

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William Street,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1917.

"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 WAR NEWS.

Events on the Western front cause war reviewers to take the view that the moment of the supreme military test of the whole war is at hand. Following the striking successes of the British and Canadians at Vimy Ridge, St. Quentin and in the vicinity of Lens, the French, farther south and east, started a gigantic offensive yesterday over a twenty-five mile front between Soissons and Rheims. The opening day of the movement proved markedly successful, the soldiers of the tri-color capturing several lines of German positions and taking at least 10,000 prisoners and a large supply of war materials. Lens and St. Quentin are both reported as being in flames, with their complete occupation by the Allies only a matter of hours; in fact strong British patrols have already taken up positions in Lens and have successfully defied all efforts of the enemy to dislodge them.

The French movement of yesterday strikes the so-called Hindenburg line in a new place, and while the operation is not yet completed, reports to hand indicate that the Germans are as vulnerable there as when opposed to British forces to the north and west.

The events of the past few days may be said to mark the real start of the Allied spring offensive and from all reports it is progressing with even more success than was at first indicated. The deadly precision with which the Allied troops are working in concert establishes that the whole operation has been carefully planned and leads to the belief that it was not undertaken until those guiding the movements of the men in the fighting lines were certain that they possessed the power of men and guns to carry it through to a successful conclusion.

There is no news from the Eastern front and the Russians are evidently enjoying a comparatively quiet time after their strenuous experiences of a few weeks ago. Fighting on the Italian frontier is confined to artillery duels, but from Mesopotamia comes the word that General Maude's column is continuing its successful pursuit of the Turks.

MORE HUN INHUMANITY.

Before a meeting of the New York Canadian Club, the other evening, James W. Gerard, formerly American minister to Germany, related stories of cruelties perpetrated by the Germans upon British and Canadian prisoners. Mr. Gerard did not speak from hearsay but told only of cases coming under his personal knowledge and his recital so affected those who heard him that the story was received with groans of indignation and cries of "shame."

The New York Times' report of the ex-ambassador's address says he told of nothing in a German paper one day the announcement that a number of inhabitants of a north German town had been guilty of improper and unpatriotic conduct to a number of prisoners, and had been sentenced to jail terms. Mr. Gerard concluded that this meant a stop was to be put to the practice of abusing and insulting prisoners, and instructed the American consul at the town to make a report. When he received it he learned that a trainload of Canadian prisoners-of-war had been put on a siding in the town, and that some of the men had appealed to the German spectators for food and drink. Those who yielded to the requests were subsequently punished for showing this humanity to the Canadians.

Cruelty to British and Canadian prisoners in Germany is not however, confined to the adults of that nation. The American minister said that even the children had indulged in inhuman practices with the approval of their elders, and cited instances where small boys equipped with bows were permitted to march about prison camps and shoot arrows barbed with nails at the hapless prisoners. In another camp, dogs had been trained to bite the captive British but upon threat of the American ambassador to shot the dogs this amusement was abandoned. Ambassador Gerard also vouches for the truth of the statement that when typhus was discovered among Russian prisoners, British and French prisoners were transferred to

the same camp, the Germans saying that, as allies, "they ought to stick together."

Such stories as these may not be verified until after the war but they illustrate the depth of cruelty of which the Hun is capable. It is to be expected that as the tide of war continues to run against Germany, further barbarities may be practiced upon the helpless soldiers who fall into enemy hands. This cannot be avoided but, at least, it is within the power of the British government to make definite announcement now that for any reported cruel treatment of British prisoners the sternest measures of reprisal will be exacted at the close of the war, and the punishment of those guilty, no matter what their position, will be insisted upon. If it were known in Germany that the human commandants of prison camps would be hanged on capture the fear of consequences might prove effective where appeals to manhood have failed.

DR. BELAND'S WARNING.

Canadians will do well to ponder the despatch from Quebec which says that Dr. Beland writes from Germany to say that the Dorchester bye-election campaign was followed closely by the Germans, who were much disappointed at the defeat of Lucien Cannon, the Liberal candidate.

Mr. Cannon, it will be remembered, appealed to the electors on a platform denouncing national service and declaring that Canada had done enough for England. If he had won it would have encouraged the enemy by leading them to believe that this country was growing tired of the war. The man who makes this statement, Dr. Beland, was postmaster-general in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's last cabinet and therefore cannot be suspected of being actuated by any desire to help the existing administration. His experience as a Teutonic prisoner has without doubt driven petty considerations of party entirely out of his mind, so that he speaks now from motives of pure patriotism.

"If a Liberal victory in Dorchester would have been regarded by the Germans as helpful to their cause, what would they think of a Liberal victory in the Dominion as a whole?" asks the Winnipeg Telegram. "Their view may be quite wrong. We are not concerned to argue that phase of the matter. At the very least, they would feel that an embittered political quarrel in Canada must bring them some advantage. It would inevitably mean a slackening of the national effort during and after the campaign. And in the event of a Liberal success—if such a thing can be imagined possible—it would involve confusion in the administration for months, to say nothing of the opportunity it would give certain elements of our population to proclaim plausibly that the electors had pronounced against further effort on our part."

"These are the consequences the Liberal managers are risking by dealing with the idea of forcing a general election this summer. Why will they not see that they are doing their country an injury? They can have an election if they insist; but if they do, the people will bury the Liberal party like the prohibitionist buried the devil—face down—so that the harder he kicks the deeper he goes."

ST. JOHN WILL BE IN LINE.

Those whose good fortune it was to be present at the mass meeting in the Imperial on Sunday afternoon to hear Capt. Cameron, Major Birks and Capt. Bishop, tell of the splendid practical work being carried on by the Y.M.C.A. in the interests of the boys at the front carried away with them a clearer comprehension of the magnitude of the efforts being made by the noble men who, while non-combatants in the strict sense of the word, have risked life and limb to bring comfort to the heroes who are fighting for the freedom of the world.

It is not necessary to go into this work in detail. Suffice it to say that every Canadian soldier who has gone overseas and has taken his part in the activities and duties of the firing line will bear willing testimony to the value of the Y.M.C.A. campaign in their behalf. St. John has been asked for \$15,000 to assist in this worthy cause, and it should be given cheerfully. No private effort for the welfare of our soldiers can accomplish such good results, or do such effective work, as the Y.M.C.A., with its skilled and heroic administrators, who seek to it

that the boys are furnished with the thing most needed at the time it is required. Give the boys what they want, when they want it, is the motto of Y.M.C.A. war workers, and in this they are deserving of all the assistance that can be given them. St. John has been asked for \$15,000 and St. John should provide it.

CADET WORK OUTLINED AT ROTARY CLUB

Captain R. Robinson Black in Excellent Address Urges That Training Be Made Obligatory in Schools.

Before the Rotary Club luncheon at Bond's last evening, Capt. R. Robinson Black outlined the work of the cadets in the Maritime Provinces and made a strong plea that a system of physical training should be made obligatory in the public schools. The address was a practical and business-like one and was greatly enjoyed by the large number of Rotarians present. D. Puddington presided.

Captain Black, who is the organizer and inspector of cadets for the Maritime Provinces, explained in a brief but exhaustive manner the objects of cadet training. He pointed out the advantages both physically and mentally to be derived from the adoption of this system of training in the public schools. He said that the object of his address was to enlist the sympathy of those who were perhaps the parents or guardians of the youth which would be the coming generation. He declared that military drill as taught in the schools was an educative, progressive, operative method calling for activity both in body and mind which recorded its benefits and influence during the life time and not simply as a sort of memorial, that it also inspired in the youth true and noble ideals of hearty co-operation for the individual as well as for the nation. He impressed his listeners with the fact that military training was an important factor towards the uplifting of the youth and engendering good moral, physical and intellectual knowledge thus preparing the boy for the more important future responsibility of citizenship.

The inspector then proceeded to distinguish between what was commonly called militarism and the military training which he advocated. He stated that militarism was an offensive oppression and if necessary war for conquest, valour glory or piracy, while preparedness which was the essence of cadet work aimed only at development, efficiency and thoroughness of character which meant sound patriotism and included provision for self defence and against the policy of militarism as hitherto advanced.

In conclusion the inspector impressed on the hearers the desirability of the Rotarians expressing their approval of the movement and their co-operation with those responsible in seeing to it that the military training was made obligatory in the schools of the province. The movement should be encouraged and enforced so that too much would not be left to the judgment of the individual instructor or teacher.

A vote of thanks was not proposed, but as a mark of their appreciation of his splendid address, the following resolution, moved by A. M. Eiding, and seconded by R. E. Armstrong, was tendered Captain Black: "That having heard Captain R. Robinson, the Rotary Club expresses its hearty approval of the introduction and continuation of cadet training throughout the public schools of the city and province."

Before the meeting adjourned there was a discussion relative to the proposed gardening campaign.

LIEUT. F. J. P. TRAVIS
N. B. REPRESENTATIVE

At Memorial Service for
Duchess of Connaught—
Fifth Member of Creagh's
Family Here to Enlist.

Local officers now on active service overseas in letters to friends received here yesterday, speak of the honor accorded to the New Brunswick officers and men in being asked to send a representative to the memorial service for the late Duchess of Connaught at Westminster Abbey. At a meeting



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Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPP
Said Hunts Quiet Little Cuzzin Joe,
Said Hunts got a quiet little cousin
By the name of Joe Magee.
And he leaves other people do the tawking
Wherever he happens to be.

His mother is a big fat lady
And his father not anybody, being dead.
And sometimes Joe sees Yes or No
But mostly he jest shakes his head.

He shakes it up and down instead of saying Yes
And sideways instead of saying No,
And wood properly shake it other ways for other things
Only that the only ways it will go.

The less he sees the more he hears,
And sometimes he starts in running,
And the rest don't know what he's running about
Till they hear the fire engines coming.

Instead of saying Hello when he comes up,
He jest comes up and stands
Till somebody else says, Hello Joe,
And then he waves one of his hands.

He wares his hat down over his eyes
And has stuck on Sam Crosses alister
And he may not say much when he tawks
But he's pretty good of a wiselster.

of the officers of 13th Reserve Battalion, Lieut. Fred P. J. Travis of this city was the officer selected to represent this province. Lieut. Travis reports that the service was of a most impressive character.

William Creaghan, a U.N.B. student, came to the city yesterday and joined the 9th Siege Battery. He is a son of J. D. Creaghan of Newville, and is the fifth member of his family to join the colors. A brother, Gerald Creaghan, who was with the Royal Flying Corps, was quite severely wounded. Mr. Wm. Creaghan has secured leave of absence to complete his studies at Fredericton and will rejoin the battery after he has received his degree next month.

NEW SOCIALIST PARTY FORMED IN GERMANY

Amsterdam, via London, April 16.—The Vorwarts, the German Socialist organ, announces that as a result of a conference at Gotha, a new Socialist party has been formed by Socialists opposed to the Philip Scheitmann party. The new party will be known as the Independent Socialist Democratic party of Germany. The president of the central executive are Hugo Haase and George Ledebour.

The policy of the new party is described as fundamental opposition to the prevailing government system, its war policy and to the pro-government policy of the normal Socialist party. Socialists to the number of 148 participated at the conference at Gotha, including fifteen members of the Reichstag.

Alkali in Soap Bad For the Hair

Soap should be used very carefully, if you want to keep your hair looking its best. Don't use soaps and prepared shampoos that contain too much alkali. This dries the scalp, makes the hair brittle, and ruins it. The best thing for steady use is just ordinary mulitised coconut oil (which is pure and greaseless), and is better than the most expensive soap or anything else you can use.

One or two teaspoonfuls will cleanse the hair and scalp thoroughly. Simply moisten the hair with water and rub it in. It makes an abundance of rich, creamy lather, which rinses out easily, removing every particle of dust, dirt, dandruff and excessive oil. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and it leaves the scalp soft, and the hair fine and silky, bright, lustrous, fluffy and easy to manage.

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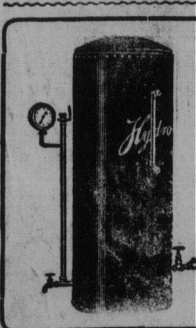
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