

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 5, 1917.

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 branch 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, Brunswick Bldg. S. CHICAGO, E. J. Powers, Manager, Association Bldg. S. MONTREAL, J. C. Ross, Board of Trade Bldg. S.

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A GRAVE SITUATION.

If anything more were needed to convince the Canadian people of the need of getting together and bending every energy to the task of war, it is surely to be found in the news from the war zone.

Last night's cables brought the news that the Canadians, after having captured an electrical station southwest of Lens and held it for eighteen hours were driven back to their former position by overpowering numbers and terrific artillery fire. We are also told that the Germans are still holding a footing they gained in an attack on a portion of the French line.

In other words, the British and French are held up by the Germans. The latter have brought up heavy reinforcements, and their lines are standing firm. The Allies are not getting through. Their need of more men and more guns is perfectly clear. The Hindenburg line is not broken, and there is no indication that it will be in the immediate future.

But we learn also that the Austrians have been attacking very heavily on the Italian front, effectively checking for the time the Italian advance. The news from Russia is still of a very unsatisfactory nature. Gen. Alexieff, the commander-in-chief has resigned. Some of the reports seem to offer encouragement, but it is evident that Russia will not be able to strike effective blows, even at the best, for some time to come; while there is still the danger that she may practically withdraw from the struggle.

In short, though today is registration day in the United States, and we are told enough men will be drafted as soon as possible after the registration to form a first army of 650,000 men, it is obvious that much terrible work will be done in Europe before an American army can be placed in the field, and that all of the Allies must put forth a supreme effort to achieve a victory which Germany and Austria are still boasting will never be won over them. The people of Canada, therefore must get together to do their part, or stand shamed before the world. In the face of the facts and they are presented in the war news from day to day, the mere political partisan should be treated as an accomplice of the Hun.

CIVIC TAXATION.

That the land tax is growing in favor as a means of raising revenue appears from the following extract from an article on civic revenue published in Saturday's Toronto Globe:

"The sale of land brings it nearer to the user. If any distinction were made, the man who holds should be taxed more heavily than the man who sells. But no distinction should be made. The entire value of land is an unearned increment, a most unfortunately chosen name. The value is the rental or site advantage capitalized. Land taxation does not discourage enterprise or any form of production, but it discourages idle holding, the greatest obstacle to industry. A tax on houses makes them dearer, because it increases the gross cost of production and lessens competition in houses. A tax on land makes it cheaper because it discourages idle holding, and thus increases the available supply. The choice between a land tax and a buildings tax is a choice between a stimulating and an obstructive tax. A land tax is not an added burden on industry, because it is merely the diversion of rentals from private to public collectors. This issue has been a familiar theme for public discussion during the past thirty years, and a lack of understanding is no longer pardonable on the part of any man assuming the duties of an alderman."

AFTER WAR CHANGES.

The Liberator, the organ of the New Zealand Land Values League, believes the great war will have a radical effect upon the whole question of land ownership and the spread of the single tax idea. It quotes some remarks made by Lord Northcliffe after the battle front. He reports a conversation with a young sergeant who had been a gamekeeper at home, and a working Conservative. Said the sergeant:

"The men in the dugouts talk of a good many subjects, but there is one on which they are all agreed. That is the land question. They are not going back as laborers, or as tenants, but as owners. Lots of them have used their eyes and learned much about small farming here." So, again, a wounded man in hospital—"Many will go to Canada; some to Australia, I dare say; but I am one of those who mean to have a little bit of 'blighty' for myself. We see enough in France to know that a man and his family can manage a bit of land for themselves, and live well on it." Strange, comments the Liberator, there seems nothing in this to shock the Tory Northcliffe. He says—

"I wonder if people and politicians at home are beginning to understand that the bravery and camaraderies of the officers and men in the field have broken down all class feelings, and that our millions of men at the war are changed communities, of whose thoughts and feelings we know but little. Just as Grant's soldiers, the Grand Army of the

Republic, dominated the elections in the United States for a quarter of a century, so will the men I have seen in the trenches and the ambulances come home and demand by their votes the reward of a very changed England—an England they will fashion and share; an England that is likely to be as much a surprise to the present holders of capital and leaders of labor as it may be to the owners of the land."

As to the manner in which the dream of the soldiers will be made to come true, the Liberator believes it can only be done through the medium of the single tax. It says:—

"These five million men, with their dependents, represent nearly half the nation. They will return to their own land not as laborers, nor as tenants, but as owners. Their claim is paramount. Henceforth they will pay tribute to no man for permission to live and labor. They will not repeat the mistakes made by the French revolutionists a hundred years ago by attempting the impossible task of dividing the land itself. The land is theirs, the state will collect their rent, as their representative, for public purposes, instead of the present multiplicity of unjust and injurious taxes. In no other way can the ideas of the men referred to by Lord Northcliffe be realized, and an equal right to use and occupy their own land be secured to every man. The remarks we quote from Lord Northcliffe would hardly have been possible thirty, or even twenty, years ago. Life in the trenches has opened our men's eyes to the real problems of tomorrow, and they are preparing to tackle them."

Whatever may be the views of the returned soldier in regard to the single tax, it may as well be taken for granted that he will have, and rightly so, a good deal to say about public matters, and a very strong influence upon the trend of national affairs. Having fought the enemy of his country abroad he will not be easily shackled at home. The danger is that he may be misled by the self-seeking politician, who would as cheerfully exploit the man who had done his fighting for him as the profiteer has fattened himself on the agony of the nation. His experiences since he enlisted have given the soldier a new point of view, and he will not be very patient with the glaring inequalities of the present social system. If in England he makes it interesting alike for the capitalist, the labor leader and the landowner, he will in Canada make the politician, the political profiteer more difficult, and insist that many wrongs be righted. Among these may well be the exploitation in any direction of the man for the benefit of the few.

There are some devoted followers of the late provincial government who derive much comfort from the expectation that Hon. Mr. Murray, provincial secretary, and Mr. Dymally will have to resign because disqualified under the law relating to elections. Well, here is a section of the act:—"No person holding or accepting any office, commission or appointment in the service of the government of the Dominion of Canada, with a salary or emoluments directly or indirectly attached thereto, by whomsoever paid or allowed, or however payable, shall be capable of being elected to or sitting and voting in the legislative assembly while holding such office, commission or appointment." In the Dominion Auditor General's report for 1915-16, we find this entry under the heading "legal expenses and taxed costs":—"J. B. Baxter, St. John, \$871.04." Is Mr. Baxter in the same boat with Mr. Murray and Mr. Dymally?

A large delegation will go up from the city to Fredericton tomorrow in the interests of woman suffrage. The bill introduced is not a government measure, and there will be no partisanship in the discussion. The bill ought to pass. All western Canada has given women the franchise.

The statement of provincial finances published today has to do only with the transactions of six months, and the Standard tries to break its force by saying that the receipts for the other six months will be much greater. This does not dispose of Mr. B. Frank Smith's methods of high finance. The province is in a very bad way financially, and this will be the more apparent when a proper balance sheet showing the financial situation in full has been completed and published. The change of government did not come nearly soon enough. The government of the day is handicapped at every turn by the reckless extravagance of its predecessor.

Since Mr. F. B. Carvell declared himself favorable to coalition he has received honorable mention in a Tory newspaper—not, of course, the St. John Standard. Mr. Carvell has some work to do in connection with New Brunswick affairs which the Standard does not relish.

Suffragette—"I defy anyone to name a field of endeavor in which men do not receive more consideration than women." A Voice from the crowd—"What about the ballet?"



LIGHTER VEIN.

Severe Treatment.
Howell—Why did Rowell allow himself to die of starvation?
Powell—He said that he wouldn't humor his stomach any longer, as it was getting to be a regular graffer.

Nothing Personal.

She—It is the duty of every woman to keep young as long as possible.
He—Yes, but the great trouble is that so many women insist on keeping young after it's impossible.

Unanimous.

The Ballad Singer—That's why I wish again I was in Michigan.
A Voice from the Audience—Every one wishes the same.

Drug Store Episode.

"I can't sell you whisky without a doctor's prescription."
"Then why do you advertise pickling materials?" demanded the irate customer.

Get Careless.

"A man who never made a mistake never made anything," said the Wise One.
"Yes," agreed the Boob. "But a lot of claps who believe in that get careless and never make anything but mistakes."

Mrs. Megson (not pleased with supplies)—"Have you any sugar you sold me on Monday left?"
The Grocer—"Oh, yes, Mum; plenty. How much would you like?"
Mrs. Megson—"None!"

"Yes," said the prosy visitor, "your daughter is now standing with reluctant feet where the brook and river meet."
"What's that?" spoke up the girl's mother. "I told her to keep away from damp spots."



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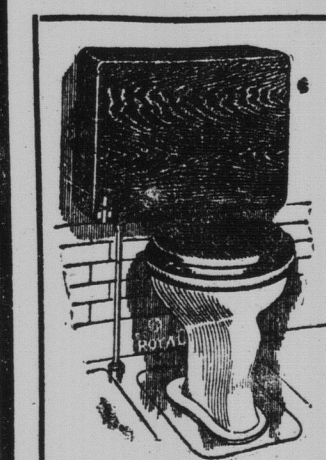
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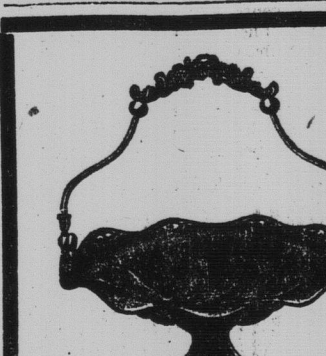
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War Will Last Several Years?

Lord Northcliffe Gives Reasons for Belief

Has Been Right Before

Thinks Germans Fighting For Lives, Can Last Long Time—We Must Fight in Same Way

More than a year ago, a prominent soldier, returning wounded, replied to the question of a bore as to the length of the war: "Well, I don't know how long it will last, but I think the first seven years will be the worst." At the time the remark was made the proper answer was, "Har, har!" Now, there is another answer. Several authorities are predicting that the war will last for two or three years more. The latest of them is Lord Northcliffe, who has been astonishingly correct as regards the development of the war in many phases. He thinks the war will continue for some time yet. In an article he contributed for the New York Tribune he makes a comparison with the American Civil War. He says that in that conflict both sides were unequal, and that it continued for four years. At the outset it was expected by some optimists to last for six weeks. He argues that the measure of preparedness is to be considered when the probable length of the war is being discussed. In other words, if the unprepared South, against tremendous odds, could last for four years, how long can Germany hold out, having prepared for forty years? Northcliffe's Experience.

When Lord Northcliffe writes for American readers a reasonable discount is necessary. He loves American readers, which is natural for any writer. He also wants American readers to love him, and in the process he will not spare his own countrymen. On the whole, Lord Northcliffe is doing a good work in the United States through the medium of the papers

Could Not Lift Stick of Wood

Would Almost Faint From Severe Pain in Back—Doctors Could Not Get the Kidneys Set Right

Benton, N. B., June 5.—A great many people suffer the results of deranged kidneys and do not understand the cause of trouble or the way to obtain cure. The writer of this letter suffered excruciating pains in the back and in vain his physician tried to cure him. For some reason or other his medicines did not have the desired effect.

Mr. Olt's brother was a merchant selling, among other medicines, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and he heard his customers telling about how they were cured of kidney derangements by their use. This led Mr. Olt's putting them to the test, with the splendid results reported in this letter.

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Dr. Howard James, formerly Resident Physician of a New York City Hospital and Assistant Physician of the Manhattan State Hospital of New York, Says:

"Iron is absolutely necessary to enable your blood to change food into living tissue. Without it, no matter how much or what you eat, your food merely passes through you without doing you any good. You don't get the strength out of it, and as a consequence you become weak, pale and sickly looking, just like a plant trying to grow in a soil deficient in iron. A patient of mine remarked to me (after having been on a six weeks' course of Nuxated Iron), 'Say, Doctor, that stuff is like magic!'"

"If you are not strong or well you owe it to yourself to make the following test: See how long you can walk now. Then take two five-grain tablets of nuxated iron three times per day after meals for two weeks. Then test your strength again and see how much you have gained. From my own experience with Nuxated

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which carry his opinions to the nation. Two years ago his papers were thrown out of clubs and hotels; he was burned in effigy, and was for a few weeks a common sight in the streets of London. Events proved that his criticism of the British administration was right. His papers were restored to publication. Soon it became apparent that his criticism had been well-founded. Suggestions he had made were adopted. So, if today or tomorrow these methods fail, he will not hesitate to speak as frankly to the American public as he has spoken to the British public.

A Long War, Says Northcliffe.

He looks for a long war. He says that three great events of the war to date have been the wonderful defence put up by France, the entrance of five British nations into the war on the side of England—Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the minor colonies and India—and the slow arousing of the United States and its entry into the fray. He says in reference to the submarine campaign, that in England they do not take it seriously enough, and that in the United States they take it too seriously. He contends that the submarine cannot win the war. He compared it with the thrust upon Cuba and the attack upon Paris.

A Series of Wars.

Lord Northcliffe says that the war is just one of a series of wars. The submarine campaign he considers a mere phase, and he does not believe that it can achieve anything. Already it has produced a revolution in Russia, an upheaval compared with which the French revolution was a tremor. He believes that other upheavals will follow and that revolutions will continue to accompany the war to the end. In his view it is impossible to conceive of a world without political revolutions in the wake of the present one. He believes, too, what most of us believe, that one of the results of the struggle will be an improvement in the condition of the working classes. They will be contented no longer to accept the wages that were offered them

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F. King, M.D.

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NOTE: NUXATED IRON recommended above by Dr. King can be obtained from any good druggist, with or without a physician's prescription, on an absolute guarantee of success or money refunded. It is dispensed in this city by Wasson's Drug Store, and all good druggists.

Northcliffe. We in Canada have not yet come to this pass. We are fighting for our country, or for our honor, or for democracy, or for representation by population, for for the greatest good of the greatest number, or for some other noble abstraction. We fight well for them. Do we fight as we would fight for our lives? That is how Germany is fighting and we have to fight the way Germany is fighting before we can beat Germany!

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