Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William

	Screec, St. sona, 11	
	SUBSCRIPTION. Edition, by Carrier, per year	

Business Office..... Editorial and News .

ST, JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1912.

WHO SHOULD GET THE CREDIT?

Ince is in receipt of \$130,000 more than it formerly was, Mr. Robinson in dealing with this question the other day told the House in very plain language that New Bruns wick got but scant justice in this rearrangement of the subsidy and that there were still unsettled claims against the Dominion amounting in the total to a very large sum.

A support of \$130,000 more than it formerly was, for example the second in what he claims were his intentions he will make himself dess ridiculous and his political game the less transparent. Our people are down to business now. They have had enough of the Pugsley promises, and there has been a surfeit of quack advertising.

Grant, however, that Mr. Pugsley's intentions he will make himself dess ridiculous and his political game the less transparent. Our people are down to business now. They have had enough of the Pugsley promises, and there has been a surfeit of quack advertising.

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mee would have been unable to have increased the extenditure for important public services much beyond the gures of 1882, as the debt had increased from about a million dollars to nearly \$6,000,000 under the Administra

THE LESSON OF THE COAL STRIKE.

sure applying a statesmanlike remedy to the general un-circumstances were greatly reduced. It is to be regretted that so many voters were unable on ferring statutory rights on the uniners, there are no statutory safeguards against the abuse of these rights. There will be no compulsory arbitration, and no security ragainst further strikes. It has, therefore, no element of stability even for its three years' currency as an Act of Parliament. There is nothing to prevent the same lanentable conditions recurring in a few months or even a few weeks. So far from being a settlement, it may be not computed and packed in some wards to record their votes. For this the last off the election was held are probably in part responsible. The final test a forting out a record vote. Whatever the result, the city is assured, by yesterday's polling, of a strong and businesslike Council at a period in its history when these qualifications are especially to be desired.

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PACKED BY

TIDMIT AND T a few weeks. So far from being a settlement, it may only provoke further unrest, and give rise to a demand for still further statutory benefits.

the adoption of the principle of a minimum wage. This means, it is hardly necessary to point out, the complete abandonment of Cobdenism, and the renunciation of the principle of "laissex faire" which, until lately, has been the historic creed of the Free Trade party in England. The orthodox Free Trade view was that the duty of the Government with regard to labor, dispurite was simply to Government with regard to labor, dispurite was simply to The orthodox Free Trade view was that the duty of the Government with regard to labor disputes was simply to 'keep the ring," and let the combatants fight it out to a finish. An employer was left free to bargain as he chose with his workpeople. Now this is all changed A Radical Free Trade Government have adopted undisguised protection. Wages in the coal industry are to be

chose with his workpeople. Now this is all changed A Radical Pree Trade Government have adopted undisguised protection. Wages are the coal lindustry are to by regulated, not by any natural law of supply and demand hor by negotiations between master and workman, but by the State. Should the workers in other industries demand that Parliament shall do for them what it has done for the miners, it is not easy to see how the Asquith Government can logically refuse their request. The workers will point out, very justly, that the coal trade is the most difficult of all trades to which to apply the minimum wage principle, and that there is nothing to prevent it being extended to all trades. If their demand is rejected they may, and doubtless will, resort to the same methods which the coal miners have so successfully employed, and, in all probability, with a similar result. One point is very clear. The general adoption of the principle of the minimum wage, the demand for which has been encouraged by the action of the Asquith Government with respect to the coal miners, necessarily involves the tariff protection of British industries. If the Government with respect to the coal miners, necessarily involves the tariff protection of British industries. If the Government dictate to an employer the rate of wages he must pay his workpeople, it follows that they must enable him to make sufficient volts to meet the demand. In other words, they must see that he spinced on fair terms of competition with the region manufacturers who are not subject to similar vestraints. Otherwise it will be impossible for British manufacturers to carry on business, and the latter state of the workpeople will be worse than the first. A minimum wage, therefore, manufacturers who are not subject to similar vestraints. Otherwise it will be impossible for British manufacturers to carry on business, and the latter state of the workpeople will be worse than the first. A minimum wage, therefore, manufacturers who are not subject to similar vestraints. Other

would render a state-controlled minimum wage entirely uncalled for. They are fully convinced that a tariff on competitive goods coming from abroad would so stimulate British industries as to lead to a general rise in the level of wages, and this, as Mr. Bonar Law has said, would be "the greatest of all possible social reforms."

THE NOTIONS OF MR. PUGSLEY.

n editorial comment

It is a habit of the Opposition at Fredericton to give all the credit to the old Government for the enormous increase in the revenues of the Province during the past increase in the revenues of the Province during the past four years. No Opposition speaker would consider that four years. No Opposition speaker would consider that four years, in the failed to allude to the fact he had done his full duty if he failed to allude to the fact that the old Administration succeeded in getting a rethat the cold administration succeeded in getting a ready number of people in this Province in any way in a ready number of people in this Province in any way in the claims were his intentions he will the receipt of \$130,000 more than it formerly was lince is in receipt of \$130,000 more than

and that there were still unsettled claims against minion amounting in the total to a very large sum. Figure 3 of the minion amounting in the total to a very large sum. The successive Governments have been engreed to secure the adjustment of fisheries claims the Dominion Government, but owing to some the position in this respect—that the national importance of St. John demanded specially the national importance of St. John demanded speciall the Dominion Government, but owing to some that the Dominion Government, but owing to some the claims were still pending when the Borden inistration came into power. While Sir Wilfrid why did we have to wait for a change of Government, by which Mr. Pugsley was thrown out of office, before any substantial progress was made? We do not doubt that he against the Dominion he made no effort to have it against the proposed for a change of Screening the proposed for the proposed for a particular to the proposed for a pa

y representatives of the New Brunswick Government, accessive Ministers of Marine promised to adjust the laims but never got beyond the correspondence stage.

When Mr. Flemming was Provincial Secretary he god the Ottawa Government, led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, do justice tof the Province, but the claim was no nearer to find the province of the provin

business took practical shape. Mr. Hazen had so n es weeks of his taking office an order-in-council wa

\$60,000 for an when he was in power, but who persists in writing int revince was paying about \$50,000 for an example of the state of the st done, must be regarded more or less as a joke, for he has a result of twenty-five years of Liberal rule. The difference in the interest charges, therefore, amounts to \$180,000 or \$50,000 more than the increase in the Domin ion subsidy secured by the old Government. Had the

THE CIVIC ELECTION.

The result of the polling at the civic election primar the Government, discloses one or two features in on to Free Trade and Protection regarding which deals only with the recent crisis in the coal mining industry, and does not profess to be a far-reaching mea-

Current Comment

Most Anything



ITTLE WILLIE HAD NOT BE O SUNDAY SCHOOL SINCE RISTMAS DAY WHEN HE OT HIS BAG OF CANDY.

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