

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JULY 18, 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.

## GOVERNMENT WIRE CONTROL.

The United States government is following along the lines similar to those of the British government in handling the telephone system. Although the strange to remark, the American authorities are now doing what they forbade the wire companies: to do when under private control. It is announced from Washington that telephone wires are to be used simultaneously as telephone and telegraph wires, a convenient way of doubling up. It is further proposed to post a list of telegraph rates and have senders of messages and receivers of unpaid telegrams affix the cost in stamps just as they pay for the transmission of mail matter. This plan will save considerable bookkeeping. Other projected improvements are contemplated across the border, and undoubtedly some arrangement with Canada and other countries will have to be made regarding the tolls. It may be that the Canadian government will find it necessary to take over the wire systems, in which case the stamp system could be adopted here.

Before the war the American Telephone and Telegraph Company purchased stock control of the Western Union Telegraph Company. President Theodore N. Vail of the first named company, becoming also head of the Western. A system was arranged by which both companies and their subsidiaries co-operated in the transmission of messages, and a plan was put into effect whereby many small communities which were never so benefited were placed in closer touch with the outside world. But the government opposed the merger and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was obliged to divorce the Western Union. The two concerns becoming distinct and separate once more although it is probably true that the telephone interests unofficially retained a good slice of Western Union stock. Now the government is re-establishing the Vail plan to a certain extent, and under that system will probably allow telegraph bills to be charged up on subscribers' telephone bills when messages are transmitted by telephone to a telegraph office.

The United States programme, which included the taking over of telegraph, telephone and radio systems, leaves the Western Union free to operate its lines in Canada. The Canadian Pacific Railway Telegraph Company in Canada has long co-operated with the Postal Telegraph Company of Mackay-Bennet system of the United States, but as the United States government has apparently made the entire telegraph service a collective one instead of individual, it will be interesting to see what arrangement will be made with the Canadian Pacific's rapidly growing system in this country.

The question of telephone and telegraph rates across the border is another interesting problem and will give Uncle Sam's experts quite a lot of figuring to do if costs of messages are to be reduced, as many people hope they will be eventually.

## THE TEUTON OFFENSIVE.

And still a sweeping German victory has failed to perch on the bloody banners of Prussia and encourage the drooping spirits of the long suffering population of the Teuton fatherland, or correspondingly dishearten the valiant defenders of the world's free men. Yesterday only at one point did the German hosts succeed in advancing, and that advance was accomplished at enormous cost. On a front of six miles at the Rheims Mountains, the enemy after two desperate and unsuccessful attacks succeeded in pushing into the French lines to a depth of one and one-half miles at the deepest point of the thrust.

The most significant feature of last evening's war news consists of the announcement of the renewal of the German attack towards Epernay. In their advance eastward in the Rheims region the enemy rests just half way from his starting point to the long coveted town of Epernay which forms the danger point in the French line. The Rheims positions, as Arthur Draper points out, are fed by a single line of communication from Epernay, and Rheims must be evacuated by the Allies if the Germans sever this main artery. The attempt was foreshadowed in The Standard Tuesday morning.

Late reports show that the United States soldiers are not now participating actively in the fighting. Having regained their original positions from which the Boches swept them on Monday, they are devoting their principal attention to defensive work in holding the original lines.

The French authorities regard the

situation as "relatively satisfactory, although undoubtedly the danger is not yet over and considerable will be heard from the enemy in the next few days. The Germans still hold a stretch of fifteen miles south of the Marne, from Possey to beyond Reuil, but his progress south from the river has not been rapid, not nearly as fast as they expected, and Paris is still far out of range of the heavy army artillery. The French have regained some ground, moreover, at certain points along the valley of the Marne, and they and the Americans dominate several commanding positions. The French have recoiled at certain places, it is true, but as the Paris Temps expert writes, we are not beaten, far from it. Everywhere except at the places where the Marne is a shallow, narrow stream and easily crossed, and in the Rheims region, the enemy has been checked.

The Berlin war office claims that the number of prisoners taken by the Tenth Army this week has been increased to 18,000, but craftily remains silent regarding the grim and significant list of German losses, estimated at fully one hundred thousand, the terrible price which the Crown Prince and Field Marshal Von Ludendorff paid for their disappointingly limited initial successes.

## POLICE REFORM AFTER WAR.

The chief constables of Canada, or chiefs of police, as they are usually called, considered at their national convention in Hamilton this week a problem which will have to be wrestled with sooner or later when a number of soldiers return from Europe and when heavy immigration once more sets in as it undoubtedly will to a surprising extent when peace comes again to the world. In other words it will be the duty eventually of the police forces of the country to preserve order and tranquility after the situation becomes something akin to normal.

It is not for a moment intended by the police chiefs to maintain that soldiers as a body will be disorderly and make trouble, but it is a fact that whenever large bodies of unsettled men congregate together there is bound to be more or less unrest and occasionally individuals will fall by the wayside.

The immigration problem, which will be one of itself, will be a bother some one for the authorities, especially in the cities and larger towns, particularly those in the new west. This element made a large police necessary in many cities of the neighboring republic in years past and has been the principal contributing factor in the widespread prevalence of murder, robbery, gun-play, petty thieving, assault cases and other crimes in large cities and manufacturing towns.

Chief Rideout, the head of the efficient Moncton force, is the president of the National Chief Constables' Association. Regarding the future he has this to say:

"We should all be preparing for vast changes which will surely come. At the close of the war there will be a new era created by circumstances over which we have had no previous control, and our organization should be put in such shape that it will be completely prepared for any emergency. Returned soldiers will be pouring into Canada by thousands, and the distribution of these men will provide a complex problem. In the meantime it might be well to appoint a committee to take the matter in hand to discuss the subject and prepare plans to deal with any contingency that may arise. I do not wish to put too serious an aspect in the matter, but it is morally certain that the old order of things will go, and entirely new situations will arise, so it will be well to be thoroughly prepared before hand, without waiting until things happen which would increase our difficulties, and render us liable to censure for neglect."

## CANADA'S ADVANTAGE.

One of the surprises to those who have visited Europe in peace times was the method by which all lands are carefully examined and put to work according to their capacity. No farmer is permitted to locate on non-agricultural soil, and at the same time, good farming soil cannot be retained under such a crop as timber. Canada has only made a beginning at applying such a policy of business efficiency in the use of the nation's natural resources. Thousands of farmers are today tied to farms that produce only a few dollars an acre, their efforts and ambitions practically wasted in a time when man-power is at a high premium.

Taking the whole of Canada's area,

more than two thirds will never produce field crops, and the bulk of the two-thirds will prove profitable under only one crop, namely, timber. All efforts for the protection of the forests against fire and other forms of needless waste aim to keep in a productive condition those millions of acres that can never grow field crops. Canada holds a tremendous national advantage in her forests, but from the beginning of the last century about two-thirds of the original inheritance has been destroyed by fires. Nearly all modern countries have put an end to forest fires by carefully organized protective systems.

One of the meanest men on record has appeared in Halifax. A big stout, able-bodied thug held up a struggling widow on a road recently and deprived her of the only cash she had, \$1.14. Unfortunately the mean miscreant escaped.

## A BIT OF VERSE

From "FRANCE"  
 By Rudyard Kipling

Yoked to knowledge and remorse now we come to old villanages that Time has turned to jest; Pardoning old necessity no pardon can efface— That undying sin we shared in Rouen market-places. Now we watch the new year's shape, wondering if they hold Fiercer lightnings in their heart than we launched of old. Now we hear new voices—rise, question, boast or gird, As we roared (rememberest thou?) when our crowds were stirred, Now we count new heels afoot, and new hosts on land, Massed like ours (rememberest thou?) when our strokes were planned. "Broke to every known mischance, lifted over all By the light sane joy of life, the bucket of the Gaul, Furlons in luxury, merciless in toil, Terrible with strength renewed from a tireless soul. Strictest judge of her own worth, gentler of man's mind. First to face the Truth and last to leave old truths behind— France beloved of every soul that loves or serves its kind."

## A BIT OF FUN

The Eternal Feminine

A Chicago woman has been locked up because she can't stop talking. It is to be hoped that this practice will not become general. Who'd get our meals and knit socks for the soldiers?

## Their Job

There was news to impart, and William Tell was the person to impart it. Said he to a friend: "The calling-up business. I know of a firm of electricians whose employees will have to go."

"That so?" replied the friend. "But I should think they'd give men like that some special work to do."

"You bet! They ought to be good at charging batteries!"

## War-Time Mother Goose

Joshua Jones, all gruff and grumpy, What's wrong with your garden, Josh? "Society Buds are hoing my spuds, And they've ruined the crop 'bosh!"

## A Precious Deposit

Scene—London just after an air raid. Young Mother (Anxiously)—Oh, constable, dare I venture to take baby out of the safe?

## The Irish It

O'Brien (at phone)—What? Ye can't hear what O'Brien saying? Well, then, repeat what ye didn't hear and I'll tell ye again.

## Recrimination

He—Darling, you are the first woman I ever kissed.  
 She—You don't do it like an amateur.  
 He—How do you know?

## Domestic Ammunition

"Mr. Banks, a complained Mrs. Terrell, 'I ordered a dozen fresh eggs.' 'Yes?' inquired the grocer. 'Haven't they been sent to you?' 'You sent me nine eggs,' declared the irate customer, 'and three poison-gas bombs!'"

## PLENTY OF WORK

TO DO ALWAYS IN THE TRENCHES

When Boys Live in These Places For a While They Find Dozens of Jobs That Need To Be Done—Much Damage To Be Repaired.

(By Lieut. A. R. C. Eaton.) "Yes," said the Sergeant, "we're just repairing them a bit; never be wanted, I hope, but there's nothing like being prepared—even over here in Blighty. You know there's always work to be done on trenches; they're like youngsters in that respect: take a precious lot of looking after, and no sooner have you got one job done than there's another for you to get on with. They're usually a good deal more than you can manage."

"When you've lived in a trench for a bit you find dozens of jobs that want doing. When you get a sniper plugging at you every time you go along a certain bay you soon realize there's something wanting; either the parapet's not high enough and the quicker you raise it the better, or else he's got you enfiladed. That's when he's able to fire along the length of your trench," he paused to explain, "and you know you'd best be quick about getting up a bit of overhead cover."

Then there's dug-outs. You may be lucky enough to be in an old bit of Hun trench with dug-outs that they ought to have put lifts to get down to; you may have that, or anything be-

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Pop was smelling a cigar to enjoy smelling it before he started to enjoy smoking it, and ma sed, Well, William, how do you feel? Grate, sed pop, if I felt any better I wouldn't be able to stand it. And he kept on smelling the cigar with a joyful expression, and after a while ma sed, No, seriously, William, how do you feel? Better and better, sed pop, I'd burst out into song if I knew how. And all of a sudden, he stopped smelling the cigar, saying, Hay, wats the large idea, my shootout I feel all rite if I want to? Now, William, keep cool, let the matter drop, sed ma. And she kept on looking at pop, and pop sed, But, ding bust it, dont I look well, or wat? Now, William, I do wish you wood keep cool, sed ma, I didnt say you didnt look well, did I? Are you quite sure you feel all rite? I dont know how I feel, blast it, sed pop, I thawt I felt all rite, but how can I tell, with you carrying on like a undertakers convention. Am I pale, tell me that? I've seen you much paler, sed ma, the time the doctor thawt you were getting tyfoid you were much paler, for instants. I reely dont suppose theres anything to worry about, William.

Wats a mirror? I demand to look into a mirror, sed pop. And he jumped up all excited, and ma sed, Its all rite, William, you foolish thing, I jest wanted to try to prove it and I proved it. I red an article on the womens page today saying you cood make any man feel sick by the meer power of suggestion, and it sertyn seems to be true.

If I go down into an erly grave, you can have all the credit, sed pop. And he lit the cigar looking mad as anything and smoked it looking mad as everything. Iween it and a new bit of hurriedly dug trench where dug-outs are nil. Then if you want them you'll jolly well got to make them, and that's no small thing, with digging and civilian to be carried, and most of the work to be done at night too. "Things are not so bad in summer. Your trenches are usually pretty solid then and give you a chance to get on with new jobs, but in winter there's the very devil; mud and water, rhaps up to your knees, and mud on everything you touch. Every now and then in will come a bit of the side, and there's a nice island in the middle of the trench flanking up the water on either side; that's got to be cleared and the side of the trench built up again. Its a never ending job; as soon as one bit is done, in comes another, and as for the water, I dont know where it all comes from. If you're lucky enough to be in a position where it can be done you may pump it out, but its precious little good; its as bad as ever five minutes afterwards."

"I suppose you got them knocked about a good bit by the Artillery fire, dont you?" sed the civilian. "Knocked about? I should think we do. You've just been building up a bit of parapet when plump comes a white shell on to it and you have to start all over again. You know that thing of Balfour's? There goes our blinking parapet again? That's it all over. If you haven't seen it you can't have any idea what a line it is. After there's been a real bombardment on it. D'you remember what the trenches the youngsters dig in the front line look like after the artillery's been having a go at it; and, in a fact, its as bad as ever five minutes afterwards."

## And Now

"In the old days a girl used to keep hubby on his good behavior by threatening to go back to her mother. "And now?" "She threatens to go back to her job."



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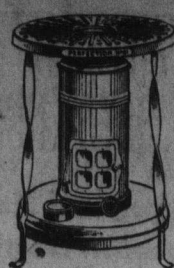
Chicago, July 12.—A great religious drive for the evangelization of Russia, is the aim of the Alliance for Evangelizing Russia which has just been formed here at a general conference of delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada.

The Alliance, co-operation with the Russian Missionary and Educational Society, recently incorporated in Pennsylvania, is intended to form the basis of the movement in which similar societies in America, France, England, Sweden, Denmark and other nations will participate, according to officers now working out details of the big campaign to be carried out next autumn.

Moscow will be the clearing house of the proposed great revival. In that city it is planned to rear a tabernacle of a

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