

# POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1918

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 27, 1918.

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### THE WAR SITUATION.

The world waits for the next move on the part of the Central Powers. They have failed on the western front and the Italian front. It is generally believed the next blow will be struck in France, and soon. Today's cables report a serious epidemic of influenza in the German army, but it is added that there is no evidence that this is responsible for postponement of the offensive. The longer the enemy delays, the more American troops he will have to reckon with, and therefore an early resumption of the offensive is anticipated.

A French official statement warns against founding extravagant hopes upon what may happen in Austria, as the chances of a successful revolt there are not very good, despite the food-famine and growing discontent. It is quite true that Austria is not in a favorable position for breaking away from Germany. She must look to the latter country for what food she requires, as the Allies could not supply it, and Austria's debt to Germany is enormous. Moreover there are said to be eleven different nationalities in Austria-Hungary, some of whom hate each other as much as any of them hate the Germans. The aims of Austrians and Hungarians are not the same. Thus an attempt at revolution on the part of one group might not be supported by the others. As time goes on the dual monarchy will undoubtedly be seething with the spirit of revolt, but as yet the iron will of Germany is supreme. Revolution, disintegration and reconstruction are coming, but perhaps not as soon as we are tempted to hope. It is nevertheless true that Austria today is a menace to Germany and is daily becoming a less formidable factor in the war.

A new turn is given to the discussion of Russian affairs by the arrival of Kerensky in London, en route to America, and his assertion that the Russian people are turning again toward the Allies. In that direction the outlook improves. Replying to criticism of Von Kuehlmann's reference in his speech in the German Reichstag to diplomatic negotiations, the foreign secretary hastened to say that military success must precede any such negotiations, and Chancellor Von Hertling emphasized the same point. In other words, they still profess to believe in German victory. There is, however, a hint in today's cables that Von Kuehlmann may be invited to resign office.

### HOUSING IN CANADA.

National and Municipal Housing is one of the subjects to be discussed at the annual convention in Victoria, B. C., next month of the Union of Canadian Municipalities. It will be introduced by Mr. Thomas Adams, town-planning expert of the Commission of Conservation.

The housing problem will be acute after the war. It is now attracting national-wide attention. In Ontario there is now a shortage of houses, that is especially felt in Toronto, and in that city it is almost daily discussed in the newspapers. Some proposals which have been made are stoutly opposed on the ground that they would result in a new tenement problem. The Globe calls for individual homes as far as it may be practicable. The medical health officer protests against the creation of tenement districts. The Globe says:

"The aim should be to provide houses of moderate cost or rental, suitable for wage-earners, in parts where the land has not been fully occupied, where space may be obtained for lawns and gardens. The city, like other communities, is paying the penalty of rapid growth, in the penalty of land speculation and of the short-sightedness of municipal government in not protecting citizens against it. The solution of the housing problem, or such a partial solution as land abuses will permit, is related to transportation facilities. When a single street car fare will carry a passenger to the city limits in any direction, building will be given an impetus in the suburbs, where vacant land is still plentiful. Rapid and adequate transit must soon follow the acquisition of the street railway lines by the city. Housing programmes and policies should be based upon this development of the near future. It would be a blunder which could not be rectified if in the meantime rows of unsightly tenements, built with no regard for the amenities, crowded upon sites with no room for playgrounds or gardens, were to be rushed up in localities where individual houses are still the rule."

The Toronto News is decidedly radical in its views, and declares that municipal housing must come, not only in Toronto but throughout Ontario. It says:

"Houses are needed in Toronto, in Hamilton, in London, in Peterboro, in every industrial part of Ontario. Because of the scarcity, families are 'doubling up'; that is to say, the occupant of a house sub-lets the bath-room flat. All sanitary conveniences must serve both families. There are common halls upstairs and down, and a common front door. Privacy, which is the chief end of family life, is not to be obtained under such conditions."

The News protests vigorously against

the remedy offered by tenement houses erected by speculation after the city has lowered its building requirements to suit them, citing Montreal as an illustration of the evils of this policy. It warns the city council to walk warily, and remarks that Philadelphia was careless some years ago with the result that "Hell's half-acre" is within easy distance of the City Hall. It says that only when there is a financial depression are houses plentiful and rents low, and that "housing as a private enterprise carried on by private builders is a failure." Then it says:

"Municipal housing will come in Toronto and in all Ontario. How soon? That depends upon the ability of the Trades and Labor leaders to stir the community out of its indifference. For community housing is primarily a Labor assembly housing problem. Good housing is important not only to Labor. It is of vital interest to the manufacturer and the business man. Efficient labor seldom comes from a slum area. The common interest in suppressing all in the way of the spread of communicable disease makes modern municipal housing vital to every man, woman and child in the community."

Continuing, the News cites the example of the United States in appropriating \$10,000,000 to house its munition and other war workers, and that of England which has undertaken housing schemes at great cost. Ontario has a provincial act enabling private capitalists to co-operate with the municipalities, which guarantees bonds to an amount not exceeding 65 per cent of the value of the completed property. The News understands, however, that the Toronto Housing Company, operating on this plan, has not yet paid a dividend. Hence it says:

"This plan is better than none, but it has disadvantages in large scale operations. It is not always easy to find men of wealth willing or able to invest large sums with the prospect of a mere bank-interest as a return. The burden should be directly upon the municipality as a public utility investment."

A committee has just been appointed by the Ontario government, with Sir John Willison as chairman, to investigate housing conditions in Ontario. Sir John, in a recent interview, said:

"I should think we will take some evidence, but my point of view is that it would be waste of time and money to prove that there is a scarcity of houses, as we all know a scarcity exists. The business of the commission will be to get the best information possible in the shortest space of time and recommend a remedy, if one can be suggested."

"Although Great Britain has spent millions of pounds since the war began to provide houses for the workers in munition and industrial plants, which the war has made necessary, and while the United States has appropriated hundreds of millions of dollars for the same purposes, in Canada we have as yet done nothing along these lines."

Bangor Commercial: A special correspondent of the New York Herald, who has just returned from a stay of five months in Russia, states that Lenin is simply an agent of Germany, a decision reached long ago by many Americans who have not been favored with a close-up view of Russian conditions. The Herald further states that the Bolshevik ideas advanced by Lenin were made in Germany and that the revolution in Moscow that aided in placing the Bolshevik leaders in control was engineered by Germans and led by German officers and prisoners of war. But the correspondent believes that the day of Lenin and his colleagues has about reached its sunset, the reaction against them reaching everywhere in Russia and being participated in by the vast majority of the Russian people.

Apparently the western grain crop will not be as good as had been hoped for. There is the more reason for substituting other foods for wheat, and relying as much as possible of the crop for export to England, France and Italy.

Archibald S. Hurd, the British naval writer, is very optimistic in his description of the present situation in regard to the fight against the submarine.

REPLY OF FRENCH PREMIER TO CARDINAL. Paris, June 27.—(Havas Agency)—In answer to a letter from Cardinal Luçon, Archbishop of Rheims, who wrote President Poincaré asking that official public prayers for France be said, Premier Clemenceau said that all citizens of France are free to assemble in the churches for the ceremonies the cardinal desires but that the law prohibits official participation by the government in religious ceremonies.

M. Clemenceau added that he appreciates the nobleness of the sentiment which inspired the request of the cardinal and said that the sympathies of the government and of all French people were entirely with those persons, "who make an effort to contribute by prayers or acts to the triumph of our great fatherland."

### LIGHTER VEIN

Why He Wished to Marry. A Galveston widow says that the latest proposal she has received was from a professional loafer, who said he wanted place to stay at night after the pool halls close.—Galveston News.

### His Mistake.

Officer—Say, you didn't see the sign on the door, "Private entrance?" "Ehmer—Y-y-yes, sir, I'm a p-p-private, sir."

### Tedious Experience.

"How old are you?" asked the minister of a small boy who was celebrating his birthday. "I'm four years old," replied the youngster, "and I'm glad of it, too. I was getting awful tired of being three all the time."

### Still Here.

A sick man had just emerged from a long delirium. "Where am I?" he asked, very feebly, as he felt the loving hands making him comfortable. "Where am I?" In heaven?" "No dearie," said his wife gently, "I am still with you."

### 124,525 MORE CALLED TO COLORS IN U. S.

Washington, June 26.—White and colored draft registrants numbering 124,525 were summoned to the colors for general military service in a call issued today by Provost Marshal General Crowder. Mobilization will take place at intervals during the month of July, starting with the enlistment of 27,257 white selected men on July 5.

## Blame the Nerves

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Misses and Children's Brown Strap, Red Rubber Sole, \$1.00.  
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## RUMOR THAT FOSTER WILL GO TO SENATE

Ottawa Citizen Says Hon. A. K. MacLean May Get Portfolio—Other Changes Possible.

Ottawa, June 27.—The Citizens says this morning: "When Sir Robert Borden returns to the capital, rumor has it that a number of changes will be made in the cabinet. It is reported, for instance, that Sir George Foster, minister of trade and commerce, will go to the senate and retire from the department, while Hon. A. K. MacLean, who made good as acting minister of finance, is likely to get a full cabinet portfolio. At present he has none, but is head of a committee on reconstruction and development."

"The announcement that Dr. Blondin is to return to the post office department suggests the probability of his qualifying with a seat in the senate. It is rumored, for example, that Lieutenant-Governor Leblanc, of Quebec, will resign because of ill health and be succeeded by Hon. Joseph Bolduc, speaker of the senate, thus creating a vacancy in the upper house for Mr. Blondin. A parliamentary secretaryship of the post office department may be created, and in that connection the name of J. E. Armstrong, of East Lambton, is prominently men."

"Other changes are also mooted. It is to be remembered that the prime minister is pledged to give liberals cabinet representation on the fifty-fifty basis and they are now about three short of it, so the new men are likely to be largely of that political stripe. F. F. Pardee and one or two of the prominent men not in politics may land in the cabinet. If Mr. Crothers retires, Hon. Gideon Robertson, with a seat in the house, would probably succeed him."

## ROTARIANS ENDORSE MILITARY TRAINING

Donald MacRae, of Halifax, Outlines Conditions Necessary for Durable Peace.

Kansas City, Mo., June 26.—A resolution pledging "unqualified support of the principle of universal obligatory

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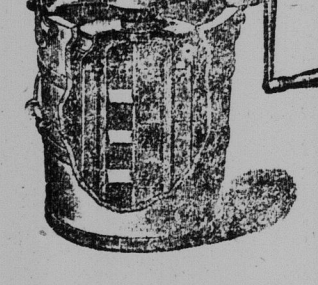
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Don't argue. Production and economy are patriotism.—Canada Food Board.

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### VIOLATION OF FOOD RULES RESULTING IN PENALTIES.

Orono, Me., June 27.—According to advice received by Federal Food Administrator Leon S. Merrill more than 800 penalties for violations of rules and regulations governing licensed dealers in foodstuffs have been imposed during the last ten months by the United States food administration. About 150 companies and individuals have been ordered to quit business in licensed commodities for a limited or unlimited period, and over 600 have voluntarily made a money payment, usually to the Red Cross or have temporarily abstained from doing business, rather than risk calling down drastic penalties upon their heads.

A vast number of other cases have been disposed of by federal food administrators in the various states and territories under the authority of, but without specific appeal to, headquarters at Washington. In a large number of other cases the desired compliance has been secured without penalty. More than 2,200 cases arising out of shipment of foods, many of them perishable, have been disposed of.

U. S. soldiers have been declared immune from state court alimony orders.

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