

MR. R. E. FINN M.P.P. PAYS TRIBUTE TO SIR WILFRID

Nova Scotia Liberal Politician Addresses Montreal Reform Club—"Liberalism and Its Chief" His Theme—The Only Real Leader of Statesmanlike Qualities in Canada—War-Time Elections Act Roundly Condemned.

Montreal, Feb. 13.—A review of the past with an eye to the future, was the key-note of the address by the Hon. R. E. Finn, of Nova Scotia, at the Reform Club on Saturday evening; and the career of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, veteran leader of the Liberal party, was gone over in detail in a studious two hour speech on "Liberalism and its Leader."

The occasion of the address was a banquet in honor of Mr. Finn. Mr. Alphonse Decary president of the Reform Club, presided, and Mr. Max Murdock, a Nova Scotian, and an old acquaintance of Mr. Finn's, introduced the speaker in a toast which fittingly told of his virtues.

Mr. Finn expressed pleasure that the Montreal Reform Club was now on a more solid foundation than it was even in the "hey-day of Liberal administration," and that this fact showed beyond a doubt that there must be a great something in Liberalism which made the party great not only when in power, but just as great when constituting the Opposition.

To the Liberals of the Province of Quebec, Mr. Finn said he brought a message from those of Nova Scotia. This was one of congratulation that, in the last elections, they had stood true to the party and to its leader, giving him the same vindication that was assured him by the people of the Dominion at the next elections.

Blames Elections Act

"In Nova Scotia," he said "I am sure that we would really have had thirteen representatives of Liberalism in Parliament instead of four, had it not been for the War-Time Elections Act, placed on the statute books to take away Responsible Government. Those members now in Parliament are not the choice of the people but the choice of a method which will some day be shown up to light in the pages of the nation's history."

Mr. Finn reviewed the offer made to the Province of Quebec at the time of the American Revolution when the French-Canadians refused to join the revolutionists of the southern nation and stood out for British principals. That he said, was a proof of the loyalty of the French-Canadian race, which could not be destroyed even by the false utterances of Tory hirelings.

In a detailed study of the life and career of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the speaker began at his boyhood and went straight through to the present time.

During the period of Sir Wilfrid's youth, when he was studying at New Glasgow, he was much among the Scotch, between which race and the French there has always seemed to have been a certain affinity.

"There," said the speaker, "lived the Murrays and the Guthries and the McLeans—the names of three Liberals who deserted their party in the recent elections. There, Sir Wilfrid was taught the principles of English; and its literature, by one 'Sandy' McLean, now 'pigeon-hole' minister for the Union Government at Ottawa."

Through the Liberal leader's career at McGill University and through the time when he took up his profession along with his journalistic work, the speaker progressed, reviewing the great part that he had taken in the work of Confederation.

At that time, though he was opposed and though Confederation meant only a Union of Quebec and Ontario men of greater vision saw the Dominion extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific as indeed it did four years after Confederation in 1837.

The Great Contrast

A comparison followed between Sir Wilfrid and Sir John MacDonalld the former, said the speaker, being a man who had never sought power for its own sake and the latter one who, an "opportunist"—one who seized upon every advantage to gain his end.

"Every Tory government," touching upon another line, "went out on account of some scandal or some appeal to prejudice. It cannot be gainsaid that the cause of Sir John MacDonalld's defeat was the Pacific Scandal, and Sir Alexander MacKenzie came in."

The latter though he did not keep

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abreast of the times inasmuch, was the soul of honesty and was responsible for the secret ballot, which had been one of the fundamentals of Responsible Government. Through this, and and was establishment of the Supreme Court of Canada and the Kingston Military College, Sir Wilfrid had proved himself a man of wide thought, generous heart, and unswerving truth.

Sir John Macdonald had first given to the C. P. R. as a free grant, lands which would now have to be bought back, because of the lack of judgment of the leader of the Conservative party in giving these lands free to the Canadian Pacific Company.

Sir Wilfrid, on the other hand had made no such mistakes, as was evidenced by his support of Provincial rights which meant the rights of the people. He had on this point sounded the death knell of Toryism, but had not rested on his laurels.

The opposing of separate schools for Manitoba had been another measure that lay to the credit of the Liberal leader and though Ontario had been told that he was too Catholic, and Quebec that he was too English, he had proved that he was merely too Democratic for the principals of Toryism.

Only Method of Defeat

"The only way that they have ever been able to defeat him," is by cries of race and prejudice. They have won by these means, and have reaped the wind. But the day is coming and it is not far distant, when they will reap the whirlwind."

In the defeat on the Reciprocity Question, Mr. Finn said that no one was more surprised than the Tories at their victory. They felt when they learned that the Liberal party had failed to gain another victory that it was almost too good to be true.

"Yet, as in recent elections, the Get-Rich-Quick Liberals of Ontario, who had no right to belong to the Liberal party and who have since left it for the Liberal party's good caught on to the wreckage of the Tories which is soon to go adrift."

"These men were helped by extremists in the United States. The money began to jingle and the patriotic bells began to ring and soon they had tolled the death knell but not the death of Liberalism in Canada. Armand Lavergne and Henri Bourassa had been told that Sir Wilfrid intended taking the sons of Canada, despite the Liberal leaders naval policy and prejudices had been used to defeat him and his party."

Conscription had been brought forward as an issue purely political and 100,000 men taken despite the fact that that number were then in British camps and were never sent over.

"What then," Mr. Finn continued "is the result of this Unionism? Are they in sympathy? No, they are keeping watch for they have to watch each other."

Union Cannot Last

"It is my firm conviction that Union Government cannot last, that time

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Mrs. Walter Grieves, Apsley, Ont., writes:—"I had been run down, and doctors told me I was anaemic, but did not help me with their medicines I could not sleep nights, my heart palpitated so, and I could count every beat."

I used to have such dizzy spells I would have to go to bed. I was not able to do any work for eight months. A cousin of mine had taken Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and told me what they had done for her. I took eight boxes of them, and now I am able to help every day with the work I am so thankful to tell others what they have done for me, so that they may try this great and wonderful remedy. I hope this may prove good to some one who is suffering the way I did."

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After the 16 Thrift Stamps have been exchanged for a War Savings Stamp, the person doing so should start in again to buy Thrift Stamps, and thus begin saving for the second War Savings Stamp.

ROYALTY IN THE MOVIES.

(N. Y. Sun.)

Queen Mary has been posing for the movies, said a recent news despatch, and someone has imagined the following incident in a movie studio:

Your Majesty, please hold up your chin. A little higher—not like that! Please use your bean, Your Majesty! Try it again! Take off that hat!

Does it please Your Majesty to smile? I said a smile, ma'am—not a grin! Step lively, now, Your Majesty! Fer the luvva Mike hold up yer chin!

(Say, Jones, you take her out and show

Her how to tone that make-up down) Register—now—Dignity—No, no, Your Majesty, don't frown!

Now, Lady, won't you try to use. Just this one time, your royal bean? Good Gawd, Your Majesty, Good Gawd That ain't the way to act a Queen!

Someone suggests that in the great plan for social betterment the little children of the rich be permitted to play with the little children of the poor. Glad to help. Send 'em over and let 'em play with ours—any little child of the rich that comes through a session with our young pirate without permanent scars has the right motto.

has proved its utter failure. To my mind the only system of government for any democratic country is party government. A strong opposition is the saviour of the people's sacred rights, liberties and privileges, and is essential to the proper working of the British system of parliamentary government. Criticism is the lash to make a government hew close to the line of the people's will in policy and administration. If this is so, what will be the responsibility of Liberalism in the future.

COL. McLEOD SPOKE AT NEW YORK BANQUET

New York, Feb. 15.—Six hundred members and their friends attended the seventeenth annual dinner of the Canadian Club last night at the Hotel Astor. The speakers dwelt upon hunting, fishing, exploring, and illustrated their discourse with moving pictures. Villhjelm Steffansson, president of the Explorers' Club, talked of his adventures in the frozen north, and showed the guests how he fared for food and fuel on seal, caribou and musk-ox, and the leads of open water he encountered which enabled him to bring his stores along.

Col. H. F. McLeod, of New Bruns-

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New York Sun: The slogan "No beer, no work," may lose something of its inspirational value when those who use it recall that no work means no food.

wick, spoke of the delights of salmon fishing in the waters of his native province, and had pictures of the big fish jumping at the hooks.

SPECIAL SALE

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MACKINAWs, both lined and unlined; all sizes different styles.
MEN'S FUR COATS in Raccoon, Wombat, Dog and China Beaver.
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The New Importations for the Coming Season are now on display. An early inspection will assure you of a large and varied selection to choose from.

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