

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1914.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

### THE PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

The annual financial statement of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31st, is published this morning, and should prove eminently satisfactory to all interested in the success of the Province of New Brunswick. It shows the finances of the province to be in a very satisfactory shape. The close of the year showed a credit balance on all accounts of \$147,423, while the ordinary receipts exceeded the ordinary expenditures by almost \$11,500.

The fact that each year sees an increase in our ordinary revenues is excellent evidence that the country is prospering, as well as that public funds are being honestly collected, while the splendid attention being paid to the great public services, and the clear showing made in the accounts evidences the same honesty of administration in the provincial expenditures.

For the year just closed the ordinary revenue was the highest in the history of the province, and this despite the fact that in the item of succession duties alone there was a falling off of \$78,000. However, the province had an unexpected bonanza in the form of \$66,382 received from the Dominion Government, payment in the fisheries claim. New Brunswickers hardly require to be reminded that for years under the Liberal regime at Ottawa the Dominion Government claimed they had a right to the profits of the fishing privileges in the inland waters of this province, and collected such profits. The New Brunswick Government claimed that such collection by the Dominion authorities was not fair as the profits so obtained were, in reality, part of our territorial revenue and as such our property. Finally, the Dominion Government conceded that the claim was correct but for years afterwards it was impossible to get a refund of the amounts improperly collected. This was not accomplished until after the present Federal Government had taken office and Hon. J. D. Hazen had become Minister of Marine and Fisheries. As the result of Mr. Hazen's efforts the refund was obtained and the amount paid over.

A notable feature of the statement is that although the lumber cut has been rather below normal the returns from the territorial revenue are the largest in the history of the province. Comparison of the returns of today with the comparatively small sums received from this source during the regime of the Robinson-Pugsley plunderbund will illustrate at once that since 1908 the crown land revenues have been honestly collected and turned in to the public treasury. The lumber cut on provincial crown lands was as large under former governments as it has been since 1908, yet the receipts from this source have been higher since the defeat of the Robinson-Pugsley administration than ever before in provincial history.

A particularly interesting, though comparatively small, item of the provincial revenues is the return from the school books. The receipts from this source were \$17,242, while a glance at the expenditures column will show that for the purchase of the books only \$15,793 was expended, thus giving a clear gain of nearly \$1,500 to the province.

The people of New Brunswick will know that they now secure the books necessary for their children's use in school for just about half what they cost before the Hazen Government smashed the iniquitous school book ring, which had the protection and support of Mr. Pugsley and the gentleman who is now posing as the opposition leader. Despite the fact that the cost of school books has been reduced to the people, the Government is able to make the account show on the right side of the ledger. A profit on school books for which the people have to pay is not a desirable profit and the Government does not desire it; consequently, it would not be at all surprising if, as soon as it can be practically done, a further reduction in the price of these books might be made.

While the revenue showing of the provincial statement is gratifying, it is no more so than that made by the provincial expenditures, for perusal of the items will demonstrate that all the great public services have not been stinted during the year. On agriculture there is an increase of \$3,000 over 1913 and with such increase there will be none to find fault, for it must be generally realized that agriculture is the prime industry of this province and cannot be too liberally supported by the Government. The present Government has done particularly

good work in this regard and has thereby earned the warm approval of all classes of people.

On education the increased expenditure over 1913 is upwards of \$3,500. This is an expenditure which will also be highly endorsed, in fact if any criticism could be made it might be that the province can never spend as much money in this direction as the importance of the service merits. The present Government, however, has definitely improved the educational conditions, and as the revenues increase and the province prospers we may hope to possess the splendid technical schools and institutions of public instruction which mean so much to the ultimate prosperity of any country.

Taken altogether the statement is decidedly good. It shows the provincial finances to be in a perfectly healthy condition. Evidence to this effect, however, is already to hand in the readiness with which the small investors of the province responded to the invitation to take up provincial bonds without having recourse to the usual intermediary brokers. New Brunswick faces the New Year with the very brightest prospects.

### MR. CARVELL'S RECORD.

The Times becomes almost frantic in the haste with which it rushes to the defence of Mr. Carvell and the ferocity with which it boldly declares that it is proud of his record. Well, the Dark Lantern Brigadier of Carleton County has some record, but we do not imagine he will devote much attention to it during the Carleton County campaign. If he did, and told the truth, he could furnish much interesting material regarding several transactions upon which the people of this province would almost with one accord be inclined to account him an authority.

Mr. Carvell could, if he would, provide much interesting and important information regarding the gigantic Central Railway steals, in which the members of the Grit party, Grit politicians, Grit ward and district heelers and contractors had their hands and arms buried to the armpits in the public funds of this country. But Mr. Carvell won't.

Mr. Carvell could, if he would, relate the most interesting sort of stories regarding the good old days when two, and three, and even seven price bridges were so common as to cause little or no comment. But Mr. Carvell won't.

Mr. Carvell could, if he would, tear aside the curtain of mystery surrounding the graft and plundering in connection with the National Transcontinental Railway contracts in this province. But Mr. Carvell won't.

Mr. Carvell knows he could tell about all these things; and Mr. Carvell knows he won't tell about them. And the Times knows Mr. Carvell could tell, and the Times also knows Mr. Carvell won't tell. And the Times does not dare to ask him for the information. In the face of all these things for the Times to say it is proud of Mr. Carvell's record is a joke, a ghastly one for the Times, perhaps, but a joke nevertheless.

### SHOOTING HOLES IN THE FLAG OF TRUCE

The Grit newspapers in apologizing for the Carvell determination to set aside a sacrifice in the county of Carleton, and the consequent violation of the political truce by the adherents of the Dark Lantern Brigadier, seek to show that the provincial opposition party had the right to name a candidate either in Carleton or St. John if they desired to do so. No one questions the right of any political party to contest an election to a vacant seat no matter where it may be located, but the action of the provincial opposition party in "plunging the country into party strife at a time when the thoughts of the people should be directed to other things," to quote the language one of the Grit newspapers in another province used when attempting to prevent a general election, has been productive of unfavorable newspaper comment. In the sister province of Nova Scotia, The Halifax Herald, referring to the situation in New Brunswick, has this to say:

"As a result of the investigation into the so-called 'Dugal charges,' Hon. J. K. Flemming has resigned his position as premier of New Brunswick and been nominated to contest Carleton county against F. B. Carvell, his chief prosecutor—that Liberal leader who blackguarded the great British General French, now fighting Canada's battle in Flanders, and foully

standard twenty-five per cent. of the Canadian militia as a lot of 'boozers.' In consequence of Flemming's resignation the New Brunswick government has been reorganized. This necessitates by-elections in St. John and Carleton counties. Attorney-General Baxter is running in St. John.

"A few days ago the St. John Telegraph in a two-column report announced that 'the truce' would be religiously observed and that no Liberal candidate would be nominated against Attorney-General Baxter. On Saturday, however, the Liberals of Carleton county decided to 'shoot holes through the flag of truce' as far as that county was concerned, hauled down the 'white flag' and forced all the horrors of political warfare at this season—in spite of their preaching of 'peace and good-will in politics during the war.' And so the Guerilla Grits have fouled the 'flag of truce' and are going to 'undermine the foundations of the Nation and the Empire' by a bloody political pastures of Carleton county!"

### CANADIAN NATIONAL PORTS.

(Frederick Gleaner.)

The visit of the members of the Harbor Commission of Montreal to St. John on the 10th inst. of Hon. J. D. Hazen is an incident of more than passing interest in the evolution of the policy of co-operation between the Canadian national ports, which the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has advocated and promoted ever since he went to Ottawa and took charge of the important department which he has administered so successfully. It is in the best interests of Montreal that St. John should have the most up-to-date and complete docks and other facilities for handling the trade of the port that can be provided and it is also of at least indirect benefit to St. John that Montreal has what is declared to be the best port equipment on this side of the Atlantic, for with ports that are capable of properly taking care of the rapidly growing ocean traffic the trade can thus be held for Canadian routes throughout the entire year.

The port of St. John is rapidly having its facilities added to as a result of the active work of Hon. Mr. Hazen and the progressive development policy of the Borden Government. In recent years the new docks on the West Side to provide the accommodations which were lacking last winter was an important step in this direction, while the expenditure of the millions of dollars in the Courtenay Bay section is one of the greatest public undertakings in the history of the Dominion; and the citizens of St. John and the people of the Maritime Provinces know that Hon. Mr. Hazen is the man to whom credit is due for these works. The members of the Montreal Harbor Commission have recently inspected some of the most important European harbors, and they will now give St. John the benefit of the information which they derived by their tour on the other side of the Atlantic so that the development of the great Winter Port can be carried along in the most systematic and successful manner possible. Col. Labelle and Mr. Robertson have expressed themselves in interviews since their arrival as acutely surprised at the extent and excellence of the facilities of St. John harbor.

### Robinson Redivivus.

The Dubious Drama of the Doleful Dumps.

Carvell (disguised as Buster Brown) What have we here? A conference, it seems. And I was not invited. How is that? Is our field leader fixing up some schemes?

To keep the Hope of Carleton from the bat?

Sweet William, you're old and losing. And a mutinous spirit is seizing our crew. If you'd hang on as master of the ship you'll have to fight with me till all is blue.

At Robinson's heels let the choice spirits tag. Trader and doctor, pharisee and scribe, But I've the swag and I'll have the swag.

For I've more cunning than all this dull tribe.

The Master. Oh, blasted Carvell, thy discordant Creak.

The peace of many a gathering has broke. Here all was concord, sweetest harmony. And gentle words of fragrant flattery. My henchman, tried and trusted, were to me

Sweet homages doing with no thought of brewing Trouble for anybody but the Tories. Of whom we all believe the tallest stories.

And I, the master, who has labored long To build a party platform, new and strong. Was just proceeding to reveal the way Wherein lies victory on the appointed day.

When you burst in, demanding with a To know what this calm conclave was about.

Robinson. A plague upon these interruptions. I Would know at once what is the battle cry.

Our master thinks will rally all the money. And give our Tory foes all kind of fits. Proceed Sweet William. What is the non-fiction?

With which you hope to win the next election?

The Master. As I was saying what we need to get Our party on its mettle is a fret. Work of all policies, shot thro' and thro' With promises, a savory ragout—

Carvell (interrupting). Sweet William, do you think I am a Head. With fierce zeal by methods of my own.

Greatly I've served you in foul fight or fair.

And I demand: Why was I not asked here?

Robinson. Cease Carvell, cease thy noisy bluster. If you want to know the essence

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.

Me and pop was taking a wawk yestidday afternoon, and we startid to go past Mr. Wilkiness house, and Mr. Wilkins was standing in the parlor window holding Winfield, Winfield beeing the Wilkiness baby.

Darn it, sed pop, kum awn, Benny, lets wawk past as if we dident see him.

Wich we startid to do, wawkingrite by, perending we didnt no Mr. Wilkine was there waving his hand for us to stop.

Blast it awl, hes nocking awn the window pane now, we cant help but beer that, sed pop. And he stoped, and I stoped, and Mr. Wilkins opened the window with the hand he wasent holding Winfield with, and pop sed, Hele, Wilkins, are you there.

Yes, Ive bin trying to attract yure attentshin awl; the time you were kuming down the street, sed Mr. Wilkins, wat do you think, Winfield nox you, he axullly nox you, as soon as he saw you he startid to jump up and down and point and make a grate fuss about it, theres no donubt about it, he axullly nox you.

Nonsens, he just took a nooshin to jump up and down, that was awl, sed pop.

Nooshin nothing, the child axullly nox you, I tell you, sed Mr. Wilkins, look at him now, wy, he wants to shake hands with you, reetch up and shake hands with him, Potts.

Is that necessary, sed pop, wat if he dus no me; lots of peepil no me. But hes ony 8 months old, sed Mr. Wilkins, ony 8 months old and he nox you, so awn, shake hands with him, cant you see he wants you to.

Well, if he really wishes it, sed pop. And he put his hand up and the baby kwick grabbed a hold of it as if he thawt he was calching sumthing, and pop pulled his hand away agen and looked at it, saying, Confownd it, wat do you no about that, the brat axullly scratched me, look at that mark, for the luv of Mike.

Wat, scratched you, did he really, sed Mr. Wilkins, well wat do you think that for a child of 8 month, an axul scratch, beh, well the little devil, hes never dur that to me yet, I didnt think he cood.

I am honored, I assure you, sed pop, but the next time you sick that kid awn to me, kididly dont mask his vicious intenshins behind a pretenshin of friendship. And pop startid to wawk away rubbing his hand, and I followed him, saying, Lets see it, pop, and Mr. Wilkins kissed Winfield and put down the winid.

Of the reason that your presence Was not wanted here, I can make it pretty clear: Peace we wanted at this muster.

And if you came full well we knew Trouble galore you'd gladly brew. Now that you're here we all can see There'll be no further harmony.

Of all the men our party owns You are the worst for picking bones. Stiff in opinions, always in the wrong. Most everything by starts, and nothing long.

Employing all your time and energies In raising Cain with friends and enemies. Trying every silly antic. Driving everybody frantic, Oh, Carvell, You're a marvel.

And for a blooming biscuit. I'd emite you in the briskeet.

The Master (agitated) Sweet Gentlemen! Dear comrades, tried and true!

Why cant you see that this will never do? This horrid prowess might beyond a doubt Be used to drive our enemies to—well, the right about.

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Button or Buckle Overshoes for Girls and Children, \$1.40, \$1.50, \$1.65.

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Especially do we desire to express our gratitude to the loyal Canadians for their support during the last few months, since the outbreak of this titanic struggle, in which old England and her allies figure in the cause of freedom and right. Despite the depression in trade generally we are happy to state that Canadians have been loyal to our brand of excellent Scotch whisky.

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On behalf of our Canadian agents we extend our heartiest wishes for a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

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