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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 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.

MR. HAZEN'S GOOD WORK.

Additional evidence of the zeal and vigilance with which Hon. J. D. Hazen guards the interests of St. John is found in the fact that he has arranged to straighten the harbor channel so as to make this port one of the easiest on the Atlantic coast to enter at any time of tide. This, in addition to his other accomplishments for St. John is plainly illustrative that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is the right man in the right place, a cabinet minister of whom the city and province may well feel proud.

On Thursday of this week there will be celebrated in tangible form the completion of an important harbor work which, had it not been for Mr. Hazen, might have been numbered among the things still to be done. He recognized the necessity for the speedy completion of the west side harbor works and took the steps needed to facilitate it. Also, when the Empire war broke out and caused the abandonment or postponement of many public works of importance, Mr. Hazen saw to it that the work in St. John and vicinity was kept going without loss of time. In the case of the wharf the completion of which is to be fittingly observed on Thursday, he arranged with the contractors to double the force of workmen and the result is that the wharf will be ready for the traffic to come to it at the opening of the season.

But St. John is not the only constituency in this province to feel the benefit of Mr. Hazen's work and influence. The bay safeguards to navigation have been increased and developed. Important and necessary works have also been carried on in other parts of the province, the interests of the fishermen have been most zealously guarded, and, in short, every interest and industry in New Brunswick has been benefited by him. Citizens, irrespective of politics, owe a great debt of gratitude to the Honorable J. Douglas Hazen, the man who is doing more for any other to keep St. John and New Brunswick "on the map" of progress and prosperity.

MR. ROBINSON'S CASE.

If the new leader of the provincial Liberal party intends the people of New Brunswick to put the slightest shadow of faith in his claim, or rather the claim being made for him, that his intention is to institute reforms where he thinks they may be necessary he must first explain why, when he had the opportunity, he did not take occasion to rebuke "the worst government which ever mismanaged the affairs of this province," and of which government he was, for a time, the accredited leader. It is also on record that Hon. Mr. Robinson accepted full responsibility for that government and all its acts. Consequently he is to be judged by the shameful stealing and graft revealed in the affairs of the Central Railway; he is to be judged by that pernicious system which permitted such outrages as the diversion of public funds by a gentleman whose culpability was only discovered months afterwards by the pencilled item in a Central Railway account book, "less W. P. \$5,000." Mr. Robinson knew of these things at the time or, if he did not, he was, as the Times said in 1908, "too innocent and too uninformed to be in politics." Yet we fail to find that on any occasion he rebuked the guilty ones of his government, or those who used his government as a means for their own financial convenience. Mr. Robinson must explain these and other similar occurrences before he has a claim upon the support of any save the misguided devotees of the Telegraph and Times.

Also, the new leader must purge his party of the influences which now prevail in it. To attempt to run a "purity" campaign with the knowledge that the members of the old gang will be the powers behind, as they were the dominating influence over this same Mr. Robinson when he was premier of the province would be an utterly foolish undertaking. The future must be judged by the past insofar as the members of the Robinson party are concerned. The people must be convinced that the man who fathered the scandalous transactions prior to 1906 does not intend to return to them. The newspaper friends of Mr. Robinson would have us believe that the Robinson government is over and done with—over, possibly, but not done with until Mr. Robinson himself repudiates its unworthy actions as well as the men who were largely responsible for the woeful showing he made during the few months in which

he held the reins of power in Fredericton.

As for the present Government it has nothing to fear from comparison with the one in power under Mr. Robinson or any that he might be able to produce. It is generally recognized that the administration of all the provincial departments has been greatly improved as the result of the 1908 election by which Hon. Mr. Hazen was placed in power. This administration will be continued by the reorganized government and, it is safe to say, that the results will be infinitely better and more satisfactory to the people than anything to be obtained from the men who, from all present indications, will be behind Mr. Robinson and who represent merely a return to the days of suspense accounts, two and three price bridges, blockades and jangled surplusages. The people had their fill of that sort of thing during the tenure of the Tweedie-Pugsley-Robinson administrations. Mr. Robinson, in 1908, showed no desire to sever relations with the members of the gang he found already in office and there is no indication that he has since developed strength of mind. As a party leader he is probably the best in the Liberal ranks to date but if he plans to offer himself and his followers as suitable persons to whom should be entrusted the administration of provincial affairs he at least has a deal of explaining to do.

Mr. Robinson will fail, but it will not be because he, himself, does not possess many admirable qualities. He, personally, is honest, fair-minded and decent, affable and courteous. The Standard has every sympathy for him. He was most unfairly used in 1908 when he was selected as a suitable person upon whom to dump the remains of the "worst government which ever mismanaged the affairs of this province." But he did not show sufficient strength to rid himself of the incubus; on the contrary he supported the men wished on him and accepted responsibility for their actions. That caused his downfall. Today he is merely a tool, an instrument by whose assistance the Pugsley-Carvell-Copp-Carter gang hope to worm their way into control of the affairs of New Brunswick. And he was only permitted to be the leader because the political record of F. B. Carvell was too purr for him to be submitted to the people of the province in that capacity. Mr. Robinson is the sacrifice, made so because of his associates.

THE TOO READY PEN.

If there is one lesson more than another which is emphatically impressed upon the world of writers to-day it is the mistake of the "Too Ready Pen." We have characterized this abuse in literary circles by the gentle word "mistake." We might, doubtless, with no little justification have termed it "the crime,"—the crime of the pen. This grave error does not belong by any means to the category of "Original Sin"—not at any rate if by original sin we mean a sin which is new to the world and which is now committed for the first time.

Even the classical writers at times found cause to reprove the too ready pen and one of the more modern authors warns us that the "pen needs de-liberation as much as the sword needs swiftness." The present conflagration in Europe sheds a light all its own upon this mistake of the writers. In all the long drawn out lines of battle we have been time and again assured that there is not one newspaper correspondent permitted at the front, and despite the objections of the newspapers and the expressed dissatisfaction of hosts of readers, this law of the camp has been maintained inviolate.

Not a few of the usual lines of business have been upset by this war and, perhaps, that one which has received the severest jolt is the craft of the war correspondent. The picturesque days of this most romantic figure have passed, nor are they likely to come back. The world of warriors owes this wisdom to the example of Nippon, for it was Japan which was the first power to effectively curb the Too Ready Pen. After all these days of this war, we are becoming accustomed to the new conditions, and if, at any time, we have been inclined to resent the scantiness of news from the front we gather a heap of comfort in the thought that what we have not been told our enemies cannot know, and that as one result of the Joffre-Kitchener conspiracy of silence, thousands of lives have been saved.

Irving S. Cobb, of the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia, has

ever, found but little to restrain his genius in these modern rules of the war game. He has recently contributed a most readable and interesting article to that well known journal in which he professes to describe what he calls his personal interview with Lord Kitchener. Whatever effect this article may have produced upon the American mind, it can be said with certainty that to the average British mind it appeared most acutely funny, the manner in which the American, Mr. Cobb, made the British sphinx talk and fairly slop over with the most gratuitous sort of criticisms of German military mistakes—the possible capture of Paris, the three year duration of the war, and all the rest of it.

All most interesting, indeed, the only trouble with the whole thing is simply that Lord Kitchener denies that he said the things which Mr. Cobb made him say. Mr. Cobb in a way reminds us of the Habitant guide who soliciting custom out of season was met with the rejoinder from a fairly law abiding citizen.

"But, Pete, the season's closed, eh?"
 "Bien oui," laughed the irrepressible Pete, "but I will open it."

And so indeed Mr. Cobb claims to have opened the seasoned Kitchener with a vengeance. He wrote a most readable story; too bad it should prove to be like much of Mr. Cobb's best work—merely fiction.

CONCERNING NEUTRALITY.

For an ordinarily safe and sane nation the United States of America sometimes places itself in a most absurd position before the rest of the world. Instances of what might almost be termed "bone-head" policies and politics occasionally come to the surface with the result that Uncle Sam's world neighbors enjoy a laugh at his expense. To be sure there is not so much of this at the present time as when the White House held as its occupant, the strenuous wielder of "the big stick," but even with such a well balanced mind as that of Woodrow Wilson directing the activities of the American people occasions arise when the act or word of some narrow minded or unduly zealous official make of the whole nation a by-word. One such is occupying attention just now. It appears that the men of the Naval Training Station at Newport developed a liking for the catchy music and lively words of "Tipperary" and sang it whenever the occasion permitted. A zealot in Washington, or possibly in Newport, conceived the brilliant idea that such general use of the British soldier's marching song might be construed into a violation of neutrality and forthwith it was placed on the black list. A more foolish action is not on record, and the opinion of the American public on the matter is well summed up in a recent editorial expression of the Boston Post, which says:

"The ban placed upon the singing of the snappy 'Tipperary' jingle by the men of the naval training station at Newport must strike most sensible citizens as a piece of pure bonhomie. If 'neutrality' could be violated by the trotting forth of a song written in America, but which chances to be a favorite with English soldiers in the war, then the powers at Newport would have to be consistent and prohibit 'America,' 'Marching Through Georgia,' 'The Girl I Left Behind Me,' and a good many other military favorites of various nationalities."

"Neutrality is a subtle thing, of course. But violation of it cannot be defined as liking to sing the other fellow's good song now and then."

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 of this year, in the House of Commons, Carvell referred to General French as follows:

"THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE WITH THE MINISTERS OF THE 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.

EMDEN'S CAPTAIN ON WAY TO ENGLAND AS PRISONER OF WAR.

London, Dec. 7.—Captain Von Mueller, of the German cruiser Emden, which was run ashore recently in the Indian Ocean during a fight with the Australian cruiser Sydney, is being brought to England, where he will be confined as a prisoner of war. Thus will be averted the controversy which appeared to be threatening in Australia when cable despatches said there was a proposal to give Captain Von Mueller a great reception, and that this proposal had aroused a storm of opposition. It is not known where Captain Von Mueller will be detained.

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

This afternoon the fellow was awl setting awn an empty step, the peepit having moved out and nobddy elts having moved in yet, and awl of a sudden the sky started to get dark as anything.
 Rane is condensed milk, and Puds Simkins sly cuzzin Persy.
 Yure krazy, sed Sam Krawas, if a things condensed that means it kums in cans, like condensed milk, we wood have a fine chance if it startid to rane cans of condensed watir, woodent we; yure krazy.
 We wood half to carry erroud umbrellers made out of iron. G. Persy, yure krazy, sed Sid Hunt.
 Yure krazy, Persy, sed Skinny Martin.
 Wich jest then it thundrid loud as anything, starting at wun cornit of the sky and going awl the way ovr to the uthir cornit.
 I bet nobddy nor wat makes thundir, I sed.
 I bet I do, thundir is wen the liting unrolls itself, sed Reddy Merly.
 It is not, thundir is 2 clouds smashing together, I sed.
 Are you going to prove it, sed Red Merly.
 How are you going to prove yures I sed.
 Wich neethir of us noohow to prove it, and Sam Krawas sed, I no wat liting is, anyhow, liting is elektricity, and I can prove it because Benjamin Franklin got sum down in a kite, and if it wasent for that gun of you follos wood lense a elektrick doar bell in your house.
 Do you mean to say if you releasd wun end of a streak of liting a bell wood ring at the uthir end, sed my cuzzin Artie.
 Yeh, do you mean to say that, sed Puds Simkins.
 Yes, I do, if sumbody put a bell at the uthir end, sed Sam Krawas.
 Our bell rings when you pull a knob, Benjamin Franklin didnt have anything to do with that, I bet, sed Sid Hunt. And jest then it thundrid and liteded both together and the rane startid to kum down, as if it had kina, evrybody getting soaking wet, because I did and my house is neerer to the empty stes than any of the uthir fellos houses.

Y. M. C. A. BOYS ARE ADJUNCT OF MILITIA

To have space near Armory for exercises—Minister of Militia approves action of National Council.

The National Council of the Y. M. C. A. will have accommodation for recreation in part of the exhibition space in the rear of the armory tomorrow. A. S. McAllister, of Halifax who arrived in the city yesterday is busy attending to the work in hand. Plans are under way to carry on such work as is generally approved as an important adjunct of the militia. Writing materials, stationery, a gramophone, a piano, checkers, dominoes and so forth will be provided free, and it is expected that a small canteen will be provided where tea and approved refreshments can be had at merely nominal prices. A man of experience in this somewhat unique work, by Pendleton, will be in St. John at an early date to take charge of the oys in connection with it.

There has been much encouragement from local firms and individuals in this effort on behalf of the soldier; amongst those contributing being J. & A. McMillan and Barnes & Co. A committee appointed to co-operate in making the work efficient consists of the following persons: R. T. Hays, E. L. Rising, Major Malcolm McKibbin, J. McArthur, White and T. Hutchingson.

The Women's Canadian Club is taking a real interest in the movement of the National Council of the Y. M. C. A., and are actively engaged in supplying goods, including reading matter, especially magazines. The Daughters of the Empire have also tendered their services and are willing to aid in equipment. The preliminary stages of the work will be under the supervision of Mr. McAllister, who will remain in the city for a few days longer. He may be found at the Y. M.

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