

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 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.

ST. JOHN AND THE N. T. R.

The Times remarks, editorially, "What the Board of Trade seeks to do in the interest of the trade of Canada, the St. John Standard seeks to undo, by a shameful appeal to partitioning." The Times does not state the case. As a matter of fact the meeting of the Board of Trade, which passed the resolutions forming the subject of the Times' editorial, was attended by fourteen members of the Board, hardly a representative gathering of a body whose membership list includes the names of more than 400 men. Opinion about the city yesterday was to the effect that the Board was ill-advised in passing the resolutions referred to.

In consideration of the matter of bringing the National Transcontinental Railway into St. John it should not be forgotten that the Laurier government exhibited no strong desire along that line. After the road had been routed across the province from Edmundson to Moncton, through a portion of country which the late Hon. A. G. Blair described as a "waste," Mr. George W. Fowler, M. P., made an effort to have the error repaired as far as possible by the construction of a branch line from a point at or near Chipman to St. John. A motion to that effect was presented to the Railway Committee of the Commons but the government refused to consider it.

If Liberal members of the Board of Trade who today express such anxiety as to St. John's share of the business to come from the N. T. R., had used their influence to get Sir Wilfrid Laurier, or his Minister of Railways, to accede to the request contained in Mr. Fowler's resolution the present situation would not have been such as to furnish even an excuse for a partisan resolution rushed through a meeting attended by fourteen men.

BOOTS AND DOG BISCUITS

"We have been in the trenches for three days and my feet have been wet all the time. I wish I had a pair of the Canadian boots again, then my feet would be dry. The English boots were issued to us but they are hard and soak up the water."

The foregoing sentence from a letter written by a Canadian soldier to his relatives is, in itself, a complete answer to the slanderous statements of the Liberal press regarding the quality of the boots supplied to the Canadian contingents.

When the matter was first brought up, the Government ordered a complete and thorough investigation into all the charges and evidence then adduced plainly showed that the Canadian boots compared very favorably with those supplied by the British government. The boot charge has collapsed like a bubble; the same cannot be said regarding the "dog biscuit" scandal charged against the Laurier government at the time of the South African war.

THE TIMES HAS NO DEFENCE

The Times has no defence for its shameful and unwarranted attack of Monday evening on every man who has accepted a commission in the Canadian forces or every Canadian firm filling a war contract. It attempted to show that in the selection of men to fill officer's posts in the Canadian forces the Government had been influenced by political considerations rather than the fitness of the men appointed. This constitutes an unwarranted reflection not only on the Government but upon every officer in the service.

Confronted by the facts gleaned from the evidence nearest at hand the Times has no word of defence but contents itself with half a column of cheap ridicule and alleged wit. It will not do. Either the Times knows that Col. McAvity, Major McAvity, Major McKenzie and other officers who could be named obtained their positions by political pull, or else it has deliberately indulged in insinuations it cannot substantiate. The Standard is prepared to state that the latter is the case.

In the matter of war contracts the Times is equally unfortunate. In the awarding of contracts consideration has always been given to merit. If either party has been adhered to

Liberal firms in this city now benefitting from Government war contracts would have been less fortunate. The Standard leaves the matter as it stands, and the Times to make its own peace with the men and firms upon whose ability it has cast reflections.

The Standard yesterday morning stated that war contracts had been awarded to Mr. L. S. Macoun during Sir Frederick Borden's term as Minister of Militia. We regret that through a misconception of fact this statement, which was entirely erroneous, was published. The information given to The Standard and which was misunderstood, was that Mr. Macoun, son-in-law of Sir Frederick Borden, received large orders from the present Militia Department at the outset of the war. The incident was simply quoted to illustrate the truth of The Standard's contention that political considerations have not entered into the matter of contracts during the present war. The Standard hastens to correct the error, thereby affording an excellent example to the Times but one which, we fear, will not be followed.

The report that Austria and Germany will soon announce conditions on which they will accept peace may be regarded as altogether premature. When the time to talk peace arrives the conditions will be announced from London, Paris, Petrograd, Rome and, possibly, Bucharest, Berlin and Vienna will have but a very small interest in the proceedings. It will be for them to accept what they can get rather than to attempt to dictate what will be acceptable.

We are inclined to agree with Major General Sam Hughes in his difference of opinion with the British censors. General Hughes is a newspaper man while the British censors have not displayed remarkable evidence of qualification in that line. In fact it is the impression in England today that had the policy of silence in reference to the war been less pronounced the situation would have been even better.

The Times now attempts to declare that when it advocated a coalition government it did not mean it. Consequently we may infer that the evening reprint recognizes that Canadian people are well satisfied with the government as it is. That is absolutely the case, but it is worth something to have a machine Grit newspaper admit it.

Those gentlemen who are in the city attending the Prentice Boys convention, or the Methodist District meetings had a taste of unseasonable weather yesterday. They were a day too late in arriving. To see St. John in all the effulgent beauty of early summer they should have been here on Monday.

Secretary Bryan has resigned. While the American government will probably be able to get along without him, the fact remains that a gentleman of outstanding ability has passed out of the Wilson cabinet. His resignation may foreshadow a more aggressive policy from Washington.

Roumania will fight after harvest time. Who was it said that a man could work better on a full stomach?

Current Comment

A Fitting Retribution,
(Ottawa Citizen.)

The complete overthrow of the Hapsburg dynasty, and the whole gang of land barons of Central Europe, would be fitting retribution for the crime the Austrian empire has lent itself to in the making of this tragic war. Secret diplomacy before the war turned Austria into a veritable thieves' kitchen, where the international powers hatched plots to grab territory and build railways into Asia Minor, and erect artificial frontiers and tariff barriers; from first to last for no other purpose than to grind the faces of the poor, to compel down-trodden people to labor for imperial task-masters, as ruthless as any form of slavery since the beginning of history.

The Patriotic Fund,
(Ottawa Journal.)

The Patriotic Fund is a splendid thing, a noble testimonial to Canadian sense of responsibility to the men who from among us are offering their lives for the cause of the British flag and freedom. Altogether throughout the Dominion the families of nearly eight

thousand Canadian soldiers are already being enabled by the Patriotic Fund to live in comfort and decency; and thousands will yet be added. Even so, the Patriotic Fund will hold out for a year or more yet.

Of Holland Entered.
(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Germany is undoubtedly very vulnerable on her Holland frontier. Were Holland to be goaded into belligerency by German attacks on her merchant ships or by other infringements upon her rights, it would be unfortunate for the enemy. Not only would German territory thereby be at once thrown open to invasion by Dutch, British and French troops, but also the Scandinavian countries would be almost certain to follow in the wake of Holland's action. Denmark, Norway and Sweden would not find it to their advantage to remain neutral when all their neighbors were at war. They would join in the wolf hunt. Their striking force would be no small one, but much more telling upon the enemy would be the ending of their commercial relations with him.

We'll See It Through

In the mess-rooms of the cruisers, they have filled their glasses up. And standing, they have toasted—"To the Day." To the bitter dregs they'll drink it—a very different cup—And heavy is the bill they've got to pay. Where'er across the world is the grand old flag unfurled, When along the winds the warbling bugles blow, From mart and desk, and farm, they have heard the call to arm, And Britain's sons are up—to see it through.

They said we weren't ready; that our fleet was undermanned; That our little standing army was a joke; But it may be, later on, they will sing another song And wish they'd figured better ere they spoke. We mayn't live for fighting or dream of ships and guns, For we've got a lot of other things to do; But it's certain, just the same, that we still can play the game, And, when we start—we always see it through.

They said that we were living on the glory of the past; A glory that had now forever fled; That the Mistress of the Sea would an easy conquest be, For the fighting race of seamen all was dead. But the soul that lived in Nelson, in Collingwood and Drake— Not to mention later heroes, quite a few— Is still as strong as ever when the battle thunders wake, And Britain's sons are up—to see it through.

They hoped for disaffection in our widely sundered lands; That the bands which bound the Empire soon would break; But a hundred thousand strong our battalions march along, It is no uncertain answer that they make. We aren't good at bragging of our loyalty and faith To the flag to which our loyalty is due; But we're quick to claim our place for the honor of our race, When Britain calls her sons—to see it through.

Success

If you want a thing bad enough To go out and get it for it, Work day and night for it, Give up your time and your peace and your sleep for it, If only desire of it Makes you quite mad enough Never to tire of it, Makes you hold other things tawdry and cheap for it, If life seems all empty and useless without it, And all that you scheme and you dream is about it, If gladly you'll sweat for it, Fret for it, Plan for it, Lose all your terror for God or of man for it, If you simply go after that thing that you want, With all your capacity, Strength and sagacity, Faith, hope and confidence, stern pertinacity, If neither cold poverty, famished and gaunt, Nor sickness nor pain Of body or brain, Can turn you away from the thing that you want, If dogged and grim you besiege and beset it, YOU'LL GET IT! —Breton Braley, in Illustrated Sunday Magazine. HILLSBORO 181p2

The Minister of Munitions

(Canadian Courier)
Dynamo Lloyd George was shifted—but not removed. Another indispensable. For seven years back he has been stirring up England. The little Welshman with the moneybags to fill went up against more vested interests down in the trenches of British custom than some people imagined he ever could uproot. Like Disraeli, he applied temperament to his job. But it was the temperament of a man who didn't care a brass button for mere politics, but more for the plain, everyday people of whom he was himself one. He raised more money and a greater amount of what is called "cash" than any other British states-

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

I had a sent after supper yesterday and I was going to the bakery store and there was a hole pile of crullers in the window with a sign saying, Crullers slittly stale 3 for a sent.

G, I'll get 3 of them, I thawt. Wich I went in and did. beeing pritty stale but not so verry, and I took them home and brook them up into peeces, brakelng easy awn akount of beeing slittly stale, each pece beeing abbut a mouthful, and I was setting awn the hall stares piling the peeces awn top of each uthir awn a plate, and pop calm down stares, saying, Well, nevvir did I think I shoud live to see a son of mine feasting alone. dont you no Mr. Parkins and Gladdis are in the parlor, wy dont you go in and awfir them sum.

Wich I did, going in the parlor with the plateful of peeces of slittly stale crullers and saying to Gladdis and Mr. Parkins, Helo, evvrybody, dux enyboddy want a pece.

No thanks, close the doar afir you wen you go out, sed Gladdis. Its verry good of you to ask me, Benny, but I dont think I care for eny, sed Mr. Parkins.

They tait pritty good, I sed. Wich they did, and Mr. Parkins sed, I have a sentimentil heart and my doctork wont let me eet much cake.

You mite as well, thare awl rite, I sed. O, well, hear goes, sed Mr. Parkins. And he took a pece and ate it, saying, By Jorge, they arent half bad at that. And he took anuthir pece and ate it and then he took 3 moar peeces and ate them.

Thare slittly stale, I sed. O, dont ipologize, I nevvir wood of noticed it, sed Mr. Parkins. And he took 3 moar peeces and ate them, beeing a pritty fast eetir, and I sed, They cant be verry good or they woodent of sold them so cheap.

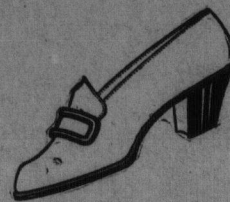
Thare perfectly awl rite, dont worry about that, sed Mr. Parkins. And he kept awn eetng peeces till thare wasent hardly eny left, and then he sed, I gess thats awl I care for, thanks, yure a verry generous young man.

And I went out of the parlor with wat was left of the peeces, thinking G. thats moar than you are.

Proving that wen a persin tells you they dont want eny of sumthing, yure foolish to insist.

man in his time. When he got the money question more or less settled, he kept on raising Cain till, till when the great cabinet shuffle came he was set at the job of raising munitions, including high explosives—of which he is himself composed. David is pretty nearly a great man. When he gets the British army equipped with all the munitions they want, he will be set down as one of the truly great Very few men of any account have

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June 9, 1915.

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