

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1919.

## A WORLD CONCERT.

There is a certain irony in the fact that Premier Clemenceau should suggest the possibility of reviving the old system of the balance of power. That political system was overthrown by another great Frenchman—Napoleon. As a means of regulating international relations the political conception of the balance of power was applied with more or less success for two centuries before Napoleon, and it still remained in force in a modified form after him. "To secure the Queen's Dominion and the balance of power" was an expression which appeared in the British Army Bill every year until 1867 when it was struck out on motion of John Bright. To defeat the designs of Napoleon all Europe combined against him, and a new instrument called the "Concert of Europe" was thus brought into being. The European Concert—that is the European powers acting in concert—has not always been noted for its harmonies, but it accomplished much real work in the way of settling questions pregnant with the possibility of war—enough at any rate to prove the superiority of the principle of concerted action over that of shifty alliances aiming at a balance of power. It completed the overthrow of Napoleon by the second treaty of Paris in 1815; and by the Congress of Vienna in the same year established the territorial divisions of Europe, provided for the freedom of navigation of European rivers and canals, and condemned the slave trade. It then kept the peace in Europe for nearly forty years. It failed to prevent the Crimean War; Russia wanted to settle with Turkey in her own way, and England and France objected. After the war the European concert appeared again, for the treaties of Paris of 1856 were signed by Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, Russia, Turkey and Sardinia. These treaties bound the signatory powers "To forever private interests and isolated action in their dealings with all questions arising out of the peace of Turkey."

In 1855 the concert of Europe extended its action to South Africa and by 1890 had completed without war the partition of that great continent—a problem that bristled with difficulties. This was a notable achievement considering that from the sixteenth century to the Battle of Waterloo—the period of the balance of power—there was a successive struggle between Portugal, Spain, Holland, France and Britain for Colonial Empire.

But the concert of Europe is now a broken instrument—smashed by the mailed fist of Germany intent on making Europe dance to the tune of Kultur. And President Wilson would put in its place a league of nations—a world concert. On two occasions the United States has struck a note that harmonized with the tune a world concert should attempt to play. Paradoxical as it may seem, the Monroe Doctrine was such a note. When the Holy Alliance—Russia, Austria, and Prussia—was formed, it professed to apply the principles of Christianity to politics, internal and external. In reality it opposed movements toward constitutional government and social reform. England, under Canning, tried to break it up and at Canning's suggestion President Monroe promulgated the doctrine that bore his name, partly with the object of checkmating the activities of the Holy Alliance. In 1898 when the United States and Japan joined with the great powers of Europe in sending troops to China to suppress the Boxer trouble, the principle of a world concert was in operation. This concert of the powers upon the proposal of the United States later declared for the open door in China—equal treatment for all nations.

Possibly a world concert might affect what the European concert failed to do—a proper settlement of the Turkish question. The European concert never functioned properly in this case, owing to mutual mistrust and jealousies. In 1896, when on the occasion of the Armenian massacres, Great Britain wanted to force Turkey to carry out the provisions of the Berlin Treaty, she was thwarted by Russia, France and Germany. This inability of Britain, France and Russia to agree gave Germany opportunity to develop her Mittel Europa ambition, which was one of the principal root causes of her determination to make war. Britain and France are now in a position to handle Turkey without reference to Germany or Russia, but British interests are not everywhere identical with those of France, and Italy also has divergent views. If the settlement is to be effective it must be guaranteed by other powers like the United States and Japan, which have no special interests to serve.

**CARLETON FALLS FOR IT.**  
So Carleton County has swallowed the Roberts' Health Bill, and will cough up \$2,500.00 as the price of its participation in this latest fad. From what The Standard is able to learn the plans already laid before the people of New Brunswick in connection with this measure are merely preliminary stages of development and the

expenditures they involve are as nothing compared with what will be looked for in future years. When Dr. Roberts really gets into his stride we may expect to see the money fly, and some of the counties in this province which are none too well off at present will be ready to go bankrupt if they endeavor to follow him in his various stunts. The general doctor has big ideas, altogether too big for a province such as this, and, of course, altogether too unnecessary, for, while in his Health Act there may be one or two commendable features suitable to the large communities, the general scheme of things does not commend itself to ordinary municipalities and indeed burdens them with extravagant outlays which they can very well get along without. Twenty-five hundred dollars to Carleton County's contribution to this latest fad, is not a circumstance to what Carleton will be expected to put up if the plans of the doctor are carried much farther.

## THE Y. W. P. A.

The Young Women's Patriotic Association, according to its financial report, raised during the past year more than \$5,000.00. It is doubtful if any similar organization can show such a result. More money has perhaps been secured by other societies, but the Y. W. P. A. funds are the result of personal work on the part of members. This organization has sent representatives to pick strawberries for ten hours a day, has checked graves on the Robbsey road, has canvassed the town to sell Victory Bonds at the same commission as was paid to the regular canvassers, and after these canvassers had done all they could, members have dined in theatres, regularly each evening, after their own work has ended. Practically every penny of the \$5,000.00 and more, reported by the treasurer, represents personal effort on the part of some member and the energy which has characterized this association during the year has been equalled only by the wisdom displayed in distributing this money among worthy objects.

## THE HOSPITAL.

The women of St. John are taking hold of the hospital extension proposal with their customary energy. A meeting is being arranged for Thursday of next week at which it is expected representatives of all the leading women's societies will be present when plans will be considered in this matter. While no definite suggestion has yet been put forward as to the part these organizations propose to take in providing this additional accommodation, it is suggested that should the municipality decide to go ahead, the various societies may arrange to furnish the wards and new nurses' home, and provide other necessary equipment. Whether this municipality believes itself financially capable of undertaking such an expenditure or not, the fact remains that our present hospital is not modern, nor is it of sufficient capacity to meet the requirements of the community.

## THE LAST DAY.

Today, the last day of the Red Shield Drive, finds the Salvation Army \$7,000 short of the local objective, \$25,000. The cause is a most worthy one, it is not a money-making scheme in any sense of the word, and every cent contributed will mean that much more comfort for the returning warriors. Today is the last day to help, \$7,000 is the amount needed, so show your appreciation of what the fighting men have done for you, and what the Salvation Army has done for the fighting men, by putting St. John's objective well "over the top."

The Board of Pension Commissioners announce that the increases authorized under the recent order in council will be paid with the least possible delay. It is not necessary for those affected by the changes to make application or even to make inquiries regarding their cases. The extra work created renders it impossible to immediately adjust every pensioner's account, but there will be no unnecessary delay and the work is now in progress.

## WHAT THEY SAY

## What He Has He'd Hold.

London Press: Allied armies under Foch occupy German territory to the Rhine, and so good does the big river look to him Foch would never again have his armies out of sight of it.

## Not First to Strike.

London Daily Mail: The London Daily Mail says the British government will not recognize the Sinn Feiners except they break the law. In other words, the government has no intention of starting the inevitable row.

## Value of Advertising.

Edmonton Journal: Mr. John T. Stirling in the Canadian Institute bulletin attributes the increase of 3,152,826 to 4,601,401 tons output of the coal mines of Alberta during the first nine months of 1918 to the extensive advertising campaign that was conducted for the purpose of having consumers put in as much coal as possible before the railways were fully

occupied in moving grain. It is satisfactory to find that the campaign accomplished what was hoped for from it. What is more unusual and equally gratifying to us is to have the power of advertising so freely acknowledged by a man who knows what he is talking about.

## Uneconomic Destruction.

The Brooklyn Eagle: China asks the powers to supervise a great opium burning at Shanghai. All the hospitals in the world pay high prices for opium and economic absurdity reaches a climax in cremation of the viable supply, but China has good Caucasian precedent for such stupidity.

## Wasp, And You Weep Alone.

Washington Star: Old John Barclay-corn is being repudiated by one State after another. As bar-room friends usually do, John's cronies deserted him in a crisis.

## Should Never Had Gone.

Hamilton Spectator: Wives and children of Canadian soldiers now overseas are to be brought to Canada free of expense by the government. As there are fifty thousand of them, however, the transportation bill promises to be heavy, but it is really necessary expense under the circumstances.

## The British Way.

Vancouver Province: In the years 1917 and 1918 the British casualties in France exceeded the French losses. In the last three months of the war the British captured more German prisoners and more guns than the French and Americans together. When France expresses gratitude for her salvation she takes Britain for granted. Great Britain is herself the feeblest of all the powers. If the King or his Prime Minister should visit America this year he would have a good deal to say about the services of the soldiers and sailors from Great Britain who did most to win the war.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## BINGEN ON THE RHINE.

When I was still a tow-boy  
across an ancient spill,  
And had to do as I was bid or catch  
all bawls;  
I still recall with maddening curse  
the day I had to rise  
And kick in the foolish way  
with terror in my eyes;  
"Beneath the Spreading Chestnut  
Tree"—The Ride of Paul Revere.  
"Upon a Stern and Rockbound  
Coast"—and others just as sure;  
But from the list which stands  
across where nightmares still en-  
twine,  
The one that I recited first  
"Gingen on the Rhine."

Ach Gott! The morning I arose upon  
the schoolhouse stand,  
With pallid cheek and shaking toes  
and tremors of the hand;  
My heart went up to meet my mouth,  
my bulging eyes grew dim,  
My tongue was drier than a drouth  
along Sahara's rim.  
"A soldier of the legion lay"—  
and then with starting tears,  
I stopped without a word to say,  
I forgot Albigers,  
And that's why heart and soul still  
burn and cold chills seek my  
spine.  
Each time my morbid thoughts return  
to Bingen on the Rhine.

And now against the Hun's abode  
with steady tramp along,  
The old Third Army hits the road,  
two hundred thousand strong;  
As dim dawns from the eastward  
creep the vanguards down the plain,  
They hold their sector of the sweep  
that started from Lorraine,  
Nor yet which Allied arms lands up  
on its waiting lap;  
But while for war and all its hell  
I can't say that I pine,  
I'd like to drop at least one shell  
in Bingen on the Rhine.  
—Lieut. Grantland Rice,  
Third Army, A. E. F.

## A BIT OF FUN

Every man has a three-fold nature;  
that which he exhibits, that which  
he has and that which he thinks he  
has.

Some men are known by the company  
they are unable to get into.

Fighters are not permitted to go  
out of their lines, but heavy  
women seem to delight in making  
marches with lightweight men.

Even the slowest man is occasionally  
fast asleep.

## A Fortunate Girl.

"My sister Maggie is awfully  
lucky."  
"Why?"  
"She went to a party last night  
where they played a game in which  
you either had to kiss a girl or pay  
a forfeit of a thrift stamp."  
"Well, how was Maggie lucky?"  
"She came home with two books  
of thrift stamps."

The Retort Courteous.  
Hector: Sergeant—Say, what did  
you do before the war?  
Private—I was in a bank, sir.  
H. S.—Swept the floor, I suppose.  
Private—No, sir. We had a retired  
sergeant to do that.

The Real Sufferers.  
Dobson: It was an awful trial for  
me to make that speech last night.  
Clubleigh—Don't mention it; just  
think what the rest of us suffered.

The One and Only.  
Before the abdication of the ex-  
Kaiser, two German Socialists were  
standing talking on the street and  
one, becoming excited, exclaimed:  
"I tell you that idiot of an emperor—"

A touch on his arm interrupted him  
and turning he found a German police-  
man, who declared him under arrest.  
"I was about to say," said the So-

## Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Me and Puds Simkins and Leroy Shooter was practicing trying to stand on our hands, on account of it not being any use trying to wade on them till you know how to stand on them first, just like little drops of water make the mitty ocean, and all of a sudden while Leroy Shooter was trying to stand on his dime dropped out of his pants pocket and rolled on the pavement as if it was looking for a crack, and Leroy Shooter picked it up and put it back in his pocket, and I sed, G, I know were you can get a hole pound of jelly beans for a dime.  
I know were you can get enuff yellow jack for a dime to chew on all day, yellow jack is better than jelly beans any day, sed Puds Simkins.  
Wy is it? I sed, and Puds sed, Because it is, and I sed You're crazy, and Puds sed, Well wy ain't it? and I sed, Because it ain't, and Puds sed You're crazy.  
Well lets leave it to Leroy, I sed, wich wouldnt you rather buy, Leroy, a hole pound of jelly beans all different flavors that you could rattle around in your teeth and everything before you ate them, or just a lot of old yellow jack.  
All rite, lets leave it to Leroy, sed Puds, wich wouldnt you rather buy, Leroy, a hole big bag of fine peechy yellow jack that you can chew on till you feel like swallowing, or just a lot of old jelly beans? Well, if I had a dime I'd rather buy gum drops, sed Leroy.  
Well, you got one, didnt we? I sed, I sed.  
We just saw it, didnt we? I sed Puds.  
That's aint mine, thats a dime change from a errand, sed Leroy.  
Aw heck, sed me and Puds. And we started to practice standing on our hands again.

clalist, "a idiot of an emperor of Japan."  
"It wont do," said the policeman, firmly, "theres only one idiot emperor and everybody knows it."

A Helpful Spouse.  
Hub—What did you do with all those unpaid bills, Alice?  
Wife—I saw they were beginning to worry you, dear so I destroyed them.

Self-Heip.  
An old lady who thought her granddaughter spent too much time and money on the vanities of dress, ex postulated with her on the extreme fashion in which she did her hair.  
"If the Lord had intended for your looks to be curled, my dear, He would have curled them for you."  
"When I was a little girl," replied the granddaughter, "He did. But now that I am grown up He thinks that I am able to do it for myself."

Friend of Shopkeeper.—That's a nice girl you have in your shop. I've seen her in the window several days as I passed.  
Shopkeeper (wearily) — She isn't an employee. She's a woman trying to decide on a new hat.

By Comparison.  
Mrs. A. (house hunting).—Fancy the agent advertising this as a superior flat.  
Mrs. B.—That's all right; you should see the others he has.

Catty.  
Two women, one fat, the other thin, approached a box office at the Hippodrome recently to buy tickets for "Everything." Treasurer White noticed the fat one hesitated, obviously waiting to evade spending the money. Finally the fat one stared up. She pushed the other aside and thrust the money through the window. Then, offering the other woman the tickets, she snapped:  
"Here, Mabel, you had better take care of these. As you so seldom open your pocketbook, you're not apt to lose them."

A Pick-up.  
"How did you meet her?"  
"Just picked her up at the skating rink."

A Bargain.  
"Oh, John," sobbed Mrs. John. "I've done something awful, and I'm afraid to tell you—must! I made a most awful mistake this morning and sent your new dress suit to the rummage sale instead of your old one, and when I found out what I had done, I ran over to get it back it had been sold."  
"That's all right, Mabel, dear," said John amiably. "I stopped in at the sale myself and bought it back for 35 cents."

Protect Your Eyes.  
"Madam, the feather in your hat is getting in my eye," said the man in the crowded car.  
"Why don't you wear glasses?" asked the woman.

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## SHORT COURSES FOR THE SOLDIERS

Lieut. J. G. Robertson, Representative Settlement Board, in the City—Every Assistance Given Men from Overseas.

Lieut. J. G. Robertson, Maritime representative of the Soldiers' Settlement Board, arrived in the city yesterday in connection with the opening of the New Brunswick office. He was accompanied to New Brunswick by W. J. Black, chairman of the Board, and J. H. Griedale, deputy minister of agriculture for the Dominion, who came down to look over the ground at the Experimental Farm at Fredericton, and to complete arrangements for the use of the Dominion university for short courses for returned men. Mr. Black and Mr. Griedale returned to Ottawa last evening, but Lieut. Robertson will remain for a few days, after which he will go to Halifax and open up the Nova Scotia office.

Lieut. Robertson who is a returned soldier, a Maritime Province man, a graduate of the McDonald College, and a practical farmer, and last night to the Standard that every possible assistance would be given to the men returning from overseas who wished to take up farming, and the Soldiers' Settlement Board was working with the Great War Veterans' Association, and in each province the two committees which would deal directly with the men, the agricultural qualifications and the land and loan committees, would, if possible, be composed entirely of returned men.

The duty of the qualifications committee was to pass on the application for aid and decide whether the applicant ought to go on the land without taking either a course at the experi-

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