

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1917.

"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.

MICHAEL CLARK'S APPEAL.

During the present session of Parliament Dr. Michael Clark, Liberal member for Red Deer, Alberta, has made two notable addresses. The occasion of the first was the debate on the second reading of the conscription bill, the second, which we publish in full this morning, was delivered in reply to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the debate following the introduction of the Prime Minister's resolution for an extension of the term of Parliament.

Dr. Clark wants no war-time election and he is right. No Canadian desirous of seeing the military effort of this country sustained without interruption is willing to divide the Canadian people on political issues at a time when there should be a union of the very best minds in Canada looking to the winning of the war.

But the election, into which we are to be plunged, has not been brought about by the "war party," if such a term can be used. The men who have done the most to help win the war are most anxious to avoid partisan strife. As the member for Red Deer truly says it is those who have "notoriously" done the least in the direction of war winning who are most determined in their efforts to promote internal division and strife.

St. John people have an example at hand of the truth of that statement. Mr. Pugsley opposed conscription, tried to defeat the measure by an eleventh hour technicality, and voted for a war time election. He has been one of the most persistently partisan agitators in the Canadian House of Commons. What has he done to help win the war? How many recruiting meetings has he addressed in this or any other constituency? Yet Mr. Pugsley in Parliament has had as much to say concerning the Government's management of war problems as if he had really assisted in their solution.

It is men of the Pugsley stripe to whom Dr. Clark refers in his plain, outspoken denunciation of the partisanship which would force an election on the Canadian people in war time. His speech is convincing because it is the utterance of a man who, at the outbreak of war, buried his politics and ranged himself behind the government in support of its war measures. He has never ceased to urge that the duty of this country at this time is to stand solidly behind the Premier in all matters pertaining to the prosecution of the Empire struggle or the welfare of the boys at the front.

And a speech of that sort should wield a mighty influence in the country as the opinion of a sane, big-minded, patriotic Canadian to whom political allegiance is a secondary consideration when weighed against the nation's welfare. The nation's welfare demands that there shall be no division of the people on political lines but a united, concerted movement to discharge our share of the war with no regard to anything save that one great question.

The Standard commends every word of Dr. Clark's patriotic address to the careful attention of its readers.

THE REAL ISSUE.

The Winnipeg Free Press, the chief Liberal newspaper west of the Great Lakes, says the real issue before the people of Canada, and the issue upon which a war-time election will be decided is simply this: "ARE WE GOING TO STAY IN THE WAR, OR ARE WE GOING TO SNEAK OUT OF IT?"

That an issue of this sort should be presented to Canadians is an insult to every loyal citizen. It is as if he were asked whether his sympathies were with Britain or Germany. Yet the Winnipeg newspaper speaks the hard, cold truth when it says "all upon the result of the election, which now seems certain, will depend whether we are to continue fighting, or whether we shall quit."

If Canada returns Laurier and his anti-conscriptionists the interpretation of the verdict will be that we are tired of fighting and intend to quit, leaving the men we have sent to the battle-front to get along as best they can without our assistance. Quebec, at least, will place that interpretation on the result. And Quebec will have the right to speak for practically it is Quebec which is forcing a war-time election upon this country.

It is all very well for anti-conscriptionist newspapers which support Laurier and Pugsley to tell us that we must not criticize Quebec; that we must understand the viewpoint of that province. Well, after Quebec's viewpoint is understood—what then? Gen-

FISHERMEN HAVING PHENOMENAL LUCK

The west side fishermen are making large catches during the past few days principally of sardine herring. Messrs. Hilton and Harry Belyea, in their weir on Saturday, captured 34 hogheads of the fish, which brought them \$44 per hoghead. Yesterday the Belyea brothers caught forty hogheads which brought \$40 per hoghead, bringing them a total of \$2,416 for two days' fishing.

Quite a large fleet of carriers from down the bay ports are at west side accepting the fish and carrying the cargoes down to Eastport and Lunenburg.

The fishermen also report that the season for gaspereaux has been a good one, while bay fishermen state that recently there has been a good large run of salmon.

Down the bay it is reported that the herring fishery is small owing to the presence of schools of pollock and other large fish. The fishermen, however, are making a harvest catching these fish and are drying them for the winter.

DR. MICHAEL CLARK MAKES SPIRITED APPEAL

(Continued from Page 3)

But the question will inevitably be asked, if you determine to settle this on the line of personalities! Who are the people most likely to conduct this war to a satisfactory conclusion? And I venture to say that, so far as clearness of motive is concerned, so far as determination is concerned, so far as working in season and out of season, day and night, with a single eye to victory, for the great principles that are at stake upon the battle-fields of Europe today, there is no man in Canada who is fit to stand in the same company as my right hon. friend the leader of the Government.

We have ample evidence given to us that the faults of the Government will be the main subject of a general election. Will the exposure of the Ross party from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will the detailing of incidents or supposed incidents such as have constituted the first electioneering speech of my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition, help to win this war? Will it encourage recruiting? I venture to think that a campaign conducted by my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition, pure as are his own motives, great imperial statesman as he has been—and I say it without one single reservation, I say it as a friend and with full sincerity—but pure as are his motives, he knows that to expose these facts from one end of the country to the other must have the effect of deterring recruiting and making people wonder whether this war is worth pursuing; and paralyzed as his hands will be during the war by what must be one of the main origins of his power; lacking the driving force on grounds that I do not want to amplify, but which I look upon with sorrow, he will not be in a position, he cannot be in a position, to go on with this war of determination that has characterized the composite supporters of the war.

For the good of the country, for the purity of our politics, the next general election ought not to be fought upon the faults of the Government. Every administration suffers for its faults, and this administration will be no exception to that rule. But when the exposure of the faults of the Government take the mythical form of tales of the jamming of rifles and the weeping of men in the trenches, it constitutes not only an ignominious campaign but an obstacle to the furthering of the determination that I expect to see in the minds of the people of this country. I think that a general election carried on by my right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) along the lines that he has taken tonight will not only divide Canada, but will paralyze Canada; it will put Canada out of the war and render her as a degenerate and inferior portion of the British Empire.

I have tried to amplify a few of the arguments of my right hon. friend the Prime Minister. I have said that in the presentation of those arguments, the debate tonight, being in the nature of a repetition of last year, this afternoon when the Prime Minister sat down, I expected a repetition of what happened last year. I expected a repetition at least to this extent: that my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition would have followed the right hon. gentleman who leads the Government. I thought we had come to the moment of abdication on the part of my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition. I was backed up in a speech of moving and stately eloquence. Canada was committed to undivided efforts for the winning of this war, and that speech of moving and stately eloquence was so able and so cogent that it deprived the rest of the Assembly of any desire to speak. But what happened this year was that a Lieutenant (Mr. Graham) of my right hon. friend's party voted against it. Everybody in this country, fortunately for myself, knows that I favor the substance and principle of his amendment, but it is a right amendment introduced at a wrong time. Having so far endeavored to attain, and thinking having attained, some character of straightforwardness in the minds of the Canadian people, I thought I could venture to run the risk of any misinterpretation that might come by my vote, by being straightforward still and running no risk of being thought to have taken part in what after all was a mere trick to speak to it because I have spoken on it again and again, and the people of this country know where I stand on the question of direct taxation and the conscription of wealth to the war. Following the speech of the hon. member for Bonaville (Mr. Graham) we had a speech from my hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Pugsley), and then

Little Benny's Note Book.

The Discovery of the North Pole.
A Play.

Scene, the north pole.
First Eskimo. It looks like snow, don't it?
2nd Eskimo. It is snow.
First Eskimo. If you was any half as funny as you thawt you was, you'd be pretty funny.
3rd Eskimo. Look at that big wale chasing its tale.
4th Eskimo. Wat does it think it is a kittin?
First Eskimo. I think its a little colder today that wat it was yesterday.
2nd Eskimo. Well, its had a hole day to do it.
First Eskimo. Wy dont you go on the stage, if you think you're durn funny?
3rd Eskimo. Ill slide down a ice berg with anybody.
4th Eskimo. Wats the use?
3rd Eskimo. G, look at that funny looking man getting off of that funny looking boat!
Peery. Ah hah, I have discovered the north pole.
2nd Eskimo. G, wizz, and heer we bin setting on it all morning and never knew it!
Peery. Education is a grate thing.
The end.

Finally we come to the main subject before the House.

I did think when I rose, that I would make an appeal to the right hon. gentlemen who lead the respective sides in this House. I cannot help contrasting what happened last year with what has happened this year. No one can turn his back upon his previous opinions with more delightful grace than my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). Long practice brings one to perfection along certain lines. However, I am bound to say that if the people of this country pretend to have the same policy of last year and will read the speeches tonight they will come to the conclusion that the Prime Minister's position is the same, that the needs are the same, but the change is in my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition. What that change is, I have already characterized, and I do not think the people of this country will be in any doubt about it.

An Appeal For Union.

I wish that, even now, the two right hon. gentlemen who lead the respective parties in this House would consider a moderate proposition. I have stated, taking my illustration from what was said by my right hon. friend who preceded me (Sir Wilfrid Laurier), that an election on the grounds of the Government; I have said that it cannot be fought upon a difference of issue as to policy, because both sides pretend to have the same policy. It would be a splendid thing for this country if, even now, moderate counsels should prevail, and a course of procedure that would redound to the lasting honor of Canada.

What should the next election be fought upon? When the war is nearing an end, of which there is no sign at the present moment, the question of the reconstruction of Canada will come up for consideration, because it must be remembered that the party returned to power in an election now will be in power for four or five years and will have the direction of the destinies of this country along certain lines of policy. When the war is nearing a conclusion, and when the passions raised by it are being hushed by the process of time, the issues of reconstruction.

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Principal

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OBITUARY

Captain George Gale.

The death of Captain George Gale,

aged 44 years, occurred yesterday

morning at his home, 194 Metcalf St.,

after an illness which had continued

for more than a year. He was a son of

the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gale of

Cumberland Bay and is survived by

his wife, one son, Russell, and one

daughter, George. For the last 15

years he has made his home in St.

John, sailing from this port as master

of coasting schooners. The funeral

service will be held at his late resi-

dence this evening and the body will

be taken tomorrow to Cumberland Bay

for interment there.

Alfred Isaac.

The death of Alfred Isaac occurred

yesterday morning at his home, 32

Sydney street, after an illness of only

a week. His illness had been serious,

but his death came as a great shock to

his family and friends. Mr. Isaac,

who was born fifty-seven years ago in

Brooklyn, had been travelling for A.

and I. Isaac. He was a son of the late