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 ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1918.

"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.

THE CURRIE CASE.
 The government has determined to investigate the charges against Hon. Wm. Currie, by a Royal Commission, and the bill authorizing the appointment of such a body has already received its second reading. The government's decision will be generally approved. What the public wants in this matter is the facts and all the facts. A committee of the House was asked for by Hon. Mr. Baxter, but it was expected the government would follow the precedent already established and send the case to a Royal Commission.

While the government is to be commended for its action, the question may well be asked why it was not adopted sooner? The premier had in his possession for several days a copy of the affidavit on which the charges were based, and that was the time for him to act. He did not do so, except to go to Mr. Currie and practically invite him to put in a denial. This denial he had in readiness on his desk awaiting the moment when the charges should be presented from the Opposition side of the House, when he would have the opportunity of going just what he did do, i. e., read the denial and a corroborative statement to the House and take good care to see that both found their way into the Telegraph, which newspaper published but a brief synopsis of the charges, while the Currie and Richards affidavits were printed in extenso. The premier in referring the matter to a Royal Commission, probably means well. At any rate we are prepared to believe he does. But his conduct when he first received the information on which the charges were based, was to say the least, peculiar. His duty now is to see to it that the investigation shall be full and fair. The people will be satisfied with no less.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.
 Except for the fact that provision for the salary for which he hoped has been eliminated, Dr. Roberts' public health bill will go through the Legislature with little or no amendment. This was apparent yesterday, when the government supporters stood together and jammed through section after section in the face of most earnest Opposition protests.
 From a political standpoint, the Opposition may feel well satisfied that it should be so, for the unnecessarily drastic character of the act, and the Tsarlike powers it confers upon the minister in charge, will become speedily apparent, after it goes into effect. But the Opposition protests were not for political effect. They especially objected to the proposal to place the minister in charge of department in a position where he would not have to go to the people for re-election upon appointment. Such a proposal violates every tradition of responsible government, and yet the gentlemen who occupy the treasury benches at Fredericton have brazenly adopted it. The question now is: Where will this sort of thing end? If the Forsterites can legislate into office a minister of public health, even though he may draw no salary, and place him in charge of a department involving a large outlay of money, what is to prevent them from applying the same rule to the case of any other minister of the Crown?

Suppose Mr. Veniot, Minister of Public Works, decided he could work with out remuneration, although those who know the honorable gentleman will declare such a suggestion to be impossible, what would prevent the government from placing him in the same category as Dr. Roberts, and declaring he need not answer to the people for money expended in road and bridge work for which the province has secured no adequate return.
 Mr. Murray, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Tilley, Dr. Taylor, Dr. Crockett and Dr. J. Roy Campbell have earned the everlasting gratitude of the people of New Brunswick for the courage and determination with which they fought this outrageous proposal and demanded that if the government were bound to saddle the province with an unnecessarily expensive and elaborate department of health, the duties of that department should be discharged by some responsible minister who had already been approved at the ballot box.
 In other provinces the department of health is under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Agriculture. The Standard does not advise the Forster government to adopt that policy, for, with Hon. Mr. Tweeddale's general incapacity in mind, it might prove disastrous both to the province and the department. But there does not appear to be any reason why the provincial secretary-treasurer could not also act as minister of health; this at least

tion Dr. Roberts' course was one of masterly inactivity. It is reported that he explained this to friends by the statement that he would not divert from his leader and as Mr. Foster took no part in that campaign the prospective Minister of Health also remained silent and inactive. That explanation may have been satisfactory to the gentlemen to whom Dr. Roberts gave it, but it is generally conceded that the electors of this city of the Loyalists hold quite another opinion. Evidently Dr. Roberts does not desire to test the truth of this statement for rather than face the music he has offered to serve in the office without salary except the seasonal indemnity paid to every member of the Legislature. We are willing to admit that Dr. Roberts has a deep and sincere interest in the public health of this province, but we must also confess to a lingering suspicion shared by many electors that his action in this case is prompted by considerations of "Safety First." If the gallant doctor desires to allay this suspicion in the mind of the public the course is open before him. We invite him to adopt it.
COMMISSION NUMBER ONE.
 It is not always safe to indulge in sweeping predictions of promises during an election campaign. When the Foster party appealed to the people in February of last year one of their favorite slogans was "No Royal Commission if we get into power." Presumably the party meant to convey the meaning that the administration would be of such a high quality and the public and private acts of their supporters would be beyond reproach there would be no necessity of tribunals to investigate peculations or other misdemeanors. The Foster government has been in office little more than a year and yet that government has been forced to pass legislation creating a Royal Commission to investigate serious charges against the highest official in the Legislature. As we have taken occasion to remark well predicted predictions are not always safe.

THE SOLICITOUS TELEGRAPH.
 It is particularly refreshing to note the wholehearted zeal and high purpose with which the Telegraph has rushed to the aid of the people in the matter of the New Brunswick Power Company rates. That paper has worked itself into a fine frenzy in its eagerness to guard the public from the fell designs of a heartless corporation. In this connection it upbraids the Standard because this journal of the home and fireside did not join in its hysterical outbursts. The Standard has every confidence that the rights of the people will be amply safeguarded by the investigating commission to be nominated by the premier of the province and the leader of the Opposition and which will closely enquire into all power company matters. In all humility however we venture to suggest that if some gentleman closely connected with the ownership of the Telegraph and Times had succeeded in the attempt to sell to the power company a certain rack in a certain river we might not have been treated to all the noise from Canterbury street. The Standard had no rock to sell.
 The editor of the Times is not pleased with Mr. Potts' criticism of Mr. Foster's theatre tax bill, which discriminates against patrons of the low-priced movie shows, and declares that the St. John member believed he saw an opportunity to make a little capital for himself. This statement sounds like a case of sour grapes, coming as it does from a man who is not a bit backward in pushing himself into public notice as a "reformer" of most everything existing from the heights above to the depths beneath. Apparently Wamba and Mr. Potts did not co-operate when the former made his pilgrimage to Fredericton with his little pet scheme to enlighten the legislators.

A BIT OF VERSE.
THE LIGHTS OF HOME.
 In many a village window burn
 The evening lamps;
 They shine amid the dews and damps,
 Those lights of home!
 Afar the wanderer sees the glow,
 Now night is near;
 They guide his path with radiance clear,
 Sweet lights of home.
 Ye lodestars that forever draw
 The weary heart,
 In stranger lands or crowded mart,
 Oh! lights of home.
 When my brief day of life is o'er,
 Then may I see
 Shine from the heavenly house for me
 Dear lights of home.

A BIT OF FUN.
A Poor Excuse.
 A big darky was being registered.
 "Ah can't go to wuh," he answered in re exemption, "foh they ain't nobody to look after my wife."
 A dapper little undersized colored brother stepped briskly up and inquired, "What kind of a lookin' lady is yoh wife?"
A Naughty Judge.
 In a case of a slander a lady had gone into the witness box on behalf

of the plaintiff, whose counsel was examining her.
 "Now, madam," the lawyer began, "please repeat the slanderous statements made by the defendant on this occasion just as you heard them."
 "Oh, that for any respectable person to hear," was the emphatic answer.
 "Then," said the examiner, coaxingly, "suppose you just whisper them to the judge."
A Bad Reputation.
 They were burying the German dead, when one Tommy called over to his mate:
 "Bill, this bloke's a-moving. What shall I do?"
 "Shove him in," growled Bill.
 "But," went on his mate, "he says he ain't dead."
 "That doesn't matter," answered Bill, "you can't believe a word the bloomin' Germans say. Shove him in!"

CARSON TO FIGHT HOME RULE BILL.
 Advises Reorganization of Machinery to Oppose it—Possession of Arms Forbidden in Eleven Irish Counties
 London, April 24.—Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster Unionist leader, has written to the secretary of the Ulster Unionist Council advising the reorganization of the machinery to oppose Home Rule. He says that it will be necessary to summon the council's committee at the earliest moment after the publication of the bill by the government, adding: "The position to be taken will be of the gravest possible character."
 Sir Edward declares that this action

RHEUMATISM FOR 25 YEARS.
 Was Attended by Several Doctors in Nova Scotia and in New York by Celebrated Specialist— Astonished to Find Himself Totally Cured by Home Treatment.
 Kiltarity, N. S., April 11.—This letter from Mr. Cameron should make every reader of this paper think. If you happen to be a sufferer from rheumatism Mr. Cameron's experience may prove of incalculable value to you. He spent money liberally in a vain effort to obtain cure, and finally found the effective treatment at a cost of \$2.00 for eight boxes of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.
 This treatment set the liver and kidneys right and swept from the system the poisons which caused pains and aches and all the suffering from rheumatism. Write to Mr. Cameron and verify the statements contained in his letter.
 Mr. Neil A. Cameron, Kiltarity, N. S., writes: "I am glad to recommend Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to anyone who is suffering from rheumatism. For about twenty-five years I was bothered more or less with this affliction. I was treated by doctors all over Nova Scotia, and when on business in New York had an opportunity to consult one of the greatest specialists there; but I never gained more than temporary relief. In an effort to get rid of the accumulating development of the disease I tried Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and when I had taken eight boxes I was, to my astonishment, totally cured. I therefore heartily recommend these Pills to all who suffer from rheumatism, and anyone who doubts this testimonial may write me as proof to the contrary."
 Rev. James A. Collins, P. P., says: "This is to certify that I am personally acquainted with Mr. Neil A. Cameron, and believe his statement is true, and to my personal knowledge correct."
 Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill does 25¢ a box, at all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Refuse substitutes, for they only disappoint.

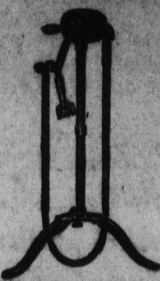
Little Benny's Note Book.
 BY LEE PAGE.
 Me and pop was taking a walk before supper, and I sed, Pop, do you think if I keep working long enough we wood work all the way around the world and come back in izakly the same spot?
 Wy yes, I shoed think there wood be about one chance in 100 billion, sed pop. Wich jes then a drop of water fell on my nose, and I sed, G, pop, I felt a drop on my nose, it must be raining.
 That question you jest asked me was shoof to make it rain for a month, sed pop. However, I dont think its raining.
 Well, a drop went on my nose, I sed, and pop sed, Did it look like rain? and I sed, I didnt see it.
 Well id it feel like rain? sed pop.
 Yes sir, I sed, and it tasted like rain, too. Wich it did, on account of going in my mouth wen it bounced off my nose. And jest then it started to come down hard as anything, and me and pop quick ran up in nimbodys vestibule and started to wait for it to stop, pop saying, Its only a shower, and showers never last very long or elts they woodnt be showers.
 And me and pop kepp on waiting a long wile and it kepp on coming down jest as hard, and I sed, G, pop, Im hungry.
 Im jest as hungry, sed pop, we will wait 5 more minnits, and if it hasent stopped by that time its no shower and may never stop, and we will make a dash for home. And we waited 5 more minnits and it hadent started to stop yet, and pop sed, now for the dash. And we started to run home, getting soaking wet, and jest as we got half way there wat did it do but stop raining. And we wawked the rest of the way, me saying, It must of bin a shower after all, pop.
 Let the subject drop, sed pop. And wen me saw us, she sed, My graphish, sutch sites, wy on erth didnt you run in a doorway or some place?
 If you wait till I change my clothes Ill give you a ritten explanation, sed pop. And he went up stairs and put on dry clothes, and so did I, and then we come own and ate supper, pop not looking all rite agen till about the dizzeit.

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