

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1919.

THE RUSSIAN PROBLEM.

In Northern Russia the British are evacuating Archangel. In the Far East Admiral Kolchak has invited the assistance of Japan in his campaign against the Bolsheviks. What the European Powers are unwilling to attempt Japan will gladly undertake and in years to come when these European Powers endeavor to force millions of Japanese residents out of Siberia, to compel Japan to surrender the vast territory which she will then occupy, to put an end to the persecution of the Russians, Japan will refuse to move. Kolchak offers certain small territories in return for Japanese help, but no one should at the moment believe that what the Russian leader considers a fair recompense will be regarded by the Japanese. Once given at entry, that nation will create excuses for other seizures and before long will exert an influence over entire Eastern Siberia, just as she now controls Korea and portions of what once was China.

The entrance of Japan into the Russian civil war will, if permitted by the other nations, prove an even greater blow than the refusal of the Allies to cooperate against the Bolsheviks. Britain and the United States are forwarding munitions to Russia and from Southern Europe supplies are going to General Denikin, who alone appears to be making progress against the enemy. In the north a desultory campaign is being carried on which it is to be feared has brought the European powers into contempt. Against almost overwhelming odds Kolchak has been struggling in the East, suffering from desertion and mutiny among his men, from scarcity of munitions and food, and all the time battling against the sentiments prevailing throughout Russia that he has been refused support from outside nations. Yet this is Russia is too great for the rest of the world to solve. Everywhere is dire financial distress, the nations of the world recovering from five years of prostration and endeavoring to readjust themselves to the new conditions, and facing questions at home which demand every ounce of energy they possess. They are not in a position to aid, even did they so desire, in organizing and conducting the extensive campaign which would be necessary for the restoration of peace in Russia. The best that can be done is to forward such supplies as may be available, and even while suffering under the imputation of deserting a former ally, leave Russia to solve her problems as best she may. But it will be a sorry day for Siberia when the Japanese army enters the conflict.

TYPHOID.

The existence of more than twenty local cases of typhoid fever in the General Public Hospital, with possibly fifteen others in the homes of patients and in the infirmary, creates a situation which demands most careful attention on the part of our civil and provincial health authorities. Typhoid is a serious disease, slow in its action, demanding constant attention, and unless those in attendance upon patients exercise the utmost care contagion is readily carried. There is nothing in the situation in St. John which would justify the belief that any one source of contagion, whether in such widely scattered localities as to preclude the possibility of milk, one of the most common carriers of the typhoid germ, has not been found that the patients have been using milk from any one source of supply, nor is it at all probable that the city water supply is to blame, for were it the case the spread of the disease would be of a much more serious nature. Yet as a precautionary measure tests of the water being made and in this connection it will be well for the city to assure itself that at the source of supply there is not possibility of contamination. While the health authorities are still somewhat in the dark as to the causes which have led up to the development of so many typhoid cases at the present time, it is estimated that conditions not readily controllable may be responsible. Many persons have been spending their vacations in the country at places where sanitary arrangements are not of the best, where water and milk may be impure, and now on their return from the holiday are developing disease contracted in this way. It is suggested that among the men returning from overseas there may be some typhoid carriers, persons who have been in contact with the disease, who are not now victims of it, but who, through the presence of the germs in their systems, are able to communicate the disease to others. With the accumulation of all possible information there will be little difficulty in discovering the cause of this outbreak if it is attributable to any individual source. If such is not the case and the disease is due to vaccination carelessness or some similar cause, its further spread can be readily checked.

by the exercise of proper care on the part of those attending the sick. There is apparently no cause whatever to fear an epidemic.

MARKING FOOD.

At least some of the complaints which are now so general respecting the high prices of foodstuffs would be overcome had we in Canada well-applied federal regulations governing the packing and sale of foodstuffs. For a number of years the United States has devoted attention to this question, with the result that although weaknesses are still apparent that country is in a much more favorable position as regards both domestic and foreign trade than Canada. It is practically impossible for any manufacturer in the United States to export a food product without furnishing to the purchaser a certificate guaranteeing the purity of that product. All animal and fish foods prepared in the United States for export must be accompanied by such inspection certificates and while it is possible that careless methods of production may sometimes get by, still the regulations are, generally speaking, well observed, and are found to be of very great value in winning for United States producers the reputation which they desire for their goods. Again there is being brought into effect more and more every day that regulation which demands that the exact net contents of every package of food stuffs shall be stamped on the outside of the package so that the purchaser may know what he is getting. In this country we buy a can of peas, a bottle of pickles, a tin of salmon and we get very often just what the employee in the packing house is disposed to place in those vessels. Preserved meats in fancy bottles, biscuits in sealed packages, and all other natural products of this nature are sold freely in this country, not by their weight or number, but by the package, irrespective of what weight it may contain. From reliable manufacturers we know what we are getting, but frequently the householder is unable to tell whether a carton of breakfast food contains a pound or only two ounces, or whether a half-pound tin of salmon contains a half pound of salmon or merely weighs a half pound including the can. Our methods in this respect are loose, and while it is no doubt true that the majority of manufacturers are thoroughly honest in the weight of their products and exercise the greatest care in their preparation, the fact that others show less regard for this feature of their business is apt to create in the mind of the purchaser dissatisfaction with all similar lines and to contribute in no small degree to the prevailing discontent.

RECKLESS DRIVING.

Commissioner Thornton is said to be taking steps to check reckless driving about the city streets. But why the Commissioner should have to exert himself in this respect is not clearly apparent. There are regulations which should have been applied ever since they were adopted, and the fact that they have been so widely disregarded is not at all creditable to the police department under the control of the Commissioner of Safety. Yet even at this late date Mr. Thornton's announced resolution is commendable and members of the police force will have ample opportunity for activity. At every street intersection in the city at car stops and elsewhere, the traffic laws are violated every hour of the day and it remains a mystery why fatalities have been of such infrequent occurrence. Let us go at this thing properly and check the practice of reckless driving before it becomes too widespread.

A NEW MARKET.

Carrying coals to Newcastle is a common proceeding in comparison with what St. John is doing during the present month. For the first time in the history of this port a steamer in our harbor is loading grain for Constantinople, while other ships are taking on board sugar for Montreal, Gortia and other southern European ports. Greece has, since time immemorial, derived her supply of wheat from Russia, the greatest grain growing country in the world, while she and neighboring countries have depended upon Austria for their sugar. Something has gone wrong with this source of supply and Constantinople demands wheat from Canada, while Austria is compelled to decline the requests of her neighbors for sugar and to refer them to this country for their requirements.

WHAT THEY SAY

Movable Government Going Fishing. Springfield Republican — When Mayor Ole Hanson of Seattle resigned "to go fishing" there was natural interest in what he was to fish for, and a Washington correspondent bears that he is the Presidency of the United States. That takes pretty good bait.

AMERICAN RESERVATIONS.

New York Tribune—These reservations command not only a majority of the foreign relations committee, but will have it is said fifty or more votes in the Senate. If all party pressures were lifted, if the president did not set up acceptance of his views as a test of party loyalty, the affirmative vote would be nearly unanimous. Only a handful of Senators are personally opposed to Americanizing reservations.

Where the Profits Go.

Oregon Journal—Seventy-five cents a pound is what a Portlander paid for Oregon-grown cherries in New York. Ten and a fourth is the price at which the Salem fruit union sold twenty-four carloads, and it was the general high price for Oregon cherries this season, except a lot sold by the Hood River Applegrowers' Association at sixteen. The farmers do the growing, the consumer does the paying, and thirty gentlemen somewhere in the circle get the velvet.

Budget Reform.

New York Times—So long as Congress works its will with any budget the budget will be the work of Congress, and not of those who prepare it and who are freed from responsibility when Congress takes it over. There is no way of holding Congress as a whole responsible, and no individual can be held responsible under present methods. Responsibility for results, not for recommendations, is the cornerstone of budget reform. It is to be expected good budgets until it is possible to punish somebody for bad budgets.

Shot Through.

New York Sun—One phrase in Mr. Wilson's remarks at Columbus, Ohio, will command instant attention as it is read in many troubled parts of the earth's surface. He described the treaty as "shot through with the American principle of letting the people pick the government." Shot through with what? In Shantung, in Fiume, in the Saar Basin, in Montenegro, in Mesopotamia, in Egypt, and elsewhere, including the United States, there will be widespread belief that an error in transcription has occurred, and that what President Wilson did really say at Columbus was that the American principle of letting the people pick the government is shot through by the treaty.

Conditions of Prosperity.

Ottawa Journal: A Chicago paper says Lloyd George's warning to the British people that they are drifting to disaster is quite as much a warning to the American people. It is a warning to the Canadian people because, unless we have "vastly increased production" and curtailment of waste, Canada likewise will suffer in serious financial difficulties. Without these, the apparent prosperity of today will prove but a misleading mirage.

Montreal Not Alone.

Hamilton Times: The Department of Trade and Commerce recently sent an inspector to Montreal to test the scales, weights and measures used by the retailers there, and in three days, it is said, he found twenty scales short weighted or doctored. Now Montreal is not the only city where such criminal acts could take place. Is there any need in this city for such an investigation? Everything is done already without the least doubt added to by short measure.

A BIT OF VERSE

A HYMN OF HOPE.
Tune: Moscow (Hymns A. and M. 364).
A thousand thousand years,
Thru wars and toils and tears
A Guiding Hand
Has led the tribes of men
From desert, cave and den,
To hab' within their ken
A fairer land.
There each to all is friend;
No city walls defend;
No fortress towers;
Earth has no evil stain;
No wrongs, no sinners slain
As sheep that kings may gain
Titles of crown.
There shall all nations be
Eggs, and all men free,
Soul, body, mind;
Diverse in speech and blood.
All shall be brothers true
Vie to advance the good
Of all mankind.

By all our dead who lie
'Neath every vaulted sky
And sea profound;
By sacrificial deed
By souls self-dedicated to blood,
Holding the highest creed
'Path yet hath found.

Our race is consecrate
To hate the deeds of hate,
And laws amend,
Till Peace of man with man
Over every clime and clan
Wide as the o'erarching sphere
Of Heav'n extend.
—By F. W. Bourdillon, in New York Independent.

A BIT OF FUN

His Will.
"I hear Mrs. Rex is going to break her husband's will."
"How can she? He never had one after he married her!"—Baltimore American.

A Paradox.

"So you're still carrying a mortgage on your house, are you?"
"Yes, and strange to say, I'm carrying it because I cannot lift it!"—Boston Transcript.

Did It Happen?

Physician—You had a pretty close call. It's only your strong constitution that pulled you through.
Patient—I hope you will remember that when you make out the bill—
Judge.

Stolen.

"First, you talk of a jewel robbery," said the policeman, "and now all you

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.
BOATS.
No matter how deep the water is, a good boat will always stay on top. Was a trolley car gets off of the track, it can be put back again and acts just as if it had never went off, but when a boat once sinks, that's the last anybody sees generally seas of it.
A boy can have more fun all alone in a little sail boat or a canoe than what he could all alone in a big steam boat. The first thing a fellow does when he gets a boat is to start to think of a name for it, an account of knowing that, as soon as he tells anybody he has a boat the first thing they will say is, "What's its name?"
Most boats have girls names, such as Maud or Alice, instead of boys names, such as Bill or Sam. This is probably the reason why people always say "She" instead of "Him" when they mention a boat.
The boat with the most work attached to it is a row boat, and the most dangerous boat is a battle ship when its cannons are going. A battle ship is a Man of War and a She at the same time.
A sailor never knows what minute a wave will come up on deck and wash him overboard. For this reason a sailor that knows how to swim has less cause to be nervous than one that don't. It is a lucky thing for sailors that the salt water is the easiest thing to swim in, because when a boat sinks in the ocean it is awfully necessary to swim a long way. For this reason when a sailor off of a sunk boat sees a raft go by, he generally always climbs up on it or rises away instead of waiting to see if another one will go past soon.
For a seaship person, the only enjoyable part of a trip in a boat is the end of it.

have to say it that you have lost your

cook."
"Well," exclaimed Mr. Crossfield, "that cook was a jewel, and some of the neighbors came around and stole her."—Washington Star.

Trust!
"Heal Ah comes back from do what an' finds yo' married to Baltimore! Joe, an' yo' done swore to be true to me."
"True? Was you true to me when you kept writin' all about your engagements with dat big Bertha ovah thah?"—Life.

Safety First.

"What occasioned the sudden disappearance of Cascard Charley from Crimsoin Gulch?"
"Too much safety first," responded Cascard Joe, "just before the poker game started the boys caught him marking the deck."—Washington Star.

Father—"I'm ashamed to see you crying because a bee stung you. Act like a man!"
Bobbie—"Y'es, and th-then you'd gim-me a 10-kilo, like you s-said you would if you ever n-heard im-m-u-sin' that k-kind of language."

"It is the nature of a child to be wanting to do something," said the enthusiastic kindergarten teacher.
"As far as I have noticed," said a mother of six, "it is the nature of a child to be wanting to do something else."

Where the Milk Went.
Maid: "Your husband says you threw a jug of milk at him from the top of the stairs. Is that right?"
Lady: "Oh, yes, it's right enough; in fact, I ain't ever known a pennorth of milk to go so far!"

Never! Never!
Tom: "There was an artist once who painted cowboys on his ceiling so truthfully that the housemaid wore herself out trying to sweep them down."
Nellie: "My dear Tom, there may have been an artist as clever as that, but never such a housemaid!"

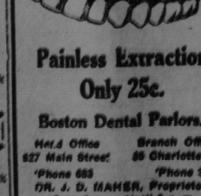
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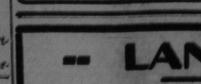
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