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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1918.

"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.

THE FOOD REGULATIONS.

That there should be some criticism of the Canada Food Board's regulations to prevent the hoarding of flour, sugar and other foodstuffs is probably natural, but those who criticise should be very sure of their ground before attempting to create opposition to the measures, and even then, it is a question whether, under the circumstances, criticism is patriotic.

Possibly the impression created by the first publication of the regulation governing the quantity of flour and sugar a householder is permitted to have in the family larder did not represent the intention of the Board. It is now stated by officials who went to Ottawa to confer with members of the Board and obtain a clearer idea of the rule, that it is not the intention that broken packages of flour or sugar shall be returned provided those goods were not purchased in excessive quantities and with the intention of hoarding. This is the sensible view of the case. In this province flour is generally purchased by the barrel or half barrel and for the ordinary family either of these packages would mean more than a fifteen day supply, the time set by law. It is not to be supposed that the inspectors, whose duty it will be to enforce observance of the law, will take from the housewife possessing one barrel of flour all of that necessary article in excess of a fifteen day supply. The most reasonable construction does not warrant such a supposition, yet it is on that ground that much of the criticism is based.

The Canada Food Board, like every other organization endeavoring to render service to Canada and the Empire, is striving to do its very best to discharge its duties faithfully and competently. It deserves, and it can demand, the support and co-operation of all. But it does not aim to be unreasonable or to inflict hardship. The food hoarders upon whom the latest regulation is intended to bear are not the "one barrel, or the half barrel" men and women, but the gentlemen who have laid in five, ten, twenty, fifty or one hundred barrels of flour and are holding it for use against the possibility of a shortage. To compel such hoarders to disgorge is a patriotic duty in which all Canadians should join.

It is probable that the new food regulations will be thoroughly explained before they come into effect and that the officials chosen to administer them will be men of ordinary discretion. In the meantime it is just as well to refrain from criticism which as often as not has its only foundation in misunderstanding or lack of knowledge. The members of the Food Board are men of integrity and ability; they have no interest to serve save the interest of the nation and the Empire and the regulations they have enacted will enforce are framed with that single end in view. It is well to keep that in mind.

THE REAL QUEBEC.

Recent amendments to the Military Service Act which have rendered the terms of that measure even more drastic than originally are held to be largely responsible for a change in the spirit of the Province of Quebec. The Militia Department at Ottawa has received partial returns of the enrollment in the various provinces for the past three weeks and it is most gratifying to learn that in the number of young men reporting to the colors in that time Quebec stands first. In part this may be due to the fact that the number of men secured in that province was not proportionately as large as in the other provinces. Or the member for St. Hyacinthe, Mr. L. J. Gauthier, may have explained the case in a sentence when he said in Parliament, recently, that Quebec regarded the Military Service Act in its original form as a measure to enable the granting of exemptions from service and energetically proceeded to apply for them. The new law Quebec looks upon as a regulation to provide for securing men for the Canadian army and is willing and ready to co-operate in its successful enforcement.

The causes contributing to the effect of enrollment in Quebec matter but little; the really important thing is that the enrollment is being secured, that the young men of the St. Lawrence province are now rallying to the colors with the commendable energy and spirit their English speaking brothers displayed earlier in the war. Quebec has come to realize the need and with that in mind is obeying the law. Nothing will give greater satisfaction in Canada than the knowledge that the real spirit is being shown by the men of Quebec. It is now possible

for Canada to go forward unitedly and every true Canadian will earnestly endeavor to perpetuate the entente born of service in the common cause. Whatever differences of opinion may have existed as to the part played by the St. Lawrence province in this war there should be no room in future for differences, or misunderstandings. Quebec is doing her share and the English speaking provinces of Canada rejoice in the fact of her splendid co-operation.

CATCH THE QUARTERS.

It is estimated that up to May 1st the thrift stamp campaign in the United States had yielded to government funds nearly \$200,000,000 and this very excellent plan of attracting the war chest is still being pressed with all vigor. The Toronto Globe suggests that the Finance Department of the Canadian Government might introduce the thrift stamps in this country with much profit, and calls attention to the fact that a plan for their use was drawn up some months ago by S. B. McCready of the Organisation of Resources Committee. Mr. McCready provided for the sale of stamps in denominations of five, ten and twenty-five cents, to be pasted in books supplied for the purpose, which books, when filled, would be exchanged at any post office for War Savings certificates. The certificates should be for one dollar, two dollars, and five dollars. The one-dollar certificate would be obtained by the presentation of 86 cents in stamps, the two-dollar certificate for \$1.72, and the five-dollar certificate for \$4.30. To make up odd amounts of 86 cents or \$1.72, ordinary one and two-cent stamps could be used to supplement the thrift stamps. Payments would be made when certificates matured to any one presenting them, providing they were properly endorsed.

The thrift stamps in the United States have proved an ingenious device for enlisting "small change"—the nickels and quarters—in the country's service, but they have done more. They have been a universal education in saving and patriotism. Millions of boys and girls who carry stamp books acquire saving habits and a sense of national service. In Great Britain the results of a similar plan have been equally successful. It has reached millions who would find it inconvenient to buy bonds or certificates by the usual method of payment. The adoption of the scheme in Canada would undoubtedly prove a great success.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

The newspaper world has lost a notable figure in the death of James Gordon Bennett, proprietor of the New York Herald. Mr. Bennett had been regarded as the greatest of American newspaper publishers, and his paper was for years recognized as the best school of practical journalism in existence. He entered the newspaper profession by the front door, as it were, his father having established and owned the Herald, which was a valuable property when the younger Bennett was born. It was the desire of the father that the son should know how to manage the property which would one day be his, and his education in school and college was directed along that line. The consequence was that at the elder Bennett's death James Gordon Bennett, Jr., was able to continue the great enterprise his father had established.

Mr. Bennett was never a weighty editorial writer. He centred his attention and interest in the collection and publication of news, and under his aggressive management the Herald speedily became the foremost newspaper in America. Some years ago Mr. Bennett removed to Paris, where he resided up to the time of his death. It is said that his periodical visits to New York were occasions of feverish activity and not a little anxiety in the Herald office, as he was a man of whims and would discharge his departmental heads and put new men in their places without a moment's warning. It has been held as an axiom of newspaper management that a successful organization cannot be built "over night," but the history of the Herald will stand as an absolute refutation of that, for no matter how much new blood was injected into the management of that newspaper, Mr. Bennett always managed to get men who could produce results. In his death journalism loses a leader and the United States of America a citizen whose influence was always to be found on the side of patriotic endeavor.

Criticisms the Food Board's Regulations.

Kingston, N. B., May, 14th 1918.
To The Editor of The Standard,
Sir:

Through Union we will get peace and through Union only; but if it keeps on I am afraid that through Union Government or rather through its food board—we will get the next thing to a Civil War. In yesterday's paper I read a letter from a Norton party, signed "One interested" (I guess we are all interested) who spoke of the non-sensical method of the Food Board re-conversion of flour and sugar, and I think he named it rightly.

The Farmers and Dairyman's Association at Fredericton this winter strongly condemned the action of the millers in forcing flour on, not only dealers, but also farmers who bought feed in carload lots. I heard one farmer say that he had 20 bbls. of flour that he did not want. When is he to return this to; the miller he bought it from out west? If so has he to pay the freight? No wonder our Norton friend called it non-sensical. I also heard of a man who has to take flour to get his feed and because he could not get rid of it was feeding it to his pigs.

I think if the Food Board had been up to its job last fall and the law, it matters not on the millers and after fixing prices made them stand by them, and not allow them to ship more flour around than the people wanted when it was needed overseas, and when rolling in from Germany, the shortage of flour in Canada yet at any rate, and the drastic action now coming in force might have been postponed until they had time to consider and construct a better method of saving.

Now that the grinding season is over for most of the mills, at least, the government shuts down on private property to try to undo what all winter they have allowed the mills to do while they turned a deaf ear to these same private parties.

Steps are also being taken to conserve sugar and yet all winter they have allowed the mills to do while they turned a deaf ear to these same private parties.

Summarizing the results of Daylight Saving which has been in operation in the United States since the first of April, the New York Times says that apart from the economizing of coal, concerning which there is no exact data, "there is no doubt that the time change has been a great advantage to the people. The change of the clocks caused nothing of trouble, confusion, or injury to anybody except a microscopic minority of persons who in ignorance or obstinacy failed to make the readjustment when other people did, and consequently, for a few hours, found themselves in one or another trivial way out of touch with their neighbors. All this disappeared well within a single day, and already the very fact of the change has practically been forgotten by everybody." It is no harder, the Times adds, now to go to bed and not ease to get up at the accustomed or necessary clock-hour than it was before, and though somebody does speak once in a while about what time it "really" is, such perversity is merely humorous, and nobody fails to enjoy and profit by the longer hours of the day.

The idea of abandoning it, ever, in peace or war, never enters any mind."

The Soldiers of France.

(New York Herald.)
What a beautiful tribute to the spirit of France is that paid by the unnamed banker of New York, now with the American forces in France, whose letter to his father was printed Thursday:

"You cannot ever beat the French, he wrote. They are superb in their dauntless courage. It is a case of sheer nerve, backed by a something that knows no defeat, the spirit of supermen in the simple, patient heart of children. The lesson of how to live nobly and how to die nobly is what they teach ceaselessly, and it is a heritage they are leaving to their children, and to the world's children, the value of which can never be assessed. As a sergeant said to me yesterday, 'It's in the blood, and it is. They laugh, they curse, they sing, they play, and when each crisis comes they rise as one man to attain a grandeur of sacrifice almost undreamed of.'"

It is one man's testimony, and yet how many times since the German beast set out to rob them of their country has its truthfulness been proven by the acts of the men of France! It was that spirit of the child that saved Verdun. It was that grandeur of sacrifice which inspired a division of the army of France, its identity not yet revealed, to hold Kemmel Hill until the last man was wiped out. Every man of that division knew that it meant certain death for him, but each made of himself a willing sacrifice in order that the line behind that position might be made strong—and for the glory of France.

Fly Italy's Flag.

(Baltimore Star.)
Let Italy's colors fly with those of the United States, France and Great Britain from private home and public building! Those who realize all our stomach little ally is doing for the great cause of freedom from Hun aggression have twined the flag of Italy with those of the other members of the Entente, but there are many who

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Mr. Perkins came to see my sister Gladis yesterday, and they was in the parlor talking to each other and I waked in, saying, Wat do you think, Gladis?
Wat? sed Gladis.
Wat, I sed.
Wat, wat? sed Gladis.
Thawts, you think thawts, dont you? I sed.
Very funny, Im sure, now take yourself for a little wawk, sed Gladis. Meaning for me to get out of the parlor. Which I did, and pop was jest coming down stairs to go out, and I sed, G pop, wats you think?
Wat? sed pop.
Thawts, I sed.
Ha ha ha, sed pop, the little imp gets brighter and more like his father every day.
Wy dont you go in and tell it to Gladis, pop, shes in the parlor with Mr. Perkins, I sed.
A good idea needs no arguement, sed pop. And he went in the parlor, saying, Well, well, Gladis wat do you think?
Wat? sed Gladis.
Thawts, sed pop.
Now father, I think this is reely too mutch, sed Gladis.
Wy, thats not so mutch, sed pop.
I think it was bad enuff for you to send Benny in hear to annoy me with that drefill joak, without coming in and saying it all over agen yourself, sed Gladis.
Ah, ha, I shoudent say that if I smelt a rat. Benny, I wood a word with these wats are you? sed pop. With by that time I was out the front door and quick going up the street.

have not so honored her. Italy's armies are not taking part in any spectacular battles where hundreds of thousands of lives are lost, but they are doing valiant work in keeping the Austrians so busy they cannot send help to Germany on the western front. Italy has to conquer and overcome mountains, she has had to fight underground and underhand intrigue and propaganda carried on by Germany. Her battles have been against unseen odds, and she has won, perhaps, greater for having to wage her fight against these insidious foes. Her recent setback was not due to lack of heroism, but to the effects of lies spread by the Huns. Her soldiers are as valiant as any, they demonstrated their superiority to the Austrians when they invaded that country and overran the region of the Trentino. Had Germany not come to the rescue of her confederate Austria might now be out of the war. These feats may not seem large now, but they will count in the end; they are counting now. The least we can do is to give Italy's flag a place of honor. She deserves it.

A BIT OF VERSE

LONDON RIVER.
Half a score o' sailormen that want to sail once more,
Cruising round the waterside with the pater at the fore,
Half a score o' sailormen the seal never drawn
(Seven days in open boats a-drifting up and down!)
Out to find another ship and sail from London Town.
Half a score o' sailormen broke and down on the rocks,
Linking down Commercial Road, tramping round the docks,
Half a score o' sailormen, torpedoes thrice before—
Once was in the Channel chops, once was off the Nore,
Last was in the open sea a hundred mile from shore,
Half a score o' sailormen that want to sail again—
And her cargo's all aboard her and it's blowing up for rain!
Half a score o' sailormen that won't come home to tea,
For she's dropping down the river with the Duster dying free.
Down the London River on the road to the open sea!
—C. F. S. in Punch.

A BIT OF FUN

NEARLY STRIKE TWO.
Charles Barrett, the baseball scout, tells of a game between some colored brethren in Waco, Texas.
The umpire was a short, thin fellow, hardly five and a half feet high. The chap at bat was easily six feet and weighed well over 200 pounds. The pitcher curved the ball over the plate, waist high.
"One," called the umpire.
"What's that?" yelled the big man with a scowl.
"One strike," said the umpire, weakly.
Next time the pitcher out the plate.
"Two," called the umpire.
"What did you say?" demanded the batter, taking a step toward the thin fellow.
"Two, two—too high," was the reply.

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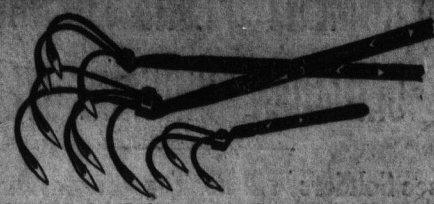
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