

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1918.

"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 VICTORY LOAN.

Sir Thomas White, in opening the Victory Loan campaign at Winnipeg, put the case in one sentence when he said: "Canada relies upon the proceeds of this loan to enable her to 'carry on.'" When that has been said, the appeal to the people of Canada has been made. It is an appeal of tremendous force. It means that in the fifth year of the war, with victory in sight and within reach, with the gallant Canadian army fighting the most difficult and exacting of all its battles, the Government comes to the people for the means without which the war, so far as Canada is concerned, cannot go on. There can be no question as to the nature and completeness of the response. Canada, with so proud a record in this war, is not new to step from the ranks of the conquering Allies, and leave the work for others to complete. The loan cannot, however, be a success, unless it is supported by every individual citizen to the limit of his ability. "We shall expect," said the minister, "at least five hundred million dollars from over a million subscribers."

The combined effort of all the people is necessary if so large an issue as this is to be absorbed, and it must be absorbed. The measure of Canada's determination to press the war to a victorious conclusion will be exemplified in the number of individual subscriptions, no less than in the volume of the whole. The financial position of the country, as pointed out by the minister, is strong. Production has increased, trade has expanded, and bank deposits have increased since 1914 by over half a billion dollars.

As an investment the loan presents substantially the same attractions as did its predecessors. The people in this are their own bankers and the whole Dominion is their security. By taking up the issue they go on with the war; they secure for themselves a safe and profitable investment and they ensure at the same time the continued prosperity of Canada.

An organization covering the country from coast to coast has been completed for the purpose of facilitating subscriptions to the loan. Local committees have been formed and a systematic canvass will be made, as in the case of the last previous issue. Nothing in the way of preparation that could contribute to the success of the loan has been omitted. The rest is for the people themselves to do.

THE POTATO ENQUIRY.

The evidence adduced in the potato enquiry to date shows two things, first that the Government of New Brunswick made a legitimate loss in its shipment of potatoes to the Cuban market and that it was decided to make up this loss by contributions from prominent members of the party supporting that Government. Second it reveals that out of the profits secured by him through his connection with the Nova Scotia Construction Company Mr. W. B. Tennant made good the loss the province would have otherwise suffered and also made contributions of money that was used for campaign purposes.

In regard to the first phase of the matter there has been no evidence to show that the loss sustained in the shipment was due to negligence on the part of the Government or its agents. A combination of circumstances due in part to the war, which rendered it impossible to secure tonnage, and in part to natural causes which delayed vessels in transit and kept the cargoes back until they spoiled, turned what would have been a profitable transaction into a decidedly unprofitable one. If the transaction had ended there the province would have lost \$33,000; that this sum was not lost was directly due to the decision of Hon. Mr. Clarke that should be made up by party friends instead of falling upon the public treasury. Naturally such a course involved concealment, call it juggling with accounts if you will, but the very worst that can be said about it is that it was a policy of weakness rather than strength. For the adoption of such a policy there are mitigating circumstances as must be apparent to all who have followed political conditions in this province, but what was adopted shows nothing more than a lack of decision to acquaint the public with the truth, a truth that would at once have been distorted and misrepresented by a particularly bitter and unscrupulous press supporting the political party then in opposition to the government but which has since been returned to power in Fredericton. By the adoption of this policy the province lost no money, no matter what Fredericton newspapers may say, and no matter how zealously the Fredericton counsel engaged in the enquiry

may seek to paint every person connected with the transaction in the blackest colors. THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE PROVINCE LOST NO MONEY AND THAT THERE WAS NO GRAFT.

As to the second phase of the question: The money to make up the loss came from Mr. Tennant. Other arrangements were temporarily made before Mr. Tennant appeared on the scene but in the final analysis it was Mr. Tennant who put it up. Where did Mr. Tennant get it? From his profits in connection with the Nova Scotia Construction Company, which company had a construction contract on the Valley Railway.

This matter has already formed the subject of an enquiry conducted by Mr. Commissioner Stevens and it may not be amiss at this time to refer briefly to that case. The allegation was made, principally through the columns of the Telegraph and Times that public money of the province had been improperly expended in the construction of the Valley Railway, under the direction of the directors of that company who were appointed by the late Government. Mr. John M. Stevens was appointed by the Foster government to hold an enquiry into the charge and was specifically directed to find whether or not the allegation was founded on fact. Much evidence was taken and it developed that W. B. Tennant had received \$100,000 or more from the Nova Scotia Construction Co., the contracting company for the construction of certain portions of that road. Mr. Commissioner Stevens probed the case very thoroughly and examined many witnesses all of whom were subjected to searching questioning by the same counsel engaged in the present case with the able co-operation of Hon. F. B. Carvell and Hon. W. P. Jones. And what was the result? After a probe by a Commissioner of the Fosterite choosing, and after every means had been exhausted by the prosecuting counsel to incriminate some one Mr. Commissioner Stevens found as follows: "THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE SUBMITTED IN THIS ENQUIRY TO JUSTIFY ME IN FINDING AND I DO NOT FIND THAT ANY OF THE PUBLIC MONIES OF THE PROVINCE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAID BOARD OF DIRECTORS WERE IMPROPERLY OR DISHONESTLY EXPENDED, AND THE SAME MAY BE SAID OF ALL OFFICIALS, CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS THEREUNDER."

Mr. Tennant received his money from the Nova Scotia Construction Company, a contracting company under the Board of Railway Directors referred to in the Stevens report. Yet Commissioner Stevens declares that he DID NOT FIND THAT PUBLIC MONIES OF THE PROVINCE WERE IMPROPERLY OR DISHONESTLY EXPENDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR BY ANY OFFICIAL, CONTRACTORS OR SUB-CONTRACTORS THEREUNDER.

If the money given to Mr. Tennant was not public money, and was not dishonestly used or expended WHOSE BUSINESS IS IT WHERE IT CAME FROM OR FOR WHAT PURPOSE IT WAS GIVEN TO HIM?

And if the money given to Mr. Tennant was not public money dishonestly obtained WHOSE BUSINESS IS IT WHAT HE DID WITH IT?

It is established in the evidence that at least part of it went to make good a loss the people of the Province would otherwise have been called upon to sustain. IS THERE ANYTHING CRIMINAL OR DISHONEST ABOUT THAT?

Now regarding the contributions to political campaigns. The use of campaign funds has been publicly deplored and deprecated for many years. BUT THE FACT IS THAT THEY EXIST AND THAT THEY ARE USED AND THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST UNDER THE FOSTER GOVERNMENT AS UNDER EVERY OTHER GOVERNMENT THAT EVER HELD OFFICE IN NEW BRUNSWICK OR ANY OTHER CANADIAN PROVINCE.

IT IS ALSO A FACT THAT NO NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN CANADA HAVE HAD MORE EXPERIENCE WITH CAMPAIGN FUNDS OR POLITICAL FUNDS, OR HAVE PROVIDED MORE GREATLY FROM POLITICAL CONTRACTS THAN THE FOSTERITE ORGANS ON CANTERBURY STREET.

Therefore it is the height of hypocrisy for those papers or either of them to raise an outcry about campaign contributions or political funds, a clear and specific case of Satan reproving sin.

But New Brunswick has had experience with another enquiry, by commis-

sion in the past few weeks. In that enquiry Hon. William Currie, the Speaker of the Legislature, was convicted NOT OF CONTRIBUTING TO A CAMPAIGN FUND, OR DISBURSING A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION BUT OF PERMITTING THE FIRM WITH WHICH HE WAS CONNECTED IN A MANAGERIAL CAPACITY TO PROFIT ILLEGALLY BY THE RETENTION OF PUBLIC MONIES. THAT WAS NOT A CASE OF MAKING GOOD A PROVINCIAL LOSS, LEGITIMATELY INCURRED, THAT WAS NOT EVEN A MATTER OF A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION. THAT WAS A PLAIN CASE OF SORDID PERSONAL GAIN, ABSOLUTELY DISHONEST IN ITS EVERY PHASE.

Yet the Telegraph and Times have no words of reproof for the Fosterite speaker. On the contrary they ignore his case or do their best to put up a feeble defence for him. IN FACT THE TELEGRAPH, A DAY OR TWO AGO SAID THAT CURRIE WAS NO WORSE THAN THE CITY BUSINESS MAN WHO PAID TAXES ON LESS THAN THE FULL TAXABLE VALUATION OF HIS PROPERTY. How do St. John business men like that sort of thing? How do they enjoy the Telegraph's comparison? WILL THEY NOT AGREE WITH THE STANDARD THAT FOR THE TELEGRAPH OR TIMES TO CONDEMN THE GENTLEMEN WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO THE POTATO ENQUIRY, WHILE DEFENDING CURRIE, IS A CLEAR AND SPECIFIC CASE OF SATAN REBUKING SIN?

MR. CURRIE'S POSITION.

(Chatham Commercial, Independent.)
 The position of the Honorable William Currie, member for Restigouche, and Speaker of the Assembly, is not a pleasant one. He stands convicted, largely out of his own mouth, of having defrauded the province of a considerable sum of money—approximately \$4,000—due from the company of which he was manager, to the Crown, for stumpage. It is of little consequence that the Commissioner appointed to enquire into the matter finds Mr. Currie not guilty of the charge of conspiracy with the lumber scaler to cheat the government; the main point in his finding is that Mr. Currie did cheat the government, and did so knowingly and with his eyes wide open to the fact.

It is a lamentable condition of affairs, for it must bring to a close the public career of a man, who, by his own unaided efforts, had raised himself to one of the highest positions in the province. Brandet as he is, Mr. Currie cannot remain the trusted representative of any section of the people, and still less Speaker of the Assembly.

A BIT OF VERSE

KEEPSAKE MILL.
 Over the borders, a sin without pardon,
 Breaking the branches and crawling below,
 Out through the breach in the wall of the garden,
 Down by the banks of the river we go.

Here is the mill with the humming of thunder,
 Here is the weir with the wonder of foam,
 Here is the sluice with the race running under—
 Marvellous places tho' handy to home.

Sounds of the village grow stiller and stiller,
 Still the notes of the birds on the hill;
 Dusty and dim are the eyes of the miller,
 Deaf are his ears with the moil of the mill.

Years may go by and the wheel in the river,
 Wheel as it wheels for us children today,
 Wheel and keep roaring and foaming forever,
 Long after all of the boys are away.

Home from the Indies and home from the ocean,
 Heroes and soldiers we all shall come home;
 Still we shall find the old mill-wheel in motion,
 Turning and churning that river to foam.

You with the bean that I gave you when we quarrelled,
 I with your marble of Saturday last,
 Honored and old, and all gallily appalled,
 Here we shall meet and remember the past.

—R. L. Stevenson.

A BIT OF FUN

She Was Busy.
 "Is your wife very busy?"
 "Yes; now she thinks a cold spell coming on, she's upstairs packing away her summer furs."

A Question.
 Having finished his meal, the diner called for his check.
 "Let's see," said the waiter, "what did you have?"
 "Can't tell you for the life of me," was the reply; "but what I ordered was minced chicken."

Why She Chose.
 A certain London vicar, in order to arouse some interest in the ceremony, allowed the servants to choose the hymn to be sung at family prayers.
 One day his wife complimented the cook on her selection.
 "What a nice hymn you chose this morning!" she said.
 "Yes, mum," replied the cook.
 "Why did you select that one?"
 "It's the number of my policeman."

SAVE TO SAVE

Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

I was late for supper again yesterday, pop saying the next time I was late I couldn't have any, and today when I came home for supper what was the rest of the family doing but eating it already, me thinking, G. I'll just go in the dining room and set down as if nothing was the matter, and maybe nothing won't be.

And I went in and set down in my own place, and they kept on eating without saying anything, just as if they didn't see me, and I kept on setting there giggling around without asking for anything, after a while pop sed, Well, well, here's Benny, its bin quite a while since I've seen you, Benny, how have you bin?

All rite, I sed, And I kept on setting there giggling, pop saying, I suppose you happened to be in the neighborhood and just dropped in. Me just giggling, and Pop sed, its nice weather we're having, is sent it?

Its all rite, I sed.
 Yesterday looked rather threatening, tho, for a time, sed pop, With I didn't say anything, and pop sed, I trust you won't think it rude on our part if we seem to continue our supper while we are entertaining you.

Which they kept on doing, and I giggled some more and then I sed, I got a good excuse, pop, Really? sed pop, polite as anything. Perhaps I can prevail on you to tell it to us, seeing that we are such old friends, one mile say.
 Yes sir, I sed, I was wawking along coming home in time, and I tripped and pritty near fell down, and I tried to see wat I tripped over, and I couldn't find out.

Yes, go on, your tale intrigues me strangely, sed pop, and I sed, Yes, sir, and I looked agin, and there sat I wasn't saying anything there. I see, said pop, Let me know when you come to the excuse.
 Thats it, I sed.

A poor excuse may be better than none, but a mirribble excuse is worse than half a dozen, sed pop, Mother, give him some supper jest to show him that charity still exists in a wicked world.
 Wich ma gave me some, being loose stew and peez.

WHAT TO DO ON THE CHURCHLESS SUNDAY

By Typo.

Churchless! But it need not be worshipping. When the hands of the clock point to the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., why not call the family together for worship?

Let father be minister in the home-church next Sunday, and mother the organist. Tommy will be delighted to take up the collection, which, later, can be forwarded to the treasurer of the church to which you belong.

Father, open the Good Old Book read some immortal passage from its wondrous pages to the bairns as they sit in the imaginary pews, and play church in real earnest. Let those same children dream that they are members of a "really truly" choir as mother leads them in the service of song.

Let prayer be short, and full of thanksgiving for the "multitude of tender mercies," and the blotting out of transgressions. Ask that the "noisome pestilence" may soon be swept from our shores; that the Great

Physician may be beside our "beds of pain" that our soldiers may continue to give a good account of themselves; that the day of peace may soon dawn, and that we may be worthy to welcome it when it does come.

At 2.30 p.m., let father change from a minister to a Sunday School superintendent; and let mother teach the regular Sunday school lesson. Get the supplies of leaflets and papers from your regular Sunday school secretary.

In the hours between meals and worship, if the day is fine, let the whole family go for a walk; and on this quietest of all Lord's days listen for "the still small voice divine" in God's great open air.

Let there be as many churches as there are homes, and the supposed churchless Sunday will be the greatest of all church-going Sundays of the year. If the church is so silent there is no reason why the "joy bells" should not be kept "ringing in the heart."

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Head Office at Welsford and Capital Stock of \$9,000—Takes Over Sagwa Saw Mill

Bliss H. Dunfield, of Halifax, N. S., Harry C. Heans, of St. John and Gordon G. Scott, of Fredericton, have been incorporated as the Nerepis Lumber Company, Limited, with head office at Welsford and a capital stock of \$9,000. The company is empowered to take over a sawmill at Sagwa, Kings County, and to run a general lumbering and pulpwood business.

MORE LABOR TROUBLE AT DOMINION STEEL

Sydney, N. S., Oct. 10.—Notice has been given by Dominion Iron and Steel Company by members of a union recently organized among some of the office clerks that they will quit work unless by Thursday afternoon the company takes action into its employment the union president, who resigned his position in the company's accounting office, when told, as he says, that he could not continue in his position if he retained the presidency, and it is reported further that members of the steel workers union will go out on sympathy strike.

VICTORY LOAN ADDRESS.

At the afternoon and evening shows at the Imperial Theatre yesterday, the audiences heard the fine address of Sir Thomas White to the people of Canada on the Victory Loan, which was clearly reproduced on the phonograph. The instrument was loaned for the occasion by the Townshend Music Co.

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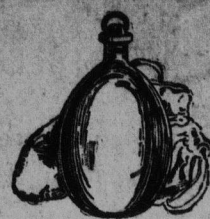
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Food spilled on costly carpets make unsightly stains. You cannot keep carpets sanitary where food is served.

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The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd. 186 Erin Street.

SEVENTEEN FROM MA PROVING

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—Ca Artiller Killed in action—Lieut. W. C. Smith, Died of wounds—G. McDonald, Sydn Wounded—Lieut. C. P. Inchee, R. D. Sweet, Comd N. S. Carleton, Halifax