

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 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 IRISH BISHOPS.

The London Times is severe on the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ireland, because the bishops are opposing conscription, and accuse the church of dabbling in a purely political issue which has nothing to do with religion. We are not saying that the Times is wrong, but it is noticeable that the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Arthur F. Winnington Ingram, Lord Bishop of London, and most of the other prelates of the established church, as well as those of the Irish church (Episcopal) and a number of the Canadian bishops of the Anglican body openly advocate conscription.

It is true that the issue is not a religious one at all, in the strict sense of polemics, but are not all churches directly interested in any question which affects the vital interests of the Empire?

Nor can we see why the issue should develop into a religious controversy, as the Times would have it. Here in Canada there are two or three Roman Catholic bishops who favored conscription in Canada, judging by their utterances in the last political campaign, and it is a fact that some of the other clergy of that church favor even conscription in Ireland.

In Great Britain the established church is free to mix in politics on a limited scale as that body is an adjunct of and partly under the control of the government, its archbishops and bishops in England and Wales having seats in the Upper House of Parliament and being appointees of the Crown. But certain of the English newspapers maintain that the Roman Catholic prelates take their orders from Rome. This is true in religious affairs, but it is doubtful if the Irish bishops in the present instance are under explicit orders from the Vatican to oppose conscription. It is more probable that they are acting on their own initiative in a belief, perhaps a misguided one, that they can keep the peace in Ireland.

A FRENCH VIEW OF VENOT.

Le Moniteur Acadien of Shediac editorially says in the current issue:

"In discussing the budget last Friday evening, the Hon. Pierre J. Venot, according to the reports published in the English press, said: 'The Moniteur Acadien condemns the Minister of Crown Lands and Mines, because he is not doing enough for the French, and it accuses him of being a bigoted Protestant strangling French settlers.'

"It is unnecessary to say that the Moniteur never used such language; we have never written that Dr. Ernest A. Smith was a 'bigoted Protestant,' nor that he was strangling 'French' settlers. We simply declared that he was the most insignificant minister of the most incompetent government that this province has ever known, and that he was strangling the settlers (not a word of nationality), two statements so true that in all New Brunswick there has been but one man possessed of sufficient barefacedness to contest the truth thereof—Mr. Arthur T. LeBlanc, member for Restigouche.

"We have often said that Mr. Venot was very intelligent and energetic; he evidently also possesses a streak which places him amongst the rabble, and threatens to choke his qualities. He is suffering from a disease that could be called pernicious prevarication. The habit of misrepresentation has taken such a hold on him that it is now second nature with him and he is unable to state a fact without adding a couple of misrepresentations.

"Mr. Venot began his speech on the budget by an appeal for understanding, entente cordiale and harmony between the different races that inhabit our province. Pure hypocrisy: There is not a man in all this country, who has exploited more shamefully and openly the worst appeals to the lowest prejudices of race and religion. We would be happy if we could believe the nice words he uttered in the Legislature, but his past, reprehensible in this regard, renders it impossible."

ABANDONED FARMS.

The abandoned farm problem is still present in New England and the Maritime Provinces. In Carleton county, a prosperous district, twenty-five abandoned farms were recently advertised for sale in the Woodstock Sentinel.

In view of the present demands for food, says the Fredericton Gleaner, in view of the very serious outlook for the future in the threatened great shortage in Europe and elsewhere, there is food for reflection in this wholesale advertising of farms for sale. Is scarcity of labor at the bottom of it? These farms will not necessarily be abandoned, but where is the trouble that leads the owners

to seek to get rid of them? It is not that the prices of the product are low. And where there is dissatisfaction we need not expect production to full capacity, or anything like full capacity. Are conditions similar in other places in Canada? Our armies at the front must be fed if the Allies are to win; the people of Europe must be fed; and the responsibility falls largely upon Canada and the United States.

A TROUBLED EARTH.

Disturbances in the earth has well as on the surface are again making themselves manifest in various quarters of this old globe. A similar sequence of happenings as those now being recorded occurred at the time St. Pierre, Martinique, was overwhelmed by the molten lava and death-giving gas vomiting from the narrow crater of Mont Pelée. During that period the towering La Soufriere volcano of Jamaica and similar mountains in Italy, Central America, Hawaii and elsewhere were menacingly active and the earth shook. Thousands of lives were lost.

The present chain of disturbances began probably when Guatemala City was destroyed by an earthquake last winter. Since then there have been volcanic eruptions, but few earthquakes until this month when Southern California was shaken. There two villages were destroyed, several lives lost and much damage done in Los Angeles and vicinity.

Yesterday afternoon a Rome cable announced that Mount Stromboli was in violent eruption and that falling lava had set fire to the vineyards. Several lives were reported lost. These terrors, unlike those of war, are far beyond the control of man. They have always existed and always will exist while the earth lasts. And yet it may be considered on first thought that it is peculiar that the human race has a reckless streak in its make-up, for many of the densely populated centres of the volcanic countries of the world are situated in the heart of the danger belt. But the reason is by no means obscure and the explanation is simple. Vegetation grows with marvellous rapidity and with least expense upon the soil adjacent to these vents of the world's interior regions, and as the means of subsisting is easier there than in safer zones, so the inhabitants, long accustomed to the flame, smoke and liquid fire of these Pompeii conveyors of death, live on the crust of the earth's burning bowels until they are forced to become fugitives or are engulfed by the infernal torrent emitted by nature's awe-inspiring convulsions.

Happily the people of Canada can rejoice in a climate which is immune from volcanic and serious earth shocks.

REV. J. J. O'DONOVAN.

The death of Rev. J. J. O'Donovan removes from the religious and civic life of St. John one who for more than a quarter century has been a familiar and beloved figure. Father O'Donovan represented the highest type of Irish gentleman. Endowed with an attractive personality, a pleasing presence, unvarying cheerfulness and an abundant humor, he made friends everywhere among those not of his own denomination, while in his own parish and in fact among members of the Catholic church generally he was accorded the greatest esteem and reverence. He was a personal friend to all his people, and under his guidance the parish of The Assumption has through good fortune and bad prospered spiritually and materially.

Father O'Donovan's death will make many sore hearts. He was a man whom it was good to know.

A GOOD HOHENZOLLERN.

It is the fashion now to denounce the Hohenzollerns because the Kaiser is the head of that house. Let us not forget, however, that the hard-pressed King of Rumania is a Hohenzollern and because he is likely to lose his throne—not by any action of the Allies, but by direct will of Emperor William II. himself. The latest decision of William, Ludendorff, Von Hindenburg, Chancellor Von Hertling and Foreign Minister Von Kuehlmann is that Ferdinand must quit the throne and be replaced by an Austrian choice. The Central Powers have a heavy reckoning awaiting them when they are thrown out of the Balkans.

BEATING OLD SOL.

As the days lengthen and we are becoming accustomed to daylight saving ideas it is noticeable that we are far ahead of old Sol. When he is at the meridian it is about 1:30 p.m. Under the old time of thirty years ago it was

then twelve o'clock. Later the time was pushed ahead about half an hour, the system being known as standard time, of which the Atlantic prevailed here and the Eastern in Maine. The result was that in June it was daylight in Maine before four a.m., while the darkness set in there and still does much sooner than in New Brunswick. The relative difference still prevails.

GARDENING FOR EVERYBODY.

If you are cultivating a vegetable garden, either at home or on a vacant lot, it would be an evidence of wisdom to send to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, for Circular No. 14, entitled, "Vegetable Gardening at Home and on Vacant Lots," and prepared by the Dominion Horticulturist. This circular, which can be had free of all cost, supplies information of a practical nature on every vegetable that it is desirable to cultivate for domestic consumption. It gives advice on the preparation of the soil, and on planning and arranging the garden, quotes examples of success achieved in 1917, supplies a list of the best varieties of vegetables for different districts, and describes how the growing plants can be protected from disease and insect ravages.

New Brunswick will be bone dry, at least theoretically, under prohibition, on June 1, for on that date Westmorland will no longer have the Scott Act, under which liquor has been obtainable in Shediac, Moncton, Sackville and other places at times, more or less frequent. All the other counties are under the provincial act, which was adopted by the Murray Government.

The people of the east, both in Canada and the United States, have one thing to be thankful for this spring and that is the absence of disastrous frosts. The snow has melted gradually in the absence of torrential rains, and the earth, not deeply frozen during the winter, has absorbed much more water than has found its way into the streams. In this respect this spring has been the best on record for many years.

A BIT OF VERSE.

THE TORCH-BEARERS.

From age to age through darkest gloom profound
 A flaming torch its glowing light has shed.
 Raised by strong hands above the darkness round,
 A ray of hope amid the darkness dread.

Who bear the torch? 'Tis those pure souls
 With visions of the face of Truth divine,
 Who prize not gold, nor love, nor dying fame
 Because their eyes have pierced her mystic shrine.

And thou, O brother, underneath the sod
 Of Flanders fields, hast felt the quaking of
 Of coal from off the altar of thy God.

A GOOD DIGESTION

Depends Upon Keeping the Blood Rich, Red and Pure

To be able to eat what you want and to digest it properly is a priceless blessing. Good digestion is not appreciated until you lose it. Then you cannot afford to experiment for strong medicines are hard on weak stomachs. If you have indigestion do not be persuaded into believing you can cure yourself by the use of pre-digested foods or so called stomach tonics. There is no tonic for the stomach that is not a tonic for every part of the body. It is through the blood that the stomach gets its power to assimilate and digest food, and as the blood goes to every part of the body and improvement in its condition not only results in strengthening the stomach but every organ in the body. Rich red blood is absolutely necessary to good digestion. If your stomach is weak and you are troubled with sour risings in the throat, a feeling of pressure about the heart, or nausea after eating, try the tonic treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. So many dyspeptics have been cured by this medicine that every sufferer from stomach trouble should try it. You will soon know the joy of good digestion and enjoy better health in other ways if you give this medicine a fair trial. Mr. Fred J. Kendall, Darlin Ave., Toronto, says:—"For upwards of five years I was a great sufferer from indigestion, which gradually undermined my general health leaving me in a weak and anemic condition. I spent considerable money with one doctor and another, but failed to receive any lasting benefit, and had become quite discouraged. One day my wife urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills but I thought it would be the same old story. But she had so much faith in them that she got me a box, and to please her I began taking them. By the time the box was finished, I noticed a slight improvement, and I continued taking them, and soon found myself gaining. I could sleep better and my appetite improved, without the distressing symptoms that had previously followed eating. I think I took in all about a dozen boxes, and today I am a stronger man than I ever was in my life. When I began the use of the pills I weighed 145 pounds while now I weigh 157. You may use this letter as you choose, hoping it may reach some poor, discouraged sufferer as I was."

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

My cousin Artie was around this afternoon, and we played we was generals on a tour of inspection, and we went back in the kitchen and somebody was back there except the cat sleep on the table, Artie saying, Ah hah, asleep on snort dooty, he must die at sunrise. Genrel.

Amem, Genrel, I sed.
 And we carried him up to the setting room and tied him to the leg of the sofa with a piece of string on his collar, and piled up all the cushions at the other end of the room for ammunition, Artie saying, Well how will we know wen its sunrise?

By the roosters crowing, I sed. Wich jest then 3 roosters began to crow, being me and Artie, going, Cock a doodle do, cock a doodle do.

Its sunrise, Genrel, I sed.
 Its noticed it, Genrel, sed Artie. And the cat started to pull at the string trying to get away, and the 2 Genrels started to divide the ammunition in 3 piles, one for each Genrel, me saying, One cartridge awt to be blank, theres always one blank cartridge in every firing squad. Wich there was one pillow left over, and we put it in the middle for a blank cartridge, and jest as we was getting ready to fire who came in but ma, saying, Boys, wat are you doing with all my pillows?

We are going to play a game with them, I sed, and ma sed, Well, wood you look at that poor cat, wat on earth is he tied up like that for?

We was going to leave him get in the game, I sed.
 Benny, I really believe you boys was going to throw those cushions at him, sed ma, and I sed, I dont believe any wood of hit him, he cood of dodged if he wanted, and besides, ones a blank.

Well if I give you a good crack it wont be a blank, put those pillows back, sed ma. And she untied the cat and the 2 Genrels put the ammunition back and quick went out.

And through the dark thy haunting song didst sing.
 If we break faith with thee, the loyal dead,
 The torch within our grasp with dying flame,
 Above our downcast eyes and drooping head,
 A smoking brand, our guilt shall wide proclaim.

Hear while we pledge to thee our solemn vow,
 A vow of fealty, unshaken, deep;
 Our hands shall bear the torch aloft, and thou
 In Flanders fields in peace mayst sweetly sleep.

BLVTH WOOD.

A BIT OF FUN

Bless Her Heart.

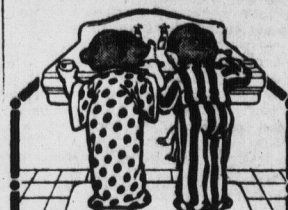
Dorothy overheard her parents talking about Bible names.
 "Is my name in the Bible?" she asked.
 "No, dear."
 "Why, didn't God make me?"
 "Yes, dear."
 "Then why didn't He say something about it?"

Both Experienced.

A lady who had run down a man with her car was blaming him for carelessness. He insisted it was her fault.
 "My fault!" she shot back, "why man, it's impossible. I've been driving a car for seven years."
 "Well, you haven't anything on me," he replied. "I've been walking for thirty-six years."

True Philanthropy.

He was a good little boy, and very thoughtful. It was during a long spell of dry weather, and he had heard of the great scarcity of water throughout the country.
 "Mamma," he said, "is it true that in some places the little boys and girls have not enough water to drink?"
 "That is what the papers say, my dear."
 "Mamma," he presently said, "I'd



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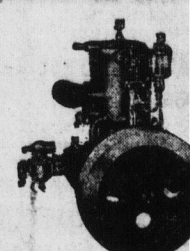
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