

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 15, 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.

WHY?

Frank B. Carvell, Member of Parliament for the County of Carleton, N. B., and George W. Kyle, Member of Parliament for the County of Richmond, N. S., have made serious allegations against a responsible minister of the Canadian Government and responsible Canadian officials.

These allegations and comments upon them by the media named and the Liberal press have had the effect of defaming Canada and of arousing throughout the world a contempt and prejudice against this country.

Free and full investigation of the allegations made by Carvell and Kyle has shown there was no corruption or dishonesty on the part of the Minister of the Canadian Government or the Canadian officials referred to.

Why should Frank B. Carvell, Member of Parliament for the County of Carleton, N. B., and George W. Kyle, Member of Parliament for the County of Richmond, N. S., be permitted to remain in Canadian public life?

IN WESTMORLAND.

It is but fair to say that the personnel of the local opposition ticket in Westmorland comes as a disappointing surprise. That a party which, if we are to believe the speeches of Mr. E. S. Carter, and the per-ferid appeals of the Telegraph and Times, was supposed to be operating on the policy of a new deal for New Brunswick, honesty in public life, new representatives and new leaders, should so completely set itself up to the gang of corruptors and grafters who misruled this province for so many years must come as a severe shock to those misguided souls who might have been inclined to accept at par the promises of Mr. Carter or the clamorous assertions of his newspaper organs.

The opposition ticket in Westmorland, as at present constituted, is headed by Hon. C. W. Robinson and Hon. F. J. Sweeney while the other members are Mr. C. M. Leger, Dr. E. A. Smith and Mr. Fred. Magee. Three of these gentlemen have already occupied seats in the Provincial Legislature as members or supporters of what the Telegraph was fond of terming "the most corrupt government" this province has ever known. Dr. E. A. Smith, the fourth member, is the gentleman who, through the shameful use of racial and religious canvasses, and an openly expressed uncertainty as to the wisdom of the Clarke Government's prohibition legislation, succeeded in defeating Hon. P. G. Mahoney in the recent Westmorland by-election. The junior candidate, Mr. Magee, is an estimable business man but his political career has been confined to the activities of a party healer and a seceder of cut and dried resolutions. However, since he has endorsed the judgment of his fellows in the choice of the captain and first mate of his ticket, he must be prepared to accept the responsibility for the acts of Hon. Messrs. Robinson and Sweeney when they were in power.

Hon. C. W. Robinson, it may be recalled, came to St. John a few months ago and attended the opposition convention called by Messrs. Carter and Ventot, and, after looking over the collection of purists from whom the Grit organizers hoped to select candidates for a new administration, decided he would have nothing more to do with the outfit; consequently he resigned the party leadership.

It is evident that pressure has been brought to bear upon Mr. Robinson to cause him to change his mind, and it would be interesting to know the nature of that pressure. Probably Mr. Carter has promised that he shall have the premiership when his party attains power. If that be so then the Grit organizer is plotting to turn the affairs of this province over to the gentleman who, in the opinion of the Telegraph, produced jugged surpluses and gave an account of his stewardship that should deceive no one.

It is however but fair to say that Mr. Robinson was not solely to blame for the sorry showing of the government formerly led by him. That government was "washed upon him" by stronger men and stronger minds and he lacked the courage to resist the imposition. Consequently he stands today as the defender of the Central Railway steal, the suspense account transactions, the muddled condition of provincial ac-

counts which became so bad that a trusted official of the government of that day retired to the basement of the province building and took his own life rather than face the certain exposure of the pilferings of his political superiors.

Hon. Mr. Sweeney, when in Frederickton, was Surveyor-General, and it was under his administration that the territorial revenues of this province reached a low ebb. The condition of affairs in Mr. Sweeney's department may be gleaned from the fact that under another government, with a lumber cut substantially the same, the public revenue increased to a point never before dreamed possible. Mr. Sweeney will have ample opportunity to tell the people that he intends to do better in future but they will not be deceived. He and his leader must be judged by the record and, unfortunately for them, the record of the government of which they were members is not clean.

Clement M. Leger, the third member of the ticket, was never more than a subservient follower of the Robinson-Tweedie-Pugsley plunderbund. In that capacity he said what he was told to say, voted as he was ordered to vote and was never accused of originality or independent motive. In the present case he stands as the representative of the French-Canadians and will oppose Hon. D. V. Landry. A simple comparison of the two men will suffice to settle Mr. Leger's case.

Dr. Smith, the fourth member, is a recent political accident. He shared with Mr. "Abolish the Bag" Foster the doubtful distinction of membership on the "committee of management" of the Carter-Ventot party, and, it was said, had been promised the party leadership. The selection of Mr. Robinson, however, leaves Dr. Smith much in doubt as to his present status. Mr. Magee, as stated, is a new man to be judged by his company rather than by any characteristics of his own.

In short, the Westmorland ticket must be regarded as a keen disappointment to those Liberals who had hoped they had seen the last of the Robinson brand of supine inactivity, or the Sweeney incompetence. Those who looked for a new deal must at last realize that they have been fooled, and that the candidates who will carry the opposition banner in the next provincial election represent no school of idealistic patriots striving to improve public affairs, but the same old gang of political adventurers who looted New Brunswick prior to 1908 and whose palms again itch for the contact with the public revenues. The opposition party has not helped its cause or its prospects by its selection in Westmorland.

WELCOME HOME.

Col. James L. McAvity, officer commanding the "Fighting 26th," is welcomed back to St. John with an added heartiness not alone because of his own personality and general popularity but by reason of the fact that he represents one of the finest military units that ever carried the flag of the British Empire into battle. The 26th Battalion is peculiarly New Brunswick's own, and although reports from the front indicate that more than half of the original force has figured in the casualty lists yet the boys who remain can be depended upon to live up to the high example set by those who have already suffered in the Empire's defence.

Through more than a year of active service Col. McAvity has been not only the commanding officer but the friend and counsellor of every man in the fine force under him. By precept and example in the early stages of the battalion's career he inculcated in officers and men a knowledge of their duty and the determination to perform it faithfully. Under the enemy's guns, or in the reserve trenches, he cheered and heartened his soldiers and after they had fought the fight to the death he performed the last rites of Christian burial on their remains.

He is loved and honored by every man in his regiment and the citizens of St. John who turned out last night to bid him welcome are but spokesmen for the many thousands throughout the province to whom he is known as a gallant, thoughtful and competent

officer, and a man. St. John has honored herself in honoring Col. McAvity and in expressing the hope that his furlough will prove beneficial and that when the time comes for him to return to duty it will be in the fullness of his accustomed health and vigor. The Standard but echoes the wish of the entire province.

FRENCH-ACADIANS AND THE WAR

The Standard publishes, this morning, a letter from "A French-Canadian" which is worthy of the closest attention of all. The French-Canadians in this province have responded nobly to the call for men and are fairly entitled to full credit for their splendid sacrifice.

Possibly there has been a popular disposition to confound the French-Canadians of New Brunswick with the French-Canadians of Quebec who latter province the response to the call has not been satisfactory, but this has been due to the fact that the French-Canadians of Quebec have been led largely by a Laurier and a Bourassa, a leadership under which they have been taught to regard that for them, the Empire commenced and ended with Quebec. In New Brunswick the French-Canadians have enjoyed the counsels of wise leaders and the result is manifest in the readiness with which they have answered the appeal for men and have gone forward willingly to fight and, if need be, to die, for the principles of British liberty and freedom.

HOW THE FRENCH ACADIANS ARE RALLYING TO THE CALL TO BEAR ARMS FOR EMPIRE

A Correspondent Gives Facts which should dispel opinion that French of New Brunswick are backward in Enlisting.

To the Editor of The St. John Standard:

Dear Mr. Editor.—While travelling through the province for some time past I have been surprised to find that there is a general opinion amongst our English-speaking friends that the French-Canadians of the Province of New Brunswick are not enlisting as they should.

I believe that this opinion must spring from lack of knowledge of the facts, for I am sure that the ideals of British fair play for which the British people have fought and died, would not permit criticism of the French-Canadian race if the facts were known. Consequently, I am writing to ask you, if you will enlighten the public through the columns of your valuable paper, what we, the French-Canadians of New Brunswick, are doing in the recruiting line?

Up to date we have sent to France fifteen hundred or more young men, and that they are doing their duty can easily be surmised by a glance at the casualty lists. Moreover, with the New Brunswick battalions now at Valcartier, we have two French-Canadian battalions, a fact not generally known; the 165th, under Lieut.-Col. D'Algie, composed of men of Acadian origin only, and the 132nd, under Lieut.-Col. Mersereau. This latter battalion, known as the North Shore Regiment, although not considered as French-Canadian, contains nevertheless, between 700 and 800 men, and even so it is under strength; if it is to be considered as an English battalion should the number of men missing not be recruited from the English-speaking people of the province? Yet I venture to say it would not be ready to sail until after the war is over if the Frenchmen from the North Shore do not step up and fill the ranks. So much for the French-Canadian battalions of New Brunswick. But let us not forget that several hundred of our young men are in the ranks of the 104th, the 140th, the 145th, and the 115th.

In Nova Scotia and in Prince Edward Island we have also done our share, and as one example let me give the 105th P. E. I. Highlanders (if you please), in the ranks of which there are upwards of five hundred French-Canadians.

I do not wish to take up too much space, but in the interest of our dear country in order to promote the feeling that should exist between the two races, I ask that our English friends consider this: Thousands of our young men, the best blood that the French-Canadians can claim, have gone, or are on their way to fight for British freedom and for justice. Why not show them "fair play" here at home, and give them that for which they are fighting now on the battle fields of Europe "British Fair Play"? Give them honor and credit, because honor and credit are due them. We have recruited among the French-Canadians over five battalions, and with what are we popularly credited? An "under strength" battalion in Valcartier, is this fair? I am sure, now that the facts are known, this erroneous opinion will not prevail.

A FRENCH ACADIAN.

WAR PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

To the Editor, It does not appear to be generally known by those who may have friends reported in the casualty list as "missing," that an information bureau (international) has been established for the purpose of answering all enquiries,

Little Benny's Note Book

Grandpop came around last nite, and him and pop and me started to talk about wat im going to be wen I grow up, grandpop saying, You can say wat you like, theres no field like politicks, all our governora, all our presidents, ust to be politishin.

So did all our Ind story mass, and pop, so, so, I want Benny to be sumthing modest and respectabile and at the same time moderately wealthy, sutch as the owner of a string of department stores, or the president of a ship blding company.

Grandstom ust to be a politishin, and look wat he amounted to, sed grandpop.

Thats so, he had a travellin bag named after him, didnt he, sed pop.

Well for my part sed ma, I want him to be a lawyer or a doctoor, sumthing professional, my goodnies, look how much good a doctoor does in the work.

I dont know about that, sed grandpop, doctores are always discoverin new diseases, and I dont call that a good influents, look at Bismark, he was a politishin.

Yes, and it made him prematurely bald, sed pop, but after all, im a bleover in natural selection, I think a boy ust to be allowed to take his little hatchet like George Washington and chop out his own career. Benny, have you any ideeer of wat path in life you wood like to pursue wen you reach an age at wich you will begin to wash your hands and comb your hair without a special invitation.

Yes sir, I sed.

Hear, hear, sed pop.

I want to be either a undertaker or the man that drives the dog-catchers waggon, I sed.

As the sweet girl graduate remarked, procons, sed pop. And they started to talk about the war and I went out to see if any of the feloes was around yet.

so I am taking the liberty of submitting the following advice to those seeking such information:

Write to the International War Prisoners' Bureau, Geneva, Switzerland, giving full details of soldier and ask them to see whether they can find him in the German prison camps. This may take some time, but it is the surest way to obtain the information.

Yours truly, J. S. C.

PERSONAL.

Miss Lucy Tonge, the well known vocalist, who has been touring the United States, is in the city paying a visit to her father, John Tonge, and is being welcomed back to St. John by her many friends.

John Colwell, formerly of West St. John, but now of Providence, R. I., is in the city renewing old acquaintances. He returns to Providence this evening.

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GEORGE ELLISON, ONE OF APOHAQUI'S OLDEST RESIDENTS, PASSES AWAY

Special to The Standard. Apohaqui, July 14.—This community was saddened today by the news of the passing of one of the oldest and most respected citizens of the village in the person of George Ellison. Mr. Ellison had reached the ripe age of 82 years, thirty-two of which he spent in this country. He was the immediate heir of the late George Ellison, a life long resident of Apohaqui. He was born in the I. O. F. He is survived by Mrs. W. T. Ellison, Mrs. Florence Ellison, Edward J. Ellison, and the family lot.

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