

MC 2035 POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1917

The Evening Times and Star

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The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

Telephone—Direct branch exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417.

Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier \$3.00 per year, by mail \$2.00 per year in advance.

The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces.

Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, Brunswick Bldg. 27th St. CHICAGO, E. J. Powers, Manager, Association Bldg. 27th St. MONTREAL, J. C. Ross, Board of Trade Bldg. 27th St. British and European—Frederick A. Smith, 29 Ludgate Hill, LONDON, E.C., England.

THE NEW LEADER.

Any young man who has a taste for public life might well envy Mr. Walter E. Foster the opportunity that has come to him. The honor also, if you like—but especially the opportunity.

Mr. Foster is young, and in possession of vigorous health. He has won success in business, and has established a reputation for integrity that no man questions. He has intelligence, capacity, industry, and honorable motives.

Thus equipped, he is asked to take the helm of affairs in his native province at a time when the office carries with it far heavier responsibilities than have fallen upon the shoulders of any of his predecessors since confederation.

Not only is this true because of the problems arising out of the war, but because misgovernment and graft have brought the affairs of the province into such a state that only wise and prudent leadership can restore the public services and the public finances to a healthy condition.

But difficulty, Gladstone once said, is the condition of success, and so Mr. Foster's opportunity for success is in proportion to the difficulty which challenges him to the test of his quality and his leadership.

If now he is able to bring to the gathering around him men who realize as he does the significance of the challenge that comes to all of them, and if they set themselves seriously to their task, the year 1917 will be marked in New Brunswick history as the beginning of an era of honest and efficient government, of cleaner politics, and of honor in public life.

And with that era the name of the leader, Mr. Walter E. Foster, would forever be associated.

When Mr. J. K. Flemming swept the province in 1912, the Times pointed out how great was his opportunity as a leader. Only two men in opposition were elected, and Mr. Flemming could have afforded to lose the support of a large number of members and still carry on the government in accord with the highest principles of honesty and efficiency.

He failed to do so, and now we know that it was because he desired to fail and because the great government majority was gained by the most shamelessly corrupt means. Moreover, the policy of graft and plunder was shamelessly defended.

The inevitable result came on Feb. 24, and gave Mr. Foster his opportunity.

There is the greatest possible difference, however, between Mr. Foster and Mr. Flemming. Mr. Foster, and his party have come into power without the use of corrupt influences of any sort. Their record in that respect is clean.

There are no strings attached to them. Mr. Foster himself has had no knowledge of or part in the collection of any funds for corrupt political purposes. He is to be the leader of the government because the people have turned against corrupt influences and demand the application of the principles of common honesty to the administration of their affairs.

There is no temptation to him to do other than insist upon honesty in public affairs. On the contrary, every dictate of policy as well as of conscience tends toward a rigid insistence upon the elimination of graft and favoritism and sacrifice of public interests for private or political gain.

Neither contractors nor any other class of men doing business with the government have any claims upon Mr. Foster for other than fair and honorable treatment, and the very first who would endeavor to "put one over" on the new government should be taught to share a lesson that all others would take warning. The new government will need no campaign funds. All it will need will be the record it can make for honesty and efficiency.

Looking to the future, there is a career of the greatest usefulness in public life for Mr. Foster, if he but measures up to the hopes and expectations of his friends. That he will make some mistakes goes without saying. He is inexperienced in public life, in comparison with former premiers of New Brunswick, but he has good judgment, business knowledge and capacity for work; and he will have around him seasoned politicians who will not permit the enemy to take any undue advantage of his inexperience. He has no enemies, and, if presently he makes some, the hope is that it will be among the grafters and profiteers, and not among the friends of honest government. He has a right, at the outset, to the whole-hearted support of his party, and to a free hand in choosing the men who are to form his cabinet; and of this he has been assured.

The people who have given the new government its mandate will hold it to account and one of the worst things that could happen it would be the slavish support of such a press as has helped to wreck the old government. So far as the Times is concerned, it hopes to be able for a long time to support the new government, but that support must be deserved by the faithful administration of provincial affairs to which the party is pledged.

It is unfortunate that the Irish question should be made the subject of so fierce a controversy in parliament as to lead to the withdrawal of the National members from the Commons chamber. It may be hoped a basis of agreement will be reached which will shelve the question till the war is over.

LOOKING FORWARD

"All I ask of the party in provincial politics is that it give honest government in Fredericton," said Mr. F. D. Carvell at the Manor House luncheon yesterday.

Mr. Carvell had a large part in the investigations which overthrew the Murphy government and he voiced the feeling of the great majority of the people of this province when he added yesterday that the work of investigation should be completed. His tribute to Mr. Dugal, Mr. Veniot and Mr. Carter was the tribute of a man who knows how much the province owes to them, and his listeners by their applause showed that they are not unmindful of the great public service these men performed when the days were dark and a corrupt government seemed firmly entrenched in power.

The same men can be trusted to labor as earnestly to give the province honest government as they did to expose the dishonesty which caused the downfall of those upon whose shoulders the people have pronounced judgment.

The remarks of Mr. E. M. McDonald yesterday were also appreciative of the work of the men who in the face of such great obstacles clung to their task until the cause of better government triumphed at the polls. The people of his own province, he said, were not unmindful of the work done in New Brunswick to bring this province into line with Manitoba and British Columbia, and to add volume to the wave of political reform that is sweeping over Canada.

In all the speeches at the Manor House there was an expression of confidence in the determination of the opposition party to carry out its pledges. And that argues well for the future of the party and the welfare of the province.

Mr. Walter E. Foster is to be the leader of the new provincial government. He is the unanimous choice of the party and will be given a free hand. This is sufficient answer to all the foolish talk in the government press for days past about many aspirants for the premiership. It is not worth while to attempt to answer the allegations and insinuations and utterly false statements given out as reliable news to the deluded believers in the truthfulness of what is printed in the Tory press.

The answer will always be found in the record of what is actually done by the opposition party, which is united and determined to expose the grafters and give the province better government.

St. John Standard—W. E. Foster was yesterday chosen the leader of the new provincial government, and he will seek election at a by-election for the premiership. Mr. Foster is a successful business man of this city, and while new to the legislature, the disposition of the public generally will be to give him a fair show, providing he is successful in securing the endorsement of the electors for himself and his ministers at the polls.

Toronto Star Weekly—Sir Robert Borden in a message cabled from London to the Hamilton Canadian Club on Tuesday evening in regard to its recruiting campaign said: "The most vigorous effort is vitally necessary, and I hope for a splendid result from your efforts." A few vigorous and vitally necessary efforts by the prime minister and his government might produce even more splendid results than any that are within power of attainment by the Hamilton Canadian Club.

A Nationalist from Montreal came down to Restigouche during the election campaign and read to French-speaking electors Sir Robert Borden's statement in parliament that there would be no conscription. The inference was that a vote for a government candidate was a vote against conscription. Evidently the electors of Restigouche were not moved by this appeal. Conscription or no conscription they wanted a new government at Fredericton.

China is on the verge of severing relations with Germany. Everywhere the Hun plays a losing game.



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Full of Faith
Mrs. Barton—Have you any faith in life insurance?

Mrs. Grill—Yes, indeed, I've realized \$10,000 from two husbands, and they weren't good ones, either.

Reggie (in London)—I am going to the front, after all.

The Girl—Oh, I'm so glad. It's so much more interesting reading the lists of killed and wounded when you know someone at the front.

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Kilties' Concert A Great Success

The band concert and vaudeville entertainment conducted last evening in the Lyric theatre by the 288th Battalion, assisted by the brass band and pipe band, under the auspices of the Y.W.F.A., was a grand success. The proceeds of the concert are to be devoted to the regimental fund. The following took part in the programme: Lance Corporal Cromwell, Sergeant Duthie, Sergeant Tozer, Private Blair, Lance-Corporal



"Good bye and good luck!"

"Thank you for the wishes and for

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Wright, Private Armistice, Miss McLean, Mrs. Godfrey, Captain Godfrey, Private McLean, Major Mercereau, Sergeant Lawney, Piper Scott and others. Several selections were given by the brass band and the pipe band.

Major Greenhields Now With

Montreal Highlanders—Party of Two Hundred Soldiers Arrive From Overseas

Among the officers who arrived in the city last night on an ocean liner was Major Gordon Greenhields, son of J. H. Greenhields of Montreal, who at the outbreak of the war was visiting in Paris and enlisted as a private with the famous Foreign Legion. After five months' service he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and later to that of lieutenant. He has the honor of having flown from Saloniki over the Bulgarian lines to the Roumanian front. During the great offensive at the Somme his brother was killed.

Major R. Cramm was in charge of the party. He is a Torontonian and was attached to the 56th Battalion. Major R. Maynard of Quebec was the medical officer in charge of the party.

In addition to over two hundred returned soldiers the steamer brought out a number of passengers and \$400 bags of Canadian mail and 1,100 bags of overseas mail.

THIS SIMPLE RULE
SOON STRENGTHENS
A DELICATE STOMACH

It really is unnecessary to dose yourself with pepin pills or artificial digestives or to live on a miserable nursery diet. If you will observe one easy rule you can eat the hearty, nourishing foods that your appetite craves and your body needs. That rule is to take a teaspoonful of Bismarck's Magnesia in a half glass of hot water with each meal. Bismarck's Magnesia is non-laxative and harmless and possesses medicinal qualities that promptly overcome impaired digestion, fermentation, acidity, catarrhal conditions of the stomach, gas, distress after eating and other stomach disorders. As magnesia is prepared in various ways be certain to insist on obtaining it in the Bismarck form, especially recommended for stomach purposes. Sold by all druggists.

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