

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1914.

THE MENACE TO GERMANY

Upon the continued progress of the Russians in the eastern war area, depends, to a greater or less extent, the success of the operations of the Allied armies in France and Flanders, the opinion of London military experts at present. Paradoxical as this may appear, it is believed to most nearly represent the actual condition in the European war theatre. The German and Austrian forces, facing the Muscovite advance in the eastern theatre, are being maintained in strength only by an ever-increasing effort and it is pointed out that if the Russians can continue their steady advance into German and Austrian territory, the situation must become of such terrible seriousness to Germany that it will be necessary for the Kaiser's generals to weaken their lines in France and Flanders in order to avert a terrible disaster at the hands of the Russians.

Since the first abortive dash, culminating in the defeats of Osterode and Allenstein, the Russian advance has been as relentless as the tide. Once hurled back by the might of the armies of Germany and Austria, the Russian leaders simply selected their own ground, permitted their reinforcements to come up, strengthened the weak spots in their lines, and, fortified with the knowledge that they possessed the necessary strength to pierce the armor of the German defence system, waited for the foe to come to them. Then was seen the first error of German strategy; under-estimating a foe which, though driven back in the earlier battles of the war, had merely gathered reserve energy for a continuous forward movement.

Flushed with the success of Osterode and Allenstein the Germans carried the fighting to their stolid enemy. But the Russian tide did not recede as was expected. Instead, day after day of terrible fighting saw the Muscovite lines apparently as steady as ever and finally the forces of the Kaiser were compelled to draw back before the men of the north. They are still retreating but the advance of their enemies is not hurried.

Attaches with the Russian army are impressed with the thoroughness of the campaign being carried on, if a railway is taken, it is at once related to the Russian gauge, and the line of communication kept absolutely free from danger of interruption. Supplies and reinforcements are sent as regularly as if the Czar's soldiers were merely assembled for autumn manoeuvres instead of in the midst of a campaign of life and death, the greatest in the history of the world.

Thus it is that, after three months of war, the Russians are less than 200 miles from Berlin at the point of their nearest advance and still have an army estimated at 3,000,000 men which has not smelted powder. This second army equipped to the last button is waiting only the approach of the bitter Russian winter to carry the campaign forward into the heart of Germany with a stolid assurance, terrifying by reason of its very certainty. No wonder the Kaiser casts anxious eyes at the approach of the Great Bear from the Urals. It is a new and revived Russia, sober, earnest and menacing, that rings the death knell of the brand of German culture which burned Louvain, sacked Malines and destroyed at one blow the treasures which civilization spent centuries and millions in acquiring.

To meet the danger in the east the German war power must soon withdraw divisions and army corps from the French and Belgian field, while the power of the Allies grows with each body of reinforcements. To date the British, French and Belgian forces have withstood the most desperate attempts of the Germans to break through to the French coast towns. To-day the Allied line is nearer the German frontier than was the case a week ago and a week hence will see it still further advanced.

Even if Germany manages to escape drawing from her western battle line to meet the Muscovite onslaught and the effect of the Russian advance merely prevents the sending of more troops against the Allies, the result must be the same. Great Britain and France are in a position to strengthen their lines with fresh troops and if Germany is unable to similarly relieve her tired forces she is bound to retreat. The Germans now fighting in France and Flanders have suffered almost to the limit of human endurance. There must come a break and every day Russia continues her terrible pounding attack at the "back-gate" of Germany, hastens the time when the "front door" guard must be reduced. Then it will mean a speedy inroad into the German household and a dismantling of the household gods. That day will see the end of the power of Prussian militarism.

"MADE IN CANADA"

Cables from London indicate it as the opinion of well-informed newspapers in the "heart of the Empire," that the Canadian contingent, now on Salisbury Plains, will soon leave to take its place on the Empire's battle line in Belgium and Northern France. This is a distinct tribute to the quality of the Canadian force.

When the contingent reached England it was the expectation that it would be, for some time, under canvas at Salisbury seasoning out and putting the finishing touches to its military education. Even at that early day the bearing and equipment of the force won the admiration of the British military experts who saw it and at once, it won for itself the title of "the complete army."

At a dinner in London tendered to Major General the Hon. Sam Hughes, no less a personage than Earl Roberts, Field Marshal of the Empire's army, took occasion to publicly thank the Canadian Minister of Militia, and to compliment him upon the efficiency and quality of the contingent, and the remarkably quick time in which it had been organized and sent forward. At the review by His Majesty the King and staff, during the present week, military authorities again expressed themselves in terms of the highest praise upon the contingent and its fitness. And now, as if to show that the many compliments showered upon the Canadians and Canada, were not the empty platitudes of politeness but really expressed Britain's testimony that the men of the Dominion had the quality to bear well their part in the Empire's struggle, comes the opinion, from a highly authoritative source, that the Canadians are to be speedily despatched to the fighting lines.

This will be good news to every officer and man with the contingent and will also arouse a feeling of pardonable pride that the complete army, "made in Canada," has so well stood the initial tests and established its quality. On the battlefields will come the supreme trial and every man, woman and child in the Dominion will pray that our boys will emerge from it safely. But whether they are spared to return to us or are destined to leave their bodies to mingle with the dust of conflict on a hard fought field, we will not forget that Canada's gift of men has "passed muster."

Opinion seems to be divided as to whether it will be the British Navy or the Monroe Doctrine, which will prevent the Germans from sending soldiers to Canada. We incline to the navy. The Monroe Doctrine, at best, is but a "scrap of paper," while the British Navy suggests another sort of a scrap.

A German writer expresses the opinion that never again will there be a kingdom of Belgium. But we are inclined to think the Allies will have the last word about that.

Judging from the activities of the local firefighters the thing to do when the Germans come to St. John will be to ring the fire alarm.

THE HOME DEFENCE MOVEMENT IN MONTREAL

Montreal, Nov. 5.—Machine gun sections are to be added to the strength of the Montreal Home Guard Regiment, which is now being organized. It was stated today at the headquarters offices in the Transportation Building that a number of volunteers for the Home Guard had desired to contribute to the purchase of Maxim guns and the establishment of sections for this work, in addition to their ordinary subscriptions for arms.

While the work of recruiting has so far been left largely in the hands of the members of the committee, already nearly 150 volunteers have come to the headquarters office and paid in their \$35 a piece to provide for their rifles, ammunition and equipment.

For Patriotic Fund.
Hon. A. T. Dunn, Collector of Customs, has forwarded the sum of \$182.61 to the Commissioner of Customs at Ottawa for the Canadian Patriotic Fund. This amount was raised by the voluntary contribution of one day's salary from each officer of the customs staff at this port, notwithstanding they had already contributed to the local fund, also in many cases to the Belgian and Red Cross funds. If the commissioner's appeal meets with the same hearty response in other places that it has here, the result should prove very gratifying to him, as well as adding a considerable amount to this very worthy fund.

Unemployed Aliens.
The Board of Trade received a letter from the secretary of the Montreal Board yesterday thanking the St. John Board for its co-operation in the matter of unemployed aliens, and stating that at an interview on Monday last with the federal minister it was found that the government was taking satisfactory steps to meet the situation.

War - To a Woman.

Night after night wide-eyed with fear
The tramp of marching feet I hear!
The white battalions of the dead
Advancing with a thundering tread
That chills my blood and robs my brain
Of power to think! When I would fain
Flee from the sound—no matter where
I go, that tramp, tramp, tramp is there!

Each night the sound grows louder
—I
Shudder to learn the reason why!
The ranks have swelled from sun to sun,
And fresh recruiting is begun
When every reddening dawn re-tells
The death-knell of ten thousand souls!

Up country lane and city street
The armies that know no retreat
Come marching without file and drum,
With that strange thudding tread they come!
Hark! They are drawing nearer: See!
What have they come to ask of me?
Now they are halting at my door!
Death is demanding of me—more!
Merciful God! Must I too give
All that I have? Why should I live
And love and bear? Is it to feed
Just an insatiable monarch's greed?

They've gone! And down that bleeding track
Of women's hearts—none looking back—
That ceaseless tramp, tramp, tramp goes on,
And I am kneeling here—alone!
—Anon.

Before the War.

(New York Times.)

Following are samples from speeches of the Kaiser delivered in the years preceding the war:
"We are the salt of the earth; we must show ourselves worthy of our great destiny."
"There is only one law—my law; the law which I myself lay down."
"The best word is a blow—the Army and the Navy are the pillars of that State."
"A ruler may be very disagreeable, and I will be disagreeable if I think it necessary."
"The soldier must not have a will of his own—they must all have only one will, and that will mine."
"Only one is master of this country. That is I. Who opposes me, I shall crush to pieces."
"We Hohenzollerns take our crown from God alone, and to God alone we are responsible in the fulfillment of duty."
"The mighty German Army is the mainstay of the peace of Europe."
"The ocean is indispensable to German greatness. Neither on it nor across it must any great decision be again consummated without Germany and the German Emperor."
"Our German people will be the granite block on which the good God may complete His work of civilizing the world."
"Any opposition on the part of Prussian noblemen to their King is a monstrous thing."
"God liveth as of old. Our great Ally still reigneth."
"My course is the right one, and in it I shall continue."
"Neptune with his trident is a symbol for us that we have new tasks to fulfil. That trident must be in our hands."
"Furrah for the dry powder and the sharp sword, for the end we have in sight and the forces we are bending towards it, for the German Army and the German Staff!"

The German Brand of News.

(Winnipeg Free Press.)

One thing which the Ottawa government should at once do, and which it should have done weeks ago, is to exclude the Lincoln Press of Lincoln, Nebraska, from the Canadian mails. Over a month ago The Free Press drew attention to the fact that this rabidly pro-German weekly was coming into the Canadian West in large numbers. In an issue which at that time came under notice the Lincoln Press hinted that another San Houston might be found to repeat in Western Canada the history of Mexico.

Several copies of the issue of the Lincoln Press dated Oct. 28 have been sent to The Free Press by readers of this paper. This issue bears on its front page, across three columns, the heading "German Successes," and some of the sub-headings read as follows being translated:
"The Allies are Pushed Back in the East and West Along the Whole Line."
"The Ports of Verdun Fall One After the Other."
"Preparations for an Attack on England Proceed."
"England, France and Russia Lack New Recruits."
"The Prussian Parliament Unanimously Appropriates Huge Sums for the War."
"Germany, the Richest Country in Europe."

Prince Louis of Battenburg

(Ottawa Journal)

A cruel fate has fallen upon Prince Louis of Battenburg. Those who started criticism of him did a rotten thing. A man who had become a British subject at the age of fourteen, who had spent forty-six years in British naval service, who had worked his way up by merit from midshipman to Sea Lord, a man of honor by every standard, whose brothers were in the fighting line where one had just met a brave man's death, has been driven from his post by somebody's vile misapprehension and spiteful gossip. The thing isn't British. Once the attack started, the tremendous nature of the present crisis was bound to suppose to lend such weight to insinuations that neither the government nor Prince Louis could disregard them; but probably one memory of the war which will be regarded with least pride by the British people of the future will be this sacrifice of a brave and able man to contemptible suspicions.

A New Scotch Reel.

(From the London Times.)
Dance, since ye're dancing, William,
Dance up and down,
Set to your partners, William,
We'll play the tune!
See, make a bow to Paris,
Here's Antwerp too;
Off to the Gulf of Riga,
Back to Verdun—
Ay, but I'm thinking, laddie,
Ye'll use your shoon!

Dance, since ye're dancing, William,
Dance up and down,
Set to your partners, William,
We'll play the tune!
What! Wad ye stop the pipers?
Nay, 'tis over soon!
Dance, since ye're dancing,
William,
Dance ye purr loon!
Dance till ye're dizzy, William,
Dance till ye're dead, my laddie!
We play the tune!

Who's For the War?

Who's for the war, who's ready to go
To help France and England over-throw,
That boastful braggart of Teuton race,
Who destroys sacred churches and
show no grace
To works of art, be they ever so rare,
But applies the torch with its lurid glare
To ancient cathedrals and cities sublime
In his wild, mad rush up the ladder to climb
Of fame and power and might.

Who's for the war, who'll go to the
Every man in his place in the ranks
will count
With the thousands that wanted to
drive back the hordes

Of Germans and Prussians all marching
westwards
Their object is Britain the land of the
free
But we've bottled their feet up in the
North Sea.
Their armies we'll shatter their boasting
shall cease
They never again shall disturb Europe's
peace
And spread death and destruction
around.
—Fred Courtney,
Lundbreck, Alberta.

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S. Kerr.
Principal

WIRELESS STATION AT TUCKERTON, N. J., HAS NOT BEEN CLOSED

Washington, Nov. 5.—Navy department officials said tonight that the Tuckerton wireless station had not been closed, and that there would be no interference with official messages. They explained that the reason for the Western Union Telegraph Company's announcement was that the station was so congested with messages that a temporary suspension of business had been determined upon. The suspension of that business would last only three or four days, it was said, while messages on hand were being disposed of and some repairs made to the station.

A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN

Allice—What is your favorite air?
Betty—The millionaire.

One Belgian town is described as "fourteen ghosts and a dog." How did "culture" come to overlook the dog?—Wall Street Journal.

New York state is going to try to smash the egg trust. But that is a particularly hard one to unscramble.—Denver Post.

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