

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1918.

"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.

## BRITAIN WINS IN THE AIR.

That the day of German superiority in the air has passed is indicated by the official statement covering the operations of the British air service for the year ending July 1st, which has just been published and which demonstrates unmistakably that in all branches of aerial warfare Britain is supreme.

During the year under review the principal theatre of aerial operations was on the western front and in that field the British had more than doubled the record of their enemies in the number of machines they destroyed. From April to June of this year intensive operations were carried on on the Italian front and there the British victoriously outnumbered those of the enemy in the proportion of twelve to one. In the naval branch of the service the British airmen were completely dominant.

The statement says that "during the year on the western front the British Air Force destroyed 2,150 hostile machines and drove down out of control 1,083. In the same period 1,094 British machines were missing, but 92 of these were working with the navy. Thus the British in France and Belgium lost 1,002 machines while actually destroying 2,150 German planes. Of the 1,082 German machines driven down out of control many probably were destroyed."

Under the rules of the British air service an aviator cannot report an enemy machine destroyed unless he has seen it fall in flames, or crash to the earth out of control. In many cases an air pilot may feel certain he has put an enemy out of business but unless he witnesses the actual crash he cannot, under the rules of the service, report the machine destroyed. A machine may be driven out of control but the pilot be able to right it before striking the ground and thus escape. Because of this possibility such a machine cannot be reported as destroyed.

The naval branch of the air service also did good work in the year. It shot down 623 enemy machines and lost 92 of its own. This indication of the activity of the naval branch will come as a surprise to most people as results from that branch do not receive the same publicity as from the army air service, for the reason that land operations are more easily reported.

Altogether the comparison of losses is remarkable and shows that, although the air department was one of the branches of the army on which Germany chiefly depended for victory three years of war sufficed for Britain to overcome Germany's initial advantage and in the last year the enemy has been far outclassed.

## THROUGH THE CHILDREN.

A plan to promote correspondence between the children of Great Britain and children of the United States, with a view to strengthening the amicable relationship between the people of the two greatest nations on earth, has been accepted and already the American ambassador in London has received more than 10,000 letters from British school children to be delivered to school children in the United States, such letters expressing the good will felt by British children for their American cousins.

The scheme is an excellent one and altogether in line with the plan to revise the history text books in use in the schools of the United States. It should be remembered that the children of today will be the citizens of tomorrow and seeds of friendship planted in childhood are likely to grow into lasting plants as years go on. For generations the school children of the United States have been taught through their text books to distrust and dislike England. The result was that the misunderstanding of many years ago was continued, and up to the time of the present war, while official relations were of the best, the conception of Britain held by the average American was that of a nation greedy and swollen with pride, intolerant but hopelessly out of date. That feeling has disappeared and if American children of today, who will be the men and women of tomorrow, can learn to look upon Britain as a nation holding the same ideals as America, and with common interest for the cause of humanity the warm friendship now existing between the two nations will not easily be severed.

Robert Evans, editor of the Teachers' World, of Dublin, is one of the most ardent supporters of the correspondence plan and he presents an inspiring picture of its possibilities. In part he says:

"We must federate the children of the two nations. They are the children of the future, and if we can begin now to establish real sympathy and understanding, and

create actual ties between them, we shall not have to worry about the future relations of our peoples. We need not worry even about the future peace of the universe, for if the Anglo-Saxon race of the world is united and resolved upon peace, what nation or combination of nations will have the hardihood to break it?"

"And we can establish ties by encouraging the children on both sides of the Atlantic to write regularly to each other, and to exchange postcards with views of their cities and other pictures that will show each what interesting things exist in the other country. I want every boy and girl in the United States to feel that he has a little friend in this country, and every child here to feel that he or she has one over there. I want to see them writing about their pets and everything that concerns them. I want to see schools correspond regularly with each other and exchange specimens of their school work. I want to see boys in Pittsburgh writing regularly to the boys in Sheffield and becoming such friends that each will feel he has another home in the city on the other side of the Atlantic."

An alliance such as proposed between Great Britain and the United States will not only benefit those countries alone but will have an incalculable influence upon the whole world. This idea was expressed by Sir Robert Borden in London when he said that if the present understanding had been in existence four years ago there would have been no world war.

## THE WAR NEWS.

British, French and Americans made gains yesterday. The British forces captured important positions in Virgny Wood and were successful in inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. On the Aisne-Marne front, the French and Americans carried their lines forward up to two miles at one point, captured men, guns and materials and altogether gave the enemy a bad twenty-four hours.

While the Allied successes of the past two days are not as spectacular as at the commencement of Foch's counter-offensive, yet their importance will be more apparent in the developments of the near future. After the enemy was badly defeated, the Allies occupied themselves in local actions, each with its own objective, and the general effect of their successes in this line has been to place them in control of positions, the occupancy of which will have an important effect upon the fighting of the next few days.

It is estimated that not less than fifty German divisions have been seriously damaged in the operations of the past few days. This is of more importance now than it would have been six months or a year ago, for Germany does not possess the reserves she formerly had with which to replace exhausted and shattered battalions. The latest and probably the last offensive undertaken by the Hun has cost him more than all his previous operations of similar character and while the approaching harvest will undoubtedly improve Germany's economic condition and replenish supplies of food, the military forces of the enemy have been very seriously battered. The end of the war may not be at hand but Germany cannot long withstand the gruelling operations of the past week. Every day adds to the measure of Allied superiority.

The Westminster County Council has refused to pay the "false pretences" tax of the Foster government and will remit to Frederick only that portion of the tax that is to be applied to the purposes of the Canadian Patriotic Fund. In other words, Westminster is quite willing to bear its fair share of the cost of war charities but does not approve of the idea of voting money to be disposed of with little or no restriction by the gentlemen now in control of the treasury in Frederick. And Westminster is wise.

Under Haring headlines the Times last evening stated that the provincial government had made demands on Hon. J. K. Flemming, W. B. Tennant and Thomas Nagle for the repayment of certain sums of money "paid out in connection with various Valley Railway contracts." We presume that the same government has made similar demands upon the gentlemen who profited from the Central Railway transactions, or, if this has not already been done, it will be done at once.

It is taken for granted that Premier Foster and his colleagues will scarcely dare to refuse the request of the City of St. John for the superannuation of Police Magistrate Ritchie. At any rate several ardent Fosterites are already pulling strings for that position.

## THE EDITOR'S MAIL

E. S. CARTER'S LETTER  
 To The Editor of The Standard,  
 St. John, N. B.

Sir:—The reading public are amused and I am surprised at the childish defense of the "Free Ferry Ferry," placed before the public through the press by E. S. Carter's letter of July 19th, 1918. Mr. Editor what appears to bother Mr. Carter most is to know who "An Honest Observer" is, and if he is a resident of Kingston Peninsula. He states that he does not believe there is a resident on the Peninsula who would write such a letter, if so, I would advise Mr. Carter, without fear or favor, that he is playing more confidence in the residents of Kingston Peninsula than the majority of them would place in him and his "Free Ferry Ferry."

He also writes that there never was any statement made by him or any member of the Government that the ferry service would be free on Sundays but I ask Mr. Carter, did he or any member of the Government ever state through the last campaign the ferry service would be free on Sundays? Mr. Carter says the free ferry service was to enable the farmers to cross the Kennecott river more easily and reach the markets in St. John, without being obligated to pay a toll that was not exacted of many other farmers in other sections who were able to cross expensive river bridges without charge—Mr. Editor, do you suppose the farmers are paying a toll to cross those bridges on Sundays? I will ask Mr. Carter to state through the press whether it was "An Honest Observer" or E. S. Carter and the Government he bolsters up, that prevents the farmers from crossing the Kennecott River now by a bridge?

Mr. Carter states the free ferry service has given the greatest satisfaction—he forgot, or thought others forgot—the barks the first summer Carter's "Free Ferry" infant was born—on two occasions the travelling public were deprived of the sail ferry at Perry's Point, which had been ordered down to nurse and wait on the Gondola Point or bumpy ferry. Mr. Editor, the farmers and travelling public have received the accommodation of the "free ferry" that they received from the late Capt. William Pitt, who established and operated the cable ferry until his death, and I might also say that the public were well satisfied by his successor, Adino P. Pitt.

Mr. Carter writes, the order to charge for ferriage at Perry's Point on the Sabbath day was given by the Minister of Public Works—who dictated the order, and why was the ferryman told he could not use what he collected to buy gasoline with? Why? Mr. Carter gives a very nice reply as to why two men were required to operate the ferry at Gondola Point—the hours being from four o'clock in the morning until nine o'clock at night. Are those hours longer at Gondola Point than they are at Perry's Point? The latter ferry is operated by one man with a sail scow when the weather permits, and when calm the scow is towed by a motor boat as early today and just as late as at Gondola Point. Mr. Carter invites "An Honest Observer" to sign his name to any complaints and he will discuss them through the press on the platform. E. S. Carter lost all honor as a debater on Nominating Day at Hampton in February, 1917—first prizes were carried off by H. V. Dixon and G. B. Jones, while Premier Murray played the trump card in the "free for all"—a clean sweep.

I would ask Mr. Carter to answer the following questions:—Why was the contract for building the Perry's Point Bridge cancelled? Why is there a toll to be collected on Sundays crossing the free ferry—and why was the ferryman told he could use what he collected to purchase gasoline with? Why is it the official who operates the motor boat between Clifton and Rothesay, and who was to make two trips a week to Perry's Point, has to be notified before he will make any further trips to Perry's Point?

The answers to these questions the majority of the people would like to know.

Yours truly,  
 An Honest Observer.

## GENERALS AND BULLETS

(Philadelphia Ledger). The immunity from wounds in action of some generals, and the ill-fortune of others in becoming billeted for bullets is unique. No commander was ever more forward in the fighting line than Sheridan, yet he never got a scratch. Skobeloff, who many a time went in with his own good sword, and in his white coat on his white charger, headed every charge with a reckless dash that men called madness, had as complete immunity as if he carried a charmed life that his soldiers ascribed to him, and was wounded only in the quiet trenches by a chance bullet fired into the air a mile away.

Wellington was but once hit, the bullet that carried away his boot heel scarce giving him a contusion. Grant was never struck, nor was Napoleon; nor Marlborough, nor Roberts after he became a general; nor Kitchener. Of Sir Neville Chamberlain, again, one of the most distinguished officers in the British Indian army, the saying goes that he never went into action without receiving a wound.

## A HUN TRIUMPH

("Canada," London). The annals of war's heroic deeds will surely contain nothing finer than the devotion to duty of Capt. E. E. (Bert) Meek, C. A. M. C., the Regina surgeon who was killed on the night of May 29-30, when German airmen bombed a Canadian hospital which lies well behind the lines in France. At the time of the enemy raid Capt. Meek was performing an extremely difficult operation, and his death—and that of his anaesthetist, an American doctor, and his patient—was instantaneous.

In a letter to the deceased officer's widow, who with her daughter is now in England, a nursing sister who was in the bombed hospital writes:—"The little flowers I am sending

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Up fellows was standing down at the corner watching automobiles go past and wishing we was in them, and all of a sudden Skinny Martin quick stooped down and picked something up, saying, O, gee, wat I found. O gee, did anybody lose anything.

Wat did you find, I'll soon tell you, sed Ed Wernick. Wat did you got to tell me first, findings keepings if you cant find the owner, sed Skinny Martin.

Well, I think I lost a sent, sed Ed Wernick feeling in all his pockets with a expression as if he was hunting for sumthing, yes I did, darn it I didnt, I lost a sent.

G, so did I, Skinny, I lost one, too, thats funny, sed Puds Simkins. And he started to feel in all his pockets as if he thawt him and Ed Wernick feel in his, making 3 doing it, Sid Hunt saying, Darn if I dont bleeve I lost one, too G, wats you know about that, how can we tell wich ones it is?

You cant, because I didnt find a sent, I found sumthing elsa, sed Skinny. Any Ed and Puds and Sid stopped feeling in their pockets looking surprised, and Lew Davis sed, Goah, I bleeve I lost a dime, did you find a dime, Skinny, I reckonise it if I saw it agen.

Heers wat I found, if anybody wants to know, sed Skinny. And he opened his hand and wat was in it but a old rusty nail, wich woodent of bin break off, on account of not havng any point, and all the fellows laffed like anything as if they thawt you are fresh and sweet now—just as they came from Capt. Meek's grave.

He lies on a sunny slope—running up from a green wood of elms and beeches. . . . We are just back from the military funeral. . . . On Wednesday he was full of anticipation for his leave, which was due any time, and was just finishing up a case before mid night supper, when the Hun came.

"They first dropped a flare, and made sure of their target—a red cross on a white background on the roof. The bombs dropped immediately over the operating room, and for all the brave ones in that wing death was instantaneous. The Hun planes came back a second time, using their machine guns as well as bombs. Our hospital is absolutely solitary, so the viciousness was quite intentional."

On May 28 instructions had been given for Capt. Meek's recall to England on urgent personal grounds.

## A BIT OF VERSE

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-TWO YEARS.

Full a hundred and forty-two years ago  
 We parted from you—with a fight!  
 Full a hundred and forty-two years ago,  
 With a handful of men and a gun or so,

And yet history was made in those days, you know,  
 Inasmuch as WE fought for the Right!  
 And what stood out most boldly was this one thing—

That our hate were thrown eagerly in the ring  
 Because of a German King!

Full a hundred and forty-two years have passed,  
 And we're with you again—in a fight!

Full a hundred and forty-two years have passed—  
 More than a million men, and not one outlived,  
 Are to help you bring Peace o'er the world at last.

With you, shoulder to shoulder, for Right!  
 And what NOW stands out brightly is this one thing—

It is Briton and Yank, side by side, in that ring  
 Because of a German King!

What a hundred and forty-two years have brought  
 Is a union of Civilized Might!  
 What a hundred and forty-two years have brought  
 Is the goal of Democracy, staunchly sought.

For which all of our forefathers bravely fought—  
 And the ultimate triumph of Right!  
 And 'tis Freedom's glad song, with its glorious ring—  
 That the Briton and Yank and the Frenchman sing

Because of a German King!  
 —Emile Voute.  
 New York, July 4, 1918.

## A BIT OF FUN

Flattery.  
 First Soldier (looking at portraits of himself)—Which do you think is the best, Mike?  
 Second Soldier—"Well, personally, I think the one of you in the gas-mask is the best."

The nobility and gentry of Little Ploverborough were recently gathered in the village school-room to enjoy some tableaux vivants by local performers. The curtain had just fallen

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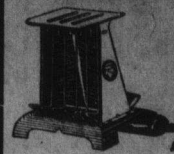
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OBITUARY

David Aitken

Pembroke, July 24—

after an illness of eight

son, two sisters, Mrs. W.

of Pembroke, and Mrs.

ton. The funeral was

burial in the upper church

service was attended by

McKenzie. Mr. Aitken

much missed in the

well liked. The sympathy

ministry goes out to Mrs.

only Miss McQuinn) and

their sad bereavement.

Dr. T. Fortin

Quebec, July 24.—Dr.

St. Marie Beauce, a son

Seigneur Fortier of Beau-

today. He leaves two son-

tier, dentist, of this city

Fortier, advocate, at home

brother Taschereau Fort-

giester for Beauce.

The death of John

place Tuesday night at

incapacitated, after a linger-

is survived by his wife

Mrs. A. E. McKee of this

Mrs. Isabella Aitken

The death of Mrs. E.

widow of Thomas Reid,

her home, Thorne Aven-

morning at the advanced

three years. She is a

son, William, at home,

ters, Mrs. John J. Scott

gery, Moss, and Miss

at home.

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