

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY OCTOBER 2, 1917

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THE WAR SITUATION

Surely the time has come when Britain should serve notice on Germany that if she does not stop dropping bombs on hospitals and undefended cities, towns and villages, a relentless policy of reprisals will be carried out. Apparent nothing but the most ruthless methods will impress the Hun, and France has already adopted the bomb for bomb policy.

The Germans are making desperate efforts to prevent the British from rolling up their right flank and advancing along the Belgian coast upon their submarine bases. That they are able to strike hard is shown by the laconic sentence in last night's cable: "The Germans attacked again north of Ypres and succeeded in capturing a British advanced post." They are also pressing hard against the French front, though without success. The actual superiority of both British and French has been clearly shown, but we are told that the German defensive strength, "while shaken, remains powerful." It is believed that the Allies are about to launch another terrific drive, of which news should come within the next day or two.

It is very satisfactory to note that what news comes from Russia is encouraging, and that the Germans have again been forced to give ground at one point on the Riga front. The Italians also have resisted heavy Austrian attacks with success, and increased the number of prisoners taken. We would like to believe that there is some foundation for the rumor that when Greece is ready to throw 300,000 men fully equipped into the field the Allies at Saloniki will invade Bulgaria. If Germany could be cut off from communication with Turkey another valuable source of supplies would be closed to her.

Washington is interested in the report that Germany is using agents who pose as neutrals to go on board American merchant ships and betray them to the submarines. Another story tells of a group of Egyptian plotters, financed by German gold, who operated in the Levant, Paris and Switzerland. The full story of German intrigue is rapidly unfolding, and it will be without parallel in human history.

Emphasis is laid in Allied countries upon the absolute necessity of conserving food and providing more tonnage for the transport of food and fighting men, especially from this side of the Atlantic. Official Germany is still strong for a continuance of the war, in the hope of gaining favorable peace terms, and the Allies must face the conditions and see to it that neither ships nor food nor men are lacking, however long the struggle may continue.

FOOD AND CONSERVATION

Addresses of exceptional interest and value were those delivered before members of the Board of Trade and Rotary Club last evening by Hon. J. F. Tweeddale and Dr. Keirstead. The one dealt with food production and the other with food conservation. The one was thus the supplement of the other, and each was dealt with by a man thoroughly conversant with his subject and fully versed in its importance.

Hon. Mr. Tweeddale set out very clearly the change in methods of agriculture, making it necessary for the agriculturist to be a student and able to apply science and modern methods to his task in order to achieve success. His review of what his department is doing by means of district representatives to take the latest knowledge and the best methods to the farmer; and of what it is doing to encourage co-operation, better drainage, rotation of crops, the raising of live stock, better dairying, better culture and other branches of the industry showed clearly that provincial agriculture is entering upon an era which promises results of the highest value. Mr. Tweeddale is emphatic in declaring that the raising of live stock should be given more attention in this province than any other branch, because the conditions are such as to make it the more promising and profitable. What he was compelled to say about the relative quality of New Brunswick cheese was not complimentary, but was offset by the statement that a great improvement has been made in some factories, while others are beginning to see the financial benefit to be derived from producing an article that will compete with the Ontario product. The formation of boys and girls clubs, the holding of fairs where the products of their skill compete, and the plan to give agricultural teaching a more prominent place in the course of instruction in the public schools are all hopeful indications. As Dr. Keirstead observed, in comment on the minister's address, the latter should receive the hearty sympathy and support of all the people in his efforts to improve what is, after all, the great basic industry of New Brunswick.

Dr. Keirstead made a strong point, however, when he deprecated that policy of partisanship which would have a man fail rather than succeed if

he belonged to the other party. Dealing then with his own particular subject, Dr. Keirstead presented a conclusive array of facts to prove that there is a real world-shortage of wheat, beef and bacon; and that the appeals made by the British, American and Canadian food controllers ought to appear in the strongest manner to the people of the United States and Canada. The figures presented to show how much food is wasted were startling, and not less impressive were those showing how enormous an aggregate of food could be saved for export if each individual practised a little self-denial and used food substitutes quite as good from the standpoint of health and vigor. When we consider the statements he quoted from Lord Rhonda and Mr. Hoover, along with that of the British shipping director who says that in the next six months the German submarines may sink two hundred more ships than can be built to replace them, we are confronted with the grim fact that indifference and waste on our part mean starvation for some of the unfortunate people in Europe, if indeed they do not mean greater suffering from our own soldiers at the front.

This question of food conservation is one of the utmost gravity, and one wonders, as Mayor Hayes observed last night, how many people really take it seriously, and how much as individuals the people are shaping their habits to meet the need of the millions of Europe. It is certain that in Dr. Keirstead's desire to contribute in some degree toward that food conservation which has become a vital necessity and a vital factor in the winning of the war. In this land of plenty, so far from the scenes of strife and horror, it is difficult to realize our duty to those in the midst of them, but we must arouse ourselves, accept our responsibility and do our share. After all, it is very little that is asked of us, in comparison with the heart-breaking sacrifices of so many in this struggle for the very existence of our civilization.

Hon. J. F. Tweeddale has aroused the ire of the Standard. Any man who is even suspected of a reluctance to worship at the shrine of the government which made it possible for the directors of the Standard to acquire sudden wealth must expect to be assailed by that organ of the profiteers. Why not add Mr. Tweeddale's name to the Standard's long political free list in the hope of converting him?

The young gentlemen of the University of New Brunswick ought to receive a little military training. Then they would understand more clearly the value of discipline. To set themselves against the authorities in regard to so foolish a practice as having is not the part of wisdom. They should pay up and look pleasant.

Toronto Globe—"The Dominion W. C. T. U. convention protests against the 'arbitrary distinction' among the women of Canada made by the government in its franchise act. It is a pity that partisanship has prevented the introduction of equal suffrage in the federal sphere under fair conditions. But the women at least are not to blame."

The high tides have been undulating to some extent the excellent work done this year by Hon. Mr. Veniot's department on Westmorland county roads. That is a difficulty, the department is powerless to overcome. The loss to the farmers is also heavy.

The Conservatives of South Wellington have decided not to oppose Mr. Hugh Guthrie. The Liberals will probably have that pleasure, as Mr. Guthrie is mentioned as one of the members of the reorganized party government.

Ottawa now hears that the elections will not take place before January. The government has a lot of fences to mend, and its friends the profiteers will not object to an extension of time. They do not expect another chance.

Despite the poison shells and high explosives poured out from the Standard office the average Liberal will see no immediate necessity for retreating to a digout.

The interesting report is current that General McLean is the choice of certain Conservatives as their candidate in the constituency of Kings-Queens.

Toronto ladies insist on wearing forage caps like those worn by the Royal Flying Corps. Why should not angels wear the correct costume for flying?

The anxious sea is filled with waiting toriers. The Borden government is soon to make a number of appointments, and there are not enough to go around.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has declared that since the military service act is the law of the land it is the duty of all citizens to assist in carrying out its provisions.

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LIGHTER VEIN.

Far Enough.
One day, when a well known public man was a college student, he was called on to read Virgil in class. He started out bravely—"Three times I strove to cast my arms around you, neck, and—"

"That's as far as I got, Professor."

"Well, sir," said the Professor, "I think that was quite far enough."

Stiffing.
Railway travelers who like "to keep themselves to themselves," will appreciate this story.

A passenger by train wanted to read, but a man opposite would persist in trying to talk. After several brief replies, the reader became irritated.

"The grass is very green, isn't it?" said the would-be conversationalist, pleasantly.

"Yes," was the answer; "such a change from the blue and red grass we've been having lately!"

Silence reigned supreme, and the reader began another chapter.

Funeral.
In the days, when Rossini, the composer of "William Tell," was in the height of his fame, an unknown young composer brought him a manuscript to look over.

"What is it?" asked the great man.

"That's a funeral march in memory of Weber," stammered the young aspirant.

Rossini set the music up before him on the piano and read it through rapidly. Then he turned brusquely and handed it back to its owner.

"Humph!" he called upon them to state what kind of berry. Nearly every berry known in the vicinity was guessed and the speaker refused to share the qualities of any of those named.

At last an old lady, who was not sympathetic with the seeming levity of the lecturer, arose, and exclaimed in a squeaky voice, "I know what kind of berry you are. You are a gooseberry, and a very green one at that. Go on with the lecture!"

And the lecturer did—quickly.

Answered.
There are some answers who are for ever asking questions about absurdly obvious things.

John Kendrick Bangs was moving his goods and chattels from his home near New York. It was a rainy day, and before the house stood three large vans, and the lawn was covered with furniture of all sorts.

Mr. Bangs stood in the doorway expediting the movers, when a lady, neighbor with whom he was acquainted, passed, and smilingly asked:—

"Oh, are you moving, Mr. Bangs?"

"No, indeed, Mrs.," he replied, "it is such a beautiful day that I thought I would get all the furniture out of my home and take it for an airing."

The Land of the Buffalo.
The largest herd of buffalo in the world is now owned by Canada. They form a picturesque group as they roam over the new national reserve set apart for them near Wainwright, Saskatchewan.

The herd was transported across the international boundary line by train from the Pablo ranch.

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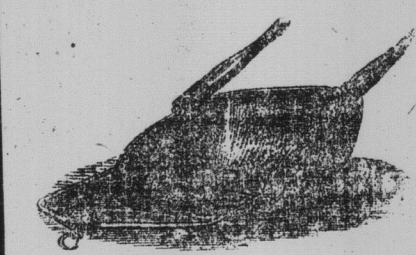
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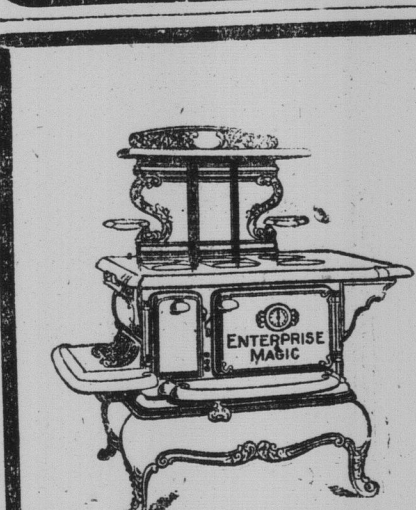
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A FEDERAL MINISTER OF HEALTH

Why Not One, is Asked—Some Statements in Support of Proposal

(Toronto Globe.)

And why not a dominion minister of public health?

Surely the problems of public health are large enough, and complicated enough, to command the services of the very ablest, the most competent, and the most energetic of our country's men.

Surely the people of this country have suffered enough from defects in legislation affecting public health, and from the inadequate enforcement of competent legislation. To mention roller towels and common drinking-cups on railway trains is but to raise a question which every health officer knows, but which has not yet been solved. The pollution of international and interprovincial waters, another problem requiring federal action, is a question which every health officer knows, but which has not yet been solved. The pollution of international and interprovincial waters, another problem requiring federal action, is a question which every health officer knows, but which has not yet been solved.

The very serious questions of venereal diseases, to which the association devoted special attention, were described by Major Lauder of Montreal, with the cordial approval of the whole association, as "the greatest menace of the civilized world today, bar none." The size and seriousness of that problem is self-evident. It is a problem which the appointment of a dominion minister of public health.

But leadership in the department of public health, like leadership in the department of public education, to be a help and not a hindrance, must be up to date, aggressive, almost revolutionary. There is a vast deal of spade work and clearing to be done. Public opinion can be informed and organized and made effective, if only the experts in medicine and in politics will give a strong lead. This is a problem for all the people, but wise guidance is required.

IN A FOOL'S PARADISE

(From the Regina Leader)

Sir Robert Borden and his Big Interests Government are living in a fool's paradise if they imagine that all they have to do is to shout "Conscription" and wave the flag in order to lead the electorate of Canada to give them a new lease of power. The people of Canada will support conscription in order to supply men needed in the army, but it will not be necessary for them to vote for Borden-Big Interests candidates in order to support that policy.

But the people of Canada have made up their minds that the "Win-the-War" policy is not going to be short of conscription of men only. Wealth has not done its share in bearing the burdens of the war in Canada. As a matter of fact the great men of wealth have not sacrificed anything; on the contrary, they have waxed richer and richer because of the war and the agony of the nation. The financial interests of Canada have been altogether too leniently dealt with. It is idle to

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condemn individuals in this respect; it is the whole system for which the Borden-Big Interests government is responsible that is condemned. In as much as that government will not speak with an authoritative voice and by drastic action make men of wealth, and the great wealthy corporations of the country do their duty and bear their just burden, the people of Canada will themselves have to take the necessary steps to enforce their will. The idea that a man is patriotic and making sacrifices who declares himself satisfied to end the war no richer than when it began is low and unworthy. But if this is true, of those who are amassing millions over and above what they enjoy before the war began? Some great sacrifice than the mere refusal to get richer is demanded if these flag-flapping, loyalty-shouting magnates are to be placed on a parity with the men who are sacrificing their all in this world and risking life and limb that Canada may live. And the people of Canada are becoming more and more determined that that parity shall be established.

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TRY TO "FADE" WELL

It's Easy if You Are Kind, Broadminded and Tranquil

A child who heard her grandmother say that she had chosen a certain upholstering material because it would "fade well," wondered at the phrase, and thought it must be one of those mysterious remarks that grown persons were always making. How could anything fade well? Fading could be nothing but ugliness—sore blouses, grass dry and dead, flowers hanging withered on the stalk. * * * But maturity teaches us that things do fade ill or well, and some of those whose early promise is the prettiest are the most unpleasing in their decline, while others gain with years a grace and harmony akin to beauty.

Of man's handiwork it is only the really good that stands the test of years, the triumphantly—the paintings, melowing with time, musical instruments gaining in depth of tone, fine old furniture of which the wood seems to grow richer in color and grain. The house built than ours—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Thence, too, spring serenity of mind and happy acceptance of life's manifestations. An epiphany would perhaps be suggested by the thought, "Save our selves, there is but little flies that comes not back," but the poet found consolation in the reflection that "these things remain," even though we come and go in our frail mortality. Some others also are glad to think that there will always be roses and sunsets and songs of birds so long as the world shall last. "Fading well," the latter years of these tranquil souls seem as a calm, bright season, when many of the flowers of spring and summer bloom again sweetly in the midst of the autumnal coloring of the forest. There is a peculiar charm of freshness in the air—a peculiar glory in the sunlight, before day fades into darkness and silence. And if the night be long to the walker in that loneliness hour just before dawn, there is always "The morning star of memory" to remind the doubting heart of that fairer star of hope which shall rise on other shores than ours—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Teeth Insurance.
Writing on the subject of bad teeth, a doctor, in the London Daily Mail, thinks the only effective method of preserving the teeth is to institute a system of teeth insurance on the model of the national health insurance scheme. Under this system, he says, the child would come under the care of the dentist soon after birth. The dentist would, in the first months of the child's life detect any deformities such as too high a palate, too small or irregularly shaped jaws, and while the parts were easy to mould he could correct the faults. The scheme would probably not cost more than a penny or two pence per child per week—far less than is spent on surgery at present—and it would almost completely put an end to toothache, prevent the greater part of the indignation we suffer from, and vastly increase the fitness and efficiency of us all.

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What is that which the most imprudent of young men are always able to keep—Late hours.

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