

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 32 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS: By Carrier \$5.00, By Mail \$4.00, Semi-Weekly, by mail \$1.00, Semi-Weekly to United States \$2.00, Advertising rates on application.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 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.

WAKE UP, ST. JOHN.

Three soldiers, wounded while fighting for the Empire on the battlefields of France, arrived in the city yesterday morning. They were met at the Union Depot by a member of the committee appointed for that purpose and driven to their homes. But there were many men and lads in the trainshed when the returning heroes stepped from the train and although it was apparent to all that they had been injured, yet they were allowed to walk through the shed in a chilling silence; not a cheer was heard, not a hat was doffed and, aside from the official "welcomes," not a hand was extended or a word spoken to let the boys know that St. John appreciates their sacrifice and their service.

Of course it will be said that a committee of citizens has in hand the matter of welcoming returned soldiers and they are doing their duty well. That is quite true, but that fact does not relieve the man not on that committee from the duty of recognizing the bravery of those who have fought and suffered for the Empire.

Yesterday's occurrence at the depot was but one of many such cases. There are, of course, exceptions, when returning soldiers are accorded an unofficial welcome worthy of the soldiers themselves and of those who join in the demonstration. But the fact remains that the people of St. John are not as deeply interested as they should be in the men who are fighting our battles.

The aspiration for the stationing of a regiment in St. John this winter is sufficiently recent to be fresh in the minds of all. Why did business men of the city desire to have soldiers here? Simply because they believed it would help business? Or because they were interested in the men themselves and wished to have them honor St. John with their presence?

The 52nd Battalion from Port Arthur has now been here almost a week. The men of that regiment make a splendid appearance on the street; they look well, march well and give evidence of thorough training. In short, the 52nd is typical of the best standard of young Canadians who have left their homes and pursuits of civilian life to fight the battles of those who remain behind. Yet that fine regiment has marched through our streets every day this week and, except for the first day when there was an organized official welcome, have been greeted in silence. There has been no enthusiasm, not a cheer, no applause as the men who will soon make history as Canada's representatives in the struggle against Empire's enemies passed along. Why the apathy? Are the citizens of St. John afraid of straining their throats or injuring their hands? Or, as a critic has stated, are they chiefly interested in the soldiers for the amount of business they bring?

In yesterday's case at the depot the central figures in what should have been an impromptu, heart-warming welcome were men whose sacrifice for the cause has been great? Were they not entitled to applause? Can too much credit be given to the men who, after all, are doing the fighting for those who stay at home? It will be at once admitted that not every man in St. John can go to the front, some are beyond the age limit, others physically unfit, and still others held by family or home ties it is impossible to break. These are not expected to go and do their own fighting but they can at least spare a cheer or a hand-clap for those who are doing it for them. Hardly a man or woman in the city but has a relative or close friend with the colors. They are away from their homes doing their duty where it calls, playing the game according to orders and playing it well. Is there one of us who would not thrill with pride at the knowledge that our sons or brothers, now away from us, had been cheered by men and women who were not afraid to recognize bravery when they saw it? Is St. John to remain unrepresentative, when all the world glows at the story of Canada's courage and sacrifice?

The heroes of today were with us yesterday, the men who are with us today may be the heroes of tomorrow. The deeds of the "Fighting 36th" thrilled us as we read them, and we were proud to recall that fine battalion had spent last winter as residents of St. John. Yet, how often did any of us cheer the 26th when it was marching through our streets? Aside from the stereotyped "official" welcome, at best cold and unconvincing, how many of us have gone out of our way to grasp the hand of a returned hero and speak a word of sympathy or of praise?

Tomorrow we may read of the gallant deeds of the 52nd Port Arthur Battalion and reflect with pleasure how splendidly they appeared as they marched through the city. But do we appreciate them today while we have them with us? If we do, then, in the name of patriotism and loyalty, let them know it. A cheer he can hear is of far more encouragement to the soldier than a eulogy after he is dead. St. John requires to be awakened.

"PROSPERITY ON THE DOORSTEP" The Continent, the organ of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, (North), in its issue of November 11, under the above caption, has the following from the pen of its financial expert:

"Reports from various commercial agencies, investigations by financial writers and reports from banks all are to the effect that prosperity in large measure is on the doorstep. This country is exporting merchandise at the rate of \$100,000,000 worth a week, a record which no other country ever before had attained. Domestic business is daily becoming more active. Reports from all parts of the country show a more healthy business condition is present. There is much less idleness in the cities than a year ago and jobs for both men and women are much more easily found than at any time during the last year.

"Possibly the fact that the United Clear Stores during October sold more tobacco than during any month in its history, may be an indication of returning prosperity. This one cigar company sold more than one million dollars' worth of goods a day during this one month."

In the same issue in a department entitled "The World" the editor, in speaking of the note of the Secretary of State to Britain, states:

"Fallacies are pointed out in the assertion by London that the ocean business of the United States had increased since the beginning of the war. It was by this assertion that London showed that the ocean trade of the United States instead of being curtailed by the British blockade really had grown."

Despite the protest of the American Secretary of State it would appear, however, that the statements of London are borne out by the foregoing opinions of financial experts.

THE SWORD OF THE 104TH The sword of the historic 104th New Brunswick regiment which, more than a century ago, when this country was threatened with invasion from a foreign enemy, did yeoman service in the interests of Canada, finds a worthy owner in Lieutenant Colonel George W. Fowler, commanding officer of the twentieth century successors of the famous old corps.

It will be the prayer of all New Brunswickers that the weapon may be an inspiration and symbol of good fortune to its new owner. May the sheen of its blade typify the brightness of the valor of the men Col. Fowler leads, its sharpened point their keenness in performing their duty, and its stout guard, the confidence New Brunswick has in the ability of the new 104th to acquit themselves well.

It is drawn by a righteous cause and those who witnessed the demonstration in the rink last evening when the popular officer received it, at the hands of one who has already proven a hero, will feel complete confidence that it shall never be sheathed in dishonor.

The record of the old 104th was a proud one; the particular ability with which that regiment discharged its duty being so conspicuous as to win the approval of a Wellington. The new 104th goes to war backed by the prayers and good wishes of all Canada, and when it returns in triumph there is every reason to believe that

it will have once more written the name of New Brunswick high in the records of bravery and devotion to duty.

EDWARD AUSTIN KILLED BY A FALLING TREE

Distressing accident at Clarendon Station Thursday results fatally.

An unfortunate accident, and one which is creating a great deal of sympathy in the district, occurred at Clarendon Station on Thursday. Edward Austin, who has been engaged in lumber work, was cutting in the woods near Clarendon Station when one of the trees which had been felled instead of dropping to the ground became lodged in another tree. Mr. Austin while chopping through this supporting tree so weakened it that it gave way, letting the first tree fall. He was struck on the head by the trunk and almost instantly killed. Mr. Austin was slightly over forty years of age and leaves a wife and ten children, living at Clarendon. The body was taken to his home, where the funeral is to be held.

NEW WAR LOAN IN FRANCE

Bill Introduced in Chamber Fixes Rate of Interest at 5 Per Cent, Price of Issue Being Left to Government Decree.

Paris, Nov. 11.—The bill providing for the new French loan was introduced in the Chamber of Deputies today by Finance Minister Ribot. The rate of interest is fixed at 5 per cent, but the price of issue and the period of subscription are left to be fixed by government decree.

All the privileges and immunities attached to the 3 per cent bonds are extended to the new five per cent issue, which is exempt from all taxation. The government renounces the right of payment until after January 1, 1931.

Savings bank depositors are granted the right to liberate one half their deposits for investment in the loan, without the usual notices of withdrawal.

MARTIAL LAW IN BRUSSELS

London, Nov. 11.—"A message received here from Brussels reports that travelers arriving there from Belgium say that the German authorities have decided to place Brussels under martial law, thereby depriving the Belgian civil authorities of their control," says the Exchange Telegraph's Amsterdam correspondent.

The correspondent adds that the reason for the measure is not known.

FINAL RESULT MAY NOT BE KNOWN FOR WEEK YET

St. John's, Nfld., Nov. 11.—Fogo district declared its poll in the prohibition election yesterday as 1,189 for, 749 against, being 261 above the quota. Piacentia district declared its poll last night, 789 for 999 against, which is 939 below the quota. Adverse majority against prohibition to date 1,220.

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE. Our noo club is getting along grate, awl it needs being furnitshure for the club room, athing being in it now except wan bench to set awn, gave by Puda Simkinses mothr, wan chare without any back to it, gave by Skinny Martins mothr, two littel barrils foward awn the street, wich mite not of belongaw to the star they was in front of, and wan old rug gave by ma after a argewmit.

So a cummittee was elected to go around and try to get furnitshure without paying for it by asking peopl to donate it, the cummittee being me and Sid Hunt, and we asked sevral peopl without getting anything, and then we was passing Smits meat plase and I sed, Lets go in and ask Mr. Smit.

Wich we did, and Mr. Smit sed, Wy sure, youll find a safe out in the yard thats no use to me, you can put awl yure valubels in it.

And me and Sid went and looked, and heer wat was it but a grate big enormas iron bank, part of it berried in the dett own akkount of it stand- ing there so lawng, and a man went past driving a ligruss waggin, wich we cood see him over the top of the tents, and Sid yelled to him, Hay, mister, look over the tents, do you see this bank.

Sure I see it, sed the man. About wat wood it cost to take it 5 blocks in a waggin, sed Sid. 5 dollars, sed the man, do you want delivered.

No, sed me and Puds togethr.

And we asked sum more peopl without being awfeted anything, and then Mrs. Weaver told us she had a old bed up in the attic she didnt want, and we went up to look at it and we didnt want it either, only having 3 sleds to it and besides, it was awlmost as big as wat our club room is, and besides, wat cood we do with it even if we got it in thare. Nothing.

Aftir that we was awfeted 3 more things we didnt want, being ferst, a old bath tub with holes in it, 2nd, 4 empty flower pots with nutling in them, and 3rd, a bysikel without any wheels or handel bars.

Being the resin of the club room hasent got any furnitshure in it.

street, boots; James Hanlon, Paleville, lamp; Gordon Cummins, picture; F. M. O'Neill, suit case; Gertrude Jenkins umbrella; Josephine O'Brien, parlor stove; Leo McGuigan, hat; Mrs. Florence Myers, cushion; Miss Evelyn Walsh, watch; Miss Florie Phillips, carving knife; J. Corkery, clock; M. McMineman, doll; Miss Clara Daley, centrepiece; Miss Eileen O'Regan, green centrepiece; Miss Mary Reicker, white wool jacket; Mrs. S. McCormick, embroidered centrepiece; Miss Loreta Tracey, white centrepiece; Miss M. Cleary, bed spread; John McGuire, fishing rod for bean booth guess; James Daley, boat model.

DIED.

HUNTER — At Sheffield, Sunbury County, N. B., on Nov. 12, 1915, James L. Hunter, in the 76th year of his age, leaving one brother and one sister to mourn.

HUGHES — At Toronto, November 8, Grace A. Hughes, wife of Leonard J. Hughes, leaving her husband and two children to mourn.

Funeral will be held from the residence of Mrs. Kathryn Hughes, 90 Portland street, on Saturday afternoon at 2.30 to Cedar Hill cemetery.

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EASTERN S. S. STATEMENT.

The comparative statement of operations of the Eastern Steamship Corporation for the month of September and for the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1915, and 1914, as just given out by Calvin Austin, receiver, shows a considerable improvement in the financial situation of all the constituent companies.

The net income of the Eastern Line for September was \$92,164.85, a gain

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