

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1918.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—M. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

## WAR COMMENT.

The Allies again did good work yesterday, last night's cables from the western front telling of the capture by the French of a large number of villages and more than 8,000 prisoners. Since Monday 10,000 Boches have been brought in behind the French lines and the end is not yet. British troops have been successful in advancing their lines on the Scarpe river, east of Arras, where it is reported, there was sharp fighting. The Germans continue to give ground and it appears that Ludendorff is now following the strategy adopted by Foch during the first stages of the German drive, and surrounding country to conserve men.

How far the Germans will continue to retreat before making a stand is a favorite subject for speculation on the part of war reviewers. The most popular opinion seems to be that they may go to the original Hindenburg position and, at that, attempt to so fashion their retirement that their lines will be shortened, to economize in the number of men required to hold front positions. Opinions that the Allies have the enemy definitely "on the run," and that he may be pressed back out of France and Belgium before making any sustained stand are discounted. The more prevalent view being that Belgium and as much of the occupied French territory as he can continue to hold will be used for trading purposes in any peace negotiations that may come.

The Hindenburg line, which is expected to be the scene of the first enemy stand, runs between Arras and Rheims by way of Harcourt, St. Quentin, Aniz le Chateau and Chemin des Dames. At some points on that line, notably in the vicinity of St. Quentin, the enemy has already been pressed almost back to the limit and it would not be surprising if the first stand should be made in that locality.

It is not expected, however, that a resistance will be successfully maintained for any considerable length of time. Compared with Ludendorff, Foch already has marked superiority in men and guns and this margin will be increased as American reinforcements are rushed to him. It is, after all, the superior army that will win. In spirit, the old idea that one Englishman could whip ten men of any other nation, may still be correct but this war has demonstrated that the side which can send the most men and most guns into the field is practically certain to be returned the winner. So long as the Germans outnumbered the Allies they gained terrain practically when and where they pleased. When the forces became almost equal in numbers and equipment the German drive slackened and halted. As the Allied armies developed additional strength Foch launched his counter-strokes and continued success has since been our portion.

Barring unforeseen happenings, this is the situation most likely to continue. German resistance is being beaten down as the Allied blows increase in power. The advantage of prepared positions may enable the enemy to make a stand but even positions must fall to superior force, as demonstrated many times in the last four years.

The only question now is the length of time likely to be consumed in the process of hammering the Huns into submission. Many believe that when it becomes apparent that the Huns can no longer retain their hold on Belgium and France, but that a continuance of operations will mean invasion of their own territory, there will come a speedy end to hostilities and Germany will surrender practically without conditions rather than allow German industrial and manufacturing centres to be razed or destroyed. And that is what a slice of any of the cities across the Rhine would mean.

After this war is over Germany will have a mighty indemnity to pay and it is natural to suppose that those in control of her affairs would submit to anything rather than suffer the destruction of plants which must earn the money to liquidate that debt. It is all contortions that the German resistance is due for a collapse that may come much sooner than generally expected.

## WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Students of Imperial politics are commencing to wonder as to the place the Dominions will fill in Empire affairs in the future, and some predict that the old order will pass, that there will be self-government for Ireland, and even for India, and that practically all Empire business will be transacted by an Imperial Council in which all Dominions shall have a voice with the

Motherland naturally holding the balance of power.

There are many indications that such a prediction may be realized sooner than we expect. The British government has already decided that the Dominions shall deal directly with the Prime Minister of Great Britain, instead of through the Governor General or the Colonial Secretary as at present. Gradually the colonial status is being removed and the Dominions are being admitted into full fellowship in the greatest federation the world has known.

The conclusion of peace will bring many problems which must be decided by their relation to the Empire as a whole rather than by the direct effect they may have upon any portion of that Empire. In such cases the Imperial Council will be of the greatest advantage, as its decisions will represent concerted Imperial opinion binding upon all parts of the Empire and in the formation of which all have been consulted.

It is also expected that such questions as defence, inter-empire trade, empire development and the soldier problem will be dealt with in the broad Imperial spirit and that the domestic policies of the Dominions as well as of the Motherland will be moulded with an eye to the interest of the whole federation rather than benefitting any one unit at the expense of another.

The possibilities of development in the Imperial idea are practically without limit and it is interesting to note that already the attention of the leaders of thought is turned in that direction. The war has laid the foundation for a new Empire structure.

It is interesting to note that some of the newspapers supporting the provincial government are showing a disposition to give credit to Premier Foster and Hon. J. Fletcher Tweeddale for securing for enlisted New Brunswick soldiers leave to go back to the farms and help with the harvest. We have failed to learn where anything has been done in that direction by the government of this province that has not been accomplished in other provinces. As a matter of fact the policy of granting harvest leave to soldiers did not originate in the brain of Mr. Tweeddale, or even in that of Mr. Foster. It was the settled policy of the Dominion Government and was a natural measure taken to overcome so far as possible the shortage of farm labor. But it is all right. Let the little men at Fredericton get the credit for what the big men at Ottawa have really done. They will need it all.

About the meanest sort of thief is the man who pilfers the product of his brother's war garden, yet reports have reached this office that the plots on Manawagonish Road, provided by the city and cultivated by enterprising citizens, have been visited by such gentlemen. Of course, from a standpoint of law and order, it is up to the county police to look after such cases but it would be almost pardonable to suggest recourse to the old time cure of "snipe-shot and coarse salt."

Speaking of war gardens it would be interesting if we could secure an approximate idea of the quantity of crops of various sorts raised in and about St. John this year. In Winnipeg it is estimated that the amateur gardeners have produced 100,000 bushels of potatoes alone, while Montreal claims to have trebled that record. The return from St. John might be inspiring.

## TOBACCO AND WAR

(Boston Herald)

Disciples of James I. and Father Trask, those that approve the resolution of Little Robert Reed, one of the choicest prize in nursery literature would stop the sending of tobacco to our soldiers in France on the ground that the weed is injurious to health, and will lessen their mental and physical activity. The answer to this extraordinary opinion is:—"Consider the heroic deeds of the French, Americans, British, Italians, Portuguese, nine-tenths of them addicted to the use of tobacco." It must also be allowed that they are "in the open air," which is more favorable to smokers' health according to the less extravagant objectors. But a strong argument could be made in favor of tobacco by citing the wisdom of the ancients. Thomas Heriot, servant to Sir Walter Raleigh, in his description of "the new found land of Virginia," was perhaps the first to insist on the medicinal qualities of "tobacco, the Spaniards generally call it," or Upopoc, as the plant was known to the Virginia Indians, who sucked the smoke through clay pipes into their stomach and head: "from whence it purgeth superfluous fleame and other grosse humors, and openeth all the pores and passages of the body . . . whereby their bodies are notably preserved in health, and know not many grievous diseases, wherewithal we in England are often times afflicted." At

the beginning of the 17th century in England tobacco was sold as a remedy against humidity. James Heriot, in his "Familiar Letters" has much to say: how tobacco smoked or held in the mouth stayed the hunger and maintained the endurance of the adventurous and the tolling. When a comedy, "The Marriage of the Arts," was performed by Oxford students before Jas. I. at Woodstock, one of the characters at the risk of incurring the monarch's displeasure sang a song in praise of tobacco. One of the verses was as follows:

Tobacco's a Physician,  
 Good both for soul and sickly  
 'Tis a hot perfume,  
 That expels cold rheum.  
 And makes it flow down quickly.  
 As long ago as last January there was fear in England that tobacco cards would be introduced before the year was very old, for the demands of the troops were more and more insistent. It was also said at the time that the adoption of the card system was all the more probable in view of the great increase of smoking among women. Here is a hint for American women who indulge themselves in tobacco. Let them do their bit by denying them. One of the most striking poems of the civil war was written by Thomas Shawley's "Brier Wood Pipe," the soliloquy of a New York zouave before a battle, as he thought of the unknown woman who gave him a pipe as his regiment marched in Brazil. Who would take from a soldier his greatest solace, even though in his own case he believed the use of tobacco a pernicious habit?

## SABOTAGE AND THE DOG

(By Isobel Field in the Brooklyn Eagle)

Has it occurred to anyone that the numerous tirades against dogs that have been appearing in the newspapers all over the country may be of alien enemy origin? Why should the same arguments against man's best friend appear in the newspapers at the same time that they are coming out in the newspapers of California, Texas, Oregon and elsewhere?

What attracted my attention was finding the identical letter in my home town paper (Morning Press, Santa Barbara, California) that I had read in the New York Globe. It was signed by different initials but the wording and arguments were the same. "Dogs eat sheep. We need mutton. Therefore, all dogs should be exterminated. All over the West last summer there were unusually destructive forest fires; crops were destroyed, cattle poisoned, and a mysterious disease appeared in many localities. Though the evidence has not been made public, it is common knowledge that these depredations were the work of enemy aliens. The work was done with a system that suggested German efficiency, and was no doubt paid for by German money. That being so, the extermination of watch dogs would be of immense importance, and the only conclusion is that the whole propaganda is the work of our enemies. They would influence us to kill our own dogs for the convenience of German agents, who, without these guardians, would have a freer hand in sabotage."

The argument that dogs cannot be kept in a sheep growing country is refuted by Scotland, where there are more dogs to the square mile than any country in the world. One cannot "draw near" a Scottish home without hearing the watchdog's honest bark. In many families each member has his own dog and no child's life is considered livable without one. But the best evidence of all is the shepherd himself. Clean shaven and without a speck of dirt on his face, he is a charming sight, and many little tombs there are tender tributes to departed friends. In front of St. Giles Cathedral in the same old city there is a monument carved in stone, an inscription to "Robbie," who refused to leave the church yard where his master was buried, and died upon his grave.

We want more dogs in America—not fewer. They would be of great service guarding ammunition plants; in helping soldiers on guard at aqueducts and bridges in ferreting out suspicious characters; the forest ranges all over the West would find them invaluable in densely wooded country. Farmers, shepherds, cattlemen and ranchers need them; and the sneaking incendiaries, poisoners and devastators would find their work much harder if there were more watch dogs on guard.

We must not put our dogs to sleep. One has only to read what dogs have done and are doing in this war to realize the extent to which they can be trained. It is said that the Red Cross dogs can detect life in a wounded soldier lying in No Man's Land and lead the doctors themselves are in doubt. They carry messages through shot and shell; they bring up food and water to the first line trenches, and many a brave man owes his life to the intelligence and fidelity of a dog.

In future when we read any of these "lectures from the people" advocating the destruction of the dogs it will be well to find out the names and addresses of the writers and send them to the secret service department to be investigated. We have many scores to settle against the Germans, and the least of them is his insidious, treacherous propaganda against the best friend God has given to man.

## THE BRITISH NAVY

The British Navy is the British Empire. The British Navy is the British and allied armies. The British Navy is the cause of liberty. If the British Navy suffers defeat the British Empire is destroyed. If the British Navy meets disaster, the British and allied armies are defeated. If the British Navy failed to prove its superiority to the German High Sea Fleet the cause of liberty would be a wreck. The British Navy is the Grand Fleet on the North Sea. British and allied armies mean nothing in the way of resistance to German ambition. United States' help means less if the British Grand Fleet

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Me and Puds Skinkins was walking along and we saw Leroy Shooter setting on his top step eating a apple, me saying, G. look at Leroy eating a apple, in going to ask him for the core.

You are like fun, I'm going to ask him for it, I was just thinking about it, sed Puds.

Well I sed so fast, didnt I I sed. Maybe you did, but I was thinking about it before you sed it, sed Puds.

Well thinking don't count, I sed. The heck it dont, sed Puds. The heck it does, I sed.

Who sed it dont? I sed. Well then lets both ask him, and he can give it to wichever wich one he wants to, sed Puds, its his core and maybe he awt to have his choice of who to give it to.

Being pritty good of a idea, and we keep on walking tords Leroy Shooter's front steps and Leroy Shooter see on eating the apple on the top one, and all of a suddin we did we see coming down the other way but Skinny Martin.

G. if he gets there first he'll ask him, lets run, I sed. Well then started to do, and Skinny Martin stopped walking fast and started to run himself, and we all got there at the same time, out of breath, all saying, Give me the core, Leroy, give me the core?

There aint going to be eny, sed Leroy Shooter. Wich there wasent, on account of me and Puds Skinkins and Skinny Martin standing there still out of breath and watching him prove it.

could be scattered in defeat before the might of the German High Sea Fleet. "God keep the Grand Fleet of the British Navy," should be the prayer of every liberty-loving human heart. Germany may be tempted to stake the High Sea Fleet of the Huns on a gambler's throw for victory over the battle fleet of the British Navy. The embattled hosts of liberty have no other helper this side of heaven but the Grand Fleet on the North Sea. If the Grand Fleet is lost, all is lost. There is still nothing between Germany and the winning of this war but the British Navy—That's all.

## A BIT OF VERSE

MOTHERS OF MEN.  
 Mothers of men—the words are good, indeed, in the saying.  
 Pride in the very sound of them, strength in the sense of them.  
 Why is it their faces haunt me, wistful faces, as praying,  
 Ever some dear things vanished and ever a day delaying.  
 Mothers of men?

Mothers of men, most patient, tenderly slow to discover  
 The loss of the old allegiance that you give a man to the world, you give a woman a lover,  
 Where is your solace, then, when the time of giving is over,  
 Mothers of men.

Mothers of men, but surely the title is worth the earning,  
 You who are brave in feigning, must I ever behold you, then  
 By the door of an empty heart with the lamp of faith still burning,  
 Watching the ways of life for the sight of a child returning,  
 Mothers of men.

## A BIT OF FUN

Easily Arranged.  
 One beautiful summer night, when the crickets were chirping in the grass and the cool wind was dropping from the trees, John Henry turned to the charming girl who was sitting on the veranda at his side.  
 "Edith," said he, a trifle timorously, "there comes to me a thought, I might say a fear."  
 "Well, what is it?" queried the fair girl, as the other hesitated.  
 "I suppose," responded John Henry, suggestively, hopefully, "that, were I to steal a kiss you would have me arrested?"  
 "Perhaps," was the ready rejoinder of the girl, "but you could find somebody to pay your fine, couldnt you?"  
 Philadelphia Telegraph.

Only An Amateur.  
 She—Is it me you want or is it my money?  
 He (amateur champion, 100 yards)—You forget that I am debarred from taking part in any event for money.—Boston Transcript.

## THE BRITISH TAKE TWO MORE VILLAGES

(Continued from page 1)  
 Furious Barrage.

British Army Headquarters in France, Aug. 20.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's, Ltd.)—Our patrols have maintained a steady pressure on the withdrawing enemy and have inflicted considerable casualties. The enemy manifestly continues in a jumpy condition. Early this morning he furiously harried the Lac Lyette-Scherpenberg Road, apparently as a protective movement as no infantry movement followed.

In our advance near Vieux Berguin all our objectives were gained. The enemy troops now falling back belong to the Sixth German army command led by General Von Quast, while Von

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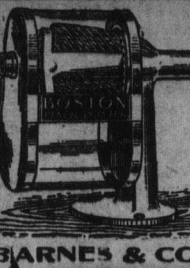
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