

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1916.

"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 WAR OR POLITICS, WHICH?

The Anglican Synod of the Diocese of Toronto has adopted a resolution involving conscription for Canada and pledging the Church of England in that diocese to stand behind the Government in any action it may deem it necessary to take. There is no doubt that the recruiting campaign all over the Dominion is not progressing as rapidly as is desired but it is doubtful whether the condition is such as to warrant conscription.

In considering this matter let us be quite frank about it. Have we given the voluntary system a fair trial? Is it true that all the young men who can be induced to don khaki of their own volition are now in the ranks or have, at least, made an honest effort to get there? Is it not a fact that other questions have been allowed to intrude themselves on the public mind and to occupy the place that should be filled with the war and war matters? And are not the newspapers and the petty political critics largely to blame for this condition?

The Telegraph appears to be quite perturbed over the situation, but it lacks the courage to go to the root of the matter and take its share of the blame. It attempts to find fault with the Government for not doing more to stimulate recruiting, but what encouragement has it given the Government for what has been done? And is its latest attitude not due to a desire to find fault with the administration at Ottawa and Fredericton rather than to help fill the ranks of the regiments which New Brunswick is endeavoring to raise?

Has it occurred to the Telegraph that what ought to be the most potent influences in the stirring of the public mind to a realization of its duties in this matter of recruiting have for months been absorbed in the most sordid and despicable party politics? Has it occurred to the Telegraph that the muckraking propensities of certain Grit politicians have caused the country to be flooded with evidence concerning unproven charges of "dishonesty" when such charges should never have been made?

The Canadian Parliament was in session for weeks and months. How many patriotic or helpful speeches came from the opposition side of the House in all that time? Only one, and that one the Telegraph did not dare to print.

Our Canterbury street contemporary need not go outside of its own office to find evidence of the truth of The Standard's contention.

What has occupied the greater amount of space in the editorial and news columns of the Telegraph for the past two months? The recruiting speakers or Mr. Frank Carroll? To which object has the Telegraph devoted the most of its attention? Has it endeavored to cement and harmonize the men of both political parties in New Brunswick that they might, unitedly set themselves to see that this province at least did its full share in the way of recruiting? Or was the Telegraph more concerned in giving space to the productions of its political fictionist in an effort to create strife and discord and turn the thoughts of the people away from the prime duty of the hour?

Of whom have we heard most through the Telegraph during the past few weeks, the Premier of Canada, or of Great Britain, or Col. John Wesley Allison? And, if Allison, why Allison? Is he a national figure or a chief factor in the winning or the losing of the war? Certainly not. The most one can say of him is that he is the man by whose evidence the political party supported by the Telegraph hoped to gain a little cheap political capital.

The whole affair in which Allison was concerned was of comparatively little importance. Of materially less importance to the country than to the Liberals and investigation of it could easily have waited until after the war. But it was not to be. The Liberals are out of power and it came to the minds of certain party muckrakers that Allison might be able to say something which would help them to get back in. Consequently, all matters of Empire importance must wait until the Liberal end was served, for the machine section of the Liberal

party is as hungry for power as the Germans are for meat.

One Liberal dared to protest. He was ignored. One Liberal newspaper dared to raise its voice against the miserable campaign of scandal. At once it had been bought by the wicked Tories. And so the war was crowded out of the public mind.

Is it not full time for a return to the standards by which opinion was gauged earlier in the conflict, for a rallying of men of all parties and all creeds to the cause of the nation against the common foe? Bilingualism can wait. Puse contract scandals and allegations of war graft can be put aside until the matter which should be first in the public mind has been satisfactorily disposed of. Until this is done and an honest effort is made not so much by the Government as by the people themselves there is no need to raise a cry for conscription, or to insinuate that the Government has not shown sufficient concern as to the winning of the war. Let the people, and the newspapers, and the opposition, do as well as the Government has done and it will never become necessary to place a conscription law on the statute books of Canada.

## THE UNFAIR TELEGRAPH.

The Telegraph yesterday morning showed that it was prepared to follow the example of the Toronto Globe in spreading the doctrine that no matter what the verdict of the Meredith-Duff Commission might be, the Liberals would be expected to take their opinions from the biased newspaper reports provided by the press of that party. The Telegraph said, "What ever the Commission's verdict the country knows the facts. It will place the responsibility."

The Toronto Globe, some days ago, intimated that it made little difference whether the Commission found "guilty" or "not guilty," the people had already made up their minds from the newspaper reports. The Telegraph seeks to express the same idea, but in different language. It is evident that both newspapers are attempting to prepare the public mind for a verdict of "not guilty."

It is also interesting to note that the Telegraph yesterday morning made absolutely no reference to the opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Duff at Wednesday's session of the enquiry when he said "THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN THE EVIDENCE THAT POINTS TO ANY CORRUPT OR DISHONEST ACT ON THE PART OF THE SHELL COMMITTEE OR SIR SAM HUGHES. MY MIND IS QUITE CLEAR ON THAT POINT."

This is the statement of a member of the Commission which is investigating the "charges" preferred by Mr. Kyte and Mr. Carroll, and of whom the Liberal Ottawa Free Press said, "TO IMPLY THAT JUSTICE DUFF WOULD BE A PARTY TO A FINDING THAT THE EVIDENCE DID NOT WARRANT, OR THAT HE IS LIKELY TO VIEW THE EVIDENCE FROM AN ANGLE FAVORABLE TO THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, IS ABSURD TO ANYONE WHO KNOWS JUSTICE DUFF."

The people of New Brunswick do not know Justice Duff, but they do know something about the Ottawa Free Press, and they know it as a Liberal newspaper, consistently advocating the principles of the Liberal party, but which refused to support all the dirty partisan criticism to which Mr. Carroll and Mr. Kyte sought to subject the Government.

As already pointed out in these columns the Free Press, though it has no quarrel with the Liberal party, has effectively dealt with the method of "trial by newspaper" which has been adopted by the enemies of Sir Sam Hughes, and which the Telegraph, to judge from its expression of yesterday, is now prepared to inflict upon its circle of readers. That any newspaper should presume to say that the Canadian people will pay no attention to the verdict of the Commission, but will form their judgment on newspaper opinions, is a decidedly cheeky piece of business. Of what value is the Commission if the people is not to be guided by its finding?

It should not be forgotten that the Government freely gave the opposition the right to name one of the two

commissioners, and Mr. Justice Duff was the gentleman named by Sir Wilfrid. Consequently, when he declares that there is no evidence of dishonesty or corruption against either Sir Sam Hughes or the Shell Committee, his words should be recorded some weight by the newspapers of his own party. Sir Sam Hughes demanded a full and free enquiry, and all the witnesses called were most frank in their statements. These facts should at least have earned respectful attention for the work of the Commission and an honest awaiting of its finding.

The Standard has always contended that the Kyte charges were political in their intent, and that the attack was directed rather with an idea of injuring Sir Sam Hughes and the Government than the desire to bring out all the facts. That The Standard had correctly measured the situation is now evident from the fact that newspapers such as the Toronto Globe and the Telegraph, violently opposed to Sir Sam Hughes, are endeavoring to forestall the Commission's verdict with a politically jaundiced finding of their own.

It will not do. The people will not be so easily fooled. They realize that the Commission will render an honest verdict in accordance with the facts, and without regard to the desires of Mr. Carroll or Mr. Kyte. When that verdict is in public opinion will be formed upon it. And that opinion will place the responsibility for the political force with which this country has had to contend at a time when all thought should be directed toward the prosecution of the Empire's war.

## THE CITY STREETS.

The Commissioner of Public Works cannot be congratulated upon the condition of the city streets, most of which, from their appearance, would convey the impression that the ordinary work of keeping down the dust has not been done with necessary regularity. Important thoroughfares such as Main street and Douglas Avenue are in a disgraceful condition. Brussels street is in very poor shape and numerous other instances can be cited to show the need of an active campaign for street improvement.

The season is approaching when St. John should look its best. The Tourist Association purposes to devote more than the usual attention to advertising for tourists and it is the belief that travel of that class will be heavier than usual this year. The condition of its streets is one of the first tests by which a city is judged, but it would be most unfortunate and unjust to St. John for visitors to base opinions of this city's progressiveness on the present condition of our public thoroughfares.

## My Little Wet Home In a Trench

Writing to his uncle in Gateshead, Private Michael Riley, of the 1st Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers, formerly of Heaton, sends the following clever parody of "My Little Grey Home in the West":

I've a little wet home in a trench,  
Where the rainstorms continually  
drench;  
There's a sky overhead,  
Clay or mud for a bed,  
And a stone that we use for a bench.

Bully beef and hard biscuits we chew,  
It seems years since we tasted a stew,  
Shells crackle and scare,  
Yet no place can compare  
With my little wet home in the trench.

Our friends in that trench o'er the way,  
Seem to know that we've come here to stay,  
They shoot and they shout,  
But they can't get us out,  
Though there's no dirty trick they won't play.

So hurrah for the mud and the clay,  
Which leads to Der Tag, that's the day,  
When we enter Berlin,  
That City of Sin,  
And make the fat Berliner pay.

Yes, we'll think of the cold, slush and stench,  
As we lay with the Belgians and French,  
There'll be shed then I fear  
Redder stuff than a tear,  
For my little wet home in the trench.

## What Shakespeare Thought of Germans

Nerissa: How like you the young German?

Portia: Very vilely in the morning when he is sober, and most vilely in the afternoon when he is drunk. When he is best he is little worse than a man, and when he is worst he is little better than a beast.

—Merchant of Venice, Act I, Scene II.

Henry V.: Certain French, who holding in disdain the German women for some dishonest manners of their life, established then this law.

—Henry V., Act I, Scene II.

(The law referred to was the Salic Law, under which women were prevented from succeeding to the throne).

Biron: What if I love! I sue! I seek

## Little Benny's Note Book

Our butcher is a long thin man  
By the name of Mr. Smith,  
Who around among the different meat  
With his butcher knife does sit.

An apron covers the front of him  
All the way down to his feet,  
Which to look at it you would seldom suppose  
It was to be white and neat.

He asks you what you want today,  
And if you say roast beef,  
He cuts you a hunk, or if you say ham  
He cuts you that, and wood just as leaf.

He puts his hands on everything  
And slaps everything down with a wack,  
And whenever anything hard to cut  
He takes his ax and slams it a crack.

O he properly never thinks of all his meat  
When it was alive instead of dead,  
As he cuts it with his pencil behind his ear,  
And his hat on the back of his head.

For instance all those frankfurters  
A hanging down in the air,  
Nobody knows what they used to be,  
And what does the butcher care?

a wife! A woman that is like a German clock; Still repairing, ever out of frame. And never going aright, being a watch; But being watched that it may still go right.

—Love's Labor Lost, Act II, Scene I.

Don Pedro: A German from the waist downwards all alope.

—Much Ado About Nothing, Act III, Scene II.

Bardolph: Sir, the Germans desire to have three of your horses. The Duke will be tomorrow at court, and they are going to meet him.

Host: They shall have my horses, but I will make them pay. I'll sauce them; they have had my house a week at command; I have turned away my other guests; they must come off; I'll sauce them. Coma.

—Merry Wives of Windsor, Act III, Scene III.

Bardolph: Out, alas, sir, Cosenage, mere cosenage.

Host: Where be my horses? Speak well of them, varletto.

Bardolph: Run away with the cozeners, for so soon as I came beyond Eton they threw me off from behind one of them in a slough of mire, and set spurs and away like three German devils, Doctor Faustus.

Host: They are gone but to meet the Duke, villain. Do not say they be fled. Germans are honest men.

—Merry Wives of Windsor, Act III, Scene V.

Sir Hugh: Have a care of your entertainments. There is a friend of three coron Germans that has come all the hosts of Reading, of Maidenhead, of Colebrook, of horses and money. I tell you for goodwill, look you. You are wise and full of ebes and gauds and stiches, and 'tis not convenient you should be cozened.

—Merry Wives of Windsor, Act III, Scene V.—Montreal Mail.

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S. Kerr, Principal

## TWO "L" TRAINS COLLIDE, BUT NO FATALITIES

New York, June 8.—Two elevated trains on the Third Avenue line were in collision this afternoon. Fire broke out in the wreckage.

First reports had it that at least a dozen were dead and forty injured. Ambulances were summoned to the scene from nearby hospitals. Fire apparatus was quickly called and began playing streams on the flames.

A southbound train crashed into the rear of a train ahead which had become stalled. The rear car of the first train was telescoped. Both remained on the structure but were soon enveloped in flames.

Shortly before four o'clock it was announced by the police that none had been killed in the accident. A dozen were then in hospitals more or less seriously injured, including the motor man of the moving train, who, it was said, was slightly dazed.

Mrs. C. D. Howard is in Boston, having been called there by the serious illness of her father.

The Cincinnati Reds played twenty games before being shut out, but that's nothing, for the Giants have been harder than that to blank.

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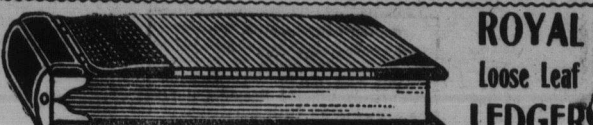
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Full Moon . . . 15th 5h 42m

Last Quarter . . . 22nd 9h 16m

New Moon . . . 30th 6h 43m

(The time given is Atlantic

rd, one hour slower than pre

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Str Governor Cobb, Bos

Maine ports, A C Currie.

Sailed:

Sch Sullivan, Sawm, Pinkan

Atlantic, deals.

Sch Roger Drury, Sabes

York.

DOMESTIC PORT

Newcastle, N. B., June 7—

Fin Cap, Lundgren, Philade

A Park, bal.

Montreal, June 7—Arr: Str

dra, from Liverpool.

Halifax, June 6—Arr: Sch

Blackman, and Mark A Tobin

dos.

BRITISH PORTS

Liverpool, June 6—SM: S

Glasgow, June 6—Arr: S

ginlen, Montreal.

London, June 4—Arr: Str

Montreal.

Glasgow, June 4—Arr: S

1917, St. John, N. B.

Belfast, June 6—Arr: S