

FOSTER-CARTER GOVERNMENT TAKES EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO TURN DOWN RETURNED MEN

HON. B. FRANK SMITH REFUTES EFFECTIVELY BASE SLANDERS OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS

Denies Emphatically St. John Telegraph's Statement that He Made Reflections on French People in Declaration Day Proceedings—Mr. Dugal Accepts Unequivocal Denial.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, May 15.—The institutions appearing periodically in the government press that the Hon. B. Frank Smith, former minister of public works, had made statements reflecting on the intelligent French population of the province in the course of his address at the declaration day proceedings at Woodstock were given their quietus in the house of assembly tonight, when the ex-minister gave a vigorous and emphatic denial to the charge, and his denial was accepted by the government. Those who know the ex-minister well, never doubted for a moment that the institutions were not based on facts and there is general satisfaction that the matter has been closed in a manner satisfactory to both sides of the house.

Complete Denial. Speaking with all his recognized force and vigor before a large membership of the house and with crowded galleries, Hon. Mr. Smith gave a full and complete denial to the charges. The matter came up when the government undertook to answer inquiries relative to the retirement of Mr. Burgess and the willingness of Mr. LeBlanc to vacate his seat to make room for the nominal leader of the government, Mr. Foster, the rejected member of St. John County. The government stated that no monetary consideration was involved in the case of either Mr. Burgess or Mr. LeBlanc. The latter felt it incumbent to make a speech denying the charges which had been offered compensation in order to give way to Mr. Foster. In the course of his remarks, Mr. LeBlanc referred somewhat sharply to alleged statements of Hon. Mr. Smith at the declaration day proceedings at Woodstock.

Hon. Mr. Smith's Reply. Hon. Mr. Smith was on his feet in a moment. He characterized as utterly false the statements that he had made reflecting on the French population of the province. He declared that the Daily Telegraph had misreported his speech. He was prepared to make the exact statement on the floors of the house as he had made to the electors on declaration day. He had said that it was an unfortunate thing that the electors of New Brunswick had voted the way they did on February 24, as the result of the vote had divided the province geographically. I never used the word Catholic or cast a slur against the Acadian race. I don't have to do that Mr. Speaker. I am prepared to repeat any statement I made on the hustings. I don't have to make my canvass surreptitiously, but I give credit to the man who will come out openly and express himself. I said that the issue raised by the vote on February 24, was higher, deeper and broader than party and the best evidence of the fact that the province has been divided geographically is in the formation of the cabinet.

Truth of Statements. Hon. Mr. Smith then referred to the fact that Charlotte, Kings, St. John and county, Queens, Sunbury, York and Carleton had not representation in the cabinet as positive the truth of his statements. Further misrepresentation in the Daily Telegraph that he had stated that it would be all right for the government to buy over a few Frenchmen was also emphatically denied in unequivocal terms by Hon. Mr. Smith. The honorable member for Madawaska, Mr. Michaud, who was accused with having made the statement, followed Mr. Smith and was man enough to say that he accepted the reply of the ex-minister and was glad that he had made the explanation. It was a good thing that the opposition was afforded. Hon. Mr. Smith replied to his slanderers in the government press. The end of these base insinuations has been reached. They have been exploded and found false and without foundation. No race of people was insulted by any member of the government and no one has a more complete realization of that fact than the small men who produced these insinuations in the government press in their desire to stir up a racial and religious war to advance the party interested of the party they are employed to assist.

Disloyalty in Liberal Ranks Serious Issue. Too Many Choquette, Lanctot, Cannon and Roche Patriots.

Ontario Liberals Do Not Like Latest Bad Break. Want Laurier to Repudiate Senator Roche—Much Indignation.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, May 15.—The unparliamentary and disloyal utterances of Senator Wm. Roche of Halifax, on Saturday when representatives of the Canadian Patriotic Fund called upon him at his office to ask him for a subscription, have caused a stir amongst the members of parliament and senators. Several senators stated tonight that the matter would be made the subject of a strong resolution at an early date. Senator Roche is, or was the representative of the Hamburg-American Line at Halifax, and is believed to have stock in that concern. In view of this considerable indignation is expressed. This disloyalty amongst a certain

PETTY POLITICIANS PREFERRED TO HEROES BY THE CARTERITES

Returned Soldiers' Claims for Provincial Appointments Disapproved by All Supporters of Provincial Government in Legislature—Every Opposition Member Present Voted in Favor of Preference for Returned Men—Premier Foster Rattled.

Government's Action Places Administration of Province in Most Unenviable Light—Its Leaders and Rank and File Dumb in Regard to Splendid and Glorious Work of Returned Men.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, May 15.—The Carter-Foster government is no friend of the returned men who fought so valiantly in the cause of civilization in the present great struggle. Although the members of the new administration have on other occasions, particularly when the soldier vote is a decided factor expressed their admiration of the heroes who went from this province and proffered their assistance on behalf of their welfare, when forced to the test this evening in the House of assembly by the Hon. J. B. Baxter, former Attorney-General, they turned down the claims of the returned men for provincial appointments. Apparently the public service under the Carter-Foster government is closed to these men who went forward to fight for their king and country, and who so nobly upheld the highest traditions of the great races from which they sprung in order that British ideals and British institutions might remain supreme.

Political Healers First. Without even a dissenting voice the members of the Carter-Foster government tonight turned down Hon. Mr. Baxter's amendment to the motion to adopt the address in reply to the speech from the throne which amendment expresses the regret of the House that the claims of the returned men had not been recognized in the large number of appointments which had been made to the public service since the present administration assumed office. Hon. Mr. Murray, the provincial secretary-treasurer, was the only absentee from the ranks of the government party. The remaining twenty-five members invariably voted down Hon. Mr. Baxter's amendment in which he referred to the lack of appreciation of the services of our provincial heroes. Not content with voting against the amendment, the members of the government voted the undeniable truth of the assertion that they put their party's interests first by applauding when the amendment was defeated.

In Unenviable Light. The government's action is certainly to be deplored, it places the ruling officers of New Brunswick in an exceedingly unenviable position. Not the slightest word emanated from the government ranks in regard to the splendid and glorious work of the returned soldiers. Not the slightest recognition was given that the members of the government would in future adopt the policy of giving the returned men something like the recognition they deserved. The amendment of Hon. Mr. Baxter might have been amended by a statement of the government's desire to change its course and to give the returned men preference in the selection of public offices. But Premier Foster and his associates simply voted down the amendment, apparently preferring to follow the course they have pursued in connection with the appointments already made and give the positions in the government to the hungry riot partisans instead of the more deserving class of our citizenship who responded so nobly to the call to arms in the present great war crisis.

Opposition Grateful. Every member of the opposition who was present in the House voted for recognition of the claims of the returned soldiers. Hon. Dr. Taylor was the only absentee on the opposition side of the House, and it was utterly impossible for the representative of Charlotte to be present owing to urgent professional engagements in the town of St. George. Dr. Taylor, however, entertains the same views as his associates in the opposition and feels strongly that the government should do something to show the returned men that their sacrifices have

HERE HE IS



HON. WALTER E. FOSTER, Premier of New Brunswick, the first man to rise in his place in the Legislature yesterday and vote against the employment of returned soldiers.

members were allowed to go unheeded. Major Tilley in his address regretted that the government had not appointed returned men to departmental positions. The absence of provision for women's suffrage was also commented on by St. John's active member. Mr. Peck of Albert, who also spoke, demonstrated beyond all doubt that his constituents made no mistake in selecting him as their representative. He delivered a strong criticism of the government, referring particularly to their activity in wielding the axe instead of buying themselves in the interests of the people of the province. (Continued on page 2)

Premier Got Rattled. The nominal leader, who was manifestly uneasy, created much amusement for the opposition for the members when he arose and voted yes. Hon. B. F. Smith remarked that he was pleased to see that the premier had from his voting record, shown the justice of the resolution. When the premier recognized his error, his name was called a second time. On this occasion he remained seated, but the Speaker evidently tried to help him out of the difficulty by voting nay. Hon. Mr. Baxter suggested that the House take a recess to enable the honorable member to decide which way he desired to vote on the amendment. Finally the vote was taken and the premier and every member supporting the party of which he is the nominal leader voted against the amendment, while Hon. Mr. Murray (Kings), and the entire opposition voted for giving the returned men recognition.

Amendment. The exact wording of Hon. Mr. Baxter's amendment which was seconded by Mr. Smith, of Charlotte, follows: "That the motion be amended by adding to the address proposed in reply to the speech of His Honor the Lieut.-Governor the following words, but at the same time, in view of the large number of appointments which have been made to the public service since the assumption of office by the present administration, we desire to express our regret that in the making of such appointments the claims of returned soldiers who have seen active service at the front do not appear so soon become a constant to the House which their services merit."

Following the rejection by the government of the amendment without debate, the original motion that the address be adopted was carried. Three opposition members delivered strong addresses in the house this afternoon. Mr. Dyrart was the only government supporter to speak, the ranks of the new administration being clearly demoralized and the lack of debating material being evident today when the statements of the opposition

Chancellor Talks. Berlin, via London, May 15.—In one of the most vigorous and plain-spoken speeches he has yet made before the Reichstag since the outbreak of the

ENEMY ATTACKS HEAVILY AT BULLECOURT, BUT THE HINDENBURG LINE MELTS

Teutons Lose Many Men in Obtaining Hundred Yards Advantage in Western Portion of Village—Gen. Haig Not Sacrificing His Men as is German Marshal.

London, May 15.—The official report from British headquarters in France issued tonight reads: "Further details concerning the fighting at Bullecourt this morning show that the enemy made a deliberate attempt, by a series of strong and carefully concerted attacks, powerfully supported by artillery and trench mortar fire, to drive our troops out of Bullecourt and the section of the Hindenburg line held by us east of the village. "In all four attacks were undertaken by the enemy. The first of these was launched at four a. m. upon the right flank of our position in the Hindenburg line, and temporarily gained a footing in our trenches. The enemy was immediately and completely ejected by our counter-attack, leaving 250 killed and wounded in our lines. A simultaneous attack on the left flank of our position was dispersed by our artillery."

Further Attacks. "Later in the morning a third attack was made upon the northeastern corner of Bullecourt. This was successfully repulsed by our artillery, rifle and machine gun fire. The fourth attack, delivered from the south and southwest succeeded in driving back our posts in the western portion of

the village for a distance of about one hundred yards. The enemy's losses in this series of unsuccessful attempts were heavy." "From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press. With the British Armies in France, via London, May 15.—A lull overhangs the greater portion of the battle line but some spots are witnessing unending fighting. Bullecourt is one of these spots. Lens is another and the valley of the Scarpe another. Here the Germans never cease counter-attacking. Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig refuses to sacrifice his men in frontal attacks on such positions, but he is gradually cutting away the fabric known as the Hindenburg line.

French Statement. Paris, May 15.—The war office statement on the campaign tonight reads: "The day was calm and without infantry action. Artillery actions continued in various sectors. It is confirmed that the enemy suffered very heavy losses in their attacks of yesterday."

HEAD RUSSIAN GENERALS QUIT TO U-BOATS

Resignations of Generals Brusiloff and Gurko Not Yet Accepted, However.

Petrograd, May 15, via London.—It became known here today that just before the resignation of the provincial minister of war, General Guchkoff was announced yesterday General Alexei Brusiloff, commander-in-chief of the Russian armies on the southwestern front, and General Gurko, the commander on the Russian western front, asked to be relieved of their commands. The resignations of these two officers will be considered after the successor of General Guchkoff has been appointed.

war the imperial German chancellor today bluntly refused to enter into a discussion of Germany's peace aims, as demanded in interpellations by the Conservatives and Socialists. Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg asserted that these called for the government's specific peace programme, the announcement of which at the present time not only would be premature but which would be difficult to formulate, and also of no practical service to the nation in the present situation.

The chancellor briefly reviewed the present military situation and Germany's relations to the neutrals, in the course of which he warmly praised the attitude adopted by Spain. "The supposition," the chancellor said, "which has recently arisen, that some differences of opinion existed on the peace question between us and our allies belongs to the realm of fable. I expressly affirm this now with certainty. I am, at the same time, also expressing the conviction that the leading statesmen of the powers which are our allies are with us. "In the discussion of our war aims the only guiding line for me is the early and satisfactory conclusion of the war. Beyond that I cannot do or say anything. "I shall not allow myself to be led astray by utterances with which Scheidemann, at a time when drumfire sounds on the Aisne and at Arras, believed he could spread among the people the possibility of a revolution. The German people will be with me in condemning such utterances, and also Roosevelt's attempt to represent me as being under the influence of the Social-Democrats. "I am reproached for being in the hands of one party, but I am not in the hands of any party, either the right or the left. I am glad I can state that definitely. If I am in the (Continued on page 2)

London, May 15.—The report of the week's losses through submarines to be issued tomorrow, will be the most favorable in several weeks. The number of ships torpedoed is well below the average, while the number of ships escaping attack is very large. Those in touch with the anti-submarine campaign are also very cheerful over the results of actual attacks on submarines. According to one report more submarines have been sunk in the past week than in the month previous.

Threatened the U. S. New York, May 15.—The Associated Press despatch from Portsmouth, N. H., this afternoon says: "In shipping circles today a report was current that the British had bagged a flotilla of German submarines bound on a hostile mission to American shores. The captured was said to have taken place early in April.

CASUALTIES

Ottawa, May 15.—A night casualty list of 175 names, in addition to a noon list containing 133 names, was issued Tuesday. The total losses reported among the Canadians since April 9th now totals 18,679.

Infantry. Wounded: C. H. McKillop, Pine Ridge, N. B. A. Jones, Sussex, N. B. J. J. Harding, St. John, N. B. Ottawa, May 15.—A. F. Green, Cocagne, N. B. C. V. Mathews, Wilson's Beach, N. B. M. T. Daley, St. John. F. W. McElduff, Pender, N. B. S. Fraser, Havelock, N. B. G. W. Boyd, Bath, N. B. Lieut. L. S. Edgett, Hillsboro, N. B. Died: J. Casey, Bathurst. Service. C. B. Kelly, Cumberland Bay, N. B. Wounded: Mounted Rifles. C. E. Bowman, Perth, N. B. Engineers. Wounded: H. Moore, Parrsboro, N. S. BELGIAN DRIVEN OUT OF TOWN OF MENIN. Amsterdam, May 15, via London.—The Handelsblad says the Germans have expelled the civil population of the town of Menin, Belgium.