

LAURIER TELLS MENAGE OF HUN TO CIVILIZATION

**If Europe Were Crushed Ger-
many Would Prepare For
War On U. S.**

(Western Associated Press)

MONTREAL, Dec. 10.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in his address at the Monument National here last evening, declared that the entente cordiale between Great Britain and France, the mother countries of the two principal races in Canada, did not seem to exist in Canada to the same extent.

Sir Wilfrid quoted from a letter by Oliver Asselin to the minister of militia, in which the nationalist offered to raise a French-Canadian regiment.

"Asseline says," Sir Wilfrid continued, "that to fight with the Allies is to fight for civilization, and there are not two ideas about this in the civilized world. He says that he does not depart from his ideas. I know Mr. Asselin's ideas. I have learned them, but I have no reproach to make. We are in a free country, but when he comes back from the war, covered with glory, we will again hear those ideas.

"To claim that it is the duty of each man to fight is to claim it is the collective duty of a nation to fight, and it is because of that fact that Mr. Asselin is enabled to carry out the noble aspirations which animate him.

"Now," the veteran Liberal leader went on, "I have talked the war from a point of view of humanity, and what is the effect on Canada? Canada is interested. Germany wanted world dominion. She wanted to start by crushing France, Britain and Italy,

and then Germany would have its hand in the old world.

Will Regret Neutrality

"Do not then forget that the powers in that case would be Germany and the United States, two continents face to face. Perhaps Germany, bruised by the war, would not be ready to start war on the United States at once, but it would start at once with military preparations for the next war and the United States would start at once to become a military nation.

"The world understands that if Germany triumphs in this war the United States will regret its neutrality in the war, as Britain today regrets its neutrality in 1870.

"I appeal to the good sense of my compatriots, all of them. There is danger. During my long career I

have never made an appeal to one section of the country, never addressed myself to only my own race, but always to the universal conscience of the people of the whole country.

"Now it is to you that I address myself, and for what reason? It is because there are men who say that the French-Canadians are afraid to fight for Great Britain and for France. If this is one of the cases which have inspired Mr. Asselin in what he is doing, again I extend to him my congratulations. If I say a word to you, my compatriots, it is to show the blood there is in your veins."

Admires France

Sir Wilfrid then referred to the admiration he felt for France in this war, and the manner in which all detrimental influences in France had disappeared.

"I am forty years in public life, and in all parts of the country I have always proclaimed my French origin, but at the same time, have always made my declaration that British institutions are greater than all others. I have always thought of these two great nations, Britain and France, marching at the vanguard of civilization together and I praise heaven that I have lived to see the 'entente cordiale'—an entente, I am sorry to say, which is greater perhaps between the two mother countries than in this country. Those who have patriotism should work to restore harmony here on a basis acceptable by all, understood by all, with justice to all.

"When our young soldiers come back from the front, and Mr. Asselin, when he comes back, there should be an end of discord. French-Canadian and English-Canadian have fallen side by side, and now sleep together in eternal sleep in the soil of France. If these difficulties here continued, they would rise from their graves and cry to us here, 'peace.'"

Defense Canada's Duty

"People in Montreal have said that Canada should not take part in this war, and should only defend its own soil. But there is no merit in that. Any man who would not defend his own soil would be worthy the indignation of everyone. That is the most elemental of duties. For a noble cause we must do more than our duty.

"I have heard it said that it is a crime for our Canadians to offer our arms in battle in Europe. When the Turks besieged Vienna a long time ago, did the King of Poland hesitate? No. He came with his armies and in the great battle drove back the Turks, saved the city and Christianity.

"If Germany is victorious in this war all Europe will be at her feet. If we need another example, let us look at the example of Lafayette, who left France to help America. If we need another example, we can look at the United States, who went to Cuba to save the people from Spanish tyranny.

Cause of Liberalism

"Young Liberals, this war is the cause of Liberalism. You have heard some people say that in this war England has reaped what she has sown. This idea is affirmed and reaffirmed in Montreal (Sir Wilfrid had in his hand a copy of a local publication) that she should not have allowed Prussia to degrade France in 1870." Sir Wilfrid then referred to the politics of those days, and publication of projected secret treaties in which Na-

poison the third participated, which had alienated sympathy in England from France.

"Today," continued Sir Wilfrid, "British armies are on the soil of France to defend it against the Prussians. Those who make statements—to hurt recruiting—would ask Canada to commit the same fault they accuse England of having made in 1870. I see the house of my neighbor burning. Do I go into the question of his conduct while it is burning? More than that, I see France attacked by Germany; England going to her help. And yet some people here saying that we should not help. England is accused of not helping France in 1870, but these same people say that France is not above reproach, and allowed Prussia to despoil Denmark.

Humanity's Cause Triumphed

"In 1914 in the British parliament it was the cause of humanity which triumphed. France addressed herself to England and asked for help to save her. Britain that day immediately replied and covered the seas with its fleets, and immediately rushed its whole army over, and started to raise new armies of 4,000,000 men, and English, Scottish and Irish rushed to range themselves beneath the banner, without conscription or force upon them, but for liberty and civilization.

"I hear another objection. Is it any use for Canada to send 100,000 or 200,000 men across in the midst of millions and millions of Germans, Austrians, French, British and others.

What can our few men do? It is little for them with their millions, and yet the sacrifice is enormous upon us.

"I will not admit that what we are doing is without result, and will be without result on the final decision. (Cheers.)

Tribute to Canadians

"Is it for us Canadians to say that numbers alone count, and not courage? Our history is filled with incidents which show that the weak have often triumphed. We have the memory of Dollard Des Ormeaux, who did not fear to die, but who saved the colony. We have the testimony of General French to the effect that our men have not lost the courage of their ancestors and know how to die. And at Langhemarcq, that day, who was it saved the day, recovered the cannon, and held the field? Who but our own sons.

"It is not only the material help, however. We know that Germany has aimed at world-wide domination. We know it on unmistakable evidence, on official French documents published at the outbreak of the war. Germany thought that as soon as Britain was in war, the empire would crack and disappear—that Ireland would be torn by civil war. But the answer was different. It was the sight of British subjects in all parts of the world rising with arms in their hands, and what was the cause

"The cause is liberty which we love. It was a great lesson for the German people."