

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 1918.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—M. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

## MORE STIRRING WAR NEWS.

The month of August to date is one of the most glorious for the Allied arms in more than four years of the nighty world conflict, and marks the most encouraging beginning of any of the years of warfare. Should the Spanish armies progress during the remainder of the present fighting season at the same wonderful rate of progress they have set this month, the beginning of the end may be in sight at the close of the year, if indeed it does not appear before. Much hard fighting remains to be encountered, however, and many losses have yet to be met before the invader is driven from the soil of Belgium and France, but that happy time is rapidly approaching. Even now the Boche has been forced almost back to the old Hindenburg line in the northern battle zone, and the French are menacing the enemy's great base, the Chemin des Dames. To prevent dire disaster there has been forced to throw large numbers of troops along the French front on the Oise and Aisne, and some severe fighting is in progress. The British in the northern zone are also meeting stiffer resistance. Field Marshal Haig's men during the past two days have made rapid progress, capturing the towns of Bray and Bapaume, the latter an important railroad junction centre, and a score of villages. The town of Noyon is expected to fall at any moment.

The intention has been attributed to Ludendorff of carrying out a gradual strategic retreat on the west, avoiding battle as far as possible in the hope that winter will cut short the Allied campaign before serious damage is done. He is finding such a plan very difficult to carry out for Foch is keeping his whole front alive, forcing him to defend himself at points where he planned to retreat, and retreat in places where he would like to hold covering positions.

Ludendorff fears that Foch is reserving the Americans for a coup de grace and dreads the moment when his flagging army is set upon by fresh legions.

Foch is following military tradition by keeping back his freshest troops as long as possible and however painful his whole front is, he still more dreads the sting which he knows lies in the tail of the Allied line eastward from Soissons.

As Mangin's advance between the Aisne and the Aisne cuts up the high ground north of Soissons the Germans must decide either to retreat from their positions further east or remain and fight on the River Vesle. Either course involves great danger to him, for the Allies are continually bombing the German positions across the Aisne and either to fight or to retreat with an unbridled river in the rear might mean disaster.

## SPAIN'S MEENESS OF SPIRIT.

The "haughty Dona of Spain," once much favored by the poet as examples of high spirit and courage, are not "living up to advance notices." For the Spanish nation, in the zeal with which it endeavors to keep out of the war, has certainly demonstrated to the world that for patient long suffering and docile submission to affront and injury the country that popularized the bull-ring and the mandolin is in a class by itself. The official Spanish check has been soundly slapped by the Hun again and again but, always smiling, the haughty Spaniard has returned for more. Up to date Spain has succeeded in remaining out of the war but at a price in indignity and insult that other nations, traditionally less proud, would hesitate to pay.

The peculiar part of the Spanish-German attitude is that the excessive docility has been a one-sided affair. Madrid's patience has been heralded in Berlin as a sign of weakness and the bullies of Potsdam have acted true to their colors. Spain has been at peace with Germany but to all intents and purposes Germany has been at war with Spain. German submarine commanders have not hesitated to attack and sink Spanish merchant vessels on the high seas. The lives of Spain's subjects have been held cheaply. Even in the territorial waters of Spain Germany has wrought her own sweet will while in Spanish ports German manufacturers have set up their plants, manufactured their products and shipped them to the world falsely labelled as the output of Spanish enterprise. More often than not the words "made in Spain," appearing on any Spanish product today really mean "made by Germany."

Spain has interested German submarines but they have put to sea again to continue their career of piracy with a contemptuous disregard as to whether the Spaniards would or would not approve.

of the action. Spain has put up with it all and it has even been hinted that King Alfonso might attempt to act as peacemaker between the warring nations. Recent events, however, seem to indicate that at least the Dona has his fighting blood up and after all Spain may take her place on the field with nations that regard national respect for honor as something worth enforcement by arms. Possibly developments on the western front have stiffened the Spanish backbone and have had something to do with the new note struck by the government at Madrid in its most recent communication to Berlin.

A Paris despatch, based upon the statement of "a high political personage" in Spain, describes the newest Spanish note as an ultimatum. This personage is quoted as saying that "We regard it a very natural duty for the government to protest energetically concerning every case of torpedoing our merchant fleet and, if Germany does not give the satisfaction due, we should reach the position which the country's honor calls for." As previous protests have not resulted in "the satisfaction due," and as there is no prospect of any change so far as Germany is concerned, it looks as if the Spanish Government would have to "reach the position which the country's honor calls for." For the present the proposal is to seize ship for ship from among the German vessels interned in Spain, a course which might recoup the Spanish people for tonnage destroyed, but which will hardly meet the situation described by the high political personage.

## A PROGRESSIVE POLICY.

The successful launching of the War Fundy on Saturday, coupled with the statement made by Hon. F. B. Carvell to The Standard on Friday evening, to the effect that any company which demonstrated possession of the financial and technical ability to make a success of the undertaking could get government contracts for ships, naturally directs attention to the success that has already attended the Union Government's programme of shipbuilding.

The Government's shipbuilding policy has been one of its most notable achievements. At the present time Government vessels are under construction in not less than fifteen Canadian yards and it is expected there will be launched this year not less than 450,000 tons of shipping, consisting of 53 steel and 59 wooden vessels. These ships will be owned and operated by the State, which will give Canada at the end of the year a great public owned merchant marine, well able to operate in conjunction with the Canadian Government railway systems.

It is understood that the cargo boats to be built will be up to date in every particular. They will, of course, have cold storage facilities for the conveyance of meats and fish and refrigerator accommodation for fruit or dairy products. They will be under Canadian registry and their freight rates will be controlled by the Dominion. It will not be the Government's fault if Canada, in the days to follow the conclusion of peace, is not in a position to successfully contend for her full share of the world's trade.

## A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

The experiment of daylight saving on this continent has been so successful that it is likely to become a permanent institution. Beneficial results of the system have been an improvement in the national health, the promotion of gardening on an unprecedented scale and at a time when the product of the garden was sorely needed, and the conservation of artificial light which, in communities like St. John where coal is used in the generation of electricity means an important saving in fuel.

In the United States it is estimated by the Fuel Administration that the change will effect a saving of from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 tons of coal while the head of the Department of Health in the City of Chicago says the present season has shown a pronounced decrease in disease in that season. This he attributes largely to daylight saving and the increased patronage given by the public to bathing beaches and recreation parks.

Of course in some communities local inconveniences have been caused by the new system of time but these are so small when compared to the general benefit of the nation that there is scarcely room for the shadow of doubt as to the adoption of daylight time as a regular development of the summer. And as the change comes to be the recognized custom minor inconveniences

will disappear and people will wonder how they could have existed so long without it.

## A REAL SNAKE STORY

(New York Herald.)

Where he came from or where he was going, nobody has yet found out. He was snatching along Seaside Walk at Coney Island yesterday with a few thousand other resort patrons. But he happened to be a snake, and that made him conspicuous, even on a street that is used to seeing all sorts of odd things.

None of the crowd on the walk had anything to fear from snakes. It wasn't that. As one stout gentleman explained afterwards, when they found him dodging like a ripe bunch of bananas from a fruiterer's awning, he seemed such a moody snake, and apparently wanted to take in the sights of his own. So people scrambled to tables and shinned up lamp posts and let him have his way.

In a few minutes the snake had cornered the freedom of the island, and could have hunted hot dogs or ridden on a scenic road or had his wide smile done on a tin type, or visited the show on his own. So people scrambled to tables and shinned up lamp posts and let him have his way.

Toffee and the snake both stopped, looked each other in the eyes and began to circle warily. Presently Toffee cut an awing rope and made a noise of it. "Stuck up your head, buddy, and look what you're going to get," he invited earnestly.

Well, Toffee could have done no better. The cast missed by a margin of feet, but the snake saw the noise fall and dived for it. The officer jerked and suddenly discovered that he had a particularly ugly, blue-bodied snake attached to six feet of lead rope.

Toffee turned and started to drag his captive to the station. "But before plaudits of an admiring crowd. Then, suddenly, he turned very pale. The snake had decided not to wait to be dragged. He was ready to go to the police station, or any other place, as long as Officer Toffee led the way. And he went in a hurry.

Just then the police officer jumped upon him. The snake was a full third of a mile. Toffee beat the snake to the captain's desk by a scant margin of inches and he felt a scintilla of relief. At a late hour the snake was still the officer's property.

"Almost everybody thought he was a rattler," said the policeman. "But he wasn't. He was a whip snake." Toffee last night was trying to devise a way to get the snake out of his locker.

## A BIT OF VERSE

THE WATER! THE WATER!  
The water! the water!  
That tattle through the quiet night,  
Its ever-living glees,  
The water! the water!  
That glees in merry heart,  
Which gurgles on unceasingly,  
And loveth to impart  
To all around it some small measure  
Of its own most perfect pleasure.

The water! the water!  
The gentle stream for me,  
That gushes from the old grey stone,  
Besides the river tree.  
The water! the water!  
That ever bubbling spring  
I loved and looked on while a child,  
To find my silent grave.  
The water! the water!  
O, blest to me thou art!  
Thus sounding in life's solitude  
Thou dost remind me of the past,  
And filling it, despite of sadness,  
With dreamings of departed gladness.

The water! the water!  
The mournful, pensive tone  
That whisp'ers to my heart how soon  
This weary life was done.  
The water! the water!  
And bade me mark how beautiful  
Was its son's purity;  
And how it glanced to heaven its wave,  
As, wondering on, it sought its grave.  
—William Motherwell.

## A BIT OF FUN

Safe.  
The Slicker—Calling on the Smith girl!  
The Slicker—Yes, their dog has enlisted.—Judge.

Cops Should Be Muzzled.  
Fort Collins News.—The owners of dogs are keeping their dogs tied up and avoid the animals being bitten or shot by the police.

Those Mad Wags.  
From a report.—"The grounds were beautifully up; otherwise it was a temperance party."

Needs It Badly.  
"So you are having trouble deciding where to go on your vacation?"  
"Yes, for the place you are looking for?"  
"A place where my pocketbook can enjoy a vacation as well as its owner."

Getting There.  
A very small but live boy applied to a great merchant for a job.  
The great merchant sized him up with twinkling eyes, for the one situation opened needed a bigger parcel of human experience, and asked what position he wanted.

"A chance to grow up in the business, mister."  
"Well, we are more or less being depopulated by the drafts. What is your motto?"  
"The same as yours," was the ready answer.  
"What do you mean?" asked the puzzled merchant.  
"Why, on the door there—Push."  
He got the job of keeper of that very door.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

All of a sudden yesterday afternoon ma remembered she had forgot to remember to make say dissent for supper. Benny, run on round to the grocery store and get a pound of those round chocolate cakes, or your father will have a fit.

Which I went around and got them, and on the way back Pude Simkins and Leroy Shooaster and Sid Hunt was sitting on the curb waiting for something to happen. Pude saying, Ware you bin, Benny? What you got in the bag?

Give us one, will you? said Leroy Shooaster.  
Give us one, will you, won't you? said Sid Hunt.  
How can I, there for dissent, ain't they I sed, and Pude sed, well didn't I punch a hole in the bottom of a bag of brown sugar and give you a handfull wunte wile I was carrying it home? That was to make brown betty out or, and thata dissent, aint it?

Didn't I take you back in our back kitchen and give you a peotch out of the tea books, and it peatches aint dissent? It set my short, sed Leroy. Making a rime without knowing it, and Sid Hunt sed, Dont you remember the time I let you stick your finger in the middle of a rice pudding on our dining room table? Maybe you want to say rice pudding aint dissent.

O, all rite, nobody cant say I aint a sport, I sed. And I gave them each a cake, being big cakes and not many to a pound, and jest then Ed Vornick and Lev Davis came up and I had to give them each one, wich after that the bag looked almost as if it didnt have anything in it, wich it almost didnt, and wen I got back in the house I blew a lot of air in the bag to make the sides stick out more, and I put it on the kitchen table wile ma was stirring something on the stove, and jest wile I was sticking it out at Benny, she said, Go on ma wile.

Aw, G, ma, Im in a farsee hurry, can't I do it some other time? I sed. Well upon my word, sometimes I think you havent got good sense, sed ma, come over heer and stir this before I pull you over by the ear. The man, I sed, And went over and stirred and stirred it, and ma picked up the bag, saying, For mersey sakes. And she opened it and I had to go to bed rite after supper, being better than a licking but not much.

## AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN THE CANADIAN CASUALTY LIST

One Killed and Dozen Wounded in Recent Heavy Fighting—Several Formerly of Maritime Provinces.

Boston, Aug. 25.—Private Ambrose B. Taylor of Co. B, Canadian Black Watch, has been killed in action. His family live in Medford. He was born in Berwick, N. S., 36 years ago. Private Thomas H. Walker of Medford, a private in the 24th Canadian Battalion, has been wounded. He is 34 years of age and a native of New Brunswick. Amadeo Poirier, son of Andrew Poirier of New Bedford, formerly of New Brunswick, was been killed in action. He was with an American battery. Mr. and Mrs. Trefle Biron of Manchester, have been notified that their son, who was with the Canadian Infantry, has been killed. He was born in Canada.

J. B. Flanagan, New Haven; P. MacKinnon, South Boston; F. D. Simpson, East Lynn; G. H. Brooks, Springfield; A. Hume, Somerville; A. J. McNeill, Hartford; C. Whitte, New Bedford; T. Mitchell, Providence; S. B. Barie, Boston; D. Taylor, Springfield; J. B. O'Leary, Turner's Falls; J. H. Corniller, Lowell; A. A. Chale, Malden, and A. Machin, Milford, all with the Canadian army, have been wounded.

## SOME UNUSUAL WAR EPITAPHS IN FRANCE

E. MARK ARMSTRONG, WOODSTOCK, WOUNDED

Mrs. Armstrong Had Three Brothers, Husband and Father in King's Khaki.

London, Aug. 10.—For the proposed national war museum here, a collection of war epitaphs is being made. Here is one from a British graveyard in France:

"When you go home tell them of us and say 'For your tomorrow they gave their today.'"

From the graves of men who went down at the battle of Coronel, the following is taken:

"If life's best prize be to end life well Then ours was; we died at Coronel." From a war memorial in an English city:

"These in the glorious morning of their days For England's sake, lost all but England's praise."

The following is an epitaph for soldiers who died in the first battle of Ypres:

"When Migh in scornful millions came arrayed, Here few English stood, and he was stayed."

## OBITUARY.

Frederick Scott  
The death of Frederick Scott occurred at the Home for Incurables on Saturday night. The deceased for a number of years conducted a cooper's business on Duke street, and was well known about the harbor front. He leaves one son, John, of Montreal, and one daughter, Mrs. Condon, of New York. The funeral will be held from Fitzpatrick's undertaking rooms, Waterloo street tomorrow afternoon.

John Nelson  
The death of John Nelson occurred yesterday morning at his home, 227 Thorne avenue. He leaves a wife and four children. For a long time the deceased was employed in the Foley Pottery and was well known in the city.

What He Did.  
First Buyer—What did he want for that stuff?  
Second ditto—Thirty shillings.  
First Buyer—What did you bid him?  
Second ditto—Good morning.—Age-Inside Chronicle.

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