

The St. John Standard

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 ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 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.

GET READY FOR SUMMER.

The good results achieved last summer by the thousands of patriotic men and women in Canada who harkened to the appeal for greater production and did their share in the way of cultivating the vacant lots and converting back yards into vegetable gardens, warrant the statement that 1918 should see even better work done along this line. The amateur gardeners have had a year's experience and will benefit by it in the cultivation of their plots this year. The unprecedented winter season is not conducive to thought of the summer gardens but the need for increased food supplies is great and attention cannot too soon be turned to the problem of meeting that need.

To some people the vacant lot gardener is the subject of good natured contempt but these underestimate his powers. Garden plots collectively can produce an enormous quantity of food. This was instanced recently by J. A. Oliver, president of the Board of Trade of Port Arthur, Ont., where a Garden Club was very successfully operated last year.

From Mr. Oliver's address we learn that the Garden Club of Port Arthur produced \$28,527 worth of vegetables, etc., during the season. The potatoes grown in the gardens and vacant lots were valued at \$9,900; the beets, \$2,250; cabbages, \$1,485; and so on in proportion. For this year a Boys' Potato Brigade has been recruited, and production may beat the 1917 record. What happened in Port Arthur happened in many other cities and towns throughout the Dominion. Only by a continuance of last year's work can Canada give a full measure of support to her armies and allies. Patriotic production means more today than it meant when the campaign was launched early in 1915.

THE BRITISH IN ITALY.

The active participation of British and French troops in the recent Italian advance against the Austrians is announced by cable and the fact that British soldiers in force have recently been moved to Italy is cited by many as evidence to support the opinion that the Allies may attempt a major offensive on the Piave rather than on the Western front.

One report has it that 750,000 British and French troops are now concentrated on the Venetian Plain and that the near future will see an important aggressive developed there. The appointment of General Herbert Plummer to the command of the British army in Italy lends credibility to this theory for General Plummer ranked second only to Sir Douglas Haig on the Western front, and was the General who commanded the sections of the line where the victories of Vimy Ridge, Messines Ridge and Passchendaele were achieved.

It once was said that the road to the heart of Germany was through Austria and Italy and it may well be that the Allies while retaining sufficient forces to withstand all German efforts in the West seriously entertain the idea of making their real strike through Austria. Recent concentrations in Italy may mean that the most aggressive campaign of the war will be underway in the near future.

A SPECIAL DECORATION.

A distinctive decoration to be known as the "1918 Star" is to be granted by His Majesty the King in recognition of the services of those Canadians who saw service in France or Belgium in the earlier stages of the war, up to midnight of November 22nd, 1914. A recent article, dealing with the decoration and the conditions governing it, says:

"The star is to be of bronze, with red, white and blue ribbon, all claims for this distinction to be approved by the Army Council.

Any officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, and man of the Canadian army, including civilian medical practitioners, nursing sisters, nurses and others employed with military hospitals, who actually served in France or Belgium, on the establishment of a unit of the British or Canadian expeditionary force, up to the date mentioned, have qualified for the distinction. Men entitled to the decoration who are now serving in any unit in Canada should make application through their present commanding officer, if discharged from the service application should be made through the commanding officer of the district in which they

reside. The next-of-kin of deceased soldiers may make application for the decoration through the district commanding officer of the district in which the next-of-kin is now residing. Applicants are asked to give their regimental number, name, unit, rank at the time of disembarkation in France or Flanders, date of disembarkation, date of discharge, if discharged, and, in the case of deceased soldiers, date of death.

It cannot be stated offhand whether the members of the first Canadian contingent are eligible for this decoration, but our memory is that they were at Salisbury Plain in England during the period of time for which the decoration is to be awarded.

CAN THIS BE TRUE?

An item published on the last page of The Standard this morning seems to convey to our untutored mind the horrid suspicion that at some time in the career of the now defunct Liberal party of the City of St. John that party had a party fund.

It is possible that the suspicion is not justified, for, after careful perusal of the columns of our self-righteous Canterbury street contemporaries we had about decided that "party fund" was a term used to describe iniquitous contributions of money to be employed in forwarding the interests of the Conservative party. Of course the solicitation, promise, or payment, of a sum of money, as a rake-off, commission, or brokerage, to a member of the Liberal party, for "putting through" a sale of property to the late Laurier government could not be iniquitous. Certainly not.

There is an old verse that runs somewhat as follows: "there is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it ill becomes any of us to talk about the rest of us."

In all humility we venture to suggest that the hysterical journalists of the Telegraph and Times clip this little verse and paste it on the editorial desk. Daily perusal of it may tend to moderate their transports in the future.

SEEING IT THROUGH.

A review of the general war situation, by a writer in the Nineteenth Century concludes with these words:

"The two objects before us should be kept carefully distinct and taken in their order. The first is to convince the Germans that they have underestimated our capacity; the second, that they have over-estimated our capacity. Any attempt to attain the second before achieving the first would be a fatal blunder; it would be misinterpreted and stultify itself. . . . I will conclude with the exhortation Moses gave to Joshua when bidding him lead the people into the Promised Land after forty years of sojourning in the Wilderness—only be strong and very courageous. The last step of the journey is hard, but it may not be so long as some suppose. German nerves will not stand another great disappointment, unless I am much mistaken."

There is reason to believe that the writer quoted has the right idea of the situation. The Allies are determined to see this thing through to a successful finish. Recent events in Germany give good ground for the opinion that the Central Powers are feeling the strain to a far greater extent than is generally supposed. If we continue to apply, against the enemy, all possible pressure from all possible sides the victorious peace may not be so far away as some pessimists imagine. As the Nineteenth Century writer says, "The last step of the journey is hard but it may not be so long."

The Telegraph, yesterday morning, published a vehement editorial demanding that the Macintyre report should be published forthwith. The Standard, the same morning, carried the report in full and a summary of the schedules submitted by the auditor. The Telegraph's request was complied with more quickly than that newspaper really desired. There are newspapers—and newspapers.

The Times is funny. In its editorial column it commends Commissioner Fisher for his desire that the Macintyre report should be published, while in its news columns it reports him as saying in regard to the publication of that report by The Standard: "he was surprised. He said that it was something that should never have been done." "You pay your money and you take your choice."

In the mind of the esteemed editor of the Times the conundrum "where did they get it?" has supplanted that other riddle "how old is Ann?"

MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA MAKES GREAT STRIDES

Statement of Business For 1917 Gives Astonishing Results—Net Increase in Business in Force Was \$13,865,318.

The statement of the business of the Mutual Life of Canada for 1917 shows astonishing results. The amount of new assurance written, the decrease in lapses, the lowness of the ratio of expense to income and the substantial increase in assets—all show a progressive and successful policy in operation, under exceptionally favorable conditions.

The new business issued amounted to 10,251 policies for \$20,124,563, and allowing for discontinued policies, the net increase in the business in force was \$13,865,318—that is, the permanent increase in the volume of business was equal to 69 per cent of the new business issued. This shows clearly how stable the business of the Mutual is and to how small an extent the business has suffered from lapation.

A BIT OF VERSE

WE'RE IN THE ARMY NOW.
 By Walter Oscar Keck, Co. A., Fourth Infantry, Camp Greep.
 No more ham and eggs or grapefruit.
 When the bugle blows for "chow."
 No more apple pies or dumplings.
 For we're in the army now;
 And they feed us beans for breakfast
 And for lunch we have 'em too,
 And at night they fill our tummies
 With good old army stew.

No more fizzes, beers or highballs
 When we've got an awful thirst;
 If you're thinking of enlisting
 Best get used to water first.
 For the lid's on that all over.
 And the drilling makes us warm.
 But we can't cool off with liquor,
 'Cause we wear the uniform.

No more shirts of silk and linen
 We all wear the O. D. stuff.
 No more nightshirts or pajamas.
 For our pants are good enough.
 No more feather ticks or pillows.
 But we're glad to thank the Lord
 That we've got a cot and blanket.
 When we might have just a board.

For they feed us beans for breakfast,
 And at noon we have 'em too;
 And at night they fill our tummies
 With good old army stew.
 But by links, we'll lick the Kaiser
 When the sergeants teach us how;
 For, hang him, he's the reason
 That we're in the army now.

150,000 BARRELS OF APPLES HELD

Annapolis Valley Has Big Surplus on Hand and Speculators Likely to Get Stung

Halifax, Feb. 8.—G. H. Vroom, chief fruit inspector, announces that there are 150,000 barrels of apples still in the Annapolis Valley. The English and the western markets cannot be reached to any great extent on account of transportation conditions. Although the fruit growers and dealers are alarmed at figures that are being maintained at figures that are keeping local sales at the minimum. Six hundred cars are needed to move the fruit from the valley.

DODGE BROTHERS MOTOR CAR

More than two hundred thousand Dodge Brothers Motor Cars are now in the hands of owners.

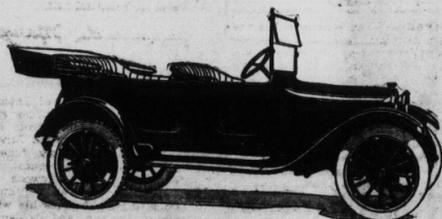
Yet the works in which the car is built are still steadily spreading and expanding.

This gives you an idea of how much men can do when the homes of America are solidly behind them.

It will pay you to visit us and examine this car.

The gasoline consumption is unusually low. The tire mileage is unusually high.

Touring Car, Roadster or Commercial Car, \$885;
 Sedan or Coupe, \$1350; Winter Touring Car or Roadster, \$1050.
 (All prices f. o. b. Detroit)



Nova Sales Co., Germain St., St. John
 Distributors for Maritime Provinces

Little Benny's Note Book

Yesterday fellows saw a lot of empty boxes outside of Coones grocery store, Puds Simkins saying, Gosh, G, look at the empty boxes. G, gosh, we cood chop them up into kindling wood and sell it to use instead of coal and make a hole lot of money, sed Sid Hunt.

Gosh, G, gosh, lets tell Mr. Coons if he gives them to us we will carry them away for nothing, I sed.

I bet we can make about 5 dollars, or 10 dollars, or sumthing, I get the biggest share because I saw the boxes first, sed Puds Simkins.

Like fun you get the biggest share, eny darn fool can see a lot of empty boxes, but whose idee was it to chop them up and sell them instead of coal, whose idee was that? sed Sid Hunt, if enybody gets the biggest share, I do.

Like nothing you do, do you do? I sed, it mite of bin your idee to chop them up, but whose idee was it to ask Mr. Coons if we cood have them, whose idee was that?

Yes, but wat good wood be you two ideers if I hadent saw the boxes first, thats wat I want to know, tell me that, sed Puds Simkins.

And me and Puds and Sid Hunt got mad as enything and started to dare each other to fite and made sutch a fearsome noise that Mr. Coons came running out, saying, Hay, hay, hay, this is no back lot, wat do you think it is, a back lot?

They're fighting over them boxes, sed Ed Wernick, they want to chop them up and sell them instead of coal.

Well, gent that nice of them, well them boxes cost 3 sents apiece and they can have all them in the store and that price, sed Mr. Coons.

And he went back in the store and us fellows kepp on wawking, me and Puds and Sid Hunt still argewing about wich one wood of had the rite to the biggest share in case the boxes had jest bin setting there free of charge insted of being 3 sents apiece.

FOUR CAPE COD BANDITS CAUGHT

Quartette Fired on at Middleboro and Wareham and One Man Shot.

Middleboro, Mass., Feb. 8.—Four automobile bandits who started out last night to raid post offices on Cape Cod were captured here today after being fired on by officers in this town, Wareham, 15 miles away. One of the men was shot and probably fatally injured.

PIMPLES AND RUNNING SORES

Would Hold Head Down Face Was Such a Sight.

Pimples are caused by the blood being out of order. Those festering and running sores appear on the forehead, on the nose, on the chin and other parts of the body, and although they are not a dangerous trouble they are very unsightly to both you and your friends.

There is only one way to get rid of this obnoxious skin trouble, and this is by giving the blood a thorough cleansing by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters.

This sterling remedy has been on the market for over forty years, during which time we have received thousands of testimonials as to its curative powers over all skin diseases. Mrs. Victor G. Fry, North Battleford, Sask., writes: "I used Burdock Blood Bitters when I was about eighteen. I was so bad with pimples and running sores, that when I went down town, I would hold my head down, my face was such a sight. I got two bottles, and my face began to clear, so I kept on until I had a beautiful complexion. I have recommended it to everyone who is in a run down condition, as it builds up the blood, and when the blood is all the face is clear."

Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

GENERAL STRIKE IN THE ARGENTINE

Buenos Aires, Feb. 8.—A general strike was declared today by the men of the Central Cordoba Railway. The employees of two other lines are expected to go out tomorrow. These strikes will almost paralyze the shipment of grain. The provincial governors are calling for troops to protect the grain crops.

AFTER STOCK-TAKING SHOE SALE

Get in on the Bargains.

Broken Sizes and Goods Not Re-ordered to be Cleared Out at Big Reductions. Men's, Women's, Boys', Girls' and Children's.

We will itemize a few lines daily. Watch the advertisements.

Ladies \$3.50 and \$4.00 Patent Leather Cloth Top Button Boots, medium and high heels, \$1.75 per Pair.

Ladies \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.00 Dull Kid, Dull Calf, Patent, and Brown Kid, Goodyear Welt Boots; Button and Some Laced, \$2.85 per Pair.

Ladies' \$5.00 and \$6.00 Patent, Cloth Top, Goodyear Welt, Button Boots, "Smardon" and "Classic" Makes, \$3.00 per Pair.

Ladies' Fine Light Rubbers, medium toe and heel, all sizes, 65c. per Pair.

Men's \$11.50 and \$11.00 Hart Boots, \$9.00 per pair.

Men's \$8.50 and \$8.00 Hart Boots, \$7.00 per Pair.

Men's \$7.50 and \$7.00 Calf Boots, \$6.00 per pair.

Men's \$6.50 and \$6.00 Calf Boots, \$5.00 per pair.

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 65c.

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 Price 50c.

GIRLS' RUBBERS
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STAR Vacuum Bottle

Will Keep Liquids Hot or Cold as required.

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Sent anywhere in the Maritime Provinces on receipt of \$1.40.

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The personal element is emphasized in our Optical Department. Real interest is taken in each eye problem. It is not a matter of selling a pair of glasses but of performing a professional duty in a way that accomplishes the best results for the patron.

The eyes are examined with painstaking care. If glasses are required, they are made and fitted to improve, protect and preserve vision. If they are not needed, we say so frankly. It is service you will like, and profit by. Use it.

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SPAIN P...

Madrid, Feb. 8.—sador at Berlin tele to the German go... evening a note of... sinking of the Sp... pida.