

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1915.

**"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.

### MR. PUGSLEY AND THE SENATE.

"Hon. William Pugsley said it was a grave injustice to the other branch of parliament to call it partisan. The Senate, he said, represented the crown, not democracy."

Since the day on which the partisan Senate of Canada strangled the proposal to grant effective assistance to the British navy there have been many objections to it and to its character. None of these have been phrased more concisely than that quoted above, expressed by Mr. Pugsley and published in yesterday morning's Telegraph.

Webster defines democracy as derived from the Greek word *demokratia*, meaning popular government, from *demos*, the people, and *kratos*, to rule. According to Mr. Pugsley the Senate does not represent the people, and as Mr. Pugsley's friends like to believe that he speaks with the voice of the Liberal party, Liberals cannot longer object to any measures that may be found necessary to reform this undemocratic and unrepresentative body so that it may be brought into harmony with the great majority of the Canadian electorate.

Mr. Pugsley himself, has posed as a champion of the people so, to be consistent, he must needs support a movement to give to the people their full right of representation, not only in the House of Commons but in the Red Chamber, where conditions are sadly out of joint with public opinion.

It is a matter of recent political history that, had it not been for the doddering Laurierites in the Senate, the British Empire's naval battle line would have been augmented by three of the largest and finest battleships that science could build or money could buy. In that transaction the Senate represented neither the Crown nor the people but merely the Liberal minority in the House of Commons and in the country. Had it not been for the action of Laurier's Senatorial puppets the Province of New Brunswick would have had a very large sum of money available for use on the roads of this province, a matter in which every voter has a deep and vital interest.

In causing the road grants to be withheld from New Brunswick the Senate of Canada represented neither the Crown nor the people but, bowing to the wish of the discredited leader of the Liberal party, fashioned its conduct on the will of Laurier and of Laurier alone. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been repudiated by the people of Canada but through the Liberal majority in the unrepresentative Senate can still thwart the will of the electorate. If Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues should decide to ask the Canadian people whether they are content with this unfair condition there can be no doubt of the answer. The Senate stands condemned. Mr. Pugsley has said it; it does not represent the people.

### THE GRITS AND AN ELECTION.

The Liberal newspapers would have their readers believe that the Borden Government is about to go to the country. Sir Robert Borden, a few days ago, when the subject of votes for the soldiers was under discussion said, in reply to Mr. Oliver, "I should like to say to my honorable friend, since he has appealed to me, that the question of a general election will stand on its own merits when the time comes. There has been no decision either to hold an election or not to hold an election; we have been too busy with other things. But I desire to tell him this: That including the vote of want of confidence which his leader moved, and which he supported, in their every move during the past six weeks in this House, hon. gentlemen on the other side have been actuated purely by a desire to obtain partisan advantage at the expense of that unity which the hon. gentleman so greatly lauds at the present time. Any man who has followed the course taken by hon. gentlemen in this House during the past six weeks knows absolutely the truth of what I have just said."

When Sir Robert Borden states that no decision has been reached as to an election, the country will believe him, irrespective of any statements from

### partisan Grit newspaper correspondents.

If an election should come the Premier of Canada, every member of his Government, and the Conservative party could regard the situation with confident equanimity. It was not the desire of the Conservatives to distract the attention of the people and divide public opinion in this country on political questions at a time when united thought should be devoted to the problems confronting Canada and the Empire. But the Liberals have not been animated by the desire to do what is best for the country at large. They have permitted the bias of partisanship to prejudice their view of great public questions. They have been petty unfair in their criticisms and their insinuations. One does not expect more from men like F. B. Carvell or Mr. Kyte, but when Sir Wilfrid Laurier chooses to play the cheap partisan scold he places himself in a position it is not fitting the leader of a great party should occupy.

When the present session of parliament opened, Sir Wilfrid had an opportunity that comes to few opposition leaders to entrench himself in the confidence and affection of Canadians, by heartily and patriotically co-operating with the government in its work of strengthening the hands of the mother country in the greatest crisis in Britain's history. He has chosen rather to have himself written down in the most desperate class of political opportunists—to criticize and carp rather than help, to undermine rather than strengthen the confidence of the people in the military situation, on the passing chance of scoring an imaginary party advantage.

The federal opposition has drifted into dangerous waters. The thinking Liberals in the country who can view its course without deep concern and apprehensive forebodings must be classed with the most advanced school of political optimists. Today the chief aim of Liberals and Liberal newspapers all over Canada is to manufacture political capital which they might hope to use in the event of an election. It is a small and petty task in which to be engaged at such a time but, possibly, it may be necessary. When the elections are held, be it soon or later, Liberal politicians of the Pugsley-Carvell stripe will probably find they will need all the political capital they can manufacture.

### ITALY'S PROBLEMS.

If, as is reported from Paris, Italy has agreed to remain neutral if Austria undertakes to cede the Trentino at the close of the war, then the Italians have abated much of their original demand, says the Toronto World. The Trentino is a mountainous region north of Lombardy, which is naturally and from sentiment part of Italy. Its transfer to the Italian flag would fulfil part of Italian aspiration, but it does not include Trieste and district, where is not only a splendid Adriatic port but a population largely Italian, which has always been oppressed by the Austrian Government. That of itself is enough to reflect upon the accuracy of the report that Italy's neutrality has been bought by a conditional concession. Italian statesmen will not be true descendants of the contemporaries of Machiavelli if they are satisfied to trust to the tender mercies of the Teutonic alliance.

Italy's future in the Mediterranean appears to be bound up with Britain and France, the European countries to which Italy is most closely drawn by both gratitude and interest. The Italian Government has already given the allies valuable aid by declining to join Germany in its campaign of aggression against the rights and liberties of Europe. Italian statesmen rendered invaluable service to the allies at a critical time when they refused to enter the war on the ground that it was one of aggression, and was not covered by the terms of the treaty, limited as these were to co-operation for defence. Germany could not understand that decision. To Germans the action of Italy was incomprehensible and unjust. Somewhere in their inmost souls they bear a grudge against Italy, and although they may temporize they will not forget that Italy pursued her own independent

course, whether because out of sympathy with German policies and methods or regarding ancient ties and obligations to Britain and France, or realizing that the holding of the balance would result in gain of territory. Germans do not forget action taken against the development of their designs, and did they happen to emerge victorious from the war Italy's chance of recompense would be faint indeed.

### The North Sea Ground

Oh, Grimaby is a pleasant town as any man may find,  
An' Grimaby wives are thrifty wives,  
An' Grimaby girls are thrifty,  
An' Grimaby lads were never yet the lads to lag behind.

When there's men's work dot' on the North Sea ground,  
An' it's "Wake up, Johnnie!" for the high tide's flowin',  
An' off the misty waters a cold wind blowin',  
Skipper's come aboard, an' it's time that we were goin',  
An' there's the fine fish waitin' on the North Sea ground.

Soles in the Silver Pit—an' there we'll let 'em lie;  
Cod on the Dogger—oh, we'll fetch 'em by-an'-by;  
War on the water—an' it's time to serve an' die,  
For there's wild work doin' on the North Sea ground.

An' it's "Wake up, Johnnie!" they want you at the trawlin' (With your long sea-boots and your tarry old tarpaulin);  
All-across the bitter seas duty comes a-callin',  
In the Winter's weather of the North Sea ground.

It's well we've learned to laugh at fear—the sea has taught us how,  
It's well we've shaken hands with death—we'll not be strangers now,  
With death in every climbin' wave before the trawler's bow,  
An' the black spaw swimmin' on the North Sea ground.

Good luck to all our fightin' ships that rule the English sea;  
Good luck to our brave merchantmen wherever they may be;  
The sea is their highway, an' we've got to sweep it free,  
For the ships passin' over on the North Sea ground.

An' it's Wake up, Johnnie!" for the sea wind's cryin';  
"Time an' time to go where the her- rin' gulls are flyin',  
An' down below the stormy seas the dead men lyin',  
Oh, the dead lyin' quiet on the North Sea ground!"  
—From PUNCH.

### A CONTRAST

(Toronto News)  
No one doubts that the patronage system has prevailed in Canada. No one doubts that money has been used in elections. No one doubts that contractors have been ready to give contributions in return for "extras," or that there has been trading in favors between politicians and corporations. It still is true, however, that ninety out of every hundred men in Parliament and in the Legislatures are honest and incorruptible. It is just as true that governments are eager to administer affairs in the public interest. Corruption, after all, is an incident and not the chief fact of public life in Canada.

The Daily News has said more than once and firmly believes that the most corrupt era in Canadian politics was contemporaneous with the last three Laurier parliaments. No one believes that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is personally corrupt. But he was indifferent to the methods of his colleagues and he made retention of office the supreme interest. Moreover, during all the life of his administration, thieves and rascals were protected. Any searching inquiry in committee was impossible. A group of blockers obstructed investigation and prevented exposure and prosecution.

No Liberal rascal was punished during the whole history of the Laurier government. Even when ballot boxes were opened and Conservatives cheated out of constituencies for which they had been fairly returned, the seats were held by the government and no one was exposed or punished. In contrast, Conservative governments have an honorable distinction. We all know that there have been Conservative rascals and political corruption under Conservative governments. But under Sir John Thompson, a Conservative member was expelled from the House of Commons, another Conservative member was imprisoned, and a minister suspected of doubtful relations with contractors was forced to resign from the cabinet.

If there was corruption the government did not prevent inquiry or shield the offenders. Now, again with the Conservative party in office, full and searching inquiry in the committee is permitted and undoubtedly thieves will be punished and forced to disgorge. Looking at the facts of our political history for a quarter of a century the pretensions of Liberal newspapers and Liberal politicians are trying to ordinary Canadians who do not profess exceptional virtue and are human enough to hate whining and hypocrisy.

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

I was wawking along today and I started to wawk awn the church pavement near the wawl, waww if it wassent for the iron slats oww it, ewwry-boddy wood fall down a grate hill hole, and I looked down throo the iron things, and there wass leevess and peeces of papir and things down there.

G, I thawt, I bet a lot of peoplh have dropped pennys down there and nevvir bin abel to get them agwn.

And I started to wawk awn looking down to see if I cood see a penny, ony I coodnot, and wass still trying and a man with wite wiskins awn the sides of his face cam awn with a cane and watched me a wile, and then he sed, Wat are you trying to find, sunny, a penny.

Yes sir, I sed.

And I kepp awn looking, and aftir a wile the man sed, But reely, you no, even if we saw it, there woodnt be eny meens of getting it, wood there.

No sir, I sed kepp awn looking.

Well then, Ill tell you wat Ill do sed the man, Ill give you anuthir penny, ony you must promise to be moar carefill of it than you were of that wun.

And he took a penny out of his vest pocket and gave it to me, and I sed, Thank you, and the man startid to wawk awy.

G wizz, I thawt, he proberly thinks I dropped a penny down this hole.

And I kepp awn looking aftir him and wundering weathir I awt to go aftir him and tell him I wass jest looking to see if enybody elts had dropped a penny down there, maybe, and by that time he wass about half a block awy, and I thawt, G, id haf to run to catch him now.

Wich pritty soon the man wass a block awy, and I thawt, I gess if I ran aftir him now and told him, he wood ony think I wass annoyin' him.

So I went the utthir way and bawt spiced gum drops with the sent, the lady giving me 11 instad of 10, proberly beeing anuthir mistake.

### St. John Girls to Front.

Miss Alice Powers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Powers, of St. James street, and sister of Major Thomas E. Powers of the Signalling Forces with the First Canadian Contingent, has been named as one of the Canadian nurses for service at the front. Miss Powers will leave today for Halifax, whence she will sail with the other Canadian nurses for overseas service. Other young ladies well known here who will go to the front are Miss Edith McCafferty, daughter of Mr. Francis McCafferty, and Miss Duffy, both of whom will go from Halifax, and Miss Ethel Bradley, sister of Mrs. A. E. McGinley, who leaves with a party from Montreal and Quebec.

### GIRLS! GIRLS! TRY IT, BEAUTIFY YOUR HAIR.

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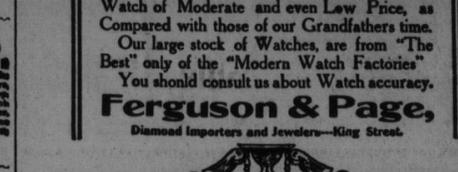
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