

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 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 WAR SITUATION.

While there have been no big battles on either side of the war zone, the operations of the past two or three days continue to demonstrate that the Allies forces show material superiority over the enemy. In the West the British troops have captured a position which, while not important in itself, may have a most important bearing on the campaign in that vicinity. In the East the Russians are still progressing. It is reported that they are to be reinforced by a new army of 600,000 men, none of whom have yet seen active service but all are well trained and equipped for the task which confronts them. When they reach the scene of action they should prove mightily effective for, as the result of the aggressive work of the British and French in the West, the Germans are unable to send large bodies of troops to reinforce those facing the Russians and the arrival of the new Russian army should give to the Czar's men such a numerical superiority that the issue can hardly be longer in doubt.

But although the situation on both battlefronts is eminently satisfactory there is as yet little to indicate that the Allies have completed even the half of the task before them. When Lord Kitchener said Britain would not begin to fight until May he had reference particularly to the time it would require to place sufficient men in the field to see the conflict through to the finish. Recruiting has progressed more rapidly than Kitchener expected and already it is evident that the British Empire is and will be represented by a competent force, big enough to bear her share of the fighting to come.

A review of the situation will, however, show there is much work yet to be done. The Germans are still occupying the greater part of Belgium, the mining districts of Northern France and the richest portion of Western Poland. It is necessary that they should be expelled from this territory before the siege of Germany can be said to begin. It is natural to suppose that while they have occupied this territory they have fortified it and prepared elaborate earthworks, all of which may have to be stormed, a tedious and costly process. When this feat has been accomplished, and the Germans driven back to the point where they are actually fighting, on their own soil, it may be necessary to hew a road to the Rhine possibly in the face of desperate resistance from the whole German population.

The task facing the Allies in the West is a stupendous one and requires a mighty force for its accomplishment. The Russian successes in the East will, however, be of great assistance in solving the Western problem, for once the advance commences the Germans will be fighting for their very existence on all sides of their Empire. If Italy and Roumania enter the conflict the only gaps in the wall of steel surrounding the enemy will be closed and the war should be shortened materially. And there is always the possibility that once the fighting is in Germany, the war lords may be willing to surrender rather than have German cities razed and German industry and commerce receive a set back from which it may never recover. The task ahead is a hard one but it will be accomplished. The end, however, is not yet in sight.

SPLENDID WORK.

Too much praise cannot be given to the noble women connected with various organizations in the city and province who have made the cause of the soldiers at the front particularly their own and have spared neither time nor effort to lighten the lot of the men on active service by providing them with many articles, necessary but not always included in the military kit supplied in the British army.

The ladies of the Red Cross have had the sick and wounded as their particular care and they have worked nobly in aid of the various hospitals and ambulance corps in which Canada is especially interested. It was splendid the other day to read that through the energy of the Provincial Red Cross almost sixty beds had been equipped for the Duchess of Con-

naught's Canadian Hospital at Cliveden while a substantial sum of money had been raised for the purchase of surgical and medical materials for use in the field hospitals.

The ladies of the Red Cross and of the Daughters of the Empire and kindred organizations are also to be highly commended for their very successful efforts in the way of supplying comforts to the men at the front. Yesterday was Dominion sock day for the province and a very large number of socks were received at the Red Cross depot here. Today, the Royal Standard Chapter, Daughters of the Empire, will hold a sock social by which the stocks of hosiery available for the soldiers at the front should be materially increased. Every preparation has been made for the success of the event and the entertainment, aside from the object for which it is to be given, will be well worthy of patronage on its merits. The ladies of the Daughters of the Empire, the Red Cross and other organizations are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their efforts in the past and the outlook for the future.

"INDEPENDENT" NEWSPAPERS.

The Telegraph appears to take much comfort from the observations of the Ottawa Citizen in regard to political matters and when that newspaper attacks the Government, or any member of it, the product is certain to find a prominent place in the columns of our silly contemporary. It is also noticeable that whenever the Citizen is quoted the Telegraph persists in labelling it as an "Independent Conservative" newspaper. This is the same title Mr. J. L. Stewart carries in the provincial legislature and anyone who has observed Mr. Stewart's course during the present session cannot have failed to notice the peculiar brand of independence he has exhibited.

The Citizen, as a newspaper, is comparable to Mr. Stewart in its political allegiance, only the Citizen itself disclaims the distinction the Telegraph seeks to give it. It has openly announced that it is neither a Liberal nor a Conservative paper but reserves the right to make what comment it chooses on public questions. Just now it is finding fault with the Government and it pleases the Telegraph to call it an independent Conservative paper in the hope of creating the impression that it has ceased to support the Government because of developments during the past session. Even if the Citizen has wandered from the ranks, as the Telegraph would convey, its loss is probably compensated for by La Patrie of Montreal, the newspaper established by the late J. Israel Tarte, the greatest minister of public works Sir Wilfrid Laurier ever had. La Patrie was a Liberal paper when the Telegraph was busying itself in roasting Mr. Pugsley, and remained consistently Liberal for years after its founder's death. During the session just closed, however, it has had occasion to criticize the actions of the Liberal party as witness the following: "The past session has again been disastrous for the Liberals. Against the so-called scandals of the Government, the Opposition has been pitifully stranded, when it tries to prove its assertions and insinuations."

Also La Patrie's opinion of the Canadian boots may be of interest to the Telegraph. It says: "In spite of the exceptional conditions, our volunteers at the front, and to whom English boots have been given, find the Canadian boots are more valuable, more supple, and more watertight, and that they last better against the wear and tear of a long march. The Canadian boot industry thus receives a striking re-valuation, although we are not certain that it will not suffer for some time to come from the unjust denunciations of which it has been the object on the part of several Liberal journals, eager for scandal."

Apparently honors are even.

THE WAR AND ST. JOHN

Contracts for war supplies coming at a time when their business is less brisk than usual have proved a boon for several St. John firms. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a brief account of the work being done by local manufacturers on war con-

tracts of various kinds and already the impetus given by them to the ordinary business of the firms concerned has aided materially in keeping the wheels of industry turning as usual.

Messrs. McAvity are manufacturing parts of lyddite shells, while the Fleming company are at work on shrapnel, and H. Horton & Sons have executed contracts for saddlery for the French and Russian governments. The contracts were placed through the Canadian Government and came to local firms through the efforts of Hon. J. D. Hazen, who has once more given evidence that he is always working in the interests of St. John.

THE FARMER AND THE RETAILER

To the Editor of The Standard:

Sir,—In the report of the Retail Merchants convention, held in St. John on the 14th inst., I notice a resolution condemning certain farmers "who have not the welfare of Canada at heart, and who are doing an injury to the country and themselves," by buying feed by the carload. I would like some retail merchant to explain how the farmer is injuring the country and himself by buying his raw material as cheaply as possible. The farmer produces the wheat and sells it to the miller, who grinds it and puts his price on the product. Now if that farmer or another farmer, or a dozen farmers want a carload of the feed why should a retailer step in and say, "Here! you must not touch that until I have handled it."

We farmers do not buy feed for amusement, but because on account of some unfavorable weather conditions our own crops have not yielded as much as we expected, or we are trying to build our farms up by carrying more live stock than they will at present support, and at the same time afford employment during the winter months.

The farmer of today if he is going stay in the business has got to keep accounts, and if in so doing he finds that it costs him thirty-five cents to produce a pound of butter in the winter season, and he has to sell it for thirty cents, he is going to find some way to lower the cost or he will stop producing.

Now, if the retail merchant knows what is best for himself and the country at large, he will let the farmer buy his feed as cheaply as he can for the cheaper he gets it the more milk, butter, meat, eggs, etc., he will produce, especially as he has been telling us for years that there was no profit in handling feed and that he was doing it merely to accommodate us.

If they go on and organize the retailers of the whole Dominion against us, as they threaten to do, they may find that there are as many farmers as there are retailers, and with as good a right to organize, and if organized they could erect mills and grind grain themselves. As for helping to educate the farmer we all know that it is the consumer who pays the duty.

Thanking you Mr. Editor, for your valuable space,
I remain,
A QUEENS COUNTY FARMER.

A CORRECTION.

St. John, N. B., April 20, 1915.
To the Editor of The Standard:
Sir,—I desire to correct an error in regard to Private Harry G. Grant, which appeared in yesterday's Standard in the list of names of officers and men of the 26th Battalion, C. E. F.

In the case of the man above mentioned, the name of Miss Mary Sudbury appears, in error, as his next of kin. This is due to a mistake in the records. This man is married, and his wife's name should have appeared as his next of kin.

Mrs. Grant's address is 73 Erin street, St. John, N. B.
A. McMillan,
Captain and Adjutant,
26th Battalion, C. E. F.

IN THE POLICE COURT.

In the police court yesterday afternoon eight prisoners who had been in jail were dealt with. James Peck, charged with being the proprietor of a disorderly house on North street, was informed that if he could get any person to say a good word for him he would be allowed to go on his own recognizance.

James Shaw, charged with stealing a pair of shoes from No. 9 King street, St. John, N. B.
A. McMillan,
Captain and Adjutant,
26th Battalion, C. E. F.

In the police court yesterday afternoon eight prisoners who had been in jail were dealt with. James Peck, charged with being the proprietor of a disorderly house on North street, was informed that if he could get any person to say a good word for him he would be allowed to go on his own recognizance.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

I found a wite sarayshin awn the street today, looking nice and fresh except were it was a little dirty around the edges, and I picked it up and started to smell it with my nose, thinking, G, I'll take this errand and give it to Mary Watkins, she will think I bawt it for her.

Wich I started to do, and jest then who started to kum up the street but Puds Simkinses sissy cuzzin Persey, and I quick stuck the carnayshin in my back pocket so he woodent see it.

Im going a errand, were are you goin, sed Persey.
O, nowars in perickler, I sed.

And we kepp awn wawking, and pritty soon we calim to Mary Watkins frunt steps, and she was setting awn them.

Helo, Mary, I sed.

Helo, sed Mary Watkins.

Helo, Mary, sed Persey.

Helo, sed Mary Watkins.

And I sat down awn the next step to the wun she was setting awn, and wat did Persey do, but set down, to.

G, Persey, I thawt you had to go a errind, I sed.

So I do, but wats the hurry, sed Persey.

G, I dont care if you nevvir go, I sed.

And he kepp awn setting there tawking, and aftir a wile he got up, saying Well, I guess I haf to go that errind.

Wich he went it, and I put my hand in my back pocket to take out the carnayshin, saying, I bet you cant gess wat I got for you.

O, wat, sed Mary Watkins.

A flower, I sed. And I quick pulled it out, and here it was awl mashed, and there was only about 3 peeces of flower sticking awn it, awn akkount of me setting awn it awl that time.

Do you call that a flower, sed Mary Watkins.

Sumboddy must of took it out of my pocket and put this in insted, I sed, I gess you dont sed wils, do you.

I shoold say not, sed Mary Watkins.

So I didnt give it to her.

DOMINION SOCK DAY WAS GREAT SUCCESS

More than three thousand pairs of socks brought to Red Cross depot yesterday.

Yesterday was Dominion Sock Day, and very gratifying results are to be recorded. From ten o'clock in the morning, until after six o'clock in the afternoon, socks were coming in at the Red Cross depot, Chipman Hill, and the ever busy staff of ladies was kept busier than ever to receive socks for the soldiers. Most of the footwear was hand-knit; all was of fine quality and made in approved fashion for the hard and trusty wear that it will have to undergo. The throngs of visitors at the depot, with earnestness, sincerity and patriotism the theme, furnished an inspiration. It was quite evident that, no matter what may happen, the ladies who at the beginning of the war determined to do all in their power to help the soldier by adopting the carefully planned methods of the Red Cross Society, mean to go on with their good work.

The number of socks brought to the depot was about 3,025 pairs. To the ladies of the Lancaster circle credit is largely due for making Sock Day a success, they alone having sent in more than 1,200 pairs. It was not possible, yesterday, for the executive to state the exact number of socks and contributions provided, but a full account will be given, at an early date, after sorting and packing have been done, and if possible the names of those who have so generously responded to the call for socks will be made public.

One Child Out of Every Five Ought to Wear Glasses

Inspection of thousands of children by competent eye specialists show that almost one-fifth of children of school age should be wearing glasses.

This does not mean life long use of glasses. On the contrary in the great majority of cases use glasses for a few years—in many instances for close work only—will protect the eyes developing strong sight so that glasses need no longer be worn.

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