

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1915.

"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 MANNING OF THE SHIPS.

In its defence of the Laurier position on the naval question the Telegraph says "The Liberals said we should build, man and maintain the ships." It has already been shown that if Canada's ships were to be of service in the present war the building of them in Canada was out of the question. The yards in which they were to be built would not have been completed for fourteen months from date, and the first ship could not be put into commission before 1919. The Telegraph cannot deny that, and consequently, in view of the fact that the Borden policy was designed to meet an emergency, and that speed of response was one of the essential factors of successful naval aid from this country, it is utterly ridiculous for the Telegraph or the Liberal party to claim that they opposed the Borden bill solely because by it the ships would be built in Britain.

Equally futile is it for the Liberals to claim that the ships would be manned in Canada. In order to pass upon the good faith of the Liberals in making that contention it is necessary first to consider what they did with the manning question when Sir Wilfrid was in power.

It must be remembered first of all that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had, on paper, two distinct naval policies. One was for use while in power and the other for opposition.

When in power he said he would build four cruisers and six destroyers. When out of power and, therefore, bereft of authority, he wanted to make it two battle cruisers, six light cruisers, twelve destroyers and two submarines. Laurier's ideas on naval defence appeared to magnify while in opposition, but as the Telegraph has referred to the Sydney as the type of vessel Laurier would have provided, we, also, shall deal with that type alone and make the comparisons on the Telegraph's own ground.

According to Brassey's Naval Annual, quite an authoritative publication on naval matters, a light cruiser of the Bristol or Sydney type carries about 375 men, of whom fifteen or twenty are officers. For four such ships as proposed by Laurier it would require not less than 1,440 petty officers, stokers and seamen, and about 80 officers. If we include the extra men incidental to the establishment and for the replenishing of crews the total number of men needed under the Laurier plan would be not far short of 2,500.

How did the Laurier government propose to secure that number? Their probable success can best be judged by their performances. In two years, for the Niobe and Rainbow, the Laurier government succeeded in getting 350 men, as can be proved by official statistics. It's best year saw 223 enter the service. But for the Laurier cruisers 2,500 men would be necessary and as such men are signed for a five or seven year period, at least one seventh of them would require to be secured each year. If the Liberals could do no better for the Laurier navy than they did for the Niobe and Rainbow they would, at their best rate of speed, secure 2,230 men in ten years, or, if the Laurier policy of 1910 had been adopted in that year, and the work of enlistment proceeded with at once, the required complement would not be secured in 1920 or after the first ship came out of the yard. By that time the first enlisted of the Laurier patriarchy would be well past the age limit.

But could the men be procured in Canada at all? We do not believe it. Remember Laurier scoffed at the idea of an emergency and therefore could not expect to rely on the extraordinary circumstance of war to stimulate enlistment. Men who would deliberately take up service in the Laurier navy under peace conditions would do so as a career and, in Canada, a naval career cannot be made sufficiently attractive to draw the young men from more lucrative occupations. That was abundantly proven in the case of the Rainbow and Niobe where the Laurier manning scheme failed so absolutely that it was found necessary, a triumph for a Liberal organizer

eventually, to put British sailors on those ships. Evidence can also be obtained from other public services in Canada. Before the war broke out, the Canadian Permanent Corps required about 900 recruits each year, and had trouble in getting them. At that eighty per cent. of the men in the Canadian Permanent Corps up to June of 1914 were not Canadians. The Royal Northwest Mounted Police would naturally be supposed to be an attractive service. It requires more than 200 recruits yearly; yet, from April 1st, 1912, to July 31, 1913, it secured only 61 Canadian recruits and it was necessary to send to England for men.

Yet in the face of these plain facts, the Telegraph contends that the Liberals had serious thought of manning their "navy" in Canada should it ever get beyond the "paper" stage. The facts completely show that the ships could not be built in Canada, could not be manned in Canada and would not have been ready for almost four years from date. Yet the Telegraph attempts to bluff its readers into the belief that if the Laurier policy had been adopted Canada would have had cruisers to emulate the splendid achievements of the Sydney. In the chase and elegant language which Mr. Pugsley applied to Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, "such ignorance would make a horse laugh."

IN GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

The Telegraph professes to believe that the result in the municipal elections in Gloucester county on Monday last showed a distinct triumph for Mr. P. J. Veniot, the Liberal organizer. The election returns from that county showed that thirteen Conservatives and five Liberals had been elected. The political complexion of the former county council was Liberal by a majority of six, the council standing twelve Liberals to six Conservatives. There is no need to analyse the figures, the results speak for themselves and illustrate plainly that Mr. Veniot, whose political life ended in 1912, can never be resurrected.

To those familiar with Telegraph methods it may appear strange that if the result in Gloucester proved such a sweeping triumph for Mr. Veniot and the Liberal party, mention was not made of it in Tuesday's issue of that newspaper. Such shrinking modesty is entirely foreign to the Telegraph, or to Mr. Veniot, and is in direct contrast to their conduct in the municipal election of 1913, when such phrases as "The handwriting on the Wall" and other old friends were requisitioned to express the ebullient spirits of the Liberal organizer.

This year the Telegraph did not even publish the result in the Gloucester county election until after it had already appeared in The Standard, and then, instead of presenting the facts as they exist, it gave space to a communication from Bathurst, utterly misrepresenting the situation and putting forth the contention that "The Liberals as a party took absolutely no hand in the campaign." Editorially the Telegraph remarks that "in the judgment of Liberals Mr. Veniot has done exceedingly well in that county" (Gloucester), "and in others, and if the process of turning Gloucester upside down is not yet complete it might be well for The Standard to wait for Commissioner Chandler's report."

Such advice from the Telegraph is an entirely new phase of the political character of that many sided sheet. When did the Telegraph ever permit the fact that a political case was under the consideration of a regularly appointed commissioner to interfere with its prejudgment and partisan attempts to convict the accused? The Standard is well satisfied to await the report of Commissioner Chandler before commenting on the cases into which he enquired. His decision, no matter what it may be, cannot change the fact that the Liberal organization in Gloucester county received a severe set back in Monday's elections.

If the election of thirteen Conservatives, in a county formerly represented by but five, can be construed into a triumph for a Liberal organizer

whose sole effort for the past six months has been to attempt to prejudice the people of that county against everything bearing the "hated name of Conservative," then there assuredly is no room for complaint except from Mr. Veniot's friends. The Standard is quite willing to permit the very obvious facts to speak for themselves and the people of Gloucester to draw their own conclusions. That they can do so effectively is quite evident from the result of the election.

WHY THE LETHARGY?

While hundreds of men walked the streets of St. John last evening, scarcely a score attended the recruiting meeting held in the offices at the corner of Mill and Union streets, and it might well be asked why? In direct contrast to the attendance at the meeting last night is the case of a meeting recently held in a Kings county village, one of the smallest in the county, where the hall was packed and, at the close, fourteen recruits were secured. Why should this condition exist? Why are the young men of St. John less responsive to the call of Empire than their fellows in the rural districts? Does the message lose its force in the city, or are our young men more indifferent than those in other parts of the province?

The record in other cities of equal size is much better than that in St. John. The City of London, Ontario, has raised battalions where St. John has not recruited companies. Yet, if the Germans were to triumph over the armies of the Allies, and German ships should manage to fight their way across the Atlantic, St. John would be one of the first places in Canada to be attacked. Of course the possibility is remote, but the fact that it exists at all should be sufficient to arouse more interest in the recruiting campaign.

Distinctly the young men of St. John are not afraid. They only require to be aroused. If, for instance, an air raid should be made upon this city and bombs dropped, there would be such an influx of recruits on the following day as would tax the efforts of the recruiting officers. Our young men are foolishly indifferent, and, by their lethargy, they are neglecting a duty which, by this time, should be abundantly plain to all Canadians. It is a condition that should not exist. St. John boasts of its proud title "The City of The Loyalists." Has the Loyalist spirit departed?

The Result in Gloucester

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir,—The result of the municipal elections in Gloucester—thirteen Conservatives, five Liberals, should bring home to P. J. Veniot the truth of the old saying, "Don't hullo till you are out of the woods." Two years ago when, on account of lack of organization, the Liberals stole a march on us, it was amusing to hear the weather cock prophet of the North Shore, ebullient over the victory won, pour forth in the "Telegraph" a bombastic epistle the echo of which should be deafening to him now. The election of Gloucester, having given him his quietus in 1912, the municipal elections of 1913 relieved him of the sombre state of mind into which is defeat had placed him.

Exuberant in the victory gained he came forth with his favorite sayings: "This is the beginning of the end." "The hand writing on the wall." "A Conservative Waterloo," etc. In the face of the present result, after the efforts he made to have candidates of his political party elected in every parish outside of Bathurst, how those expressions of two years ago must strike home. A mind reader looking at his face would discover the following thoughts dwelling in his mind: "No more caucus of the Liberal majority of the council, no more dictation to my tame followers, no more supporters of mine placed in the different profitable offices in the county, and foregone is the result of the next federal or local election. The vision I had of redeeming the county has vanished and for years, perhaps for ever, the sceptre of my power is broken."

Leaving him to his own mournful reflections it is well to state a few of the reasons which have guided the electors of the county in throwing out the Liberal majority of the council. In the last two years, while taxing the county a few thousand dollars more each year there was a balance due by the county of over \$7,000. This was one of the first reasons of the turn-about.

Another reason that has guided the electors in favoring the Conservative candidates lies in the good work of the local government on the roads and bridges of the county. Then there is the large amount of money expended in the county since the 21st September, 1911. In the four years and a half that Mr. Turgeon had the patronage, 1896-1900, less than \$28,000 were spent on public works in our county. The Conservatives in the last four years have spent over \$360,000. These figures are eye openers and the intelligent electors of Gloucester at the first opportunity offered them have shown their appreciation of the splendid work of both governments. Mr. Veniot can also be assured that his fault findings with some petty officials will not stop any progressive elector from casting his ballot for the Conservative party.

Sincerely yours,
A YOUNG CONSERVATIVE
Gloucester County, October 6, 1915.

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

SID HUNT
Sid Hunt is a friend of mine,
He comes around a lot,
And when anybody sees what? to him,
Sid sees, Do I look like a wat?

Hes got a baby brother
Always howling with its mouth open wide,
So maybe if you keep aww looking,
You cood see its teeth growing inside.

It can only move in a baby coach,
And Sid is the wun has to wheel it,
He leaves it places wile he goes and plays
Proberly hoping sunbuddy will steel it.

Sid Hunt has freckles aww his face,
Especially aww his nose,
Maybe he has sunn uthir places,
But thare aww the wuns that shows.

He can bat pritty good and throw a cerve,
And jump the street in 5,
His mothir makes grate mullassie candy,
But his fathirs not alive.

His mothir tells him to say, No mam,
Insted of saying, Nup,
And he wants to be a mounted plectecman
As soon as he grows up.

Hes always etting a pretill,
Aww akkount of his appertite,
And you haff to ask him about 5 times,
If you ixpect to get a bite.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Mr. and Mrs. James Crane, Sussex;
L. C. Hustie, do; J. C. Robertson, Toronto;
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Ont: Chas Beazley, Halifax; W. S. Wilber, Elmsdale; W. H. Studd, Halifax;
Lewis Cass, Boston, Mass; Lt. H. D. Warreir, Valcartier; J. H. Kirk, Quebec; E. L. Haines, London; J. P. Farrell, Fredericton; Chas S. Perkins, Boston;
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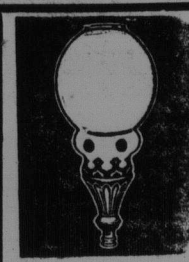
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James W. I
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Interesting For Boys

HERE'S QUITE A

You will all have read the Fund for Soldiers' Children," which each Saturday, now set to work and girls you can get, who will pr addresses to me, together with the cards to be given to them. To in the greatest number of names 7th October, I shall award either LOVELY STORY BOOK, whichever age limit in this contest, and only to the list.

Now get busy and see if we c tries in this competition.

STANDARD C

For Boys

Full Name.....

Address.....

Age Last Birt

HANDWRITING

As many of you have shown are splendid writers I am letting same. Write the following qu svers, on a piece of white paper coupons and send in to me not Both boys and girls may compete older than 15 years of age last sends me in the most neatly writ correct answers I shall award a p or NICE STORY BOOK whichever

WHERE IS PETROGRAD?

WHO IS THE KING OF BUI

WHO IS KING GEORGE'S E

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Fell Into Ship's Hold.

While working on board the steamer Glenmount, lying at Starr's wharf, Charles Colston, a Swede, fell down the hold yesterday morning and re