



## Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - Proprietor  
C. T. JAMES, - - - - Editor

SATURDAY, April 20, 1918.

### An Outrage.

It is generally talked of about town to-day that one of the first acts of the Government, after the meeting of the Legislature on Tuesday, will be to bring in a Bill to re-extend the life of the present Assembly for another year. If such is the intention, and there is no reason to doubt it, a more glaring outrage cannot be perpetrated. The country will not stand for it, and notice is hereby served on His Excellency the Governor that assent to a Bill of this nature will arouse a storm of protest from all parts of the Island. As it is, we protest in the name of the people against the bare thought of this attempt. With but a two-thirds representation in the House of Assembly at present and with many seats vacant, any measure to prolong the life of the Government is calculated to bring disaster and discredit upon this Dominion. We sound the warning note to-day. Next week we shall deal further with this matter and some details in connection with it. In the meantime let the people prepare themselves for the fight for their Constitutional rights which the National (?) Government would take away without hesitation.

### Success to the Soldiers.

The returned Soldiers, and the rejected Volunteers are certainly putting any amount of energy into the work which they have undertaken in behalf of the Regiment, and have succeeded in arousing a popular sentiment which promises to be greater than ever. They are leaving nothing undone to create the feeling that the boys "over there" are confiding in the loyalty and patriotism of their friends on this side, and in proving that this dependence is not going shagging for the lack of response. If any additional testimony is needed as evidence of their efforts, the grand meeting of last night at the Casino, supplies it. A wave of enthusiasm swept over the gathering from the very start and interest was maintained throughout.

Now it is perfectly obvious that this great Soldiers' movement cannot be carried on without funds. As money is the sinews of war, so in this case will it be the sinews of the campaign, and we are all equally responsible for

its success. We all want to see the spirit with which the Soldiers appeal will be met, spread throughout the land. It will set aside for all time doubts, which may have arisen, that patriotism is dead, and will show that the soul of Britain lives in ancient and loyal Newfoundland. But the response to the call for men must be prompt. The gaps must be filled early. The Regiment cannot wait, neither can Newfoundland delay. Therefore if money be wanting, let it be contributed freely and generously.

It would not be fair to the boys to have them give up for lack of financial assistance, neither will it be fair to expect them to go forth without the power of the dollar behind them. Fill their treasury to overflowing with money. They are doing it all for the cause and their hearts are overflowing with loyalty to their pals, who are looking anxiously to the West for the expected and much needed reinforcements. Help them along. Instead of their fund showing hundreds make it read thousands. The commercial body by donating advertising space to the Soldiers are materially helping—and they are doing more than this. They are giving liberal sums toward defraying the expenses of the various parties going out. The Government, too, should do its bit, but any contribution from them should be accepted as a subscription only, and should not be regarded as imposing any obligation on the Soldiers to depart from their fixed methods of procedure. The time is passing, and the need is imperative. From the blood soaked fields of Flanders comes the insistent call: "Send us men to fill the gaps." Heed the call, send the men; pile up the money for this aggressive form of recruiting and make the Soldiers campaign a success. Three hundred men are wanted now; the young men inscribe their names on the honor roll of this complement, or will they wait UNTIL SELECTIVE CONSCRIPTION TAKES THEM?

### Boys of the Outports We Want Your Help.

We want it at once. We know you are not going to fall down on us. Our Armies in France are being hard pressed, and we know you are not going to let them down. Our Regiment is with these Armies, and is short of men. Your men went out with continuous fighting, on your behalf, on behalf of your families, may be overwhelmed. We do not believe that when you know your pals need help, so badly, you are going to leave them in distress.

To leave them would be absolutely the same as if you saw a friend of yours fall overboard from his boat and heard him call to you for help, and you said "let him drown, I'm quite comfortable where I am, in my boat," or "if I get out after him I may get wet." Or if you said, "I am too busy catching fish to attend to him."

Now there are people who tell us that all some outport men care for is how much fish they can catch, and how much they can get for it. But we do not believe this, and we tell them so strongly. We know your outports men well, and have seen you daring death for your friends. We have seen you braving dangers. We know your hospitality. We know your large heartedness.

St. John's is away ahead of you in sending men to the Regiment, and we trust that you may be good enough to keep ahead of you, but we can't afford to have you too far behind us. We want your company. St. John's is giving freely now of its men to help the Empire in its distress, but we send the call to you. Come and help us. Boys you won't fail us.

Any of you who go now will be better looked after than before, as we have formed here in St. John's an Association of Returned Soldiers who will look after the interests of the men at the Front, the men going, and the men returning. If there are any troubles, correspond with or see personally, the President of Our Association, Ex-Sergeant H. Mitchell; Secretary, Ex-Private Bert Harris, or Committee Men—Ex-Sergeant John Robinson or Ex-Corporal Peter Mansfield. If any of you have troubles now remember the Army Motto—"Grouse all the time if you like to, but quit grouching in time of danger." No returned man will chance seeing his pals in the trenches overwhelmed because he was slack in getting help sent him.

No Real Man will see another man dying for him, and do so with utter disregard.

MEN VOLUNTEER AT ONCE. THE NEED IS IMPERATIVE. DON'T WAIT TILL SELECTIVE CONSCRIPTION GOES THROUGH.

## MARGINAL NOTES

By Commentator.

### THE WAR.

The close of a momentous week, which contained days as black and threatening almost as any in the whole course of the war, leaves us with confidence renewed in the spirit and strength of the magnificent British Army. It has stood a searching test with superb success. When the sheer weight of the Hun masses burst their way through to Bailleul and took and held Wytschaete and part at least of the famous Messines Ridge, things looked dark indeed. The double thrust north and south, was a most serious one. The first, which smashed the whole Ypres salient, was met by a successful withdrawal of the most advanced lines before the city, a necessary precaution should a large retirement be necessary. From all accounts it would appear that the line here is stronger than before. The thrust to the south, that is the whole Lens region, has also been met by the resistance of the British, which has now stiffened into iron. Though fresh attacks are to be expected, they will need to be tremendously strong to break it. The redoubtable P. Schendele crest would be regrettable were it not that geography has ceased to have the importance it has hitherto in the trench warfare. Portions of these battles it is the casualty lists, not the maps, that matter.

Besides the encouraging stiffening of the British Army in the face of great odds, there are several notable points about the week's fighting. One is the arrival of French reinforcements on the British front, another, illustrating in similar fashion the now complete unity of all three armies, the despatch of an Italian contingent to France at a moment when a tremendous blow hangs imminent over the Italian front itself. Neither of these events would be practicable if such unity had not been established, and also if the enemy had not already begun to lose much of the initiative. Thus, it is almost certain that the French reinforcements have come from another part of the line, not from the main reserve which is being held ready for the great counter-attack; whereas it is equally probable that the German main reserve is being drawn on heavily. The Allies' strategy is becoming more apparent as the situation develops. It consists simply in holding the lines with the greatest tenacity and with the fewest possible forces consistent with safety, while the reserve army is preparing Germany is absolutely committed to the offensive, and will continue long after it has become hopeless: to let up for an instant, even for preparation for a new stroke, would be too disastrous a confession of failure. Then, when the German masses have dashed themselves to pieces against a line which cannot be broken and their reserves are comparatively exhausted, a fresh and very large Entente army will deal a blow which may or may not be fended. Perhaps we shall not have long to wait to see.

Elloquent hints come from Austria and the desert with the resignation of Czernin and the Hungarian cabinet, and threats of May-day peace demonstrations, things are evidently not too rosy in the Dual Empire. It will be interesting, too, to see how the great Austrian offensive fares without any

substantial help from Germany, who has her hands full in France and Flanders. If it breaks down ignominiously—though we would be foolish to expect it—the Allies may find in Austrian war weariness the equivalent of many victories on the West front.

### THE IRISH MUDDLE.

Muddle seems the only name for it, though the word usually suggests some muddier or other, and it would be hard to single one out here for especial blame with so many at fault. Distressful Ireland has Home Rule at last offered her, not as an empty Act on the statute book but as a real practical change of system; but there is tacked onto it a condition, conscription, which is so little to her liking that she forgets the consummation of her heart's desire in resenting and opposing it. Ulster, on the other hand, which is apparently indifferent as to conscription, is hotly opposed to Home Rule, and thus are the two irreconcilable elements in Ireland united for once against the twin programme of the Government, but for very different reasons. I may not be very much au fait with the merits of the case, but it seems to me that the large part of Ireland which has been fighting so long for self-government, and which has now a great chance to put itself entirely in the right, is choosing instead to put itself entirely in the wrong. It denounces conscription as unjust, tyrannical and so on. That is nonsense. It is no more unjust in Ireland than in any other part of the Empire or of the world, if only because this war is no less Ireland's war than any other country's in the Empire. If the Irish would accept conscription, or make it unnecessary, they would show themselves not merely entitled to Home Rule but deserving of it; they would give a few hundred thousand fine fighting men to the cause at a time when it is in desperate need of them; and if Ulster made any kick it would be smothered at once under a universal wave of indignation. By their present attitude they bid fair to enlist outside sympathy instead with the recalcitrant province. What will come of it I cannot say, but it is to be hoped that British sense and the critical needs of the times will be the most potent factors in smoothing out the situation and bringing the most good out of it.

### FINE WORK.

Hats off to the soldiers! In one week they have added—for it is they that have done it—more than a hundred recruits to the roll and stirred the country as it never was stirred before. They have at any rate thoroughly stirred St. John's to-day and to-morrow they are going to stir Bell Island, and the outports' turn is coming. A new force has made its appearance in our national life, for the soldiers are certain to be a factor in more public questions from this on than recruiting. That, however, is the most pressing duty, and it is to be hoped that the infection of enthusiasm which so happily seized on St. John's will spread all over the Island and send every man that can go to the colours. It will mean, not only that the Regiment will stay in the line, but will be in at the finish.

### Should be Inquired Into

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir—I drop you a line to endeavor to ascertain whether the Government is aware of the strange position occupied by our resident Mail Clerk in this place.

In the first place, no one knows what he really does to earn his salary. At first he was supposed to travel on the steamers and assort the mail en route. And later he was sent in on the trains, returning from Bay of Islands; but now he does neither, nor anything else that we can see to earn his salary.

Very often our letters and papers go in on the line and have to be sent back here again. Having so little to do the time hangs heavily on his hands, and doubtless this is the reason for his new occupation as Chairman of the local N. I. W. Is the Government really aware of this?

I remain, dear sir, Yours truly, ARGUS.

Channel, April 15, 1918.

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This space given to the Regiment by S. MILLEY.

### McMurdo's Store News.

SATURDAY, April 20.

There is no doubt of the quality of the Fertilizers put up by the Colonial Fertilizer Co., of Windsor, N.S., because they have been making Fertilizers under war conditions during the last three seasons, and their Fertilizers have given remarkably good results to farmers and gardeners who have used them. You take therefore take no chances by using these Fertilizers, their record is established as an excellent one, and this season's manufacture will be found in quality and fertilizing power, quite up to those of last season. Owing to the increased cost of materials, Colonial Fertilizers are somewhat more expensive this year, but in this case as in most others, it pays to get the best. Price (bag of 167 lbs.) \$7. a bag.

### DIED.

This morning, after a short illness, Mr. Thomas Morris, aged 66 years. Funeral on Monday at 2.30 p.m. from his late residence, Stewart Avenue; friends will please accept this, the only intimation. No flowers.

Passed peacefully away at New York, on April 2nd, after a long and painful illness, Margaret Maud, daughter of the late Wm. and Rosanna Stockman, Petty Harbour, and beloved wife of E. M. Lindquist; she leaves to mourn her one daughter, three sons (two of whom are studying for the priesthood), mother, five brothers, two sisters and a large circle of friends. Interment was at Calvary Cemetery, N.Y. Rest in peace. Passed peacefully away this morning, after a short illness, fortified by the rites of the Holy Catholic Church, Anthony Gardiner, aged 76 years and 6 months, leaving to mourn him one son, one daughter and five grandchildren; funeral on Monday, at 2.30 p.m., from his late residence, 14 Fourn Street; friends and acquaintances please accept this intimation.

## G. Knowling, Ltd.

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ap18,41,42,43,44

### "Against the Wall"

When England's back is "gainst the wall,"  
She's not undone;  
Old England has been there before,  
And yet, hath won!

With back against the wall she takes  
A breathing spell,  
Then hurls herself upon her foes  
And gives them hell!

Even though the Germans forward pressed,  
A mighty host,  
Each foot they got was purchased at  
A fatal cost!

While England fights for truth, and right,  
All will be well;  
Her righteous cause makes England's strength  
Invincible!

But those that trust in Force and Hate,  
Dig their own pit;  
And, soon or late, are surely doomed  
To fall in it!

Of deeds sublime our lads performed  
A goodly share;  
And they, till final victory's won,  
Will do and dare!

FRED. B. WOOD.

St. John's, Nfld., April 18th, 1918.

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