

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 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.

CONCERNING ALARMIST RUMORS.

Since the outbreak of the present war, and especially since Canadians figured on the Empire's battle lines, much anxiety and mental distress has been caused in practically every community in Canada by the activities of alarmists who busy themselves with the circulation of untrue and disquieting reports concerning the Canadian soldiers or individuals in the ranks of the splendid battalions which have gone to the front. Generally these reports allege reverses or disaster to the troops and, in consequence, create much anxiety on the part of those whose loved ones have donned the uniform of the King and have gone on active service for the Empire.

For the benefit of newspaper readers, particularly those having relatives at the front, it may be said that in the matter of casualties the arrangement made by the Canadian militia department is that in every case where a Canadian soldier is reported as a casualty—killed, wounded, ill, missing, or prisoner of war, the nearest relatives of that soldier are notified forthwith, eight hours before publication of the casualty is authorized. This information is authorized. This information is authorized. This information is authorized.

As to the movements of Canadian troops and, in fact, of all allied troops, it may be mentioned that all war news coming to Canadian newspapers is censored at least twice, once at the point of arrival in this country, or at the central distribution office in Montreal. This precaution has a double purpose, first, to prevent the publication of information that might be of value to the enemy, and, secondly, to take all possible safeguards against the circulation and publication of incorrect news. All war despatches received by the St. John newspapers are subject to this censorship and, consequently, may be regarded as true. For the most part the news appearing in the local papers, comprises official statements from the war offices of the powers concerned, statements by the official eye witnesses, either British or Canadian, and which generally consist of amplification of information originally issued in the form of official statements, or communications from accredited newspaper correspondents at or near the front. Despatches sent by English or French newspaper correspondents at the front or at British or French headquarters, have to pass an additional censorship, being closely scrutinized at the telegraph station from which they are sent to England. In England they are censored again and, finally, the items sent to this country are censored a third time upon arrival.

Another fact that protects the public from false news is the desire of all reputable newspaper men to publish only the truth. Every item coming to a newspaper office is carefully verified and tested, and very often news editors allow an item to remain unpublished, although believing it true, when absolute verification is lacking. Probably there will always be persons to originate and circulate false information regarding our troops, and others to hear, magnify and repeat it. Such a practice is always dangerous, but at a time such as this when the hearts of hundreds of thousands of Canadians are overseas, it is particularly despicable and cannot be too strongly frowned upon. The authorized war despatches can be depended upon to carry sufficient weight of sorrow without the necessity of manufacturing alarmist rumors for the sole purpose of creating a temporary sensation. Such sensation mongers are seldom found wearing the khaki.

A VICTORY FOR BOTH.

The returns from the South African elections held on Wednesday of last week are now sufficiently complete to show that Premier Botha has been sustained in power by a handsome majority. This will be received with complete satisfaction throughout the entire Empire for General Louis Botha, leader of the Boers in the South African war but now a staunch Imperialist,

has done noble work during the present war and the fact that he has been endorsed by the electors of South Africa cannot but prove an argument of strength for the cause of the Empire. The outbreak of war brought to both a an opportunity given to the premier of no other British colony. A military man himself the chance was presented to him to do active service practically at his own door. He successfully resisted German invasion from the west coast, quelled a rebellion within his own borders and played a most important part in the campaign that resulted in the capture of the German colonies in Africa. His achievements brought to him the admiration of the entire allied world and especially of the British people as his firm and determined stand for the principles of British freedom was a strong factor in the destruction of the German hope that the British colonies, instead of being an asset to the Empire, would actually embrace the opportunity presented by the war to fall away from British rule.

The recent election, which was keenly contested, was, in reality, a test of Imperial spirit as typified by the Unionists or Bothas, and the Nationalists or Separatist party. The Separatist policy and party found its birth in the activities of General Hertzog, formerly Minister of Native Affairs and Justice in the Botha cabinet, who was retired in 1912 because of his uncompromising opposition to Premier Botha's Imperialistic policies, which included the development of the country on lines which would tend to a complete and happy union of Britain and Boer. Hertzog retained the smouldering embers of rancor from the days of the South African war and on his retirement from the Botha government at once proceeded to organize a party composed of opponents to Britain and the British. Hertzog and Botha drifted apart and the present war found them confirmed enemies. Botha's adherence to British ideals, his acceptance of the command of the forces moving against German South-West Africa, and his prompt and workmanlike suppression of the rebellion incited by Maritz, Beyers and De Wet further established him in popular favor while it added fuel to the fire of hatred with which he was regarded by the Hertzog party, which has now taken to itself the name of Nationalist.

In addition to the Nationalists Botha had to face the opposition of the Laborites; the latter were not anti-Imperialists but raised special local issues. On the result of the elections Premier Botha and the Empire are alike to be congratulated for had the Nationalists won, their success might have meant a policy of gradual withdrawal from the Empire.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Last night's war news showed a decided improvement in tone and from every zone of fighting the report is of allied successes. In Serbia the French troops have managed to join the Serbians and have inflicted defeat on the Bulgarian invaders who, according to one report, have retired in the direction of Strumitza. As the British troops landed at Saloniki but a short time after their French confreres, it is likely that by this time they, too, have joined the action.

In Champagne, on the western front, the French troops have also scored a success by capturing an important position from the Germans. The opinion of observers is that the movement in the western area is but preliminary to another general advance.

German reports admit success for the Russians on the northern portion of the eastern battle lines, while a determined general advance by the Italians against the Austrians is rapidly developing. This advance, if pressed, as the Italian troops have the ability to press it, may have a pronounced effect upon the German-Bulgarian movement in Serbia, as it may be necessary to divert Austrian troops from that area to meet the Italian attack.

The report that a British submarine has sunk a German cruiser in the Baltic is verified, while the activities of British underwater craft continue. Altogether the war news this morning is decidedly encouraging.

A Russian Fable

(Pall Mall Gazette)

A wolf one day entered into a dog's kennel, thinking he would like to worry the hounds therein. It had been an easy matter to get in, but when it came to getting out again the wolf found it quite another thing. The hounds came round him, howling and snapping and snarling. He crouched down in a corner, he was frightened, his hair stood on end. It was in vain that he tried, by gentle words, to pacify those savage beasts. They would not listen to him. Thus he spoke to them:

"Come, dear friends, come, come! Why in such a temper? Don't you know it is very ill-bred to receive a visitor like this? What have I done to deserve it? I merely called in passing, to pay you all a visit and see what you were about. I don't want to be at war with you, but at peace. I am really your best friend. If you only knew it. Come, comrades, let us sit down and talk quietly together; after that I will go."

Just as he finished speaking a hunter appeared on the scene. It was he that owned the hounds; he had overheard the last words of the wolf and had recognized him.

"Ha! ha! my friend! at your old tricks again? The coat on your back is gray, and so is the hair on my head. I am too old to be taken in by your fine stories. I will be brief with you. I have just two things to say: first, I will tell you that I have skinned them; and secondly, you are not going to get out of here as easily as you got in; my bounds will see to that."

BRITISH SUBJECT PROVED SPY, GETS LIFE IMPRISONMENT

London, Oct. 25.—It is officially announced that a British subject has been tried, and convicted in the Old Bailey Court on three counts of an indictment charging espionage, and has been sentenced to life imprisonment. The prisoner, who has been given the right to appeal.

KILLED ITALIAN WHO GAVE HIM BEATING

Guelph, Ont., Oct. 25.—George Verne, an employee of the Central Prison Farm, an Italian, was murdered this morning outside a shack on Sackville street by Antonio Legate. Verne had just put two Italians in the shack near his home when Legate discharged both barrels of a shot gun into his chest, at short range. The murder was the result of a quarrel earlier in the evening, when Verne gave Legate a beating. A bloodhound was put on Legate's trail, following his course until the scent was lost on Bristol street in the outskirts. It is supposed that Legate entered a conveyance at that point.

LIST OF NEWFOUNDLAND MEN ON HONOR ROLL GROWING RAPIDLY

St. John's, Nfld., Oct. 25.—The casualty list issued today in the Newfoundland regiment are:

Frank Roberts, St. John's, dangerously wounded.

Charles Brown, Tacks Beach, Placentia Bay, dangerously ill.

William Gellately, St. John's, wounded.

John Andrews, St. John's; Gilbert Walters, Champs, Trinity Bay, ill of enteric fever, in hospital at Alexandria.

Newfoundland Naval Reserve.—Seaman Edgar Hokin, Greenspond, Bonaville Bay, died of malaria in Liverpool Infirmary, October 20.

OBITUARY

Capt. Apt.

The death took place yesterday morning at his residence, 14 High street, of Captain Martin Apt. The deceased who was one of the best known residents of the North End, was in his seventy-fifth year. For a number of years he was in the employ of Tapley Brothers as captain of one of their tugboats. About seven years ago he retired from active life. He is survived by his wife, one son, George A. living at home, and one daughter, Mrs. Ralph W. Pugh of this city.

Donald Turnbull.

The many friends of Donald T. Turnbull were grieved to learn of his death which occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Ryder, Hampton, Oct. 18, after a long illness. He leaves to mourn two sons and one daughter, one brother and one sister. The sons are George L. and Donald T., of Lexington, Mass. The brother is Andrew M. Turnbull of Livingston, Texas, and sister is Mrs. Albert Langstroth, of French Village. The late Mr. Turnbull had lived in New Brunswick for most of his life and had a wide circle of friends. He was buried at Hammond River beside his wife, who was a daughter of the late Zenas Goding.

George G. Scovill

The funeral of George G. Scovill, who died at his home, Hampton, Sun-

Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

Me and Sid Hunt and Pud Simkinses stay cussin Persey was wawking always today and a w of a muddin I saw a hole bannanner laying awn the pavement with the skin awn it and awl and I quick made a grab for it and so did Sid Hunt, and we both got to it at the same time and each grabbed a hold of half of it.

Its mine, its mine, I saw it first, we both yelled. And we each startid to pull awn it, wich I cood feel it getting soft, not being a very hard bannanner enyway, and I sed, Awl rite, less toss up for it.

That's a go, sed Sid, have you got a sent.

Wich I hadent and Persey sed he had, and we asked him to lend it to us and he sed no but he would toss it up himself for us. Wich we sed awl rite, and he did, and Sid won the bannanner by saying, Tales, and Persey put the sent back in his pocket, and pritty soon we passed a bakery stoar with a lot of crullers in the window, saying on a sime, Crullers, alitley stale, 3 for a sent.

G wix, 3 for a sent, what do you no about that, I sed.

3 for a sent, G wix, sed Sid Hunt. Persey not saying anything, and I sed I if I had a sent Id buy 3 awl rite.

So wood I, sed Sid Hunt.

Persey being the only wun not saying anything, and the only wun that had a sent, and I sed, I've saw them 2 for a sent befor, but I've never saw them 3 for a sent.

Me neethir, sed Sid.

Did you, Persey I sed, and Persey sed, No, and I dont like crullers even if you got 11 for a sent. And he turned erround and ran up the street like the dickins with me and Sid Hunt aftr him, ony he got away, wich he generally does wen he runs, awn akount of his extra lawng legs.

day morning, will take place on Wednesday morning. The body will be taken by the early morning train from Hampton to Norton and thence over the Central Railway to Bellefleur for burial.

Mr. Scovill had been ill for about three months. He secured leave of absence from his position as dredging inspector about the middle of August, and since that time his health has been gradually declining. He was seventy-three years of age, but up to the time of his illness he was exceedingly active.

Many of his family were at the bedside when he passed away Sunday. Others are hastening from distant points to be present at the funeral, which is being conducted on Wednesday morning. He leaves his second wife, formerly Miss Annie McLeod of Halifax; four sons, Rev. G. F. of West St. John; J. M. of Montreal; Harry E. in the west, and Ernest G. of Regina; also two daughters, Mrs. James W. of Salisbury, and Miss Charlotte A. at home. His first wife was formerly Miss Leah A. Spragg of Springfield. Mr. Scovill is survived also by two brothers, W. G. of this city, and J. M. of St. Stephen; and three sisters, Mrs. George Anderson and Mrs. A. I. Kierstead of Lynn, Mass., and Mrs. Ella Murray of Calgary.

His death recalls to many throughout the province the long, faithful and efficient service he has rendered. He entered business life in Springfield where, as a young man, he conducted a large general store and later carried on extensive lumbering operations. He was at first a member of the municipal council until he entered provincial politics, for a period of twenty-one years, during which time he represented the parish of Springfield. He was one of the chief factors

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