

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 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.

## THE GERMAN NOTE.

Grave, but not yet desperate, appears to be the view which the officers of the German High Command take of the situation of the Fatherland, if one is to judge from the tone of the latest note despatched from Berlin in reply to President Wilson. Last night's cables, summarizing the opinion of the German newspapers as to the reply, stated that they considered the note satisfactory, as offering a basis for negotiations, and naively concluded that most of the newspapers were in ignorance as to the meaning of the first part of the communication. Well they might be, for the first paragraph, dealing with the evacuation of territory, states that the German Government has started from the assumption that military advisers should dictate as to the procedure of an evacuation and the conditions of an armistice, and that "the actual standard of power of both sides in the field has to form the basis for arrangements." If the present "actual standard of power of both sides in the field" is to be taken as a basis, it is difficult to see where Germany has reason to attempt to prolong the discussion, for the present standard of comparison is subject to rapid and unannounced change. Day by day the power of the Allies increases, while that of Germany suffers a corresponding diminution. The relative strength of "both sides in the field" differs now from the relative strength of the same sides a month, or six weeks ago, and six weeks from now the difference will be still more pronounced.

All Germany can do is to surrender unconditionally, or continue waging a struggle that will daily become more disastrous to her. A prolongation of attempted dickering can gain her nothing, for it is certain that the Allied powers have decided upon their position, and will not recede from it. Therefore the only German note worthy of serious attention will be one announcing that the Kaiser's troops have given up the struggle and are prepared to accept what the Allies are willing to give. Unconditional surrender must precede peace, otherwise the war must continue. If the officers of the German High Command feel the situation is not yet sufficiently desperate to bring them to this view of the case, they must be forced to a change of heart and mind. And the transformation must be wrought upon the Western front, with Generalissimo Foch as the chief director of operations.

## HOW THE PEOPLE WILL GAIN.

Sir Thomas White is authority for the statement that the early end of the war will not lessen the duty of the Canadian people to subscribe liberally to the forthcoming Victory Loan. To discharge obligations already incurred, and those which the coming year is likely to impose, the Government will require every dollar that can be raised by means of the loan. The Canadian army is still in the field, and if peace should come tomorrow could not be demobilized for many months, while the purchase of munitions, clothing and food must continue. The only effect, therefore, that the termination of the war can have, will be to render the Victory Bond even more desirable as an investment, since the relatively high rate of interest offered by the Government cannot be expected from Dominion securities issued after peace conditions return and money becomes cheaper.

In the October circular of the National City Bank of New York, a pertinent point is brought out in connection with the bearing of high prices and great public debt upon the people. All the belligerent countries at the termination of the war will have enormous debts to carry, and there is a way in which the people can protect themselves against the heavy interest charge these debts will entail. They can buy enough of the Victory Bonds while wages and prices of products are high to cover their share of the debt so that when they pay taxes to meet the interest their payments will pass through the Treasury back into their own pockets. Now is the time, when wages and products are high and money is plentiful, to put enough money into Victory Bonds to provide for the debt burden so far as such individual is concerned. More than \$60,000 Canadians bought bonds of the last loan. A million should acquire the new issue accordingly to their means. The more widely distributed the debt, and the larger the proportion held by Canadians, the better for the country. It is of the greatest importance not only that the interest on the debt should remain with our own people, but that it

signation now as a member of the Legislature? Mr. Baxter, when he was not a member, through a misunderstanding of orders, bought more potatoes for the Government than were required for shipment to England, thereby causing the Government to have the surplus on hand that were sold at a loss. Is this a sufficient reason for his resignation of a seat to which he was subsequently elected?

Mr. Baxter gave \$3,000 to pay the loss the province had sustained on one of the potato shipments. Is his public-spirited generosity in doing so a sufficient cause for his resignation? Mr. Jones, at the request of Premier Clarke, got from Mr. Tennant \$61,000, and, as directed by Mr. Clarke, paid \$33,000 of it into the provincial treasury to recoup the loss on the potato shipments, and disbursed the rest of it among election committees. Is there anything so wrong in his having done this that he should resign?

Mr. Currie, M.P., as manager of a lumber company, kept back \$4,000 of the stumpage due to the Government. Is this not a sufficient reason for demanding his resignation? Mr. Baxter put \$3,000 of his own money into the treasury, while Mr. Currie took \$4,000 out.

A slight difference, surely. And Mr. Jones, instead of robbing the treasury, was an agent in the diversion of \$33,000 from his party's campaign fund into the treasury.

Surely his case is not on a level with Mr. Currie's.

The fact that Mr. Clarke's campaign fund was contributed by one who shared in the profits of a railway contract does not enter into this question at all. The provincial commission has found that Mr. Tennant got his profits in a legitimate way, without having exercised or tried to exercise, an improper influence in the contract. The fact that he was not found guilty of this, so what offence was committed by the payment of part of the money into the provincial treasury?

## GERMANY'S RIGHTS

(By Captain Lord Dunsany.)  
 "For our holiest rights," says the Kaiser in one of his telegrams. What holy rights are there which, in other nations, the Kaiser has not trampled underfoot with blood of the innocent? Is it a holy right that a people should live in peace in possession of their own farms and fields? Is it a holy right that the houses of God, and the labor of pious men, outlasting the ages in wonderful glass and stone? Is it a holy right that the people of Ypres or Rheims? Are convents holy? Not if the nuns are pretty.

Are treaties holy? Not with small nations. Weak nations have no rights. Right comes from the will of the Kaiser, and the secretive cunning of Krupp, and is borne abroad by the minenwerfer and rides on the wind with gas.

But now a fear arises that was once no more than a hint, but it hangs as a shadow over the Kaiser's throne. A hint that none can ignore, it has hung there so long and grown stronger, a hint that is now a fear, that even great Germany itself may possibly come to be among the weaker nations.

A possibility hardly to be thought of, and yet so clearly there. All Germany's system of government, all the Kaiser's innermost thoughts, are based upon Germany's might and their duties towards it of the weaker nations. And now Germany weak! The idea can hardly be borne. No, it is not to be borne. They have done nothing in Germany to fit them for a place among equal nations, they have worked only for a place as overlords and supermen. And now that the great guns in which they so much trusted as being left behind by difficult rivers and in forests one by one, and still the retreat goes on. It is like being deserted by their gods, and they know not what to do. And so a great cry goes up, and the Kaiser telegraphs, and speaks about holiest rights.

What are these holiest rights but the rights of the strong? What other right did Germany ever have to? And now the Kaiser has committed right against right, and the only shrine at which he ever worshipped; he has sinned against strength. He attacked too far, or he retreated too late, or he threw away his reserves. I do not know which it be. Somehow or other he has done the thing that blind force never forgives. Sheer might has no compassion. The conqueror retreats; the victor, there is no succor in all the forests of Africa for the ailing hyena when his tremendous jaws are able to grind no more. Sheer might helps his worshippers for a while; but when they cease to be mighty let them not utter pathetic appeals to the cruel cold force that they worshipped. What does it know of paths?

The Kaiser has sinned against Might, and his gods desert him.

## GROUND STRAFFING

Two years ago the particular and extremely disconcerting form of warfare which consists of machine gunning troops from low flying aeroplanes was almost unheard of. Nowadays it has become an indispensable feature of British offensive operations.

One of its chief objects is the demoralization of the German infantry, and in this it is particularly successful. There is nothing so unnerving to men either in the trenches, or in open country, as to see a flight of machines swooping down in a sudden formation dive, their machine guns pouring out a hail of death dealing bullets.

One has that curious illusion that the machines are diving straight at one, in a similar way that a machine in a spinning nose dive, at a high altitude appears to be spinning down exactly over one's head although it may be some distance away. The cheery French discipline collapses under these circumstances, and the column of infantry is immediately dispersed in a frantic and chaotic search for cover.

As an example of the panic-stricken effect there is the story of the young English pilot who, having finished his job at high altitudes, came down to within twenty feet of a road, and seeing a German staff car, chased and fired at it for about half a mile. The

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.  
 WAR SAVING.

It is everybody's duty to save all they can and help to win the war, on account of there being so many Germans to shoot and bullets being so expensive.

The earliest way to save is by being careful how you eat. Instead of just swallowing carelessly, every bite awt to be chewed 133 times, and you will find a grate increase in your digestion without eating nearly as much food, on account of nobody would have snuff time to eat much that way.

Never waste any bread. If you have a piece of bread left over and don't want to eat it on account of not feeling any room left, a easy way is to put such a big piece of butter on it that you can't hardly taste anything except the butter. This will prevent you from wasting the bread.

Sugar is also a bad thing to waste. If you don't think your coffee is sweet snuff, keep on stirring it still you think it is.

If you have company for dinner and they ask for more sugar, let on you didn't hear them the first time, and the 2nd time refuse to give them any more.

Howhow too much sugar is bad for the teeth, and the more you don't eat the less you have to pay for dentists bills. Proving sunboby has to suffer, and it mite as well be the dentist.

driver suddenly lost his nerve and the car turned a somersault into the hedge while those of the occupants who were not hopelessly crippled, scattered away in an undignified attempt to find cover at any cost.

## A BIT OF VERSE

The Debt.  
 For every inch of Sussex Down, and every English flower;  
 For every spot where Beauty lies to light this darkened world;  
 For every winding English lane; for every woodland glade—  
 Some English lad for England the price in blood has paid.

For every inch of England, and all her treasure, too;  
 For men who yawn in West End clubs and know not what they do;  
 For every Matinee and Show where pleasure seekers throng—  
 Some English lad has locked with Death and flung his soul along.

For every Home of England; for Liberty and Peace;  
 For dreams of fairer England, when War's Red Hell shall cease;  
 For those who greedily exploit the merchandise of Hate—  
 Some English lad for England has passed the awful gate.

For every child of England who died in flood of youth;  
 For every broken heart that seeks the Everlasting Truth;  
 For every hour of anguish that tore the baffled soul—  
 Let dreams of fairer England lift eyes toward the Goal.  
 —Corp. F. Thorn, in London Chronicle.

## A BIT OF FUN

Brown's Predicament.  
 "Honk! Honk!"  
 "Is that your auto outside?"  
 "No, that's Brown." He swallowed some gasolene by mistake for medicine and now instead of coughing he honks.

Confirmation.  
 No woman is really satisfied with the compliments her mirror pays her unless they are reiterated by some man.

Not Enough of it.  
 Doctor—"What you n-e-d is more exercise. What is your occupation?"  
 Patient—"I'm a piano lifter."  
 Doctor (recovering quickly)—"Well—er—hereafter lift two at a time."

Had Him There.  
 Visiting a sick friend, m'dear. Must bear other people's burdens, y'know.  
 It's all very well to bear other's burdens, but that's no excuse for coming home loaded.

ALL OF LOCAL PAPERS UNJUSTLY BLAMED FOR SINS OF TELEGRAPH

(Chatham Gazette.)  
 Chatham is made the "goat" of all foolish newspaper despatches falsely describing all victims as dying at Chatham and giving the impression that this town is full of the disease with consequent serious losses in trade and business.

As an instance of how St. John newspapers get the facts twisted unintentionally or maliciously, there is the case of the St. John Telegraph which came out with a heading "Three Deaths in Chatham" when there wasn't one death in Chatham. A man had died at Chatham Head, four miles above this town and exactly opposite Newcastle, with which town the village is joined by the highway bridge. Two other deaths had occurred at Chatham and yet the man who wrote the heading for that paragraph either ignorantly or wilfully threw all the deaths on Chatham. The same thing was done in the last smallpox scare and citizens are getting tired of being made the "butt" of these mistakes. It is up to the Board of Health to see that in the future we are not the target for all these shafts by letting the county understand it must do its share in providing equipment to fight contagious diseases.

## PTE. ERNEST BREWER KILLED IN ACTION

Fredericton, Oct. 22.—Sergt.-Major H. T. Brewer, who is in charge of the armories here, was notified today of the death of his son, Pte. Ernest Brewer, in action on October 9. This is the second of this family to give his life in France. Serjeant William D. Brewer was killed on August 15th, with the field artillery. Besides the parents surviving are three brothers, Lieut. Ray Brewer, now instructor with the 20th reserve battalion in England, who was wounded with the 26th Battalion, and went overseas a second time with the 236th Islanders. Staff Serjeant Roy Brewer with the Royal Canadian Engineers at Halifax, and Pte. Cecil Brewer now with the 20th reserve battalion in England, who went overseas with the 236th; also one sister, Mrs. Harry E. Sutherland of Ottawa.

Sergeant Sheldon Foster is reported wounded in the left arm on Oct. 13. He is a son of Pte. Howard Foster, killed in action a few days ago.

Gunner Leo Kelly son of Mrs. Cornelius Kelly of Fredericton, is reported gassed.

## HILLSBORO GIRL CAR CONDUCTOR MARRIED

Halifax, Oct. 22.—At St. Patrick's church yesterday, Rev. Father Courtney, married Dora Florence (Dolly) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Osborne of Hillsboro, N.B., and Donald Walker of the C. P. R. freight department. The bride was one of the first lady conductors to be engaged by the Tram Company and was highly valued by the company.

## CHARLOTTETOWN LAW STUDENT WOUNDED

Portland, Me., Oct. 22.—Corp. Michael Pineau, son of E. P. Pineau, has been seriously wounded and is in one of the hospitals in France. Corp. Pineau was born in Prince Edward Island, having received all his education there. He was principal of a high school and at the time the war broke out, he was studying law with one of the lawyers in Charlottetown. Corp. Pineau has four sisters living in Portland. He also has a brother serving in France.

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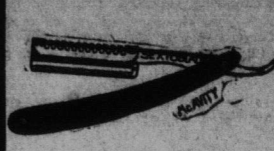
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