

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 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 TAX ON PROFITS.

Despite the fact that big business men have approved the proposals of Sir Thomas White in regard to the taxation of war profits, the Liberal newspapers are now commencing to find fault with the plan and to intimate that it will fail of its purpose. Such criticism, before the measure has been tried and before there is any opportunity to see how it will work out, is absurd.

The fact of the matter is the proposal of Sir Thomas White is so radically different from anything hitherto attempted that it is quite reasonable to expect the legislation governing it may be amended before it can be found to work perfectly. But the great virtue about the plan is that it embodies the principle that the major portion of Canada's war burden shall fall on those best able to bear it, on the manufacturing and industrial corporations whose profits have been increased because of the war. It also proves conclusively that one canvass made against the Conservative party and the Herd Government by the Liberal opposition is unwarranted. It has always been claimed by the Liberals that because it advocated the policy of a protective tariff, the Conservative party was a party of the interests, and that Conservative governments had protected Canadian industries to a degree which enabled them to increase prices of their products to the consumer; that the Liberal party was the party of the working men, and other material along the same lines. Now that a Conservative Finance Minister has adopted a policy which will strike the wealthy concerns in Canada, that claim, like other Liberal canvasses, is shown to have no foundation.

The business men of Canada recognize that the war burden must be borne by Canadians in proportion to their ability; that is precisely what Sir Thomas White's proposal aims at, and, because of that, it is fair and equitable. There may be minor changes made in the legislation governing it but the start has been correctly made and the people may rest assured that the plan will be found workable and eminently just.

A SERIOUS SITUATION.

The situation between the United States and Germany is admittedly more serious today than at any time since the outbreak of the world war. The American Government stands face to face with the gravest problem that has yet confronted it. President Wilson has definitely announced that the rights of American citizens to travel the high seas on merchant vessels which have been armed for self protection must be respected even if it is necessary to take the most extreme steps to enforce that respect. Germany, on the other hand, has declared with equal decision that the new campaign of frightfulness she will inaugurate will include the policy of sinking such vessels on sight and without warning.

The United States Congress is reported to favor a policy of warning American citizens not to take passage on armed vessels and thus avoiding possible friction. The President, who, it is said, has the support of the Senate, is opposed to the Congress plan and purposes to remain firm in his latest stand.

President Wilson has been the subject of much criticism in the past because he has not adopted a more aggressive policy toward the Huns. Now, however, it appears he is determined that outrages, such as the sinking of the Lusitania, shall not be repeated or, if repeated, those responsible must pay the penalty. This may or may not eventually mean a severing of diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany, even though the two nations may not go to the extreme of war. War with Germany would be, for the United States, a very serious problem because of the very large German-American population across the border. Even the smoldering of diplomatic relations might develop a grave domestic situation against which the President must guard.

When all the complexities of the situation are taken into consideration it can easily be seen that President Wilson is in a most difficult position. On the one hand he is assailed by the large proportion of Americans who hold that the nation has already suffered ample provocation for any action it may take, and on the other he encounters those pacifists who maintain that nothing short of actual invasion would justify Washington in engaging in what would be sure to prove a costly and difficult undertaking.

As the result of the conflict of these elements a crisis has arisen in Washington which will require tact, forcefulness and political skill to overcome. Those American newspapers absolutely above suspicion of German influence see only one end to the situation—the triumph of the President and what he stands for. In this vein the Boston Transcript of Thursday says:

"The crisis which Washington stages today concerns domestic politics more intimately than it bears upon international relations. It makes a break between President Wilson and his party appear more imminent than a rupture with Germany. It reveals the party in power divided against itself and places its titular head again under the necessity of depending upon the leaders of the opposition for assistance in maintaining the historic position of the government in a vital foreign policy. Whether Mr. Wilson or Count Bernstorff is the leader of the Democratic party today appears to be a question upon which the Democratic leaders in Congress are at loggerheads. After wavering for a month or more the President has returned to the defence of the traditional right of Americans to travel the high seas in exercise of their rights under international law. The Democratic followers of Count Bernstorff in Congress are pressing a resolution which in effect abandons that right by warning Americans thus travelling that they do so at their own risk. It is unthinkable that the leadership of the President in the defence of the honor of the nation should be thrown over by Congress for that of any foreign ambassador and least of all for the envoy of that government guilty of the Lusitania massacre."

The Transcript, of course, contends that the President himself is largely to blame for the situation which has arisen and ascribes much of the difficulty to what it terms his "vacillating attitude" of the past.

The New York Herald, which, since the commencement of the war, has been pro-Ally in its sentiments and which already has frequently called upon the United States to take action against Germany, indicates that Congress by opposing the President is due for a rude awakening. The Herald says in part:

"Whatever the future may hold in store, it is certainly high time that the Democratic leaders in Congress were aroused. They have been going about with their heads full of German moonshine, talking about laws prohibiting the export of munitions and also army supplies. They have even seriously considered passing a resolution declaring it the wish of Congress that passports should be refused to Americans who intend to go abroad on passenger ships."

"These two precious measures, it appears, have been completely squelched by President Wilson himself, who has had some very plain talk with the chairman on foreign relations in both houses."

"What Congress needs to do is to turn its attention away from pork and fix it resolutely upon preparedness."

As opposed to these views it is interesting to note the opinion of the Boston Globe which yesterday said in part:

"One thing is clear. The majority of our Senators and Representatives are firm in their decision not to run any risk of war upon a technicality concerning armed or unarmed merchantmen. They are not willing to take an action which may plunge 100,000,000 people into the European whirlpool. They feel that a disagreement over the interpretation of the international law of the sea, nebulous at all times, does not warrant a stand which may put the United States among the belligerent nations of the world."

"Three classes of Americans are travelling through the war zone upon merchant ships. Some of them are bent upon business concerning munitions of war. Some of them travel for pleasure. Still others are connected with war relief work. Those who have business with foreign armies are in a risky occupation. If the pleasure

seekers come to grief they may be pitied without doing any harm. As for the men and women anxious to bind up the wounds of war's victims they would be the last to wish anyone to go to war upon their account, but they alone deserve every protection."

The British and French press manifest an attitude of comparative indifference. La Temps of Paris, discussing the question, said yesterday:

"Neither Great Britain nor her Allies have any interest in seeing a war between Germany and the United States. American sympathies are sufficient and these have been won. One does not observe either in London or Paris the least tendency to intervene in the German-American crisis, either with the object of bringing about a rupture or in favor of a compromise."

The prevailing opinion in Canada has been that the United States should hold itself aloof from the struggle now raging across the water but, of course, there comes a time when provocation passes the limit. If Germany carries into effect her threat in connection with merchant vessels and American lives are lost as a result of new horrors from the "underwater boats," even those who, up to now, have cherished the hope that the future of a safe and sane executive at Washington would be sufficiently powerful to keep the United States free from the devastating scourge of war, will agree that any measures the American government may feel it necessary to adopt have already been amply justified.

SENDS VALUED TROPHIES FROM BATTLE FIELD

Harry Cobham of Strathcona Horse Forwards Unique Collection to Parents in West St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cobham, 87 German street, West St. John, are the proud parents of three sons who are at the front fighting for their King and country. The boys have sent numerous souvenirs home from the front, which have previously been mentioned in The Standard.

A couple of days ago a large box was received from Trooper Harry Cobham, and it contained a steel and brass helmet worn by the French cavalry, also the trooper sent his belt on which are fastened no less than twenty-six badges, cotton badges, motion buttons, etc., picked up on the battle fields and which have been worn by Canadian, English, Scotch, Irish, French, Belgian and German soldiers.

Trooper Cobham is a member of the Lord Strathcona Horse, Royal Canadians, and has been at the front for many months.

The helmet is a large heavy piece of steel beaded with brass trimmings, and is surrounded by a high brass crest bearing a warrior's face on the front. The helmet has all the appearance of having been on the battle field, exposed to all kinds of weather for some time, and is minus the long red feathered plume which ordinarily surmounts the crest.

Trooper Cobham's wide canvas belt appears to have been through a great deal of service and there is not a half inch of space on it that is not covered with a brass, steel, silver or copper ornament. It is indeed a valuable collection, and has attracted a large amount of attention from those who have seen it. The designs on many of the badges are beautiful and the collection is one well worth being proud of.

Among the badges in the collection are the following: Badge from Belgian Infantry; the 26th New Brunswick Battalion; the Lord Strathcona Horse, Royal Canadians; Royal Horse Artillery; the Royal Highlanders; Black Watch; 16th French Infantry; Overseas Railway Construction Corps, Canada; Strathcona's; Western Canada, 6th Battalion of Winnipeg; the West Riding Regiment; English Heavy Artillery; German 31st Regiment; Royal North West Mounted Police; Royal

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Little Benny's Note Book

Pope got a fierce cold, making him sound funny when he talks, and he always blowing his nose and looking mad, and before supper today me and him took a walk and pretty soon we met Mr. Lewis.

Ah there Pottale, wat still got that cold, and Mr. Lewis, do you want to be the best thing in the world for a cold.

Evvybody's bin telling me the best thing in the world for a cold, so I don't see why I should bar you out, sed pop.

The best thing in the world for a cold is to slap a berling hot lemmine into you at zite and then jump under 20 pounds of bed covers and poof, in the morning your colds disappeared, sed Mr. Lewis.

That sounds good, I like the poof part, sed pop.

And me and him kept awn walking and pritty soon we met Mr. Simkins, being Puds Simkinses farther, saying, Ah there, Potts.

Ah there, Simkins, sed pop.

Hervins, wat a cold, sed Mr. Simkins, now if you want to no the best thing in the world for a cold, its a steaming hot bath jest before retiring, and poof, in the morning theres no cold there.

Good old poof, sed pop. And we kept awn walking till me met Mr. Rorer, and Mr. Rorer sed, Cold still hanging on, eh, Potts, now if you'll jest try inhaling salt watter tonite, why tomorrow morning—

Poof, no cold, sed pop.

Well, if you dont care, I should worry, sed Mr. Rorer. And he kept on going and me and pop met Mr. Wilkins.

I herd you sneezing a block away, sed Mr. Wilkins, now wen it comes to curing a cold—

Poof, poof, sed pop. And me and him kept on going, Mr. Wilkins saying, Wats the matter, has it come to your head.

Poof, sed pop. And me and him went home without meeting anybody else.

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Men's and Women's \$3.50 Boots 3.00

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preciated,
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Waterbury
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"Hydro"
Supply Syst
for farm, sub
homes as su
water works
Send for
P. CAM
73 Fri

OUR COMPET
For Boys and
Splendid P
Word-Making C

As you will seem to enjoy the above con
decided to let you have another. Make as man
out of the letters in the word PATRIOTIC.
In ink, on one side of the paper only, stam
have managed to get, fill in the above coupon
and send in not later than March 8th, 1916.
To the two kiddies who send me in the m
correct sentence, I shall award two beautifu
second prizes. The usual coupon correctly fil
to each attempt, no competitor must be older
must reach this office not later than Wednesd
dressed to

UNCLE DICK
THE STA

Missing Word C

Below will be found a sentence with cert
being given in place of the letters. Now what
is this? Write the sentence out carefully, and
go alone, what you think are the missing words
"There were, of many becom
"previous and there were Germans a
few Hanson, and all who
" to get out from the fr
them

To the two kiddies who send me in the m
correct sentence, I shall award two beautifu
second prizes. The usual coupon correctly fil
to each attempt, no competitor must be older
must reach this office not later than Wednesd
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Full Name
Address
Age Birthday

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Signature of

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front the ex
already ha
ness to con
be acceptal
acknowledg
+ + + + +
+ + + + +
+ John K
+ John M
+ Kenneth
+ Chas G
+ Robt. M
+ one oth
+ his ni
+ + + + +
Miss Kat
been in the
returned to