

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1917.

"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.

BORDEN THE ONLY MAN.

Even as an attempt at a political bluff the demand of Western Liberals that Sir Robert Borden shall retire and a new premier be selected before they will agree to enter a union government is an absurd proposition. Sir Robert Borden was Canada's premier when the war broke out. He will be Canada's premier when the price of union would be to defeat the only purpose for which a union was ever desirable or ever necessary, for aside altogether from politics it will be admitted, we think readily, that no other Canadian can replace him and carry on as successfully as he the policies to which he has consecrated himself and for the attainment of which he was not unwilling to yield the place of leadership to another.

If the Western Liberals are dissatisfied with Sir Robert Borden, as their representatives profess, who do they expect to put in his place? What other Canadian can they get in whom the people of Canada would have equal confidence? The men whose names were suggested to the Premier by the Western Liberals are excellent men but can hardly be imagined as successors of the Canadian Prime Minister.

Assuredly Sir Robert Borden is the only man who possesses the courage, the moral stature, the prestige and the ability to save Canada from those partisans who, for political purposes only, would destroy her.

There is a danger facing Canada, a danger to which the demand for Sir Robert Borden's resignation should serve to awaken every loyal man in this country. If Canadians of vision and goodwill wish to deliver their country from the menace of civil disturbance, certain to come with the ascendancy of Laurier and resultant domination by disloyal reactionists who play his game in preference to that of the Empire, they will rally around the Premier and with no uncertain voice declare that no other man shall head the Government of this country as long as Canada faces the grave problems which today confront her. They will give to the Premier and his administration unselfish whole-hearted support in the determined effort to lift the national standard out of the mire in which unwise partisans would drag it. It is true that loyal Canadians want a union government in which all the elements which place the winning of the war above the winning of elections shall be fairly represented. It is also true and has been demonstrated by the Prime Minister himself that they will go to any reasonable length to secure such an administration, but the suggestion that the retirement of Sir Robert Borden is in the interests of union or harmony. Instead, the reverse is the case, for if the suggestion should become a reality it would be sufficient to arouse a wave of indignation from one end of Canada to the other that would defeat the object the Western Liberals profess to have in view. The Conservative party is behind Sir Robert Borden to a man as are thousands of loyal Canadians not hitherto classed as Conservatives but who realize that our present Prime Minister is the one man in Canada to whom the destinies of this country can be safely confided at the most serious time in her history.

THE PROSPECT FOR UNION.

The Western Liberal politicians are sincere in their statement that the retirement of Sir Robert Borden from the position of Prime Minister is the sole condition on which they will consider entering a union government. It is safe to assume that all negotiations in that direction are off—and properly off.

Sir Robert Borden has been earnest and untiring in his efforts to secure a coalition of the best minds in Canada for the purpose of winning the war and later solving the problems that must come with the declaration of peace. To attain that end he offered Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the anti-conscriptionist, anti-win-the-war party, an equal division of the portfolios in the Canadian Government, which division would carry an equal share of authority and responsibility. That proposition was turned down for reasons so flimsy, so feeble, that it is difficult to get any loyal Canadian to believe that Laurier ever seriously entertained it except as a possible means of bluffing his way into complete control at a later date.

Rebuffed by the official leader of the anti-conscriptionists, Sir Robert did not cease his efforts. He proceeded to look for union government material in the win-the-war wing of the Liberal party. In that search he was encouraged to believe that the Winnipeg convention would be of much assistance and that that gathering, expected to be truly representative of Western Liberalism, would agree with him that the gravity of the situation confronting Canada and the Empire demanded a complete burying of old line party politics until after the serious problems of the day had been satisfactorily adjusted.

The Winnipeg convention proved but a poor dependence. Laurier Liberals "saw it first" and shamefully manipulated its proceedings so that, instead of helping, it really hindered the cause of union. Since that time the Premier has wholeheartedly continued negotiations and concessions, and the result of it all is that the Western Liberals demand as the price of their support not only the right to practically dictate and control the policy of the union administration but to name its leader as well.

Up to the time of demanding the retirement of Sir Robert Borden they played their game so adroitly that there was a disposition to regard them as sincere, but their insistence upon not only both ends of the administration but the head and centre as well, has raised a widespread doubt as to their bona fides.

At yesterday's caucus of the Conservative members of Parliament in Ottawa, Sir Robert Borden stated that he believed the Western Liberals were as sincerely desirous as he, for an administration which would unite all loyal men for the sole purpose of winning the war. Sir Robert has been as

for Canada are not good enough to vote for her. Last evening the Times summarized what Mr. Pugsley said, referred to the points he made, but carefully avoided any expression of its own opinion. The Telegraph has shown no more course.

It will be one week tomorrow since Mr. Pugsley made his attempt in Parliament to disfranchise the soldiers. Since his address there have been five issues of the Telegraph and four issues of the Times, but neither of those newspapers have yet ventured to support him although they did give unnecessary publicity to an attack upon a member of his family. It is not upon the action of any of Mr. Pugsley's relatives that he will be approved or condemned, if he again seeks the suffrages of the electors of St. John—a possibility concerning which there is some doubt. He will stand or fall by his own words and his own policy.

That he is in a serious position even his friends will admit and in such case it might be supposed that the active support of the Telegraph and Times would be a comfort and a sustenance. Why is it withheld?

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

The latest report from the Russian battle front is that the Germans have chased the Muscovite soldiers up to the Trety-Dou-Varitta-Pitonschik-Choyantitch line. There is really no cause for alarm. If the enemy have to wait until they pronounce the name of their new location it will be some time before they can continue the pursuit. And meanwhile the Russians may get their second wind.

Russian Church A Vital Influence

Among those who are most hopeful of the Russian situation are students of the Russian religion, and travellers who know what a hold it has upon the people. It is hard indeed to see the Russian people, with their spiritual riches, have taken to them. It is believed, however, that the Russians will never be able to reconcile themselves to the gross materialism of Kultur, even though they bore the yoke of Czarism more or less uncomplainingly for centuries. However, the Russian weakness was of one kind and not the kind that might naturally lead to submission to a War Lord. The trouble is, of course, that the fate of Russia is so far as this war is concerned, may be settled by a small group of Socialists and internationalists without the bulk of the Russian people knowing it. The Church is subservient to the State, like the Church of England. The Church, like all other churches, claims to be the old traditional Church of Christ, and in the words of the Liturgy it is "the Faith that will overcome the world." Some three hundred years ago there was schism in the Church, which existed until the masterful Peter the Great put an end to it by taking away the authority of the Patriarch of Moscow and entrusting it to the Holy Synod, placing at its head the procurator as an absolute dictator, under the Czar, as to matters that might or might not be discussed. The last Procurator, whose name is remembered outside of Russia, was Pobiedonostsev, a famous reactionary, but a man of great attainments.

Neither Catholic Nor Protestant.

The Russians are members of what is called the Greek Orthodox Church, which is neither Roman Catholic nor Protestant, but combines features of both and contributes some others peculiar to itself. The Czar is head of the Church, but the Church is subservient to the State, like the Church of England. The Church, like all other churches, claims to be the old traditional Church of Christ, and in the words of the Liturgy it is "the Faith that will overcome the world." Some three hundred years ago there was schism in the Church, which existed until the masterful Peter the Great put an end to it by taking away the authority of the Patriarch of Moscow and entrusting it to the Holy Synod, placing at its head the procurator as an absolute dictator, under the Czar, as to matters that might or might not be discussed. The last Procurator, whose name is remembered outside of Russia, was Pobiedonostsev, a famous reactionary, but a man of great attainments.

White and Black Clergy.

The clergy of the Russian Church must possess great influence in any crisis as that which Russia is now facing. It consists of monks and the secular priests. The former have great influence in the councils of the church, but the latter come into daily and intimate contact with the people. The monks, or the black clergy, are the ascetics. They are all married, and it is customary for a white clergyman to marry the daughter of another white clergyman, thus tending to establish a sort of tribe of Aaron. These priests not only visit the people in sickness and health and expound the Gospels to them, but they are the official registrars of marriage and other vital statistics. As civil marriages are unknown in Russia, the parish priests are thus sought out in the great crises of life and death, and since they are presumably better educated than their parishioners, it is only natural that they should wield great influence with them.

A Democratic Church.

It is said that in the Russian Church there is a wonderful freedom from caste. The words, "The rich and the poor, together, and the Lord is the Father of them all," have for all the Russians a reality that they have for few other people. Social and price level side by side. The monk has his own peculiar notions of religion, according to "Lycian," a cultured writer in the Post-Express, of Webster. He sees in Christ a poor suffering man who is His own idealized image. He pictures Him as a cripple toiling under a heavy cross. To be like Christ is the duty of all true believers. One must love and help, and be patient even unto death. The Russian carries his cross, or bears picture of ambition, everywhere he goes, and

Little Benny's Note Book.

The Park Ave. News.
Weather. Pictures of snow storms hard to believe. Sports. The invisible baseball team was practicing on the empty lot last Saturday afternoon, when Pitcher Skinny Martins father offered to bet some out to them to teach them how to catch, which he baited so wild that the invisibles had to chase the ball all over the empty lot, and after a while Catcher Reddy Merly yelled, Fire, and they all ran like the dickens as if they really threw so, and when they came back Skinny Martins father had went, and they kept on practicing.
For Sale or Exchange. Collection of 18 keys on a key ring, all different, none the same. See Benny Potts, Advertisement.
Intriguing Facts About Intriguing People. Roddy Merly's grandfather with a wooden leg has a picture of a lady he tattooed on his real one, only he won't show it to anybody except relations.
Short Story
Wat a Coincidence!
A brick fell off of a roof just as a man underneath was taking off his hat to wipe his bald head.
The end.
Sleazety Notes. Mr. Sam Crosses cousin Jake is visiting him from the country, being a long red headed kid with so many freckles you cant hardly see his face.

as he lies dying on the battlefield he presses it to his lips in token that he has kept the faith. In many other respects the movie lives a life that would not be approved by Western censors. He drinks a good deal, or did until deprived of vodka, and in youth his morals are not patterned after St. Anthony.
As a Man Grows Old.
But when the Russian becomes a man, he is apt to put away childish things. A French cynic has said that when a man becomes too old to set others a bad example, he gives them good advice. Someone else has observed that men do not grow better as they grow older. The average Russian is an exception. He improves with age, and from the moment that he begins to contemplate the possibility of dying some day he seeks to fit himself for the other world. He may fear death, but he has been taught that it is something higher and holier than life. On the whole, the religion of the Russians could have, it suits them. It enables them to bear their present hardships in the hope of a glorious resurrection to meet death when it comes like the martyrs of blessed memory. It is the Russian's religious faith that makes him, when not infected with socialism, as good a soldier as the best.

HERE TO COMPLETE PLANS AT THE NEW DISCHARGE HOSPITAL
J. P. MacLaren Has Acted for the Hospitals Commission at Fredericton—Consulted with Lieut. Prentice Yesterday.
J. P. MacLaren, a well known architect of Ottawa, is a guest at the Royal Hotel. Mr. MacLaren is here in connection with the completion of the work at the army for the Military Hospitals Commission. He said last evening that he had been called to the city to consult with Lieut. Prentice. He was not in a position to say when the discharge hospital here would be opened, and he expected to remain here during the next few days. Mr. MacLaren has recently visited Fredericton where he superintended the plans for the establishment of a hospital at the old Government House. He said that the work there was progressing nicely.

MARRIAGES.
MARCH-GOLDING—On August 28th, at German street Baptist Church, by the Rev. D. J. MacPherson, M. Kathleen Golding to Reginald G. March, Montreal.

DEATHS.
WITCOMB—At Hampton, N. B., on August 29th, William Ritchie, aged eighty-seven years, leaving three sons and one daughter to mourn. Boston and Halifax papers please copy.
Funeral from the Union Depot on the arrival of the train Friday afternoon. Interment in Fernhill.

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