

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 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.

### ITALY'S SPLENDID WORK.

The success attending the great offensive which the Italians are sustaining against the Austrians again directs attention to the really fine part Italy has played in this war. In probably no other area of fighting do the same natural obstacles exist as those confronting the Italians in their attack on their traditional enemies. Consequently it is natural that during the past two years there have been periods when the Italian movement slackened, even seemed to cease altogether, and, regrettably, such occasions were made the basis by unthinking critics of slurs against Italy's military achievements and even her good faith.

It should be remembered that in the earliest days of the war there was a fear that Italy might be numbered with our opponents; that all the nations of the Triple Alliance had adhered to the very letter of the offensive and defensive agreement which bound them one to the other, and that Italy would range her undoubted strength with that of Germany and Austria. However, Italy's people decided otherwise, and after ample time for preparation, entered the war on the side of the Entente.

Since Italy's entry she has accepted a task for which she is probably better qualified than any other Entente power. It is very doubtful if, placed on the Italian front, British or French troops would have made as good progress against Austria as the gallant Italians have done, for it must be remembered that those directing the Italian campaign possess the same advantage Napoleon had. They know every inch of the ground over which they are fighting. Their success now is likely to be permanent. If for no other reason than the length of time required to achieve it, prima facie evidence that every movement was carefully planned and prepared for, and that the latest coup was purposely delayed until there could be no possibility of serious reverse to follow.

Today Italy is striking a mighty blow in conjunction with the other Entente powers in an offensive that from the success already attained is likely to bring considerably nearer the beginning of the end of this war. For that valuable assistance, all the more valuable because it comes at a time when the Russian effort has weakened, the gratitude of the Allies should go out to that splendid nation, to the Italian people, to General Cadorna, the intrepid commander in chief of the Italian army, and last but not least, to that splendid son of an English mother, Baron Sidney Sonnino, Italy's Foreign Minister, whose sagacity, intellect and nobility of character have already made him one of the outstanding figures of this war.

### CONCERNING MR. PUGSEY.

Whether members of William Pugsley's family have done all they should have done in forwarding Canada's war winning effort can have no bearing on Mr. Pugsley's personal conduct, or the attitude he has adopted toward every measure introduced in Parliament designed to aid the men who have answered the call to Empire and have gone overseas to bear their share of the duties and responsibilities attaching to every Canadian. It is not necessary to attack or criticize Mr. Pugsley for anything except his own conduct. That, in itself, offers sufficient ground for condemnation, and for it he alone is responsible. It is noteworthy that his own newspaper organs in this city, the Telegraph and Times, newspapers which, for years, have existed practically on his favor, have nothing to say in defence of his scandalous attempt to rob a very large proportion of the Canadian soldiers of their franchise.

By his opposition to conscription, by his blind subservience to Laurier and the Quebec reactionists, by his insinuation that soldiers standing in the shadow of death would resort to trickery and falsehood in connection with their voting, and, finally, by his miserable contention that men who are good enough to fight for Canada are still not good enough to vote for her, William Pugsley has forfeited the esteem and respect of every loyal citizen. He has disgraced his constituents by his disloyal pandering to Laurier and Quebec, and must answer to his constituents for that disloyalty, unless indeed, current rumor proves to be correct and he decides to sink out of St. John when the testing time comes and seek support and endorsement in one of the constituencies of the province of Laurier, whose game he is so eager to play.

### IS PUGSEY MENTALLY BLIND?

Is William Pugsley so blinded by his desire to play the game of Laurier and the Quebec reactionists that he cannot see in the very fact that it is possible for a member of Parliament to attack him because his son has not responded to the call to arms a revelation of the weakness of the voluntary system of securing recruits?

The young man to whom Dr. Edwards of Frontenac referred may have the best of reasons for not donning the khaki but it is not possible for every man who cannot enlist in the Canadian forces to explain to the world the reasons for his attitude. Under the voluntary system a failure to make such satisfactory explanation renders every man not in uniform open to the allegation of cowardice and yet such an allegation may be totally unjustified.

Under conscription a man who had good claims to exemption from service will have a definite body to which he can present those claims. If they are adjudged bona-fide he returns to civilian life without stigma and without reproach. The recent controversy in Parliament between Mr. Pugsley and Dr. Edwards really supplies an excellent argument in support of the very measure Mr. Pugsley has worked with might and main to defeat. Is the man mentally blind that he cannot see it?

### LAURIER'S TRAP.

The Canadian Liberal Monthly is issued from the Liberal headquarters at Ottawa and is supposed to be the head centre of information concerning the policies and politics of the party headed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In a recent issue it asks itself the question "What is the policy of the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier?" and answers itself as follows:

(1) That Canada will remain in the war to the end.  
 (2) That Canada shall, by a systematic and thorough national war organization, make a supreme effort to secure by voluntary enlistment the necessary number of recruits.  
 (3) If this national organization fails to secure the required number of soldiers by voluntary enlistment that the electors of Canada will be asked to vote upon a conscription referendum.  
 (4) If the result of the referendum favors conscription Sir Wilfrid pledges his word that the verdict will be accepted by every part of Canada, even in the province of Quebec, where it has been said it would not be accepted.  
 (5) If the result of the referendum is against conscription, then the national war organization will be continued and vigorously prosecuted, and every effort made to secure by voluntary enlistment the number of soldiers needed, the same as has been done in the Commonwealth of Australia.  
 (6) Information also will be secured from the British authorities with a view to ascertaining which is most needed from Canada, men or food.

This statement of policy is contained in six paragraphs, three of which commence with the word "If." He is to try "national organization" and "if" it fails then a vote on conscription "if" conscription does not carry in the referendum, then a return to "national organization," which would already have proved fruitless. Could anything be more absurd?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it should not be forgotten, is opposed to conscription and in the event of a referendum the whole weight of his government would be thrown into the scale against it. As Sir Clifford Sifton has properly said conscription under Laurier is impossible.

Plainly Sir Wilfrid is not playing fair with the conscriptionists of his own party. By the cunning of his words he would lead them into a trap and then desert them as he is now willing to desert our lads at the front. It is better that he should not resort to such devices. As between conscription and the voluntary system the people themselves will decide at the next election for it is a certainty that should the forces of Laurier prove victorious in that conflict the conscription measure will be taken off the Canadian statute book and Canada's war effort will slacken despite all Sir Wilfrid's honied assurances that he is in the war to the finish. Laurier's words should deceive no one. Those who really desire to see Canada go on with her war effort can attain that desire only by supporting Sir Robert Borden and his Government. The return of Laurier will remove Canada from the field of active effort in winning the war. Any statement to the contrary is but a cunningly baited trap with which to catch the unwary.

### HATRED AGAINST ENGLAND.

"Be calm," said Fernand Villeneuve at an anti-conscription meeting in Montreal on August 5th, "but that does not mean that there should be no discussion, as our Solicitor-General, McGeen, wishes. It means that we should be ready to do our part to defend our liberties, which are in danger. It is not necessary to be carried away, but we should resist men like Borden. Conscription is a crime against the country and the Allies. Men in Ontario are preparing other countries to say that the French-Canadians deserve to be shot. We are not afraid of the trenches. We should wait for our enemies here, not strangers, but the traitors of Ottawa. Let them put us in these trenches, and we will show that we are not afraid, and are ready to meet our enemies. Our reasons against conscription are: First, our love for Canada, and secondly, hatred against England, which will not respect small minorities. Before fighting for England to protect her friends, let us remain here to defend our little minority in Ontario, who are suffering from the English-Canadians. Why does not England respect our rights today as before?"

"If a recruiting officer comes to you," concluded Villeneuve, "do not be afraid to give him a thrashing, and if you have anything to shoot with, do not be afraid to use it."

### HOW MANY?

The report that there is to be a shortening of munition orders in Canada because of the increased capacity of the English munition plants comes in verification of the warning of Sir George Foster who at a meeting in the High School here many months ago told a gathering of business men and manufacturers that the great flow of munition orders would cease as suddenly as it commenced and that it would be necessary to prepare for a process of readjustment to come for that day. How many munition manufacturers have taken Sir George's advice? And how many of those who found employment at high wages in the munition plants throughout Canada followed the counsel so freely and generally given them to save something out of their fat pay envelopes?

### A CHANGE OF TUNE.

(The Times, September 11, 1915.)  
 "All that Sir Robert Borden needs to do is to announce that there will be no election until after the war."  
 And now the same Times is one of the loudest of the "election vangers." It is of interest to know that the same editor is still in charge of the editorial opinions of that discredited and erratic sheet.

### WHY?

A western exchange asks why should Sir Wilfrid Laurier, High, Mr. O'Brien and Hon. William Pugsley worry concerning the soldiers' vote when every sane man in Canada knows they won't receive any of it? Perhaps that is why.

### A DEFINITE THOUGHT.

"It would be a wrong thing at this juncture to entrust the work to any other man than the present Prime Minister."—Mr. Hugh Guthrie, Liberal M. P. for South Wellington.

### FORMER KINGS CO.

### MAN HOME AFTER AN ABSENCE OF 30 YEARS

T. P. McAuley Sees Big Development—Kings Co. Man Has Made Good in Western States—Was Member of Parliament for Four Years.

After an absence of thirty years, T. P. McAuley, a brother of ex-Cong. J. E. McAuley, of Lower Millstream, has returned to New Brunswick on a visit. For the most part Mr. McAuley has spent this period in the western states, where he has risen to success and prominence.

For four years Mr. McAuley was a member of the Washington House and took a great interest in all legislation. The Real "War Bread" must contain the entire wheat grain—not the white flour center—but every particle of gluten and mineral salts—also the outer bran coat that is so useful in keeping the bowels healthy and active. Shredded Wheat Biscuit is the real "war bread" because it is 100 per cent. whole wheat prepared in a digestible form. Contains no yeast, baking powder, seasoning, or chemicals of any kind. Food conservation begins with Shredded Wheat Biscuit for breakfast and ends with Shredded Wheat Biscuit for supper. Delicious with sliced bananas, berries, or other fruits. Made in Canada.

### Little Benny's Note Book.

Me and Mary Watkins was sitting on her front steps talking to each other. Mary Watkins says, Are you going to be a soldier and the Germans when you grow up, Benny?

Id rather be a doctor and fit the germs, I sed.

Wat germs? sed Mary Watkins, and I sed, Jest the bad germs, there's good germs and bad germs. The bad germs make you sick and the good germs keep you well. Germs is so little you cant see them and maybe they cant even see themselves, and everybodies got millions and billions of germs inside of them.

Benny Potts, I think you're perfectly honest, sed Mary Watkins. Wy am I, it aint my fault, is it? I sed.

I dont believe it, I dont believe theyre inside of everybody at all, sed Mary Watkins.

Well they are, I sed, theyre even inside of my father and mother. Well theyre not inside of my father and mother, she sed.

Yes they are, theyre even inside of you, I sed. Wich she quick jumped up, saying, Benny Potts, they are not, Im going rite in.

Wich she started to do, and I quick sed, Only the good germs, only the good ones are inside of you, maybe.

No, not even good ones, theres none inside of me at all, or aits Im going rite in, she sed, and I sed, Well, maybe theres aint, then, maybe youse the only one thats aint any in.

Wich maybe she is, being the prettiest girl in the neighborhood and maybe in the city. And she sat down agen, and we changed the sub-jack.

erving for the advancement of the community. At the present time he is making his home in Portland, Oregon, where he is engaged in lumber and real estate.

Mr. McAuley, accompanied by his wife, was in the city on Saturday. He spoke enthusiastically of the progress which had been made in the western states. Conditions at the present time he described as flourishing. The lumber and pulp mills were operating to full capacity, and this business had seen large development during the past few years.

Another large pulp and paper plant was in course of construction.

Mr. McAuley said that both Oregon and Washington were doing their full share in the matter of building ships. He said that ships were now being erected by the hundreds there, and would be turned out every day.

Speaking of former New Brunswickers in the west, Mr. McAuley said that provincial people were to be found in large numbers, particularly in Montana. Among others he mentioned Herbert McLeod, of Millstream, who is the president of the Hudson company, a corporation organized by a former resident of Fredericton.

Mr. McAuley sees many changes in the munition plants throughout Canada. He is particularly impressed with the agricultural development of Kings county, and states that the increase in settlers between Sussex and Millstream has been more than 150 per cent. He believes that there are immeasurable opportunities in this province.

Mr. McAuley has done remarkably well out. He likes New Brunswick, however, and it would not surprise his friends if he took up a farm here.

High River, Alta., Aug. 24.—Just following the noon hour High River was visited by the most terrific and destructive hail storm in the history of the district. The town of High River is practically the centre of the area covered by the storm. In this area it is estimated there are at least fifteen square miles and the destruction was complete in a district which promised a return in crop sufficient to be a record.

The storm was of short duration, covering a period of not more than ten to fifteen minutes, but in that short time it created loss of crops estimated at \$60,000 to 1,000,000 bushels. Garden produce and hay that has not been cut, are literally ground to a pulp, and all that was growing in the area has been damaged.

In the town the loss by the storm principal was broken windows, flooded cellars and punctured roofs.

Crops destroyed include those of many of the best farms in the district, one of which was of twelve hundred acres.

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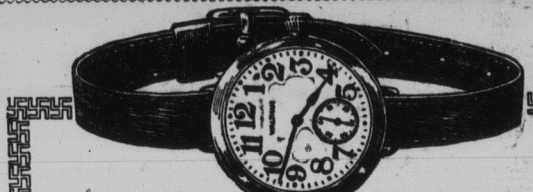
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