

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1921.

## GERMANY AND REPARATIONS

Although Germany has decided to accept without any reservation the terms of the latest Allied note, it will hardly be safe to put too much trust in her promises. If her people feel like paying the instalments, they may as well pay them; if they don't feel like it, they won't. Germany's economic situation is such that she cannot possibly meet her obligations under the Peace Treaty, and as for disarmament, knowing the German character, he would be a very sanguine man indeed who trusted to her carrying out this part of the arrangement honestly. They will always have some excuse or other for retaining a certain amount of secret military preparedness.

The Allies having renounced the first of May payments, Germany should not have any trouble in meeting the immediate payments which are not large. There never was a more brazen piece of impudence in history than the cry of the German nation that they cannot pay the indemnity demanded of them. As M. Briand, the French Premier, said recently to an American interviewer, Germany's evident prosperity proves that her plea of poverty is only a pretence. If there had been any real desire to honor her obligations under the Peace Treaty, Germany's representatives at the London Conference would have accepted the generous offer of the Allies to take far less than then due, instead of putting forward impossible figures, which were too absurd to be seriously meant. The Allies did not formulate the reparations agreed upon in Paris haphazardly; they were the result of the most exact and careful calculations of Germany's capacity to pay, made by some of the most competent financial experts in Europe.

Recently a circular has been sent by a German financial establishment to a number of firms in Alsace and Lorraine to the following effect:—"We beg to inform you that we are in a position to advance to flourishing industrial establishments, on well-secured mortgage, several millions of marks, for long periods. We shall be obliged if you will let us know whether you care to avail yourself of our assistance." In face of such an offer, which we believe is typical of many others which are being made in Germany just now, no one can seriously pretend that Germany can no longer pay if she was willing to do so.

In this connection it is interesting to note the comparative figures of the taxation in Germany and the principal Allied countries which were given the other day in the British House of Commons. The following estimate had been made of the total tax revenue per head in the countries named: Germany, 199 marks; France, 350 francs; Italy, 290 lire; and the United Kingdom, £22. At the present moment the exchange rate of the German mark is 24 to the £, so that the German taxpayer pays actually less than £2 10s. per head, compared with Britain's tremendous burden of £22. So monstrous an injustice to the victors in a great struggle like that from which we have just emerged calls out for drastic measures to secure that Germany is made to feel the pinch to the utmost extent possible. It is to be hoped that the present scheme will prove successful but if it does not, the Allies must devise other means of insisting on the payment of an indemnity which, large as it is, will alone only in slight measure for the wrong Germany has done.

## WHY THE DELAY?

Considerable local interest attaches to the prospective appointment here of an officer to succeed Mr. David H. Waterbury as representative of the Public Works Department. This office, it is understood, carries with it a salary of something like twenty-eight hundred dollars per year and is thus an object of solicitude on the part of several who believe themselves to be well qualified, both technically and by their profession of political faith, to fill it. Mr. Waterbury has been for some little time desirous of retiring on superannuation, but during the earlier part of this year a question arose as to the amount of the allowance to which he was entitled, this question being due to the circumstance that his entire career has not been spent in the same department. The matter is understood, has been adjusted satisfactorily, and on March 1st, Mr. Waterbury was granted two months' leave of absence on full pay, the understanding being that he was to retire at the expiration of that leave, by which time it was hoped a successor would have been appointed. The time limit has been reached, in fact the new appointment is now two months overdue, but so far as can be learned has not yet been announced. Meanwhile several reputable citizens of St. John are wondering why

word has not come of them of their selection for the job, in view of the fact that the position had been definitely promised to them. There were in all eight applicants for the office, of whom two were considered to have no claim. Of the other six, four are returned men, and the other two have very strong claims, not merely as lifelong supporters of the political party at present in power, but through patriotic services rendered during the war years. Of this group, three at least claim to have the definite promise of the position, while the other three state that they have been given very strong assurances as to their ultimate selection. The impression prevails that it is because of the difficulty in making a choice between these various applicants that the matter has not already been settled; but certainly in the interests of the department, and for the peace of mind of those particularly concerned, it would be wise to have the announcement without any longer delay than the importance of the question compels.

## THE EUROPEAN SITUATION

Premier Lloyd-George takes a very serious view of the situation in Central Europe, and this is perhaps not to be wondered at. He fears that unless the Polish insurgents are dealt with sternly, Europe is likely to be embroiled in another war. The knowledge of the outside world as to actual conditions in Silesia is not very extensive; but it is pretty generally recognized that the outbreak there is not an ordinary industrial revolt. It is rather what a contemporary calls "an application of the time-honored principle of 'win the war, lose the peace'." The Allies have a few troops in Silesia, British, French and Italian, who were acting as police to regulate the taking of the referendum vote. But they are isolated and powerless against a general uprising except through Allied prestige—or German assistance.

A general uprising has taken place against the terms of the division of the territory. It has undoubtedly been deliberately concocted with the connivance of the Polish people. How far it has a communist complexion is not easy to say. But the insurgents are well armed by all accounts, and if they are armed with guns supplied to Poland by France in order to fight Russia, this fact would add a touch of irony which the French, with their well known taste for the ironic, may well be left to enjoy.

The Allied troops have simply been pushed to one side. They have been incapable of putting the insurrection down, and the handful of Italian troops which made the attempt have been severely handled.

The question is asked, from what quarter is authority to emerge for the maintenance of law and order? The Allies possess the force no doubt, but how is it possible for them to apply force in time? Who then is to receive a mandate to restore order? Poland, Germany or Czechoslovakia? Poland is in sympathy with the insurrection. Czechoslovakia seems already ready to be intervening to further interests of her own.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

**The Ideal Tax.**  
 There is only one fair and equitable tax law. That is one under which the other fellow pays all the taxes—Edmund County Budget.

**Rough on the Premier.**  
 "Premier Drury and Mr. Ransy make a splendid combination," says the Toronto Star. Surely the Premier does not deserve this rebuke—Kingston Whig.

**What Spells It.**  
 An English novelist took his first look at Broadway avenue with light. He read the flashing and leaping signs and said: "How much more wonderful it would be for a man who couldn't read."—Argonaut.

**Let's Keep It Dark.**  
 Again the expert anglers are going forth carrying all the finest trout flies they can get from expert counsellors on finding a few fishworms, if necessary, under logs near the stream. But, for goodness sake don't mention it.—Toronto Star.

**Facts Have To Be Faced.**  
 The national conference of builders and building trades union has not been able to find a road leading to increased volume of business. There is no royal road. The only path back to normal conditions is that which is being followed slowly and painfully by Capital and Labor in many other industries—the path of reduction of cost of materials, of wages and of profits. Industry cannot continue to sit around on financial stilts. It must get down to earth again.—Toronto Globe.

**As Might Be Expected.**  
 While the Bolshevik commercial agent Krassins is preparing to visit Canada to promote commerce with this country, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer is charging that the Soviet Government agreement with Britain has already been broken. Sir Robert Horne refers to Bolshevik operations in Afghanistan for the overthrow of British rule in India. It was one of the conditions of the commercial agreement that these activities should cease. Sir Robert Horne sets forth that they are continued and that the Moscow government is conspiring with anti-British tribal leaders on the frontiers of India. We need no conclude that this discovery is a surprise to the British authorities. They had evidence in England of the political and faith of the Soviet Government. The agreement with Krassins serves the purpose of showing the futility of any kind of compact with the Lenin administration. France and the United States have recognized this fact from the beginning. We are left to guess whether Mr. Lloyd George was more than the statement of Washington and Paris, or has been trying a little experiment to instruct some of his radical fellow countrymen.—Vancouver Province.

## A BIT OF VERSE

### A LITTLE PATRIOT'S PRAYER.

Out in our deep Canadian woods,  
 When they wear the springtime green,  
 By young, sharp eyes in eager quest,  
 Is the whitethroat sparrow seen.  
 But even though our eyes do not pick him out,  
 From the rest of the feathered throng  
 He makes his welcome presence known.  
 By his patriotic song:  
 "God Bless Canada, Canada,  
 Canada."  
 About our cities his stay is short,  
 For his spirit drives him forth.  
 He seeks the depth of the coolest woods,  
 With the watchword "Farther north."  
 So the lean explorer, breaking paths  
 In June Timiskaming,  
 Smiles as he sees his little friend  
 And hears him boldly sing:  
 "God Bless Canada, Canada,  
 Canada."  
 And the lonely father, bailing furs,  
 Where the mighty Nelson flows,  
 And the mission folk in the white log house,  
 Where the struggling garden grows,  
 And the sunburnt men of the boat brigade  
 As they pole their skiffs along,  
 These all rejoice as they hark to hear  
 His joyful, prayerful song:  
 "God Bless Canada, Canada,  
 Canada."  
 And, when because of winter's cold  
 And days of frost and rime,  
 An exile from his native land,  
 He seeks a warmer clime,  
 Though forced like captive Israel  
 Into lands to roam,  
 His song, like their in Babylon,  
 Is ever of his home:  
 "God Bless Canada, Canada,  
 Canada."  
 —James Lawler.

## THE LAUGH LINE

**On the Sea.**  
 Wife (trying to comfort seasick hubby)—Darling, has the moon come up yet?  
 Husband (weak-voiced)—It has it swallowed it.

**Cited For Valor.**  
 The swain and his swainess had just encountered a bulldog that looked as if he might shake a mean lower jaw.  
 "Why, Percy," she exclaimed as he started a tragic retreat, "You always swore you would face death for me."  
 "I would," he hung back over his shoulder, "but that darn dog ain't dead."

**Hard On Uncle.**  
 Mamma—Now, Teddie, wouldn't you like to be a banker like Uncle Peter when you grow up?  
 Teddie—Well, Mamma, couldn't I be a banker without being like Uncle Peter?

**A 90 Per Cent. Advantage.**  
 Mother (to battered son)—Johnny, how often have I told you to stop before fighting and count a hundred?  
 Johnny—That's what I did, but the other kid's mother only told him to count ten.

## Benny's Note Book

**BY LEE PAPE**  
 This afternoon I was wawking home and I saw my sister Gladis wawking in front of me with a box looking like a box of candy, me thinking, G.  
 And I quick hurried up and cawt up to her, saying, Hello Gladis, you didn't know I was in back of you, did you?  
 No, and I'm not especially excited now that I've found it out, sed Gladis.  
 Not sounding very encouraging, and I sed, Well, I'll wawk the rest of the way with you anyway so you'll have company. The pleasure will be all yours, sed Gladis. Her still being mad at me for wawking her up at 7 o'clock this morning by playing handball on the outside of her door.  
 And we kept on wawking and after a while I sed, O, you got a packidage, haven't you? Is it heavy?  
 No, sed Gladis.  
 I was going to say if it was heavy I'd carry it for you, I sed, and Gladis sed, How can a little box with 3 cakes of soap in it be heavy, you don't you use a little judgement?  
 Soap nothing, like fun its soap, leave me smell, I sed.  
 Heer, smell, sed Gladis. And she pushed it agensst my nose so hard it felt like a punch in the nose, and I quick smelt and it was soap all rite, me saying, Hay, look out who your pushing in the nose, you don't need to think you're every-body.  
 And I ran 6 circles around her to make her mad and then decided not to go home yet after all and went around to Puds Simkinses.  
 Proving politeness is libel to have a dubble meaning.

## At Ninety Going To College This Summer

Racine, Wis., May 11.—Mrs. Amy Davis Winslip is not to let her ninety years stand between her and higher education, she told friends who congratulated her on her birthday.  
 She informed them she is going to attend the University of Wisconsin this summer. She is going to specialize in psychology, literature and sociology. She will be the oldest university student in the world.  
 "A body may grow sick and tired of 'crocheting,'" she said, "but whoever became satiated on knowledge? From the time I was a bride I had a hunger for education, but, dear me, when a woman begins to have household cares and babies she has to forget her day dreaming about education for a while."  
 She has attended five universities in the last eleven years. These were Ohio, Florida, Kansas, Wisconsin and Southern California. She made the best grades in her classes and was

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**SHIP SECURES CREW**  
 Southampton, Eng., May 13.—Royal Mail steamer **Almanac** today for South America sailed, notwithstanding the ship stewards, cooks and b. Sir Percy Bates, one of the of the Cunard line, expressed opinion today that volunteers not be required for the steamer **Almanac**, which is due to sail because the bottom had been out of the sticks.

**QUEBEC AFTER LOAN**  
 Quebec, Que., May 13.—Hon. Mitchell, provincial treasurer, has been authorized by the provincial council to contract a six million dollar loan. Three will be used for the grants one million each to the universities of McGill, Montreal and Laval. The issue will be at term of years and the bonds will bear interest.

**TH -A -7**

**The Kid**  
 filters of the ous substances carried on necessary to them, that

**Descript**  
 rear of the a vein, and the bladder tubes, which how serious normal work

**Kidney**  
 forms of kidney are the result. For instance, onset, causes inflammation, which follows and Uremia still continues. Uremia gets

**Symptoms**  
 times so in only slight a pain across the back or marked edema swelling of which shows

**The treatment**  
 active, and the blood is inflamed. Physicians circulation the finest and bladder symptoms druggist or we will refer

**National**