

## 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 Veniot-Foster clique. In order that this desirable end may be accomplished—even though, as stated, the Veterans as a body are not in politics just now—The Telegraph proceeds in characteristic manner to withhold from these men all information which they should have with respect to Hon. Mr. Foster, Peter Veniot and the rest. Speaking to the members of the 25th Battalion, on their return from overseas, Premier Foster said among other things, "Might I be permitted to say to you that while you were absent the people of this Province whom I have the honor to represent in speaking to you today were faithful and loyal to you, women and men working zealously for every good cause and patriotic object, giving generously at all times in order that every comfort possible might be provided for you and those left behind. I venture to invite you to participate in the working out of the problem which now confronts our country. If you enter into that work with the same spirit and the same zeal which animated you when you enlisted in the service of your country, 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 those men 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 The Standard touching on this matter, but in view of the general feeling of elation 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 too far. 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 and going 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, for 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 handed some ten or twelve thousand of it on the purpose for the benefit of the men to whom Premier Foster uttered the words quoted above. Now that the Veterans are going for the balance of that trust, rightly belongs to them, they are advised that the money has been expended and that they no longer claim on the Provincial Treasury. The Veterans as a body are in politics, but they know how the members of the Provincial Legislature consistently supported in their service to the Empire they also know who among these men refused such support and denied them any consideration whatsoever.

## DEMOLITION.

The 1st day of May there were in England and France 80,000 British soldiers, out of a total of 1,000,000 who were overseas on the day the armistice was signed. That is, in the middle of November, or in a word, six months, 185,216 soldiers, exact, have been returned to us, along with many of their children. This is a little that had been promised under amended demobilization provisions of the Federal Government. It is found that the transportation facilities in this country can take more men than were originally intended to be brought back, and according to that programme, while there have been several thousand soldiers on the way, or two to overcome this difficulty.

of the returning men with respect to treatment accorded them on ship board, there have not been very serious, 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 "Leviathan" 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 to be picked up after that. And 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 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, point out that while the 140th Regiment received 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 any other 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 among 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 would 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 everythings, 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 St. John has developed athletes able to take their place among professional athletes anywhere. It may require a few years, or two to overcome this indifference.

once, but if we could but get started in St. John an active athletic association, having supervision over various units, in which all districts of the city would find opportunity for activity, our people would certainly come to appreciate the advantages of amateur sport over the professional, which latter is too often an incentive to laziness and which certainly produces no beneficial results among our own citizens. It is apparent to all that the boys and young men, as well as the girls, in this city today have scarcely any opportunity for outdoor exercises and that were such opportunity provided there would be practically unlimited numbers of members available. It is sincerely to be hoped that the sentiment now crystallizing along this line may lead to definite action not only with civic assistance but endorsed by widespread private support.

L'Academy, of Moncton, a paper decidedly in support of the present Liberal government, published the following, in its issue of 23rd May:

"The Department of Health and the Smallpox in Pokemouche."

"The decent people have always believed that the Department of Health would take means to protect the population against contagious maladies. Is that true only when the scourge has penetrated into all the parishes of a county?"

"There is here a poor family which has had the misfortune to contract smallpox. It must be a month since these poor people were free. We recall also that the Department of Health let them travel—they raised the quarantine—but without having fumigated the coats, overcoats, caps, etc. The fact is that many other families are today victims of the charity that they have extended in receiving and succoring these poor people."

"The Department of Health had notice of these facts two weeks ago and it contented itself with acknowledging receipt of the complaints. The bill has not yet been spread sufficiently so that it may pay!"

"It is up to the people of Gloucester to protect themselves. This will cost less and will be quite as efficacious."

(Signed) "C. J. CYR."

"Priest, 'Pokemouche'."

## WHAT THEY SAY

Would Be An Outrage.

Hamilton Herald: The Montreal Journal of Commerce says it would be an outrage to consider a number of dairy farmers desire to have the ban on oleomargarine replaced. It would far more amazing if the Dominion government would today be to authorize any such outrage upon the consuming public.

Moderation Called For.

Toronto Star: The question of issue is not whether the employers or the workmen shall win a victory, but whether the cities shall be governed by a few extremists on each side or by the moderate people who compose an overwhelming majority of the community. Unless the moderates assert themselves the extremists will have their way, and the people will suffer.

Union and Liberal.

Hamilton Times: The Woodstock Sentinel-Review is in line with us on the question of the Union Government asking for another piece of power when the present lease has expired. Our opinion is that, as the Government was elected for a special purpose and that purpose achieved, its work is done, and it should retire and allow the country to revert to the old party form of government. The Union Government was formed for the express purpose of helping to win the war. The war has been won. Why hang on?

The Master Murderer.

Philadelphia North American: Twenty-three centuries ago Hippocrates, the Greek physician, justly famed as the "father of medicine," described tuberculosis with sufficient accuracy to prove that this disease which now causes more than one-tenth of all deaths then was prevalent. Since then this preventable malady has caused more deaths than all wars, earthquakes, volcanoes, tidal waves and storms put together. It has cost more in money than all fires and business failures broken up more homes than divorce and marital dissension, and visited upon the race a pen of sorrow and suffering which no pen has power to depict.

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 between 2,000,000 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 settling 2,500,000 acres of 40,000 would mean 100,000,000 put out in three provinces.

Church Union.

Sydney, N. S. Herald: 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 severest, the weakened state of rural churches in older Canada, the social disorder of city slums, the problem of the foreigner, and the need of the

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Ma went out this afternoon, saying, Benny, in case anybody calls, I'll be back in an hour.

Well, suppose anybody calls Ma? I said, I'll be back in an hour just the same, you certainly ask the most foolish questions of any boy I ever heard. Properly proving she hadn't heard me, 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, she saying, Ma said she would be back in an hour and its nearly 4 o'clock.

Very well, I'll wait, said Mrs. Hews. And she went in the parlor and sat down on a chair, me thinking, if she's setting on my hat, I could go out instead of bin polite to ask her to get up off my hat so I could go out. I said, it's a nice view out of the window, have you saw it? Thinking maybe she would get up to look so I could quick get my hat. Which she didn't, just setting there and saying, View? View of what?

O, just the houses on the other side, I said.

How reedickillies, said Mrs. Hews. And she kept on setting there, and after a while I said the rocking chair is comfortable, Mrs. Hews, maybe you might want to sit in that a while.

Maybe I might not, said Mrs. Hews. Which she didn't, and pretty soon the bell rang, and it was my cousin Artie for me to come out, me saying I can't, Mrs. Hews is in there setting my hat waiting for me and if I asked her to leave me get it she might think I don't want to entertain her. Well, do you want me to yell Fire or something? said Artie, and I said, No, she might faint right on the spot, and Artie said, Well, can't you quick reetch under her and pull the hat out without her noticing you? and I said, I don't know and you can go in and try it if you want.

Well, said Artie, I'll go in and see what Ma can do, and Mrs. Hews got up to kiss her on the side of the face and I quick got my hat. Which the other way probably wouldn't of worked anyway, on account of Mrs. Hews looking like a pretty hard setter.

heaven world. The Presbyterian communicant vote was 165,355 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: If butter or other prices were influenced by articles in the press and "sensational" 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 disturb the fact that the 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 in infinitely worse position than they are. As for as 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 keep prices within reason.

## A BIT OF VERSE

FAITH.

(Copyright 1919 by Miss A. Guest.)

It's raining clouds tears today,  
But soon the clouds will pass away  
And out of skies serenely blue  
The sun will shine on me and you.  
Oh heart that now with care is sad  
Be brave and wait the mornings glad.

Behold the clouds of black and gray  
That hover low, the sunbeam say,  
And soon they shall come dancing out  
To scatter smiles of joy about.  
Oh heart that now with fear doth beat  
Be brave and wait the mornings sweet.

Beyond the gloom now heavy stays,  
Beyond the grief and happy days,  
Behind the clouds of black and gray  
Await the joys that we shall share,  
And as the sun shall follow rain  
So peace shall find our hearts again.

Oh dark the day and sharp the dread,  
And swiftly fall the tears we shed,  
But soon the clouds will pass away  
The sun shall shine on me and you.  
And we shall tread, when care is o'er,  
The happy, laughing ways once more.

## A BIT OF FUN

We Await Reply.

Advertisement: "Have four-passenger car in good order. What have you?"

Bustons. Exchange?

Safe.

"I know a perfectly safe place for your diamond rings, mother."

"Where?"

"On Bud's fingers."

"Nilly, 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 good dog 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

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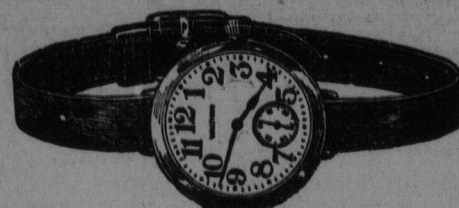


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SMITH'S FISH MARKET

## Annual Branch Meeting This

Methodist Women's Society of Moncton Next Thursday next St. John District

A large number of expected to attend the meeting of the W. M. S. and P. E. I. conference in Moncton, on Wednesday and Friday of this week. The delegates from district will be entertaining home:

Mrs. Sanford, St. J. Barracough, Queen street.  
Mrs. Estey, St. John.  
S. Napee, 77 Fleet street.  
Miss Charlotte Pratt.  
Mrs. A. E. Killam, 84 St. John.  
Miss Agnes Robertson.  
Mrs. A. J. Tingley, St. John.  
Mrs. C. T. Jones, American Hotel (guest McNaughton).  
Mrs. G. M. Calhoun.  
Mrs. A. E. Killam, 84 St. John.  
Miss Gladys Carr.  
Mrs. R. G. Jefferson, 182 St. John.  
Mrs. A. C. Chapman, street.  
Mrs. W. H. Barker.  
Mrs. D. W. Kyle, 182 St. John.  
Mrs. A. C. Chapman, street.  
Mrs. G. J. Barrett.

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