

The St. John Standard

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"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 BUILDING OF THE SHIPS.

I. lengthily and labored defence of the alleged Laurier naval policy the Telegraph summarizes the Liberal position as follows: "The Liberals said we should build, man and maintain the ships." Apparently that is the complete case and on it the party of Laurier must be judged. Let us, for the time, forget all about the Laurier quibbling and vacillation on the naval question as on other matters of Imperial importance and judge his course solely from the Telegraph's statement.

In the first place the Liberals wanted to build the ships in Canada, and the Telegraph claims that that policy had been adopted. Canadian ships would now be now being fighting the Empire's battles. Just to keep the record straight it may be recalled that, when in power, and with a majority both in the House of Commons and the Senate, the Liberals made no attempt to build warships in Canada or anywhere else, so the value of that idea, as far as the present war is concerned, must be considered to date from the time the Borden Government took office.

On December 5th, 1912, after consultation with the British Admiralty, Sir Robert Borden introduced his naval bill, which was not intended as a permanent policy, but merely to meet an emergency that had arisen in the relation of the Empire to a certain nation in Europe. The Liberals, at that time, scoffed at the idea of an emergency and even Sir Wilfrid Laurier, when confronted by the Churchill memorandum, on December 12th, 1912, said: "This document shows that there is no emergency; that England is in no danger either present or prospective." Yet, in less than two years after that statement was made the Empire was locked in a life and death struggle with the very foe that threatened in 1912, and to meet whose naval development the Borden emergency bill was designed.

The Liberals wanted a permanent policy and the ships built in Canada. How would that plan have worked out? Remember it would have been necessary to first build the plant before the construction of ships could have been commenced.

Right Hon. Winston Churchill, Secretary of the British Admiralty, had for years acquired knowledge of naval matters in the best school in the world—the British navy—and in his memorandum to Sir Robert Borden he has this to say regarding the matter of building battleships in Canada:

"It is clear that it would be wholly unwise for Canada to attempt to undertake the building of a battleship at the present moment. The cost of laying down the plant alone would, at a rough estimate, be approximately fifteen million pounds, and it could not be ready for four years."

Thus, if the Laurier policy had been adopted on the very day on which Sir Robert Borden introduced his naval bill, and the Liberals showed no disposition to take any action prior to that time, and had a contract for the yards been entered into without one hour's debate, the plant, according to Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill's estimate, could not have been completed and ready to produce ships before December 5th, 1916. On that date, fourteen months hence, providing, of course, there were no unforeseen delays, the yards built according to the Laurier policy would be in a position to start work on the construction of the first warship.

Now, how about the ships? The Telegraph uses the Australian light cruiser Sydney to represent the type of ships Sir Wilfrid Laurier proposed. It should be absolutely fair, then, to judge of the speed with which such a ship could be completed in Canada by the record made in the construction of Australia's pride. The Sydney was begun in February, 1911; she was launched in May, 1912, and completed in July, 1913—two years and five months in the building. Let us suppose that the keel of the light cruiser "Laurier" should be laid in the newly constructed Laurier yard on the day of that yard's completion, December 5th, 1915; at the Australian rate of progress she would be launched in March,

1916, and completed and ready for commission in May, 1917. Yet the Telegraph would have its readers believe that under the Laurier plan, Canadian warships would be in the fighting lines of the Empire in the present war. Does the Telegraph think the present war will continue until May, 1919, or is it merely indulging in playful misrepresentation of this, a serious question? UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES COULD THE LAURIER SHIPS HAVE BEEN OF SERVICE IN THE PRESENT WAR. LAURIER DELAYED ACTION LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE THAT IMPOSSIBLE.

What would have been the effect had Sir Robert Borden's emergency bill been adopted? Under that plan the ships would have been built in British shipyards, already established and equal to the task. The bill was introduced on December 5th, 1912, and, if the Liberals had not obstructed it, the contracts for the ships could have been in the hands of the British builders by January 1st, 1913. At the Australian rate of construction the ships would have been finished and in commission by July 1st, 1915, at the very latest estimate, as British warships are now in commission which were commenced since the introduction of Sir Robert Borden's bill.

Which policy will strike the average sane Canadian as the one most likely to be of assistance to the British Empire in the time of need? Sir Robert Borden's plan which would have provided ships of the kind needed in time to be of some service, or the nebulous and vague Laurier proposal? The more consideration one gives to the two policies the more forcibly must one be impressed with the truth of the statement made by The Standard, and derisively quoted by the Telegraph that "it is today clearly and solely due to the pernicious influence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the disloyal action of his parasites in the Canadian Senate that there is no 'Canada', no 'New Brunswick', no 'Nova Scotia' to represent this country in the Dreadnought squadron in the North Sea."

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR

The men and women of Canada are confronted with a duty that cannot be neglected. The young, physically fit men should be in khaki, helping the cause of the Empire, where strong men are needed, on the battle lines in France and Flanders, or in the training camps in Canada preparing for active service. The men, not of military age or fitness, and the women, as well, should make up their minds that they, too, have an opportunity to be of service. To them the call comes in the form of the various patriotic and other funds incidental to Canada's participation in war.

Fortunately there is abundant opportunity to heed the appeal in one direction or the other. An active recruiting campaign is being prosecuted in an effort to fill the ranks of the battalions to go from this province to the scene of war and it is not meeting with the necessary measure of success if the desired results are to be obtained. This is not due to cowardice on the part of the young men of New Brunswick but, primarily, to the fact that there has not yet been a complete realization of the need. Young men are indifferent rather than cowardly. They incline to the belief that the Empire can get along without them and that the situation has not yet reached the point of urgency where it is necessary for them to exchange the ease of civilian life at home for the arduous labor, comparative discomfort and danger of the trenches. These young men are in error. While they are safe now they should consider what their case might be should the Germans prove victorious, what their position would be with Canada a German colony. In the latter case there would be no thought of voluntary service. The armies would be raised by conscriptive methods of the most drastic form. Do the young men of this country desire such a development? If not they have opportunity, by enlisting in the Empire's armies, to do their share in preventing it.

As with the actual offer of service in the fighting lines, so with the question of assisting to fight the Germans with the cheque book. At the present time more than the usual number of channels are available by which one may contribute to one or other of the worthy funds. The Patriotic Auction is designed to swell the coffers of the Patriotic Fund and is a most commendable undertaking in which every citizen should participate. Later on there will be a house to house canvass in the interests of the same fund when it is expected that every man and woman in the city will respond to the appeal for contributions. Much has already been done in this respect but St. John has not yet reached the limit. It is assuredly the duty of the hour to either fight or pay. They are not true and loyal Canadians who ignore it.

THE CROWN LANDS.

The following editorial from the Globe of last evening is respectfully commended to the careful attention of the politically jaundiced Chatham World and the purchaseable St. John Times:

"Respective altogether of politics, there should be widespread satisfaction over the announcement that Premier Clarke has cancelled lumber licenses held in connection with or following the Berry collections. By freeing the province from the unfair obligations assumed as a consequence of these collections, the Premier has taken the first step in the direction of a new and, it is hoped, a more equitable arrangement. No man can deny that in times past the lumber trade of the province has been administered more in the interests of the lumbermen than of the people. Proof of this is found in a comparison of the records of stumpage collections under various governments, published in the blue books of the province. The Dugal investigation turned the white light of publicity on other things often whispered and hinted at, but never before exposed. It made known to the whole province, not all the details of a rotten business, but enough to prove that the lumbermen were getting more, much more, than they were morally entitled to; much more than the politicians wanted the public to know they were getting; much more even than was brought out in the investigation itself. With a free hand to take up the lumber license matter, untrammelled by any of the obligations of the past, Hon. Mr. Clarke and his government have made a beginning which justifies confidence and warrants a hope of an arrangement fair to the lumbermen and fair to the province. Such an arrangement is only possible after an honest survey and classification of the crown lands. If Hon. Mr. Clarke's government gives to the province a crown land policy based on such a survey, and carried into effect regardless of other considerations than justice, it will have rendered the province a service of inestimable value. The beginning is right."

The splendid reception accorded to the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French loan by the financial magnates of the United States is a striking evidence of confidence in the ultimate success of the Allied cause. Financial men are the keenest observers of world events and they seldom back a losing proposition. Interests favoring Germany exerted their influence to defeat the flotation of the loan but they were not successful as American investors displayed such eagerness to participate that the issue was over-subscribed. It is a good sign.

The Greek Premier has resigned. Events will show that Bulgaria would have everlastingly profited if the Bulgarian Premier had taken similar action before he permitted himself to become entangled in the coils of German alliance.

Lower Millstream has made a splendid recruiting record. Fourteen soldiers were secured there at a meeting last evening. The rural districts are showing the way to the City of St. John.

To date the Telegraph and Times have preserved a profound silence on the question of the reverse to Mr. Peter J. Veniot in Gloucester county.

There was a parish election in Sunbury County yesterday and the Conservatives scored another triumph. Where was the Liberal organizer?

Fortunes of War

He was a Canadian and he wore a corporal's stripes. There he sat snugly in a sheltered part of his trench in that little corner of Belgium and played poker with a quartet of his comrades. Luck was against him. He had lost about everything he had to lose, when at the very height of the game—just after the dealer had done his best and his worst—a shell came through the roof of the shelter, passed between the Canadian's long, lean legs (luckily without hitting him) and buried itself harmlessly in the soft earth. The others of the party leapt up in not inexcusable haste and fled from the place, but the Canadian did not move.

The disturbance brought the company commander on the run. "What's up?" says he. "Well, sir," says the Canadian, "that there shell drops in on us and when it don't explode at once I judge it is pretty safe not to go off at all. So I

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Us fellows was playing a game of movings up out in the street today, and Sid Hunt came along wheeling the baby coach with his baby bruthir in it, and we awl yelled to him, Hay, Sid, want to get in the game.

I cant, I got to wheel this darn kit, sed Sid.

Aw, put him in back of our steps, he wont no eny diffrents, I sed.

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Waterbury & Ris

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These man and most P. Campb

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Better have a few of our crates man up country. The handy little crate enables without breakage. The weight of crock and crate tell the exact weight of butter you

MADE IN ST. James W. F. INQUIRE OF YOUR

Interesting For Boys

HERE'S QUITE A

You will all have read the p Fund for Soldiers' Children," which each Saturday, now set to work and give you can get, with pr addresses to me, together with the cards to be given to them. To in the greatest number of names 7th October, I shall award either LOVELY STORY BOOK, whichever age limit in this contest, and only to the list.

Now get busy and see if we c tries in this competition.

STANDARD C For Boys

Full Name.....
 Address.....
 Age Last Birt.....

HANDWRITING

As many of you have shown are splendid writers I am letting in same. Write the following qu svers, on a piece of white paper coupons and send in to me not l Both boys and girls may compete older than 15 years of age last s sends me in the most neatly writ correct answers I shall award a p or NICE STORY BOOK whichever

WHERE IS PETROGRAD? WHO IS THE KING OF BUL WHO IS KING GEORGE'S E

Young People of St. Mary's

The Young Peoples' Association of St. Mary's church met in their room last evening and elected the following officers: President, Rev. R. T. McKim; vice-presidents, H. W. Barton