

## The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William Street,  
St. John, N. B., Canada.

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Yearly Subscriptions: \$5.00 By Carrier, \$3.00 By Mail, \$1.00 Semi-Weekly, by mail, \$2.00 Semi-Weekly to United States. Advertising rates on application.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 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.

### DO THEY WANT FIGHT?

In the light of the very free and frank pledge given by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the opposition would exert its efforts to promote political peace and harmony in Canada during the period of the Empire war it is not easy to understand how the veteran leader of the Liberal party has permitted Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell, in the course of debate in the House of Commons, to throw out insinuations and charges in a manner so particularly obnoxious as to arouse the resentment of men of both political parties.

Neither Mr. Pugsley nor Mr. Carvell were supported by facts when they made their charges, but even if they had been their conduct was utterly reprehensible. It is all very well for Mr. Carvell to declare in his loudest tones that "there is no truth to boodling and graft," it may suit the few men supporting Mr. Pugsley to have him assume the air of an injured innocent and inveigh against "the colossal wrong" being perpetrated in "Canada but such conduct, even when warranted, is not at all likely to promote peace or harmony.

In the case under discussion even the warrant does not exist. There has been no boodling, no graft in connection with the Canadian shell contracts; Canada is not growing under the perpetration of any "colossal wrong" as Mr. Pugsley would have us believe. On the contrary these men are political partisans of the meanest type. Their conduct in the Naval Aid debate established that without question and their outbreak today has been undertaken with no purpose save that of attempting to discredit the Government in the hope that the Canadian people may be induced to forget the splendid and patriotic manner in which Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues in the ministry have grappled with the many unprecedented problems created by the war.

Does the conduct of Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell reflect the real wish of the Liberal party? Is it the intention of that party that while their leader indulges in laudable patriotic speeches, and pledges the men behind him to assist the Government in all its war measures, political gutter fighters like Pugsley and Carvell shall use their tongues to spread poison gas through Canada from one end of the country to the other? If that is the game, then let it be so. There is on the part of the Conservative party no desire for a war time election but if the Government is to be made the subject of such unbridled and unwarranted attacks then hundreds of thousands of loyal and patriotic Canadians who support that Government cannot be blamed if they join in the view that, by permitting the tactics already referred to to go unchecked, Sir Wilfrid Laurier really desires to divide the country in an election contest. If that is the Liberal leader's idea then his legionaries are going the right way about it. Under the circumstances an election in war time would be a public benefit to Canada if it should result in burying William Pugsley and Frank B. Carvell beneath the tangible evidence of the disapproval of their indignant constituents.

### THE STANDARD'S CHALLENGE.

The Evening Times, which has had a good deal to say concerning the dealings of Mr. J. B. Cudlip, of the Cornwall and York Cotton Company, and the Messrs. Fleming of the Phoenix Foundry Company, in connection with shell contracts secured from the Bertram Shell Committee, has not yet had the courage to accept The Standard's challenge and send a reporter to interview those gentlemen and print the questions asked and the answers received.

The challenge was published on the front page of Saturday's Standard and had the Times desired to do so, it could have secured the information referred to in plenty of time for its Saturday afternoon edition. The challenge is republished this morning for the editor of the Times might have overlooked the first publication. Possibly the Times' big brother, the Telegraph, which usually yells the loudest, when it thinks it has caused will accept the challenge today, if it

has not already done so. The Standard repeats that the charges that Messrs. Fleming were forced to pay a commission of ten per cent. to Mr. Cudlip or the Cornwall and York Mills are absolutely untrue. But we do not ask the Telegraph or Times to take our word for it. Mr. Cudlip and the Messrs. Fleming are in the city and can be reached in ten minutes from the Telegraph and Times offices. Surely the reporters and editors of those newspapers are not so greatly overworked that they cannot devote the necessary time to a simple interview, especially when, as in this case, the veracity of the newspapers is called into question.

The issue cannot be evaded, or buried under abuse of The Standard by Telegraph and Times artists. This is not a case of politics but of fair play to reputable business men who the Telegraph and Times assert have been parties of graft.

If those newspapers do not accept the challenge of The Standard then their readers will know that though it is their policy to give publicity and editorial approval to all sorts of wild charges and canvasses against the government they can become as reticent as a bashful school boy when cornered.

### INFORMATION "WANTED"

The Ottawa Free Press, chief Liberal organ in Ottawa, publishes the following regarding Mr. Carvell's alleged desire for information regarding the shell contracts awarded by the Bertram Shell Committee. It is respectfully commended to the attention of Mr. Carvell's friends:

"In the House of Commons yesterday Mr. Carvell asked the Minister of Marine why he did not read a complete list of the companies who had received contracts from the Bertram Shell Committee.

"Go to the Shell Committee and get them," was Mr. Hazen's suggestion.

"Nice chance we would have of getting them," commented Mr. E. M. MacDonald.

"While the minister is in the giving mood," observed Mr. Carvell, "I would ask him to get the dates of the contracts, the quality of the munitions to be supplied, and the price to be paid as well."

"Would it be believed that all this information, in just as complete and detailed a form as Mr. Carvell suggests, was actually supplied to the Liberal opposition last July? Messrs. Carvell, MacDonald, and Pugsley seem to be slashing around in the dark when men sitting alongside of them are in possession of documents which, through confidential, would at least enlighten them if they seek only for facts. These gentlemen pretend to laugh when The Free Press opinion of this shell business is quoted; but their laughter is as nothing to the amusement The Free Press derives from such dialogue as the one quoted.

"To same men it is unnecessary to argue that the Bertram Shell Committee could not reveal all its operations in the newspapers. But knowing as we do that the Bertram Shell Committee did take the Liberal Opposition into its confidence privately, in regard to all the contracts placed in the period under criticism, how can we interpret otherwise than as petty partisanship the efforts in some quarters to create the impression in the public mind that there has been a refusal to 'lift the veil'."

Recruiting is going along fairly well, but much more must yet be done if the ranks of the New Brunswick battalions are to be filled in time to be of service. In St. John there are the 11th and the 14th, with plenty of room for all the young men who care to do the khaki and engage on the King's business.

We have absolutely no desire to "rub it in," but we notice that the Times has not published the Ottawa Journal's opinion of the measure of success Mr. Carvell met with in his sensational outbreak of last week. It can be found on the front page of Saturday's Standard.

Lieut.-Col. P. A. Guthrie will arrive in the city today. He should get a great welcome. No Canadian soldier has a finer record of war service.

### Cuba and Canada

These two ambitious nations, one leading the world in the production

sugar and the other in the production of wheat, should be better acquainted with each other. These two young countries, Canada as at present constituted, not yet fifty years old; and Cuba as a republic less than twenty; not satisfied with leading the world in the production of sugar and wheat, are running very close in the endeavor to become the producers of trade goods. Canada showing an annual export and import trade of \$140.00 per head of population and Cuba slightly in advance, showing \$145.00 per head. We should know each other better commercially; as nearly all the products of Cuba, viz., sugar, tobacco and tropical fruits, Canada needs to buy; while nearly all the products of Canada, viz., lumber, paper, coal, iron, steel, machinery, cement, fish, hay, oats, flour, potatoes, butter, cheese, eggs, canned meats, fish, vegetables and fruits, Cuba needs to buy; and because the products of these two countries are so entirely different, their trade with each other would be greatly to the advantage of both.

We should be better acquainted socially. It would be well if the people of these two countries knew each other better. Canada has many attractions that would appeal to the people of Cuba. To the sportsmen the hunting and fishing of Canada, which are unequalled, would be the chief attraction. To others the attractions of our Canadian winter would appeal, with its skating, snowshoeing, sleighing and tobogganing. To others our beautiful rivers, lakes, mountains and valleys would be a never-ending delight and, once seen and enjoyed, there would always be a desire to visit them again. On the other hand, I do not know of any trip a Canadian could take that would be as enjoyable as a trip to Cuba, especially during our Canadian winter. The principal charm of the visit would be that he will find everything different to what he is accustomed. The country and its products are different. The climate is different, as he will find it warmer here and the customs, language and disposition of the people are different from our own. The fruits, plants, trees, flowers and birds are different. The houses and streets are different and the mixture of ancient and modern, will be a source of never-ending wonder to the Canadian visitor, and a visit to the country is a most interesting and profitable trip. A person from the North who spends a few months in Cuba and enjoys the life of its people, always plans to return again at some future time.

J. C. MANZER,

Commercial Representative in Cuba for the Government of New Brunswick, London No. 208, P. O. Box 1290, Havana, Cuba.

### Letter From J. E. Tighe

St. John, N. B., Jan. 29th, 1916.

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir,—In your editorial column of this morning there appears an item that does an injustice to Mr. W. E. Foster, the chairman of the Conciliation Board lately in session here, adjusting the existing differences between the Longshoremen's Association and various S. S. companies. Referring to the clause in the award recommending additional shelters to be provided, you say:

"It is worthy of note that the Sand Point shelters asked for by the Longshoremen's Association were provided by Hon. Mr. Hazen some weeks ago. Yet the report of the Conciliation Board in the recent Longshoremen's dispute, in which Mr. Walter E. Foster was chairman, continued to press for the work which Mr. Hazen had already finished. The Longshoremen, yesterday, corrected the error, but was it not rather a petty way for the board chairman to attempt to insinuate that Mr. Hazen had not acceded to the request of such a large and worthy body of St. John's working men?"

"The facts are that when this clause came up for adoption the chairman, Mr. Foster, suggested that it be struck out. He even went so far as to point out that in his opinion the accommodation provided by the federal government was sufficient, notwithstanding his suggestion the clause was included in the report, the other members of the board, Mr. Lauer and myself, being wholly responsible. This matter has already been fully explained to the association."

With these facts before you, I trust you will in fairness to Mr. Foster give correction to your statement.

Yours truly,

J. E. TIGHE.

The Standard is pleased to publish Mr. Tighe's letter, and we note that the matter to which it refers has already been explained to the Longshoremen's Association. As the report of the Conciliation Board containing reference to the shelters, was however, printed in full in certain St. John newspapers and the impression that Hon. Mr. Hazen had not acceded to the Longshoremen's wish was thus created we venture to suggest that the explanation given to the Longshoremen's Association should be given to the public either by Mr. Tighe or one of the other members of the Conciliation Board.—Ed. Standard.

### NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

MAKE IT NECESSARY FOR

U. S. TO DEFEND HERSELF

Pittsburg, Jan. 29.—President Wilson, opening here today his six-day programme of speaking in the Middle West on national preparedness, told a throng which packed Memorial Hall, that the test of national preparedness lay not with Congress, but with the young men of the country in their answer to the call to volunteer, and

## Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE

Me and pop was in the setting room after supper. Last nite, pop smoking and thinking and me jest thinking, and I sed, Pop.

Present, sed pop.

Will you tell me wat a werd means, I sed.

Well, if you will be so kind as to tell me wat werd is on your mind, I shall be in more of a position to elucidate its particular meaning, sed pop.

Equivalent, I sed, wat that mean, equivalent.

Thats easy, sed pop, suppose, for instants, you had 10 pennies and they took up to match room in your pocket, wat wood you do.

I'd spend 'em, I sed.

I dont dunt it, but thats not the idee, sed pop, wat you wood do the wood be to exchange the 10 pennies for a dime, wich wood be the equivalent in silver, or, in case you had a dime and thawt it didnt take up enuf room in your pocket, you wood exchange it for its equivalent in pennies.

Equivalent means change, I sed.

It means nothing of the sawd, sed pop, it means, O, you mite say it means nothing of value to sumthing else, as for instants, a eagle in the hand is equivalent to 2 ostriches in the bush.

Well then wat wood it mean to say, I found it difficult to maintain my equivalent, I sed.

It wood mean absolutely nothing, sed pop.

Well, if you will be so kind as to tell me wat werd is on your mind, I shall be in more of a position to elucidate its particular meaning, sed pop.

O, you poor fawd, sed pop.

Yes sir, wats that mean, I sed.

O, do your lessens, sed pop.

Wich I did.

their employers, who should oppose no obstacle to free response.

The President said in part: "I have a great enthusiasm for rendering America spiritually efficient. The plans for our military efficiency do not provide for a great army. We want only an army necessary for the use of peace, but we want back of that army a trained body of men. These men should be civilians, men who know that the arts of peace come before the arts of war."

"I am sorry this is a campaign year. I hope this question will not be partisan. No man should attempt to make political capital of it, and I would be ashamed of any friends of mine who take a different view."

"Where nations are engaged, as many are now, they are liable to be steadfastly intent on their purposes. The actions of other nations affect America, and it is hard to turn them from their purposes. It has been very difficult to maintain peace, but I am the friend of peace. There have been hourly dangers. Often it has been impossible to control the situation because others were involved. As your responsible servant I must tell you that the dangers are constant. I must go out and tell the people that new circumstances have arisen, which make it necessary that America defend itself."

who must be accorded universal laurels is Giuseppe Verdi, born near Parma, Italy. His true name was Francesco Pertuso. He received his musical education from the chapel master of the cathedral for whom he composed marches at an early age. His first opera was presented at the La Scala, Milan, in 1838 and a few years later on the pronounced success of "Ernani" made him one of the popular operatic composers of the day. The arias from "Il Trovatore" were sung and whistled upon the streets whenever opportunity offered and were rendered wherever and however one might desire music, whether in opera, symphony oratorio, concert, or street hand organ. In every collection of songs touching the heart a number of the arias from Verdi's operas will always appear. He died at Milan in 1901 at a mature age. The musical career of Verdi is one of the notable chapters in the history of music of all time. Several of Verdi's most famous operatic arias appear in "Heart Songs." This unique volume contains a treasury which they cannot do without. We commend it to our readers as the one collection of songs to which they will turn which they cannot do without, and call attention to our coupon printed elsewhere in today's paper.

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