

# The Union Advocate

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JOHN S. SCOTT,  
Editor and Manager.

THURSDAY MARCH 15th, 1917

## EDITORIAL

### SOME ELECTION FIGURES

Along with some other newspapers, The Advocate has been trying to prove that opposition gains in the provincial elections, were not greater in the counties containing large French populations, than they were in purely English-speaking counties. In an article headed "Do Figures Lie?" The Advocate pointed out the Tribune's erroneous method of figuring. Pretending to be unconvinced of its error, The Tribune returns to the question and says:

"The object of The Tribune editorial was to show that the 'race cry' which had been vociferously raised by the Post and other papers on the government side AFTER the election, had no foundation in fact. We give the figures again, using the returns printed in the Telegraph and already referred to several times in this article."

1912	1917
Albert..... 93 gov..... 64 gov	
Charlottetown..... 745 gov	
Gloucester..... 2,968 gov	
Kings..... 340 gov..... 442 gov	
Kent..... 1,166 gov..... 503 gov	
Moncton..... 582 gov..... 132 gov	
Moncton City 572 gov..... 678 gov	
Quebec..... 554 gov..... 80 gov	
St. John City 2,677 gov..... 152 gov	
St. John Co. 338 gov..... 141 gov	
St. John County..... 409 gov..... 65 gov	
Victoria..... 162 gov..... 459 gov	
Westmorland 505 gov..... 604 gov	
York..... 2,237 gov..... 568 gov	

The voters who changed from the government to the opposition in the "French" counties, or in the counties where the French vote was at all large, are as follows:

1912	1917
Albert..... 29	
Charlottetown..... 439	
Gloucester..... 398	
Kings..... 246	
Moncton..... 2,525	
Moncton City..... 239	
Quebec..... 237	
St. John City..... 1,819	
St. John Co..... 5935	
St. John County..... 1,448	
Victoria..... 831	
Westmorland..... 352	
York..... 1,002	
Total..... 317	

The totals show, as before, that the number of voters who turned against the government in the PURELY English counties was greater than the number who did so in the counties partly French. We ask again as we have asked before, upon what ground the Post and other government "explaners" base their charge that the turnover was only among the Acadians?

It does not require extraordinary analytical powers to perceive the fallacy of The Tribune's method of reasoning and figuring, and the absurdity of the conclusion reached thereby. It is apparent that our contemporary is hopelessly befuddled when it sets up the contention that the figures representing the difference in majority, in 1912 and 1917 indicate the number of voters who changed from the government to the opposition in the last election. Consideration of the first county named in the above list—Albert—is sufficient to prove The Tribune's error. In 1912 Albert county gave the government a majority of 93 votes, and in 1917 the government majority was reduced to 64—a difference of 29 votes, which may be called a government loss, or an opposition gain, according to one's fancy. It is obvious that if 29 voters who marked their ballots for the government in 1912, had voted against the government in 1917, they would have taken 29 votes away from the government and added 29 votes to the opposition total, which very slightly would have made a difference of 53 votes in the respective totals of the two parties, thus reducing the government majority to 35 votes.

Reference to the election returns in Albert county for 1917, will enable us to better understand the facts. Lewis Smith polled the high vote for the government—384. W. J. Carvath led the opposition ticket with 336 votes. Mr. Smith's majority is, therefore, 48 votes. If we take from Mr. Carvath's vote the 29 ballots which the Tribune would have us believe he received from men who voted for the government in 1912, and add them to Mr. Smith's vote we find that the government candidate would have had 1013 votes while his opponent would have had but 591 votes—a difference of 422 votes in favor of the government. According to The Tribune's plan of manipulating the figures, that should have been the government majority in 1917.

1912. But the government majority in 1912 was only 93 votes. The Tribune's trouble lies in its seeming inability to grasp the fact that "turnovers" in elections are not the same as "gains."

If the Tribune will adhere to the principles of elementary arithmetic, and permit rudimentary logic to direct its efforts, it should have little trouble in arriving at the correct solution of the problem with which it struggles in such an amusing fashion.

Perhaps, the careful development of the embryonic idea contained in the Tribune's following paragraph will assist our confused contemporary in comprehending the facts in the case:

"The Tribune did precisely as stated above—we divided the opposition gains by 2 in every 'French' county (except Madawaska) and in every 'English' county we gave the gains at their true—and obvious figures."

By taking the "gains" in every county "at their true—and obvious figures" and by dividing the "gains" by 2 in order to find the "turnovers," The Tribune will get a good start towards the discovery of the truth.

The Tribune appears to have glimpsed the truth that "turnovers" in elections are determined by the simple process of dividing "gains" by 2, and if it is able to clearly distinguish between these two terms, and proceed upon the simple governing rule it will eventually discover that the gains made by the opposition in the "French" counties amounted to 5935 votes, while in the "English" counties the opposition gains reached a total of only 618 votes; and that, consequently, the turnovers in the French and English counties respectively (regarded collectively) were 4985 and 3209, or in proportion of about 3 to 2. In other words, for every two voters in the "English" counties who voted with the government in 1912 and against it in 1917 there were three voters who did likewise in the French counties. The same proportion, of course, holds good in regard to opposition gains in "French" and "English" counties respectively.

The figures in detail are:

"French" Counties			
1912	1917	Opp.	Gov.
Glou.	828 gov	2068 gov	2896
Kent	1160 gov	503 gov	1663
Mon.	582 gov	132 gov	350
M. Cy.	572 gov	132 gov	704
North	1326 gov	678 gov	2004
Rest	554 gov	80 gov	634
Vict	162 gov	459 gov	621
West	505 gov	604 gov	1109
Total	9991	4995	

"English" Counties

1912	1917	Opp.	Gov.
Albert	93 gov	64 gov	29
Charl.	745 gov	439 gov	306
Glouc.	2,968 gov	398 gov	439
Kings	340 gov	442 gov	398
Qns.	440 gov	52 gov	492
St. J. Cy.	2,677 gov	152 gov	2525
St. J. Co.	338 gov	141 gov	239
Sunb.	409 gov	65 gov	474
York	2,237 gov	568 gov	1819
Total	6418	3209	

English "turnover"

Had the electorate in the French counties been influenced by the same considerations that operated upon the voters in other counties it is fair to assume that the French counties would have shown the same relative degrees of opposition and support to the government which is found in the "English" counties. Had such a result been recorded, how would the figures then have stood?

Had opposition gains been in uniform proportion in "French" and "English" counties, it is quite clear that opposition gains in "French" counties would have been one-third less than they were. Altering opposition majorities then, by this rule the figures would stand thus:

Opp.	Less	one-third	Maj.
Glou.	2068	965	1003
Kent	503	554	51
Mon.	132	139	832
M. Cy.	132	234	102
North	678	668	10
Rest	80	211	131
Vict.	459	207	252
West	604	369	235

If the Advocate's figures fairly represent the situation, as we believe they do, it is a reasonable assumption that if the Acadian electorate had voted as did the "English" electorate, the Murray government would have been victorious in Kent, Moncton and Restigouche. From these constituencies it would have had six more supporters which would exactly reverse the standing of the two parties in the legislative assembly, giving the government 27 members and the opposition 21.

WHY IS THE GLEANER PEEVED?

The Fredericton Gleaner makes a belated and lame defense of its small-spirited and vicious attack upon F. D. Swim, M. L. A., after Mr. Swim's defeat in the recent elections. The Union Advocate is not impelled either to defend, or apologize for Mr. Swim and his political "methods and demeanor." Whatever Mr. Swim may have done, or failed to do, to incur the ill-will of our capricious contemporary, is a matter with which this paper is unacquainted and unconcerned, and upon which we suspect, the public is disposed to waste little curiosity; but we may say in passing that our opinion is that Mr. Swim's "methods and demeanor" will suffer A. disgracement by a comparison with those of the Fredericton daily which, with peculiar fitness is called "The Gleaner." Notwithstanding the assertion of our capricious friend to the contrary, The Union Advocate in the recent political campaign was not in any special sense "very much devoted to Mr. Swim," nor was Mr. Swim "in turn very much devoted to The Advocate." This paper manifested the same degree of devotion to Mr. Swim that it manifested towards Mr. Doyle and Mr. Stewart and Mr. Gallant, the other Conservative candidates; and if Mr. Swim was "in turn very much devoted to The Advocate," we have to confess that all evidence of that circumstance escaped our notice. Possibly, with the usual blindness of jealousy, The Gleaner blames The Union Advocate for Mr. Swim's failure to demonstrate, in a manner satisfactory to the publishers of The Fredericton Gleaner, the appreciation of their "methods and demeanor," which, in their view, all candidates of the Conservative party in New Brunswick should demonstrate. We hasten to assure our perturbed friend that The Union Advocate has not intentionally, at least, done anything to alienate Mr. Swim's affections from The Gleaner. If Mr. Swim has not shown the devotion to The Gleaner, which The Gleaner thinks Mr. Swim should have shown, The Gleaner will place the responsibility thereof elsewhere than upon the shoulders of The Union Advocate; and if we were to hazard a guess in the matter it would be that the proper ascription of Mr. Swim's waning attachment to The Fredericton Gleaner is to the "methods and demeanor" of the management of that paper itself. Whatever faults The Union Advocate may have, a penchant for stealing affection from those to whom it is the essence of existence, is not among them.

Mr. Swim, as The Gleaner so confidently asserts, may be "down and out," politically, in Northumberland county; and The Gleaner may be correct in intimating that Mr. Swim has been to all intents and purposes, "down and out" for more than three years. And it may be also that The Gleaner is but expressing its own hope in the one case, and in the other case indicating when that hope was engendered. And perchance, The Gleaner in both cases is only exhibiting ignorance, fostered by vindictiveness, while imagining itself well informed concerning political matters in Northumberland.

In any event The Gleaner carefully refrains from enlightening the public as to the whys and wherefores of its hope of Mr. Swim's political extinction, and of its spite towards him. If Mr. Swim deserves The Gleaner's condemnation, it is a duty The Gleaner now owes the public to explain why. If the Gleaner does not deem it advisable to do that, it might benefit itself by repressing its spitefulness, and by disabusing itself of the mischievous notion that it is the proper mentor and arbiter in things political in Northumberland County.

DISTANCE LENDS ENCHANTMENT

There is something very odd about the political situation in Carleton County, N. B. Mr. F. B. Carvath, M. P., poses there as a veritable tower of strength, a pillar of righteousness. He claims credit for having driven the ex-Premier, Flemming, from office, and of having exposed much Conservative wrong doing. He is much given to vaunting his own purity of motive and integrity of purpose. His political friends in the press and on the platform—especially writers and speakers outside the province—are continually lauding Mr. Carvath to the skies as a paragon of political virtue. It is claimed that Mr. Carvath inspired, and in large measure led, the opposition to the Murray government, and that the recent defeat of that government is a personal triumph for the Carleton "Victoria" member of the Federal house.

These tributes to Mr. Carvath are all, doubtless, sincere. And they may be deserved. The odd feature of the case is the apparent failure of the people of Carleton county to accept Mr. Carvath at the valuation placed upon him by his long distance friends.

Presumably ex-Premier Flemming was guilty of malfeasance in office, and as Mr. Carvath and his friends contend that it was Mr. Carvath who threw Hon. Mr. Flemming out of power, it may be admitted for the sake of argument, at least, that Mr. Carvath is deserving of whatever credit is due in that respect. Then, with Hon. Mr. Flemming "kicked out of office," as Mr. Carvath and his friends delight in phrasing the situation, we find the supposedly discredited ex-premier of New Brunswick going back to his friends in his home county—which is also Mr. Carvath's home county—and getting the Conservative nomination for the Dominion parliament. Hon. Mr. Flemming and Mr. Frank B. Carvath become political antagonists in a personal sense, with Carleton county as the terrain of their conflict.

Since his nomination Hon. Mr. Flemming has been an active political force in Carleton county. He has taken a conspicuous part in one provincial bye-election, and one provincial general election, in each of which he has supported candidates who have been opposed by Mr. Carvath with all the resources at Mr. Carvath's command. In fact, Mr. F. B. Carvath made each of the campaigns his personal fight and also made Hon. Mr. Flemming and that gentleman's political acts, an issue in each campaign. As Mr. Carvath boasted in the bye-election, if not in the general election, that he would score a personal triumph by causing the defeat of the government candidates, Hon. B. Frank Smith and Mayor Sutton, of Woodstock. The government candidates were elected in the bye-election by handsome majorities, and in the general election in February the government ticket was again emphatically endorsed by the electorate.

Evidently Mr. F. B. Carvath does not well in his own constituency the influence which some of his friends seem to think he wields in the political affairs of the province. What is the reason?

When Mr. Carvath was conducting

the probe into the alleged misdeeds of Hon. J. K. Flemming, it was suggested that criminal action be brought against all who were involved in the alleged graft. At that point Mr. Carvath's enthusiasm died out. He was not prepared for criminal prosecutions because criminal prosecutions would result in the too painful restriction of the freedom of many of Mr. Carvath's political friends. Mr. F. B. Carvath on that occasion showed that his prosecuting zeal was inspired by the hope of political advantage, and in no measure whatsoever by a sense of justice. Nowhere have the people any use for a hypocritical purist, and it is a fair assumption that the people of Carleton county, New Brunswick, know him, the distance that separates them from the scene of his most characteristic activities would doubtless lend an enchantment to their view of Mr. Carvath's eminence.

## NAVAL RECRUITS NEEDED

The Government is calling for naval recruits and they should be forthcoming. Men are needed for the fleet, but the British ships, which today and every day are keeping German soldiers off the soil of Britain, Canada and the colonies. Were it not for the superiority of the British navy, there can not be a shadow of doubt that Canada long ago would have been invaded by a German army, with what results only the imagination can depict. To protect our shores, and those of the mother country, as well as those of all British possessions, it is necessary to maintain the dominance which the British navy has established. Ships without men are useless. Britain calls for more men to serve upon her fighting ships and the Canadian government has undertaken to do its part towards supplying the mother country's requirements in that respect. Canadian naval recruits will serve in the Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Service, at the same rate of pay drawn by Canadian soldiers, which is much higher than that of sailors in the British navy. The Canadians will be a part of the personnel of the Royal navy, but they will be paid by the Canadian government. The service is attractive and should appeal strongly to Canadians who sincerely desire to do their duty, and who realize the necessity that confronts the British Admiralty.

fact viz.—that the overthrow of the Murray government is largely due to the Acadian vote.

Is it simply a coincidence or is there any truth in the newspaper's reports?

As a matter of fact the Acadians have received fairly good treatment under Conservative rule—far better than under the Liberal rule. If we have had Senators Arsenault, P. E. I.; Poirier and Bourque, N. B.; Judge Landry and several other prominent as well as minor appointments, we owe it to the Conservative party, consequently there were no strong reason in that line, for the Acadians to turn down the Conservative party by defeating the Murray government. Neither could it have been the question of Acadian representation as they were equally represented on each ticket in the different counties. Moreover if this had been their object in view they would have split their votes in favor of the Acadian candidates, which was not done, as election returns plainly show.

As for the Flemming episode, it is unescapable to suppose that the Acadian counties alone should have condemned the Murray government whilst the English speaking counties should have approved of it.

The cause, if cause there be, must rest somewhere else and it is just possible that the "conscription canvass" is responsible for it.

The Acadians, as a whole are an honest people and many of them take things for granted too easily. Many of them may have fallen an easy prey to the wily intrigues and deliberate falsehoods which may have been used by unscrupulous canvassers during the electoral campaign especially if such canvassers were of their own race.

At all events, if such be the case, it is quite evident that the Acadians have made a big mistake and any candidate who has made use of such canvass and secured his election at such expense has proved himself disloyal, has disgraced the Acadian nation and is not a fit person to be the representative of a country.

It is to be greatly deplored that this friction has arisen between the two nations in this Province particularly at this critical time when the life of the empire depends solely upon the unity and loyalty of its people.

## RE THE ACADIAN VOTE

Editor Union Advocate:

It has been asserted by some newspapers that the "conscription canvass" was used by the Liberals among the French Acadian population during the last electoral campaign and the consequence was that the Acadian vote defeated the Murray government.

Personally, I know of no such canvass having been used but on looking over the election returns one must admit what is an undeniable

## SHOULD A QUEEN SKATE IN A CRISIS?

The question has been raised in Parliament by a motion to ensure the Dutch Queen Wilhelmina for going to skate at Leeuwarden two days after Germany's submarine warfare was announced. While there is no chance of the motion even coming to a vote, it has been the subject of much discussion in the lobbies and the newspapers. And her defenders declare she did the best thing possible as it indicated to the man in the street that there was no necessity for immediate alarm over the situation between Holland and Germany.

THE QUEEN OF HOLLAND.

By J. H. Spence



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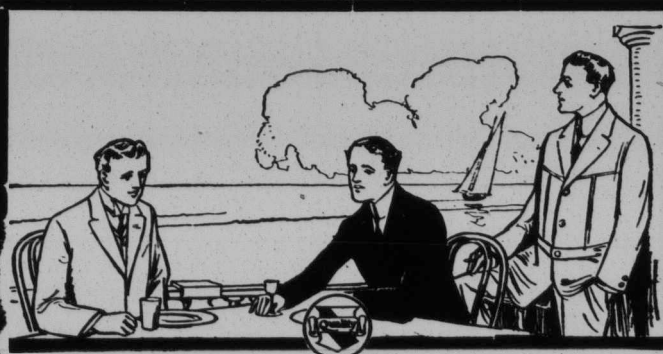
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It is to be hoped, however, that henceforth both nations will continue to work harmoniously together and do their utmost to further the best interests of this country.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, I remain, Yours respectfully, JEROME A. GALLANT, Rogersville, March 12th, 1917.



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