

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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 THIS EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

ORGANIZED LABOR AND CONSCRIPTION.

It will be unfortunate if the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress now in session in Ottawa takes any action upon the conscription measure that will have the effect of misrepresenting the true feeling of organized labor in regard to this war and to every measure necessary for its successful prosecution.

One of the sources of strength of organized labor is its general adherence to the spirit of union and brotherhood. "Each for all and all for each" might well be its official motto. This being the case it is difficult to understand how any congress of labor leaders can seriously consider action which will practically mean the desertion of the thousands of trades unionists who have donned khaki and are now fighting the battles of freedom on the blood-soaked fields of Europe.

It will be with sincere regret that most Canadians will learn that the tone of the addresses at yesterday's session of the Labor Congress indicates that, in their attitude toward conscription, the labor leaders are departing from the spirit of unionism supposed to govern them. It is not impossible that a resolution condemning conscription may be carried at that convention, but it will be regrettable if the congress decides upon that line of action.

The interests of Canada demand that this war shall be fought to a victorious conclusion and the interests of Canada are surely the interests of Canadian labor. That in itself should be sufficient reason why an assemblage of labor leaders should hesitate before placing itself on record as opposed to a measure which is distinctly in the interests of Canada, and therefore in the interests of Canadian trades unionists.

The Congress has not yet concluded its deliberations on this very important question and it is, perhaps, unfair to anticipate the verdict. Canadians, however, will hope that the labor men will do nothing which may have the effect of placing them and the thousands of trades unionists they represent in a false position before their fellow citizens. Organized labor has every reason to support compulsory military service or any other measure necessary for victory over Germany, for if that victory is not won and Germany triumphs, trades unionists in common with all other Canadians will experience the disadvantages certain to follow the exchange of British for German rule. In opposing conscription, Canadian trades unionists are following a short-sighted course.

MISREPRESENTATION BY IMPLICATION.

Like other machine Liberal newspapers engaged in the attempt to discredit the war measures of the Canadian Government the esteemed Telegraph does not hesitate to create false impressions by misrepresenting actual facts. Some times these misrepresentations are direct, again they are conveyed by implication. An instance of the latter method was furnished by the Telegraph this week when it quoted the Presbyterian and Westminster "as the leading Presbyterian publication in Canada."

The periodical named is opposed to the War-time Elections Act, and by quoting it the Telegraph seeks to imply that the leading thought of the Presbyterian church holds a similar view. This is not the case. The Telegraph has no means of knowing whether the majority of Presbyterians oppose that Act or favor it. But the Telegraph should know that the publication it quotes is not the leading periodical of that denomination, nor is it regarded as the official organ of Canadian Presbyterianism. That honor belongs to the Presbyterian Record of Montreal, of which Rev. Ephraim Scott is editor.

The Presbyterian and Westminster is undoubtedly an excellent denominational publication. It was once edited by Rev. J. A. MacDonald, who afterwards became the leading exponent of Liberalism in Canada and for years has been noted as a pacifist. It may be that Rev. Mr. MacDonald's inspiration still clings to the editorship, but the left when he accepted the editorship of the Toronto Globe in which case it is not surprising to find the Presbyterian in opposition to any measure introduced by a Conservative Government.

Also in ascribing to the Presbyterian first place amongst publications of that church the Telegraph ignores a highly esteemed influential Maritime Province product, the Presbyterian Witness, of Halifax. Members of the Presbyterian church, ministers and laymen, may have strong views upon the War-time Elections Act, but they

will express them as individuals. That church is not so foolish as to actively engage in party politics.

THE LIBERALS AND CLOSURE.

The application of closure in Parliament saved the War-time Elections Act from being talked to death, and permitted the members of the House of Commons to go ahead with other items of the national business. Members of the Liberal party who vigorously opposed the measure were very bitter when closure was resorted to to stem the tide of unnecessary words and, consequently, we find the closure now designated as "gag rule," "Prussianism," "the strangling of free speech," and by other phrases more or less expressive of Laurierite chagrin.

But the gentlemen who now oppose closure did not always regard it as an unfair or brutal proceeding. On the contrary when they were in power they were convinced that, in the face of strenuous opposition, closure was a most desirable instrument for the curbing of verbosity.

Here is the opinion expressed by Hon. W. S. Fielding when Minister of Finance in the Laurier administration:

"I said the other day in answer to a question concerning a certain motion that any hon. member could only have such rights in this House as the majority afford him. * * * NO PUBLIC DELIBERATIVE ASSEMBLY COULD BE CONDUCTED UPON ANY OTHER PRINCIPLE THAN THAT THE VIEW OF THE MAJORITY SHALL PREVAIL. If that majority acts foolishly, harsely, then the remedy is in public opinion. I do not think that the majority gives him * * * except what the majority gives him" (Hansard, 1908, p. 110).

Later he said: "EVERY MEMBER OF THIS HOUSE AND EVERY ORATOR OF MEMBERS HAS JUST AS MUCH RIGHT AS THE MAJORITY ACCORD TO THEM, AND NO MORE. That is true today as it was true then. But the trouble is my hon. friends opposite have abused their rights. The trouble is that we have got into the habit of permitting an easy going method of procedure whereby hon. gentlemen opposite are permitted to delay the business of the House to an extent that would not be allowed in any civilized country outside of Canada. It was just such difficulty that compelled the mother of parliaments to adopt a procedure which allows the majority to rule." (Hansard, 1908, p. 9897).

The Liberals applauded Mr. Fielding's statements. Today, when a Conservative Government finds it necessary to apply closure they whine of "gag rule."

"CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH."

That abused and misused term "Conscription of Wealth" came in for some attention at yesterday's session of the Trades and Labor Congress in Ottawa. Some of the gentlemen, sitting there in council, as representatives of organized labor throughout the Dominion of Canada, object to compulsory military service unless it is accompanied by "conscription of wealth."

What practical form of conscription of wealth can they suggest except that of taxing wealth for the public and war needs of Canada?

As we understand it the goal those who advocate conscription of wealth hope to attain is that wealth shall contribute in larger measure to the war expenses of the nation. This can be accomplished by no other means except taxation.

To forcibly take from the manufacturer his factory and turn it over to the nation, would be to decrease the value of that industry without securing commensurate advantage to the country. Yet Webster defines conscription as the taking by force and by legal authority.

If it is required that the industries of Canada shall contribute more largely to the public funds, that can be arranged by taxation. The Government has already moved in this direction by its Business Profits Tax. Large incomes are to be levied upon through the Income Tax. This is as far as it has been necessary to go up to the present time and the Government has not hesitated to do what the national circumstances demand.

There is no scarcity of war money in Canada. Our war loans have been oversubscribed in a manner that has excited the wonder and admiration of the world. Canadian capitalists have given their thousands as willingly as the trades unionists have contributed according to their means. The need of the day is fighting men, not money. When money becomes as necessary as men the Government will secure it, as it has secured it before.

Those who talk of conscription of

FAMILY DOCTOR'S GOOD ADVICE

To Go On Taking "Fruit-a-Lives" Because They Did Her Good

Rechen, P. Q., Jan. 14th, 1915. "I suffered for many years with terrible indigestion and constipation. I had frequent dizzy spells and became greatly run down. A neighbor advised me to try 'Fruit-a-Lives.' I did so and to the surprise of my doctor, I began to improve and he advised me to go on with 'Fruit-a-Lives.'"

I consider that I owe my life to 'Fruit-a-Lives' and I want to say to those who suffer from indigestion, constipation or headaches—'Try Fruit-a-Lives' and you will get well."
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50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-Lives Limited, Ottawa.

WANT AUTO REGULATIONS VIGOROUSLY ENFORCED

Chauffeurs' Union Criticizes Officials for Alleged Laxity in This Regard.

At a largely attended meeting of the Chauffeurs' Union in Oddfellows building, last evening, a number of members were initiated. This union is fast forging to the front and, though but a few weeks old, has over seventy members.

A resolution was passed strongly condemning the lax auto license laws now in force. The union contends that licenses are too easily obtained and feels that the law should be made more strict in this respect. The union put itself on record as favoring the employment of inspectors who would test out all applicants for licenses in order to ascertain their fitness to drive a car. The committee of public safety came in for condemnation if not acceding to the wishes of the union by placing a traffic officer at the corner of Charlotte and Union streets, and a stronger enforcement of the law in regard to prohibiting of people under 18 years from driving a car. The statement was made last evening that the appeal would be brought to the attention of the chief of police or even further, if necessary.

President C. N. Jones presided. At the conclusion of the meeting the chauffeurs' union stated that all that is necessary for a person to do to get a license in St. John is to go to two prominent citizens to sign the application and then have it sent to Frederick. They pointed out that in other cities it was more difficult to obtain a license. In Montreal an applicant for an auto license has to go to an inspector, who gives him a test drive to see how he handles a car or not.

They stated that a man could go and purchase a car in St. John and drive it to his home without a license whether he was capable of handling a car or not. To illustrate this they described a case where two chauffeurs, one under age and the other without a license, were to take a car to St. Martins from the city. On the way to their destination they collided with another car and in the resulting smashup the car was demolished. Such conditions would not exist, they stated, if the license law was enforced.

New York, Sept. 18.—A despatch to the Chicago Tribune from its Washington correspondent, reproduced this morning in the New York Tribune says:

While officials were sounding today their praises of Kerensky for promoting a republican form of government at Petrograd, there reached Washington the most disheartening intelligence since the United States became belligerent.

Russia, according to an official report, is not unlikely to conclude a separate peace with Germany and quit the war, selling to Germany all military supplies as well as foodstuffs and raw materials.

The Petrograd government, though it has triumphed over the Korniloff insurrection, is now in the throes of an even mightier struggle, the outcome of which will be of vital consequence, not only to republican Russia but to the United States and the "I. lies."

The Maximalists have triumphed over the constitutional Democrats and the conservative element of the council of workmen's and soldiers' deputies in several tests of power in the last few days, and now threaten to dominate the entire government.

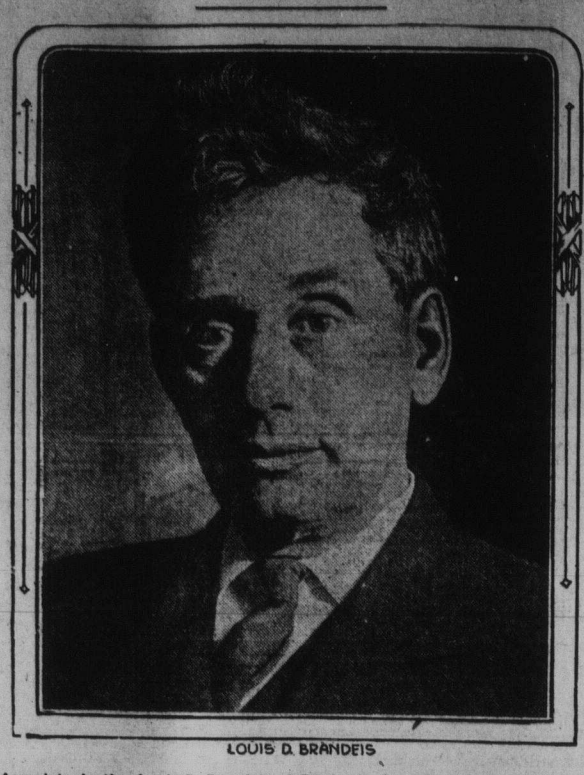
These triumphant radicals are either pacifistic or pro-German and have long been advocating a separate peace with Germany.

An Atlantic Port, Sept. 18.—The Associated Press today carries the following:

"Cleopatra's needle, presented to the British government and erected in London in 1878, narrowly escaped destruction during the German air raid over London, September 4, according to Americans who arrived here today from England. One, who said he was near the scene at the time, asserted two bombs fell within less than a dozen feet of the historic obelisk, the explosions shaking it on its foundation. Another bomb, falling a block distant, hit a street car and killed several of its occupants.

Cable reports of the raid said eleven persons were killed and sixty-two injured.

HEBREW JUSTICE OF UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT



Associate Justice Louis D. Brandeis of Boston is the only Hebrew appointed to the United States Supreme Court Bench. He was one of the ablest attorneys in the republic.

WEDDINGS

Shannon-Hosford.

A quiet wedding took place last evening at the residence of Mr. Thos. Hosford, No. 39 Wall street, when his daughter, Miss Maggie May, was married to Mr. Frank E. Shannon, city.

ROCKWOOD PARK "ZOO."

When asked yesterday afternoon concerning the closing of the "zoo" at Rockwood Park Judge J. R. Armstrong gave out the statement that the "zoo" would be kept open until the cold weather had set in. He added that there had been no increase in the number of animals at the "zoo" during the summer.

THE SPORTS SHE LIKED.

Her—"Are you fond of indoor sports?"
She—"Yes, if they know when to go home."—Tiger.

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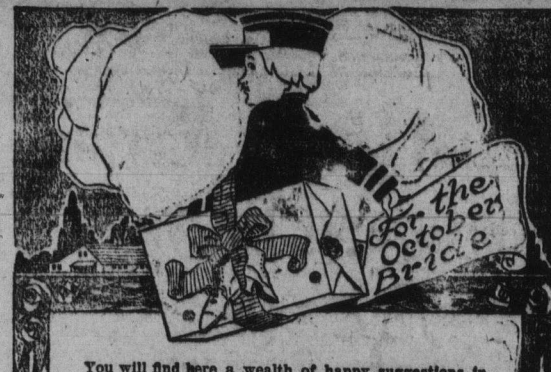
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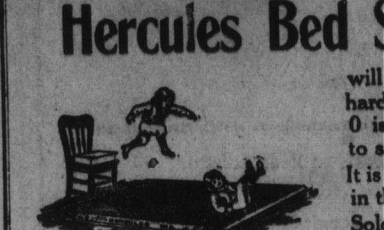
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PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.

The last issue of the Royal Gazette

contains the following provincial ap

pointments:

Carleton county—William H. Ever

ett of Woodstock, to be coroner for

Carleton county.

Gloucester county—Hilaire de la

Garde of St. Isidore, to be justice of

the peace; also to be parish court

commissioner for St. Isidore.

Kent county—Albert F. Coates, to be

local inspector under intoxicating liq

uor act for parish of St. Mary, as well

as for parishes of Wellington, St. Paul

and Dundas to which he had already

been appointed; Leon Dalgic, as local

inspector under the intoxicating liquor

act for the parish of St. Charles, as

well as for Acadville, Carleton and

St. Louis to which he had already

been appointed.

Kings county—J. F. Wanmaker,

head of Millstream, to be parish court

commissioner for St. John.

Madawaska county—Octave King

of St. Jacques, to be labor act commis

sioner for the parish of St. Jacques

Place of Marc Dufour, who is unable to

do the work.

Northumberland county—Jacques

Arseneau, to be alms house commis

sioner for Rogersville parish in room

of Eldulph Barrieu, removed for cause;

Michael Samuel Benson to be regis

trar of probates in room of George B.

Fraser, deceased; Allan A. Davidson of

Newcastle, to be a master of supreme

court for Northumberland in place of

Robert Murray, resigned.

Queens county—George M. Thorne foun