

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1915.

"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.

MACHINE GUNS.

The statement of Sir Robert Borden yesterday to the effect that the people of Canada would be well advised to turn the tide of their generosity into some channel other than the provision of machine guns for our soldiers at the front will not come as a surprise. As The Standard has always contended, the government stands ready and able to equip the units leaving this country for the front with all weapons necessary for them to have. This has been made plain time and time again but despite the publicity given to the fact that popular subscriptions for machine guns were not needed or desired, the flood of contributions continued to pour in.

The idea that private gifts for additional machine guns would be welcome was first promoted by Senator Loughheed, leader of the Conservative minority in the Senate of Canada. During the absence in England of Sir Robert Borden and Major General Sir Sam Hughes, Senator Loughheed efficiently performed the duties of Minister of Militia and in his well intentioned zeal for the soldiers intimated that voluntary gifts of machine guns from persons, themselves unable to go to the front, and who desired in that way to do their bit for the Empire, would not be refused. At no time, however, did Senator Loughheed or any member of the government intimate that money subscribed by loyal citizens would be used to purchase guns or other equipment with the idea of saving expenditure by the government.

When Sir Robert Borden returned to Canada he at once stated that the government would provide all the guns needed and subscriptions for that purpose were not desired. This statement he has repeated whenever opportunity offered but subscriptions have continued to come in. It would have been discourteous for the government to refuse to accept the assistance so kindly offered, and it would not have been possible to divert to other war objects gifts made for a specific purpose. Consequently, the money offered for machine guns is being devoted to that end but it is particularly requested that further similar subscriptions be not forwarded.

The generosity of the Canadian people found splendid expression in the machine gun campaign and now the opportunity is offered for a continuance of that generosity along other lines. Such deserving objects as the Canadian Patriotic Fund, the Red Cross or the Soldiers' Comforts movement can use all the money subscribed.

Sir Robert Borden, when in St. John, stated that the funds so kindly provided by popular subscription for machine guns would be spent in that way and an equivalent sum from the treasury of the country devoted to other purposes. This will be an eminently satisfactory arrangement, but it is sincerely hoped that any machine gun funds now in process of formation will be discontinued and the proceeds turned elsewhere where the money can be used to advantage.

MORE SOLDIERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK.

It is likely that arrangements will be made for recruiting the four additional battalions of soldiers authorized from this province, and that St. John will be the mobilization point for at least one of them. Particular interest, of course, will attach to the proposal for a second battalion for the 104th regiment. The record made in recruiting the number of men required for Col. Fowler's crack corps has been so good, and there is still such a demand for opportunity to serve in it that it should be decided to give the 104th a second battalion the decision would certainly be popular.

It will also be good news that another unit is likely to be stationed in St. John. At present this city has the 52nd and the Siege Battery, while the first battalion of the 104th is at Sussex, and other military forces at Fredericton. Thus, aside from the Siege Battery and the force at Fredericton, there are now two battalions in the province. Nova Scotia also has two, both stationed in Halifax, and there is, as well, in the Nova Scotia capital the usual garrison regiment, which for

years has been a regular feature of that city.
 The response to the call for recruits in this province has been good, although New Brunswick has not received full justice in the returns of recruiting sent from Halifax. There has also been a regrettable disposition on the part of some Halifax papers to intimate that this province has lagged behind in recruiting. Such claims will not deceive those who know the facts. The young men of New Brunswick are doing their duty nobly and will continue to do it so long as the need exists.

IN THE BALKANS.

Whether the situation in the Balkans develops to a point where Greece will be definitely aligned with the Allies against the Teutonic-Bulgarian combination, or whether the Hellenic nation will continue to maintain a "benevolent neutrality," it is at any rate well assured that she will not side with our enemies. The cables, a few days ago, brought the information that Greece had arranged for a loan from Great Britain and France, and that the money was at the disposal of her government. Such a concession could not have been possible unless most definite assurance was provided to Britain and France that the money from their treasury would never be used to finance a campaign against them.

Last night a despatch from New York intimated that the Greek government had been so impressed by the number of British soldiers landed at Saloniki that a change of attitude might speedily be expected. Whether this is or is not correct is unknown, but there is no doubt that no matter what Greece may decide the Allies are arranging for an offensive movement in the Balkans which will speedily thwart the designs of the enemy in that quarter. Berlin's challenge is being accepted with a vigor expected to reach its climax, possibly, in a very few weeks.

Apparently it is the present plan of the Allies to maintain the most vigorous offensive on all fronts. Russia, reformed with plenty of men and munitions is particularly aggressive in the east. The French on the western battle lines are making steady inroads upon German positions, and so long as that continues it will be difficult for the enemy to divert many men to the southern campaign which has relieved Constantinople as its objective.

While winter will have the effect of interfering with the operations in the main battle lines it will bring but little respite to the armies in the Balkans or in Turkey. The fighting areas there are a thousand miles south of Riga and several hundreds of miles south of Northern France. In that field, also, the Allies will be supported by the united fleets of Britain, France and Italy and numberless transports for the carrying of men and supplies. Germany and Austria will be forced to depend upon their railways, and with the cold weather and heavy snows, usually experienced in the northern countries, will be at a disadvantage.

Already thousands of well equipped troops have started for Serbia, and from now on the Allies should receive notable accessions of strength so that the superiority of numbers should be in time rest with them. If good fortune wills it that the armies of Greece and Roumania are added, then the campaign for Germany can have no result save disaster.

THE SHIP Famine

Why great difficulty is being experienced in arranging for the ocean transportation of the Canadian wheat crop—why ocean freight rates are so very much higher than they were before the war—can be readily understood when the facts of the situation are considered. The cause is simply a shortage in shipping. There are not enough ships in service to carry the goods awaiting transportation.

Since the beginning of the war about 3,000 ocean vessels, representing a total tonnage of nearly 4,000,000, have been put out of business one way or another. Naturally, Britain has been the heaviest loser, for she had the

most to lose. When the war broke out there were eighty British ships in enemy ports, and of course these were detained. Five hundred and sixty British merchant vessels were sunk by enemy war ships in the first year of the war—456 by cruisers and 104 by submarines. In addition, many ships of neutral nations—Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Greece and the United States—have been destroyed by German submarines and some by mines. The Hamilton Herald publishes the following table of the losses sustained by the German merchant marine.

Ships.	Tonnage.
Detained in United Kingdom overseas British ports	146 315,181
Captured in German colonial ports	21 43,367
Captured and sunk by British	8 29,424
Captured by British	78 187,765
Detained in Egyptian ports	18 36,028
Detained in Belgian ports	89 136,920
Detained in French and Russian ports	95 112,942
Detained in Italian ports	38 153,876
Captured and sunk by allies	4 3,822
Sunk or damaged by submarines, mines, etc.	25 37,985
Total	526 1,114,295

To this list must be added some twenty or thirty German ships, representing at least 50,000 tons, recently sunk in the Baltic by British submarines; also the large number of German passenger and freight steamers interned in neutral ports.

All these losses would alone be sufficient to account for a serious shortage in shipping, but to make matters worse a large proportion of the Allies' ocean-going ships have been withdrawn from the mercantile trade and are in service as transports and troop ships.

There is money in ships these days. An old vessel that would have been regarded as junk a couple of years ago is not unusual for seaworthy ships to be sold at eight or ten times the price that could be got for them before the war. One would naturally suppose that shipbuilding is one of the industries which ought to be experiencing a war boom; but probably the building of ships is checked by the fact that as soon as the war is over hundreds of vessels now detained in belligerent and neutral ports will be promptly put into service again, and prices will drop.

Soldiers' Song

Richard Butler Glaesner.
 I shall return, my lass, my lass;
 I shall be with you in the spring.
 War, like winter, will pass, will pass
 I shall return!

This is no final kiss I give:
 There will be more in months to come.
 Courage! Droop not gray and dumb!
 I shall live on....as you will live.

How do I know? I cannot say.
 Ask of the robins southward bound!
 Love, we too shall both be found.
 Here with a song this coming May.

I shall return, my lass, my lass;
 I shall be with you in the spring.
 War, like winter, will pass, will pass
 I shall return!

Taxation After The War

(Youth's Companion.)
 Already we begin to get a glimpse of what the conditions will be in Europe after the war. Vorwaerts of Berlin figures that the entire income of Germany before the war will be only a little more than enough to pay pensions and the interest on the national debt. All the ordinary costs of government—and they will be greatly increased, of course—will have to be raised by new taxation.

An Alert Canadian Lady.

("Canada," London.)

That there are German spies in London masquerading in the guise of British officers is vouched for by Mr. Edward Turner, formerly well known in Montreal, and until last week a resident of the Queen's Gate Hotel. To a representative of Canada Mr. Turner said:
 "A few days ago my wife in company with a cousin, who speaks German, was at a London railway station on the arrival of a Red Cross train. The crowd was dense, and in the crush Mrs. Turner trod on the foot of an officer wearing the uniform of a British staff officer, who, probably troubled with a gouty foot and forgetting his role, gave vent to the oath, 'Gott im Himmel' in guttural tones which betrayed his nationality. Keeping her eye upon him, but quietly edging up to one of the numerous station police around, the lady concisely explained her suspicions. It is to the credit of the official organization that immediate steps were taken, and the pseudo-British officer arrested, the name and address of the lady informant being noted. Less than a week after she received a cheque for £100 from the authorities, accompanied by an official letter of thanks for the part she had taken in ending the activities of a 'much-wanted spy.'"

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

I woke up this morning and the sun was shining three windows and awl, and it looked as if it were going to be a fine day outside, because it was a weekday, and ma put her head in through the door, saying, Well, do you intend to get up or don't you, I've called you about 10 times now.
 G. ma, I sed.
 No G. ma about it, sed ma.
 I don't think I better go to school today, I sed.
 Wait the matter, do you feel sick, sed ma.
 Which I was jest going to say I did, and then I thawt I mite haff to stay in bed awl day and take medecin maybe, and I sed, No mam.
 Well if yure not sick wats to hinder you from going to school, dont you no yure leasins, sed ma.
 Which I was jest going to say I didnt, and then I thawt maybe I wood haff to stay in awl day and study, and I sed, Yes mam.
 If you no yure leasins and yure not sick, then wat awn erth pizesses you, sed ma.
 I dont think I awt to go today, I sed.
 Well wy not, can you give me wun good reason, sed ma.
 Yes mam, I sed.
 Well give it to me, sed ma.
 I dont think I awt to go to school, because, I sed.
 Because wat, sed ma.
 Because its to rood of a day, I sed.
 Yung mam, I will give you jest 5 minits to dress yureself and report for brekfist, and if it takes you wun seckond lawngin, I wont give you a sent for recess, sed ma.
 Yes mam, I sed. And I got dressed in about a minit and a haff.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Mary McGuigan.
 The death of Mrs. Mary McGuigan, widow of Thomas McGuigan, took place yesterday morning. Although Mrs. McGuigan had been ill for some time, her death came unexpectedly at the last. Her many friends will regret to hear of her demise. One daughter—Mrs. John Carlin—and five sons survive her. The sons are Thomas, in the street railway employ in Boston; Stephen, in a shoe factory at Rockland, Mass.; Allen, living in Bangor, and William and Leo at home. The date of the funeral will be announced later.

Thomas Marry.
 Thomas Marry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Marry, 47 Douglas avenue, passed away on Wednesday. Besides his parents, he is survived by one brother, Joseph, and two sisters, Genie and Margaret, all of whom are at home. For some years the deceased was with J. K. Schofield as bookkeeper. He was an active and much valued member of St. Peter's Y. M. A., and was very popular. The funeral will

take place this morning at 8.45 o'clock from his late residence.

Mrs. Thomas Dunfield.
 The death occurred at 11.30 p. m. on the 6th inst., of Mrs. Thomas Dunfield at her late home, Portage Vale, Kings county, leaving her husband, one son, two brothers and two sisters to mourn. The son is Irvine H., of Portage Vale; the brothers, Duncan MacNaughton, of Winnipeg, and Daniel Thomas, of the street railway employ in Boston; Stephen, in a shoe factory at Rockland, Mass.; Allen, living in Bangor, and William and Leo at home. The date of the funeral will be announced later.

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PROGRAMME OF ITALIAN MUSIC

Mrs. Cortlandt Robinson
 conducts excellent entertainment at National History Society.

The afternoon on Italian music conducted by Mrs. Cortlandt Robinson in the Natural History Museum yesterday was one of the most enjoyable of what is proving to be an exceptionally entertaining and instructive course of lectures. This is the fourth lecture in the Musical Sketches course in connection with the Ladies' Association, and will be followed by one on Russian music next Thursday.
 A pleasing feature of the afternoon was the delightful musical programme illustrating the ancient plain-songs, folksongs and opera of this most musical of nations. Miss Louise Knight's rendering in Italian of both folksongs and opera was very expressive of the

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