

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1916.

"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 NORTH SEA VICTORY.

Additional particulars concerning the North Sea battle of May 31st tend to emphasize the importance of the victory gained by the British navy even at a very considerable cost. As a result of that battle the German fleet has been so badly battered that months may elapse before it again seeks the open sea.

The blow to German prestige is indeed great as the loss of some of her finest vessels without any compensating gain cannot but serve to have a powerful effect on Germany's civilian population which has already commenced to clamor for peace.

Just what led to the German attempt will probably not be known until the history of the war is written, but military and naval critics freely express the opinion that the benefit sought was as much political as material. For many months the prized German high seas fleet has been lying inactive in Kiel, a fact that has occasioned a growing spirit of dissatisfaction among that section of the German people which had been taught to believe that "Der Tak" meant more than an empty boast. Representations have been made to the powers at Berlin pointing the necessity of setting the fleet in action with a possible chance of forcing the British cordon and, perhaps, making a raid on an unvisited portion of the English coast. If the German fleet could have accomplished its end, at least some of the discontent might have been allayed. But it failed, and the development of the German policy is seen in the barefaced attempts to add to British losses in an effort to create a victory out of a real defeat.

Notwithstanding the decisive character of the British victory, there are some phases of the affair that still await explanation, although the Admiralty requests that criticism be withheld until the reports of the officers commanding the squadron have been received. It is probably well within the mark to say that the Germans had better information as to the strength of the enemy than that possessed by the gallant Beatty who, it is reasonable to assume without at all discounting his bravery, had no idea that the German fleet numbered Dreadnoughts until he was actually called upon to face them.

The Germans, on the other hand, seemed to know just how far they could fight without courting annihilation and, consequently, were enabled to withdraw before the heavier British vessels could get in position to do their most effective work. Had it been possible for the British front line to have consisted of Dreadnoughts and super-Dreadnoughts it is not likely that half a score of the enemy's ships would have escaped. As it is, while there will be regret that the "Queens of the Fleet" were robbed of their full share of the triumph, there is every reason for the greatest satisfaction over the general result.

Whether it was wise on the part of the British authorities to permit the public to gain its first news of the engagement from misleading German sources will remain open to question. There can be no contradiction of the fact that the publication of such a one-sided story as that of Friday afternoon created a feeling of apprehension and alarm entirely unwarranted and unnecessary.

ONCE MORE, CANADA.

The official report of the fighting near Hoge Point on the Western battle front, while very meagre, indicates that Canada's contribution to the Empire's forces has once more been heard from with no uncertain sound. It is stated that the Canadians scored a distinct triumph against the double odds of a stronger enemy and a disadvantageous position. The details of the fighting have not yet been received, but they will probably show that the Canadians distinguished themselves for gallantry and coolness under fire. That the wearers of the Maple Leaf badge should so distinguish themselves is not surprising for the stories of Ypres, Festubert and St. Eloi are still fresh in memory.

The casualty list, unfortunately, is expected to be very heavy, but this also is not a new experience for Can-

ada, for already nearly every Canadian home has been saddened as a result of events in Europe. However, such grief is to be expected, for the nation is at war, and the most poignant sorrow can be materially assuaged by the knowledge that it was brought about in defence of our freedom and the glorious heritage of Empire. Canada is cheerfully confident and will continue to bear her full share of the burden of blood and tears until victory crowns her arms.

WELL MERITED HONOR.

The order of Knight Bachelor which His Gracious Majesty King George V. has been pleased to confer upon Hon. Pierre Armand Landry, Chief Justice of New Brunswick, comes not only as a well merited honor but also as a recognition of the value to this province and to Canada of the men of the Acadian race of whom the new Knight is an outstanding example.

Sir P. A. Landry, Chief Justice of the King's Bench Division of the Supreme Court, has long occupied a prominent place in the public life of the province. Elected to the New Brunswick legislature when but twenty-four years of age he soon won his spurs and took first rank as a debater and legislator. In 1878 he was appointed Minister (then Commissioner) of Public Works, being the youngest man ever installed into that office. In 1882 he became Provincial Secretary which office he filled admirably until he resigned to contest a seat for the Dominion House of Commons, being returned by a splendid majority. After seven years in the Dominion House of Commons he retired from public life, and in 1892 was appointed to the Supreme Court bench.

A keen, clear-minded barrister, of calm temperance and with an inherent love of fair play and honest dealing, his career has been one of marked success to which the title with which he has been honored comes as a fitting climax.

Sir P. A. Landry's very many friends throughout the length and breadth of the province will join with The Standard in extending to him hearty congratulations upon his elevation to the rank of knighthood, coupled with the wish that he may live long to enjoy his distinguished honors.

THE HERALD ON "THE FIGHT."
An interesting editorial comment on the battle of the North Sea appears in the New York Herald of Saturday, written when the reports indicated that the British had been the heavier losers in that engagement. The Herald says:

"After months of almost unbroken silence and of seeming inaction, and yet of ceaseless preparation, important sections of the British Grand Fleet and of the German High Sea Fleet met on Wednesday off the eastern shores of the North Sea and accepted the hazard of battle. It was a patrol of unusual force meeting a surprised and strong enemy standing seaward from the Skagerrack, but as yet official statements are silent as to the composition of these fleets and separate widely upon the number and character of the losses sustained. This was a stand up and not a running fight, for it began in the afternoon and ended in the night. It was obstinate and determined, though in the end the Germans abandoned the field and returned to their home bases untraced by serious pursuit and unhampered by a following attack. Measured by reported losses, the Germans inflicted the greater damage; gauged by strategic results, the fortunes or misfortunes of the day and night can have no effect on the conduct of the war. Its reaction upon the morale of the situation and upon public sentiment must, however, be reckoned with, because by the magnitude of the units engaged and by the weight of the mother fleets represented this is easily the principal sea fight of the war. The naval strength of the two countries will not be impaired by the losses suffered."

From the well merited King's birthday honor conferred upon Chief Justice Sir P. A. Landry the Telegraph finds occasion to speculate upon his retirement and his successor. In that connection it names several gentlemen who, it says, are applicants for the position. It may be mentioned that with the Telegraph the wish is father to the thought as its list includes several well known public men whose retirement from public life would be regarded with great delight by the Tele-

graph and the group of disgruntled politicians whose views it is paid to circulate.

Once more the Russians are successfully prosecuting an offensive and this time on a line from the Pripiet Marshes to the Roumanian border. The bear seems to have lost none of his striking ability.

The "Gallant" Stay-at-Homes

You all know of the gallant braves, who shout and sing "We'll never let the old flag fall!" The world will never with their deeds of valor ring

For they'll never obey the call.

At home they talk about the war, and battlefield, Of what they'd do if they were there, How they would not surrender, they would never yield, But will they go and do their share?

And while our brothers fight to guard the dear old flag, Secure at home the flag they wave, Talk of the fame and glory of the dear old rag, But will they fight the flag to save?

Defending boasters such as these, must our men die?

We women here in sorrow weep That our beloved ones on battlefields lie, Far o'er the sea in their last sleep.

These craven ones who nothing do in cause of Right Will live to hang their heads in shame an' imperial statesman, God bless our noble soldier boys who bravely fight To uphold dear old Britain's fame.

In our beloved Empire's cause I raise my voice, When will the laggards wake, oh when?

In sorrow, Mothers, weep no more, rejoice, rejoice, That your sons were heroes and true men.

Canada's Man Of The Hour

(London Free Press.)

Sir Robert Borden has steadily increased his personal strength in Canada and an imperial statesman.

This is in part because of his native ability. The premier is peculiarly gifted with the powers of leadership. He knows men. He is approachable, and yet has the art of restraining familiarity. He is a man of high ideals, and these appear in his personal bearing, setting at a distance everyone who might be constrained to present a doubtful issue. As a consequence his followers in the House of Commons know exactly where he stands upon every question, without regard to influences of whatever sort. This inspires them with a sense of respect that could be won in no other manner.

These characteristics of honor contributed to place Sir Robert in an impressive position. His attitude toward evil has been unvarying and not open to question. It has mattered nothing whether the accused was friend or foe, the same unalterable opposition to breaches of public trust and to the suppression of wrong has been maintained. Members of his own political family have been forced to retire from the House because of acts that never heretofore had brought rebuke from a leader of a Government in Canada. When a member of his Government seemed to rest under a cloud of suspicion, the premier promptly called him home from England with a plain intimation that his skirts must be cleared forthwith or he must retire from the Government.

But Sir Robert is not only a leader of men, and possessed of the strictest integrity. He is a statesman, with a rare gift of foresight and a breadth of view that seems to be possessed by the comparatively few. His imperialism is sound, because he has seemed to have recognized the basic nature of the empire and to have prepared to do his great part in its upbuilding. He has at no time stood for a little Canadianism. He is a true separatist. He believes in Canada and in the future of this country, and he sees therein not only a great Canada in itself, but a helpmate of power and influence in the empire as a whole.

His policies are both national and imperial. He feels that a strong Canada makes for a greater empire, and hence he devotes himself toward a Canada stronger in national spirit, more advanced in industry and commerce and more devoted in the broad field of agriculture.

Canada and the empire are alike fortunate in that a statesman of so able parts presides over Canada's destinies in these serious days. From the moment when war cast its ugly shadow over the world Sir Robert Borden has maintained a steady courage and a vigorous war policy. He has endeavored to silence partisanship and to unite Canadians in the cause that dwarfs all other issues. When many among his supporters believed that an appeal to the country should be made he stood resolutely against such a course, regardless of the effect upon party fortunes. No one could have shown greater devotion or an eye more single to the complete success of the allied cause for freedom and liberty. In the days that are to come, because of these things, the name of Sir Robert Borden will stand before the world as that of one of the great imperial statesmen of the time.

C. M. R. IN HOGE FIGHT.

In the account of the last big battle on the western front the eighth brigade was mentioned as bearing the

Little Benny's Note Book

I had a little cardboard airplane on a string, and I was wawking along swinging it around my head and Puds Simkins terned erround the corner playing a toon on a wooden foot with the ends covered with tissue paper.

Ware did you get the foot, I sed.
Ware did you get the airplane, sed Puds.
Bawt it for a sent, I sed.

Thats what this cost, sed Puds, and I sed, I'll swap you.
Let me try it, sed Puds. And he tried the airplane and I tried the foot, and we swapped, and I started to wawk along playing toons on the foot, being pretty hard on the brith because you had to keep blowing out all the time, and Sid Hunt came along bounsting a little ball all made out of rubber bands.

Ware did you get the foot, sed Sid.
Swapped it off of Puds Simkins, ware did you go the ball, I sed.
Made it, look, it bounstes up to the 2nd story, look, sed Sid. And he bounsted it and it went way up in the air, and I sed, it didnt go utiq up to the 2nd story, do you want to swap it for this foot, 'this is a sent foot.

Let me try it, sed Sid. And he tried it and I tried the rubber band ball, and we swapped, and I was wawking along bounsting the ball and it started to bounst crooked insted of strafe.

G, the darn thing, I thawt. And jest then Sam Craws came along, and wat did he have but my airplane, swinging it erround his hed.

Wat did you get that, I sed.
Swapped it off of Puds Simkins for a boxwood top, ware did you get that ball, sed Sid.

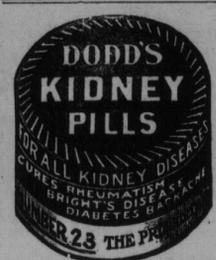
Swapped it off of Sid Hunt for a foot, do you want to swap, I sed. And he tried the ball and I tried my airplane asen, and we swapped, and I wawked along swinging the airplane.

You are splendor, you are glory,
You are handsome, you are true;
All there is this side of heaven
I behold, my love, in you!"

Raptures! But suddenly a gruff voice broke in on their bliss, as father said sternly from the doorway:

"I am lightning, I am thunder,
I'm a roaring cataract;
I am earthquakes and volcanoes,
And I'll demonstrate the fact!"

And he proceeded to do so.



Pa's Poetry.
Scene—A cosy parlor, with dim-burning lamp. Two persons sitting very close together on a couch—a man and a maid, of course.

Suddenly the youth's arbor took a painful form. He burst into verse, sighing:

"You are gladness, you are sunshine,
You are happiness, I trow;
You are all to me, my darling,
That is lovely here below."

Not to be outdone, the fair damsel whispered:

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