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JOHN E. SCOTT, Editor and Manager.

THURSDAY MARCH 15th, 1917

EDITORIAL

SOME ELECTION FIGURES

Along with some other newspapers, The Sackville Tribune 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.

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.

Table with 2 columns: 1912 and 1917. Rows include Albert, Charlottetown, Gloucester, Kings, Kent, Madawaska, Moncton City, Northumberland, Restigouche, St. John City, St. John County, St. John County, Westmorland, York.

The voters who changed from the government to the opposition in the "English" counties at this election are, according to the above figures, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: 1912 and 1917. Rows include Albert, Charlottetown, Gloucester, Kings, Kent, Moncton City, Northumberland, Restigouche, Victoria, Westmorland, Madawaska.

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:

Table with 2 columns: 1912 and 1917. Rows include Gloucester, Kent, Moncton City, Northumberland, Restigouche, Victoria, Westmorland, Madawaska.

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 conclusions reached thereby.

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 326 votes.

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 591 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 495 and 329, or in proportion of about 3 to 2.

The figures in detail are: "French" Counties: 1912, 1917, Opp. Maj. Gain. Gloucester, 328 gov, 2068 opp, 2896. Kent, 1160 gov, 503 opp, 1663.

"English" Counties: 1912, 1917, Opp. Maj. Gain. Albert, 93 gov, 64 gov, 29. Carl, 748 gov, 745 gov, 3. Charl, 1041 gov, 602 gov, 439.

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 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.

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."

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tested 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.

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 imitate.

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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note:—The columns of The Union Advocate are open at all times, when space is available, to correspondents who may desire to express their opinions thereon on questions of public interest.

RE THE ACADIAN VOTE. 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.

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.

NOTICE. Owing to the sharp advance of Drugs and the shortened terms of credit, we would ask all persons having accounts with us to call and settle same or make satisfactory arrangements.

DICKISON & TROY. 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.

the probe into the alleged misdeeds of Hon. J. K. Fleming, it was suggested that criminal action be brought against all who were involved in the alleged graft.

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NAVAL RECRUITS NEEDED

The Government is calling for naval recruits and they should be forthcoming. Men are needed for the fleet, but the British are also badly needed for British ships which today and every day are keeping German soldiers off the soil of Britain, Canada and the colonies.

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NEW HATS FOR MEN. They have arrived in all the up-to-the-minute shapes and colors—smart styles that men will be proud to wear. Hats come with much wider brims and lower crowns than last season. Colors include new shades of Green, Blue, Grey, Brown, Fawn, etc.

Prices range from 1.50 to 4.50. LET YOUR NEXT NEW HAT COME FROM CREAGHAN'S—THERE'S A DIFFERENCE.



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.

Spring Time is Suit Time. We have just received our new stock of Men's and Boys' Clothing in the latest styles at moderate prices. If we can't fit you up from our stock, we can make you a special suit in ten days. We guarantee Fit, Cloth and Workmanship of our Goods.

RUSSELL & MORRISON MEN'S OUTFITTERS. Fruit Groceries Confectionery Bread and Cake Canned Goods Breakfast Foods etc., etc., etc. A Fresh and Full Line always kept in Stock. WM. F. ERGUSON, Fish B'ld. PHONE 144.

NOTICE. Owing to the sharp advance of Drugs and the shortened terms of credit, we would ask all persons having accounts with us to call and settle same or make satisfactory arrangements. All accounts of six months standing not settled by April 15th will be handed in for collection without further notice. DICKISON & TROY.