

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1918.

"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 OPPOSITION AND HONEST GOVERNMENT.

As an occasional diversion—about once a week—the productions of the political humorist whose fertile imagination is responsible for the editorial conduct of the Telegraph would be rather amusing; as a steady diet they become nauseating to the people of this province who are fairly familiar with that newspaper and the gentlemen for whom it speaks.

For some time the Telegraph's labored efforts have been in the direction of telling the people about the wonderfully honest administration the opposition party will bring to the province as soon as the opportunity offers. That yarn is already hoary with age and has long since lost its point. Besides, the absurdity of the idea that a party controlled and guided by men of the class of Frank B. Carvell and Edward S. Carter could have anything in common with the quality of honesty is so apparent that the people have ceased to be amused at it. Now they are merely bored.

Much, of course, depends upon the point of view. What may appeal to the opposition management and the Telegraph as honest administration will not strike the general public in the same manner.

If by honest administration is meant such practices as the padding of the Rotheray election lists, or the diversion to the pockets of favored friends of thousands of dollars voted for the construction of the Central Railway, or the withdrawal for their own private and personal uses by members of the government and their subordinate officials of large sums from the provincial treasury, or the deliberate "faking and padding" of provincial balance sheets to cause paper surpluses to take the place of actual deficits, or the defrauding of the public revenues by systematically permitting Crown Land licensees to under-state their annual lumber cut,—if that is the sort of "honest administration" the oppositionists have in view, why, of course, they are quite correct in saying the people of the province will get it in plenty—all they want and more—for there is probably no limit along the lines indicated to which a party headed by the gentlemen referred to would not go to oblige the people.

The Telegraph's contention that the people want honest administration is quite true. They always wanted it. That is why they placed the present Government party in power in 1908 and kept them there by a vastly increased majority in 1912; that is why they will support Hon. B. Frank Smith and Mayor Sutton in the Carleton county by-election and will endorse the Government candidates in every county in which the opportunity is offered.

The people realize that the political upheaval of 1908, which turned from power the most inept and corrupt administration this province has ever known, was a long step in advance. Since that time the party in power has been true to the trust reposed in it, and the province has been the beneficiary by the much needed change.

The territorial revenues have doubled as the result of honest collection. Provincial affairs have been brought out of chaos and placed on a sound business basis. New Brunswick's credit has risen to a higher position in the money markets of the world than had been thought possible. By honest and capable administration more money has been available for the great public services of the province, and such money has been wisely and prudently expended, with the result that roads and bridges are now in better condition than ever before in the history of the province. The agricultural department of the Government has become of real service and value to the farmer and its progressive policies are daily bearing new fruit. The demands of education have been more completely met, the price of school books has been cut down as the result of the smashing of the school book ring. The cost of the administration of justice has been reduced and much valuable and advanced legislation has been placed on the statute books of the province. On the whole the province has enjoyed eight years of honest, progressive government as the result of the elections of 1908 and 1912. The people

wanted honest administration and they are getting it. That is why they will not exchange the present administrators for the remnants of the old discredited aggregation.

But, confronted with the shameful record of their party when it was last in power, the opposition managers hasten to assure the electors that that party has been regenerated and purged of the old crowd. As practical proof of this they have Messrs. Robinson, Sweeney, Leger, Tweeddale, Burgess and Upham, six members of the old crowd—already before the people, to say nothing of such a fine example of the 1916 brand of purist as Edward S. Carter—the twice horsewhipped.

It is an axiom of commerce that no line of goods is better than the sample from which it is sold. From the samples of opposition righteousness as exhibited by the candidates already named, is there any man in this province so simple as to believe that the "line of goods" offered by these gentlemen will be any improvement on the inferior stock cleared off the provincial shelves in 1908? On the contrary, if these gentlemen ever assume the reins of power, is it not reasonable to look forward to the re-establishment of conditions just as bad as the worst that prevailed under the Tweedie-Pugsley-Robinson plunderbund?

The people realize the quality of the Provincial Government and also the character and calibre of the men named in opposition to it. That is why the Telegraph's continued professions of honest administration by the present opposition are becoming very, very tiresome.

## ITALIAN WAR FINANCES.

Highly pleasing and satisfactory is the position of Italian finances under the strain of war. On the old peace basis, Italy had a national debt nearly as large as Britain's, without half the wealth per capita to sustain it. The Italians are thrifty, like their Latin cousins, the French, and a few hundred million lire loomed large in the national budget. The Tripolitan war was deemed to have pretty well emptied Italy's war purse, having cost about two hundred million dollars, or about a billion lire. But in common with her Allies, Italy did not know her own capacity, and the severe strain of nearly fifteen months' war has not worked the financial hardships expected by many at the outset.

Every country at war enjoys a temporary and fictitious prosperity through high wages and big war business, says an exchange. But though foodstuffs are high, judging by the cheap Italian scale, the bank deposits of the people gain steadily. At the end of March the total savings deposits amounted to 2,727,977,136 lire, or about \$550,000,000, exclusive of post-office and commercial deposits, an increase of 55,000,000 lire in one month. Money in Italy is cheap and plentiful at present, and war issues are readily taken up. The treasury report of the cost of the war up to the end of June shows a relatively moderate expense. Where Britain is spending at a rate of nine billion dollars a year, France at about seven billions, and Russia six billions, Italy's expenses in fourteen months of war amounted to two billions. The armed neutrality that Italy maintained during the first ten months of the war cost \$45,000,000 a month, and at this rate the maintenance of mere neutrality right up to now would have cost more than a billion dollars. So Italy is paying out, in hostilities on a fairly big scale, only twice what neutrality would have cost.

The increasing of taxation in Italy has to be carefully placed, for Italy has a large poor population. But the national revenue has been increased by about sixty billion dollars a year, which is quite sufficient, up to the present, to provide for the interest on the new war debt. If the war ends within another year, Italy will have come out of the financial ordeal with colors flying.

Miss Vera Murray, of Chatham, and Miss Ruby Johnston, of Calgary, are visiting Miss Ada Johnston, Peters street.

George A. Bar's and family, accompanied by Miss Kirkpatrick, have returned to the city after spending a pleasant vacation at the camp of John McCarthy, Spruce Lake.

## T. J. CARTER K.G., PAYS HIS RESPECTS TO THE DAILY TELL-LIE-GRAFT

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir—Will you permit me through your columns to thank the dear little child who seems to be occupying the editorial chair of the Telegraph for her good offices in informing the public, editorially, that I am not the Mr. Carter who was several times horsewhipped in public places for publishing nasty libellous articles about decent people; of course all the "grown ups" knew this; but some of her little girl friends may not have known about it. I wish also to say to this little girl: I am not the rage-racked apoplectic individual your hysterical imagination has conjured up. Won't you please stop crying and give me your attention for a little while?

You are editorially surprised that I object to what you consider publicity given me by the Telegraph. You are mistaken. When a decent, truthful newspaper mentions me editorially, that is publicity; when the Telegraph mentions me editorially that is notoriety and I do not care for notoriety.

Again, I did not accuse the Telegraph of libelling me, I accused it of lying about me and denied the truth of its false report; having in view your environments it may seem strange to you that I object to having lies told about me or that I waste time in contradicting any lie appearing in the Telegraph. However, owing to your total inability to understand plain, truthful English, evidenced by your editorial reply to my former letter in The Standard, I shall not attempt to explain this matter for you, you will understand it without explanation when you have grown up. I may add, for your information, that the Telegraph has not, as you seem to think, a prescriptive right to libel people; a prescriptive right cannot be acquired in less than twenty years. If you require further authority on this point I will refer you to Mr. Jerome of New York, recently solicitor for the German Empire and Mr. Carvell.

You seem quite proud of the work done by the Telegraph during the inquiry into the Dugal charges. Its reports were undoubtedly masterpieces of misrepresentation and its headlines the most ingenious I ever read, while its editorials were fully equal to the best work of Mr. Becker, late of the New York police force. Mr. Carvell and his German friend Baron Munchausen, are no doubt highly pleased with the accomplishments of the Telegraph's staff in this regard; had their courage equalled their malignant malice they might have reaped the same reward reaped by Mr. Becker. I am sure they deserved it.

Now my dear child if you value your position you must be more careful in future. You said editorially that I was counsel for Mr. Fleming before the Royal Commission which tried the Dugal charges; you have been guilty of an offense which the Telegraph does not tolerate; you have told the truth. Had you told the whole truth, had you said I was one of the counsel, your editorial chair would be now vacant or occupied by another and you would be wandering your way back to school to take up your old position in the fourth grade.

Please baby don't be cross any more; I'm sure if you had had a fair chance and good common school education you would have been a real nice little girl, well qualified to act as amanuensis for Sir Rider Haggard or Mr. Clark Russell.

T. J. CARTER.  
Andover, N. B., Aug. 30th, 1918.

## A "TRUE LIBERAL" WHO THOROUGHLY OPPOSES PRESENT GRIT METHODS

St. John, N. B., Aug. 31, 1918  
To the Editor of The Standard,  
Sir—These are strenuous days in things political. It seems almost as if certain men had ceased to be governed by the code of honor at all; they certainly have fallen from their high position to come to be just common mud-slingers. It is a begging of the question when abuse has to take the place of polemics, a science of which they once seemed to be adepts. It certainly is playing a low-down game when a man's religion is brought into the question.

Whoever the writer of the letter signed "Anti-Carvell" is he is to be congratulated on his production; it must have cost someone deeply; it is just the rebuke they needed. Now, lest they should think I am an in-the-wool Tory, let me say this, I am an old Liberal, one of the hundreds who turned against their party to try and make a house-cleaning of the party, when it needed it so badly, and more, I was seriously thinking of giving them a vote at the next opportunity, but the political baronets which I thought would have been cleaned off the old ship before they put to sea in her again, I find, are still to be the hindrance they were before to good, clean progress. I thought after the "dry-docking" they would have had a clean ship to go to sea with, but alas, when we look at those who are clamoring at these conventions for so-called clean government it is the same bunch that were thrown out less than ten years ago. To elect them would be to put back the hands of the clock ten years for they have not "brought forth fruits meet for repentance." It would be the re-establishment of the system of graft and corruption.

Now, Mr. Editor, I do not hold any

## Little Benny's Note Book

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.  
Sports. A one skate skating contest took place last Monday between the 3 champions, Skinny Martin and Ed Wernick, over the regular 2 block course. Skinny was away ahead on account of his legs being the longest parts of him when a roller came off of his skate and he fell all over himself and lost the race. He claimed it was a foul, but Judges Benny Potts and Puds Simkins claimed that in a regular awtomobile race when a tire comes off the driver has to get out and put another one on, and it awt to be the same way in a one skate skating race.

Wats you got under there? Under waret? Correckt. Joak.  
SHORT STORY.  
A Change of Plan.  
"Johnny, wats you got your cap on for?"  
"Mam?"  
"Don't you know its raining?"  
"Yes, mam."  
"Well then take-it off and stay in the house."  
The end.

Personals. How did you get that black eye, Reddy Merfy? Did you fall down and tred on it?  
Sam Craws can bend over and put his hands on the pavement without bending his neez. The Park Ave. News hopes you will be just as successfull in everything you attempt, Sam.

Interesting Facts. It is not known for serten weather or not the planet Mars is inhabited by people. It is also not known for serten weather or not it is known for serten in Mars weather or not the earth is inhabited.

THE FITE.  
Pome by Skinny Martin.  
"Your a Har!"  
"Your anuther!"  
"If Im anuther"  
"Your his brother!"  
BII! Bang! BII!

brief for the New Brunswick government, yet there is one thing I am grateful to them for, and that is, the passing of the best prohibition measure that has ever been put on any statute book. Honestly, in view of the forces arrayed against them, I did not think they would have the courage to pass it, but they did, and, once it is in operation, the people of this province will show their gratitude for it. The Attorney General is to be congratulated for the step he took when he introduced the measure into the House, and also, for his unwavering adherence to it in spite of all threats. It has given the government prestige, such a measure of it, that the opposition will never forgive him his sin, and I fully expect they will endeavor to use it against him when their opportunity comes. Just as the party has used it against the Conservative party in Ontario, I trust that other Liberals who still love the principles that have made Liberalism great, and all New Brunswickers who would see our province get and keep a good name will show on every occasion their abhorrence of the dirty, demeaning tactics which are now being used to the degradation of what I still consider one of the grandest set of ideals that humanity has ever been permitted to espouse.

Thanking you in anticipation, I remain,  
Yours respectfully,  
Thirty-Five Years a Lover of  
TRUE Liberalism.  
NO ROYAL ROAD.

We are told that there is "No Royal Road to Success" and most of us have, at some time or another proved it to be true. We have found that it is only by steady, persistent effort that anything worth while is attained. Yet, if the above is a truth, it is also a fact that success does come to those who earnestly strive for it along the right line. A case in point is that of "KING COLE" TEA whose advertisement is seen from time to time in our pages. Starting some six years ago in the face of the sternest competition and adverse market conditions, this Tea, by making "QUALITY

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S. Kerr,  
Principal

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