

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1916.

"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.

### KEEP THE ISSUE CLEAR.

This is the question the citizens who attend tonight's meeting will be asked to vote upon:

Construction of the Valley Railway from Gagetown to St. John by the East Side route, which will mean the expenditure of millions of dollars on bridges that will cripple the road and give St. John nothing more than we have today.

Construction of the Valley Railway from Gagetown to St. John by the West Side route which will give a new bridge across the reversing falls, will eliminate the troublesome level crossing at Mill street, and will secure a new passenger station and a remodeling of our entire passenger and freight facilities.

By the West Side route every one of these desirable developments can be accomplished; ultimate entrance to the East St. John docks is not interfered with or delayed one day, possibilities for National Transcontinental Railway traffic are vastly improved rather than diminished and, eventually, the road so built can be turned over to the Federal Government and the Province of New Brunswick relieved of every dollar of expenditure. This is the issue. Do not be deceived by false canvases or attempts to give the question political color. It is a business proposition, treat it as such.

### THE VALLEY RAILWAY AND POLITICS.

Fearful, lest the independent business men of St. John tonight, may endorse the proposed change of route for the Valley Railway, the Times, the evening organ of the leaderless provincial opposition, is frantically attempting to make a political question out of what is solely a matter for calm, dispassionate discussion by business men. While that newspaper professes to desire that there shall be no political influences brought to bear on the consideration of the question, yet every contribution it has made to the discussion of Valley Railway matters has been biased and partisan and intended to arouse prejudice against the Provincial Government and General Manager Guelinus of the I. C. R., rather than to add to the sum total of information the people possess in regard to a vital question.

For instance, last evening, on its first page, paraded as an alleged Fredericton despatch, dealing with the meeting of the Fredericton Board of Trade and The Standard's expose of the methods used by Liberals of Fredericton to oppose the West Side route, the Times paints the new proposal as a "Tory scheme" and "Tory politics." Yet on another page it admits that at the St. John meeting the resolution opposing the West Side route was seconded by Mr. A. H. Wetmore, himself a life-long "Tory." It might also be pointed out that the resolution favoring it was moved by Mr. P. W. Thomson, a Liberal. If, as the Times alleges, it is a "Tory scheme" then the gentlemen named are hardly consistent party men.

On page two of last night's Times a small item relating to the business done in Halifax is headed "Guelinus Helps Halifax"—a crude and cheap attempt to arouse a prejudice in St. John against the manager of the I. C. R., who has pronounced in favor of the West Side route for the Valley Railway. Is that business or is it politics? On page seven the Times publishes trade statistics from Halifax and while the figures include bank clearings and building permits, the article is headed "The Guelinus Port Boasts of Great Trade This Winter." Clearly the intention is to arouse in St. John jealousy against Halifax and prejudice against Mr. Guelinus as the result of our neighbor's prosperity.

But the question may be asked why should the Times desire to prejudice the people of St. John against the general manager of the Government Railway System, who has always been most kindly disposed towards this city and port and under whose direction the Valley Railway as a part of the Canadian Government Railway system, will be administered? Clearly because that gentleman believes that the Valley Line should be built by any of the opponents of the present

government should feel bound to follow the lead of the Times and the Mail and attempt to inject politics into what should be and is purely a business matter, they will probably find that they will be readily accommodated.

The Times says in regard to the change of route of the Valley Railway: "If we accept the proposed new scheme we will wipe St. John off the map as a terminus of the National Transcontinental." Not at all. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. W. S. Fielding and their friends did that long ago. The new plan is merely intended to do what can be done in the way of putting St. John back on the N. T. R. map and securing the traffic of that road for this port.

### Allan Wetmore Writes About That "East Bank" Motion

St. John, N. B., March 30.  
To the Editor of The Standard:  
Sir,—Considering what has been published as to where the resolution emanated from, which was submitted at the meeting held in the Board of Trade rooms on Tuesday evening, favoring the "Eastern Route" for the Valley Railway, I think, in justice to those whom it has been intimated, framed it, I should state that I (a life-long Conservative) prepared the resolution, as chairman of the Valley Railway committee of the Board of Trade, with the facts before me which I have gleaned in my work on that committee, and with the knowledge I received as a member of the delegation who waited on the Government at Fredericton on the 16th inst.

Mr. Skinner, Mr. Foster, Mr. Carter or any other person, except Mr. Burditt, who was my associate at Fredericton, were not consulted as to what it should contain nor did they know, as far as I am aware, until they came to the meeting, that a resolution was prepared.

In an effort to have the matter brought before the meeting in such a way that it could not be held to either political party, it was thought best to have a Conservative move it and a Liberal second it or vice versa. Mr. Skinner kindly consented to move the resolution.

Why the Fredericton Board of Trade used practically the same resolution, I, nor the Board of Trade, have no knowledge, but it was not at the suggestion of myself or any official of the St. John Board.

I thank you for allowing me, through your columns to correct any wrong impression which has been created regarding this matter.

Yours respectfully,  
ALLAN H. WETMORE.

### Wants a Badge For Physically Unfit

St. John, March 30th, 1916.

To the Editor of The Standard.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the account, in today's Standard, of the 11th Battalion "made things interesting for young men in khaki" yesterday, I should like to say that whilst every means should be used to get at the real slacker, it is very hard to be challenged in the way mentioned, as the writer was, after having tried to get into several battalions, and failed owing to untidiness. It makes both the well meaning soldier and the civilian feel it, because those near do not know the circumstances and the patriotic but unfit young man is classed with the shirker and coward.

Cannot a badge be given the tried and true soldier who would prevent many embarrassing mistakes, such as the following. Whilst the writer, with a "blue" form in his pocket, was walking down King street, the other evening with his wife, a very hard to be rather indiscreet soldier said quite aloud, in passing: "Tell your husband to get into khaki." Others near heard the remark, and it was certainly very trying for the wife, as she had been prepared to give up a good home and all the comforts attached to same, having few friends on this side of the Atlantic, so that her husband might do his duty. The military doctors, however, had been unable to pass the would-be recruit, in spite of many efforts of the latter. Such an incident would never happen if some sort of a distinguishing badge could be worn by the physically unfit.

Yours truly,

"ONE OF THE UNFIT."

### HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.  
H. S. Arnold, Montreal; T. F. Albee, Canton; C. C. Jennings, Toronto; H. E. Bally, J. G. Kerr, P. J. McKenna, Montreal; H. S. Schott, N. Y.; A. W. Hartley, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. D. Barry, Ottawa; P. G. Stanley, Toronto; E. B. Reynolds, W. M. Johnson, Montreal; J. E. Herber, Walkerville; R. McManus, Montreal; R. D. Richardson, Chipman; W. D. Carter, Vancouver; J. D. Irving, Fredericton; C. H. Read, Amherst; R. B. Stewart, New Glasgow; T. R. Borthwick and wife, Miss L. D. Kitchen, Liverpool; P. W. Holsworth, Digby.

H. H. Hill, chef and H. M. C. S. Nibbe; J. L. Chisholm, Truro, N. S.; C. F. Rogers, B. F. Jones, Grand Bay; E. M. Cratty, McAdam Jet; Dr. Vernet Jackson, Oromocto, N. B.; Scott D. Gupill, Grand Manan; John S. Eagles and wife, St. John; E. Crandall, Vancorbo; H. W. Robertson, St. John; Geo. F. Wallace, Pictou, N. S.; Jos. Oldham and wife, Woodstock; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Mills, Moncton; Kenneth Scott, Portridge Island; S. E. Vaughan, St. Martins; R. C. MacNeil, E. L. Price, Portridge Island; J. W. Kirkpatrick, Fredericton; G. Winfield, Geo. R. Crook, H. G. Gibson, H. L. Crocker, St. John; E. W.

## Little Benny's Note Book

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.

My sister Gladis gave a party in our parlor, dancing to the fonograph and everything, and after a while the bell rang, and it was Miss Evans with a little man with a little mustash, and her and Gladis kissed each other and sed they hadent saw each other for a week, and then Miss Evans sed, And, Gladis, I want to perment Mr. Busby to you, Mr. Busby, Miss Potts.

Decided, Im sure, sed Gladis. Ive herd so much about you, sed Mr. Busby. Mr. Busby is a writer, sed Miss Evans. O, how intristing, how exstieing, how fascinating, sed Gladis, Ive always wanted to meet a reel live writer, how luvly.

You faster me, sed Mr. Busby. Not in the leet, sed Gladis, and do you write every day? Practically, practically, sed Mr. Busby. Just think, sed Gladis, but dont you ever haff to wait for an inspiration, I thawt all writers had to wait for inspirations.

Well, of coorse I wait for a serten laurch of time, and if it dont come then, I go ahead without it, sed Mr. Busby.

How fascinating, sed Gladis, O, I wonder if Ive ever red anything youve ritten, because I read all the time, Im practically always reading. You must, surely, sed Mr. Busby.

O, do you think so, tell me sumthing youve done, sed Gladis. Mr. Busby, perhaps you remember seeing a line in the advertisements for reeverip hostery. You may tramp, you may run, till the lawing day is done, and your neverip stockings are holeless.

But whats that got to do with it, sed Gladis. Well, hes an advertisement writer, silly, sed Miss Evans. O, surely, how intristing, now you must take your things off and meet the rest of the people, sed Gladis. Wich Miss Evans and the little man with the little mustash did.

Shells, Fredericton; A. E. Griggs, N. E. Guelinus, Brownsville Jet; D. A. Sean, Moncton; H. M. Wamsford, George Gregory, St. John; S. J. Moore, S. C. Merritt, Grand Falls; Ross Thompson, St. John.

### OBITUARY.

Clarence Spooner.

Mrs. Laura Spooner arrived from Providence, R. I., yesterday, bringing to Hampton for interment the body of her husband, the late Mr. Clarence Spooner. The deceased will be well remembered by many friends in Charlotte and Kings counties and elsewhere throughout New Brunswick. Born

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price.

## Bracelet Watches

Much prettier than a bracelet, and far more convenient than the chateleine style, the bracelet watch long ago passed beyond a fad and is here to stay.

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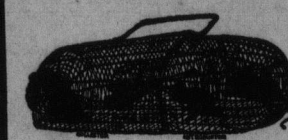
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Now-a-days Governments, Chancel business men talk economy. However to talk economy and another to put it

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## OUR COMPET

For Boys and

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UNCLE DICK THE S

whose decision is final.

STANDARD COMPETITION For Boys and Girls

Full Name.....

Address.....

Age..... Birthday .....

## NEGRO RESIDENTS OBJECT TO 'THE BIRTH OF A NATION'

Full Board of Censors Will View Picture Film Next Week and Decide Whether it is Offensive.

It is understood that the negro residents of the city object to the production of "The Birth of a Nation," as they claim it is derogatory to their race. A delegation called on the chief censor, Dr. H. S. Bridges, and lodged a protest against this picture and requested that the board of censors forbid the showing of it in the city. Dr. Bridges said last night that the pic-

ture would be some time ne- cision given or- ture. Dr. Bridges the picture an- that anyone o- or anything to

