

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1915.

"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.

MORE "KULTUR"

The sinking by German submarines of the British steamer Seven Seas and the murder of eleven innocent non-combatants is another evidence of "kultur" which should add to the fire of resentment by this time burning, not only in the British Empire, France and Russia, but all over the civilized world. If argument was needed to convince neutral nations that it is their duty toward humanity and civilization to make common cause with the Allies and wipe the slate of the world clear of the German disgrace, it is furnished in this heartless murder of civilians by German soldiers and sailors.

German submarine warfare against England was formally inaugurated on February 18th and, up to the present, 171 murders must be charged up to the enemy's submarines. On February 20th the steamer Cambank was torpedoed in the British Channel and four lives were lost. On February 23rd the steamer Harpallion was torpedoed in the British Channel and three lives sacrificed. On February 24th, the Deptford was torpedoed in the British Channel and one life lost. On March 15th the Pinal was torpedoed in the North Sea and six lives snuffed out. On March 16th the Glartney was torpedoed in the British Channel and one life taken. The same day the Hyndford was torpedoed in the British Channel and one life lost. On March 28th the Falaba was torpedoed off Milford Haven and 118 people sent to eternity while the crews of the submarines jeered at their victims struggling in the water. On March 29th the Agulla was torpedoed off Pishguard and twenty-six lives were lost. Yesterday, April 1st, the Seven Seas was sunk by German guns and eleven officers and men sent to the bottom.

All the vessels named were unarmed merchant vessels for the most part doing a small coasting trade around the British Isles. That they should be sent to the bottom by German submarines is but an ordinary incident of the war, but when the shots against them were deliberately fired before those on board had an opportunity to escape, the crime becomes simple murder such as any outlaw might commit.

Recently there was issued an official report of atrocities perpetrated by the Germans in Northern France. Disclosures then made aroused the indignation of the world. In her submarine activities Germany has been prompted by motives similar to those which impelled her soldiers to murder helpless men, women and children in the captured towns and villages of Flanders and North France, or which sent her air squadrons forth on their baby killing missions to English coast towns.

The crimes of Germany will be amply punished in the end, but it does seem that all excuses for inaction or neutrality on the part of any civilized nation have long since disappeared. Germany has placed herself beyond the pale of international consideration. Today she is to be reckoned with as an enemy to civilization and Christianity and should be so treated. Every man's hand should be against her until she has been deprived of her power to murder and destroy. The day of "kultur" has run its course.

THE MEN AFTER ALL.

The business men who went to Fredericton yesterday to oppose before the Municipalities Committee of the Legislature, the petition asking for a plebiscite on the wisdom of changing the system of civic government took the ground that the commission plan was all right but what difficulty there was at the present time had resulted from failure to get, as commissioners, men who would measure up to the standard at first set.

The Standard has no intention of discussing, at this time, the merits or demerits of commission government but, in all humility, we venture to recall the stand this newspaper took when the matter of adopting that system was first under consideration. We then expressed the opinion that no plan of civic government could be better than the men who were

elected under it. It was the man, not the plan, that counted. Newspaper champions of commission scoffed at this idea and contended that under their system none but the very best men would be secured, that this was assured by the double election and other arguments similar in tenor. Now the admission is made that, after all, the calibre of the men elected counts for something. Such an admission is refreshing to say the least.

The action the Municipalities Committee will take on the petition asking for a plebiscite on the question of changing the system cannot be forecasted. Members of the Committee will, as is their wont, weigh carefully the evidence and render their decision accordingly. If the prayer of the petition is granted there will be an opportunity for all citizens eligible to vote in civic elections to go to the polls. If the interest in the matter is as keen on the day of voting as it appears to be today, a large vote will be polled.

BOOTS AND OTHER THINGS.

Liberal newspapers which are leaving no stone unturned to make capital against the Dominion Government out of the fact that some of the boots purchased for members of the First Contingent were less serviceable than they might have been, have not succeeded in showing that there was any wrong doing on the part of the Government or any member of it and on the whole have raised but little fire for the amount of smoke sent up before the enquiry opened and when it was quite safe to make irresponsible statements without being called upon to furnish the proof.

It is quite right that there should be enquiries into such matters whenever the opposition cares to ask for them and in this case, as in all others since it came into power, the Borden Government has amply shown that it has nothing to conceal. "This is an open committee," said Chairman Middlebro the other day and that statement explains as clearly as any the attitude of the Government toward the whole affair. If there has been wrong-doing on the part of some dishonest contractor the Government cannot be held accountable. One interesting item appeared the other day. A Mr. Slater testified that he had submitted a tender in competition with other manufacturers to provide certain boots at \$3.85 per pair. The contract was awarded to him and some of the boots furnished were rejected while some others did not prove entirely satisfactory. When summoned to the stand to give evidence he swore that he had supplied the same class of boots to the Liberal government at the time of the South African war and at that time his price was \$4.00 per pair. That contract was not secured in competition with other firms. Needless to say, Mr. Slater is a Liberal.

Discussing the whole matter the Mail and Empire remarks editorially: "In the matter of the boots supplied to the soldiers of the first contingent there was little fire to account for the great smoke that was raised. The boots have for the most part served their turn. On the whole, those supplied to the first contingent for the period of training appear to compare not unfavorably with those usually supplied by army contractors for like service. The proper shoeing of troops is always a difficulty, and there are always complaints from some wearers of the new boots distributed to troops. But that is no reason why the utmost pains should not be taken to get every soldier fitted with the most serviceable boots.

"Doubtless there would have been less to complain about had the demand on account of the contingent not been so sudden and so large. Upwards of 30,000 men had to be shod and otherwise equipped for the camp and the field on scarcely more than a moment's notice. In such circumstances, the most conscientious manufacturers might find it difficult to avoid the inclusion of some unsatisfactory pieces of footwear. But it would be no excuse for the use of rotten material or dishonest work. For that there should be severe penalties. It is very manifest that the Government did its best, and should receive ungrudging praise

from all quarters for its really wonderful work in so speedily getting that large contingent enlisted, organized, equipped, trained and put on a war footing."

Love and Hate

England to Germany.

You poison the springs that should ever flow
To aid the bright flowers of peace to grow;
You teach little children in school to pray
That curses may blight, and that wrath may slay;
You plant in the soil of their young hearts seeds
Of baneful, destructive and deadly weeds;
You rob them of vision of higher view;
You wither their power to be pure and true;
You turn them away from love's garden gate,
And chill their warm blood with your hiss of hate,
But back o'er your land all your curse clouds roll
To darken and shrivel you nation's soul.

You savagely boasted your brutal might,
And scornfully sneered when men spoke of right;
Refused to be true to the pledge you signed,
And jeered at the nations a bond could bind;
Defying humanity's moral laws,
You murdered the helpless without a cause;
You secretly tried an infamous plan
To sow deadly strife between man and man;
Your foul plots miscarried, perfidy failed,
The nations awoke and the right prevailed.
Now, facing in terror avenging fate,
You shriek in your fury the curse of hate.

We heed not your curses. We know God hears
The cry of the nation whose bitter tears
Flow out from the heart that in anguish bleeds
Because of your merciless, ruthless deeds.
Brave Belgium's blessing of prayer and praise
The curse of your venomous hate outweighs.
We sprang to her aid with our souls aflame
To save from dishonor old England's name.
Peace lovers are we, but true Britons fight
When freedom is threatened by despot might.
We hate not your nation. We fight that we
May aid in the struggle to make men free.

For all that you did in your brilliant past
We thank you, but mourn that, misled at last,
You sullied the fame of your noble state,
And shadowed your soul with the curse of hate.
Base, selfish ambition has made you blind,
Has narrowed your vision and warped your mind.
We hope you will learn, when the strife is o'er,
That all war is evil, and fight no more;
That hate is a monster, whose fatal breath
Bears ever a message of gloom and death;
That love is the highest power man can know
To start the divine in his life to grow.
—James L. Hughes.

THE PROFESSOR WHO TALKED.

(London Free Press.)
Prof. Adam Shortt, who drifted away from the halls of education to the service of his beloved country at a salary somewhat fatter than professors are paid, and whose friend, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, made his berth so secure that only a united Parliament and Senate might remove him, has been active in providing Sir Wilfrid with campaign material.

The estimable professor has permitted himself to be interviewed by the Liberal newspaper at Ottawa, which quoted him as saying that the Conservatives had dismissed 2,000 employees and had engaged in their place 10,000. The statement was at once made use of by the Opposition. Notwithstanding that the falsity of the professor's alleged statement might easily have been ascertained, the Liberal "information bureau" conducted at Ottawa for party campaign purposes published the professor's statement as though it were true. It now turns out that Professor Shortt explains his position by saying the figures he quoted were themselves obtained from the Ottawa Liberal newspaper. Here we have the completed circle of misstatement. It was originated by the Ottawa Liberal newspaper, reiterated and given authority by the professor, repeated by the Liberal news bureau monthly and traced back to the Liberal newspaper.

There have been comparatively few dismissals. In the natural order of things men in the civil service have resigned, some have grown old, some have become incapacitated through illness and some have died. There have also been additions to the number of employees, the country has been advancing, its responsibilities have been increasing. It is like a great prosperous business concern that, as its responsibilities and duties increase, must necessarily increase its business staff. Canada is at war today and great numbers of men are required in the militia department not needed in times of peace.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

I was taking mo noo dawg out for a wawk today, wich he wawks fine considring hes only 6 weeks old, ony he falls awn his nose wensvrr he trys to run, awn akount of his legs not beeing very tite yet, and wen we got to the cornlr whs kumng erround it but Pods Simkinsee slay cun-zin Persey.

G, wats that, you dont call that dawg, do you, sed Persey.
Its a better dawg than youll evrr have, I sed.
Wich it is, and Persey sed, Wat kind of a dawg is it.
Its a Airdale, I sed.
Aw, nevrr herd of that kind, sed Persey.
That dont prove anything, I sed.
And wats moar, thare aint eny sutch kind, said Persey.
That shows how mutch you no, bekause heers wun rite heer, aint you, Spourt, I sed. And Spourt startid to wag his tale, beeing jest about big enuff to wag with a litle bald spot awn the end of it wats it was cut awf.
Thare you are, I sed, that shows weathir hes a Airdale or not.
Airdale, wats that meen, dux it meen he calm out of the air, or wat, sed Persey.
Thats awf rite wat it meens, if you had wun like it youd think you was grate awf rite, I sed.
Wish jest then the dawg startid to bark like anything at Persey, and I sed, Thats rite, sick him, Spourt, he ses you aint a Airdale.
And Spourt startid to jump up awn Perseys big leg and bite his neez, and Persey startid to jump erround, saying, Stop that, take him awf, take him awf. Beeing scared as anything, awn akount of not beeing hard to scare, anyway. And Spourt kepp awn barking and jumping up and trying to bite Perseys neez, and I sed, Well, wat kind of a dawg is he, is he a Airdale or aint he.

Hes a Airdale, hes a Airdale, sed Persey, take him awf, hes a Airdale, take him awf.
Let him alone, Spourt, he ses yure a Airdale, I sed. And Spourt stoped jumping up awn Persey and startid to play with a peece of pair awn the avment. Proving he noz wat kind of a dawg he is no mattir weathir enyboddy elts dux or not.

NEW SIGNAL STATION

C.P.R. claims many advantages over other methods of signalling.

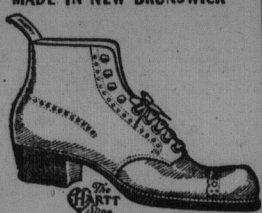
W. E. Benn, of McAdam Junction, was in the city yesterday. He is well known in C. P. R. circles, and has been busy of late in connection with the providing of plans for the installation of an entirely new signal system for both freight and passenger service. George E. Davis, who accompanied Mr. Benn, is acting as manager for the Benn Train Signal Company, which has been duly incorporated and has its headquarters at St. Leonard.

The signal system invented by Mr. Benn provides, it is said, ready communication from the rear of a train to the engine, and vice versa. It is thought that it will take the place of the air-communicating system. The signal has been tried out, during the past six weeks, by J. Ogilvie, of the Railway Commission, who has been much impressed with the usefulness of the appliance. He advises a six months' trial on all lines available. The signal in question is an electric appliance, communication being made between cars through contact in the air-brake hoses. One of the advantages claimed for it is that the signal will be both a time and life saver. It is claimed that it will remove the necessity of trainmen going over the tops of cars when in motion, as is so often done in freight service. It is also said that the installation of the signal will result in a

cut in the cost of repairs. For some time past the development of the Benn Train Signal system has been watched with interest by trainmen and others, both in Canada and the United States.

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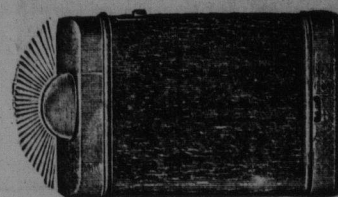
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Many Soldiers in Jail
The county jail has been very seldom clear of a soldier during the past few months and it was stated that last night there were over twenty soldiers behind the bars. A picket from the 26th Battalion is doing the rounds during the day and evening gathering in any soldiers who are intoxicated otherwise acting badly. The service of the local police are not called now and when a soldier is placed under guard he is not taken to the police station cells to spend the night but landed in jail. About eight or ten soldiers were locked up in the jail last night, the majority for drunkenness.