

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JULY 30, 1917.

"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.

A SINCERE COMPLIMENT.

IT IS VENTURE TO SAY THAT, SO FAR AS CLEARNESS OF MOTIVE IS CONCERNED, SO FAR AS DETERMINATION IS CONCERNED, SO FAR AS WORKING IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON, DAY AND NIGHT, WITH A SINGLE EYE TO VICTORY, FOR THE GREAT PRINCIPLES THAT ARE AT STAKE UPON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF EUROPE TODAY, THERE IS NO MAN IN CANADA WHO IS FIT TO STAND IN THE SAME COMPANY AS MY RIGHT HONORABLE FRIEND THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Extract from the great speech delivered by Dr. Michael Clark, Liberal member for Red Deer, Alberta, in the debate following Sir Robert Borden's motion for an extension of the parliamentary term.

THE HUNS AND AIR REPRISALS.

When airplanes of an enemy power swarm over a city and deliberately drop bombs on the roof of a hospital which bore the Red Cross, marked so plainly that the airman could not but see it, it is easy to understand why there should be demands on the part of the British people for reprisals of a character which will cause the Germans to realize that, if they want to the British and French can play as well as the Hun at the game of murder from the heavens.

German airplanes visited Paris yesterday and, flying low, selected hospital as the targets for their bombs. There was loss of life and destruction of property, but the marauders did not escape unscathed for the French air service which has already proved the superiority of the Germans on every occasion when opportunity offered for fair fight, was ready for the visitors and took heavy toll of them.

There has been an ethical objection to anything in the nature of reprisal for the German air activity. The air men of the Allies have confined their attention to munition plants, railways and strategic points by the destruction of which some military advantage would be gained. They have never stooped to the bombardment of unprotected towns or the murder of helpless non-combatants. But there comes a time when patience ceases to be a virtue and it has already been abundantly demonstrated that any course the Allies may choose to adopt against their foes has been justified by deeds of unexampled brutality. Already there have been reprisals in the matter of gas, the Allies using a gas of great power as a preparation for their attacks on German positions. Why should they not give Germany a taste of her own medicine in the air?

Our newest ally, the United States, evidently does not intend to allow the Hun to have it all his own way. Great preparations are being made to build up an air service sufficiently powerful to cope with anything Germany may do and while the vote for the purpose has engendered a bitter controversy in Congress there is little doubt but that the plan will be carried out in its entirety. American citizens are also commencing to appreciate the necessity of fighting Germany with her own weapons and in her own way. Thus it is that Sigmund Saxe, a wealthy resident of New York, has offered a \$10,000 Liberty bond as a prize to the first American aviator who succeeds in dropping bombs on Berlin.

The opinion in regard to treating the Huns to their own tactics is gradually changing. The war is now dragging to the close of the third year and Germany is fighting with more brutality than ever. She has disregarded every convention of warfare and consequently is not entitled to consideration from her enemies. If it should happen that Allied aviators should appear over Berlin and damage that capital to the extent London and Paris have been damaged by German aerial visitors, there would be some to cry "shame" and to talk of the inhumanity of the proceeding—but there would be ten thousand times as many who would read with interest the account of such an air raid and their only comment would be summed up in these words, "It serves them right."

GERMANY'S TIGHT BELT.

Chancellor Michaelis in his recent address to the Reichstag made two significant statements touching Germany's food supplies. He spoke of the bitterness between rural and urban communities. This was doubtless due to the suspicion in the towns and cities that the farmers were holding back food or were obtaining an undue share. He also said the present month was the worst that Germany had experienced. But he was hopeful

that the on-coming crops would bring relief.

The margin in Germany between a food supply sufficient to barely sustain the population and actual starvation is probably narrow. Herr Erberger says Germany did not calculate upon America withholding supplies from the neutrals contiguous to Germany, and he seems to regard this move upon the part of Washington as fraught with the most serious consequences.

As far back as 1915, in the first year of the war, Germany began the practice of confiscation of food. Her government has handled the food supplies rigorously. Waste has been long ago reduced to a minimum, we can be satisfied.

Germany was a large importer of food previous to the war. Between twenty and thirty per cent. of her foodstuffs came from abroad. Her imports of cattle were as many as 10,000,000 head, and her importation of grain exceeded 60,000,000 bushels. All this was despite the lavish use of artificial fertilizers, which themselves had to be imported.

The young men have had to be called up from the farms in vast numbers, and their places have been taken by women and prisoners of war. Necessarily agriculture has suffered in consequence.

These facts lead to the conclusion that food conditions in Germany are not far from desperate.

We are wont to enlarge upon our own troubles, and those of the Entente nations. Let us keep in mind the important fact that the process of wearing down Germany, naturally reflected in our own conditions, is now three years under way, and that it inevitably is making a terrible impression upon the enemy. How much longer Germany may be able to hold out is problematical. But as Lloyd George says, even a harvest failure in 1918 would only reduce the British nation to conditions which Germany has been enduring for two years.

AN INTERESTING POSSIBILITY.

A cable from London states that Pemberton Billing, M. P., angered at a remark made in the House of Commons by Major Archer Shee, M. P., promptly challenged the Major to a twenty-round go with the gloves at the National Sporting Club, the "gate" and a wager of one hundred guineas to go to the Red Cross fund.

How interesting it would be if Canadian statesmen should decide to emulate the example set by the gentlemen of the British Commons. If so, while the result might be deplorable and undignified, it would at least tend to make the Canadian capital a much more interesting centre than it now is when most of the combatting is done with the maxillary instead of the clenched fist. If Canadian members

should decide to take verbal compliments as seriously as their British counterparts the debates of the present session have afforded ample excuse for half a dozen bouts which, for intensity, would put the Shee-Billing exhibition to shame. For instance, how enthusiastically Dr. Michael Clark and Mr. Rodolphe Lemieux would mix it on the volleys of words surrounding the present home of the Canadian Parliament, how Dr. Edwards of Frontenac would rejoice at the opportunity of pulling the whiskers of our own Mr. Pugsley, and how gleefully Col. Archibald of Farry Sound would send challenges broadcast to any of the anti-conscriptors of Quebec. One can easily imagine Mr. W. G. Welch and Mr. Alphonse Verville in grips, and what a prime mauling match could be provided by Col. Currie and Mr. Kyle of Cape Breton.

In fact, the British precedent affords no end of possibilities, only it might be necessary to appoint a fistic expert as Speaker of the House and a group of sporting editors to the desks now occupied by Hansard representatives. It is not likely, however, that the bellicose attitude of Major Shee and Mr. Pemberton Billing will arouse more than a mild interest among our legislators. In this country they do things with much more dignity, and while some might like to resort to the argument of physical force to prove their contentions, it is more probable that they will remember the dignity attaching to their membership in the Canadian House of Commons.

NO PEACE UNTIL ENTENTE ALLIES RENOUNCE IDEAS OF CONQUEST

(Continued from page 1)

Brian was the object of stormy attacks during the secret session; that Premier Ribot was obliged to produce the secret treaty in response to the demand of M. Renaudel (leader of the majority Socialists in the French chamber), and also that M. Briand, in the course of the excited debate which ensued, declared that revolutionary Russia was obliged to carry out what imperial Russia had promised and that it did not matter to France what was said by the lowest classes in Russia.

Obstacles to Peace.

It is characteristic that Deputy Moutet, according to his own statement, replied in Russian to the question whether Alsace-Lorraine was the only obstacle to peace, by saying he could not answer the question in that form, and that Russia ought to take into consideration the fact that the Russian revolution had been purchased by French blood.

The admission of Deputies Cochlin and Moutet that the Russian reports had declared in the course of the negotiations that they attached no importance to Constantinople, throws clear light on Russian sentiment. The delegates from the Russian armies also are in agreement with this.

Regardless of this manifest proof of the revulsion of the Russian peoples against a policy of aggrandizement, Premier Ribot refused, in the secret session of the French chamber, to undertake any revision of the French war aims, and announced the fact that Italy also had received guarantees of great territorial aggrandizements.

On the Rhine.

In order to divert their ambitions on the left bank of the Rhine of a character of greed and conquest, he resorted to the lawyer's trick by declaring the necessity of creating a buffer state, but the opposition speakers cried out, in the din of contradictions, "It is disgraceful!"

"I would like also to mention that Premier Ribot, after a pacifist speech

Little Benny's Note Book.

The Boy Who Yelled Wolf.

A Play.

Scene, up a hill.

Boy, G. I wish I had something to do besides minding these sheep. Wat funs minding sheep? No fun. I wish I was a fireman or a cowboy or a man that climbs up electric lite poles or a detective or something.

The sheep. Baaa.

Boy. I wonder wat those men down there on the farm wood do if I yelled wolf. I got a good mind to yell it and find out. Wolf! Wolf! Wolf! Help! Wolf!

Men. (running up with their pitch forks) Ware? Ware?

Boy. It wasn't a wolf, it was a little dawg. I made a mistake.

Ha ha ha!

Men (going back to work) O heck!

Boy. That's a good one on them, all rite. I think Ill try it agen.

Help! Wolf! Wolf!

Men. (running up agen) Ware? Ware?

Boy. No ware. I made another mistake. It was ony a ant. Ha ha!

Men (going back to work) If that kid thinks hes funny, hes the ony one that thinks so.

Wolf. Hurray! Sheep!

Boy. (Climbing up a tree) G! Help! Wolf! Hay! Wolf!

Men. (keeping on working) You can fool some of the people all of the time, but not us.

Wolf. These are pretty good sheep.

Boy. (still up a tree) Darn it!

The end.

by Deputy Augagneur, replied that the Russian generals had declared that the Russian armies never were in better condition or better equipped than then. Here in perfect clearness is the desire to let the Russians go on shedding their blood in behalf of the unjust ambitions of France.

"This desire had been fulfilled, but not as Premier Ribot anticipated, for we can hardly presume he had such an absolute lack of humanity as that, though foreseeing the failure of the Russian offensive he yet insisted upon it, thinking it would give another respite, pending the entry of America into the war.

Reunions Conquest idea.

"The enemy press endeavors to force upon my inaugural speech the interpretation that I only consented to the majority resolution with an ill-concealed reservation of Germany's desires for conquest. I am obliged to deny the imputation as to an object of France no doubt. Besides, the resolution implies—which is quite clear—that the enemy must also renounce any ideas of conquest."

Dr. Michaelis said that it was manifest Germany's enemies were not in the least considering such denunciation, and that the French meeting held in secret was trash proof that her enemies were responsible for the prolongation of the war, and were actuated by lust of conquest.

The conspicuousness of the justice of our defensive war," the chancellor concluded, "will steel our strength and determination in the future."

FUNERALS.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon of Mrs. Mary J. Kelley, widow of John Kelley, from her late residence, 86 Burpee avenue. The service was conducted by Rev. A. D. Archibald, of Picou, N. S. Rev. George P. Dawson and Rev. Hammond Johnson, Interment was made in Fernhill. Among the floral tributes were a basket of flowers from the officers of Hibernia Masonic Lodge, of which Mrs. Kelley's three sons are members, and a wreath from the Daily Telegraph composing staff.

FEAST OF SAINT ALPHONSUS.

The feast of Saint Alphonus will be held on Thursday next and Joseph O'Hara and Edward Howard, two young men of this city will become members of the congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. This impressive ceremony will take place at the Redemptorist Fathers novitiate in Ilchester, Md.

Two other St. John boys, Arthur Conlogue and Harry McGuire, will take the habit of the congregation and will enter upon a novitiate at the end of the year. They left for Ilchester Friday evening.

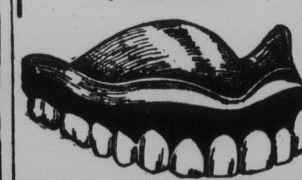
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