

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MAY 20, 1918

The Evening Times and Star

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The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. Telephone—Private exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417. Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year; by mail, \$3.00 per year in advance. The Times has the largest afternoon circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, 304 Fifth Ave.—CHICAGO, E. J. Powers, Manager, Association Bldg. British and European—Frederick A. Smyth, 20 Ludgate Hill, LONDON, E. C. England. The Audit Bureau of Circulations audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

THE WAR SITUATION.

The correspondents at the front agree in expressing the belief that the German offensive is soon to be resumed on the most formidable scale possible. It is explained that the delay is partly due to a desire to have in readiness to throw into the struggle an immense army, and partly to the need of giving those whose ranks were so terribly thinned in previous assaults time to recover from the effects of that experience. The Allies are meanwhile strengthening themselves to meet the shock, which they await with confidence.

President Wilson announced on Saturday that the United States would set no limit to its efforts to win the war, and would not be diverted from its purpose by "insincere approaches on the subject of peace." He declared he would stand by Russia as well as France, adding that "the war is to save the world."

The Allies still have the supremacy in air fighting. A German air raid on London has proved to be a failure. The submarine menace grows less formidable, and the United States shipbuilding programme is now making remarkable progress. The situation in Ireland is serious, and there is naturally a good deal of anxiety as to the attitude of the people in regard to the arrest of the Sinn Féin leaders. The assertion that Sinn Féin have been in treasonable touch with the enemy, if true, warrants severe measures. The liberty of Ireland is as much menaced by the Hun as it is that of any other country.

WHAT SEA POWER MEANS.

A recent issue of the Literary Digest, reviewing the military situation, said: "If the German drive battens its way through to the Channel ports, German guns may drop a gigantic barrage behind which German armies can be ferried across to invade England."

If Germany should win through to the Channel ports she might attempt an invasion of England, perhaps even bringing out her fleet to take part in the undertaking; but the odds would be too heavy against her for any hope of success. Even if the worst should happen and the British and Americans be compelled to take to their ships; Germany would not win the war; for the struggle would still go on, and without the mastery of the sea the German gain of territory would be of more apparent than real value. Of course it would prolong the war, and impose greater hardship and suffering upon the world; but the British Empire and the United States will never consent to a German peace. The German press realizes that land victories will not bring complete triumph for the Central Powers. A German naval expert, writing in the Vossische Zeitung, has said:—

"England has closed the gates of the North Sea. From bases dominating all the sea-routes, her cruisers sweep the seas free of enemy ships. Invisible, secure against sudden invasion, and yet ready at any moment to strike a blow with overwhelming superiority, the English high sea fleets lie waiting in their ports. Under their protection, England's sea trade follows the old profitable roads. If England's allies collapsed militarily and economically, England could continue the war as a pure naval war with almost the whole tonnage of the world at her disposal. If she were to succeed at the conclusion of peace in forcing or persuading the Central Powers to limit their naval armaments, England's position of preeminence in Europe would be as secure in the future as in the past. The economic harvest of the war could then be gathered in without interference. That was the situation which forced us to take up the decisive struggle against British sea-power. At the moment we could not produce a decision by throwing in our high-sea forces. Even after a successful battle, our fleet, without any bases, could neither blockade England nor keep the ocean open for our own sea-trade."

The Arbeiter Zeitung of Vienna, was very emphatic. It has said:—"Do not be deceived. Germany's victories will never force the Entente to accept a peace of violence. If the German could take Calais and Paris, and even force France and Italy to capitulate, then there would remain the English, safe in their island, and America, protected by the ocean. They can always continue the war by sea, and the greatest victory on land can not impose a peace of force on America and England."

America and England, with their control of raw materials and of harbors and coaling stations, and with their great navies, would be able to paralyze the trade and industry of the Central Powers. The London Spectator, while admitting that the Russian conquests give Germany an easier source of supplies and an avenue of commerce, points out that control of the coaling stations of the world gives the Allies the whip hand. It said in a recent issue:—"Looking at the facts as a whole, it is clear that unless the Germans succeed, as they still hope to do, in acquiring command of the sea by means of submarines, her economic life after the war.

will be to a very large extent indeed in the mercy of those countries with whom she is now fighting. In particular, her shipping industry could be strangled if all the Entente Powers refused to permit German vessels to enter their ports or to obtain coal from their coaling stations. It may be assumed that her statesmen are at least as well aware of these facts as we are, and it is quite certain that the commercial party in Germany attaches even more importance to the re-establishment of the commercial and maritime freedom which existed before the war than to mere territorial conquests. That is a factor in our favor which we are entitled to press up to its utmost value. In the earlier days of the war we certainly did not make full use of our relative economic strength."

It is now fairly well established that the submarine will not give to Germany the control of the sea which it was so confidently predicted would soon be hers. Whatever her success on land, therefore, the sea power of Britain and America will still bar her path toward the goal of world-domination. Let go faint belief that all is lost when ground is yielded by the Allies, for Germany pays a terrible toll, and before she could finally dispose of the Allied armies on the western front her own man-power would be reduced to the point of exhaustion. Let it be understood and accepted that we are going to win this war if it takes ten years, and that even the loss of the Channel ports would not weaken our determination.

The Times received the following blither this morning:

"Sir,—Isn't it a grand and glorious feeling when you can sit in a comfortable office and defend the evils of capitalism, and criticize Messrs. Trotsky and Lenin, who have no chance to reply. Oh, boys, isn't it a G-r-e-a-t and glorious feeling. It takes a coward to do it. One good coward makes two."

The British continue to give the Germans all the fighting they can take in the air—in fact more. Saturday's record shows twenty-three more Hun machines downed. Thirty-five fell on one day last week and thirty-seven on another.

The question of public health is just now of exceptional importance in St. John, and its discussion by those qualified to speak is therefore an opportunity for citizens to gain information of present and permanent value.

Reduced rations for German soldiers on the western front will not strengthen their appetite for severe fighting, but the promise of more and better food may encourage them to fight for it.

The American shipyards are daily becoming more and more a factor in the war. A cheering announcement is that of Mr. Bainbridge Colby, U. S. shipping commissioner, published today.

In your own interest as well as that of the city, it is your duty to be vaccinated. You should have it done at once.

An Irish rebellion of German origin would be the worst possible thing that could happen to Ireland.

J. C. WATTERS CRITICISES THE BRITISH PREMIER

Canadian Trades Congress President Describes Lloyd George as "Trickiest Politician Who Ever Masqueraded as Statesman"

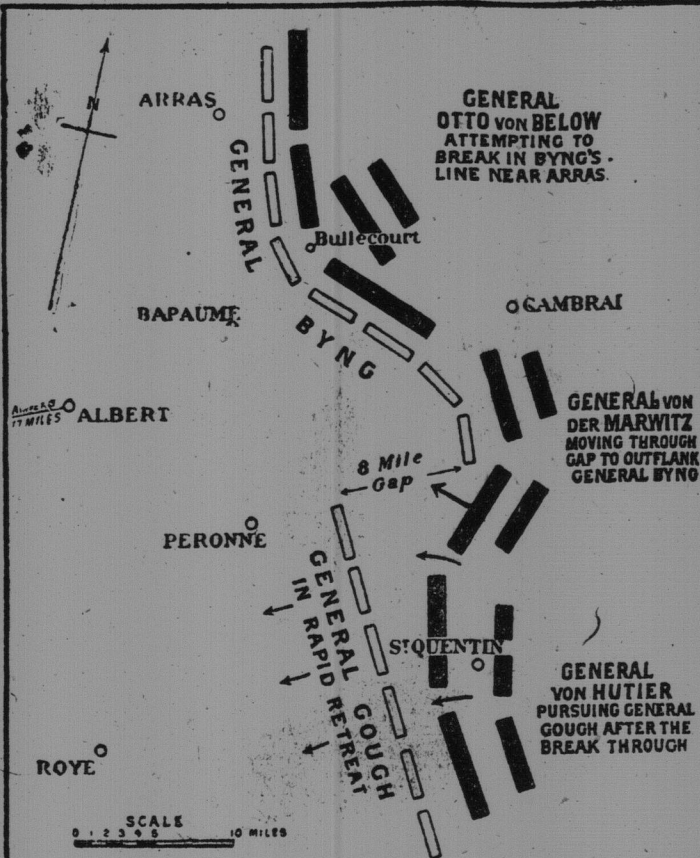
Toronto, May 19—"Three times I cabled Lloyd George asking him to give instructions to Sir Joseph Flavelle, the devoted head of the Imperial munitions board, to co-operate with the Dominion Trades Congress in the interests of the Canadian workers. We were turned down, and then, upon my advice and request, Premier Borden cabled twice. Again we were turned down. "I have said that Lloyd George is the trickiest politician who ever masqueraded as a statesman, and I repeat it," said J. C. Watters, president of the Dominion Trades Congress, to a convention of labor men who met on Saturday night to devise and draw up a constitution for a Toronto labor party.

KING'S THANKS TO AMERICA AS RED CROSS DRIVE BEGINS

London, May 20—King George in a telegram to President Wilson on the eve of the second Red Cross appeal, says:—"I thank you in the name of my people for the assistance already afforded the sick and wounded in the Allied countries. The unexampled munificence of America's first response proved a noble record in charitable effort and I feel that her generous hearted people will again respond to an extent that the resources of your great country alone can command."

Rev. Father Fiset, C.S.C., of St. Joseph's College, Memramcook, will leave for the college today. He has been in the city in connection with the Forty Hours Devotion in St. John the Baptist church.

THE GERMAN'S LAST OPPORTUNITY



The chance the Germans missed on March 23, when the British line broke. The gap was filled by General Carey's "scratch division" of singlers, aerial mechanics, Chinese laborers, and American engineers, who held the breach for six days.—London Sphere.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF SAFETY



There are more than 200,000 motor vehicles in operation in Canada and their use is increasing daily. Here is a picture illustrating the maxim "safety first." It represents, in striking form, a large number of accidents which statistics have shown are most common on city streets and country roads. Intentionally, or unintentionally, however, it is contended that in practically every one of these accidents the carelessness is nine-tenths the fault of the pedestrian and one-tenth the fault of the motorist. In this photograph the boy, scurrying across the street on roller skates, back of a trolley, falls directly into the path of an oncoming automobile which, although on the right side of the road and moving slowly, can scarcely be brought to a stop in time to avert a serious accident. No better illustration could be found of the fact that the motorist must do the thinking for two people—himself and the careless pedestrian who may be any one of the thousands on the sidewalks.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EAST

Four Things Necessary, Declares London Sunday Observer

London, May 19—Concluding a long review of the present political situation in the east, the Sunday Observer says:—"If the Central Powers could secure power on their present basis their subsequent position would be by no means an easy one. Nevertheless that position would mean sooner or later a new world war. It is life and death for all the Allies to secure in this war the reconstruction of a free Russian federation as powerful as was the Czarism. Several things are necessary.

"First, a fuller organization of India, which now is going on.

"Second—A firm touch with those strong elements in Russia which are anti-German to death, however socialist and revolutionary.

"Third—President Wilson's attention to the burning appeals of men like Savinkoff, Bourkeff and Kerensky, if he is indeed at hand.

"Fourth—Some action by Japan. If the Allies could not secure a move by this latter great power as a mandatory acting under a proclamation of disinterestedness their collective diplomacy would seem to be a feeble agency."

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NEARLY BILLION FOR IMPROVING RAILWAYS OF STATES IN YEAR

Washington, May 19—Director-General McAdoo has requested the expenditure of \$807,961,818 by the railways of the country for additions, betterments and equipment which will be essential during the current year to increase transportation facilities.

MEDAL PRESENTED TO BROTHER, OWNER TWO YEARS AMONG MISSING

Montreal, May 20—The distinguished conduct medal won by Lance Corporal Paul Adrien Lambert of the 22nd French-Canadian battalion, who has been missing for two years, was presented yesterday to his brother, Armand, at an open air service on Fletcher's Field, where Captain the Rev. O. Lacouture celebrated high mass and gave an address.



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