

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 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.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PROHIBITION.

Those antagonistic to the Provincial Government, and who welcome any action or event that seems to afford opportunity of manufacturing capital against it are now circulating stories to the effect that in the introduction of a prohibition measure the Government lacked sincerity and fixed May 1st, 1917, as the date on which the act would come into force in the hope that, in the meantime, events might so shape themselves that the measure need never become operative.

This canvass is both unwarranted and unfair. It is but natural that in any legislation the effect of which will be to do away with what is at present a legalized business there should be some consideration for those who procure their livelihood from that source. In the case of the liquor dealers it is well known that they, in common with other merchants, lease their shop premises from May to May, and that the licenses under which they do business also run for the same period. This being the fact it will be readily seen that to bring a prohibition measure into effect at an earlier date than that set would be a severe injustice. It is to avoid such injustice that the Government decided on the date named. This is well understood by the advocates of prohibition and they are perfectly satisfied that it should be so. Those who attempt to distort the Government's sense of fairness into an alleged plan to benefit the liquor dealers know themselves that they are guilty of despicable misrepresentation.

GERMANY DESPERATE.

If the opinion of the military critic of the Paris Matin represents anything more than ordinary comment on the war situation, then Germany indeed is in desperate straits. Major De Civrius who, it may be recalled, predicted the successful retreat from Mons to the Marne, the defeat of the attempt to force the Dardanelles and the practical collapse of the Gallipoli campaign, now gives it as his opinion that the Germans are about to undertake a great concerted military and naval move against the Anglo-French lines and the coasts of France and Britain. This, he believes, will be the last and greatest of Germany's offensives.

The prediction will cause elation rather than alarm. The British navy can be absolutely depended upon to retain its mastery of the situation in the North Sea and the Channel while the western fighting lines, recently reinforced by hundreds of thousands of British and Russian troops, are of sufficient strength to withstand any attempt the Germans may care to make. An excellent example of the resisting powers of the Allies' forces on the western front is afforded by the operations in the vicinity of Verdun. That movement was to be a speedy and decisive triumph for the German Crown Prince, yet, after weeks of the bloodiest and most terrible conflict known to man, the French lines are still unbroken, while the Germans have sustained staggering losses. What has happened at Verdun is likely to happen at any point on the western line where the Germans attempt an attack, and when it is known that knowledge of this fact is not confined to the Allies it can be imagined that Germany's plight is indeed desperate to cause her to consider for a minute what must prove a suicidal undertaking. A concerted naval and military attack by the Hun, at this time, would do more toward bringing the war to a conclusion than could be accomplished by months of trench fighting.

CARTER REPUDED.

That the scandal mongering tactics of Grit Organizer E. S. Carter have disgusted even the leader of the opposition party in the Legislature of the Province, is evident from the frank statement made yesterday morning by Mr. Dugal.

Mr. B. F. Smith, of Carleton, had discussed the purchase of potatoes for the Belgian Relief and the Patriotic Gift, and in that connection dealt heavily with the scandalous campaign

against him. In closing he demanded that Mr. Dugal, leader of the opposition, should either make a charge in substantiation of this campaign or else admit that he knew of no wrong-doing. Mr. Dugal promptly made the admission thereby repudiating the scandalous insinuations circulated by E. S. Carter and published in the dirty little opposition sheet in Fredericton and the Morning Ananias and the Evening Sapphira in St. John. For all of the publications referred to Carter acts as correspondent and many of the miserable political productions in their columns come from his pen. His repudiation by the legislative representative of the party by which he is employed will furnish to the people of this province one more evidence of the absolute falsity of his campaign.

DAYLIGHT SAVING.

One of the last official acts of His Worship Mayor Frink was to sign the proclamation by which it shall be legal for the residents of the city of St. John to adopt the Daylight Saving proposition during the summer months. The plan is very simple. His Worship requests that at eleven o'clock on Sunday, April 30th, all citizens set their clocks one hour ahead and at the same hour on the last Sunday in September next set back their clocks one hour.

The advantages of the Daylight Saving plan have been very apparent in portions of Canada where it has been in effect for several summers. In New Brunswick the twenty-four minutes of daylight gained by the adoption of Atlantic Standard time was regarded as a boon for the year following its adoption; after that period the people became so accustomed to it that it was looked upon as the natural thing. There has yet to come to light the first well grounded case of complaint.

We venture to predict that the new plan will also be regarded with high satisfaction. Workers who have leisure after six o'clock in the evening will find that they can indulge in sports and pastimes to an extent which, under the present conditions, is impossible. The added hour of daylight will make outdoor life and exercise more attractive and generally work to the well-being of the great mass of the people. It is regrettable that there are in the province communities which do not see eye to eye with the proposal, but after one summer's experience they will probably come into line. There may be, and probably will be, some local objections and some cases where the new plan will cause minor inconveniences, but generally it will prove a distinct step in advance.

A GENTLEMAN GONE.

The death of E. T. C. Knowles, Probate Judge of the city and county of St. John, which occurred yesterday morning after a brief illness, marks the passing of a gentle, kindly spirit and a good citizen. Judge Knowles, while long well known and esteemed, had never aspired to public honors, being content rather to devote his life to his profession, his family and his friends. A gentleman in all that the word implies he was ever a wise counsellor and a true friend.

In the position to which he had been called but a few months ago he had given every satisfaction and was regarded as one of the best qualified and competent of the many good men who have filled the office of Probate Judge. A consistent church member, an earnest advocate of the cause of temperance and a worker in all movements having for their aim the uplift of the community, his death leaves in many circles a distinct void that it will not be easy to fill.

Major Frink and Commissioner Potts said farewell, yesterday, to their colleagues in the City Council. It may, after all, be but "au revoir," for His Worship intimated in his remarks that he might again occupy a place in the public life of the city. Both the Mayor and Commissioner Potts have been faithful and earnest in their handling of the city's business during their terms of office, and in their retirement to private life will carry with them the respect, good feeling and esteem of all citizens.

The first bill for the Kyle party to the Dominion Republic, signed by Col. Carnegie, at yesterday's meeting, that he never knew of a commission to any person until he saw the statement in the published accounts of Mr. Kyle's speech in the House of Commons. Yet Mr. Kyle and others sought to convey the impression that Sir Sam Hughes, the members of the shell committee and the contractors were partners in crime.

Capt. Tilley's Speech On Prohibition Bill

Owing to a mishap yesterday morning part of the remarks made by Capt. Tilley in the legislature in reference to the prohibition were omitted to Hon. Mr. Baxter instead of to Capt. Tilley.

The report of Capt. Tilley's speech should have read: On motion to report the bill, Mr. Tilley said that there were many features of it with which he was not in favor. In fact objectionable features of the bill were, to his mind, so apparent that he had no hesitation in saying that in the interest of public sobriety he would prefer to have the present liquor license act with its present local option prohibitive clause really in force.

The liquor question always had been and always will be a difficult problem to handle. The nearest they could come to the proper regulation and prohibition of traffic would be reached by passing such legislation as the general public would support and sincerely support. In other words, it should be a comparatively easy matter for any government or any municipal council to properly enforce temperance legislation in a community or district where a strong temperance sentiment prevailed and where a large majority of electors were total abstainers. It was an entirely different proposition, however, when they came to enforce prohibition on a community which was not in favor of prohibition or where the electors were about equally divided on the question. There was where their prohibition legislation failed. He thought it was a sound bit of reasoning to say that the man who himself drinks and gives it to others could not per se be a very lusty supporter of prohibition legislation. Let them consider the present act.

He did not call it a square deal to, with one sweep of the pen, cut out a man's legalized business and livelihood, without first at least submitting the question to a vote of the people. In other words, he thought that the members representing Scott Act communities, where in many cases liquor was sold both day and night, sub rosa, forcing upon the people of the city and county of St. John a law which the people of that city and county were not allowed to say whether they wanted or not. If a man was a drinking man it was a difficult matter to legislate him a teetotaler. If on the other hand he became a teetotaler of his own free will then their prohibition legislation, so far as he was concerned, became unnecessary.

He would be sorry to see throughout the province conditions which existed now in many of the Scott Act towns and which might exist if this act went into effect. In Northumberland there was one town where there were six or seven places doing business there both day and night and paying \$55 a month for the privilege. Surely the people who wanted to have liquor sold would be in favor of having present conditions continue there as it meant they could drink both day and night. What this House should do was to be practical and get down to common sense as to customs and usages of people. In a place where opinion was divided he would rather see licenses and some control of the sale than to go into such towns at midnight and find men streaming out of the bars which were operated sub rosa on a protection basis.

After all what did they pass prohibitory acts for, was it not to try and "make" the people of this province a sober and abstemious community. How did they hope to be successful when they allowed a man to bring a case of whiskey or a barrel of beer in upon his own dwelling and drink it there or allow beer, etc., to be sold all over the province under "beer licenses." Prohibition would become effective in this province or in any other province when their public men, their professional men, their leading business men, their clerks, mechanics and laborers would of their own free will, for the

You Can't be Neutral on the food question. You have to decide between mere palate-foods that contain no nutriment and foods that repair the bodily waste. Shredded Wheat Biscuit is both a palate food and a muscle builder. You can keep in good health and at the top-notch of physical fitness by eating this delicious, ready-cooked, whole wheat cereal for breakfast, luncheon or any meal.



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Little Benny's Note Book

I tried a good one on pop while he was writing a letter on the sitting room table, saying, say, pop, if you'll take a number and multiply it by different things, I'll show you a good trick. I'll do anything to put off writing this letter, goah, how I hate to write letters and besides, these arithmetic tricks always did interest me, well, go on, I'm thinking of a number, sed pop. Multiply it by 3, I sed. This will be the death of me, sed pop. And he worked it out on the paper, and sed, How much more. Only 2 more, divide by 6 and subtract 4, I sed. O well, I got another subtractahin, anyway, sed pop, your eek, its dun.

Wait the answer, I sed. 480, sed pop. That's rite, I sed. What do you mean, that's rite, wait the original number I thawt of, sed pop, and I sed, I don't no. If you weren't my own son I'd tell you wat I thawt of you, sed pop. And he started to rite his letter agen.

to get them to agree to abandon it rather than have half the province under one law and the remainder under another. He realised that he was in the minority in the house but he had the courage of his convictions and there were lots of other members in the house who held the same opinion he did but they would not vote with him for reasons best known to themselves. He desired to say he was opposed to the bill and should not vote for it.

New Brunswick should have the same law as Ontario where a three-fifths majority was needed to carry it. The government would then feel that it had sufficient public opinion behind it to enforce it and not as was the case in this province where public opinion was so equally divided.

What guarantee was there that counties at present under the Scott Act would not decide to remain under that act. It would be far better

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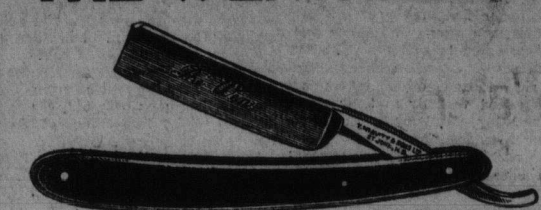
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OUR COMPETITION For Boys and Girls

A "Same Word" Contest

This week's contest consists of making best sentence, using the same word whenever possible in same. To the Boy or Girl, not who sends in the most original sentence, but story book. There will also be six other prizes to the senders of the next in order of merit.

All attempts must be written on one side, be accompanied with the usual coupon corner in time to reach this office not later than Wednesday. All communications to be addressed to:

UNCLE DICK THE S

A COMPOSITION CONTEST

This week's Contest is one that I am sure out a story about Easter, telling all you know things connected with the special time, such bits, as to their meaning, why you always in fact whatever you can find out. Don't more than two hundred words, write on one in your best writing and don't forget to enclose in. All kiddies up to fifteen years of age and send their attempts in by Wednesday, will consist of TWO LOVELY STORY BOOK CERTIFICATES OF MERIT.

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STANDARD COMPETITION For Boys and Girls

Full Name.....

Address.....

Age..... Birthday.....

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

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