

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 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.

### THE CAMPAIGN IN THE BALKANS.

The feeling that Italy should take an active part in the fighting in the Balkans is gaining ground in France where there is a strong belief that French armies should not be sent to meet the foe in Serbia until the Teutonic forces have been driven entirely off of French soil.

Those who take that view, and the list includes such eminent citizens of the French republic as the former Premier Georges Clemenceau, and the former Minister of Foreign Affairs Senator Pichon, hold that the other members of the Quadruple Entente are concerned more than France in the result of the Balkan operation. These gentlemen declare that the war will be won or lost on the western and eastern fronts and on both of these lines the Allies have now reached a strength where the Germans can do no more than hold their positions. Should the Germans succeed in getting through to Constantinople, which is their aim, the fighting on the west and east fronts would still continue until the Kaiser's forces, unable to maintain the pace, would be driven back on their own territory. This result must be achieved no matter what happens in the Balkans, and the French view that it would be folly for France to weaken her western lines for the sake of the Balkan operation finds much to commend it.

At the same time serious reverses in the Balkans would undoubtedly have an effect upon the attitude of Roumania and Greece, and even if this political aspect of the question were not to be considered, Great Britain and her Allies must save Serbia. On no account can the Germans be permitted to repeat there the scenes of slaughter that marked the early campaign in Belgium.

That it is an absolute necessity to meet the German invasion of Serbia is admitted by the foremost minds in France, Britain and Russia, the only point over which there is any difference of opinion being where the chief responsibility for that campaign ought to rest. The French view is that Italy should do it and, in support of this, it is pointed out that the progress of the Italians against the Austrians has been disappointing. Italy is claimed to have half a million men under arms who could be easily spared for the Balkans, and her situation gives her the advantage of being able to effect a landing more expeditiously than any of the other powers. The triumph of the Teutons in the Balkans would endanger Italy's position, not only in the Adriatic, but in the Mediterranean. Consequently she has interests at stake.

France has done valiantly in her own sphere of fighting. The campaign in the Balkans should be more particularly the concern of the other members of the Entente Alliance. Already Great Britain and Russia have thrown themselves into it with the wholeheartedness that has characterized every move of the war. Italy has yet to be heard from, and it is the opinion of the observers that she will immeasurably strengthen her position if she at once engages in the campaign against the Germans in the Southern area. She is well able to muster the men and arm and equip them. That she has not already done so is a subject of much comment in London, Paris and Petrograd.

### RUSSIA'S SUCCESS

There will be general rejoicing over the evidence that the Russian armies are once more getting into their stride and now hold the Germans in check along the greater part of the eastern front. The burden of war has probably fallen more heavily on Russia than on the other first class powers in the ranks of the Allies, but no complaint has been heard from Petrograd. Always the predominating note has been one of complete confidence in the ability of the Tsar to overcome his enemies.

Early in the campaign when the Russian armies were making great progress the opinion was freely expressed that they would be the first to reach Berlin. Conditions have changed since then. It is not at all apparent now that any conquering

the winter, and some arrangement is likely then to be reached whereby the Government will continue in office until the close of the war. Its term expires in September, 1916, but the Opposition will in all probability agree to some plan for extending the term during the period of the war. This will be satisfactory to the Government, which will accept the confidence thus expressed in its conduct of the affairs of the nation during these trying times.

That there was a strong desire and intent upon the part of political advisers of the Government to divide the country during the war there is unfortunately plenty of evidence to show. The cry of scandal upon a colossal scale is still echoing in the ears of the people, coming from the chambers of the House of Commons. But no longer does anyone repeat these charges and imputations. An Opposition newspaper occasionally raises its voice concerning the few spavined and derelict horses which were bought in the name of the Government, but the wholesale charges of graft have been silenced, and the confidence of the people, coming from the chambers of the House of Commons, has been restored.

This has been brought about through the masterful handling of the situation by Sir Robert Borden and his ministers. So right are the inspections, contractors complain. A London firm received back a quantity of caps in which a few stitches had been neglected. It was held that the work of completing them would have been less than the trouble and cost of returning them. This was not the point, however. It was rather that the contractors might understand that no defects, however slight, will be permitted to pass. The effect is seen in the absence from the Liberal press of all the craft discussion and insinuation which prevailed when there seemed a chance of placing the Government in an awkward position.

It is, therefore, the good work of the Government that has compelled the Opposition to agree with the sentiment that there should be no election during the war.

### Marching Through Russia

(Toledo Blade.)

Let's scan the good old atlas now, for light upon the way—

Let's learn the road to Warsaw so old

Anticipate the Germans as they goose-

step to the fray—

While they go marching through Russia.

Chorus:—

From towns of seven syllables or more

Comes daily news with consonants gal-

lors—

Pskoff! Slobodsk! Tzarevouchinsk!

While they go marching through Russia.

See the terrible words they've set to

a good old Yankee tune—

Ivanovo-Vosnesensk—let's hope the

end comes soon.

If they ever take Zonyzky we'll sim-

ply have to swoon—

While they go marching through Russia.

O, Kaiser, please, take Hvitv next;

let Krassopolzky

Pronouncing Windivietz doth twist

our jaw-bones so.

We pray you'll let that town go hang;

nor tattle Wzmko—

While they go marching through Russia.

Tavastehus is easy; there's Kimpas

waiting near.

And if the Kaiser takes them we'll

never shed a tear.

But Malovitcherskaia that's where

he'll go, we fear—

As he goes marching through Russia.

### BROTHERS MEET IN FRANCE.

Corporal Walter Wilson of the Cycle

Corps, 1st C.E.F., has written to his

brother, Thomas L. Wilson, Chesley

street, under date of 24th September.

He speaks of seeing his brother Frank

and states that they both are well.

The following are some extracts from

the letter: "There is a very heavy ar-

tillery bombardment by our artillery

which has been going on for three

days and nights and still continues.

The reverberation is far worse than

any thunder storm you ever heard,

just the heavy roll of guns of all sizes

day and night, without cessation.

"The days are growing short and

the winter season is approaching.

There will be but little snow, but the

climate is very wet and cold. Canada

is certainly doing her share in the

war. . . I am sending you the nose

of a shell which burst fifteen yards

from me, killing one man and wound-

ing three horses. Best regards from

all the St. John boys I have met, in-

cluding W. Logan, H. Andrews, W.

McCann and Johnnie Wright."

### BRITISH SIDELIGHTS ON WAR

Lord Kitchener having expressed his

wish that Major-General Ivor Phillips,

D.S.O., M.P., should return to military

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

My cousin Artie asked me if I wanted to hear a good wun today, wich I sed I did, and he sed, its a riddil, you tell peopl youve got littel white things that bite in yure hed, and they think its sumthing farse, and then you tell them its yure teeth.

G, thats awi rite, I sed, And wen I went hoam ma was in the par- lar tawking to the minister, and I stood thare a wile lissenin to them and then I sed, Mr. wat do you think.

Dont you see Im blizy, sed ma.

Yure mamma is occupied, littel man, sed the minister.

And they kepp awn tawking and pritty soon I sed, Wat do you think I got in my hed, ma.

I think you had better go out agen and play, sed ma.

I got littel wite things that bite, I sed.

Benny Potts, sed ma.

As I was sayin, very few ladys realize the gravity of the question, sed the minister.

I got them in my hed, I sed.

Wile awn the utthr hand, the men I have spoken to seem to have a better grasp of the problem, sed the minister.

Benny, did you heer me tell you to teeve the room, sed ma.

No ma, I sed.

Well you heer me now, leave it immmeditly, sed ma.

Yes mam, I sed. And I startid to go out, sayin wen I was haff way to the door, Wat do you think they are, ma, littel wite things in my heq that bite.

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