

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1918

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THE WAR SITUATION.

Today's cables tell of further gains by the Allies on the western front. The Germans are striving desperately to check the advance, but are steadily forced to retire, and there are evidences that the retreat on some portions of the front may become a rout. The enemy pursues his customary tactics, destroying whatever he can as he retreats, and the French government has now given notice that this devastation will be visited with the most severe punishment. There can be no doubt that the Allies of France will support her in exacting the utmost reparation. It will be vengeance, but it will also be simple justice that must be meted out to the greatest criminals in history. From civilians released from the German yoke in Flanders come fresh proofs of German savagery deliberately committed during four years of occupation. There is a report from Budapest that the Bohemians are about to declare their independence. The troubles of Austria are growing. That an invasion of Turkey by way of Bulgaria is imminent appears in the statement of the French commander on the Macedonian front. King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is reported to have abdicated in favor of his son, the Crown Prince Boris. There is more and more peace talk in Germany as well as in Austria, but the Allies continue to drive steadily forward to achieve the complete victory which alone can insure a lasting peace.

THE FRIEL REPORT.

The report of Commissioner Friel on the charges made by Hon. J. B. M. Baxter against Hon. William Currie finds in brief:

1.—That the charges made by Hon. Mr. Baxter, to the effect that Hon. Mr. Currie conspired with Scaler Murchie to defraud the province, "were unfounded and utterly disproved, and that Hon. Mr. Currie is innocent of the things Murchie swore against him."

2.—That the province was defrauded out of a certain amount of money in stampage by Mr. Currie's company, but that it was done under a system endorsed by the government, and that "the scaling was done and that 'the scaler's return and other evidence show that Mr. Currie's political opponent, the member whom he defeated, actually a member of the government (Hon. Mr. Culligan) got the advantage of a reduction in his scale by the same dishonest scaler, and paid the reduced and fraudulent stampage bill with his check, in fact did the very same thing that Mr. Currie has been accused of doing."

Mr. Currie, therefore, was only guilty of following the system endorsed by the old government. He did what Culligan did and what other operators did. He followed the rule—the rotten rule—that had prevailed for so many years under the old government. Mr. Friel holds that Mr. Currie, as a representative of the people, should not have done what his predecessors had done, but should have insisted on the company paying stampage on the full cut. It is for Mr. Currie, the members of the legislature and the government to consider this view, and the evidence submitted, and decide upon the course which should now be pursued.

But if Mr. Currie signed a check for less than the actual amount of stampage due, what shall be said of the action of Mr. Baxter in making charges against a member of the legislature which are proved to be utterly false? Mr. Friel says:

"It is not so that Mr. Currie 'caused stampage to be paid by the said Continental Lumber Company upon the said reduced amount, well knowing that it was not the full and proper amount of stampage and thereby defrauded the province of a portion of its revenue.'"

The commissioner says further: "There was no scale, but whether there was or not, Mr. Currie was not responsible for any reduction."

The "system" and the scaler were responsible for that. The old government system and the old government scaler. The province is rid of them both. A new system has been adopted and hereafter there will be an honest effort to collect one hundred per cent stampage.

Meanwhile, when the house meets again Mr. Baxter will have to meet the report which says that he submitted utterly false charges against the Hon. William Currie.

LEST WE FORGET.

The Ottawa Journal-Press presents some timely reasons why there should be no lenience when the time comes to impose terms upon Germany. It says: "Let us not forget, when we are told night's cables. Because of the outbreak of Spanish influenza Ottawa has closed schools and theatres and prohibited public meetings. Well, what about that \$1,000 granted for an athletic field at Rockwood Park? The Spanish influenza draws closer to the sufferings of the German St. John

people in defeat. The cruelty of the savage may be forgiven on account of his ignorance. The reasoned cruelty of the educated people of Germany to British prisoners at the time Germany was winning cannot be forgiven. A few examples of this cruelty are given in an official British record containing the separate and individual testimony of 125 British prisoners taken in Belgium in 1914. Surely if any great sections of the German people were not in sympathy with the German government's war aims and war methods the German women would be among them. But this testimony shows that German women even surpassed the German soldiers in their educated cruelty toward those helpless British soldiers. In many places in the record are stories of German women wearing the badge of the Red Cross deliberately holding out food to the starving British only to throw it to the ground when they reached for it. Prisoners being taken in dirty horse cars from Belgium to Germany were dying of thirst and hunger."

The Journal-Press gives some extracts from the record. Lieut. Col. Nesh of the Gordon Highlanders, said:—"At Cologne I saw a female with a Red Cross badge on her, after serving our escort with coffee, deliberately pour remaining contents of the can on the ground when requested to allow us to have some."

Another officer, Major E. H. Jones, R. F. A., said:—"At every considerable station there were Red Cross women who gave our guards coffee, food, cigars, etc., but who absolutely refused us even water. I do not think that so much as a cup of water was given to us by the German Red Cross during the whole journey."

We met with the same treatment all along the line at the hands of the Red Cross and the crowd."

Lieut. Col. Collingwood, R. A. M. C., told a similar story:—"Very frequently when our men asked for coffee or soup of the Red Cross workers they were spat at or had their mouths knocked out of their hands."

Captain Browne, R. A. M. C., testified that at the various stations the Red Cross women came to the carriage windows and showed the starting prisoners coffee and sandwiches and took them away without giving them anything, at some places spitting at them. Another English officer saw "some Red Cross nurses actually bring water in cans up to our men, show it to them, and then pour it on the platform."

"That," says the Journal-Press, "was the conduct of the Red Cross women. When the prisoners were taken from the trains and marched through German towns on the way to the prison camps women of the populace surpassed the German men in insulting and abusing them, spitting in their faces frequently. These are the people we are urged to spare. Is our memory as short as that?"

The visit of Mr. Frank Stockdale to St. John should greatly stimulate the get-together sentiment among the merchants and lead not only to greater business efficiency but more of public spirit and a deeper interest in all that makes for community welfare.

New Brunswick has the greatest cause to be thankful that it is rid of the "system" of collecting stampage that prevailed under the old government. The Friel report shows how rotten that system was, and its benefits were even shared by a member of the old government.

With characteristic Hun thoroughness the Germans did what they could to wreck the Lens coal mines before they retreated. Another score to settle at Berlin.

Vorwärts wants the Allies to state the price individual nations must pay for peace. They have already given their reply. Germany must yield or be crushed.

It is not at all likely that Great Britain has taken any official notice of the Austrian peace note. The Allies will take united action when the proper time comes.

Last night's closing of the War Garden Exhibition breathed a spirit that promises well for next year, when the exhibits should fill a rink.

British, French and Americans all advanced on the western front yesterday. The enemy cannot hold them and is growing short of reserves.

"There are no signs of fresh German reserves anywhere," says one of last night's cables.

Because of the outbreak of Spanish influenza Ottawa has closed schools and theatres and prohibited public meetings.

Well, what about that \$1,000 granted for an athletic field at Rockwood Park? The Spanish influenza draws closer to the sufferings of the German St. John

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Co-Operation In
Delivery Next

Authority on Subject to Advise
Local Merchants—Mr. Stockdale in Last Address Again
Urges Get Together Idea

Quick action along co-operative lines and the forming of organizations which would have the welfare of the city for their aim, and a feeling of individual responsibility amongst their members, was the final recommendation of Frank Stockdale, when he delivered the last of his lectures on business efficiency in the hall of the Seamen's Institute last evening.

His lecture had for its theme the cash drawer value of co-operation and in the course of it he said that St. John's real problem was the high type of individualism which had been developed in its citizens. The very strength of character and high abilities which would make for a powerful community under organization were going to make a startling co-operation difficult but when once started co-operative organizations would be all the more easily formed.

He showed the folly of competition among individuals in the same community and pointed out that the real competition of the present times must be between communities, and that it was to the betterment of each individual to work for that of which it is a part of his own town. The first essential to co-operation was a social getting together of all who had the same aim, and at heart in order that they might really understand each other.

The particular instance in which co-operation was essential, Mr. Stockdale cited as advertising, general merchandising, display of goods to attract visitors to the city, and to the insurance on pool weeds and streets, the carrying of which could not be too highly emphasized. He did not think it was possible to prevent careless investment of the city to larger cities, but he did think that it was possible to attract to the city the business of the surrounding area.

That co-operation did not mean each party was going to get too highly emphasized, but that each would get an even haul was the warning which he gave. He pointed out that co-operation was not a profit, not in increased high priced stock, but in the best of all investments.

F. W. Daniel, who presided at the meeting, at the conclusion of Mr. Stockdale's address brought the matter of co-operative delivery before the meeting, and said that an expert authority on the subject would be in the city next Thursday and would address a meeting on that subject in the board of trade rooms, at 8 o'clock that evening.

Mr. B. B. Emerson moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Stockdale, which was seconded by S. H. Hawker, and carried unanimously. The recommendation of the lecturer, to get together socially, was then carried out by the serving of refreshments and the enjoyment of social evening.

The series of lectures which Mr. Stockdale delivered was eminently practical and has aroused genuine enthusiasm which will undoubtedly have lasting effect.

RECENT DEATHS

Mary Pauline Ring.
The death of Mary Pauline Ring, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Ring, occurred on October 4 at the residence of her parents, 45 Guilford street, West End, in the seventeenth year of her age. Besides her parents she leaves one brother, Robert, and a sister, Mary. The funeral will take place on Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

R. L. Gunn.
Hamilton, Ont., Oct. 4.—R. L. Gunn, secretary of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Canada, died here early today at the age of sixty-two years. Mr. Gunn was a native of Hamilton and was well known in civic, club and fraternal circles. He is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters.

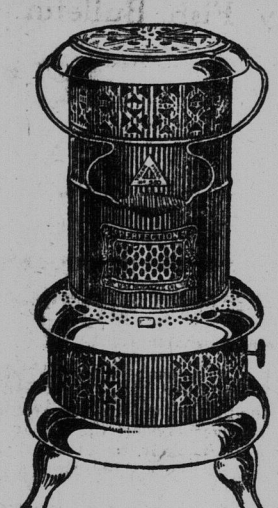
The death of John Griffin occurred at his home in Everett, Mass., on Sept. 30th. He leaves his wife, (Elizabeth), daughter of the late John and Elizabeth O'Regan of Haverhill, Kings Co., N. B., and seven children, also two sisters.

The Denver, Col., Times of August 27th, says that Charles McKnight, for twenty-one years a resident and widely known philanthropist of Denver, died on Monday. Mr. McKnight was born in New Brunswick, removing to Boston, where he remained until he finally started for Colorado in 1889. At one time he was a builder and contractor, but in recent years he was engaged in the real estate business. Two daughters survive him, Miss Nettie McKnight and Mrs. Henry H. Hayes, also five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Mr. McKnight was well known in Kings county, having been a resident of Sussex for many years prior to moving to St. John, where he conducted a wholesale milk business. His wife, formerly Miss Myers of Dutch Valley, predeceased him several years.

The death has occurred in England of Alexander Rankine, aged eighty-six. Mr. Rankine was a former resident of this city and went to the old country before the fire in 1870.

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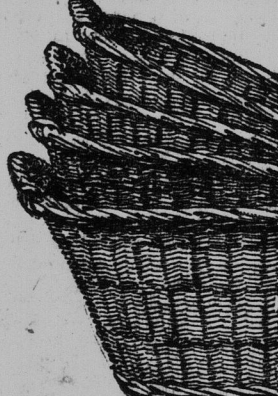


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JAPANESE OFFICERS

LEAVE FOR NEW YORK

The Japanese officials of the international Y. M. C. A. who have been visiting in St. John on their way across the continent to France where they will organize Y. M. C. A. work for the Japanese soldiers fighting on the western front, left last evening for New York where they will spend several weeks with John R. Mott, international secretary of New York.

Colonel Hasegawa, who was in charge of the party, said last evening that he had enjoyed his visit to St. John more than any other place he had visited in the dominion. He seemed very much impressed with what he had seen of Canada and said that the reports of their reception here by the Lieutenant-governor and premier of the province and the mayor and city officials, had been made direct to the emperor of Japan and would doubtless tend to make a very favorable impression and would tend to facilitate trade relations between the two countries.

The greater part of yesterday was spent by the party in the public library looking over numerous books in connection with Red Cross work, women and the war, etc., and some of these books were purchased here as well as other souvenirs and sent direct to the

QUEEN BY RANK AND

QUEEN BY NATURE

(N. Y. Times, Editorial)
What are the feelings of Queen Marie as she hears the news from Bulgaria—sees, perhaps, the signs of German withdrawal from her own country of Roumania? The strong-hearted, indomitable woman who refused to bow her head when all around her bowed theirs, how gloriously she has been vindicated! Not that the least reproach can rest for a moment on any Roumanian for surrendering to numbers in front of him and traitors behind him. The treaty of Bucharest was no treaty; it was a capitulation, the surrender of a gallant nation that was outnumbered and forced to give in. Never did Roumania, or Germany either, view it in any other light; never did Roumania give Germany the least reason to suppose that she regarded that power in any other light than as a triumphant enemy, and Roumania was obliged to post an army

empress the Japanese being great students of foreign countries with a special interest in Canada.

Captain Stokes and his wife were entertained yesterday at luncheon in the Royal Hotel. George R. Barbour, Mayor Hayes and Captain Stokes were at the train last evening to bid the party farewell who were very profuse in their thanks for the hospitality they said they had received and said they looked forward to visiting New Brunswick again.

Early in the campaign of 1916 some German aviators were sent to drop bombs on the summer home of Queen Marie. The king was at the front; the only persons in the villa were the queen, her children and some servants. It was a characteristic German act. The bombs miraculously missed the queen and her children. It was a thing to illustrate German frightfulness vividly, but it never frightened that dauntless soul for a moment. It did not seem to impress her particularly in any way, for in all these stirring splendidly-remembered appeals she has put forth, the dominant note is her yearning over her people, her distressed, oppressed people under the German yoke. All her tears and all her hopes are for them. If in this war Roumania were in the wrong instead of being in the right, still no one with any human nature in him could help a secret wish that hopes might come true for gallant Queen Marie.

Who knows but that one of these days the girls will hark back to the old-fashioned custom of wedding for love.—Butler Democrat.

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