

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 18, 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 THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE RETURNED SOLDIERS AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.

The newspapers supporting the provincial government are still clumsily attempting to explain away the unenviable position in which the Carterites find themselves in regard to the returned soldiers and public employment. Let us state a few simple facts:

The Borden Government has consistently given the preference to returned soldiers when filling public positions. This is shown in the district of St. John where a splendid list of returned men has been appointed by Hon. Mr. Hazen, and elsewhere in Canada as has been demonstrated by uncontradicted statements in Ottawa.

The returned soldiers recognize that the Borden Government has given them the very best possible treatment. It was not always possible to dismiss competent officials to make way for soldiers, but as soon as vacancies occurred the men who had worn the khaki were preferred wherever they possessed the qualification for the place which happened to be vacant.

The Carter government is in a different position. Following the election, they turned out of office men against whom no charge save the flimsy one of partisanship was laid. Thereby, they created vacancies and could have appointed returned soldiers to every one of them had they so desired. Did they do it? Let us select a few examples nearest at hand, and see.

Edward Girouard was dismissed as secretary of the St. John and Quebec Railway Company. It is understood the fees attached to the position will reach at least \$1,000 per year. A returned soldier, or a returned officer could have filled that position. Did he get it? No. It was given to Edward S. Carter, a partisan, once the editor of a discredited weekly publication in this city, and whose service to the party bearing his name has been largely in the way of scandal-mongering.

A. E. McGinley and Charles Nevins were dismissed from the Board of Moving Picture Censors for political partisanship. The salary attached to the positions was \$300 per year. Returned soldiers or returned officers could have done that work. Did they get the opportunity? Were they asked to supply men? No. The positions were given to Michael J. Nugent and George Amland, partisan supporters of the Carter party.

David F. Maxwell, C. E., and J. L. Feeney, C. E., were dismissed from positions in the engineering service of the province. Did the Carter party ask if there was a returned soldier or a returned officer with engineering experience capable of filling those positions? No. The positions were, in a sense, amalgamated and given to Burton M. Hill, C. E., a bitter Carter partisan and a defeated Carter candidate in Charlotte county. Mr. Hill is of military age and doubtless could have performed valuable engineering service in the cause of the Empire.

Numerous sheriffs were dismissed and partisans appointed in their places. No returned soldier was asked if he could fill any of the Sheriff's positions. They were reserved for partisans and pets of the Carter party.

Other cases can be cited if the government newspapers or the government supporters care to continue the discussion.

The most of the positions referred to were originally filled by the Murray Government before the returned soldier question became a problem to be dealt with. The officials holding them gave service satisfactory to all parties concerned. When the Carterites deemed it necessary to make them the subject of their political vengeance, partisans were appointed in their places.

Yet the Carterite press seeks to excuse the administration and to gain for it credit for doing its full share for the soldiers, by the statement that a dozen or so guards were named by Mr. Veniot to do duty around the Legislature while the house is in session. It will not do. The Carter administration has no thought for the soldiers except for their votes, and those who endeavor to forward the interests of the men in khaki are accused of "exploiting" them, while soldiers themselves who bear gratuitous testimony to the willingness of the Borden Government to give our heroes every consideration, are sneeringly referred to by the editor of the Times as "political hotbeds."

What do the soldiers themselves think of that sort of treatment? What do their relatives think of it? And what do patriotic Liberals, such as E. A. Schofield and others who could be named, men who have devoted time

and attention to all matters affecting the welfare of the soldier, think of the conduct of the Carterite bosses at Fredericton? Isn't about time that the cards were dealt again and the men who sit on the provincial treasury benches given to understand so plainly that the lesson will not require to be repeated, that the returned soldiers, other things being equal, have first claim upon every public position they are qualified to fill?

CANTERBURY STREET ABSURDITIES.

In attempting to claim that Hon. J. B. M. Baxter tried to get his amendment in defence of the principle of returned soldiers through the Legislature on a "snare vote," in a "thin house," the Telegraph and Times are just a little more absurd than usual. The official reporter at Fredericton, however, has not yet descended to the reckless level of the political fictionist who writes the "leads" to the reports appearing in the news columns of our Canterbury street contemporaries, neither is he quite as adept in juggling the truth as the editors of those journals, who are prepared to submit any statement to their readers provided the plans of the "box office" are served thereby. Consequently when it becomes necessary to prove the editors of the Telegraph and Times falsifiers the official reporter supplies the evidence in their own columns.

The New Brunswick Legislature consists of forty-eight members, one of whom occupies the Speaker's chair. At present there is one vacancy, caused by the death of G. L. White, Opposition member for Carleton, so, under existing circumstances, there are but forty-six votes on the floor of the house. When the motion favoring returned soldiers for public positions was put to the house, forty-four members were in their seats. Hon. Bobb Murray was absent from the government side and Hon. H. I. Taylor from the Opposition benches. Thus the government had its full proportionate strength at its command and the Baxter amendment was beaten by twenty-five to nineteen.

Yet in spite of these facts, revealed by the official reporter in his report, the Telegraph and Times attempt to make the public believe that Hon. Mr. Baxter tried to "put something over" when government supporters were absent. Such reckless misrepresentation merely serves to show the straits to which our friends in Canterbury street are driven in their effort to place the Carter administration before the public in the light of injured innocents. It also illustrates that the titles The Morning Ananias and The Evening Saphira, by which those newspapers are known, were conferred for cause and in just recognition of prodigious and wilful lying.

ROCKING THE BOAT.

The Carter boat is approaching rough waters and this fact is rendered more serious by the tendency of some of the men elected as supporters of that party to manifest their independence of Carter steering. These men are commencing to suspect that the nominal premier, while an opinionated young man, is, in reality, a political weakling, dominated by a stronger mind. Consequently it is not surprising that some of Mr. Foster's followers should attempt to exercise their God-given right of independence. This was apparent in yesterday's session of the Legislature when in committee of the whole, members of the government party expressed such strong disapproval of a government measure that it was not pressed, but held over for further consideration, the committee merely reporting "progress"—a phrase which covers a multitude of disagreements and which is supposed to shield from the eyes of the world the fact that the Carterites are already "rocking the boat."

From all indications there is rough weather ahead. In such circumstances what the party requires is sane leadership, a firm hand at the wheel. And, apparently, this is what the party has not got. Go to it, Merry Gentlemen, the session has but opened and already the nominal premier is showing signs of distress. The evidences of "business administration" so far supplied by the Carterites have not tended to add to the esteem in which they are held by the people of New Brunswick. The real business thought of the province is to be found on the Opposition benches.

Appointed Librarian.

At a meeting of the Council of the St. John Law Society, held yesterday morning, Miss Whitehead, a court stenographer, was appointed librarian.

THE COLLEGE AND THE HUT.

"The problem is the regeneration of Europe."

"Until these men have been removed and all that they stand for finally discredited by the manner of their removal, the path to a regenerated Europe is blocked."

—Principal L. J. Jacks in the Hibbert Journal.

"I cannot understand why the rank and file of the German people do not do as they did in Russia for every day is bringing them closer to complete disaster, and it is the poor people who are being fooled by these war devils who will have to suffer most in the end."

"Some day the Kaiser will regret he ever started this fuss when he is put on an island for the rest of his life, and it may not be very long before he is on his way."—Sergeant W. W. Allingham in a hut, Somewhere in France.

There is no difference of opinion as to who is responsible for this horrible world war with all its intensely tragic elements. While here and there in every nation it is possible to come across some rich old Judas who for thirty pieces of silver, more or less, has been blinded to the greatest moral issue of the ages, yet among all free and patriotic men there is only one verdict, and that is that this war was "made in Germany" and done there by court and its wealthy parasites. These are the people who are primarily responsible for this monstrous deluge of blood and tears. Naturally, working and scheming as they have been for upwards of forty years, they have been able to corrupt the masses of the people of the fatherland, blinding some, buying up others and prejudicing all more or less.

This distinction was clearly made by President Wilson in his historic deliverance which has received the universal approval of all free and liberty-loving peoples.

The suggestion has been made not infrequently of late that the Allies should untidily proclaim that they would make no peace with Germany so long as that nation fails to repudiate the government of the Kaiser and his lords. As yet, this action has not been taken, but if the growth of public opinion is to be regarded as an indication of the trend of official thought there is some reason to conclude that as a prerequisite of peace parleys, the war lords of Prussia must be hurled from the saddle. It is they who have been responsible for degrading the masses of the German people and turning a whole nation of sturdy and intelligent workers into nothing more or less than the bond-slaves of their ruthless wills. Until this condition has been effected there can be no right solution of this world melee nor can there be accomplished that which alone will justify the cost to the nations in blood and treasure. As Principal Jacks has declared in his powerful review of the situation in the Hibbert Journal, "Till this is settled, peace, progress, and civilization will stand in jeopardy." This is the verdict of one of the brightest college principals of England and his testimony is strikingly corroborated by the judgment of Sergeant W. W. Allingham, of this city, who has recently written to a friend from his soldier hut somewhere in France and whose letter we print in this issue, "The German soldiers have been fooled by these war devils" and that they must go from the Kaiser down.

Great wrong has been done to humanity by these men and before we and our allies sheath our swords the people must be emancipated from their soulless tyranny. Punishment—keen, sure, stinging and public must be administered to the arch-criminals of Potsdam and Wilhelm Strasse.

Before this is accomplished what will need to be resolutely overcome.

The Kaiser is a king and with not a few people in every nation there is still the habit, born of long generations, of thinking that a king can do no wrong. Then, the Prussian powers have for years established in every country their emissaries and agents, whose one purpose has been to advance the plottings of these German lords by whatever means they might. This they have done by the most traitorous methods. In every land they have endeavored to sow the seeds of discord and to stir up factional strife. Not to enumerate further the methods of these enemies of the peace of the world, we may say that among ourselves there is another reason why it is doubtful that adequate punishment will be administered to these mad men of Berlin. This reason was admirably described by Sir Walter Scott in his novel "Peveril of the Peak." "The English nation," he wrote, "differs from all others in being very easily sated with punishment, even when they supposed it most merited. Other nations are like the tamed tiger, which when once its native appetite for slaughter is indulged, in one instance rushes on in promiscuous ravages. But the English public have always rather resembled what it told of the sleuth dog, which, eager, fierce, and clamorous in pursuit of its prey, desists from it as soon as blood is sprinkled on its path."

An evidence of the fact that such is the disposition of the English people still, was afforded recently at a gathering of the league to enforce peace, in London, attended by some 1,200 representative men, including clergymen and members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, on which occasion the suggestion made by Lord Buckmaster that, "Germany be included in the pro-

Little Benny's Note Book.

Today in school Miss Kitty told the class all about how wonderful nature is and everything, which when she got throo she sed, Now, children, I want you al to try to rite a little pome about nature, and in 15 minits the ones that have finished may read them aloud, 4 lines or so awt to be about enuff for a little pome.

Wich everybody started to try to do it, and aftir a wile Miss Kitty sed, Times up, children, how meny have finished? Wich about 6 raised their hands, including me, and Miss Kitty sed, Good, I will ask Benny Potts to read his pome first.

Wich I did, being this

Wat is this funny object?

See if you can gess.

Its a lilly after its fell in the mud,

Isent nature wonderfull?

O my, yes.

I dont think much of that at all, it shows absoletly no love of nature, Leroy Shooter, I will ask you to read yours, sed Miss Kitty.

Wich Leroy Shooter did, being this

O pickels! sed the procons

As they found their home in roofs.

Wat have we uns got to do with you uns?

Sed the pickels. O procons!

Do you call that poetry? sed Miss Kitty.

Yes mam, sed Leroy Shooter.

Well I dont, and wats more, I wont ask the others to read theirs, sed Miss Kitty, we will now begin the spelling lesson.

Wich we did.

posed league" was received with thunderous applause.

Germany, regenerated Germany, will surely be gladly welcomed into the fellowship of such a league but of that change of heart on the part of the people of the fatherland there must be satisfactory evidence and the most convincing proof of such a change of heart that the German people can give to the world is a complete and final repudiation of her mad Kaiser and his criminal war lords.

APOHAQUI

In the Baptist Church, on Sunday night last the pulpit was occupied by Rev. W. H. Jenkins of South Ohio, Yarmouth Co. N. S.

Since the resignation of the late pastor, Rev. L. J. Tingley, the officers of the church have been considering the selection of another clergyman, and as a result, have made a wise decision, in tendering an invitation to Rev. Mr. Jenkins, which, however, the reverend gentleman has not yet accepted, but has the matter under consideration. In his initial sermon, he chose for his text a passage found in Galatians, Chapter 6—"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." His discourse gave evidence of a cultured mind and ability to impart the truths of the gospel in a manner so readily perceived by the large congregation present, which added to the gift of a pleasing delivery, left a very favourable impression on the minds of the hearers.

A Solo "Abide with us" was very effectively rendered by Leonard McAuley during the service. Rev. Mr. Jenkins was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. I. P. Gamble, during his stay in the village, leaving on Monday to spend a short time with relatives in Queens Co., and St. John, prior to returning to his home in Nova Scotia.

G. E. Connelly and Miss Greta Connelly spent the week-end in Moncton. Mr. Connelly has been quite ill since his return from his railway city, though his friends are pleased to know, his indisposition, though severe, was not of a serious nature and he has again recovered and in his usual health.

Colin King of the C. G. R., offices Moncton, who came to spend the week-end with his wife, Olive, is so quite ill here but his many friends are gratified to hear that he too, is recovering satisfactorily.

Geo. B. Jones, M. L. A., came from Fredericton on Saturday, to spend the week-end at his home here.

Mr. Jones returned to the Capitol on Monday to resume his seat in the Local House.

I. D. Pearson spent the week-end in Norton, guest of his sister Mrs. Geo. Kierstead and Mr. Kierstead.

Miss Mariel Jones, is enjoying a visit with friends in Fredericton.

Mrs. Thos. Lisson, spent Wednesday in St. John. Mrs. Lisson was accompanied home by her daughter Miss Marie Lisson, who has been a patient in St. John Hospital for some weeks recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

Miss Martha McVey and Miss Jennie McBeath of the teaching staff spent the week-end at Miss McVey's home in Passages.

Mrs. W. G. McLeod, St. John, is visiting with relatives here.

Inspector S. A. Worrell was in the village on Wednesday.

The friends of Mrs. Edward White regret to hear of her illness, and hope she may soon recover.

Mrs. O. P. King and Miss Jeanne Conely, Sussex, were guests of Miss Greta Connelly on Wednesday.

Miss Ethel Wright spent Tuesday with friends in Sussex.

Many friends of Mrs. Adam Murray, who had the misfortune to break her wrist a short time since, will be pleased to know that though having been

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