in spite of that understanding the government, without notice, without consulting the people and absolutely without sufficient reason, had introduced a measure that was calculated to set one section of the country against another, race against race, more than any other question could have done.

"Yet," continued Mr. Pugsley, "the prime minister comes before this house and asks this house to unanimously pass this resolution. Having acted contrary to wise policy and to the solemn pledges the prime minister has more than once made to the people of this country—notwithstanding that he comes to us with a degree of coolness which in anyone else would excite surprise, and asks this house to pass a resolution renewing the confidence of this parliament in the government."

"He knew perfectly well when he took that course that it could not possibly be accepted by the unanimous judgment of this house," added Mr. Pugsley. "No matter what may be his views and no matter the degree of respect with which they are entitled to be heard I doubt if he can convince any large number of persons sitting on his side of the house, or that he can convince a majority of the people of this country, that it would be desirable to renew the confidence of parliament in the gentlemen sitting on the treasury benches."

Premier's Sincerity Questioned. Hon. Mr. Pugsley questioned the sincerity of the prime minister's statement in regard to his determination not to press the resolution unless it meets with an unanimous reception. In Mr. Pugsley's opinion the prime minister would force it through if he believed that the imperial government and the imperial parliament would support him. He was not pressing it in the face of opposition only because he would not find the imperial parliament behind him in that course.

It was doubtful, said Mr. Pugsley, if Sir Wilfrid Laurier, should he try to do so, could convince the members of the house and the people of the country that it was desirable to vote confidence in the government. As for himself, he would vote against the resolution. There was no guarantee, he said, that the government would not come forward with a similar proposal after year. He had not met a single man, Conservative or Liberal, who considered it desirable that the life of the existing parliament should be prolonged.

A NATIONAL CRIME

PREVENTION OF WASTE ESSENTIAL TO VICTORY.

"Waste in time of peace is a sin; in this time of national stress it is a crime." Such is the declaration of Sir Robert Borden. Are you guilty of that crime against the nation and against the Divisions who are fighting your battles on the firing line? The National Service Board is pleading with you to exercise economy, to study every expenditure, to eliminate waste and to avoid all expenditures on luxuries. By such measures you can save your money and give it to the nation for war purposes. The machinery for the giving is supplied by the National Service Board. Your nearest money order post office or bank sells War Savings Certificates. By buying such certificates you are helping the financial mobilization of the country which is essential to success. The firing line must be supported by the financial line. Your dollars are needed to give that support. Are you fighting with the men at the front or against them? Save your dollars and invest them in Government bonds.

Dealing with Mr. Graham's amendment, Mr. Pugsley said that it voiced the view of those Liberals who voted for the conscription of man power. Everybody agreed, he said, that there

(Continued on page 3.)

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The Great Importance of Prohibition!



Hon. Nicholas Iserguine

Inspector of State Savings Banks of Russian Empire states, in regard to effect of Prohibition: "We have about doubled in less than three years the amount accumulated in seventy-three years previous to the outbreak of the war, for our State banks are about seventy-five years old."

Former Attor.-Gen. Baxter

in introducing the Prohibition Act said: "I do not think that I need discuss the question of whether Prohibition prohibits. That depends upon you and me. If those in the community who hold the moral forces under their particular care—if they do their duty—if they let petty things go and if they stand back of the men who live under the law and persistently and insistently urge these men to respect the law—for without respect the law becomes of no value whatever—to respect this law as they would any other law, if the moral and social leaders of our country will but rise to the occasion and do their duty, there is no fear but that a prohibitory law, like any other law, can be enforced within the Province of New Brunswick."

Premier Foster

as leader of the Opposition, in speaking of Prohibition said: "That in his opinion the Temperance question is not a question of party politics. Prohibition, after all, affects everyone directly or indirectly and is therefore too big and broad a matter to be dealt with politically. The law is to-day on the Statute Books, and if we are returned to power, when May 1st comes the Prohibition bill will be put into effect, and we will enforce it as far as it lies in our power to do so."

In these critical days when governing bodies the world over are imploring everyone to increase production of food, when our armies are crying for men, munitions, ships—when every resource, however small, is a vital asset—waste is intolerable.

New Brunswick stands second to none in her loyalty to the vital cause of the Empire. Of her sacrifices of precious boys, her wealth and resources she is justly proud. With effective Prohibition laws in force throughout the province, she will tolerate no waste due to lax enforcement of Prohibition. Her resolve, however, demands a united public opinion in favor of strictest enforcement.

Help to Enforce Prohibition

The "PIONEER" (published in Toronto) is authority for the statement that in Canada the total value of foodstuffs destroyed by the liquor traffic in 1916 was approximately \$4,244,090.22. Add to this the immense loss of transportation facilities, clogged and hindered by carrying the grain to destruction, and again conveying the product of the breweries and distilleries to make precious men less efficient in this solemn hour!

Russia—

Some idea of the enormous effect of Prohibition is afforded by the wonderful example of Russia. The whole country is "bone dry." The people declare they never will backslide to vodka. In spite of the fact that millions of producers have been in the army the savings of the people enormously increased. In 1912 and 1913 they were saving, per year, about \$20,000,000. In the first five months under Prohibition they saved \$60,000,000. In 1915 the banks took in \$265,000,000. For the first half of 1916, the Russian people saved \$300,000,000!

The shortage of revenue from the tax on vodka is gradually being made up by increase in other revenue, due to the savings and greater efficiency of the people. In spite of the ravages of war there is less begging and misery. "With vodka on her back, she could never

have held the Germans back. Russia has helped to save Europe."

On May 1st 1917, the putting into effect of the Prohibitory Act in New Brunswick placed in our hands a powerful instrument. The success of Prohibition depends upon our use of the instrument, just the same as success in battle depends upon the general's intelligent, vigorous use of his forces.

No matter where you live, whether your district is under the Canada Temperance Act or under the new Prohibitory Act, you are urged to use every legitimate means within your power of support and aid the officers of the law in their sworn duty of enforcement.

Use your influence to build up such a weight of public opinion in favor of strictest enforcement of both the Scott Act and the Prohibitory Act that the success of Province-wide Prohibition will be permanent.

Dominion Temperance Alliance

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