

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 5, 1916.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street over evening Sunday (except) by the St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417.

Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier \$5.00 per year, by mail \$2.00 per year in advance.

The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces.

Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, Brunswick ST. 4's.

—CHICAGO, E. J. Powers, Manager, Association B.T.'s. —MONTREAL, J. C. Ross, Board of Trade B.T.'s.

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## WHY?

Why does Lieut. Gov. Wood retain as one of his advisers a gentleman who is not a member of the legislature, and therefore not responsible to the people? Have we abandoned the principles of responsible government?

## STILL PRESSING FORWARD

The Russian advance guard is again over the Carpathians, into the plains of Hungary. The Russian forces have pierced the German lines at two places farther north, and are attacking with great vigor along most of the eastern front.

The French have captured two more German positions on the road to Peronne, and Major General Maurice declares that only German soldiers in open field formation now lie between the French and the river Somme, and the last of the defensive works in that sector have been captured. The British have not advanced as far as the French because of heavy rains, and because the Germans had massed much more strongly on the British portion of the front, not expecting so vigorous an attack from the position held by the French. However, the British have held the important gains made, and are well satisfied with the advantage thus far gained, and are making their artillery preparations to continue the great drive. The German losses have been heavy. The British and French are co-operating with a success which promises soon to make an end of trench fighting. It is, of course, a question of guns and shells, and we are assured that the supply is ample to give the Allies a continued ascendancy. The Germans continue their fruitless assaults at Verdun, but along the rest of the long line they are on the defensive, and beginning to lose ground. The outlook on the western front, as well as in the east, grows daily brighter for the Allies. The Italians continue to make gains at some points and at others to repulse with success the Austrian attacks. At no point, however, are the enveloping lines that are tightening up for "the great squeeze," are the Germans or Austrians able to record a successful movement of sufficient magnitude to give them any comfort.

Meanwhile in Germany the Socialists are growing restive, and are circulating a manifesto among the workmen, urging them to make their voices heard in protest against the bureaucracy and the war. The official German press attempts to minimize the success of the Allies, and to keep the people in a confident mood; but as the situation grows worse it will be impossible to hide the truth from them, and sooner or later a revolt against Prussianism and the evils it has brought upon the country is as certain as that the Allies will stick to their task till it is accomplished.

There is very good reason to hope that the Allied offensive will within a few weeks change the whole aspect of the war, which appears to be entering upon a new phase, with possibilities of momentous changes.

## IT ANSWERS THE STANDARD

It places the Standard to describe all critics of Sir Robert Borden as partisans and hirelings and utterly unworthy of attention. Well, the Toronto World is a Conservative paper. What does the World say? Here it is:

"Discontent with the Borden government is growing; and unless Sir Robert takes a firmer hold of things, goes in for substantial re-organization of his cabinet, frees himself from Nationalist entanglements, he will not be able to save either his government or the 'Conservative' party. The discontent in the country is even more pronounced in the rank and file of the members of the House of Commons, but so far his parliamentary supporters have not shown either appreciation of the actual conditions or been possessed of force sufficient to compel a change in them. Indecision and inaction, where there ought to be both outspoken policy and power behind it, seems to be the prevailing weakness all around. To get by the day should not be the chief end of an administration in times like these. As for his colleagues, they are equally at sea, save Sir Sam Hughes, who gets credit for treating his leader and his colleagues as he treats Sir Charles Davidson and Hartley Dewar, one of the counsel in the small arms investigation. Sir Sam seems to be the one dominating factor in the cabinet. The country might even prefer Sam Hughes and his swashbuckling to the weakness prevalent in other quarters. The war is not over, and we must reform our recruiting; the failure of Quebec to do her part may have to be endured for a time, but it should neither be unrebuked nor unrecognized. A country or a party that is afraid to tell a prime minister that he has lost his bearings, or that he must change his ways, is not worth saving in a world cataclysm like the present."

When the Standard has finished with Conservative critics of the government it will be time enough to deal with the rest.

The Russians are again so close to Lemberg that its capture appears to be only a matter of a short time.

## THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

That was a timely warning which Chief Supt. Carter gave the teachers of the province in his brief but pointed remarks on schools as social centres. It was quite evident there were some teachers present, and St. John teachers at that, who were disposed to applaud any remarks in opposition to the wider use of school buildings. To these Dr. Carter quietly observed that it would be unwise for any teacher to attempt to put any obstacle in the way of this movement, which was sweeping over the continent. That they might discourage and delay it was quite possible, but unwise. Gently but firmly the chief superintendent pointed out that the school buildings were not the property of the teachers, nor even of the trustees. The latter were the custodians, and they and not the teachers were responsible for the school property. Dr. Carter went further, and ventured the remark that for a teacher to object on the ground of a little personal inconvenience would be objecting on the very lowest ground.

There is food for thought in what he said. The citizen who is not a teacher is at a loss to know why any teacher should object to any right use by the people of their own property. Experience has shown that when the people make a wider use of the school buildings they take a greater interest in the work of the schools, and in the improvement of buildings and grounds. The testimony of school superintendents in Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, and other western Canadian cities, and of teachers in the United States, is to the effect that there is no injury to school buildings and the general effect of wider use is beneficial. There is force in Dr. Bridges' remark that the school buildings of St. John are not adapted for social centre work on any large scale. Some lack assembly rooms, and the latter where they exist are not on the ground floor; while in the class rooms generally the furniture is not adjustable or movable. We must recognize this condition of affairs. And yet there are rooms that could be used, and whenever changes are made they could be made with wider use in view, and all new buildings could be designed for social centre as well as day school work. There is an opportunity now to develop a fine playground near the Aberdeen School. How valuable it would be if all the people living near could be called together in the Aberdeen building to get them interested in a neighborhood playground for their boys. Under wise leadership an immense benefit could be derived from the more general use of the school buildings in the evening.

It is very gratifying to learn that the board of health now has both the power and the disposition to order certain tenements made fit for habitation or closed up. There are too many such tenements in this city and a vigorous campaign against them would do great good.

The Standard believes the Borden Club could find a returned soldier qualified to be its president. There is no doubt at all that to be president of a Borden Club at the present time is about as serious a job as facing a German battery. But if there are returned soldiers equal to that great task, why not make one of them secretary of the Returned Soldiers' Commission?

The Frederickton Mail observes—"The St. John Standard thinks that Mr. F. B. Carvell, M. P., and Mr. G. W. Kite, M. P., should resign their seats in parliament because of their activity in bringing certain rogues into the limelight. Every bootlegger and war profiteer in Canada heartily concurs in the Standard's expressed opinion of Messrs. Carvell and Kite." The real trouble with the Standard is that it is afraid of more exposures nearer home.

Whenever the Borden government is criticised for failure to do its duty in regard to recruiting or any other matter relating to the war, the baser sort of Tory organ makes a fiery appeal to race and religious prejudice, and makes an attack upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Whenever a criticism of Sir Sam Hughes is offered, this same sort of Tory organ makes a violent assault upon Mr. Carvell and Mr. Kite, who exposed the grafters and rake-off men. If abuse were argument, the Tory organs would long since have silenced all opposition, but the people of Canada are not deceived.

The only reason the government could have for opening Westmorland county for Hon. P. G. Mahoney again after his recent defeat would be that it hoped to be able to buy enough votes to change the result. And that would be such a reflection on the people of the constituency that one hesitates to believe that even this blundering and audacious government would have the nerve to try the experiment. Westmorland county was not for sale a few weeks ago, and it is not for sale now. The government may as well accept the situation. There is no seat in New Brunswick safe for any man whom it offers to the people.



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"It is said that is building it garage.  
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"He hasn't got one yet, but he's got an option on ten gallons of gasoline."

Then the Ice Formed  
Her—"No doubt you think I'm older than I really am."  
Him—"Not at all. I'm sure you are not as old as your look."

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"Your daughter has a wonderful voice. You ought to cultivate it."  
"What for? A voice doesn't show up in moving pictures. But I've got a boy with a funny walk, whom I expect to see drawing a thousand a week one of these days."

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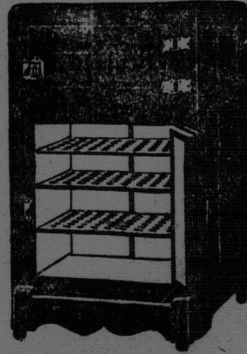
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## Capt. Bernier Off to Arctic

Sailed From Quebec on Dominion Day—Taking Supplies to His Friends the Esquimaux

Quebec, July 4.—On Dominion Day Capt. J. E. Bernier, the Canadian explorer sailed for the Arctic Islands on his own ship the Guide.

The Guide, on which this hardy explorer

er and party made his last Arctic expedition was overhauled and strengthened in the Davie dry dock. Captain Bernier expects to be away fifteen months.

Supplies for the Esquimaux will be taken. The provisions include, biscuits, flour, pork, beef, potatoes, vegetables, soups, beans, barley, peas, rice, molasses, beef extracts, sugar and canned goods.

Captain Bernier explained that many of the 8,000 Esquimaux on Baffin's Islands, who now are pleased to be called Canadians since this explorer laid claim on this new island for Canada, come to visit him and often remain for some time as his guests.

Since his first trip north Captain Bernier has become intimate with the natives who give him and his party the warmest welcome that could be expected under climatic conditions. He has developed a keen interest in their behalf and considers it a duty to bring them supplies they need most. While in the north Captain Bernier will continue his exploration work, particularly with regard to minerals. He states the country abounds with ore. Hunting and fishing will also come in for a good share of the captain's time.

On leaving this port the Guide will follow the St. Lawrence then to Strait of Belle Isle, along the coast of Greenland. The middle pack will be followed until seventy-five north.

The explorer will then cross over to the north into Pond's Inlet to Lancaster Sound. Barrow Strait, Melville Sound into the Beaufort Sea. The ice deviates, said Captain Bernier, according to climatic conditions. In the north, he continued, there is a period of good years and a series of unfavorable years. The last two years, he said, have been bad. The ice conditions are unusual and that explains the present unsettled weather we have been experiencing.

The Arctic region explorer expects to reach Baffin's Islands in a month or six weeks. Whether he will press on farther north will depend on ice conditions. It is possible Captain Bernier will meet some members of the McMillan expedition while on his way to Baffin's Islands. Referring to Shackleton's Antarctic ex-

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