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DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, June 1, 1915.

BORDEN SHOULD SPEAK.

From this time forward the responsibility for a war election—if an election there is to be—must rest squarely upon the shoulders of the Prime Minister. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has placed his views before the country in unmistakable terms. In his own striking phrase, he does not care to open the portals of office with the bloody key of a war-time struggle at the polls. The preparations of the Conservative party for an appeal to the people had made necessary similar preparations on the part of the Liberal party, but, added Sir Wilfrid: "Let the Prime Minister and his colleagues say that there shall be no election as long as the war shall go on, and I will pledge myself and the Liberal party that we shall stop all preparations and think of nothing but the war."

This offer from the responsible leader of Canadian Liberalism should induce Sir Robert Borden to end the uncertainty and political unrest in the country. Some of the most influential journals in touch with the Conservative managers at Ottawa persistently seek to prepare the way for an election by pointing to the country's great expenditure of money upon the war and to the sending forth of tens of thousands of young Canadians to battle, and by asking if it is not reasonable that the electors should share the responsibility with the government. Were there any serious suggestion that Canada ought not to participate in the war to the full extent of her resources, an election might be needed to settle the issue and enable the government to go forward upon its great task with singleness of purpose. But no man of influence in the public life of the country has raised his voice against a vigorous prosecution of the war. If Liberals have found fault at all it has been with the object of spurring on the government to greater exertions rather

than with the intention of lessening the activity of Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues.

In some respects Liberal criticism has materially improved conditions. This is true particularly in regard to army contracts. Great sums of money were wasted during the first few months of the war by the awarding of contracts for supplies to party favorites, who, being unable in many cases to manufacture the required articles, peddled the contracts around among genuine manufacturers, and in not a few instances made more profit than the actual producers of the goods. Had it not been for the vigorous criticism of Liberals in Parliament during the past session, this vicious abuse of the patronage system would have grown greater as the amount to be spent upon supplies increased. The Liberal party has no apology to offer for the work of its representatives in Parliament. The exposure of graft and waste served the public by making the government more careful and by conserving the public funds for war purposes. If the war continues until next session of Parliament and evidence accumulates in the meantime of abuses similar to those exposed recently before the Public Accounts Committee, Liberals will have no hesitation in bringing them to the notice of the government and of Parliament. That is a patriotic duty which ought not to be evaded by honest men.

But while reserving their liberty of action in this respect, Liberals take the ground that purely party issues ought not to be raised either by the government or the opposition, and that, in effect if not in name, the government of Canada during the war should be national and non-partisan. That view may not be favorably regarded by Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues. They may desire to reserve the right to dissolve at any time that may ap-

NO ALUM



pear to be advantageous to the Conservative party. If party interests are not their first concern they should say so frankly. Silence in this case must inevitably breed suspicion. Sir Robert Borden can place party politics in the background for a year by a dozen resolute words. Will he say them? Sir Wilfrid Laurier has made the way smooth for the Premier. He should speak now.—Toronto Globe.



COL. H. M. ELLIOT, Assistant Adjutant General of the Toronto military division, and probably the most popular officer there, who will take command of the camp of 8,000 soldiers at Sewell, Man. He is an Imperial officer loaned to the Canadian government by the British authorities and has been in Toronto since 1913. He was in charge of the organization and administration of the Toronto exhibition camp, where 8,000 soldiers of the second contingent have trained this winter.

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PROBABLE RESUMPTION OF WORK ON P. G. E.

General Superintendent Fettes, of Foley, Welch & Stewart, leaves here on tonight's train for Vancouver in order to discuss with Mr. J. W. Stewart the future of construction on the line south of here. The announcement recently made of the release of a sum of about \$2,500,000 to the P. G. E. by the Dominion government provides for the completion of the line from the end of steel south to a point near the 100-mile house, on the Cariboo Road. No provision has yet been made to complete the work between that point and Prince George, although a considerable amount of grading and trestle work has been carried on between these points.

It is persistently rumored that Sir Richard McBride has secured a large sum for the continuation of railway work in this province, and it is anticipated that the Premier will return from England and make his plans public before very long, and that a provincial election will follow.

An indication which points to the starting up of work on the line south of here is the presence of the Foley, Welch & Stewart executive force here, and also of several prominent contractors who are identified with this construction work. None of the caches of supplies have been moved from points south of here to Prince George, as would be the case if there was no prospect of the resumption of construction in the near future.—Prince George Post.

THOUSAND DOLLARS RAISED EMPIRE DAY

Seattle, May 28.—One thousand dollars raised at the Empire Day celebration of the British-American Relief Association Tuesday evening brings the total, which has been forwarded by this Seattle organization to the Prince of Wales fund, to \$9,000.

More than 250 were present Tuesday evening, when patriotic speeches and musical numbers representing all countries were on the program.

Nearly \$1,000 has been raised each month since the relief association began its work in Seattle after the outbreak of the war. The Irish concert, held recently in the Metropolitan Theatre, swelled the fund to the extent of \$1,300.

It is going counter to popular opinion to say so, but the fact is no lady can properly support a husband by taking in washing.

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Poor Scoop--He Was So Young

HELLO--THIS YOU BOSS?-- THIS IS SCOOP-- I MANAGED TO GET TO TH' PHONE WHILE MY GUARD WASN'T LOOKING-- I'M UP IN TH' BUCKET OF BLOOD TAVERN ON TH' HIGH AND LONESOME TRAIL-- THE GANG ARE GOING TO KILL ME THIS AFTERNOON-- FOR TH' LOVE OF MIKE-- COME RESCUE ME!
POOR SCOOP-- I MOST CERTAINLY WILL SAVE HIM!
I SURE HOPE IM ON TIME
BASEBALL GAME TO DAY
WOW-- OO PUT HIM OUT
HIT IT-- OH YOU-- BONE HEAD
OH WELL-- WE ALL GOTTA DIE SOME TIME
EMERGENCY BRACKES
Drawn for The Daily News. —By "Hop."