The St. John Standard

"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.

CANADA AND THE M. S. A.

In Ottawa yesterday Sir Robert Borden issued a statement dealing with the working out of the Military Service Act and including a statistical table which showed the number of men ordered to report in the military districts in Canada, and the number of those complying with that order. The return covers eleven of the thirteen districts and an analysis of it shows that 22,003 men were ordered to report and 16,786 obeyed that call. This establishes an average of obedience for all Canada of 76.28 per cent., and it is interesting to note that with the exception of the military districts of Montreal, Quebec and Halifax, all parts of the country responded to a better degree than the general average indicates. Halifax, of course, should scarcely be accounted with the others as the disaster which visited that city in December interfered so materially with the operation of the Military Service Act that only 291 men were asked to report and of these 217 responded.

To the district of London, Ontario, falls the honor of returning the greatest percentage of responses out of the number called. London has a percentage of 92.55, Calgary is second on the list with 89.40 and St. John comes third with 87.0%. Toronto and Regina returned in excess of 80 per cent., while Kingston, Winnipeg and Vancouver were over 75 per cent. Halifax returned a percentage of 74.5 and Montreal 72.47. Quebec alone fell far short of the mark and it is a regrettable fact that while 1,561 men were ordered to report from that district only 97 had responded up to February 1st, or a trifle in excess of six per cent.

The report submitted by the Prime Minister dealt only with men who had not asked for exemption or whose claims had not been allowed and who had not taken an appeal from the decisions of the local tribunals. Thousands of exemption cases are still to be decided, the great majority of these being filed in the district of Quebec. Generally, however, the figures shown in the report are satisfactory as they indicate that outside of the Quebec district the people of Canada are prepared to do their part in the enforcement of the Military Service Act.

The Quebec problem is one for which it will be difficult to find a solution. In that district practically every man called filed claims for exemption and, as shown by the return referred to, did not obey the summons even after exemption claims had been disallowed. The Government has promised that it will enforce the Military Service Act fairly and equitably in all provinces alike and the people will expect that promise to be kept.

New Brunswick, in third place for all Canada, has every reason to feel satisfied with the showing made.

AMERICAN FARM LABOR.

The agreement with the United States government respecting the migration of labor from one side of the border to the other is satisfactory, says the Toronto Mail and Empire. It gives stability to labor conditions in each country, and allows of transfer of labor, for special seasonal work, according to previous arrangement.

Last year the Canadian government and western officials got much farm labor temporarily from the American west. This year the army of farm laborers, particularly harvesters, can begin in the southern states, where the spring season opens up early, and move northward to Canada for late spring and autumn work. A special agreement with Washington on this subject is of particular value, for independent effort to import such labor led to much friction with the state officials across the border. In fact, the clamps were fastened down on the movement, lest Canada seek to retain permanently the men imported.

For the great cause the United States and Canada are fighting for they should co-operate industrially as well. No branch of industry is more clearly war endeavor than food producing. The United States' farms can spare men at times, when the crops are all in, to extend our agriculture, Canada now produces more than one-third as much wheat as the United States, and with less additional effort than would be needed in the United States for a similar increase, could bring up its wheat yield by hundreds of millions of bushels. Last autumn the wheat acreage in Canada was 14,755,000 acres, with an average yield of only 15.75 bushels. The year previous it was 15,390,000 acres. If the labor supply is sufficient, and the weather suitable, Canada ought this year to have the largest acreage and yield on record. In 1915, for the first time, the value of our field crops passed the billion-dollar line, and in 1918 should go much above that high mark.

PROVINCIAL BONDS.

The Times last evening contained the following item in regard to the sale of an issue of $2,000,000, Province of Ontario, ten-year, six per cent. bonds:

"It is stated that the issue of $2,000,000 Province of Ontario six per cent. gold bonds, maturing in ten years and offered to the public today at par, is going very well. Institutional buying has been good, quite a large number of big blocks being disposed of before the prospectus reached the public. The latter are reported to be eagerly buying what is left for them, and it is expected the issue will be cleaned up entirely within a very short time."

It will be noted that the Times features the fact that the bonds sold at par. In the same issue of our Canterbury street contemporary appeared the advertisement of a new issue of New Brunswick, ten-year, six per cent. bonds at 99.08. Naturally these bonds were taken by the bond house now offering them at a price which would yield a profit at the figure for which they are offered. That is legitimate business so far as the bond house is concerned. But this newspaper understands that the Foster government did not advertise for tenders for the bonds and that, in fact, no bids were asked for except from the firm now offering the issue.

This is interesting when we recall that the last issue of bonds placed by Hon. Dr. Landry when Provincial Secretary-Treasurer realized a higher figure than can be secured for the present offering. Those bonds, The Standard is informed, were sold over the counter direct to investors.

If our information is correct it would seem that the present government is finding it more difficult to market its securities than the one it succeeded. It may well be asked why? Is the present Provincial Secretary-Treasurer a less capable financier than Dr. Landry? Or is there another reason? New Brunswick bonds should realize as good a price as similar issues floated in Ontario. It has been the proud boast of this province that our bonds would compare with any in Canada, both in their attractiveness to investors and in the price at which they could be sold. Apparently that day has passed. Are we already commencing to pay the penalty for inefficient administration and a big provincial deficit? Explanations would seem to be in order.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ANOTHER OPINION.

To the Editor of The Standard:

Sir,—"A Layman" in your issue of yesterday says sharply the churches should follow the example of the school board and curtail the use of coal. It might prove interesting to figure out the saving of fuel by closing the schools of the city while the children spend the afternoon at the movies. But why the religious and educational institutions should close, and the places of amusement, which are mediums for the moral and intellectual development of the people are not regarded as possessing any special claim, should operate six days a week, could only be explained by saying the public sentiment has changed in the emphasis within the last twenty-five years. When it was suggested that the picture houses might be required to close on certain days to save fuel, a storm of protest arose all over Canada. Quickly authoritative assurance came with a tone that was almost affectionate in its solicitude "we never thought of such a thing." The amusement of our people must be sustained, but the schools must close. Now it is suggested that the churches do likewise. Surely "A Layman" is right when he says "why people will not think is the crime of the ages."

Yours,

FIRST THINGS FIRST.

SMALLPOX AT McGIVNEY JCT.

Fredericton, Feb. 13.—A case of smallpox has been reported to the York county health authorities from McGivney Junction. The patient is Jeremiah Fairley, and the disease is said to be of an advanced type. Dr. C. N. Goodspeed of Penniac, secretary of the county board of health, has visited the place and taken the necessary precautions. The house has been placed under quarantine and all members of the family have been vaccinated.

The case has come directly from the infected districts on the North Shore, and is the first that has been reported from the northern part of York county since the beginning of the smallpox outbreak last summer.

A BIT OF VERSE

SONNETS OF A CITIZEN.

I

In days of yore we used to purchase coal
In five-ton lots and did not need begzlle
The dealer; on the contrary he'd smile
As though our buying pleased his very soul.
Then, though we said that we were badly hit
In pocket by his prices, we'll admit
We were content and happy, on the whole.

But now, he will not listen to a hint,
Or even to a threat. Unloved, alone,
He will not answer his own telephone.
His heart is cold as ice—as hard as flint.
He has no coal—no teams—not anything.
But in a week he'll help us. If we bring
A paper bag, he'll let us have a pint.

II

Tobacco smoke curls slowly round my head,
And I am full of peace and sweet content
Upon congenial work my head is bent
And to the world and all its cares I'm dead.
The melting snow outside—the cost of coal
Have lost their power to distress my soul
Until tomorrow dismal care has fled.

Quite happy now, and thoughtful is my mood
For now no street cars rattle past my door.
They're all snowed up. This would have irked before,
But now I do not mind for I feel good.
If someone brings me tickets for the show
I'll tell him I'll not trample through the snow
(Until tomorrow—be it understood).

GEO. DOTTRIDGE.

A BIT OF FUN

A BOY'S IDEA OF IT.

Tommy—But mother I don't see any reason for washing my neck and ears.
Mother—You can't go to the Jones' for supper unless you do.
Tommy—But they said it was to be most informal!

AGREED.

"I'd rather drive than eat!" exclaimed the motor fan.
"But what does your wife say about it?"
"Oh, she'd rather ride than cook, so we get along fine."

BY INHERITANCE.

First Tommy—Thats a top hole pipe, Jerry. Where'd you get it?
Second Tommy—One of the German Oolans tried to take me prisoner and I inherited it from him.

CORRECT.

"Ah," said the visitor. "So the village boasts a band!"
"No," whispered the resident. "We never boast of it."

A CHERUB.

"Aren't you ashamed of scolding so, Willie? Just see what a sweet expression Tommy Jones is wearing!"
"Well, he has to wear it. He has just thrown a rock through the preacher's window and he's waiting now to make the preacher believe it was done by a little boy in a blue suit who ran down the street."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

A NEW VIEW.

Banks—Dont you think the war will have a tendency to discourage matrimony?
Hanks—Not much. The men will be more eager than ever to marry. Why, look how the war is showing women how to support a family!—Baltimore American.

JULIUS CAESAR WAS CAPTURED

Dominion Police Make Spectacular Raid on Mardi Gras Party in Montreal—Several Young Women in Male Attire Taken.

Montreal, Feb. 13.—As a result of the Dominion police raid on two well-known dancing halls early this morning, and the arrest of a number of suspected deserters, the army will be the richer by twenty-five men. The Mardi Gras pre-Lenti festivals were in full swing when the police started operations. Sixty young men in fancy costumes were arrested and people in the streets were startled at the spectacle of Julius Caesar and Mephistopheles being driven to headquarters in a patrol wagon with a retinue of counts, clowns and other historic figures. Several young women in male attire were called up to explain why they were not in khaki.

One young man, when detained, told the officers that he was an American, but when he went to his overcoat to get his United States exemption papers, he found that someone had taken them all as well as his pocketbook. Fortunately he had his marriage certificate in his inside coat pocket and upon showing this he was released. The other men detained were held until they produced their exemption documents.

The police net also caught a fine assortment of dope fiends and minor criminals who were turned over to the city police.

FACE COVERED WITH PIMPLES

ASHAMED TO GO OUT.

Many an otherwise beautiful and attractive face is sadly marred by unsightly pimples, blotches, flesh worms and various other blood diseases.

Their presence is a source of embarrassment to those afflicted as well as pain and regret to their friends.

Many a cheek and brow cast in the mould of beauty have been sadly defaced, their attractiveness lost and their possessor rendered unhappy for years.

Why, then, consent to rest under this cloud of embarrassment?

There is an effectual remedy for all these defects.

It is Burdock Blood Bitters. This remedy will drive out all the impurities from the blood and leave the complexion healthy and clear.

Mrs. Katherine Henry, Port Sydney, Ont., writes: "Two years ago my face was so covered with pimples I was ashamed to go out at all. I tried several remedies, but they were of no use, at last a friend advised me to try Burdock Blood Bitters. I got a bottle and by the time it was used I could see a difference. I then got two more, and when I had used them the pimples were completely gone. I can highly recommend B.B.B."

Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Little Benny's Note Book

Butterflys.

A birthday cake is a bewtifill site,
And so is a horse with wite hair,
But the bewtifillest site of eny,
Is a butterfly up in the air.

It flutters and flitters frum flower to flower
And sets on the ones it wants to,
Coming erround about the same time of yeer
As wat the summer munths do.

A butterfly sets on a flower
Without herting it in the leest,
Being the diffrents between a butterfly
And a cow or some other beast.

Some are yello and some are wite
And some are mixed for variety,
And you generlly see them one at a time,
Each injoying its own sissiety.

The best way to capsure butterflys
Is to run after them with a net,
And no matter how good of a catcher you are,
Youll be serprized at how few you get.

Butterflys ony live for a day,
In spite of all their magnificence,
Not being as sad as it sounds like,
Because the butterflys dont know the diffrents.

MEMORANDUM ON FISHERIES CONVENTION

Declared Maritime Provinces Well Represented at St. John Meeting, Although Halifax Denies It.

Ottawa, Feb. 13.—A memorandum dealing with the sittings of the international fisheries commission in Boston, Gloucester, Mass., and St. John, N. B., which were brought to a close on February 6, has just been issued by the naval department. These sittings were held primarily for the purpose of obtaining the views of those actually engaged in the industry. The questions mainly under consideration were: Allowing adequate and equal privileges to the fishing vessels of either country in the ports of the other, the prohibition of lobster fishing by United States boats outside Canadian territorial waters during the close time for such fishing inside, and the better protection of the lobster fisheries along the coasts of Canada and the United States.

Equal Privileges.

With regard to the first question, while there was some division of opinion amongst the witnesses in both Boston and Gloucester, the great majority strongly favored an arrangement whereby the fishing vessels in either country would have equal privileges in the ports of the other. A few witnesses argued that if this were done United States fishing vessels would be unable to compete with those from the Maritime Provinces, but this view did not find endorsement. A predominant note of the testimony was that it was desirable to remove all causes of differences and all conditions that operate against the greatest possible production of fish. To this end some urged that the duty on fish into Canada should be removed.

St. John Hearing.

At the St. John meeting the Maritime Province interests were well represented. The witnesses were unanimous in the view that at a time when Canada and the United States are allied in the common cause, all sources of irritation should be removed.

Greater protection of the lobster fishery was generally urged. The consensus of opinion was in favor of the adoption of a 10½ inch size limit of lobsters for both United States and adjacent Canadian waters. A shorter fishing season was also suggested.

After the St. John sittings the commission adjourned to meet at Seattle on April 24.

CROWDS STORM COURT AT BOLO TREASON TRIAL

Prosecutor Declares Case Pre-Course of Which All Affairs Now Under Investigation Will Be Cleared Up.

Paris, Feb. 13.—Captain Mornet, the prosecutor in the court martial of Bolo Pasha, on the charge of treason, today began the summing up of the government's case. He first defined "intelligence with the enemy," in the meaning of the code. He pointed out that the mere fact that Bolo Pasha received money from Count Von Bernstorf, the former German ambassador at Washington, through Adolph Pavenstedt, the former head of the Amsinck Banking House of New York, was sufficient grounds for asking for a death sentence, even though the money or sentence came against France. Consequently Capt. Mornet said, he would ask for the death penalty.

The government counsel then referred to Bolo Pasha's relations with Fernand Monier, ex-president of the Paris court of appeals, and former Premier Jos. Caillaux. The prosecutor declared the Bolo Pasha case was preliminary to other trials in the course of which all affairs now under investigation would be cleared up.

The crowd which swamped the court room to hear Prosecutor Mornet sum up the state's case against Bolo Pasha broke all previous records at the trial. The proceedings were reopened because it was argued that if this were done United States fishing vessels would be unable to compete with those from the Maritime Provinces, but this view did not find endorsement. The spectators were perched on chairs and radiators or seated on the floor, famous Parisian actresses sharing the benches with society leaders.

The prosecutor read a letter from Premier Clemenceau announcing that two documents sent in August and September, 1917, by Prosecutor Mornet to Minister of War Painleve, referred to in the proceedings yesterday would be placed at the disposal of the defence. This was considered to be a point for the defence as the state had bitterly opposed the publication of the papers.

Capt. Bouchardon was called as an additional witness, for it was Bouchardon who prepared the case against Bolo and his appearance was roughly equivalent under the American law to the calling of a preliminary trial judge against the defendant in a higher court.

Capt. Bouchardon related the delay which had been placed in his way in preparing the Bolo Pasha case by the former ministry of war which, he said, had withheld the documents from April 1 to September, 1917.

FUNERALS

The funeral of Mrs. Catherine Thompson took place yesterday afternoon from her late residence, 152 St. James street. Services were conducted by Rev. W. R. Robinson. Interment was made in Fernhill cemetery.

WHEAT IN BRITAIN

London, Feb. 13.—The total stocks of wheat in Great Britain at the end of December last exceeded those at the end of December, 1916, by a million quarters, Andrew Bonar Law, the chancellor of the exchequer, told the House of Commons today.