

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until the 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.

IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY.

Canadians who believe that during the war the first duty of the public men of this country is to assist in every possible manner the attainment of that goal in pursuit of which scores of thousands of our best manhood have offered their lives on the battlefields of France and Flanders, can obtain much enlightenment by reading the press report of the proceedings in the Canadian House of Commons. Perusal of that report will show that the chief function of the Liberal oppositionists appears to be to waste the time of Parliament with questions on all sorts of matters having no relation to the war or its prosecution.

In Parliament, yesterday, for example, the Liberals forced the first division since the resumption of the session on a motion by A. C. McCol, Liberal member for West Kent, who asked for a reduction of the duty on tractor engines. Sir Thomas White, who was leading the House, explained why such a reduction should not be granted at this time, and intimated that the proper occasion for the discussion of such a motion would come with the introduction of the budget. The Liberals, however, pressed their point to a division in which the motion was defeated by a vote of 48 to 28. Much valuable time was wasted in the discussion without any useful point being gained.

Opposition questioners also had a field day. Mr. Kyrle, of the malodorous memory in connection with the Kite-Carrell shell charges, had a fling at the Ross rifle plant, conveniently forgetting that that weapon was a legacy wished upon the Government by the Liberals. Mr. Pugsley, under the guise of asking for information, raised the question of shipbuilding which drew from Sir Thomas White information which had already been published in many of the newspapers in Canada and which Dr. Pugsley could have read for himself.

Mr. Lemieux had an objection to make regarding the increased tolls on the Victoria bridge across the St. Lawrence which, he said, were proving a burden to the agriculturists who used the bridge to get to the Montreal market. It was pointed out to the ex-postmaster general that the increased rates affected only motor vehicles and, consequently, the "poor farmers" were not suffering to the extent represented, or if they could afford to use motor cars to transport their produce, to any extent.

It is safe to say that, with the possible exception of Mr. McCol, none of the oppositionists who occupied the time of Parliament in the discussion of comparative trivialities had any useful purpose in view. They desired merely to take up time in the hope of causing some embarrassment to the government. Free speech is one of the most cherished of British ideals but the Liberal oppositionists in the Canadian Parliament are overworking it. Their conduct, however, reflects the attitude of the machine Grit politician throughout Canada who thinks the time is ripe for a political contest and whose concern for partisan success has overshadowed even his interest in the world war. It is not a pleasant condition to think about, especially at a time when all political differences should be subordinated to the greater task of winning the war.

THE LAURIER CANNON IN GERMAN.

We are glad to learn from the Ottawa Evening Journal that relatives of Dr. H. S. Bland, M.P., former Postmaster-General for Canada, and now a prisoner of war in Berlin, have the pleasure of getting an occasional letter from him, says an exchange. We hope they will soon have the greater pleasure of welcoming him back safe and sound.

Just what treatment Canadian prisoners of war are receiving at the hands of their guards cannot well be reported in their letters, but it would appear that Dr. Bland is permitted to read the newspapers. Writing on February 11, he is said to have been able to tell his sister, Mrs. Aurele Nadeau, of Beauce Junction, that he followed in the Frankfurt Zeitung the incidents of the by-election in Dorchester county, and that he even read an extract of a speech by Mr. Lucien Cannon. We may be sure the Zeitung's quotation from Mr. Cannon's speech would be of a kind to make the people of Germany smack their lips. We do not know which of the morsels of Cannon oratory the Zeitung culled for the issue Dr. Bland refers to, but the

edge of public business, the approaching session promises to be full of interest. Premier Foster and his associates will not want for employment in the days and weeks to come. Go to it, merry gentlemen. Your tenure of office is but brief, so make the most of it.

UNITED STATES AND THE WAR

New York, April 23.—An idea of the profound impression which the entrance of the United States into the war is making upon the world, is gained from the expressions in Parliament this week when both houses formally recognized and applauded the great event. There was no expression of flamboyant enthusiasm, but proceeding and speaking of a most impressive character showed high appreciation of the deep meaning of the participation of this country in the world war.

Bonar Law said: "America, like the British Empire—I wish to make that plain—is animated by no love of conquest, no greed for territory, no selfish ends. The aims and ideals to which President Wilson has given noble expression in his recent speech are our aims, our ideals also. As we found out earlier so the American people have now found out that there is no method by which these aims can be secured except by fighting for them."

Mr. Asquith said: "I doubt whether even now the world realizes the full significance of the step America has taken. I do not see disinterested acts in history." Asserting that for more than one hundred years it has been the cardinal principle of American policy to keep clear of foreign entanglements, he pointed out that, broadly speaking, the war had been doing little appreciable harm to the material fortunes and prosperity of the American people. American interests that have already been directly imperilled. Nor was that greatest interest of a democratic community, the maintenance of domestic independence and liberty, interfered with. Asquith said that what was remarkable about the President, after waiting with him a united nation into the hazards and horrors of the greatest war in history, was that it was not a calculation of material gain, nor hope of territorial aggrandizement, nor even the prick of one of those so-called points of honor which in days gone by have driven nations, as they used to drive individuals, to the dueling ground. It was the constraining force of conscience and humanity, growing in strength and conviction, which in the month with the gradual unfolding of the real character of German aims and methods. It was that force alone which brought home to the great American people the enormous truth that they were standing at the parting of the ways. "There was never in the minds of any of us a fear that the moment the issue became apparent it was the entrance of America would not be heard. She has now dedicated herself without hesitation or reserve, heart and soul and strength, to the greatest war in history, stimulated and fortified by her comradeship, we here renew our fealty and devotion."

BRITISH OPINION AND AN ELECTION.

This is not the time to talk of convictions which divide us."—Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George.

"An election at the present time would paralyze Britain's efforts in the war."—Rt. Hon. Andrew Bonar Law.

"The task we have on hand is too formidable to permit of any distraction of mind or dispersion of energy by the nation. All other considerations must give way to the supreme necessity of united effort."—Manchester Guardian (Liberal).

"Any public man who at this moment nourishes any thought except that of waging war against the enemy by the most effective means should never be forgiven by his countrymen."—Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill.

The foregoing opinions of leading newspapers and public men of Great Britain should tend to sober some of the partisans in this country who are talking about forcing a general election. The same reasons that make the thought of a general election in Britain repugnant to British statesmen, exist in Canada. To distract the mind of this country from the terrible events now unfolding themselves in Europe by conflict at the polls, would be nothing short of treachery to our Allies and the Motherland, and a crime against our soldiers so ungrudgingly sacrificing themselves for us at the front. The supreme duty of every man in this country today is to shape his conduct in such manner as will help most to uphold our men in the trenches. The man who fails in this, whose thoughts are of the polling booths first and the trenches afterwards, is worse than an open enemy of his country.

GO TO IT, MERRY GENTLEMEN.

Hon. Walter E. Foster is now premier-elect. He was returned by acclamation yesterday for the County of Victoria and, at the same time, his colleagues in the ministry were given their seats without the necessity of another battle at the polls.

While Mr. Foster's cabinet was essentially a "safety-first" selection, yet yesterday's result does not mean that the Conservative opposition did not oppose the choice through fear of fighting losing battles. In at least two of the seats there was a good chance of victory had candidates been placed in the field and a vigorous campaign waged. But it was felt that as the Foster party had been entrusted with the reins of power through the votes of the constituencies where the Acadian vote predominated, the best way to expose the weakness of the outfit was by allowing it to get to business as soon as possible.

Consequently, the Foster government is now in power in New Brunswick and in a position to enforce its sweet will upon the people. The most important sections of the province are represented by members in the opposition ranks and as the opposition is stronger than the government in ability, debating power and know-

Little Benny's Note Book

The Grasshopper and the Ant
A Play

Scene 1. June.
The Grasshopper. Hi loo hi lo da da da do.
The Ant (carrying a slice of bread to its house) Its all rite for you to jump around singing in June, but wat are you going to eat wen it gets cold and everything?
The Grasshopper. Maybe it wont get cold and everything this year. Ock der lecher Argusteen, is is is.

Scene 2. July.
The Grasshopper. Hi diddle diddle, da da, da da.
The Ant (carrying an apple core to its house) July is a all rite month to ack happy in, but you dont need to expect me to invite you to any meals next winter.

The Grasshopper. I woodent eat your old meals anyhow after youve bin carrying them around in your mouth. Yankee Doodle went to town, bum diddy bum bum bum.

Scene 3. September.
The Grasshopper. Do fray me fah, diddle dee dee. G, maybe it aint getting windy.

The Ant (carrying a old tomato to its house) If you think this is windy, wait a while.

Scene 4. November.
The Grasshopper (dying of nothing to eat) Farewell crool world.

The Ant (poking its head out) Wat did I tell you.

The end.

MANY N. B. CASUALTIES

Ottawa, April 25.—(Casualties):

D. C. Donald, Hillsboro, N. S.
H. E. McGourty, St. John, N. B.
Acting Lance Corporal H. B. Allen, Fredericton, N. B.
R. N. Burpee, Alexander, P. E. I.
W. J. Cameron, Rogersville, N. B.
R. C. Weatherby, Tetamagouche, N. S.

D. O. Fraser, St. John, N. B.
C. O. Myers, Jeddore, N. S.
J. H. Whitehouse, St. John.
W. H. Hickey, Stake Road, N. S.
S. Boutiller, Glace Bay, N. S.
D. H. McColl, Halifax, N. S.
C. W. Dorion, Mayfield, P. E. I.

Mounted Rifles.

Died—

H. Wilson, Amherst, N. S.

Infantry.

Wounded—

T. M. Alexander, Upper Charlo, N. B.

E. G. DeMille, Lakeside, N. S.

H. Doraspe, New Glasgow, N. H.

C. W. James, Clifton, N. B.

H. R. McArthur, Chatham, N. B.

H. R. McKinnon, Oxford, N. S.

B. W. Hill, New Glasgow, N. S.

Died of Wounds—

C. Doucet, Petit Roche, N. B.

T. F. Ryan, Woodhaven, N. S.

F. Doucet, Halifax, N. S.

T. Baird, Halifax.

H. Boudreau, Bathurst, N. B.

A. A. Stewlacke, N. B.

A. W. Williams, Sydney, N. S.

A. Goddin, Portage River, N. B.

H. S. Clark, Millbank, N. B.

H. A. Legere, Legere, N. B.

G. W. James, Dorchester, N. B.

G. W. Bernard, Chatham, N. B.

M. J. McGuire, West Lakeville, N. S.

D. McEachern, Kalginnant, N. S.

R. W. Ross, Yarmouth, N. S.

J. Curry, New Waterford, N. S.

Artillery.

Wounded—

R. E. Smith, Mulgrave, N. S.

C. W. Hill, New Glasgow, N. S.

J. Jones, Truro, N. S.

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Mrs. John Sloan, Haley Station, Ont., writes: "Over a year ago I was very nervous. I could not sleep at night, and I would faint at the slightest fright. I tried several doctors, but they did me practically no good. I noticed your advertisement, and immediately tried Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and I am proud to say 'they cured me.'"

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L. D. Dedley, Mineral, N. B.
R. Godang, Cape Sable, N. B.
E. Johansen, Bathurst, N. B.

FUNERALS.

The funeral of Mrs. Annie Smith took place yesterday afternoon from her late residence, 103 Orange street. Services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Hall. Interment was made in Fernhill.

The funeral of Thomas Riley took place yesterday afternoon from Messrs. Fitzpatrick's undertaking rooms to the Cathedral, where burial services were conducted by Rev. Miles P. Howland. Interment was made in the new Catholic cemetery.

The funeral of Mrs. Shanklin Thompson took place at three o'clock yesterday afternoon from her late residence, 118 Duke street West Side, to Cedar Hill cemetery. The service was conducted by Rev. G. P. Scovill, assisted by Rev. D. H. Loweth.

Bantam Officer Closes.

The 216th Bantam Battalion closed their campaign in St. John last night. This morning their recruiting office will be closed to the public. Sergt. O'Rourke received word yesterday to proceed to Amherst at once and it is understood that the one hundred men now quartered there will proceed elsewhere, since opening the office in St. John the Bantam Battalion secured over one hundred men in the province. Of this number forty-nine enlisted in St. John.

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