

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1914.

"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.

## CANADA AND EMPIRE DEFENCE.

Both of the St. John evening papers had something to say, last evening, regarding the question of Canada's participation in Empire defence. The Globe, representing the better element of the Liberal party, took the ground that the question should be taken out of politics altogether and that its future solution should be decided "in the light of the war's experience and on the judgment of the Lords of the Admiralty." The Times, speaking only for the party rag-and-bobtail, the element which purchases editors as it does type, took the usual machine view of the situation and remarked that "had Sir Wilfrid Laurier remained in power, Canada by this time would have possessed a considerable navy, and the like would have been true if Sir Robert Borden had carried out the Liberal policy."

As to the opinion of the Globe there is much to be said. When the question of naval aid last engrossed the attention of Canada there was no war to provide experience which would help in its solution. All the Conservatives had before them was a desk full of impractical plans and a variety of Laurier proposals, none of which could be worked out. There was, however, a condition in the world which awakened grave concern and anxiety, both in Great Britain and in Canada. It was felt that whatever Canada did in the way of assistance to the British navy would be most effective if done quickly. Mr. Borden, convinced that the Laurier proposals were not workable, did what any sane man would have done under the circumstances—he sought the advice and judgment of the British Admiralty, precisely the suggestion which the Globe makes for the future settlement of the question. The reply of the Admiralty is historic. Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, in his now famous memorandum, wrote as follows:

"THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE DOMINION HAVING INQUIRED IN WHAT FORM ANY IMMEDIATE AID THAT CANADA MIGHT GIVE WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE, WE HAVE NO HESITATION IN ANSWERING, AFTER A PROLONGED CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THAT IT IS DESIRABLE THAT SUCH AID SHOULD INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF THE LARGEST AND STRONGEST SHIPS OF WAR WHICH SCIENCE CAN BUILD OR MONEY SUPPLY."

On December 5th, 1912, almost two years ago, Mr. Borden introduced in the House of Commons, The Naval Aid Act, an act which provided that "from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada there may be paid and applied a sum not exceeding \$35,000,000 for the purpose of immediately increasing the effective naval forces of the Empire."

This bill was prepared exactly to meet the wishes of the British Admiralty, the body whose judgment, the Globe says, should figure in the solution of the problem. It was not intended to be a permanent policy but merely a gift to Britain in time of need, to meet the "urgency of the moment" as admirably expressed by the Premier in the concluding section of his speech when he said:

"The next ten or twenty years will be pregnant with great results for this Empire, and it is of infinite importance that questions of purely domestic concern, however urgent, shall not prevent any of us from rising to the height of this great argument. But today, while the clouds are heavy and we hear the booming of distant thunder and see the lightning flashes above the horizon, we cannot and we will not wait and deliberate until any impending storm shall burst upon us in fury and disaster. Almost unaided, the motherland, not for herself alone, but for us as well, is sustaining the burden of a vital imperial duty and confronting an overwhelming necessity of national existence. Bringing the best assistance that we may in the urgency of the moment, we come thus to her aid, in token of our determination to protect and ensure the safety and integrity of this Empire, and of our resolve to defend on sea, as well as on land, our flag, our honor, and our heritage."

Mr. Borden carried his proposal through the House of Commons and it reached the Senate. There, the Liberals, with one noble exception, stood up and opposed it with the result that it was beaten. It is worthy of note that the solitary exception was the late Hon. J. V. Ellis, whose newspaper today takes precisely the ground he took when in life.

Under the system of government in Canada there was no way for the Dominion Government to give effective

assistance to the British Empire after the proposal of Mr. Borden had been strangled by the Senate. Had the Government gone to the country the result would have been the same for no matter how great the Conservative majority in the House of Commons, the Senate, a non-representative body, would have retained its Liberal majority and if the same bill were introduced again could kill it just as they did before.

But the Times differs from the Globe and declares that if Sir Robert Borden had adopted the Liberal policy Canada, today, would have had a navy. That contention is too silly to merit much attention. It need only be said that Laurier when in power and responsible did nothing, when out of power, and therefore irresponsible, wanted to build not one fleet unit but two, and wanted them built in Canada. This was in the early months of 1913. His proposal was to build the yards, and then construct the ships. Again quoting the British Admiralty we find that Rt. Hon. Mr. Churchill deals with this phase of the question. He says in reference to it "The cost of laying down the plant alone would at a rough estimate be approximately fifteen million pounds and it could not be ready for four years."

Thus we see that the Liberal policy would be utterly ineffective as far as the present war is concerned, and that when the Times says if the Laurier plan had been followed Canada today would have had a navy, its statement is as far from the truth as most of its other statements on political questions.

The fact of the matter is that if there had been a Conservative, instead of a Grit majority in the Canadian Senate the Borden proposal, which was the patriotic, practical proposal, would have been in effect today, and Canada would have been represented in the Empire's fighting line by three of the largest and strongest ships of war which science could build or money supply.

## TONIGHT'S LOVE FEAST.

If one is to judge from the Telegraph, tonight's banquet in the city of Fredericton, tendered to those stalwart champions of purity, Mr. P. B. Carvell and Mr. E. S. Carter, and that sterling representative of intelligent voters, Mr. L. A. Dugal, will be the greatest success of any political function ever held in this province. In fact it is expected to be an occasion to date from. And tomorrow the Royal Legion of Langshing Liberals will gather in solemn and serious conclave to decide upon a policy for the provincial campaign, whenever it may come, as well as to select a leader.

Mr. Pugsley is to be featured at both banquet and conclave, and it is expected even though his addresses may be no more definite than utterances from Mr. Pugsley usually are. It is not anticipated that he will discuss the occasion on which he "borrowed" \$5,000 in hard cash from the provincial treasury, substituting for the money a "scrap of paper" bearing the mysterious letters "W. P. \$5,000." Mr. Pugsley will not refer to that at all. In fact he is scheduled to appear clad in the shimmering whiteness of purity absolute and undefiled, purity the result of a few years of opposition and with the prospect of more ahead. And no one can be more pure than Mr. Pugsley when occasion demands it.

Mr. Carvell may not go so strong on the purity plank, there are reasons, but it would not be surprising if he should indicate that he has always had a fondness for provincial politics and has some thought of returning to the provincial arena. He might even offer to supplant Mr. Dugal as leader of the shattered remnant of a local opposition, provided the people of the province will stand for it. If Mr. Carvell should intimate the possibility of his return to the provincial political field it might be asked whether he is actuated by his belief that there is need for him, or whether the certainty of a losing fight in his own county has not helped him to make up his mind. Whatever he may decide the people of the province need not worry for after the next campaign, whether provincial or federal, Frank B. Carvell will be politically dead.

## DARE HE REPEAT IT NOW?

Frank B. Carvell, M. P. for Carleton county, in one of his customary diatribes against the Canadian militia, made the following attack upon General Sir John French who, today, is the hero of the British army in France and whose name is destined to go down in the annals of British history

as one of the greatest soldiers the Empire has ever known. On June 1st of this year, in the House of Commons, Carvell referred to General French as follows:

"THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE WITH THE MINISTER AND HIS TOP-HEAVY MILITIA IS THE REPORT OF A GENERAL BY THE NAME OF FRENCH, WHO CAME TO THIS COUNTRY SOME YEARS AGO AND IN MY JUDGMENT HIS VISIT WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST MISFORTUNES THAT HAS BEFALLEN CANADA. I TOLD THE MINISTER PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT IN ADOPTING THE RIDICULOUS AND UNREASONABLE REPORT MADE BY THIS GENTLEMAN (GENERAL FRENCH) HE HAD COMMITTED A GREAT MISTAKE. HIS (GENERAL FRENCH'S) IDEAS ARE RIDICULOUS."

Mr. Carvell and all his opinions are endorsed by the St. John Telegraph and the St. John Times.

## A WELL-MERITED TRIBUTE

It was a thoughtful courtesy on the part of the gentlemen of the Grand Jury and the members of the legal profession who, yesterday afternoon, voiced the sentiments of the entire community in their expression of congratulations to His Honor Chief Justice Landry upon his elevation to the position he now occupies at the head of the King's Bench Division of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. No member of the Supreme Court is better qualified for the office he holds than is the gentleman who yesterday received the felicitations of the bar and the representatives of the people.

Chief Justice Landry is a member of the Acaadian race of whom all may feel proud. A gentleman of high culture and legal attainments, possessing a calm judicial mind and, at the same time, largely endowed with the quality of human sympathy he is, in every way, a credit to his dignified office. The Standard cordially joins in extending hearty congratulations to Chief Justice Landry upon merited recognition of his worth and to the Province of New Brunswick in having at the head of a most important division of our judiciary a gentleman so well fitted as is the present incumbent.

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The Insular Steamship Company, operating the S. S. Westport III., between St. John and Yarmouth and ports on St. Mary's Bay, namely west port, Freeport, Tiverton, Little River, Mink Cove, Sandy Cove, Meteghan and Weymouth, has been compelled to discontinue this important service on account of insufficient revenue to maintain it on a paying basis.

The business has never netted its shareholders over 3 1/2 p. c., on an average, but since June 1st, 1914, the service has been operated at a loss. This loss has been, in the main, due to a parallel service, performed by the S. S. John L. Cann which was subsidized, in 1913, to ply between St. John and Yarmouth twice per week and to call on each trip both ways at three important ports on the Westport route—Westport, Freeport and Tiverton. Thus, five of the ten ports service by the Westport had the passenger and freight traffic divided between two competing services. The diversion of traffic thus brought about turned a profitable service into a substantial loss.

In consequence of a growing deficit the managers have been forced, much to their regret, to suspend the service in order to safeguard the capital invested.

## OVER-SUPPLY OF VOLUNTEERS FOR BATTALION

Recruiting stopped, but volunteers still come in from other parts of Province, creating new problem.

Local military officers were in somewhat of a quandary yesterday as to what to do with the over-supply of volunteers coming into the city. They hope Ottawa will soon send out instructions regarding the raising of 31,700 additional men, as such instructions would relieve them of their troubles.

Although the ranks of the Overseas Battalion was filled up a few days ago parties of volunteers who were engaged by outside recruiting officers continue to come into St. John. Many of these men were signed on yesterday in the hope that as the recruiting process is carried on, places can be found for them. The following were enlisted yesterday: St. John—Geo. F. Conley, F. W. Tennant, Jas. McLaughlin, D. Rankin, Ed. McIvor, Herbert Dodd. St. Stephen—E. R. Price, W. C. Patchior, C. S. Barratt, Theo. Holmes, H. Marshall, Eugene Puck, F. Talbot, Miles Foy, H. Smalley, Wm. Foy, A. Douglas, G. McLean, A. McGowan. Campbellton—Patrick Anderson, W. Wells. Charlottetown—E. B. White. In addition to these a party of thirteen men arrived from St. Stephen last evening, and an effort will be made to secure places for them. There was a rumor about the ar-

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By Les Pope  
We was eating breakfast this morning and pop was stirring his kawfee, and wry, how reedickless, sed ma, the sun is shining and thares not a cloud in the sky.  
O, my erver, I beg yure pardon, sed pop, I sed it looked like rane, dident I, I beg yure pardon, its kawfee.  
Wat do you mean, wats the kawfee got to do with it, sed ma.  
Perhaps, taking yure limited experients with the wra, sed wits in to considerayahn, I had bettir repeat the ldeer in a body, as it were, sed pop, maybe a grate lile will strike you if I say it this way, it looks like rane, but its not, its kawfee.  
Whylum, if I didnt no you, Id think you were krazy, sed ma, in the first place it duseant look the slitest bit like rane, and in the second place dont you think I no its kawfee, and in the 3rd place, wata kawfee got to do with weathir it looks like rane or wattri looks like.  
Sents of humor, thy aim is not Mrs. Potts, lissen, my deer, maybe that grate lile is still sticking around waiting to burst awn you, Ill say it this way, this flood in my cup is kawfee, but at first glants I thawt it was rane.  
Wat, sed ma, wats thurs luvly kawfee.  
Im not reely reflecting awn the kawfee, sed pop, but you no nothing is to sackerd to make a joke in this age of freedom of thawt, I jest herd that joak last nite and I thawt I wood spring it wile it was fresh in my mind.  
Joak indeed, sed ma, that kawfee cost 38 sents a pound and you sit there and say it looks like wattri, wats the use of buying the best groceries for this house, Id like to no, 38 sent kawfee and he sits there and see it looks like wattri.  
I sed rane, sed pop.  
Wats the differents, sed ma.  
To differents to a sents of humor awl bound with a wollen string, sed pop.  
Do you mean me, sed ma.  
I mean Benny, sed pop. And he got up and went and put awn his hat and cote, saying, Wattri or rane, wats the differents, yee gods and lital boakes, wats the differents.

memory yesterday that the Overseas Battalion would be removed from St. John in about two weeks, possibly to Bermuda for training. The rumor, however, was not given much credence by officers of the battalion. Up to last night Col. McAvity had not received any word from Divisional Headquarters regarding the appointment of officers for the battalion.

## GIVE OUR BOYS SET OF COLORS

Movement on foot to present suitable flag to New Brunswick Regiment—Standard will receive subscriptions.

In view of the fact that New Brunswick is contributing a full regiment of infantry to the Empire in the second Canadian Expeditionary force, there seems to be a feeling that the people of this province as a whole should give to this regiment a set of colors worthy of the corps. The opinions which have so far been expressed to The Standard are to the effect that this should be a voluntary movement on the part of the people and should not take the form of a gift from the government or any less public organization. It is felt that it should be a gift in which all who desire may participate. Yesterday one gentleman who came to The Standard office to speak of the matter suggested that there should be a popular subscription and that no one should be permitted to contribute more than twenty-five cents. In support of his ideas this gentleman, who can well afford to give numerous quar-

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