

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1915

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 7, 1915.

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## THE WAR NEWS

British as well as French troops have been landed at Saloniki. Italy is in full accord with the action of her allies. Roumania is apparently ready to join forces with them. The sudden and unexpected change brought about by the resignation of the Greek cabinet causes a good deal of concern, but the fact that a formal protest was made against the landing of French and British troops at Saloniki and that the majority of the Greek people are in sympathy with the cause of the Allies encourages the hope that Greece also will eventually decide to throw in her lot with the forces of Teuton and Turk. It will also be hoped that the prompt action taken by the French and British will rob Bulgaria of any strategic advantage she and Germany may have hoped to gain by an attack on Serbia. The chief interest in the war now centres in that region, although the news from the eastern front grows more encouraging, and in the west the French have gained some further success. The Italians are continuing their steady pressure along the Austrian front, where the fighting is in very difficult country. Their engineers must overcome great natural difficulties in that mountainous region, and when the story is told in full it will be found that the Italians have proved themselves both brave and resourceful. The king himself shares the dangers of his soldiers, and his example inspires them with greater enthusiasm.

The British attitude toward the war is well stated by Mr. Tennant, under-secretary for war, in an interview in the New York Sun. He says:—

"I desire to emphasize significantly that our last shot has not been fired by a long way. Germany's boast was that her west front was impenetrable. We have shown the folly of that. It is not our habit to boast, but we have a job on that we shall finish and finish as it should be finished."

## A WAR OF MILLIONS

Mr. Frank H. Simonds, in the American Review of Reviews, presents some very interesting figures regarding the number of men available for the war in the different countries, and the relative effect of a long war upon the conflicting powers. He estimates that one in ten of the population can be put in the field, and says this is not far from the figure for the Southern States in the Civil War.

On a basis of ten per cent. Germany could put in the field 6,700,000 men, Austria 5,000,000, and France 4,000,000. Russia could put in on this basis 17,000,000, but could not equip them. She could, however, put in 8,000,000 at the start and furnish 3,000,000 more each year to meet losses. England raised 3,000,000 in a year, and by the law of one-tenth would have over a million available, apart from her overseas dominions. Italy would have 3,500,000 available under the law of one-tenth. This writer makes an estimate of losses as well as of available men, and comes to the conclusion that by Aug. 1, 1916, Germany and Austria would have 3,200,000 men left to face at least 7,000,000 fully equipped men of the Allies, while the latter, especially Russia and Italy, would have large reserves to draw upon. The Teutonic Allies would thus be forced some time next summer to contract their lines very much, for they would not have enough men to hold the long front on the east and west.

There is food for thought in the figures presented by Mr. Simonds. The Allies have the advantage in the actual number of men available year after year to carry on a prolonged struggle, but at this moment their advantage in fully trained and equipped men is not so apparent. That is why Kitchener is calling for more and more men. The war is not to be brought to speedy termination, for the Teutonic Allies, leaving Turkey out of the question, have between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 men available for the fighting of the next year and these men are thoroughly equipped. There are also new elements entering into the situation in the Balkans, and it is of the utmost importance that the ranks of the allied armies be kept up to full strength and their striking power increased.

## PERVERTING HISTORY

The Germans are still confident of victory. It is announced in a Berlin newspaper that steps are already being taken to supply the German schools with material for a "right judgment on the origin and causes of the great world war." Commenting on this statement a London paper says:—

"This means, of course, that the documentary evidence which clearly attests Germany's guilt as the instigator of the war is to be 'edited' by the professors until its significance is completely reversed. The Department of Education (Kultus-Ministerium) has this matter in hand. Instructions have been given that the junior classes at the public and higher schools are to receive special instruction in the history of our own times, and a special course of history, which brings the student down to the beginning of the present war, is in preparation for the use of juvenile scholars. The ab-

surdity of attempting, at the present moment, anything like an accurate and impartial survey of the complicated international situation which existed before the war ought to be obvious even to a Prussian professor. No doubt, however, the professors will set blithely about the task of proving how Germany, the innocent, peace-loving lamb, was treacherously assailed by a band of robbers, headed by the unspeakable 'Sir Grey.' The British Foreign Secretary, by the way, has already formed the subject of a monograph by some anonymous professor, whose aim is to prove that Sir Edward Grey is a reincarnation of Machiavelli."

The walking is still good between Douglas Avenue and Indian town.

The special appeal of the Red Cross will fall on sympathetic ears throughout the British Empire.

The struggle for world supremacy in baseball will now challenge the world war for interest and attention.

There is one point of special interest in the Balkan situation. The break between king and premier in Greece did not come until after the Allies had a large number of troops landed at Saloniki.

President Wilson has been able to spare some moments from the cares of state and worries over German piracy to arrange a social treaty of his own. The chief executive of the United States is to be married before the end of the year.

The Paris papers say that trouble in the Balkans will make the Allies' task harder but that they are equal to it. That is not doubted, but there is danger of a further lengthening of the war. The keynote of success is in Lord Kitchener's words of a few days ago—give him the men and munitions he wants. This is the insisted call.

Tonight's recruiting meeting in the Opera House should be of special interest to the men of St. John. Brilliant speakers will be heard, and there is need of an awakening in this city to the grave danger which threatens the Empire. Germany wants Canada. She is fighting to secure it. She must be met in France and Belgium, and more and more Canadians must go there to defend their country.

Mayor Prink has received an invitation to have St. John represented at a meeting of the Union of Canadian Municipalities in Ottawa to discuss unemployment. If all the men who are fit and free do the job that there will be no unemployment problem. We may assume that the Union will not overlook this aspect of the question, and that it will recommend the services of more recruiting officers as a patriotic and thoroughly satisfying way of solving the problem under consideration.

The Bangor Commercial says that:—"According to the reports from Washington, the administration has planned its programme for naval improvement to include four battle cruisers, two dreadnoughts, thirty coast defense submarines, six long range cruising submarines, twenty-five torpedo boat destroyers, a scout cruiser and an adequate supply of seaplanes and auxiliary vessels. While this programme may be pruned somewhat there is no question but that the administration is thoroughly in earnest in its effort to greatly strengthen our navy and in this position has the support of the great proportion of the public. There will be opposition but with public sentiment in accord with the attitude of the administration the opposition will fail."

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DISPUTE OVER TAXES. The Fredericton Mail says that D. F. Maxwell, government engineer for the St. John & Quebec Railway, objects to paying taxes in Fredericton, contending that he is a resident of St. Stephen. He paid his taxes recently under protest and intends fighting the matter in the supreme court. It is understood that he has placed his case in the hands of Attorney General Baxter. The city council has decided to fight the case.

Because of the war the horse supply is so poor that Franklin P. Booth, director of supplies of Pittsburgh, could not find a single horse, in the sixty examined, which he considered satisfactory for the fire department. He rejected them as being too light.

What have you purchased? Every cent you spend at the patriotic auction goes to the Patriotic Fund.

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"You bet they mean something," said his more-experienced companion. "It's one of the secret signs of the Flatulent Protective League, and means 'no heat in these apartments, except in July and August.'—Pack.

"Yes," said the professor, trying hard to be entertaining. "I have spent years investigating sunspots."

"Goodness!" cried the lady with the fast-moving fan, "and they say women are inquisitive!"

Whereas the professor took the count.

The professor of jurisprudence in a western university was lecturing to 100 embryo lawyers. He asked whether anyone in America could own property. One fellow answered:

"No a criminal can't own property."

But the professor said: "Suppose a man owns a ranch, gets into trouble with his neighbor, assaults him and is put into the penitentiary. Does he still own the ranch?"

The class was unanimous that he did. "If he did not continue to own it," went on the professor, "what would become of it?"

That was supposed to settle the discussion, but one boy called out: "The lawyer would get it."

"There was a hearty laugh, of course, and the professor added:

"We learn two things from that apt remark—be a lawyer, and don't be a criminal."—Youth's Companion.

An aged person by the name of Samantha Skaggs, who for many years had resided near Ripley, Ind., and was known by her numerous descendants and all the people of the countryside as Grandmother Skaggs was compelled to go to court to testify as a witness in a lawsuit over a disputed will.

"Mrs. Skaggs," said the attorney for the defense, in cross-examining her, "may I ask how old you are?"

"Do I have to tell that judge?" she said, appealing to the court.

"Why, yes madam," replied the judge. "It's a proper question, and at your time of life you surely need not be sensitive about your age."

"Well," she answered, "I'm 97."

But she told it with evident embarrassment and reluctance.

She knew that everybody in the neighborhood believed her to be 100.

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## The Blind Men and the Elephant.

(By John G. Saxe.)

It was six men of Hindostan  
To learning much inclined,  
To learning much inclined,  
Who went to see the elephant  
(Though all of them were blind),  
That each by observation  
Might satisfy his mind.

The first approached the elephant,  
And, happening to fall  
Against his broad and sturdy side,  
At once began to bawl:  
"God bless me, but the elephant  
Is very like a wall!"

The second, feeling of the tusk,  
Cried, "Ho, what have we here  
So very round and smooth and sharp?  
To me 'tis mighty clear  
This wonder of an elephant  
Is very like a spear!"

The third approached the animal  
And, happening to take  
The squirming trunk within his hands,  
"Think boldly up he spake:  
'I see,' quoth he, 'the elephant  
Is very like a snake!'"

The fourth reached out his eager hand  
And felt about the knee:  
"What most this wondrous beast is like  
Is mighty plain," quoth he:  
'Tis clear enough the elephant  
Is very like a tree!"

The fifth who chanced to touch the ear,  
Said: "E'en the blindest man  
Can tell what this resembles most;  
Deny the fact who can,  
This marvel of an elephant  
Is very like a fan!"

The sixth no sooner had begun  
About the beast to grope  
Than, seizing on the swinging tail  
That fell within his scope,  
"I see," quoth he, "the elephant  
Is very like a rope."

## "I see," quoth he, "the elephant

Is very like a rope."

And so these men of Hindostan  
Disputed loud and long,  
Each in his own opinion  
Exceeding stiff and strong:  
Though each was partly in the right  
Yet all were in the wrong.

Moral,  
So oft in theologic wars,  
The disputants I wene,  
Rail on in utter ignorance  
Of what each other mean  
And prate about an elephant  
Not one of them has seen.

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