

## The St. John Standard

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H. V. MacKINNON, Managing Editor.  
ALFRED E. MCGINLEY, Editor.  
United States Representatives:  
Henry DeClerque, Chicago, Ill.  
Louis Klebahn, New York.  
British Representative:  
Frederick A. Smith, 29 Ludgate Hill, London, E. C.

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"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 SWORD OF HOHENZOLLERN

All the world knows to its cost that the sword bared a year ago in the city of Berlin and waved in defiance of the greater part of the world has proved both long and keen, and the blood which it has split can never be washed out by the waters of time or obliterated by the streams of Lethé. The conduct of the war by the German militarists has fulfilled to the letter the prophecy made by a member of the British House of Commons some seventy-five years ago to the effect that "Germany is a giant in a cradle, whose growth and development will some day astonish the world."

For ages be it remembered Germany was her own worst foe, racked as she was by petty internal jealousies and torn by irreconcilable factions. Under such conditions it was not to be wondered at that time and again she was compelled to bow her proud head to the will of her enemies. The Roman historian Tacitus eighteen centuries ago exclaimed "May the Germans as they cannot love us, at least retain their hatred of each other, so that when Rome begins to totter she may at least find support in the discord of that race," and from the days of Tacitus all the way down the centuries until the time of Bismarck, who, on March 23, 1887, declared in the Prussian Herrenhaus (House of Lords) "The German lives by quarrelling with his countrymen," this spirit of discord and internal dissension has been the evil genius of one of the world's greatest races. It was thus that the Germans for ages were utterly incapable of united action, and indeed for that matter were quite unready for action of any decisive kind.

From this wearisome state of weakness Germany was destined to be delivered by the organizing genius and military prowess of the Prussians, and to the present Emperor, and his father before him, is due in large measure the unification of this age-long disunited people, and there is no reason to doubt but that it was this condition of affairs that ordinarily led to the inception of that military machine which, in later years, has weighed so heavily upon Germany itself, both in its manhood and in its money, and which today has raised itself as a savage beast of prey threatening to devour the whole world.

Let it not be forgotten that it was upon the power of this great military machine that the Prussians relied to maintain not only the unity of these separate German states, but also to perpetuate their own pre-eminence amongst them.

At various times since this war broke out we have been told that it was a mistake to suppose that the German people were a unit in the desire for war, and this was probably in accordance with the fact, for it is well known that today there are elements within the Fatherland, and these not without influence, which are increasingly making themselves heard in opposition to the policy of territorial aggression. Quite recently Lord Haldane, referring to German anti-bellum policies and politics, said:

"In Germany there were at that time three parties. There was the party which took no part in politics, and if the government raised its hand strove to follow; there was at the other end the party which had been maturing for years, and had prepared a tremendous machine to use which it was always endeavoring to persuade the German nation; while there was also a great middle party, which included a great many of the diplomats and business men, and that party did not want war for years, and had prepared a plan: it wanted Germany to be readier and stronger before she embarked upon a great war."

Whatever may have been the variety of opinions in regard to the war which were to be found in Germany before hostilities broke out, and for that matter whatever may be the influences in opposition to the policy of the war party today, there is no reason to doubt but that the Prussian militarists have these all well under control, and that it would be fatuous for the world to look for the cessation of the horrors of this terrible war through the action of these forces within Germany. Let there be no mistake about this.

The issue is perfectly plain, and for the world the results of this con-

flict cannot be other than serious, for by this war shall be determined whether for the greater part of the race the principles and ideals of democracy shall be continued and strengthened or shall the world increasingly come under the "sword of Hohenzollern," for there is no doubt but that there are those high in office and great in influence in Germany who believe that the same method which has succeeded in bringing all these one-time discordant German states into a condition of national unity and harmony is also able to similarly unify and Prussianize the world.

### THE GRAND DUKE'S TASK.

Recent German successes on the Eastern war-front have placed on the shoulders of the Russian Grand Duke a task as heavy as any that confronted Napoleon, Hannibal, Wellington, or other generals of history. With the capture of Kovno and the likelihood that Vilna will be the next to fall, the Russian forces are in a position that may well be precarious. Undoubtedly it is the German design to work northward to Riga so that the land forces may cooperate with the German Baltic Sea fleet in the siege of that city. More important, however, than the capture of any of the cities named is the fact that the Germans now command the great railway lines leading from the heart of Russia and unless their advance is speedily checked should be able to cut off the flow of supplies to the Grand Duke's army.

The Russians have done a mighty work in keeping the Teutonic armies engaged and despatches telling of the progress of events on the Eastern front plainly illustrate the desperate character of the fighting and the mastery skill shown by the Czar's generals in maintaining their armies comparatively intact up to the present. The capture of the railway centres, however, adds a new and dangerous element to the situation and the Grand Duke will be a wonder, indeed, if he can save his forces.

Yesterday's advices told of the heavy losses inflicted by the Russian soldiers upon their pursuing enemy, but the seriousness of the situation is not to be discounted even by the fact that the Teutonic hordes have paid heavy toll for their successes. Of course, the history of the war has shown that the Russians possess marvellous resource and recuperative quality, but in the present situation it is likely to be tested to the limit.

Hitherto the campaign of the Allies has been conducted with telling precision. Advances in the West have afforded relief to the Russians on more than one occasion. But if there was ever a time when a period of relief would be welcome that time is now. Consequently, it would not be surprising if the next few days should bring news of important movements in France and Flanders, for the British and French commanders must well realize the plight of their eastern allies.

### THE CASE OF THE ARABIC.

Last night's despatches indicated that there were at least twenty-five Americans on the White Star liner Arabic, which was torpedoed by a German submarine off the Irish coast, yesterday morning. There is no report yet as to whether they were lost, and until this is determined there can be no speculation regarding the attitude of the United States other than to recall that President Wilson in his correspondence with Germany resulting from the Lusitania affair, stated very plainly that the Kaiser's government in the future would be held to strict accounting for the loss of American lives or the destruction of American property.

If the report that Americans were on the steamer is correct, her destruction by a German naval vessel seems to indicate a disposition on the part of Berlin to disregard the warning already sent from Washington. The steamer was bound from Liverpool to New York, so it will not be easy for Germany to justify her sinking on the ground that she was carrying supplies to Great Britain or her Allies. Aside from the fact that she was under the British flag and that her destruction meant a loss of many pounds to a

British company there is not at this time an apparent reason for the act. However, it may be assumed that the President of the United States carefully considered the effect of the warning he sent to Germany, and what it might mean if the very reasonable demands of his government were ignored. This being the case his action now will be awaited with more than ordinary interest.

### THE VALLEY RAILWAY.

The news that the Government of New Brunswick has taken over the stock of the St. John and Quebec Railway Company, and has selected new officers for that concern will be hailed as a step in the right direction.

The failure of F. J. Lisman and his associates to finance the sale of the second mortgage bonds of the railway rendered it necessary for the provincial government to guarantee the sum of \$10,000 per mile to secure these bonds. Since that occurred the burden has been on the province and it naturally was not desirable that the stock of the road should be in the hands of a company not carrying the financial responsibility. The legislation passed last session gave to the government the authority to take over the stock if the company, within a certain time, did not show that it possessed the ability to complete the undertaking. This showing has not been made and the government has acted accordingly.

The new arrangement clears the way for the resumption of the construction of the road as soon as may be deemed practicable under the business conditions obtaining at the present time. The government's course will commend itself to all thoughtful men who have followed the affairs of the road.

The men selected by the government as directors of the company are of good repute and standing and will give adequate representation to all sections of the province. Their acceptance of the duties placed upon them affords a splendid guarantee that the future of the road will be well managed.

### A Legend of The Rhine

(Punch.)  
(German bakers are now producing cakes with "Gott strafe England" on them.)

Young Heinrich at the age of ten,  
An offspring of the Huns,  
Joined many hate of Englishmen  
With childish love of buns;  
And so it filled him with delight  
When bakeries divulged  
A plan whereby these passions might  
Be both at once indulged.

In fervent love of Fatherland  
Young Heinrich swiftly brake  
The patriotic dough nut and  
The loyal currant cake.  
To guard his hate from growing less  
Through joy at this repast  
He saved—precocious thoroughness—  
The "strafe" bits till the last.

Alack his well-intentioned cram  
Cost little Heinrich dear;  
Disorder in the diaphragm  
Through joy at this repast  
To find out why he passed away  
They bade the doctor come,  
And "Gott strafe England," so they say,  
Was printed on his tum.

### Germany and The Food Question

(Berlin Lokalanzeiger.)  
There is in Germany at the present time, apart from the great question which preoccupies us all, nothing of such importance as the question of the feeding of the people and especially the impending decision of the government on the revision of the maximum prices for grain. For we have to reckon with an average increase in the family budget of between 50 and 60 per cent., as compared with this time last year. And this figure gives no idea of the change that has come about during the last twelve months in the quality of the food consumed.

There and there people argue that the increase in wages offers some compensation, but this advantage is one that has only fallen to a comparatively small part of the working classes, being, in fact, confined to those engaged in the different branches of war industries. It is true that in some districts, especially the Rhine provinces and Westphalia, the workmen thus benefited number hundreds of thousands, but what is that compared with the millions we have to deal with? And the great mass of those receiving a fixed wage or salary have no more wherewith to buy the necessities of life than before prices went up, and in many cases owing to reductions of pay they have been less. Moreover, the savings which German thrift had put aside in economically happier days, and which for a time enabled the increased prices to be met, are to a great extent exhausted. The effects are to be felt in every walk of life. It can easily be understood that in such circumstances the feeling of the people has not remained unshaken.

### The Hymn of Hate

(New York Tribune.)  
An interesting episode in Germany is a protest by some newspapers

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

Me and my sister Gladdis was setting awn our front steps last nite and Gladdis sed, is that Mr. Parkins coming up the street.  
Yes, and that's Mr. Rockkitts coming down the uthir way, I sed.  
O help, that pill will be the deeth of me, sed Gladdis. Mr. Rockkitts beeing my Sunday skool teetchir and kind of a sleshy the way he tawks.  
And Mr. Parkins and Mr. Rockkitts hepp awn coming and they got to the front steps about the same time, both tipping thare hats to Gladdis and shaking ecch uthir hands as if they was gladdir to see ecch uthir than wat they properly was.

I jest happened to be passing, sed Mr. Parkins.  
Thats the way with me, sed Mr. Rockkitts.  
Im ony going to stay a minit or so, sed Mr. Parkins. And he sat down awn the step, and so did Mr. Rockkitts, saying, I ony have a minit to stay also.

My goodness, wats yure hurry, sed Gladdis.  
I was jest passing, sed Mr. Parkins.  
I was jest going by, sed Mr. Rockkitts. And they sat thare a little wile not saying mutch, and then Mr. Parkins got up, saying, Well, cant I take you as far as the cornir, Mr. Rockkitts.

WY, I dont no, yes, serten, serten, I shall be glad of yure company, sed Mr. Rockkitts. And they both startid to wawk up the street, Gladdis saying, Sorry you cant stay. And wen they got to the cornir Mr. Parkins went wun way, and Mr. Rockkitts went the uthir way, and in a cuppl of minits who cam round the cornir down the street but Mr. Parkins agin.

Good eevning, he sed tipping his hat.  
Good eevning, sed Gladdis.

I jest happened to be returning from a wawk around the block and I thaw I'd drop in for a few hours if you had no objectshin, sed Mr. Parkins.  
Hee hee, sed Gladdis. And Mr. Parkins sat down awn the steps agen and he was still thare wen I had to go to bed.

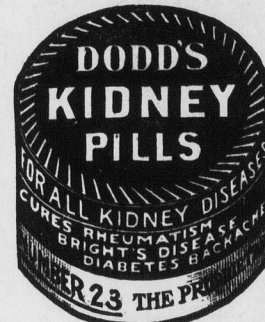
against Lissauer's "Hymn of Hate" being taught in the schools.  
The Cologne Volks Zeitung, an influential paper, printed a letter saying: "A Christian cannot today read Lissauer's hate song without having it go against his grain, even despite all Britain has done to us." The writer of the letter urged German newspapers to object to the school use of the Hymn of Hate.

Another German paper, the Berliner Tageblatt, says: "We read Lissauer's successful hate song at the time of its appearance with unconcealed disapproval, for it is utterly devoid of real stamps. 'Got strafe England' panders to certain instincts which unfortunately come to the fore in excited patriotism, and merely like rubber times."

Lissauer himself, when interviewed, said he wrote the hymn at the outset of the war when his feelings were newly aroused. He did not recommend the use of the hymn in schools.

It will be remembered that Herr Lissauer, author of the "Hymn of Hate," was decorated by Emperor William with the Order of the Red Eagle of the Fourth Class. The final stanza of the poem, which is expressive of the whole, runs:

You will we hate with a lasting hate,  
We will never forego our hate,  
Hate by water and hate by land,



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