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Doubt and Speculation on Dominion Status Come to End

MUST RAISE REVENUE

Quebec Liberals Stand Against Government on War Entry

Ottawa, Sept. 11.—(CP)—Canada, exercising her rights and responsibilities as an independent nation, has cast her lot with Britain and France against German aggression and has become a self-declared belligerent for the first time in the Dominion's history.

Speculation Ends

All doubt and speculation on Canada's status in the war ended yesterday when, little more than 13 hours after parliament had given almost unanimous approval, a special edition of the Canada Gazette proclaimed a state of war between Canada and the German reich.

Parliament will go on to-day with the serious business of providing the sinews of war. The government is expected to ask for a lump sum to be appropriated for war preparations and to disclose the taxation and other measures by which it hopes to increase revenue. This probably will be in a war-time budget expected to be brought down possibly this afternoon or tonight.

In a rapid sequence of events beginning at 3 p.m. E.D.T. Saturday and ending at 1.10 p.m. yesterday, both the senate and house of commons approved the government's decision and a proclamation was issued declaring a state of war existed as from September 10 between Canada and Germany.

tween Canada and Germany.

This was the first time Canada declared war herself. In 1914 the British proclamation was published in the Canada Gazette, formally making the Dominion a belligerent.

Bitter Reproach

Three Liberal members from Quebec bitterly reproached the government Saturday, during the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, for its failure to keep Canada out of war.

J. S. Woodsworth, veteran C.C.F. leader from Winnipeg North Centre, broke with his party to register his opposition to war.

From all other members who spoke there came acceptance that Canada's place was by Britain's side in this struggle, although divergent views were expressed as to the methods to be adopted.

And when the question was put on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, which contained the government's policy, there were not enough dissenters to make up the necessary quota to demand a recorded vote.

Major Approval

Immediately after the house met Saturday afternoon, Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced that adoption f the address in reply to the speech from the throne would be accepted by the government as approval of its, determination immediately to proclaim a state of war with Germany

war with Germany.

In the debate which followed 11 spokesmen representing all parties registered their approval of complete participation in the war. But three Liberals Maxime Raymond (Beauharnois - Laprairie), Liguori Lacombe (Laval - Two Mountains), and Wilfril Lacroix (Quebec-Montmorency), turned against their party and demanded that Canada restrict all activities to home defence without commitments to Britain.

Mr. Lacombe moved an amendment to the address regretting that the government had not advised the Governor-General that Canada could not participate in the war. This amendment, if carried, would have meant defeat of the government.

Opposition in Vain

Mr. Lacroix seconded the amendment but when, late Saturday evening, Speaker Casgrain put the question, first on the amendment, the "ayes" were drowned in a thunder of "nays." Mr. Lacombe and Mr. Lacroix stood up to demand a recorded vote, but none stood with them, and the house regulations call for five members to support such a request.

Then when the main motion on

Then, when the main motion on the address was put to question there was a moment of drama as Mr. Woodsworth rose, looked about at his followers and others, and observed that "some of us want to vote against the main motion." But not even one of his followers stood with him.

Armed with this authority, the

Armed with this authority, the Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues went into session in the government leader's office on the fourth floor of the centre block to prepare the proclamation. It was one of the rare occasions a cabinet council has been held elsewhere than in the historic privy council chamber in the east block.

Grave Senate Debate

Cables were exchanged with London during the night, and at 1.10 p.m. yesterday the proclamation, with the authority of the King, was issued in both Ottawa and London.

In the senate the debate was brief but grave. Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative leader, warned that if the democracies were defeated on the main issue in Europe Canada had little security. The battlefront would shift "from the banks of the Rhine to the banks of the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi and to the Indies."

There was more drama in the commons. Justice Minister Lapointe, in the face of threats from

Quebec groups that he was facing "political death" by his attitude, ridiculed the idea that Canada could remain neutral and yet be a part of the Empire.

Mr. Lapointe, who has been longer in parliament than any other member, said that neutrality was practically and legally impossible in any form or degree.

Against Conscription

But Mr. Lapointe, speaking, he said, for himself and his three cabinet colleagues from Quebec, said their complete support of the government in its war effort would end if conscription for overseas service was proposed. The Prime Minister has already pledged his administration against conscription.

Joseph Thorson (Liberal, Selkirk) announced his abandonment of strong isolationist principles, and pledged himself to the government's policy. He is a veteran of the Great War.

Georges Heon, young Conservative member from Argenteuil, who has often expressed nationalist views, declared he had no shame in abandoning them in this instance to support the government's program.

Three Social Credit members, Eric Poole, Red Deer; J. C. Laneryou, Calgary East, and Rene Pelletier, Peace River, supported the address, but declared Canada should go the limit with complete conscription of industry, finance and manpower, to ensure equality of sacrifice.

T. L. Church (Conservative, Toronto-Broadview) could see little necessity of voting because he was convinced Canada was already in the war as a member of the commonwealth.

Incorporate Patriotic Fund

History was repeated when Pensions Minister Power introduced a bill to incorporate the Canadian Patriotic fund to be used in assisting needy dependents of those who serve in the armed forces.

The first Canadian Patriotic

The first Canadian Patriotic fund was incorporated in 1900 for the South African war. It was revived in 1914 and collected some \$48,000,000 in contributions. The fund was finally closed out in 1937. It is expected this bill will be given second reading to-day.

Every single political party represented in the house rallied to the support of the government in its war policy. Conservatives under Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion gave unquestioning support.

Social Credit under John Blackmore raised no objection, but urged universal conscription of wealth, industry and manpower as the best means of contributing to victory.

History Is Made

Mr. Coldwell was spokesman for the C.C.F. in view of Mr. Woodsworth's dissent. That group favoured economic aid to the allies, but opposed an expeditionary force and conscription.

History was made and new prec-

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edent created as Canada entered the conflict just one week after Britain declared war Saturday night. But the house of commons went about its business as on an ordinary occasion. The attendance of members was large, but the crowds who filled the galleries the day before to hear statements from party leaders did not turn out for

the vote which came shortly before 11 p.m., E.D.T.

Issuance of the proclamation
Sunday marked Canada's first formal declaration of war. The government of the proclamation of the proclamatic process of the proclamatic process. ernment simply published the Brit-

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sin declaration in 1914.

Since then, however, Canada's relationship to the United Kingdom has changed. Equality of status of the Dominion with the United Kingdom called for a different procedure and so a Canadian proclamation was issued. lamation was issued.

At first it was understood arrangements were being made to have the proclamation signed personally by the King. The fact that it did not issue immediately after adoption of the address Saturday night was believed due to an effort

in this direction.

In Special Edition

The proclamation was issued shortly after 1 p.m., E.D.T., Sunday, in a special edition of the Canada Gazette. It was dated Government House, Ottawa, and bore the seal of the Governor-General, Lord Tweedsmuir, acting in the King's name under his usual authority.

"I am told that my present stand means my political death," Mr. Lapointe said during the debate. "Well, it would not be a dishonourable end and I am ready to make the sacrifice for the sake of being

Mr. Lapointe, who has had more right." years in the house of commons than any other member and who is one of the three present members who were in parliament at the time of the 1914 war session, was given an ovation from all parties.

"Our King is at war and this parliament is sitting to decide whether we will make his cause our

own," he said.

Sees No Resistance

While declaring he and his three ministerial colleagues from Quebec would resign if the government altered its stand against conscription and proposed such legislation, Mr. Lapointe said, if the need arose, no government would be able to no government would be able to resist the demand which would come from all parts of Canada to send an expeditionary force over-

(Pension Minister Power, Works seas. Minister Cardin and Senator Raoul Dandurand, minister without portfolio, are the other Quebec minis-

ters.)

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> After the Great War the minister said he had become a propagandist for peace and had worked for and supported the League of Nations, but he had told his fellow countrymen always that "it was useless to think there might be a grave conflict into which we would not again be drawn."

"Devotion to peace does not mean ignorance or blindness. England has worked for peace. I say, therefore, that it is a crying calumny to say that England is responsible for anything that has led to the present conflict. France has worked for peace, and it is slander to say that France is responsible.'

Common Status

Mr. Lapointe summarized the reasons Canada could not be neutral while Great Britain was at war. "We have a common national status as British subjects. We are using the diplomatic and consular functions of Great Britain and throughout the world.

"Our shipping legislation is predicated on our alliance with Great Britain. If we had neutrality we would have to close Canadian ports to all armed vessels of Britain. We would have to prevent enlistment. on Canadian soil for the army or navy of Britain,

"We would have to protect our neutrality against British vessels. Canadians would have to fight British vessels if they wanted to be neutral during a war."

Mr. Lapointe ridiculed the idea put forth in some quarters that there might be a form of "mitigated" or partial neutrality.

"As a constitutional student—as I think I am—as a public man and as minister of justice in Canada I state, with all my responsibility, that there is no such thing as mitigated or partial neutrality."

While he approved the govern-ment's stand not to send an expeditionary force overseas at the present time, the minister declared, if the need arose "no government would be able to resist the pressure from all parts of Canada for an expeditionary force.
"Those in Quebec who say that

we will have conscription in spite of what some of us are saying, are doing the work of disunion.

Huge Expenditure

Ottawa, Sept. 11. -– (CP) – A resolution appeared to-day on the house of commons votes and proceedings for the expenditure of sums not exceeding \$100,000,000 to defray expenses of the war during the current fiscal year which ends next March 31.

The money is to be spent under authority of orders-in-council for the following purpose:

The security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada.

The conduct of naval, military and air operations in or beyond Canada.

Promoting the continuance of trade, industry and business communications, whether by means of insurance or indemnity against war risks or in any other manner whatsoever.

The carrying out of any measures deemed necessary or advisable by the governor-in-council in consequence of the existence of a state of war; special warrants to the total amount of \$16,454,120 issued on or since August 25, 1939, under section 25 of the Consolidated Revenue and Audit act, 1931, to be included in the said sum of \$100,000,000.

With provision also empowering the governor-in-council to raise by way of loan under the provisions of the Consolidated Revenue and Audit act, 1931, such sum or sums of money, not exceeding in the whole the sum of \$100,000,000, as may be required for the purpose of defraying the aforesaid expenses. the principal and interest of any such loan to be a charge upon and payable out of the consolidated revenue fund.