

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1918

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THE WAR SITUATION.

Once more the Russian situation attracts attention. One report says that two republics have been declared in northern Russia, one in the White Sea region and the other from the White Sea to the Asiatic border. It is also announced that a new provisional government has been formed in Siberia, to fight the Central Powers. The first step will be the restoration of order throughout Siberia. This would involve the suppression of the Bolsheviks. The general manager of the Chinese Eastern Railway declares that with the help of 300,000 Allies an army of a million could be raised to reconstruct the eastern front on a line running through the Ural Mountains, and that Siberian volunteers and other Russians would flock to the standard. The Allied powers, however, appear to have decided not to send troops, but supplies, although their policy has not yet been officially declared, and may yet be subject to change.

THE RUSSIAN PROBLEM.

In one of a series of letters written after his return from Moscow, as correspondent of the Toronto Star and Chicago News, Louis Edgar Browne gives a very interesting explanation of political conditions in Russia. He makes the point that the strength of the Bolshevik leaders lies in the fact that when the Czar was overthrown they were crafty enough to adopt the Soviet idea of building a democracy on the basis of the village mir, or mass meeting, which debts back to the dawn of Russian history and is thoroughly understood by the people. We quote:

"In later years the spirit of democracy which was native to Slavic villages resulted in the formation of zemstvos, which, translated roughly, are rural associations, or rural co-operatives, the duties of which until this war, were similar to our county governments. They supervised the departments of roads and schools, they purchased for groups of villages such materials as seeds and agricultural machinery, and they collected taxes. The members and directors of the zemstvos were elected by majority vote of landlords and peasant landholders of the villages themselves. Supposing that the piety of Van Ivanovich was a village instance, and that Marc Alexandrovna was neglecting her children, or the bridge over the village brook needed repairing, the leading elder of the village and the members of the mir met in the village church, or in the community house if the village had one. Usage had restricted the membership of the mir to many localities to the landholders and peasants. In some sections of the country the phrase 'mir' was replaced by some more modern affiliation. The mir would talk over the question, and after everyone had talked himself out a vote would be taken. A majority vote gave the decision, and there was no court of appeal. The Soviet is built upon this native Slavic conception of democracy. It is something that the most illiterate peasant understands, as it is quite probable that he himself has been summoned to appear before it for some delinquency or other. In later times the Czar's secret police attempted to restrict the workings of the mir, but they failed even to disturb the peasants' comprehension of village democracy."

It was natural that when the Czar had been overthrown the village idea of democracy would commend itself to the simpler-minded people. Mr. Browne says: "When the Czar fell there sprang up in Russia two groups of political thought: One, Millyukoff, Lvoff, Radzianko and Kerensky; second, the Soviets. Broadly speaking the first group intended to establish in Russia through the Constituent Assembly a democracy similar to that of the United States, France or England. Their apparent reason was that these forms of democracy had been successful. The second group, the Soviets, desired to build up a democracy, using the Russian village mir as a base, thus starting with a sure foundation, because the Russian peasants and workmen knew all about the village mir, and would readily understand its extension into a national form of government. The first group labored under the disadvantage of having to explain its desired form of democracy to a suspicious, ignorant, superstitious mass of 170,000,000 of people. The Soviets were not required to explain anything about the

form of government they desired, because the Russian peasants had had the rudiments of this native village democracy instilled through a thousand years of usage. One of the first things the Soviet leaders did when they overthrew Kerensky and assumed control was to give full right of suffrage to all persons, male and female, without a literary or other qualification test. A man or woman was eligible to vote in a city or village after three months' residence. There were neither class nor property restrictions. The election system described below was that used to elect the fifth all-Russian Congress of Soviets, which ratified the treaty of Brest-Litovsk. It is the system adopted by the Soviet government as a permanent form of democracy for future Russia. The government realizes that the system is crude and new and reserves the right to correct mistakes from time to time."

When it is realized that less than seven per cent of the Russian people are educated, it is easy to understand why that form of government with which they were most familiar in their local affairs would most appeal to the great majority. The Bolshevik leaders turned this to their advantage, and contrived to secure control of the government. Of this Mr. Browne writes: "The Bolshevik party—which is now known as the Communist party, the term Bolshevik having been discarded—is in control of the government of Russia because it either honestly had a majority of the votes cast for it, or because it stuffed ballot-boxes, or because it kept its opponents from voting by armed force. All of these crude, undemocratic things are done. There is no doubt of that, but the Bolsheviks have built up from native Slavic life a form of democracy which they are trying to make permanent. They may be able through force and steam-roller tactics to keep control of the government long after they have actually lost a majority of the votes, but nevertheless they have built form of democracy, and it is eventually going to prove the undoing of the Bolsheviks themselves. The Bolsheviks are the greatest government the world has seen since the French revolution, but we must not confuse the Bolsheviks with the Soviet power, a native Slavic democratic principle which the Bolsheviks were clever enough to seize hold of and develop. The Bolsheviks are not practical, some day the country will try something else, but that is a question for Russia to solve for herself. None of us like Bolshevik principles. Their continuance is purely a question of expediency."

Mr. Browne expresses the view that the Bolsheviks are trying to do is to make the overthrow of the Soviet government mean the overthrow of the Allies in general, and holds that the mission of the Allies is to purify that form of democracy rather than to attempt to substitute something foreign, for "Germany's desire is to crush and stifle the Soviet democracy, which through its closeness and vitality is a distinct menace to the autocracies of Germany and Austria-Hungary." It is extremely difficult to see how German influence can be successful in the White Sea region, or in the White Sea region, if they are at the helm in Russia. If they were to suppress the situation would be much more hopeful. Today's news, however, if the organization of republics in Siberia and the White Sea region suggest that the people may themselves overthrow the Bolsheviks and pave the way for a real democracy.

Ottawa Journal-Press: "Eugene V. Debs, four times Socialist candidate for the American presidency, criticized the conviction and sentence of a woman who had violated the U. S. Espionage Act. As a result he himself has been clapped into jail and is now awaiting trial on similar charges. Uncle Sam is not wasting much time these days being courteous to those who are yelping at his heels while he is engaged on serious business."

Desertions in growing numbers from the Bulgarian army are reported from French headquarters in Macedonia. Insubordination is also said to be increasing in that army. More important, if such ailments women are asked to write to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, it is the result of their own insubordination in the German army on the western front; but the iron discipline of Germany is not easily overcome.

The appeal in behalf of the French Red Cross will doubtless meet with a generous response. Our debt to the soldiers of France is great, and in this way it can be in part repaid. The devotion of the French people has held the Hun at bay at critical moments in the great war, and their sufferings have been borne with heroic fortitude.

In the Prussian Landtag a Socialist member is said to have warned the German people that they must rid themselves of their "patriotic" war and rapine, or be beaten. Whether he said it or not, that is what will happen.

Why should the Alexandra school be used in connection with hand concerts? It belongs to the people and would not be injured by careful use.

LIGHTER VEIN

No Dunning Required. Jeweler—This bracelet is 88 more than the other on account of the chasing. Customer—Oh, but you won't have to chase me. I intend to pay cash down. Sketch.

Lacking in Range. "Does the new soprano's voice fill the church?" "No, I noticed some vacant seats up in the gallery."—Boston Transcript.

Summer Resort Note. "What's in the mail from your husband today?" "A couple of needles. He wants me to thread 'em and mail 'em back to him. Got to do some sewing, he says."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Willing Sacrifice. The War Department announces that the airplane service will require all the castor oil for lubrication purposes, and we have resolved patriotically to turn over our share to the government.—Columbus Dispatch.

Mother's Club and Switches. Judging from our limited field of observation here in Missouri, we sometimes wonder if mother's clubs have yet done half as much to make good children as have mothers' switches.—Smileyville (Mo.) Express.

Not Practical. "What kind of life is your friend Jibbery?" "Oh, a good sort, but very impractical."

Yes? "Why, he's the sort of fellow who would open a pressing parlor in the Fiji Islands."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

GIVE THE MEDICINE. (New York Herald.) "Make Prussia hate war," says Secretary Lansing. Sure! Give the Prussians and all other Germans so much of war that they will never want to go to war for at least a century. A Southern contemporary suggests that the way to accomplish this is to rearrange the Prussian landscape so as to make it harmonize with the landscape of Belgium and Northern France. That is the only way, it will be done.

More Hots to Work. Sixty German prisoners from the internment camp at Amherst will go to P. E. Island this week to do ditching, ballasting and other railway work. This will be the first time for German prisoners to go to the Island.

Dangerous Antiseptics And Germicides Are Unnecessary. A dependable antiseptic has come to be considered a necessity in most homes. Especially is this true since Absorbine, Jr., has had such a wide introduction, and its antiseptic and germicide but it is absolutely safe to use and to have around the house. It is not poisonous and it cannot do any harm to the children who get hold of it. That is a big point to consider.

Absorbine, Jr., is concentrated and is therefore economical. It retains its germicidal properties even if diluted one part Absorbine, Jr., to 100 parts water. The antiseptic and germicide properties have been repeatedly tested and proven in many prominent chemical laboratories. Detailed laboratory reports were sent as an exhibit and do not alter in color as an evil, that among us it is still the feudal knights and jokers and the caste of warriors who rule and fix our ideals and our values, not the civilian gentlemen; that the love of duelling still inspires our youth at the universities, lives on in those who guide the fortunes of the show; and that the great wrong of the nation, the military power is on the other side?

"Militarism, really a school for the nation, which inspires our youth at the universities, lives on in those who guide the fortunes of the show; and that the great wrong of the nation, the military power is on the other side?"

"That is what our enemies think and that is what they are bound to think when they see that, in spite of capitalist industrialization, and in spite of socialistic organization, the living, as Friedrich Nietzsche says, are still governed by the dog of the principal aim of our enemies, the democratization of Germany, will be achieved."

It is to be remembered that these words are not those of an Englishman. They are the words of one of the "tools" of the German empire, to whom the German emperor entrusted the most important foreign post, one with whom William II, in his youth, was closely befriended. And after the publication of the memorandum Herr von Jagow also appears before the public to make the attempt to defend the policy of the German Empire, "his" policy, in July, 1914. As he was the then responsible representative of that policy as secretary of the German foreign office and in that defence was forced to profess agreement in no manner with Germany in

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Thousands of American women give this famous root and herb remedy the credit for health restored as did Mrs. Kimble.

For helpful suggestions in regard to this health issue are asked to write to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, Lynn, Mass. The result of its long experience is at your service.

RED CEDAR SHEATHING. 3-8 in. x 3 in. V Joint—Perfectly Clear. This sheathing we take on a beautiful finish and is very suitable for sheathing or wainscoting. It is both moth-proof and rat-proof. Price \$35.00 per 1,000 Feet. J. R. RODERICK & SON BRITAIN ST. Phone Main 654.

Line Your Own Stove! Foley's Prepared Fire Clay Ready to use. Sold in bulk or by T. McAvity, W. H. Thorne, or at the Pottery.

"I Need Hardly Say

how thankful I was to get out alive, and fully made up my mind that I would write and you would be useful Dr. Chase's Ointment was written a survivor of the Gallipoli Peninsula campaign. "We found that it afforded instant relief from poison from shrapnel and bullets, and got to using it for all manner of minor wounds and grazes."

PLACING THE BLAME WHERE IT BELONGS

German Newspaper in Milwaukee Tells its Readers Germany Caused the War

(From an Editorial in the Germania-Herald, a German language newspaper published in Milwaukee.) Prince Lieknowsky (German ambassador to England when the war broke out) compiled the principal facts as to who caused the war in the three following paragraphs: "1. We (and by this 'we' the prince means the German government) encouraged Count Berchtold to attack Serbia, although no German interests were at stake and the danger of a world war was known to us. Whether we knew the text of the ultimatum is entirely inconsequential."

"2. In the days between the 28th and 30th of July, 1914, when Herr Sasonow expressly declared that Russia would permit no attack upon Serbia, we rejected the British intermediary offers, although Serbia under Russian and British pressure was about to accept the entire ultimatum, and although an agreement in regard to the controversial points could easily have been arrived at and Count Berchtold himself was satisfied to be content with the answer by Serbia."

"3. On July 30, when Count Berchtold wanted to give way, we, without Austria having been attacked, replied to Russia's mere mobilization by sending an ultimatum to Petersburg, and July 31st we declared war on the Russians, although the Czar had pledged his word that as long as negotiations continued there would be no hostilities, and we deliberately destroyed the possibility of a peaceful settlement."

"4. In every case of these indisputable facts, it is not surprising that the whole civilized world outside Germany attributes the sole guilt for the war to us. It is not intelligible that our enemies declare that they will not rest until a system has been established which will permanently threaten our neighbor?"

"Must they not otherwise fear that in a war they will again be taken to task by arms and again see their provinces overrun and their towns and villages destroyed? Are these people so right-winded and so patriotic that they will sacrifice and Bernhardi dominated the German people—the spirit which glorifies in the idea of a world war and does not labor it as an evil, that among us it is still the feudal knights and jokers and the caste of warriors who rule and fix our ideals and our values, not the civilian gentlemen; that the love of duelling still inspires our youth at the universities, lives on in those who guide the fortunes of the show; and that the great wrong of the nation, the military power is on the other side?"

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THE ROADS. (Frederickton Mail.) Hon. P. J. Veniot, minister of public works, arrived in the city Saturday night after inspecting the highways in Madawaska and Victoria counties. The minister reports the roads in good condition. If labor conditions permit, necessary work will be done. On the March 10th, the roads in the province are being built. He next will inspect the roads in Queens county. The government will be particularly true to the meeting a number of tenders for bridges will be opened.

James Turner, the energetic vice chief of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, who looks after the company's lines in the country, has been in the province, covered no fewer than 1,576 miles by auto during the month of June. Speaking of his trip a few days ago, Mr. Turner declared that he never saw the roads in better condition at this time of year. He went on to say that he had visited nearly every section of the three counties, and had an excellent opportunity to inspect the new work being done in every case. He started on his rounds by auto this year on April 18, and has been on the go ever since. In his experience he never had so little trouble on account of the roads.

An alarming labor shortage is reported in the Pennsylvania anthracite fields.

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K. OF C. DRIVE FOR \$100,000 IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES. Aim to Raise That Sum For Canadian Catholic Army Huts. There were two meetings yesterday of the central committee which has charge of the Knights of Columbus big drive in the maritime provinces for the Canadian Catholic Army huts. The meetings were called by Dr. W. F. Broderick, state deputy, and those present were G. T. O'Brien, Chatham; L. B. McMillan, Charlottetown; J. A. Walker, Antigonish; J. D. Campbell, Halifax and Charles A. Owens, St. John. The preliminary arrangements were put through at the meeting, and the carrying out of the drive will be made later. The drive will start on August 19 and will continue for a specified time. Canvasses will be made, the arrangements of which are now under way. Another general meeting of the board of management was held in the afternoon. The central committee had present representatives from each diocese of the maritime provinces. The drive, if the present plan work out, will be short but no ground will remain uncanvassed as teams will be appointed to visit each district and see that everyone has been solicited in the interests of the Canadian Catholic Army huts.

NEW TABERNACLE PASTOR WELCOMED. The new pastor of Tabernacle church, Rev. A. Lawrence Bedford, was welcomed last evening by city representatives and brother ministers. The meeting was presided over by A. H. Patterson and the opening address was by Mayor Hayes. Rev. D. J. McPherson, Central Baptist church; Rev. F. H. Wentworth, Waterloo street Baptist church; R. H. McIntyre, St. Phillips A. M. E. church; Rev. G. E. Dawson, Elmwood street Methodist church; Rev. S. S. Poole, Germain street Baptist church; Rev. Dr. D. Hutchinson, Main street Baptist church; Rev. F. E. Beatty, Zion Methodist church; Rev. J. L. Lloyd, Congregational church. Rev. Gordon Kierstead, of Greenwich (N. Y.), and Dr. Huestis also voiced their pleasure at being able to take part in greeting the Rev. A. L. Bedford. Dr. Huestis was for sixty years a Methodist minister and is now retired and he said it was particularly pleasing to him to be able to see so many from his own college. Rev. Mr. Bedford said that he felt that he was not desiring of all the good things said about him. He especially thanked the mayor for the city's wel-

The Back Aches. Possibly you do not realize that this indicates derangement of the kidneys. Neglect usually means the development of Bright's disease. You know how dreadfully painful and fatal that is. There is quick relief for the kidneys in the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. This medicine is known in the great majority of homes as the greatest of regulators.

WOMEN! MOTHERS! DAUGHTERS! You who are pale, haggard and weary, you who are unable to get your blood purified, you who are suffering from iron deficiency, take three times a day after meals will increase your strength and endurance in two weeks' time in many cases. Fedulated King, M.D.