

The St. John Standard

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H. V. MacKINNON,
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ALFRED E. McGINLEY,
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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 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.

ABOUT THE WATCHMEN.

There is little reason to doubt but that since the war broke out there has been much chagrin in the camp of the Liberal party on account of the stand which the leaders took in the matter of the Government's Naval Bill, nor is the feeling of shame which haunts them lessened when they are reminded of their inexcusable folly. Notwithstanding the fact that the Prime Minister had, time and again, warned the House that there was "an emergency" and that it was most desirable that immediate steps be taken to strengthen the naval forces of the Empire, these Liberal leaders preferred to play politics with that most important measure and to laugh it out of court, and this they did. However, now that "this emergency" has been confirmed, and everybody realizes that it was a very real emergency, the apologists for these Naval Bill obstructionists are exceedingly desirous of seeking cover for them and by whatever means they may of saving their faces.

Recently one of their defenders has summoned The Standard to testify upon behalf of these Liberals who by their opposition to the Naval Bill demonstrated that to them, at any rate, politics counted for more than patriotism, and this defender of the discredited opposition enters the arena swinging his favorite weapon which he suggests is the "jaw bone of an ass," for this noisy champion innocently seems to imagine that he is a modern Samson.

The defence of this modern champion, as given in the Telegraph, is most amusing. He frankly admits that the Liberal leaders, on various occasions, in the House of Commons, declared that war with Germany was not to be expected. He says with brazen effrontery "they did so, and frequently, and in doing so they were both in good and bad company," and then he goes on to affirm that The Standard also editorially, not long ago, had admitted that "up to the very day when this terrible war began the vast majority of the people of the Empire simply could not conceive it possible that England and Germany could ever engage in war."

Such a mode of defence is just what might have been expected from one who employs as his familiar weapon the "jaw bone of an ass." As a matter of fact what The Standard was emphasizing in the editorial referred to, was that the Empire was unprepared for war and this for the very good reason that many people throughout the Empire had not taken to heart the warnings so earnestly uttered by great leaders like Lord Salisbury, Lord Roberts and others. These warnings were repeated in Canada by the Prime Minister, who endeavored to adequately provide against such an emergency; but as we have already said, the Liberal leaders in the House of Commons would not hear. Under all the circumstances it may be quite possible to excuse the "People" who failed to sense the true danger and who did not think it possible that England and Germany would ever engage in war, but it is scarcely possible to excuse these men who pose as leaders of the "People" and who have committed to their care and keeping the defence of the "People." Such men ought to have known that there was a real emergency and if they did know this fact, then they preferred to play politics when the enemy was at the door, rather than facilitate that measure of defence proposed by that political party to which they were in opposition. If, on the other hand, these Liberal leaders in the House of Commons and Senate were ignorant of the fact of this emergency, they thereby proved themselves unfit for the discharge of those duties of state which had been entrusted to them and which they had solemnly undertaken to fulfill.

But the conduct of the Liberal leaders in the House of Commons and in the Senate cannot be excused by the fact that The Standard had once observed that to the minds of "many people throughout the Empire it was inconceivable that England should engage in war with Germany." Time and again The Standard and the Government had insisted that there was great need of immediate and effective measures for national defence. Time and again had Sir Robert Borden and the members of his Cabinet earnestly announced that there was an emergency, but their words were not taken seriously by men like Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his supporters. These latter gentlemen time and again declared that there was an emergency, and hosts of loyal people took their word for it. No wonder that Liberal

organs are rushing to the defence of these false prophets; for their oft repeated declarations that "there was no emergency" have been thoroughly discredited by the startling events of the war. The representatives of a nation in Parliament are as the watchmen upon the walls of a city: it is their duty to warn the people of the approach of the enemy and to prepare the citizens against the day of assault; failing to do this these men forfeit their right to be watchmen over the interests of the citizens and they must be speedily driven from their place of honor and their office given over to other men in whom the citizens may safely confide.

In this defence of these Liberal obstructionists we have gladly observed one hopeful sign, and it is this—that their apologists has recognized as authoritative a phrase from the Bible quoted in The Standard's observations. This truly is hopeful and on this account The Standard is now encouraged to commend to this devoted apostle for the sins of these Liberal obstructionists the following further admonitions from Scripture regarding the duties of the nation's watchmen:

Again the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

2 Son of man, speak to the children of my people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman;

3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

3 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

PAST AND PRESENT

Under the above title there appeared quite recently in the Montreal Daily Star a cartoon of more than ordinary interest at the present time. The change of public opinion in Germany that has taken place during the last few weeks was indicated by the German press represented as a musician blowing his notes, through a wind instrument. Formerly the only scores that were permitted to find a place upon his music rack were those bombastic songs of world dominance such as Deutschland Über Alles, intermingled with hymns of hate for England; all that is changed now, and this sudden change of heart is suggested by the figure of a rather portly musician, whose brow is covered with huge beads of perspiration, playing with all his might the strains of Peace at Any Price. There is no doubt but that even now the haughty pride of the Prussians has been not a little humbled, and that the Kaiser, the Imperial Chancellor and the rest of the German war party have bitterly regretted that on a certain evil day they had the foolishness to throw down the gauntlet to England and her allies.

There is no longer any reason to doubt that the primary reason for the outbreak of hostilities was the German jealousy of England and the Prussian resolve, made long years ago, to drive English ships from the seas, to dismember and break up the British Empire, and in its place to establish a new empire under the aegis of the gods of Prussian "kultur," by which it is to be understood Prussian brute force. It was something like this: The German Emperor said to the heir of the Austrian throne, "You want to get to the English channel; you take Serbia and I will take Belgium; neither will cause us any embarrassment; for Serbia is well nigh crushed by two wars and Belgium will never dare to oppose my armed might; Russia will fume a bit, but her army is no good, as was demonstrated to all the world by her war with Japan, and as a matter of fact her soldiery are a mot of drunken lot and altogether they are not to be taken seriously; for my part I shall have to deal with France and England, but that will not be a matter of any difficulty, for France is honeycombed with socialism and the French people are a hysterical set of folks so far as England is concerned, she has a pretty little pampered army and by her lack of conscription she cannot possibly hope to raise more

men, at any rate, in time to thwart my policies. I have my secret service everywhere and can assure you that throughout the British Empire there is much discontent, and that in India and in Africa and in Ireland large factions are ready to revolt, while Canada is permeated with the spirit of the country to the south of her and would welcome the opportunity to shake off the rule of George V, as a century ago the United States did that of George III. Then, also, there are at least a million and a quarter voters in the United States who are of German descent, whose sympathies are strongly with the Fatherland, and who can be relied upon to exert a most beneficial influence upon Washington in determining its international policy."

In all of these prognostications time has revealed how utterly the Kaiser and his advisers failed to appreciate the facts of the case. He was wrong about India, he was wrong about Africa, he was wrong about Ireland, he was wrong, utterly wrong about Canada, and he was not even right in his valuation of the mood of the German-Americans, for while it is true that there are those amongst them who would be only too glad to help the cause of the Fatherland by ennobling the land of their adoption, yet there are many among them who have too keen a sense of the fitness of things to permit the Prussian ramrod rule, to escape which they migrated to America, to pursue them there and use them as its pawns upon the international chess board. It has now become apparent that Berlin was badly deceived by the very men and women who, living in different parts of the world, were paid to report the facts as they were and not as the Kaiser wished them to be. And the Kaiser might have had some sense enough to have known that it is scarcely wise or safe to place confidence or trust in people who can be bought and who are professional spies for a price. Taking all these facts into consideration, together with the subsequent history of the war, we are not at all surprised that the music of the German band has changed, and its notes must surely become still more mournful before the present programme is played through.

ART CLUB HAS FINE SESSION

Good Exhibit of Paintings—Lecture on Indian People—Prizes for essays

The regular monthly meeting of the St. John Art Club was held at the studio last evening, a very large number being present. W. S. Fisher presided. The twenty paintings from the Government National Gallery at Ottawa were on view, and those competent to judge were of opinion that the collection was of exceptional merit, both on account of the variety of subjects chosen and of their individual artistic merit. By no means an unimportant feature of the evening was the showing of drawings of soldiers by members of the art classes, all young people. Seventeen new members were elected as follows: John Budd, Mr. and Mrs. Courtlandt Robinson, Miss Edith F. Kirk, Miss Alice Hatch, John Bradley, W. F. Noble, F. C. Smith, Miss McMillan, Miss Alice Estey, Joseph L. O'Brien, Mrs. W. J. McAlary, Miss Mary Murdoch, Miss Helen Murdoch, Miss C. H. Flewelling, C. B. Skelton and J. W. Van Wart.

The prizes awarded to those writing essays on their impressions on the recent exhibition of works of art donated by Canadian artists for the benefit of the Patriotic Fund were awarded as follows: First prize, Miss Ellen Melrose; second prize, Miss Marjorie McIntyre; honorable mention, Miss M. M. McKim. The feature of the evening was a lecture by Rev. H. A. Cody on "Our Debt to the North American Indian." The lecturer, with the assistance of views thrown on the screen, held the attention of the many present throughout. C. Brooke Skelton sang two solos, Miss Alice Heales accompanying on the pianoforte. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Scarborough and Mrs. Thomas Dowling.

Rev. Mr. Cody, in the course of a most instructive and interesting discourse, spoke of the North American Indians and how much we owe to them as a factor in the onward march of events. "Too often," remarked the speaker, "the natives are treated as useless parasites, the sooner exterminated the better. Few endeavor to understand them, and then often in a superficial manner. It is treated by the white race they have retaliated with all the ferocity of their wild nature. Driven from the lands of their fathers and forefathers they are huddled on reserves; grasping slowly the ways of civilization they have become the 'cat's-paw' in many an ill-fated undertaking, until their name has become a by-word of scorn. But few realize the importance the Indians have been to the development of the North American continent."

The lecturer then traced the influence of the Indians in the fur trade, giving statistics of skins brought together through the energy and resourcefulness of the dusky natives. In the matter of exploration and development, he pointed out, expansion has been made by means of the Indian people, who should no longer remain a survival of the aborigines, a study for the ethnologist, a toy for the tourist, a vagrant at the mercy of the state, and a continual pestilence upon the bounty of the people. The speaker then made a plea that the Indian should be encouraged to live a respectable, moral citizen, a self-supporting member of society.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.

I was walking near Mary Watkins' house this afternoon and wat did I find awn the pavement at a valentine with angels dlying erround awn it and a littel pome awn it saying, The best of friends indeed must part but youll awlways be present inside of my hart.

O, I thawt, somebody must of got this last valentine day and dropped it, I'll give it to Mary Watkins and then she cant say I never gave her a valentine.

And I put it in my cote pocket and jest then Mary Watkins calm out awn her frunt steps with a red sash on, looking awright, and I went and sat down, but she stardid tawking to her, and she stardid tawking to me, and aftir a wile I sed, Did you get many valentines last valentine day.

I got 4, sed Mary Watkins.
You did, I sed.
Yes, and I no who they was awl frum, to, she sed.
Did you get the wun I sent you, I sed.
No, sed Mary Watkins.
I wundir wy, I sed.

Bekause you didnt send me eny, thats wy, she sed.
I did so, to, I sed. And I put my hand in my cote pocket by axident, saying, Well, wat do you no about that, heer it is now.

And I took it out and handid it to her, she looked at it and sed, Wy, this is the valentine I dropped and didnt no ware I lost it, I was show them to Lilly Levy erround at her house this aftirnoon, this is the valentine Persey send me.

Like fun it is, I sed, dont you think 2 valentines can look alike.
Yes, but heers the ink spot I dropped awn the angels foot, sed Mary Watkins.

Well, wat of it, I sed, do you think yure the only wun can drop a ink spot awn a angels foot, I wont give you anuthir valentine in a hurry. And I got up awf of the steps and stardid to wawk away, and Mary Watkins sed, Well, Benny, they do loo kalike, and thats wy I thawt it was the wun Pery gave me, everybody makes mistakes, dont they. Thats awl rite weathir they do or not, I sed. And I kepp awn wawking and went hoam.

OVER \$1,500 TO FURNISH NEW BRUNSWICK WARD IN CANADIAN HOSPITAL

Mrs. E. Atherton Smith, Regent of the Royal Standard Chapter, Daughters of the Empire, was able to announce last evening that contributions for furnishing the New Brunswick ward in the Canadian base hospital in France were just over \$1,500. Yesterday Mrs. Smith received \$10 from Mrs. Brook of Rothesay, \$10 from Geo. A. Chamberlain, St. John, and \$3 from an "Interested lady."

GIANTS HAVE SLEDS OUT.

Marlin, March 10.—This has been a fine day for ducks and other creatures for which snow, rain, cold and moisture are considered fine, but for the Giants it was a variegated frost. A diligent snow fall set in last night and continued until noon today. The only exercise indulged in by the players was a short run in the morning. Meyers is recuperating from a cold. Kirmayer has a sore arm which will keep him from practice for several days. He was hit by a liner driven by Jim Thorpe yesterday.

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