

The St. John Standard

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"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 can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

A NOTABLE CONTRAST.

The difference in viewpoint of the Acadians in New Brunswick and the French Canadians of Quebec was notably contrasted in the House of Commons on Wednesday night. Jacques Bureau, of Three Rivers, formerly solicitor-general in the Laurier cabinet, delivered an address which seemed to the Ontario brothers, that the French Canadians had been badly treated by their Ontario brothers, that they were "slandered and slurred," held up to ridicule and contempt and insulted to the point where they had lost all enthusiasm in the war and for that reason failed to enlist under the voluntary system and would oppose the application of conscription. It was purely a Quebec speech, setting forth the Quebec ambition and completely losing sight of the broader question that now confronts all Canadians.

Mr. Bureau was followed by F. J. Robidoux, the honest, capable and patriotic Acadian representative of Kent county and New Brunswick has every reason to feel proud of him and grateful for his attitude. He did not speak long, it was after midnight when he rose to his feet, but his address, brief as it was, bristled with loyalty and high patriotic sentiment. He told the House he believed his people realized that the future of the Acadians is inseparably linked to that of Canada and the Empire. They were proud of the privileges they had enjoyed and he could assure his hearers that, no matter what grievances Quebec might have to deter her from doing her full duty in this hour, the Acadians of New Brunswick were not bound by the same motives. In this connection he referred to the effort of the late Chief Justice Landry and Bishop LeBlanc in support of recruiting, and also to the fact that the Chief Justice had spoken in favor of conscription many months before the Government had decided to adopt it. Mr. Robidoux announced that he would support the measure.

The statement of the member for Kent, compared with that of Mr. Bureau, affords notable evidence of the difference in spirit between the Acadians of New Brunswick and the French-Canadians of Quebec. On the one hand is a people living in peace and harmony with their English neighbors, recognizing that Canada comprises more than the bounds of their own province and that as the greater must always contain the less it is their duty to view public questions from the broad national standpoint. Contrasted with this is the Quebec idea, the doctrine preached and fostered for years by Laurier and his satellites, that no matter what may be in the interest of all Canada, the Quebec man must be governed by what will operate to Quebec's interest and to her interest alone.

In the present case that doctrine is fallacious. Quebec has everything to gain by making common cause with the rest of Canada in support of conscription. Failure to realize her opportunity will undo all that has been done in years in the way of bringing about a closer and better understanding between the two great peoples making up this Dominion. The Acadians, represented by Mr. Robidoux, understand this and are prepared to do their duty.

And yet there is no original difference between the Acadian of New Brunswick and the French Canadian in Quebec. What difference exists today springs from unwise leadership and a propaganda of strife in Quebec, as against wise, patient counsel and a doctrine of harmony and good-will in New Brunswick. The finished product, as represented by Jacques Bureau on the one side and F. J. Robidoux on the other, illustrates plainly which school is working in the interest of harmony and unity in all things making for the benefit of Canada as a whole. Mr. Robidoux has done well, and The Standard believes that his people will approve his manly, courageous stand on this the most important public question for many years.

IS THE MAN INSANE?

Mr. Pugsley's most intimate friends will have difficulty in conjuring up in their own minds a sufficiently good reason to explain his attitude on the conscription measure. Some three weeks ago, before the debate on the bill had started in Ottawa, Mr. Pugsley gave a statement to the Telegraph in the course of which, while not openly declaring against the cause of the men at the front, he took care to cover the issue with beclouding and irrelevant arguments. Conscription of man-power might be all right but it was less urgently required than conscription of wealth, national organization, mobilization of our resources and other reforms, very well in themselves, but not what the country needs at this time. Mr. Pugsley "covered" his subject so lavishly that after his statement was finished his attitude on conscription of man-power was still but indefinitely outlined.

His address to the House of Commons on Monday night last was more clear but not more logical, yet its mediocrity was not surprising to those at the Capital who have carefully followed the course of the ex-minister of public works during the past two or three years.

It is but fair to Mr. Pugsley to say that in the opinion of Ottawa folk he reached the pinnacle of his greatness during the opposition to the Borden Naval Aid Bill. At that time he was the big mind and the dominating force of the Liberal party. Day and night he was unceasingly engaged at his task of organizing the opposition to that policy and while, more than once, he permitted his temper to get the better of him and precipitated stormy scenes, it was generally recognized by political supporters and opponents alike that he was the head and front of the opposition to the bill.

Since then Mr. Pugsley has deteriorated lamentably and the most charitable explanation of his consistent failure to live up to first performance is that his mighty effort on the naval debate represented "the last shot" in his political locker. There was a time when the announcement that Mr. Pugsley was to speak was sufficient to fill the galleries with an attentive audience. What the ex-minister would say might not appeal to all his hearers but, at any rate, he was regarded as a logical, keen debater, whose contributions to any discussion would be valuable. Now, times have changed. He has fallen flat and as a "gallery emptier" has few equals in his party.

On Monday night there was some curiosity as to what he might say on

the most vital question with which Canada has been faced since Confederation. His St. John statement, copied in the newspapers of the Capital, had prepared his hearers for the announcement that he would support the referendum and oppose the Government's motion, but even those best acquainted with his vagaries hardly expected that he would fall so lamentably short of form, or that he would go to such lengths to exhibit the spleen and savage disappointment of a disgruntled partisan.

In the course of his speech he made the astounding statement that conscription came not as a response to the call from the trenches but was prompted by the "voice of Toronto." This declaration was received in silence, except for the frantic applause of a handful of French members on the Liberal benches—and Sir Wilfrid Laurier was not included with those. Sir Wilfrid opposes conscription and is ready to play upon the race cry to as of the House, but he realized that his former minister had committed a serious error and sat silent. Pugsley's partisanship had once more overbalanced patriotism, and in an unworthy effort to play the game of the most reckless Quebec agitators, he had thrown an unnecessary and untrue insult in the teeth of a Canadian city, which in this war has counted a greater number of casualties than the entire enlistment from the province for whose favor Pugsley made a shameful play.

Mr. Pugsley represents an English-Canadian constituency, a constituency founded by Loyalists and which has ever held the traditions of its founders in high regard. The voice of St. John is in favor of compulsory service or any other method that will serve to give support to the boys at the front. He has seen fit to take an attitude absolutely opposed to their desire and wish, and which should suffice to forever estrange him from his former supporters. Ottawa and the country at large find it difficult to understand the motive actuating him in this deliberate attempt to bring himself against public sentiment and with the men who oppose further sacrifice in this war, for given him the reputation of always hunting with the popular pack. This time he has failed, he has accomplished nothing useful for his constituency, his province or his party, he has paid no attention to the need of Canada or the country-wide determination to see that need met. Had he been as astute as of yore he could have read the signs of the times, he could have seen the portent in the defection from his

party of men like Hugh Guthrie, Fred Fardes, A. K. McLean, Dr. Clark and the other Ontario, Western and Maritime Liberals. But he shut his eyes to it all and anchored side by side with Laurier and the Quebec minority. By his action he gains nothing and loses all. That is the astounding part of it; the condition which causes his friends to criticize the accuracy of his judgment, which prompts the thought that he has taken leave of his political acumen and even suggests the question "Is the Man Insane?"

In the words of a Montreal newspaper: "For a man the country has always regarded as a particularly astute politician, William Pugsley has made a tragic mistake of it; he must be tiring of public life, for in a constituency such as his, his deliriousness bears all the marks of political suicide."

BRIG-GEN. M. H. McLEAN.

A recent interview with Brigadier-General Hugh Macleod McLean, Liberal member of Parliament for Queensbury, in which the General declared that "any man in Canada who opposes the military service bill today has a yellow streak in him," has aroused the ire of the only true Liberal in Canada, the editor of the Moncton Transcript. The latter gentleman, who is a splendid fighter when there is a table close by and when dictating editorials in his sanctum, proceeds to castigate Gen. McLean, editorially accusing him of shirking his duty. Those who know Gen. McLean have no fear, however, that his reputation will suffer from the terrible assault begun by the Transcript's charges.

In the Montreal interview Gen. McLean said:

"Any man in Canada who opposes the military service bill today has a yellow streak in him."

"If we are not quitters we must keep up the fighting. We have promised the Empire five hundred thousand men, and we are short of that number by 100,000. Now it is not in the nature of an Englishman, a Scot, an Irishman or a Canadian to be a quitter and if we are going to demonstrate that we are not quitters we must have conscription."

"Recruiting for the infantry battalions throughout Canada for the last six months has been impossible in any numbers. We may have got recruits, but they have been for the 'safety first' units. If we fall to keep our word we shall be disgraced before the world. What would be the effect in Germany if Canada publicly announced that she was through furnishing men, that she had done her share and was through? Canada the mistress of the Empire among the colonies. Either we must keep on sending men to the infantry or we shall have to reduce our representation in France from four to two divisions. No one who hasn't a yellow streak wants to see that."

"I have said that we need 100,000 men for the infantry. And we know that there are in Canada today at least 100,000 men who can easily be spared. They are in the cities, in the towns and in the villages. They are doing no necessary work. No one is dependent on them. They would not be missed. And yet, taken from home surroundings and properly trained they would make excellent soldiers."

"In these circumstances, what possible objection can there be to a selective draft? That is the way for going about it—as the United States is going about it. We led the way for the United States in the war. Now they are showing us the best way to continue. I am a Liberal, but I know that Canada can do her duty only by the passing of this bill, and I am going to Ottawa to vote for it."

SATISFACTORY APPOINTMENTS.

There will be general pleasure at the announcement this morning that Mr. Gilbert W. Ganong, the veteran ex-member of Parliament from Charlotte county, has been appointed to the Governorship of the province, and that Col. George W. Fowler, M. P. for Kings-Albert, is to go to the Canadian Senate. These appointments will be popular with the entire province, for they come to men who have already written their names large on New Brunswick's history, leaders in the business and political life of the country.

His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Ganong is a political veteran. For many years he has been a dominant force in Charlotte county, and while a member of the Dominion Parliament was accorded the highest esteem of his colleagues in all parts of Canada. He is also a captain of industry, heading one of the largest and most widely known manufacturing concerns in New Brunswick, if not in the Dominion. In Parliament Hon. Mr. Ganong was known as a keen debater and a tower of strength to his party. One of his most recent public utterances was at the win-the-war conference in Montreal a few weeks ago, and it was the opinion of those who heard him on that occasion that his utterance was one of the features of the convention. He always has been keenly interested in all organizations having for their purpose the improvement of conditions in his native town or province and is in every sense of the word a worthy son of New Brunswick. Courteous, cultured and dignified, he will fill the high position to which he has been called with distinct credit to himself and to his province.

Col. Geo. W. Fowler, who has been appointed to the Canadian Senate, is one of the best known men in New Brunswick. He has represented

Little Benny's Note Book.

Sir Walter Rawley

A Play

Scene, London after its stopped raining.
Sir Walter Rawley. G, look at this mud puddle. If it was much bigger it would be 2 puddles. I think I'll just stand here a while and watch people get all muddy trying to get across.

Sitizen. G, look at this mud puddle. Well, I got to get across, and airplanes ain't invented yet, so I guess I'll wade across. G, its up to my ankles. Maybe this ain't sloppy.

Sir Walter Rawley. Ha ha ha
Sitizen. If it wasnt for this mud puddle I'd go back and give you something to laugh about.

Sir Walter Rawley. If it wasnt for that mud puddle I wouldn't have anything to laugh about. Ha ha ha!

Lady. G, look at this mud puddle. Mersy, Im getting it all over me. If I'd of knew this I'd of stayed home.

Sir Walter Rawley. Ha ha ha!

Lady. I suppose you call yourself a gentleman.

Sir Walter Rawley. Im more of a gentleman that wat youll ever be.

Queen Elizabeth. G, look at the mud puddle. Ill make a law about this!

Sir Walter Rawley. Allow me, your majesty. You can wawk rite over on my cloak. Be carefull not to trip over the pockets.

Queen Elizabeth. O, isnt this luvly. You sertenay are polite, Sir Walter Rawley.

Sir Walter Rawley. O, that aint nothing.

The end.

Kings county, that home of big New Brunswickers, both in the Provincial Legislature and in the Dominion Parliament, and at present is the member of the constituency of Kings-Albert. A hard fighter, Col. Fowler is the hero of many political battles, and his appointment comes in recognition of pronounced ability and conceded party service. On the hustings or in Parliament, he was a ready, forceful speaker, and his contribution to the National Transcontinental Railway debate in the session of 1914 is still regarded as one of the most striking speeches ever made in the legislative halls of Canada.

At the outbreak of war Colonel Fowler offered his services and was commissioned to recruit and command the 104th Battalion of New Brunswick Infantry. His success in that undertaking was most marked, and the big meeting in St. Andrew's Rink, St. John, at which he broke all records for one day's recruiting, will stand as one of the outstanding features of that campaign.

His success with the 104th was so pronounced that from his over-achievement he was able to furnish the nucleus of the 104th Battalion, the command of which was given to Lieut-Colonel L. H. Beer, of Prince Edward Island. On arrival in England the 104th was broken into drafts and the men of that battalion have given since a splendid account of themselves on many of the hardest fields of the western front. The 104th was kept together for a time and there was strong hope that they would proceed to France as a unit, but subsequently they too were drafted, and Col. Fowler given command of the 13th Reserve Battalion in England, where he now is. Colonel Fowler is deservedly popular all through the province and he will be a distinct acquisition to the Canadian Senate. The Standard congratulates Lieut-Governor Ganong and Senator Fowler upon their well merited preferment.

Dog Day.
A large number of summonses have been issued to dog owners who have neglected to take out licenses for their canines and the cases will be heard in the police court Friday.

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Boys' Sneakers, Black and Tan, High Cut, 95c and \$1.00
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