

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1917.

"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.

CONSERVATION OF FOOD.

Dr. J. W. Robertson, chairman of the Canadian advisory committee, to the food controller, delivered an important address in the Board of Trade rooms yesterday afternoon in which he placed the subject of food conservation fairly and squarely before those who heard him. So important is his message that The Standard believes it should be carefully perused by thousands of New Brunswickers who did not enjoy the privilege of hearing it delivered. For that reason we publish this morning the full text of the address.

Waste at any time is a sin. In war-time it becomes a crime, and the question is not merely one of thrift or economy but a patriotic duty of the highest character. To waste food now, or to refuse to voluntarily "shorten rations," is to help the enemy and to injure the prospects of success of our own boys who, in the trenches of France and Flanders, are facing death for the cause of Empire. That the question of food conservation should be scientifically and wholeheartedly grappled with now is, therefore, most fitting.

It is not necessary to exaggerate the importance of the duty of conserving food. New Brunswick, with its productive acres, has never been threatened with famine. There is no such menace in the situation which confronts us today, but there is a grave possibility of a world famine which may mean starvation and death to hundreds of thousands of people. This, by conservation and increased production, we can help to avert.

The season for increased production has passed so far as the present year is concerned, but a good start was made in the spring by the planting of gardens, and from present indications there will be an appreciable increase in our food supplies as a result of the work started months ago. Next year, with the natural development of the movement much better results should be achieved.

What can be done now, however, and continued until the war is over, and conditions return to normal, is to stop the food wastage in every household and to use as little as possible of export foods. The principal items of export foods, the consumption of which Dr. Robertson asks shall be reduced, are wheat, flour, beef and bacon, all of which are particularly in demand for the feeding of our armies and of the population of Allied nations whose normal production has been stopped by the demands of war.

And it does not involve great sacrifice on the part of families to meet the requirements of the case. What may seem a small effort for an individual becomes a mighty movement if exerted by a community. In St. John, for instance, there are approximately 50,000 people, or 10,000 families of five each. If each family, for the next year will reduce its weekly consumption of flour by one pound the result will be a saving of 260 tons of flour in the year. The same saving applied to New Brunswick will yield, approximately, more than 1,500 tons in a year. And beef can be saved in the same way.

As to substitutes for such articles of food there are many which can be used with benefit both to the digestive system and the pocketbook. Every housewife knows what these are or, if not, the information is easily available. Bacon, beef and wheat flour can be almost eliminated from every household and their place taken by substitutes without the nation suffering to any extent. It is possible to effect a very considerable saving in these lines with practically no sacrifice, and without detriment to health or pleasure.

Already the Government has taken steps to control the supply of food in public eating places. An equal measure of control can hardly be made effective in private houses without the complete co-operation of the householder. This is what Dr. Robertson asks, a voluntary reduction in the consumption of foods of value to the soldiers.

The Standard requests that its readers shall peruse Dr. Robertson's address and take his advice seriously. New Brunswickers should make it a matter of honor and patriotism to see that not one pound of food is wasted, that there shall be no indulgence in extravagant or fancy cookery—which is as unnecessary as it is expensive—and that every effort shall be exerted to bring every household in New Brunswick into the ranks of those who are prepared to make voluntary reduction in food consumption for the sake of the millions overseas who require the food and cannot produce it.

The housewives of this loyal city of St. John, and of this province of New Brunswick, have cheerfully given their

husbands, their sons and their brothers to the cause of Empire. Surely it is not too much to ask that they shall curb their luxuries and their extravagances for the sake of the men who are making daily sacrifices for the Empire, for Canada and for the loved ones at home who now have it in their power to perform valuable service in return.

THE WAR ELECTIONS ACT.

That war service shall be the basis of war franchise explains in a few words the principle of the measure introduced in the House of Commons yesterday which will govern the voting at the next Canadian election, and at any other Canadian election it may be necessary to hold during the period of war. Those who will not fight, or who object to military service, shall not have a voice in the government of those who are now overseas, or who are willing to make sacrifices for the cause.

Under ordinary circumstances if any government attempted to interfere with the franchise, the most precious gift of citizenship, such an attempt would be considered unwarranted. With the nation engaged in war and facing a situation the most critical in its history, there not only is warrant for the Government's action, but, if the Government did not take such action it would be open to severe censure. Canada must protect her soldiers, Canada must ensure that those soldiers shall be supported to the limit of our resources of men and money. Therefore, Canada cannot afford to allow alien enemies or pacifists to control the government of the country while our men in khaki, the flower of the nation, are out of the country on the country's business and, through circumstances, may be deprived of exercising their influence in the control of the country's affairs.

Under the measure presented yesterday, conscientious objectors to military service will be disfranchised. This means that men eligible for service, who refuse to respond to the call for soldiers on the ground that they oppose the war, will not be permitted to have a voice in the selection of the country's government. This is eminently fair for those who will not fight to preserve Canada have no right to enjoy the benefits of Canadian citizenship.

Men of alien enemy origin, whose naturalization as Canadians does not date back fifteen years, will not be allowed to vote. This will disfranchise the Germans and Austrians who came to Canada within that period, even though, in that time, they may have taken out their naturalization papers. Men of Allied countries, the Americans, French, Russians, Italians, Serbians, and the others who have come to Canada and been naturalized even within the fifteen-year period will continue to hold the franchise right that they have enjoyed.

The importance of this provision in the act may not be apparent to all residents of the Maritime Provinces, who may not know that in some western constituencies the alien population is sufficiently heavy to control, and that were they permitted to vote they could, if they desired, send back to Ottawa representatives pledged to oppose every war effort of the country, pledged, in fact, to urge Canada's withdrawal from the war. The very fact that such a condition exists in some parts of Canada is sufficient reason why precautions should be taken against it.

But the War Elections Act will also add many thousands to the Canadian voters. It is already provided that the soldiers at the front, or training to go there, shall vote, and that the franchise shall be given to every man in the Canadian uniform. But the measure introduced yesterday will give the soldier an even larger voice in the control of Canadian affairs than he could gain by his own vote alone. The franchise is given to certain female relatives of soldiers, the mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of the men in khaki will be permitted to participate in the next battle of the ballots. This can be easily justified. On broad grounds it will be at once admitted that the Canadian women who have made sacrifices in this war have won the right to equal representation with their brothers. As all women have made some sacrifice, general recognition of this principle would involve the extension of the Dominion franchise to all women, who are not of enemy alien birth or enemy alien sympathy. But in the case of relatives of soldiers there is an additional and potent reason why they should be given the vote.

While the Government has arranged, as far as legislation can ensure it, that the men at the front or training to go there, shall be given the opportunity to record their votes, yet it is not probable that all the votes will be polled. In such case female relatives of the soldiers can take their place at the ballot box. Also, the removal from Canada of more than 300,000 of her most patriotic young men means that a powerful influence for national good is out of the country. In war elections the influence of those soldiers will be wielded by their relatives and will not be lost.

In fact the whole act is intended to provide that patriotic Canada shall be dominant at the ballot box. That is precisely what the welfare of Canada requires, for all the war measures passed by this Government, all the provisions made for safeguarding our future as an integral part of the Empire, will be of value only so long as a sympathetic administration is in power at Ottawa. To allow slackers, aliens and anti-war partisans to gain control of Canadian affairs would be fatal. The Government does not intend that such a thing shall be possible. From that standpoint, from every patriotic point of view the War Elections Act is a most desirable measure. It will pass the House of Commons, it will pass the Senate and will become law, and the next election will be conducted under its provisions.

Little Benny's Note Book

The Park Ave. News.

Weather. Just the same old story. Big Snash Up. A big collision took place last Friday evening when Sid Hunt and Sam Cross met suddenly while they were running around the corner in opposite directions, causing Sam Cross to lose a loose tooth which he was very proud of.

Sports. Raymond, the new fat boy in the next block, was getting his hair cut in the barber shop on Thursday afternoon, when Ed Wernick, Lew Davis and Leroy Shooter saw him and stood in the door yelling such things as, Look whose getting his hair cut, Wat are you going to do with it, make pillars for the parlor? Look out, those scissors are sharp, until the barber chased them away.

Wy not learn to be a mechanic? Ed Wernick will leave you watch him take his bicycle apart and put it together again for 4 cents. Advertisement.

Society Notes. Mr. Artie Alexander is reported to be engaged to Miss Maud Jensen. Miss Jensen denies it, however, saying her new ring was given to her for getting over the measles.

Intrieting Facts About Intrieting People. Puds Simkins has ate 9 bananas one afternoon without stopping. But he sea he didnt eat much supper afterwards.

Lost and Found Department. Lost—A Broken dog collar with no dog attached. See Sid Hunt.

Found—Nothing.

Inspector McConnell from milk properly mixed. Some of the specimens were obtained immediately after delivery from the cans and others just prior to pasteurization, some from storage depots and some from delivery wagons.

A careful investigation for cream percentage showed one specimen as low as 4.7 per cent., and another as high as 37 per cent., or more than one-third cream. There were few specimens below 6 per cent., and second and third tests showed material improvements.

The large number of specimens ran above 10 per cent. cream, and the majority were without traces of sediment.

WEDDINGS

MacKay-Gilks.

Newcastle, Sept. 6—Robinson A. MacKay, of Strathadam, and Miss Magdalen J. Gilks, of South Esk, were united in marriage by Rev. C. W. Squires at the Methodist parsonage, on Wednesday evening. The couple were attended by Joseph Manderson and Miss Mary MacKay of Strathadam.

OBITUARY

Whitfield Piers.

The death of Whitfield Piers occurred here at ten o'clock yesterday morning after he had been for some time ill. Mr. Piers was a widower and leaves two children and one sister, Mrs. C. Morrell of St. John. He was a native of Hampton and the funeral will take place there at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.

M. J. Nugent.

Michael J. Nugent died at noon yesterday at his residence, 39 Richmond street, after a short illness. He leaves a wife, formerly Miss Margaret Ryan, of Norton; five sons and five daughters. Dr. John R. P. Warren, Robert J. James, Thomas E. Mrs. Thomas E. Markey, Misses Florence, Alice, Carmella and Margaret. One sister, Mrs. E. J. Coughlan, of this city, also survives.

Mr. Nugent was a member of the Board of Censors in connection with the moving picture business, and also a member of the St. John Council, No. 337, Knights of Columbus.

The deceased was a son of the late John Nugent, who for a long period was a prominent member of the Cathedral parish, president of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference for many years, and an officer of the militia.

The funeral will take place tomorrow morning.

Is Breakfast Ready?

The answer is easy in the home where Shredded Wheat Biscuit is the regular every day breakfast cereal. Being ready-cooked and ready-to-eat, Shredded Wheat Biscuit is the joy of the housekeeper in Summer. Served with sliced bananas, berries, or other fruit, they make a nourishing, satisfying meal at a cost of a few cents.

HOPEWELL HILL.

Hopewell Hill, Sept. 6.—The Misses Gertrude and Georgia Fullerton left Albert on Thursday for Brockton, Mass., where they will enter a hospital for training.

Mrs. Jack Hunter, Sussex, is spending a few days with Mrs. L. A. Jones, Mrs. Alfred Copp, Vancouver, who has spent a few months visiting old friends left for her home last week.

Gulford M. Stewart and family of Newton Centre, Mass., spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Cleveland last week. They made the trip in a Packard touring car and will return after a trip through Nova Scotia.

A Roman Catholic picnic was held at Riverside on Labor Day.

Very high tides have prevailed for the past two days and dikes are reported broken in many places.

Mrs. Orestes Steeves, Miss Lottie Steeves, Mr. and Mrs. Mariner Steeves and Merle Steeves were auto guests at the home of Mrs. Alberta McGorman on Sunday.

Basil Goodall has gone to Moncton where his parents moved some time ago.

Mrs. Harry O'Neill of Boston is visiting in Albert, the guest of Mrs. Charles Beaumont.

After a pleasant two weeks visit, Mrs. William K. Gross and family returned to her Moncton home this Thursday morning.

A garden party will be held under the auspices of the ladies of the Methodist Church, on the grounds of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Downey.

Rev. A. D. McCully, Salisbury, will occupy the pulpit on the Albert Methodist Circuit on Sunday next, the regular pastor, Rev. Richard Ople exchanging. In the Baptist Church Rev. Mr. Heine of the British and Foreign Bible Society will occupy the pulpit.

HAS INSPECTED MILK.

For upwards of a year the medical officer of the Board of Health has been inspecting milk, and Dr. Melvin has examined more than seventy specimens. They were collected by Chief

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