

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 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.

CONCERNING RESPONSIBILITY.

The esteemed Telegraph appears to be somewhat perturbed over the report that there may be a general election in Canada during the period of the war and remarks: "It is Sir Robert Borden who must take the responsibility of plunging Canada into the chaos of a general election if one is held." Sir Robert Borden has never hesitated to take full responsibility for any of his acts, and if he should decide that owing to unreasonable Liberal opposition and obstruction it is impossible to continue the administration of the affairs of this country without a reference to the people, he will be fully prepared to answer for his decision.

An election will not come, however, unless the Liberals make it impossible for the Government to carry on the administration of the country beyond the time limit already fixed. At the coming session of Parliament the Government will make a proposition that the life of Parliament be extended. Such a proposition must receive the support of both political parties before the Imperial Government will sanction it. If one party withholds its support, and the extension is not made, there naturally must be an election, and if the refusing party is that led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, wherein will Sir Robert Borden be responsible for taking the only course open to him?

The Telegraph also says "The people of Canada desire a government which will place the war above all other considerations" and in that respect the people of Canada should be fully satisfied. Not only has the Government acted with an eye single to the prosecution of the war, but the Premier of Canada has personally endeavored to enlist the cooperation of the leader of the Liberal party in a joint appeal for recruits. That cooperation Sir Wilfrid Laurier pettishly refused. Why? Was it because he did not desire that Canada should raise recruits? We do not think so. Rather was it because he did not wish to do anything, no matter of what national benefit it might prove, if the doing involved that a Government to which he is politically opposed would gain one grain of credit or commendation. He was the partisan rather than the patriot. And yet the Telegraph would suggest that the leader of the Liberal party, who, not big enough to join in a non-partisan appeal for recruits, is so big that he should be called upon to participate in the affairs of a national government.

But, after all, the Telegraph may not mean Sir Wilfrid. Possibly, our friends of Canterbury street believe that other members of the Liberal party should be called upon. They may even have in mind that Mr. Carvell or Mr. Kye should be elevated to the treasury benches. That would be a decided "acquisition" to any government.

Again, the Telegraph declares that "the Liberals would be neglectful of the people's interests if they should fail to voice this patriotic demand." And yet the Liberals were well content to be "neglectful of the people's interests" rather than protest against Sir Wilfrid Laurier's unpatriotic conduct in openly and definitely refusing to give his assistance and co-operation to what was a most patriotic and worthy cause—the securing of recruits.

In its last spasm the Telegraph announces "This is no time for partisan politics." That is the absolute and simple truth, and yet the party for which the Telegraph speaks is even now preparing to convert the coming parliamentary session into a feasting time of "partisan politics" in the hope that eventually there may be recourse to the bitter political strife of a general election.

The Telegraph should not attempt to hoodwink the people, but just how far it is trying to mislead and deceive will probably be demonstrated by the attitude of its own party within the next few weeks. In the meantime, its campaign of criticism of the truly "national Government" now in power at Ottawa is undertaken in the hope

that the effect of the war measures of that Government may be weakened and its own friends brought into power. Our contemporary is "just a hankerin'" for the "fashions."

MORE WAR BUSINESS FOR US.

More and more British munition orders for this continent will come to Canada, instead of to the United States, if this country can handle them financially and industrially. Already about \$500,000,000 worth of orders has been placed, and in 1917 \$200,000,000 or \$300,000,000 more may be expected. The British Government has recently cancelled \$100,000,000 worth of orders in the United States, as a consequence of the Federal Reserve Board's interference with British financing in New York. More cancellations will follow, with no renewals of completed orders, to lighten the burden of maintaining exchange. Canada will be exceptionally favored, especially if it extends credits to Britain for such purchases, and thus helps to maintain the international balance, for our credits help directly in offsetting Allied liabilities for United States supplies.

Britain and France have now brought their home productions of munitions almost to the self-sustaining point, notwithstanding the tremendous needs of next summer's campaign. They will require of the United States principally raw materials and foodstuffs. The easing of the burden upon Britain of financing its Allies' overseas obligations will be an important factor in the war. The Mother Country has already advanced about \$2,750,000,000 to its Allies, and during 1917 must be prepared to grant even more liberal aid. The bulk of Allied foreign expenditures in 1917 will be for commodities and supplies. Canada can provide in largely increased volume if there is proper organization of our industrial situation. Our foodstuffs are short, of course, but in munitions and metals, and similar war supplies we will have an opportunity to develop on a big scale. Two conditions are necessary: more efficient manning of the war industries, and thrift by the people to enable the making of the necessary credits.

When the Federal Reserve Board issued its warning in New York against the accepting of British or French Treasury bills the British authorities promptly poured in about \$200,000,000 worth of gold, as an evidence of the ability of Britain to settle forthwith. The British and French Governments have paid to the United States nearly \$700,000,000 in gold already. That cannot continue indefinitely. If the war drags on preference will tend more and more to placing orders in countries, such as Canada, which will accept British Treasury securities. The National Service movement is distinctly for industrial organizing purposes, to enable us to increase our capacity for filling orders, and to help ourselves while helping the cause Canadians have so much at heart. In 1917, says the Toronto Mail and Empire, it will be Canada that will loom more largely in European eyes, in a war industrial sense, and not the United States.

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

To the Editor of The Standard: Sir—We hear a great deal at the present time about the high cost of living and the cause of it all. No doubt the great war in Europe has caused a sudden jump in prices of all food stuffs but to my mind the underlying cause must be sought from another source, for this increase of food prices has been coming gradually but no less surely for a number of years. Why? To start away back, some twenty or thirty years ago the prices of farm products were so low that they did not furnish a decent remuneration for the labor expended on their production, consequently thousands of young people from the country flocked to the towns and cities where their services were better paid; with what result? In time the old folks died and left the farm vacant, and in time the ratio of producer and consumer became reversed; prices of farm products began to soar, and I am sorry to say, the example of a past generation is followed to a large extent by our young people at the present time. They want to be where the band plays and see the movies, and many of those in the rural districts are like the city folk, getting the motoring fad and neglecting their work and their church. Some day you will see such mischief summed up in gigantic figures, not merely in the waste of time and funds.

How shall we remedy these conditions and restore something like an even balance? To my mind there is only one way,—by placing large numbers of farmers on the land and I cannot pass without praising in the highest terms the policy of the present provincial government for their very advanced legislation to re-people our vacant farms and place settlements of farmers on our up to the present unimproved wild lands. I believe this policy will appeal to and have the support of every business man in the cities for every additional agricultural family placed in the province will not only produce food to help reduce the high cost of living but will in turn require from two hundred to four hundred dollars worth of manufactured goods per year, thereby one helping the other and all uniting in building up our country and making it a bigger and better place to live in.

Therefore it would appear to me that every person of common sense should be able to read the hand writing on the wall in the advancing prices of beef, pork, dairy products, poultry and vegetables and see that the top notch of high prices has not yet been reached unless we can very materially increase our agricultural population in the next few years.

OLD FARMER.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRADE WITH INDIES

Dr. Tempany Says Chance for Trade in Smaller Products — Advancement in West Indies.

That many opportunities exist for increased trade between Canada and the West Indies, was the statement made to the Standard last evening by Dr. H. A. Tempany, agricultural expert for the Imperial Government, who is in the city en route to Mauritius where he will take over the duties of director of agriculture.

Dr. Tempany has spent the past fourteen years in British West India. He said that during the past sixteen years the people of the islands had made considerable advances. The sugar industry is the principal industry of the islands and the greatest advance has been in the improvements of the methods of manufacture which has practically doubled the annual production, of which he was the chief carried on considerable experimental work. New canes were raised which have served to take the place of the canes which were largely destroyed through disease.

Canada was the principal market for sugar and the annual production, ranging from 24,000 to 35,000 tons, was handled through the ports of the dominion, a very considerable quantity coming to St. John. In values the annual output of sugar amounts to about \$3,500,000, the prevalent prices being the highest for fully a quarter of a century.

Next in importance to the sugar cultivation, Dr. Tempany places the lime industry, which is vigorously prosecuted in Dominica, the largest lime producing section of the world. The output amounts to 400,000 barrels annually. Since its introduction in 1903 the cotton industry has experienced wide expansion. The cotton is exported wholly to the United Kingdom. The Seal Island cotton is the finest cotton in the world.

Dr. Tempany said that there were many opportunities for increased trade between Canada and the West Indies, particularly in the minor products, such as early onions. The department had given much encouragement to the cultivation of onions and their handling on co-operative lines. The West Indies had a good record in the matter of men who have joined the colors. Arrangements are now being made for raising an additional 100 men, 200 having already gone forward to the firing line. While in the

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Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

I was standing alongside of the lamp post waiting for something to happen, and Sid Hunt came up, saying, Hay, Benny, you awt to see the bewty looking girl thata setting down there on the frunt steps tawking to the Willie boy in the corner house, I think shes his cuzzin or sumthing.

Wich jest then Skinny artin came up, saying, G, fellows, maybe there aint a bewty looking girl setting down there tawking to that Willie boy.

Tell me sumthing I dont know, sed Sid Hunt.

Lets wawk past, maybe he will give us a interduction, sed Skinny.

Wich we started to do, being a bewty looking girl, all rite, and we wawked past the house slow as anything, Sid saying to the Willie boy, I saw you out in a awtomobeele yestiddy.

Wat of it, sed the Willie boy. And we kepp on wawking past, and wen we got erround the corner Sid sed, Lets us wawk back agen, he cooednt hardly of gave us a interduction the first time.

So we all wawked back agen, going past even slower than the first time. Skinny saying to the Willie boy, I bet it will snow if it gets any colder, I bet.

Let it snow, sed the Willie boy. And we kepp on wawking past without the interduction, and I sed, O, he woddnt interdoose us if we wawked past a million times, lets go past agen jest to show him wat we care.

Wich we did, going past as if we chawt we owned the erth. Sid wisseling and Skinny sticking his hands in his pockets and me with my cap down over my eyes.

city Dr. Tempany registered at the Prince William Apartments.

FUNERALS

Sister Mary Anthony.

Yesterday morning the funeral of Sister Mary Anthony took place from St. Peter's church, where solemn requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. Peter Costello, C. S. R.; Rev. E. J. McDougall, C. S. R., deacon, and Rev. Peter O'Hare, C. S. R., sub-deacon. His Lordship Bishop LeBlanc gave the final absolution. Rev. Monsignor J. J. Walsh, V. G., and Rev. F. J. McMurray occupied seats in the sanctuary. Messrs. John Merrick, Joseph Owens, Thomas Buckley, Wm. Kelly, John McNeely and T. McGrath acted as pallbearers; interment was made in the new Catholic cemetery.

Mrs. Charles Boyd.

The funeral of Mrs. Charles Boyd took place yesterday afternoon from Claverhouse's undertaking rooms to Cedar Hill cemetery. Rev. F. W. Thompson conducted the services.

John Collins.

The body of John Collins, accompanied by Rev. Chas. Collins and a number of parishioners of St. Rose's church, was taken by train to Fredericton yesterday morning for interment at the Hermitage.

Michael D. Ritchie.

The funeral of Michael D. Ritchie, 97 Sheffield street, took place yesterday morning to St. John the Baptist church where service was conducted by Rev. P. J. McMurray. Members of the Longshoremen's Union walked in.

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PERSONALS

Rev. A. W. Meahan, former rector of the Cathedral parish, left for his home in St. Andrews last evening. Father O'Brien, formerly of the Cathedral parish, left for his present parish in Norton on the 6.10 train last night.

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