

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 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.

### TODAY'S MEETING.

The meeting of business men called for this afternoon in the Board of Trade rooms to consider measures for the securing of recruits for the Empire's armies should be attended by every business man who considers that this city, this province and this Dominion are worth fighting for. The prosecution of the Empire's war is the most important business that can come before us at this time and it should not be possible for any man to convince himself that other engagements are sufficiently pressing to keep him from engaging in that work.

There are many ways in which business men can render valuable assistance in the recruiting campaign. They do not all need to be speakers, a word of encouragement and assurance to young men in their employ, who would enlist were it not for the fear of losing their positions, would work wonders. It might be a bit too drastic to ask local employers of labor to announce to their staffs that men who join the colors would have their employment saved for them, and the preference for promotion when the war is over, possibly some establishments could not carry such a plan into effect without entailing too great a sacrifice of discipline and organization, but whether this can be done or not, they should at least give every encouragement to those willing to go to the front.

St. John business men have always shown themselves willing to assist in every work for the public good but the fact remains that in this recruiting campaign the labor has been borne by comparatively few. The Recruiting Committee should have the active assistance and co-operation of every man in St. John. Most business men are unable to don khaki and go to the front themselves, so it really is not too much to expect that they should assist in every other way possible, for in this campaign there is work for every one and the more quickly it is grappled with in a businesslike way the more satisfactory will be the results. Let today's meeting be the commencement of another recruiting boom eclipsing the greatest that has been known in the past.

### CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE.

Under the auspices of the Canadian Commission of Conservation a Civic Improvement League conference will open in Ottawa the latter part of this week and continue in session for two or three days. The first conference of the sort was held in Ottawa in November last when most of the Canadian cities were represented. At that convention Sir Clifford Sifton, chairman of the Canadian Conservation Commission, was in the chair at the opening and the chairmen who presided during its sessions were Sir John Willison of the Toronto News, and Hon. J. J. Guerin of Montreal. At the close of the conference a provisional committee was formed with Sir John Willison as chairman and numbering in its membership such leading Canadians as Dr. Frank Adams, Senator Dandurand, Hon. Sydney Fisher, W. D. Lighthall of Westmount, Dr. Helen McMurphy, Prof. J. W. Robertson, Prof. Adam Shortt, Sir Clifford Sifton and J. S. Watters, president of the Trades and Labor Congress.

At the conference to be held during this week this committee will report, and submit a constitution for the league which will be fairly launched. It is also proposed to take steps leading to the formation of local organizations in different Canadian cities and towns to advance the work in their localities and bring the people generally into closer sympathy with the object of the League which, as its name implies, is to work for all things likely to promote civic improvement.

Included in the questions to which the League aims to pay special attention are "the form and character of local government and the application of sound economic principles to municipal business," "town planning," schemes and plans for the utilization and development of lands in or near the city area, the prevention and removal of slums and slum districts, the conservation of civic and municipal resources, the preservation and growth of natural and structural beauty, investigation into housing and industrial

conditions and into methods of valuation and assessment and provision for recreation and physical development of the city children.

Some of these questions already find consideration in the Unions of Municipalities, City Beautiful Associations, Community Councils and the like but it is well to have a national organization to co-ordinate these activities and to give lead and direction to local efforts. For such an organization there is a place and a wide field of usefulness.

### THE PLACE FOR THEM

This Canada of ours is big enough and broad enough to hold in harmony men of all religions, political and other opinions, and in normal times little attention would be paid to statements favoring of sedition or breathing disloyalty. Those who voiced such sentiments would be regarded simply as lunatics, perhaps to be watched, certainly to be pitied. But the times are not normal. Canada and the Empire face a situation in which the assistance of every man is needed, no matter what his private opinions as to the merits or demerits of that situation may be. In such a case, there can be but little tolerance or consideration for men like Wilfrid Gribble in St. John or Armand Lavergne and Henry Bourassa in Quebec.

Gribble's case is now before the courts and therefore, cannot be commented upon, but it is safe to say that the St. John Socialist is a lesser sinner than the Quebec fire-brand who, in public utterance, has endeavored to dissuade the young men of that province from donning the King's uniform to fight in their own defence.

It is not to be supposed that the vapors of Lavergne or Bourassa represent the opinion of the province of Quebec. There is, in St. John at the present time, a fine regiment of young Canadians the great majority of whom are of French descent. Yet they are just as loyal as their English brothers who, clad in the same leveling garb, are faring forth to bear their part of the burden of this war.

In Parliament yesterday Sir Wilfrid Laurier roundly condemned the utterances of such men as Lavergne and for that the Liberal leader is to be commended. Had he gone farther and scored those members of his own party who have been guilty of disloyalty he would probably have won equal commendation from the great majority of his followers. There is only one place in Canada today for the man who deals in disloyalty, and that is behind prison bars to be dealt with as the law and the times demand.

In reference to Mr. Lavergne's utterances the editorial view of the Montreal Gazette should be of interest as an illustration of the opinion of the most influential English newspaper in the Province of Quebec. The Gazette says:

"Mr. Armand Lavergne, in his speech in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday night, went farther than regard for his future political health should justify. His regard for the interest of the children of French-speaking people in Ontario schools, however sincere it may be, should not, and it is believed, will not, in the opinion of the French-speaking people of Quebec, justify his declaration that each French-Canadian who enrolls himself for service in this war falls in his duty to this, his country. The British Government is not responsible for the policy the administration of the Province of Ontario has determined to pursue in regard to the schools under its jurisdiction. Neither can it be maintained that the Government of Canada has responsibility in the connection.

"The government of Great Britain thought it necessary, in defence of its interests and in discharge of its treaty obligations to other countries to declare war against Germany, which involved in time declaration of war against Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. The government of Canada, considering that when Great Britain was at war Canada was at war, made preparations to share in the conflict, and summoned Parliament to pass judgment on its action and policy. Parliament approved of all that had been done and that it was proposed to do; and it is because of this action

of the representative body that alone can speak for the people of Canada that Canadian soldiers are now in Great Britain, France and Belgium. It is not to be presumed that all in Canada approved of the course of the Government and of Parliament of Canada. In Great Britain, strong, sincere and respected men, gave up high positions as a protest against the course their colleagues of the government thought it well to pursue. There are men who think war so terrible that it should be avoided at any cost. There are men who think the circumstances in 1914 did not justify Great Britain's entering upon the present struggle. There are men who think that Canada would be doing its full duty to itself by taking measures for the protection of its own shores. In British countries thought is free, and so, also, is the expression of thought. When war becomes inevitable, or is entered upon, the free expression of opinion is neither well nor wise. It was neither well nor wise in Mr. Lavergne's case. The reception of his words in the Legislature suggested that he had no sympathizers among his colleagues. There are the words and actions of leaders in every department of public life in this province to suggest that he has few sympathizers outside of the Legislature. The thousands of French-speaking Canadians doing soldier's duty in Canadian corps in France, in England, and in Canada, indicate that his words have not affected the mass of the people to whom they were presumably addressed. They will not help their author among his own people. Others may ignore them."

## BELGIAN PRIEST HERE PRAISES OUR SOLDIERS

Fr. Arts, now chaplain in Canadian forces, says they are almost worshipped in his country.

"The more the Canadian soldiers are known the better are they appreciated by the Belgians. In Belgium they are almost worshipped."

Such was the warm tribute paid to the men from this country by Rev. Father J. Arts of Toronto, formerly of Louvain, the unfortunate city which was sacked by the Prussian hordes, and its citizens slain. Father Arts, who is honorary captain and was Roman Catholic chaplain in the Canadian expeditionary force at Gallipoli, arrived in this city yesterday on the steamer Mississauga and registered at the Dupont Hotel.

Before the war he was head of a convent and boarding school in Louvain. Part of the school was destroyed by the Germans when they trained some of the products of their gun factory at Essen on the stricken city.

Father Arts removed to Toronto where before enlisting as chaplain he did valiant service among his countrymen. He is a large, robust man and looks the priest as well as the militiaman. His English is very good. He has a slight accent similar to that of the French speaking people, but is easily understood. He speaks French fluently as nearly all Belgians do.

"I want to say," said Father Arts, last night, "that German reports of the misbehavior of Canadian troops are infamous lies. Their behavior has been excellent and there has been no cause for complaint. Tell those who have not enlisted to hurry up for I can assure you Canadians are needed across the water. I was with the Canadian boys who fought on the Gallipoli peninsula against the Turks, and they acquitted themselves splendidly. The Canadian doctors and nurses gained a splendid reputation everywhere at the front and wounded Canadian soldiers were glad when they were sent to Canadian hospitals over there."

Father Arts preferred not to make a statement at this time concerning plans which are being considered to bring many Belgians who have lost their homes to Canada. He will confer with the federal immigration authorities regarding Belgian refugees. Yesterday he saw the immigration officials here. There is no doubt that there will be a large Belgian immigration to Canada during the next two years. There are now many Belgians in Canada, many of whom are employed in the mines of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and British Columbia.

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## Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE

Us folks was standing alongside of the lamp post this afternoon and Pops Simkinses slay cousin Persey came running up, saying, Hay, fellows, G. J. folks, Flatfoot is arresting a man around the corner.

And we all started to yell and ran down the street and around the corner, and we didn't see anything, and we all yelled, Wars, wars, Rita in back of the newspaper place, and Persey. And we all ran up and hear Flatfoot was standing there with his hand on sum mans shoulder.

Well did I tell you, and Persey. And we all crowded up around Flatfoot, and just then Flatfoot said to the man, Theres no use tawking, polyticks is rotten, theres no use tawking, hay, wat do all you kids think your doing pushing and shoving. Proving that he was just tawking to the man and not arresting him, and we grabbed a hold of Persey and took him back to the lamp post, Persey saying, I thart he was arresting him, I didn't do it on perpis, I didn't do it on perpis.

Shut up, your arrested, and Reddy Merfy.

Yeh, lets arrest him, lets arrest him and lock him up in sum vesterbule and ring the bell, sed Skinny Martin.

Which everybody but Persey thart it was a grate idee, nobody caring wat Persey thart, and we took him and put si min Miss Winkels vesterbule and rang the bell and held the door shut till we herd somebody coming and then we quick ran and hid in uthir vesterbules, me running into my own vesterbule, and after a while I peeked out and I didn't see anything, so I came out and wawled past Miss Winkels house and there was Miss Winkel in the vesterbule giving Persey a orange and saying, The idee of those wicked boys treating you like that, and you sutch a nice littel boy, heer, heers an orange for you.

And Persey went down the front steps biting a hole in the orange and wawled down the street, sucking it, and all the folks came out of the different vesterbules and looked at him, and Miss Winkel kepp on standing there at the dor till he got around the corner.

## THE OLD SONGS AND THE NEW

The modern ragtime music—socialized, may be considered but a temporary aberration. A few years ago the popular airs were taken from the light comic operas, or from the sketchy music of the vaudiville artist. These have given way to variations on the plaintive negro airs of the old south and will in turn lead to something else that happens to catch the popular fancy.

But the simple songs of our fathers—the beautiful music and the heart-stirring words will again come into their own. And when they do, Stephen Foster will be recognized as one, who caught the spirit of his time and rendered it into music. When only sixteen years of age, he wrote his first song, it was called "Open the Lattice, Lee," and was soon followed by "Uncle Ned"—which at once caught the popular ear. Then came "O, Susanna"—popular with the minstrel troupes—and for which he received a hundred dollars. His "Old Folks at Home" was published in 1850—and brought him five hundred dollars from the then famous Christy minstrels. For copyrights of this song he received, first and last, nearly \$15,000.

Among his most popular compositions were "Old Black Joe," "Old Kentucky Home," "Old Folks at Home," and "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming." This song is a beautiful composition and is all to be found in "Heart Songs"—that wonderful song collection now being offered by



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1, reg. price \$50.00 . . . For \$30  
2, reg. price \$55 and \$60, For \$40  
2, reg. price \$75 and \$90, For \$45

**H. MON**  
54 King

**INTERESTING For Boys**

You enjoyed the last drawing you have another, as follows: Make a drawing in pen and looks like. Each attempt will be prizes awarded—One for the best older than ten, and another by not older than fifteen years of age. Each attempt must be accompanied by a letter, and reach this office addressed to

Whose decision must be considered

**A WORD More Valuable**

Having noticed that a number over ten years of age, refrain from thinking perhaps that they have older, I have decided to let you know each to be judged under their own word, EXCITEMENT, and I shall two longest lists, as follows: One YEARS OF AGE, and the other for NOT OVER FIFTEEN years of age. Each list must be accompanied by a letter, and reach this office addressed to

Whose decision must be considered

**STANDARD For Boys**

Full Name . . . . .  
Address . . . . .  
Age Last B . . . . .

Boy Missing.  
A boy, Joseph Hayes, aged thirteen years, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hayes, of Glen Falls, has been missing since last Friday. He started for school in the morning and has not since been seen. He is of stocky build, fair complexion and was wearing a