

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1919.

MR. FOSTER AND THE VETERANS.

The Telegraph is inclined to the view that the Veterans will scarcely agree to associate themselves with the Conservative Party in New Brunswick, the inference being that returning soldiers will undoubtedly become allied with the Venio-Foster clique. In order that this desirable end may be accomplished—even though, as stated, the Veterans as a body are not in politics—the solution of many problems will be speedily accomplished. In the language of the day—continue, my fellow men, to carry on.

Only the week previous, when the Fourth and Sixth Siege Batteries returned to St. John after years of service overseas, Premier Foster was one of those selected to welcome the men. He said on that occasion: "On behalf of the people of New Brunswick I desire to express their appreciation and thanks for the service you have rendered to the Empire and to the people of New Brunswick. I consider it a great honor and privilege to address you this morning, and I wish to thank you again and to welcome you on behalf of the people of St. John and of the rest of the Province."

At the time these units were returning to St. John a great deal of comment was heard with respect to the wisdom of inviting Premier Foster to address the returning soldiers. Numbers of letters were received by this Standard touching on this matter, but in view of the general feeling of the day which prevailed at that time this paper deemed it inadvisable to publish anything which might be the cause of friction. It was, however, made perfectly clear that there was in the minds of many the idea that a politician who had so far forgotten his duty to the empire as to refuse absolutely to cooperate with the government of Canada in sending men overseas, or to provide for their comfort, as has been done by Premier Foster, should not be permitted to address returning soldiers. This was felt, was carrying over from the past. But as the majority of the returning men were not acquainted with the stand previously taken by the premier of this province was able by putting on a bold front to get through the performance without criticism.

This is the same Mr. Foster who has imposed direct taxation to the extent of a hundred and eighty thousand dollars on the people of this Province, and the excuse that the money was needed for patriotic and war purposes which means for the good of the empire and of our men overseas—and after collecting this money has expended some ten or twelve thousand of it on the purpose for which it was intended and has handed over the rest of it to Mr. Peter Venio for the benefit of party heaters from the St. John and elsewhere. This is money which should have gone to the benefit of the men to whom Premier Foster uttered the words quoted above. Now that the Veterans are struggling for the balance of that fund, which rightly belongs to them, they are advised that the money has been expended and that they have no claims on the Provincial Treasury. The Veterans as a body are in politics, but they know how to use the members of the Provincial Legislature consistently supported in their service to the Empire. They also know who among those who refused such support and did them any consideration whatsoever.

DEMobilIZATION.

The 1st day of May there were 70,000 in England and France, 60,000 in Italy, 50,000 in the United States, and 10,000 in other countries, out of a total of 200,000 who were overseas on the day demobilization was signed. That is, in the middle of November, or in a word, six months, 155,716 soldiers, exact, have been returned to their homes, along with many of their wives and children. This is a little more than had been planned under amended demobilization provisions of the Federal Government. It is found that the transportation facilities in this country can take 150,000 men that were originally intended to be brought back on the 1st day of May. It may require a few more days, or two to overcome this difficulty.

of the returning men with respect to demobilization. There is an "A" class, which have not been very satisfactory, nor did the objectionable conditions continue after being brought to the attention of the military authorities. Sir Edward Kemp points out that Canada is providing better accommodation and a simpler discharge system for her demobilized men than is being done in any other country engaged in the war. In this connection he quotes the report of the arrival of the steamer "Lestahlan" from New York with a total of 14,416 passengers, of whom 12,774 were troops, and shows that in order to accommodate this number of passengers the men on board were served with only two meals a day. In addition to the published report covering that voyage, Sir Edward adds that from his own knowledge these soldiers had to sleep in eight-hour shifts because of lack of sleeping accommodations. On the other hand, Canadian soldiers returning from overseas have always found ample sleeping accommodations, enabling them to rest at night. And instead of having only two meals a day, as many of the United States soldiers were given, many of the Canadians have, as a rule, enjoyed not only the three regular meals, but a substantial supper at bedtime.

Of the 80,000 still remaining overseas, practically all will have returned to Canada before the end of July, though there may be a few scattered units which are not yet ready to be discharged. In the completion of this work it is intended that the bulk of the business will come to Halifax. At first the opinion existed that by utilizing the St. Lawrence route a larger number of men could be handled, but when arrangements were being made it was found that there were not available a sufficient number of steamships capable of navigating the St. Lawrence and the total that could be forwarded by that route would not be more than 12,000 or 15,000 per month in place of the 45,000 per month intended. Consequently the larger vessels will continue on the Halifax route.

THE COLOUR PROBLEM.

A deputation of St. John members of the 140th Battalion waited on the Standard on Saturday to present their side of the case in connection with the colour problem. These men, who claim to speak for a much larger number of men than the 140th regiment, regret much of its training in Sussex and while its Commanding Officer came from that town, the regiment actually contained companies from all over the province and that Kings County has no right to claim a larger representation in that force than as Carleton County or St. John. And although it is true that the people of Kings County subscribed the funds to purchase the colours for the 140th, these colours were given to the 140th and this having been done, they no longer belong to the people of Kings County. When the march into Germany came about, the 140th colours were brought from St. Paul's Cathedral and were presented to the 26th, not loaned, as stated by some, the presentation being made by the Prince of Wales, who had frequently visited the lines of the 26th Battalion. By this act the colours passed out of the control of the 140th, which, however, was then non-existent. When the 140th was broken up, the men composing it were distributed along other units and it is claimed that some seven hundred of the total number went to the 26th, which later became as much 140th as it was 26th, and naturally the men from Kings, Carleton, St. John and other counties, forming that 26th, were pleased to have their own old colours with them.

These men in conversation with The Standard point out that possibly the objection raised by the people of Kings County is not due to any thought of the intrinsic value of the colours themselves, for if this were the case the members of the 140th who transferred to the 26th and who are now in St. John and other counties outside Kings will be pleased to donate an equal sum of money to any patriotic object Kings County may specify. They feel that it should be the privilege of members of the battalion to place their own colours in a church in the city which they regard as their headquarters and, as members of the 26th and 140th, they feel that St. John would be their choice.

Perhaps there is something in this statement which has not as yet appeared to the people of Kings County.

AMATEUR SPORT.

One of the serious difficulties in the way of amateur sport in this city is lack of popular support, financial and otherwise, due largely to public indifference. Somehow or other our people seem to have the opinion that unless they can see professional ball, professional runners, or professional every-thing-else, the entertainment provided is not worth the expenditure of time and money involved. This is of course an absurd conception, for in years gone by the very nature of the sport was taken on the question some years ago the circular favoring union set forth the following reasons for the action: the condition of the new west, the weakened state of rural churches in older Canada, the social disorder of city slums, the problem of the farmer, and the need of the

heaven world. The Presbyterian communicant vote was 108,355 for and 48,275 against; the Methodist, 150,841 for and 48,778 against, and the Congregational 2,933 for and 813 against. O weakening of class distinction and a changed sense of spiritual values due to the war, as well as general appreciation of the urgency of united religious effort is now giving impetus to the movement.

Explanation Won't Do.
Ottawa Citizen: It but for other prices were influenced by articles in the press and "sear heads," as alleged by one official in giving evidence before the committee on agriculture. It would be expected that such articles would appear first. But newspaper comment on rising prices does not precede but follows the fact. Daily newspapers report rising prices, and while these reports may cause a run on the commodities mentioned, it is clear that the rise which occasioned the articles was inspired by some other cause. Incidentally, it may be said that if the daily newspapers did not protest against rising prices, the consumers would today be indifferently worse positioned than they are. As for a federal officialdom is concerned prices could attain any heights without disturbing the mental peace of those whose business it would seem to be to attempt to depress within reason.

All Tired Out.
"Money is circulating very fast," remarked the economist.
"Yes," replied the ordinary person, "by the time a dollar bill gets around to me it is so tired it can't do anything like the work it used to."—Washington Star.

Present and Prospective.
June is the circus month—also the month of some one-acting affairs that lead to circus lunacy.

Taking Another Chance.
Higgs—Going to work the garden this year, old man?
Diggs—Best I can say is that I'm going to try to work it. It worked me last summer to the extent of 50 bucks.

The Bolshevik Idea.
"Oh, what a happy world 'twill be," the Bolshevik spoke.
"When all the poor are out of work and all the rich are broke."
"You wish a telephone installed in your home?"
"Yes."
"No. My wife doesn't hear well enough over the telephone to make it worth while for her to listen in."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Spring Poem.
Spring time, ring time,
Love after Lent;
Woo time, woo time—
But how about the rent?
While it is still good,
"You ought to save some of your money instead of spending it as fast as you get it."
"I don't agree with you, I believe in spending the money while it still has some purchasing power."—Answers, London.

In Danger.
"How did the accident happen?"
"He got run over when he stopped in the middle of the road to read a 'safety first' notice on a bus."—Pearson's Weekly.

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT A REBUILT TYPEWRITER WILL GIVE YOU PERFECT SERVICE AND AT A LOWER PRICE?
A. Milne Fraser, Jas. A. Little, Mgr., 37 Dock Street, St. John, N. B.
Be on time at Moosepark Park, June 3rd, 2 p. m., Daylight time.

Advertisement—Have four-passenger car in good order. What have you?
Bustons, Exchange?
Safe.
"I know a perfectly safe place for your dinner table, mother."
"Where?"
"On Bud's fingers."
"Why, he'd be sure to lose them."
"No, he wouldn't. You'd never be in any danger of Bud taking them off to wash his hands!"

No Desk Job.
Physician—You need more exercise.
Patient—You're crazy. Why, I am the hero of a motion picture serial.

Their Own Dogs.
"The Germans complain that it is a case of hate."
"They shouldn't object to that. It's just the kind of a war they started out to make."
He Knew Smith.
Two commercial travellers, who met on one of the upper floors of a hotel stopped to chat.
"I wonder if Smith is staying here?" said one.
"I don't know," replied the other, "but I can tell you if he is on this floor."
"How?"
"Just take a broom and make a noise like someone sweeping, and if

Great Boon to the West.
Toronto Times: Reports from the various Soldier Settlement administration centres in the West indicate that possibly 5,000 applications made by returned men have been approved. At 100 acres each this means the taking up of 500,000 acres of land. But the movement is only beginning to get under way. If the scheme is not too badly "knocked" by mistaken critics it is reasonable to suppose that within 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 acres will, in this way, be taken up. Think of what it means to have addition to permanent settlement in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Twenty-five thousand such settlers would mean an average farm of 45,000 would mean \$100,000,000 put out in three provinces.

Church Union.
Sydney, N. S. Record: There is reason to believe that the consummation of the union of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches may now be effected at the very near future. When the vote was taken on the question some years ago the circular favoring union set forth the following reasons for the action: the condition of the new west, the weakened state of rural churches in older Canada, the social disorder of city slums, the problem of the farmer, and the need of the

Little Benny's Note Book

Ma went out this afternoon, saying, Benny, in case anybody calls, I'll be back in an hour.
Well suppose anybody calls Ma? I see, I'll be back in an hour just the same, you sertainly ask the most foolish questions of any boy I ever herd. Properly proving she hadn't herd money, and she went out and after a while just when I was going to go out Mrs. Hews rang the bell, being a big fat lady with glasses on her nose but not around her ears, ma saying, Ma see she would be back in a hour and its nearly 4 o'hour.
Very well, I'll wait, sed Mrs. Hews. And she went in the parlor and sat down on a chair, ma thinking, O, she's setting on my hat. I asked her to leave me to set in that a while.
With she was and I sat down on another chair, on account of it wouldent of bin polite to ask her to get up off my hat so I could go out instead of setting there and entertainin her till ma came home, and pritty soon I sed, its a nice view out of the window, have you saw it? Thinking maybe she would get up to look so I could quik get my hat. With she dident, just setting there and saying, View? View of wat?
O, jost the houses on the other side, I sed.
How reddeckillas, sed Mrs. Hews. And she kept on setting there, and after a while I sed the rocking chair is comfortable, Mrs. Hews, maybe you mite want to set in that a while.
Maybe I mite not, sed Mrs. Hews. With she dident, and pritty soon the bell rang, and it was my cousin Artie for me to come out, ma saying I cant, Mrs. Hews is in there setting my hat waiting for ma and if I asked her to leave me get it she mite think I dont want to entertain her.
Well do you want me to yell Fire or something? sed Artie, and I sed, No, she mite faint rite on the hat, and Artie sed, Well cant you quik reach under her and pull the hat out without her noticing you? and I sed, I dont know and you can go in and try it if you want.
With she was and I sat down on another chair, on account of Mrs. Hews got up to kiss her on the side of the face and I quik got my hat. With the other way properly wouldent of worked enyway, on account of Mrs. Hews looking like a pritty hard setter.

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Mrs. Estey, St. John.
Mrs. M. G. Calhoun.
Mrs. A. E. Killam, 84 St. Miss Gladys Carr.
Mrs. R. G. Jefferson, 18 St. Miss Agnes Robertson.
Mrs. A. J. Tingley, St. Miss Ella Morrison.
Mrs. Heber Carson, 18 St. Mrs. G. F. Dawson.
Mrs. L. Langstroth.
Mrs. A. C. Chapman, street.
Mrs. W. H. Barker.
Mrs. D. W. Kyle, 162 St. Mrs. L. Langstroth.
Mrs. A. C. Chapman, street.
Mrs. G. J. Barrett.