

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 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.

CONSCRIPTION IS NOW LAW.

The compulsory military service bill received the signature of the Governor-General yesterday, and is now the law of the land. Already much of the work preliminary to its vigorous enforcement is under way and it is expected that in a short time the effect of the measure will be seen and felt.

When the bill was introduced, and during the period of discussion in the House of Commons and the Canadian Senate, it was pointed out that by it the men needed to properly support our boys at the front could be secured without the slightest interference with the essential industries of the country. The contention of anti-conscriptors that compulsory military service will rob this country of young men who are required for the development of Canadian industries cannot be supported by the facts or the provisions of the bill. In fact the whole fabric of the bill is based upon the value of a man's service to the state. It is found that he is of more value in civilian life, or in the industry to which he is most accustomed than he would be in khaki, he will be left where he can do the most good.

The necessity for conscription is, or should be, recognized by every man in Canada at all familiar with conditions at the front. Canada is represented on the battle line by four divisions of troops. Reinforcements for these are only sufficient to last for a few months as the voluntary system of recruiting has not produced men fast enough to replace the wastage to our men in action. It has been estimated that at least ten thousand men per month are required to keep our divisions up to the necessary standard of efficiency. Voluntary enlistment has failed to supply this number; compulsory service will do it. It cannot be that Canada will fail in the duty to support her men, for such failure means that within a very short time the four divisions, which have written the name of Canada gloriously in history, will be reduced to three divisions, these three divisions will dwindle to two divisions, and so on until Canada is entirely out of the war.

Conscription is the right and proper solution of the problem of securing men for the Canadian forces overseas. Conscription by selective draft will ensure a regular supply of soldiers as long as the necessity exists, and this without in the slightest degree interfering with the essential industries of the nation. It is the same, fair, business-like method of grappling with the situation in which Canada finds herself as the result of participation in the Empire war and as such should commend itself to all.

STEALING THE SOLDIERS' VOTES.

The Standard publishes elsewhere in this issue as much of Mr. Pugsley's speech on the soldiers' votes bill as was printed in the Telegraph of yesterday morning. This in answer to the untrue allegation in the Telegraph and Times that this newspaper fears to give to its readers the text of Mr. Pugsley's infamous remarks by which he hoped to steal the franchise from men who are now fighting in the Canadian army, fighting for the salvation and liberty of Canada, doing more to win this war and to gain for Canada and the world freedom from Prussian oppression, than has been done by Mr. Pugsley or any of his name since this terrible conflict commenced.

It is not surprising that when challenged to defend Mr. Pugsley's course the Telegraph and Times reply with evasion and attempt to escape the issue by declaring that The Standard dare not print what was said by the man who is misrepresenting St. John in Ottawa. The text of the Pugsley speech being published in this issue that little matter is disposed of and we are brought back to the original question. Now The Standard once more challenges the Telegraph and Times to say that they think as Mr. Pugsley does, that the man who is fighting Canada's battles is not fit to say who shall direct Canada's affairs for the next five years. Canterbury street has the next move.

DISLOYALTY IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

It is not necessary to comb the province of Quebec to find evidences of disloyalty among the ranks of anti-conscriptors in Canada. The Moncton Transcript can supply a flagrant case. That obscure sheet, edited by an Englishman, has gone to great lengths to attack the Borden Government, the military service measure and every other means by which the Government has endeavored to uphold the honor of Canada and support loyal Canadians now in uniform, but in last week's issue Mr. Borden is accused of previous disloyalty in the direction of

reasonable and disloyal utterances. Across the front page of his paper, in the largest type to be found in the Transcript office, are the words "Liberty Dies in Canada on Tuesday When Conscription Becomes Law." Such a statement is unworthy of any Canadian publication, and those readers of the Transcript who believe that Canada should continue to be a participant in the Empire war, and that our boys at the front should be supported to the limit of our ability must be edited and pleased by Mr. Hawke's course. That he should take such a course is not surprising to those who know the man. In this case the issue is "Conscript or Quit." For reasons that should be obvious to Moncton people the Transcript and its editor support the latter.

PUGSLEY'S FALSE POSITION.

The only argument William Pugsley advanced in support of the amendment with which he sought to disfranchise men serving in the Canadian army was that before the war they were not residents of Canada. This argument is as false as the man who advanced it. The men Mr. Pugsley would disfranchise have been in the Canadian army, some of them for more than two, and practically all for at least a year, in that time they have earned the right to citizenship even though before the war they might not have lived in this country. If the same man came to Canada under normal conditions and lived here for a period of time corresponding to their term of service in uniform they would be on the voters' lists and entitled to vote at the next election. Because they are in khaki defending Canada and the Empire, instead of shirking at home, Mr. Pugsley would deprive them of the right they have earned by the most valorous sort of service.

His position is false, his argument is false, his speech, published in The Standard this morning, is also false, as false as his whole political career has been. Even his own newspapers dare not defend him in this, his latest and most contemptible effort to penalize the men who have shown sufficient patriotism to fight for Canada.

GUILTY.

The Telegraph and Times charge that The Standard deliberately suppressed a portion of the debate in the House of Commons on Friday last. We admit it. We did deliberately suppress everything relating to Dr. Edwards' attack upon Mr. Pugsley's son, because this newspaper believes that Mr. Pugsley's own position on all matters affecting the Canadian soldiers offers sufficient ground upon which to attack him without parading in public print the alleged shortcomings of any member of his family.

INDICATIONS POINT TO CHEAP APPLES IN ST. JOHN THIS FALL.

British Restriction on Importation of Apples Means That Practically Entire Crop for Home Consumption.

The restriction placed upon the importation of apples into Great Britain by those in authority, means that this province, and the Dominion in general, will purchase apples this fall much cheaper than was the price last season. Although efforts are being made to have the British authorities lift the embargo on the leading maritime export, it is doubtful if the importation will be allowed, although it is claimed by some that it might be modified to some extent, thus permitting a limited quantity to find their way to the British market. The reason given for the restriction is that there are other foods more essential at the present time and fruits, which are looked upon as luxury must give way to them.

This means that the Dominion crop of apples must be practically consumed at home. Apple growers in the maritime provinces will be somewhat relieved by the partial failure of the Ontario apples, but even this will not offset the advantages to be gained in dealing directly with the British people.

Although the exportation of apples from New Brunswick is limited, yet during the last five years and in fact since the department of agriculture was taken over by the Hassen Government in 1906 apple growing in this province has been rapidly strides and the fruit exhibition held last year in St. John was ample proof of this statement.

Although at present it is a little early to state the prices which will prevail in St. John, yet considering the trade restrictions and the bumper crop of apples in the maritime provinces, everyone points to cheap apples this fall.

H. L. MCGOWAN ATTENDED SCOTTISH CONVENTION

Delegate for New Brunswick Has Returned—States Convention One of Most Successful Held—Lasted Four Days.

Henry L. McGowan has returned to the city after attending the Royal Convention, Order of Scottish Clan which was held in Hartford, Conn., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Mr. McGowan was a delegate representing the Order in New Brunswick.

Speaking of the convention, Mr. McGowan said that there were delegates from all over the United States and Canada, there were in all 125, who represented over 20,000 clansmen, and the railway fares of the delegates amounted to over \$2,000.

On Wednesday last a mammoth banquet was given in Charter Oak Hall, when the principal speaker was Marcus H. Holcomb, the Governor for Connecticut.

Woodrow Wilson of the United States, and Premier R. L. Borden of Canada, giving a resolution expressing the confidence in their conduct of the war preparations, and the great work so far done, also promising to support them in their efforts against military autocracy in their fight for the preservation of democracy. Replies were received from the President and Premier, acknowledging the receipt of the resolution, and thanking the members of the Order for the same.

Past Chief John Hill of St. Louis, presented to the Royal Clan large Canadian and Scottish silk flags which were hung up in the convention hall and were greatly admired by the delegates.

On the opening day of the convention there was a large parade of the delegates and other members, headed by the Pipe Major of the Order, N. H. The Canadian and Scotch flags, with the stars and stripes on either side, were carried in front of the procession. The delegates received a grand reception all along the route.

The usual business of the convention was carried out, and it was decided to donate large sums of money to patriotic causes.

The different clans in the States sent a large number of their members to the convention, and the United States entered into the conflict, and it was shown that in one Clan alone, it was found necessary to call a meeting and elect officers, as all officers had gone overseas to fight for Great Britain. Now that the U. S. has entered the war more members are enlisting, and all men who have enlisted are being kept in good standing, and their families are being looked after.

MacCallum, the Royal Deputy of Connecticut, sent three sons to the front, and it was while the convention was in progress that he received a telegram, informing him that one of his sons had been severely wounded.

It took eight sessions to conduct the business of the convention. The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing two years: Royal Chief, Alexander Graham Findley, of Seattle, Wash.; Royal Deputy, Col. Walter Scott, of New York; Royal Councillor, Thomas W. Forsyth, of San Francisco; Royal Secretary, Thomas H. P. Gibb, of Boston; Royal Treasurer, Duncan MacInnes, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Royal Physician, Dr. George A. Johnson, of Everett, Mass.

It was decided that the next convention be held in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. McGowan says that everything possible was done for the comfort and enjoyment of the delegates, and the convention was one of the most successful ever held.

AND THE TELEGRAPH CLAIMS TO BE A REAL MODERN NEWSPAPER

"Men who buy a newspaper want the news."—This is one of the few truthful remarks contained among a number of deliberate falsehoods published yesterday by the St. John Telegraph, the nominal editor of which has, no doubt, been laboring under the delusion that the only two real newspapers in existence are the New York Herald and the Carter-Pugsley pocket organ of this city.

The Telegraph may be economizing, but it is a fact that its readers fail to get all the news until they buy some other newspaper. It is not the custom of the Journal to boast of its news exclusives, but on this occasion The Standard can sincerely

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Little Benny's Note Book.

This morning at breakfast pop sed to ma, Pevless, Im going to bring a customer home for supper this evening. I believe has considered quite a singer in his home town so you mite just casually remark, wont you favor us with a seleckshin, Mr. Crooks? And if we are lucky he may politly decline.

And thalte wen pop came home there was a man with freckles with him, pop saying, This is my wife, Mr. Crooks, and this is my little Benny.

Much obliged, Im sure, sed Mr. Crooks. And we all went in and ate supper, having ice cream for dessert, and aftir supper we went up in the setting room, and pritty soon pop started to make sines to ma, and ma sed, Wont you favor us with a seleckshin, Mr. Crooks?

I dont mind if I do, sed Mr. Crooks. And he sat down at the piano and started to play and sing loud as anything, just like grand opa, wich he hadent hardly began wen Mildred Jones started to practice her scales next store, wich we cool hear her throo the wall plane as anything, and Mr. Crooks stopped playing and singing, saying, I cant sing with that hideous noise going on next store.

Hang that girl, sed pop. And he started to nock on the wall, and pritty soon Mildred Jones stopped practicing her scales, and Mr. Crooks started to sing agen, beginning all over agen at the beginning, wich as soon as he did Mildred Jones began to practice her scales agen and Mr. Crooks stopped and turned around, saying, I cant do it, people may call it temperment, but I cant do it.

And pop waked over and started to nock on the wall agen, and the scales stopped agen, and Mr. Crooks tried to sing 3 more times and pop had to nock on the wall 3 more times, and then Mrs. Jones called out of her back window, Hello, hello, hello in Pottas.

Rite heer, sed pop, sticking his head out the window.

Was that you nocking on the wall? sed Mrs. Jones, and pop sed, It was, and Mrs. Jones sed, Well how do you ispeck Mildred to practice her scales wen you do that, its hard enuff to concentrate with all that singing going on, without delibritly nocking on the wall into the bargain.

And she stuck her head in, and pop stuck his in, and the scales started agen, and pop sed, Well, Mr. Crooks, if you come with me I can lead you to some of the most bewtifful sumir music in the world, made principally by the sound of ice in cristal glasses.

That sounds good to me, sed Mr. Crooks. And him and pop went out.

hand out some good advice up Canterbury street way and urge the de-called journalists there to get out of the rut they are in and make at least a feeble effort to round up some of the news that develops in the city, province and country.

Glancing at The Standard and the Telegraph it can be seen that The Standard published last Saturday a dozen items of news which the Telegraph did not have, on Monday the number was thirteen, and yesterday fifteen. The majority of the news matter which the old lady of Canterbury street failed to collect related to city and provincial happenings.

Therefore, the journalistic text selected from the vapors of the alchemist's Telegraph is heartily endorsed by this newspaper. But the Telegraph editor should practice what he preaches.

It is a question in the minds of fair and honest newspaper men whether the Telegraph has changed much since the days when indignant citizens marched to its office, or when one of its officials was said to be involved in the barefaced "plugging" of the voters' lists at Rochesay. It is still preaching purity, while upholding heroes of the Central railway steel variety and others who have a past.

THE COUNTY COURT.

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