

The Evening Times and Star ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 20, 1915.

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., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

THE KAISER'S BLASPHEMY

The mental processes of the Kaiser are peculiar. He still expresses confidence that God is guiding him and the German people, but is especially taking care of the house of Hohenzollern. Replying to a recent congratulatory telegram sent to him by the cabinet of Prussia, he said: "My warmest thanks to the Ministry of State for its inspiring words by which it renewed on the day of the 60th anniversary of the reign of my house over Brandenburg its vow of loyalty. In reviewing half a thousand years of Brandenburg-Prussian history, God's guidance appears to have been wonderful. Across the depths and the heights my house has been raised from the electoral hat to the imperial crown, and from a small mark to the centre of the German Empire, whose strength and power have been so brilliantly proved to friend and foe in the present war of the nations, the greatest of all times. With full humility, I acknowledge, together with the German people, that thus far the Lord has helped us. May He henceforth graciously assist us and guide the German people who stand together, united and imperturbable, ready for all sacrifices, through the dark days of severe affliction to the bright sunlight of peace; to new and vigorous work; to the road marked out by Divine Providence."

As the Kaiser has never been suspected of possessing a vein of humor, and as humor is not usually associated with alusion to Divine guidance, we must assume that he either believes what he says or hopes to be able to persuade the people to believe. Subjecting his assertions to close scrutiny, in the light of the events of this war, we get a somewhat startling revelation of his conception of God. According to the Kaiser, God marked out the pathway through Belgium, approved of the violation of treaties, regarded with favor the mutilation of children, ravishing of property, murder of old people and priests, women and children; led the Zeppelin fleets as the Israelites of old were led, guided the submarines that found the Lusitania and Anconia, approved of the murder of Miss Edith Cavell, and gave the light of His countenance to all the atrocities committed by the Germans in the last fifteen months, because thereby the Hohenzollern family might be exalted, and its enemies made its footstool. We prefer not to accept this conception of God. It belongs to an age of savagery which the world outside of Germany has outgrown. It is not now acceptable even to peoples who have not yet accepted the Christian faith. To those who do hold that faith it is utter blasphemy. Its universal acceptance would send the world reeling back again into barbarism.

And yet, if Germany is not utterly defeated, there will be no present salvation from such a faith. The future of Christianity and of modern civilization in its highest form is at stake. We know the character of the foe we are fighting and the methods by which he would rule. We know the terrible strength he still possesses, and the very grave peril which threatens humanity. This monster must be strangled or it will devour us. There is no safety in any quarter of the globe if we fall now, for nothing short of world dominion will satiate the Hohenzollern lust for power. It has been said that this is a holy war. Surely it is nothing less. And as such it summons every able-bodied man who is fit and free to join the noblest crusade since the world began.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER Sir Wilfrid Laurier at 74 commands the respect of all Canadians and enjoys the genuine affection of those who have accepted him as their leader in political affairs for so many years. Congratulations will pour in upon him today, not only from Canada, but from the mother country and other parts of the world. He has been so long an honorable and outstanding figure in Canadian public life, and his private life has been so pure, that he possesses in an unusual degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, regardless of party, race or creed. His whole attitude during the war period has been marked by a lofty patriotism. He has consistently avoided partisan discussion, and given the power of his influence without stint to the recruiting campaign in his native province. Neither in parliament nor in the country has he done anything to embarrass the government in the slightest degree in the conduct of its war policy, but instead he has heartily supported every step taken by them to strengthen the hands of the mother country and make Canada's aid more effective. This course has endeared him still more to his own party and gained for him a higher place in the ranks of imperial statesmen.

WHY THIS IGNORANCE? It is very extraordinary that after it has been shown clearly that there is ample accommodation at St. John for two or even three battalions of soldiers, Gen. Benson should inform the Mayor that there is no room here for the surplus of the 104th Battalion. Gen. Benson should know better, for they have all the information at Halifax. This matter

was brought to the attention of military headquarters both at Halifax and Ottawa, and it was supposed there would be no further misunderstanding about it, or lack of knowledge in official quarters, but St. John could provide. Mayor Prink has once more stated the case from St. John's standpoint, and he will have the support of Mr. Hasen, who also knows the facts. We may therefore assume that if St. John does not get as many troops for the winter as it can well accommodate it will be for another reason than that of ignorance on the part of the military authorities. The new phase of the discussion is the more unexpected because officials from Halifax have lately visited St. John and should have been able to inform themselves fully upon the whole subject. With the army, the exhibition buildings, and the immigration sheds on the West Side, the city is admirably provided with accommodations for at least three battalions. It would be necessary to make some expenditure in connection with the housing of a third unit, but that would have to be done wherever they went in this province.

WELL DONE IRELAND

A new Irish army division, the sixteenth, made up of Catholic Nationalists and Ulster Protestants, is ready to go to the front. There are four battalions among the officers, one being the brother of Mr. John Redmond, the Nationalist leader. The latter very properly says that this new division will be another reminder to the Kaiser of the blunder he committed when he counted on Irish hostility to England in this war. Ireland north and south has responded nobly to the call, and will continue to respond. The 16th Division may be relied on to acquit itself as bravely as did the gallant Irish Rifles at Loos, and Irish troops at other points along the battle front. It is intimated, however, that this division may go to Serbia, and nothing could be more to the taste of the Irish soldiers than to battle side by side with the heroic Serbs, who are performing such valorous deeds in the face of overwhelming numbers.

The campaign to fill the ranks of the 118th Battalion will gather new force next week. Sir Sam Hughes says there is to be no color line in Canada's armies. Will he issue an order to that effect? There are many colored men eager to enlist.

Major Winston Spencer Churchill has gone to the front. Col. Roosevelt is said to be meditating on something of the sort. Two such gallant blades would add new lustre to the annals of the war.

A vigorous attempt is to be made to rid the Mediterranean of Austrian and German submarines. They are no longer regarded as a serious menace around the shores of England. How unfortunate that St. John has not the needed elevator and other accommodations on the east side of the harbor, and the needed connection with the National Transcontinental. The latter will not be made by this time next year.

Russia is training millions of new men for service. No doubt with the aid of Japan she will be able to equip them and provide them with arms and munitions. While her strength is growing that of Germany weakens day by day.

On the subject of war profits the Halifax Recorder says: "When hundreds of thousands of our noblest and bravest are going to the front to fight for us and for our country when tens of thousands are suffering untold agonies from wounds and hardships incident to the awful business of war; when thousands are giving up their lives amid the hell-fury of battle, and while countless homes are in mourning all over the nation, while such conditions as these obtain, no man has any right to make even the average profits of peace time, still less has he any right to make excessive profits even in legitimate transactions in connection with the country's military needs. If he takes advantage of position and opportunity to reap illegal and illegitimate profits from his country, bleeding at every pore, he is guilty of the blackest treason. The books of every firm selling even a dollar's worth to the military department should be regularly examined by government representatives and all profits over a fair percentage be taken over by the government for the uses of the war. This is being done in England, and it is fair and just. The man 'who unlocks the gates of the temple of Wealth with a bloody key' is an enemy of his country and deserves to be treated as such. Let all undue profits be penalized."

Father—"Glad to see you safe back, Donald. They say London's an awful wicked place. Did you notice anything of that?" Son—"Ay, I had some awful adventures! One night I found myself in a terrible place. Why, more, the whisky was so bad, I verra nearly left it!" The cost of living in Germany has increased considerably more than half since the war began.

MADE IN CANADA BEST YEAST IN THE WORLD ROYAL YEAST CAKES

SIC TRANSIT. "Tis Greece, but living Greece no more." So sang her Poet, loving well that Helles of the days of yore, By whom the Persian despot fell, Those pulsant sword at Marathon Of his own prowess Freedom won.

He sang; she woke—to fall in pride To strive unaided—still she woke And England, Russia, France, allied Brake from her neck the Turkish Yoke; At Navarino's glorious Bay On Helles dawned a second Day.

Lo, a new curse—the Teuton bane Again rings out the trumpet call; France, Russia, England, joined again, For Freedom fight, for Greece, for all; And Greece—shall she that call ignore? Then is she living Greece no more? —Punch.

LIGHTER VEIN. Literary "Oh, I simply adore Meredith and Browning and Henry James," said a gushing young person. "So do I," said Little Binks. "They are perfectly delightful. It's like sending your mind to a gymnasium. Do you read them in the original?"

William F. McCombs says: "Several philanthropic persons were assembled at a club one evening, and conversation had gone to some length when a man who was sitting in a corner arose and broke into the chat. "Your philanthropists are all right," he remarked, "but it is only just that my six-door neighbor, Fred Watkins, should be included in the kindly disposed bunch."

"We are willing to add him to the list," responded one of the group; "but is he really so generous?" "Well, I should say he is," was the emphatic and immediate declaration. "Dossens of tramps hammer at his back door, and I have never known him to turn one down—that is, completely."

"You don't mean it?" was the astonished reply. "That's a fact," rejoined the first. "He always gives them a letter of introduction to me."

In the British army, when a soldier is confined in the guard-room for an offense a written copy of the charge is invariably handed to the commandant of the guard. The other day a non-commissioned officer and a party of men were detailed to see a soldier who was confined, having given an order, one of the men seemed disinclined to obey, when, having rebuked him sharply, he shouted in angry tones: "It's a good job for you, me lad, that I can't spell inbordination, or I'd shove you in the guard-room sharp."

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A VILLA VETERAN JOINS THE COLORS Becomes a Private in Overseas Unit at Victoria IS A CANADIAN BY BIRTH

Has Had Much Experience of Fighting and Wants More—Through 175 Skirmishes Victoria, Nov. 20—An exceptional application for admission to the ranks of the Fusiliers being recruited here has been received and accepted from Col. E. R. Stone, a man who does not look more than twenty-six and twenty-eight years of age, and yet who has seen more fighting than falls to the lot of the average individual. He held the rank of colonel in the army of Gen. Villa, the Mexican who is in rebellion against the Carranza government. His life from the age of sixteen years has been one long series of adventures. He has been through 175 skirmishes and has been wounded twice, and those, as he expresses it, "were mere scratches."

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Dr. Chase's Nerve Food Things, Col. Stone states, were getting rather slow in the turbulent republic, and he decided that he would come to Canada, enlist, and get to the continental theatre of war. As he is a Canadian, having been born at London, Ont., he felt that his proper place was with the British Empire in the great struggle now under way. Leaving Villa's forces, he crossed the line into Texas, and came

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USE THE WANT AD. WAY A civic improvement organization has promised co-operation and a large membership is assured in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa. At the preliminary conference to be held at Ottawa on the 19th inst, representatives will be present from about twenty existing associations and steps will be taken to lay the foundation of the proposed league. It is intended to have a national conference in January next to launch the movement. The general object of the league is to promote the study and advancement of the best principles and methods of civic improvement and development, and to secure a general and effective public interest in all municipal affairs. Although there are a large number of civic improvement societies in the United States there is no society or league in Canada giving attention to civic problems and many Canadians interested in municipal affairs have to look to state organizations for guidance and information. It has been considered time that some attempt was made to study municipal problems from a Canadian standpoint and the new organization will, no doubt, be of great utility in this direction. National Conference in January to Launch Movement—Towns and Cities Ottawa, Nov. 20—Promises of co-operation from Montreal, Toronto and from 400 other cities, towns and villages in Canada have been received by the Commission of Conservation following its proposal to form a civic improvement league for Canada. With such a beginning the league should develop into a large organization. Every known ex-