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"Returning to Laurier" Is the Slogan in Ontario

The Old Liberal Chieftain Greeted with Wonderful Enthusiasm at Mount Forest--Heartily Cheered by Thousands of People. Inaction the Ruling Passion of the Borden Government, Says Sir Wilfrid--The C. P. R. Stock Issue Discussed

Mount Forest, Oct. 7.—This is the wonderful climax to a wonderful tour, Picturesque Mount Forest—a modest town of about three thousand inhabitants—has simply had to throw up its hands. They are estimating the great wildy-cheering crowds blocking the thoroughfares in their dense, cheering torchlight procession tonight, at anywhere from ten to twelve thousand.

PROCESSIONS AND THEIR SLOGAN

The thousands who could be accommodated in neither resolved themselves into a series of voluntary processions and paraded the streets repeating in rhythmic tones their slogan, "All Returning to Laurier." Many ladies were taking part in these processions carrying Union Jacks, while most of the men were equipped with torches. At every street corner the dense procession would pause while some stalwart called for "three cheers and a tiger for Laurier," which were given with thunderous enthusiasm. From indications just before midnight there will be little sleep in Mount Forest for several hours.

The Liberal Chief was in unusually brilliant form, evidently inspired by the marked evidences of affection and loyalty to himself and the old cause which greeted him at every turn.

A PICTURESQUE GREETING

To place before the people of Ontario the Liberal position freed from the confusion of the campaign, a year and more removed from the smoke of battle," was Sir Wilfrid's definition of the purpose of the Ontario tour just closing. In keenly appreciative language the Chief alluded to the remarkable character of his reception and the inspiration he was carrying away from this province. As he came to the front of the platform with his final message, six young ladies, daintily gowned in white, and each bearing aloft a Union Jack surrounded him and draped the patriotic bunting over his head in a graceful arch. Then two tiny little maidens placed a huge bouquet in either of his arms, while the great gathering stood cheering until it spontaneously lapsed into the strains of "O Canada," led by the kilted band.

It was a picturesque touch that provoked an enthusiastic response from the throng. Sir Wilfrid was evidently moved. "I have come to you as a defeated man," said he, "and you have treated me like this. I have no lamentations for defeat. Every dog has his day, and I believe there is another for us. I am sure Mr. Borden might well envy me under this arch and amid such happy surroundings." Then the crowd cheered again.

NEVER SUCH A BALKY TEAM.

Sir Wilfrid completed his trip in splendid spirits. Each of his speeches rang with vitality, optimism and courage. His quaint touches of humor were never more telling, his similes never more scintillating. Discussing the Nationalist and Jingoist representations in the Borden Cabinet and the resultant embargo on the naval question, he suddenly paused and dismally shaking his head threw the great gathering into a paroxysm of laughter by the plaint: "There never was such a balky team; Monk kicks and Foster rears and neither coaxing and petting nor whip and spur can move them."

THE RULING PASSION OF INACTION

Emphasizing the inaction of the Administration, the Liberal Chief referred to the position in which it had placed itself in relation to the issue of the Canadian Pacific stock and the application made to the Government by the railway last August. There were important public questions to be determined in connection with the application, but nothing was done. Finally, when the corporation had ignored a lethargic Government and issued to the shareholders without further awaiting a response, Mr. Borden waived, "We have not even con-

sidered the question." They were true to the ruling passion of inaction and procrastination. "You want more able, more active, and more courageous men in your service," the Leader commented, amid cheers.

WHERE HIS NAVY FLOATS

Both G. P. Graham and Hon. MacKenzie King made spirited speeches at all the meetings. The former Minister of Railways created a roar of laughter by his assurance that the rains of the past few weeks had furnished more than sufficient water to float all Mr. Borden's Dreadnoughts. "His navy floats in London speeches and Canadian interviews; it has never taken to water," he commented dryly.

Hon. MacKenzie King concluded the tour without having been able to find a single Conservative who approved of the nationalist recognition in the Borden Cabinet. At every meeting he has asked without result for any Conservative who endorsed the selection to rise.

NO REBELS IN QUEBEC

He secured no response until today when a man jumped up in the audience, and while he was not ready to endorse the selection of either Mr. Monk or Mr. Pelletier, asked sharply:

"Do you say that Quebec is a rebel nation?"

"No," replied Sir Wilfrid, emphatically when he rose. "There is not a rebel in the whole province. I would not convey that impression of my worst and bitterest enemy in Quebec, but, unfortunately, there are men who sought to create the sentiment that we do not owe anything to Britain."

REASON FOR HIS LOYALTY

"No man appreciated British connection more than I do," declared Sir Wilfrid. "I will tell you why. As I have often said in Quebec, my fellow-countrymen have more freedom under British institutions than had they remained subjects of France. But while I am loyal," continued Sir Wilfrid, "I do not pretend that my loyalty oozes out of the soles of my boots—my loyalty is in my heart."

The evening address was largely devoted to a consideration of fiscal problems. The marketing of the western crop was the most important question before the people, said Sir Wilfrid, and he pointed out it would be better if Mr. Borden would leave Montenegro and the question of peace and war alone, and come back to Canada to help the west dispose of its crop. In Ontario the farmers could dispose of their crop in the home market, which was the best for them.

But the wheat crop of Canada alone would be two hundred million bushels this year, not more than 25 per cent. of which Canada could consume. The need of wider markets demanded attention. What had the Borden Government done in its first year to

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solve the problem? "We had not been in office twelve months before we had introduced a new tariff, including the living principles of the British preference."

A TRIBUTE TO HIS WIFE

Sir Wilfrid introduced a personal touch that found a response in the hearts of the audience. "It might have been proper for me," he said in regard to his defeat, "to give up the leadership to abler and younger hands." But when he had commenced on his last campaign he had told his wife that if he lost they would spend the rest of their days quietly and then when his defeat had come Lady Laurier had been the first to go to him. "She was a brave woman, a good syallier," said Sir Wilfrid amid applause, "and she said 'You cannot give up, you must go on with the fight.'"

WANTS TO FIGHT AGAIN

"I want to fight again on the principles of our rights as Canadians and of our obligations as British subjects. I am not an Imperialist nor an anti-Imperialist. I am a Canadian first, last and all the time. I recognize that the British Empire is the greatest force that ever existed for the rights of man in history. We are a nation today in Canada, but this is the first nation that has attained the degree of freedom that Canada enjoys today without breaking from the mother country. We are all free men and I want to have another tussle with our friends the Tories."

C. P. R. STOCK ISSUE AFFAIR

Sir Wilfrid then proceeded to deal with the issue of new stock of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as an example of the dilatory methods of the Borden Government.

"Last August," said he, "the C.P.R. presented a petition to the Government to be authorized to issue a certain amount of stock. We know such a petition was presented, but we know also that nothing was done about it. So we do not know how much additional stock they asked authorization for."

DO NOT WANT GOOD RAILWAYS

"The company waited for an answer from the Government but they did not get it. The Government had to decide two points. First, whether the proposed issue was necessary to improve their lines as represented. No wonder this did not meet with enthusiastic approval from the Government, as their determination to degrade the National Transcontinental shows they do not believe in good railways."

"The next point the Government had to decide was at what price the stock should be issued. Today the stock sells around \$275, and the Government had to decide how much should go into the treasury of the C.P.R. and how much to the shareholders."

"But the Government decided neither point. They simply ignored the petition of the C.P.R. The company waited and waited for the answer, which never came. Then the company called a meeting of the shareholders and decided to issue their

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My farm at Mouth of Keswick, with implements, the season's crop and live stock.

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Notice of Meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade will be held in the City Council Chambers on Monday evening Oct. 14th. A full attendance is requested.

H. S. CAMPBELL
Secretary.
440—Oct. 14

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stock under an old statute, which they claimed exempted them from the necessity of asking Government authorization and under this they issued \$60,000,000 of stock at \$175 which was worth \$275.

INDIGNATION IN THE WEST

"This action had caused great indignation in the Northwest, where it is considered that it will place an additional burden on the shoulders of the people. Doubtless Hon. Mr. Rogers who is campaigning in the MacDonald constituency and others sent in indignant telegrams, only to get the reply that after six weeks delay the Government had not even considered the question and if that is the case do you consider that these men were any good." (Laughter.)

"And why had they not considered the petition of the C.P.R.? When it was first presented by Mr. Borden was in Europe, and it waited until he returned. Then he came back and it was announced that the Government would not deal with the matter, but refer it to Parliament."

"The result of this delay was that the C.P.R. simply went ahead and ignored the Government altogether. And the Government offers as a de-

(Continued on page 3)

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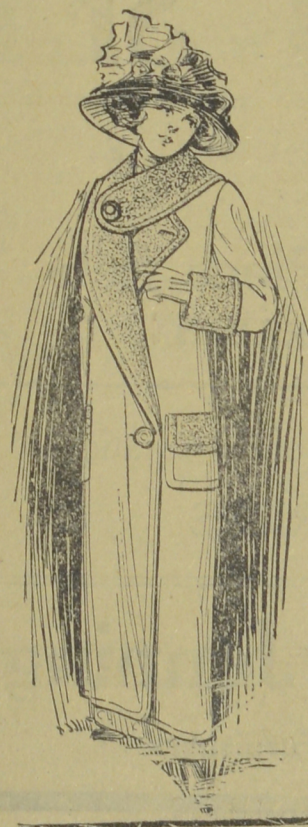
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LADIES UNDERSKIRTS in SILK TAFT in grey and brown only. Regular price \$2.50 up to \$3.00. Special at 98c.

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