

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 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 BUDGET.

When Hon. W. T. White, Minister of Finance, arose in his place in the House of Commons, yesterday, to introduce his annual budget, he faced a situation without parallel in the history of Canada. Since the last revision of the Canadian tariff this country, in common with the other components of the British Empire, has embarked on the costly business of war. The expenditure of huge sums for extraordinary purposes has become necessary and, at the same time, the sources from which, under usual conditions, such sums could be obtained, have diminished or have completely disappeared. This being the case it was necessary for the Minister of Finance to raise, from the people of Canada, the largest possible proportion of the money required.

Under such circumstances it was not an easy task to devise ways and means of raising large sums of money without imposing upon the people burdens heavier than they could bear. It was a condition well calculated to apply the acid test to any statesman but the judgment of the country this morning will be that Hon. Mr. White comes through it with honors. Necessary increases in duties have been imposed where they will be borne by the class of Canadians best able to meet them, luxuries will provide the greater share of the additional revenues and, it is believed, that added protection afforded in the cases of some lines of manufacturing will serve to stimulate industry along those lines and promote home production.

Of course, under present circumstances, most interest will attach to the special taxes imposed. There is to be a tax on railway and steamship tickets, sleeping car berths and parlor car chairs. This will not be found to bear heavily on any person in particular for the rates of tax are slight and can be met without hardship. The stamp duties on letters and post cards, invoices, bank cheques, bills of lading, etc., will be met largely by the big business men and manufacturers and will cause little or no concern to the average Canadian. A special tax is imposed on the bank institutions, loan companies and some lines of insurance.

At this time it is not possible to deal with the tariff changes in detail but it may be said that as a whole the proposals can be taken as the embodiment of the very best provision which could be made to meet the circumstances calling for them. Hon. Mr. White has approached the task before him with the earnestness which has characterized his whole public career. As a great Canadian he has the interests of the whole of Canada at heart and his tariff proposals of yesterday represent the result of careful thought and a keen and complete knowledge of trade conditions. They will meet the approval of the great majority of Canadians, and while it is not possible for any finance minister, be he Conservative or Liberal, to present a tariff which will not draw complaint from some persons affected by it, it may be said that when we consider the extraordinary circumstances prevailing at present Mr. White's production is such as to merit for him the warm approval of the Canadian people. He has grappled with a trying situation and he has done well with it.

LAST NIGHT'S BANQUET.

The complimentary banquet last evening to Hon. George J. Clarke, Premier of the Province of New Brunswick, was a testimonial of which any public man might well feel proud. High as the honor was, it was merited for thousands of New Brunswickers who know the guest of the evening, as leader of the Government, and as a man, do not require to be told that no tribute which the people of this Province can pay to him will be undeserved. Even his political opponents will admit that the present premier is a fair-minded, honest man and the leader of a "fair play government." In his address in reply to the toast in his honor he made it absolutely plain that it was the desire and intention of his Government to administer the affairs of the Province in the interests of the people, fearlessly and honestly.

Of particular importance was his announcement of a new classification of the Crown Lands. The timber lands of the Province constitute our greatest resource, and it is of the utmost importance that every dollar of value to be derived from them should go to the people. Under the Pugsley-Robinson government, and for many years

prior to that time, the public domain was used for the benefit of political booters and party friends. Upon Mr. Hazen's advent to power all this was changed and, last evening, it was the Premier's privilege to announce that since 1908 the sums collected in Crown Land revenues had been far in excess of the total collections from that source during the whole tenure of all former governments.

It is the intention of the Premier and his colleagues to continue this policy. If the lands have been classified at a figure less than their real value, that will be remedied and speedily. Beyond question Mr. Clarke's policy will receive the fullest support of the people when they are called upon to pronounce upon it. That his government already enjoys public confidence was abundantly manifested by the splendid reception given to the provincial bond offerings, placed on the market shortly after Mr. Carvell had declared that our credit had sunk so low the government could not borrow \$30,000 if it desired to. The investing public repudiated the Carvell estimate then, just as the voters of the province will repudiate it when the time comes.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Despite the very obvious fact that German news agencies, and, indeed, the German government, are neglecting no opportunity, real or fancied, which they can use in influencing world opinion in their favor and to this end are deliberately fattering misleading despatches picturing the German and Austrian troops as successful in their operations everywhere, evidence that the Kaiser's forces are being worsted is daily accumulating. Especially is this the fact in the case of the Russian operation on the eastern battlefields. For the past two weeks mighty armies have been locked in battle along a front ranging from the fastnesses of the Carpathian Mountains to the grain fields of East Prussia. Reports of the campaign there have differed according to their source. Germany, as stated, claims to have been successful, while Petrograd has been sparing with information. Impartial observers, however, express the opinion that the Muscovites are fighting their opponents "to a standstill" and this view is corroborated by the official reports. The Germans have put up a strenuous resistance, but the best available information points to the probability of a great Russian victory, the effect of which should be to materially assist the advance to the heart of Germany and Austria.

On the western front, too, the French and British troops have made progress. All efforts of the Germans to drive back the steadily advancing lines have failed, and it is reported the Allies have captured and still hold positions regarded as of great strategic importance. These captures have been effected only after the hardest sort of fighting and with heavy losses to both sides. In Alsace and Lorraine the French appear to have made appreciable progress during the past few days. Despatches indicate that in the terrible artillery duel the Germans have suffered so severely that the population of Mulhouse, Kolmar and Strasbourg is reported to be making preparations for a hasty retirement. It will be remembered that Kolmar and Mulhouse were occupied by French troops during the first few days of the war, but with the German advance on Paris the French were obliged to withdraw. That they are again within striking distance of these important cities may be taken as a most favorable sign. Altogether, the situation on all fields is decidedly encouraging.

A TRAITOROUS PERFORMANCE.

That smooth and sugary statesman the hero of the "W. P. \$5,000" item in the Central Railway enquiry, that noble patriot who, after the government of which he was a member had been defeated by the people of this province, hastened to restore to the provincial treasury certain monies he had "borrowed" when the "borrowing" was good, that eminent political opportunist and "trimmer," known by the well-merited cognomen of "Sweet William," distinguished himself again yesterday, when, in utter defiance of the pledge and expressed wish of his leader, he violated the truce supposed to obtain in regard to political matters, and engaged the time of the Canadian Parliament with a partisan harangue, composed of baseless insinuations and the usual Pugsley brand of dirty misrepresentation. More serious still, the one-time Minister of Public Works treated the world to the sorry

spectacle of a former Minister of the Crown asking for the production of documents and data, which in time of war should be regarded as confidential and sacred.

The matter under discussion was the purchase from the Chilean government of submarines intended for the protection of the Pacific Coast. Mr. Pugsley read a report from a newspaper published in Seattle, U. S., which stated that the vessels were not accepted by Chile because they were not up to the required standard, and that, after they had been rejected by the South American republic, the Canadian government purchased them at an exorbitant price. He asked for information and at the same time, in that sweet, suave manner which is his chief political asset, committed the unpardonable sin of intimating that the vessels would be useless for the purposes to which they will be put, information which, if true, would constitute a splendid invitation to the Empire enemies to attack the Pacific Coast. It was a clear case of sacrificing his country's welfare on the altar of partisanship.

But, fortunately, "Sweet William" was not permitted to escape unscathed. Hon. Mr. Hazen replied to him, and told the truth regarding the Canadian purchase. He plainly and convincingly showed the House and the country that Mr. Pugsley was, to put it plainly and unmistakably, guilty of deliberate untruth, both as regards the quality of the vessels purchased from Chile and the price paid for them. In his desire for party capital, the former Minister of Public Works had overstepped the mark.

Mr. Pugsley is deserving of censure. It is of little importance that he attempted to introduce political questions, to arouse party strife at a time when the best interests of the country demand that partisan considerations should be put aside. But he deliberately and maliciously set in circulation a report derogatory to Canada and useful to an enemy. It was a traitorous performance.

BRING YOUR BREAD WITH YOU, RULE NOW IN BERLIN RESTAURANTS

Berlin, Feb. 11, via London, Feb. 12, 1.55 a. m.—The guests of Berlin restaurants, after Feb. 22, must either bring pocketfuls of rolls, or a bread ticket with them. Otherwise no bread will be obtainable. This is the solution arranged today by the Berlin authorities for the one really difficult problem in the scheme for placing Berlin residents on a two-kilogram bread ration. Arrangements for the issue of bread tickets to family households were easily made and the authorities settled the problem for hotels and boarding houses by authorizing the issue of tickets for every guest registered. The executive committee of the Municipal League will meet tomorrow to recommend the introduction of two-kilogram bread quota on the same basis as that enforced in Berlin.

ANOTHER WAR INVENTION

Berlin, Jan. 5.—(Correspondence)—At no time has the military observation system been developed as in the present war.

The "field intelligence service" is an institution as old as warfare itself, but never before has it been employed so generally and thoroughly. Cavalry scouting and reconnaissance, "screen work," despatch riders and automobile messengers, the field telegraph and telephone have been extensively employed, as have the signal lamp, the heliograph, rocket and searchlight.

The war has established that the aeroplane is the most efficient means of modern field intelligence work. Soaring above positions and troops, observers in an aeroplane are able to report minutest details. This has led to a new development in warfare—finding cover from observation above. No longer is the trench a mere ditch as was the case formerly. Today it is roofed, if not against shell and shrapnel, then against the eyes of the men who sail above.

The most from the start it was demonstrated in France and Belgium that accepted notions on reconnaissance and communication would have to be modified, and some of them wholly discarded. When the lines on the Aisne and in Belgium became fixed, it was discovered that the sphere of the cavalry patrol and reconnaissance party had disappeared. Distances between the trenches of the opponents became so small that only infantry could be used for field intelligence purposes. Today these spaces between the lines have

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

I was sitting a-wn the edge of my bed today putting a-wn by utthr shoe, and a-wn of a surrly I stopped getting dressed and just sat there thinking, and ma, calm and looked in the door and saw me o-ing it.

Do you realize that you only have half an hour to get yure breakfast and be erly for skool, sed ma.

Yes mam, I sed.

Then will you please t-plaine wy you are setting there like a gravias image as if you had a-wn the time in the world, sed ma.

I dont bleeve I can go to skool today, I sed.

Well for goodness sakes, and wy not pray, sed ma.

Something happened to me, I sed.

Wate that, O my goodniss, wate the trubbl, wat happened, sed ma.

It aint much, but I dont see how I can go to skool today, I sed.

Benny Potts, tell me wate the mattir with you, tell me immediately, do you hear, sed ma.

Sumthing brook, I sed.

Sumthing wat, sed ma.

Broak, I sed.

My gravias, if you dont tell me this instant wate the matter with you I dont know wat ill do to you, sed ma.

But I dont think I can go to skool today, I sed.

Are you going to tell me wat ails you or are you going to drive me krazy, sed ma.

My shoe string brook, I sed.

With jest then ma ran inside of the room and gave me a sutch a krack a-wn the eer its a wunder sumthing elts dident brake, and I quick got a noo shoe lace out of the drawr wate ma keeps them and put it in my shoe and went down and ate my brekfist and went to skool.

shook so much that even this can no longer be done.

Now has come a brand-new innovation for which the German is responsible. This is the so-called "lauchersposten," a term of which the English equivalent is the "listening post."

The lauchersposten differ from the ordinary observation station in many respects. The latter serves mainly in the direction of artillery fire, though, naturally, all other data of interest is also carefully gathered.

The purpose of the lauchersposten is to gain from the conversation in the trenches information of military value. Needless to say, this is no easy task.

At first a German officer would quietly slip through his own lines at night and seek the shelter of a bush or other natural cover near the trenches of the French or English. He had with him a small telephone instrument and a reel of light wire which he would pay out when the wire being rolled out behind him from a reel in the foremost German trench became too heavy to drag.

In some manner the Allies learned of the scheme, and thereafter cover offering advantages to a lauchersposten was given special attention. As the adversaries began to bring their trenches closer together the problem of approaching the Allies' trenches was reduced to proportions. The subterranean passage to the enemy's trench became shorter.

Today the "listening sentinel" overhears the conversation in the French and English lines without much risk of being detected. He enters a tunnel from his own trenches, creeps through the narrow passage to where it ends in front of the French trench and takes note of the commands, conversations and other noises that may

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Here's The Story

Just entire and Sh the stor comes during be no t

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SLATE

P. CAMPB

CANADA'S UP T

Ottawa, Feb. 11.—connection with the Canadian Expedition list of the firms to for the supply of boiler, etc., were given of a printed matter was tabled by Genl. Minister of Militia, day.

The report also g regard to the organ Contingent and of are now in training. ed. It is pointed out Quarter Master Ge

MARR

DALY-FOWLER—O February 9, at the bride's father, by Jenkins, rector, of Fair View, St. M. County, N. B., to daughter of Mr. Fowler, Welsford, N. B.

BENNETT-McLEOD Rectory, this city Rev. H. A. Cody, London, England, McLeod, of Oban

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CLEAR THE

You Get Inst Inhaling t Vapor "Cata

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