

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1915.

"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.

## THE PROHIBITION PROBLEM.

J. G. Shearer, social service expert of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in the course of an address of more than ordinary power and persuasiveness delivered before a mass meeting of Presbyterians and their friends at St. Andrew's church recently, declared that over and above the 19 millions of dollars which Canada annually derived from the liquor traffic, that traffic costs the country the sum of 162 millions of dollars, or enough to pay the entire 150 millions of dollars already voted for the war and 12 millions to the good; and then he rather startled the majority of his hearers by asserting that every year in this Canada of ours an army of at least 6,000 died as the result of over-indulgence in alcohol, while in Great Britain there were 60,000 deaths due to the same cause.

The remark was made by a prominent citizen who heard Dr. Shearer's address that "he discussed this question rather as a scientific economist than as a temperance reformer and that his calm dispassionate presentation of these facts could not be otherwise than convincing."

There is no doubt but that the war is impressing its influence upon the world in every circle of social and national life and there are none to be found throughout the Empire who will question the conduct of the King and of those other leaders who have voluntarily, for the time being, banished all intoxicating liquors from their households.

Nor is the wisdom and practical utility of the Government of Russia, in prohibiting the sale of vodka questioned as a measure of military efficiency, even though that action has cost Russia 500,000,000 dollars a year in revenue, for by it that nation has actually increased her industrial efficiency by anywhere from 30 to 40 per cent, and all without feeding one additional man.

All of this seems to make out a fairly strong case in favor of prohibition and there are those to be found both in Canada and England who cannot see why a general prohibitory law should not forthwith be enacted. On the other hand there are those who hesitate to go so far, and among such are to be found men whose national and social conscience it is impossible to question.

Only the other day the Archbishop of York speaking at the York Convocation deprecated the introduction during the war of a great scheme of temperance reform lest when that measure of prohibition were removed there would inevitably be "real and regrettable intemperance."

The Lower House of Convocation accepted the resolution against total prohibition offered by the Dean of Manchester which read as follows: "Resolved that this house while wishing to support all measures as may, in the opinion of the government, be necessary for the strength and safety of the nation in time of war, would look with anxiety upon the total prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks."

It seems therefore to be plain that notwithstanding the facts and figures quoted, which are not disputed so far as we have heard, there is still to be found among the ranks of those men who direct the morals of the nation considerable diversity of opinion as to those governmental measures which being adopted may best contribute to a wholesome national life. When the nation really wants prohibition the nation knows that it can have it.

## THE SOLDIER HEROES.

Day after day the awful fact of war is being brought home to our Canadian people by the lengthening list of casualties among our soldier boys who have fearlessly devoted themselves for the Empire and all that is represented by it to the world.

Men fought side by side with them to whom war was no new task—men who had followed the bugles of Old England through many a desperate hall of bullets and shrapnel; but among them all there were none found who knew better than our own lads how to charge like men and to die like heroes.

There has too often been a disposition to criticize the frolicsomeness of our soldier boys while they were still with us here, and perhaps they were

surely it is even more reprehensible, when there is no election in sight to indulge in dirty political sniping at a Government which is doing its very best to meet the needs of the case.

Liberal members in the House of Commons have given ample justification for an appeal to the people. The political complexion of the Senate and the fact that it can nullify and render of no value practically all the legislation of the House of Commons, provides another equally good reason why Sir Robert Borden should submit his plans and policies for the approval and sanction of the people if he wishes to do so. It rests with the premier to say whether or not there shall be an election and the general opinion of the people of Canada who have followed his wise, prudent and statesmanlike course during the past four years will be that whatever is done it will be sincerely and earnestly in the interests not only of the Conservative party but of the whole of Canada.

The following extracts from a letter received last evening by the editor of this newspaper are self-explanatory: "I wish you would censure the Times tonight, for their senseless sensational headlines concerning the shelling of a Canadian Ambulance by the Germans. I have three sons with the colors, one of them with an ambulance corps which has been in the very thick of the recent battles in France and when I arrived home this evening I found my wife on the verge of hysterics. It is too bad that such cheap sensationalism cannot be eliminated in the featuring of the news when our own boys are concerned. No doubt there are others mothers in town tonight who have had a similar experience, if not worse, but perhaps it is too much to expect the Times to use even a little judgment."

In the Provincial Legislature yesterday Attorney-General Baxter had occasion to rebuke the Telegraph for misrepresentation of his remarks of the day before. Mr. Baxter had good cause for complaint but so, also, has practically every other man of prominence in the Conservative party, for misrepresentation has for years been the "long suit" of the Morning Ananias.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MONTREAL MEN KILLED IN BATTLE

Montreal, April 30.—Memorial services for the Montreal soldiers killed at Langemark were held today in Christ Church Cathedral, Emmanuel Congregational Church, St. James' Methodist Church, Crescent street Presbyterian Church and St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church. All the services were largely attended.

## MRS. LAVINIA MCKNIGHT.

Marriott, Kings Co., N. B., April 26.—The death occurred on Saturday morning the 24th inst., at her home in Marriott of Mrs. Lavinia McKnight. For some time she has suffered from heart trouble, but two weeks ago she was stricken with congestion of the lungs to which she succumbed.

She was born at Head of Millstream 69 years ago. Fifty-one years ago she married William McKnight, of Marriott, who predeceased her nineteen months ago. She had a family of fourteen children, nine of which survive her. The sons are: David W., of Berwick; Wm. A., and Samuel J., of Marriott; Charles, John and Edwin at home. The daughters are: Miss Annie A., at home; Mrs. Jas. R. Gamblin and Mrs. Wiley Birney, of Marriott. One brother and one sister also survive—Alfred Taylor, of Littleton, Maine; Mrs. Mary Baldwin, of Head of Millstream. Joining with

## Doctor Said She Had Bright's Disease.

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## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

Me and Sid Hunt was wawking slawing today and we saw a kid come down sum frunt steps with a violin case, beeing a little kid with glassis awn his face and brown stockings his legs, and I sed, Say, kid, wats you got in thare.

My violin is in heer, sed the kid. G wat do you know about that, he plays awn a violin, said Sid Hunt. You cant play on it for reel, can you, I sed.

Yes I can, to, I take 2 lessins evvry weak, sed the kid.

Wat can you play awn it, regular toons, I sed. I can play evvthing thats in my lessin book, sed the kid.

G, I dont bleeve it, I dare you to take yure violin out and play sumthing rite now, said Sid Hunt.

Wat, rite out hear awn the pavement, sed the kid. Sure, I dare you, sed Sid Hunt. I dubbel dare you, I sed.

Il show you weathir I can play or not, sed the kid. And wat did he do but open his violin case and take violin out and start to play sumthing soundung funny, but pritty good for a kid that siz with glassis and brown stockings, and sum moar of the fellos startid to kum up, and the kid keep awn playing the violin, and aftir a while thare was about 8 fellos standing around him and yelling, Herryay, herryay.

Cheese it, thares his mothir, seds Puds Simms. wien jest then the parlor window opened and a lady stuck her hed out, saying, Harrid, have you taken levee of yure sents, wat did you suppose the naybers will think, giving a side show to a lot of ruff boys out awn the pavement, now you go and take yure musick lessin immedittly.

Yes mam, sed the kid. And he put the violin back in the case and went away and the lady shut the window agen, and Sam Krawas sed, Hey, fellas, she sed we was a lot of ruff boys, lets ring her doorbell and run.

Wich we did.

these in their sorrow are many relatives and friends, by whom she will be greatly missed, as she was never too busy to attend those about her in sorrow or distress.

Interment took place at the Baptist cemetery, Kelstead Mountain, on Sunday afternoon. Services were conducted by the Rev. L. J. Tingley. The sons acted as pall-bearers.

An English officer recently home from France on a few hours' leave gives an account of the work done by one of the sentry dogs: "One dark night I took out the dog on patrol duty in front of our trenches near the German wire. Their trenches were 400 to 500 yards from ours. We moved along for some time and saw nothing. Suddenly the dog, who was working a little to the left front, stopped dead, pointed, and gave a low growl. We immediately lay motionless on the ground. Two Germans rose up as if out of the ground in front of us and were immediately bayoneted by our men. The dog had discovered two German sentries in a new sap of which we knew nothing, and except for the dog, we would never have known the Germans were there."

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