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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1918

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THE WAR SITUATION.

A leading German newspaper declares that the retirement of Von Kuchelmann does not mean a change in German foreign policy. Meanwhile the food situation in Austria and Hungary has reached what is described as an alarming state, with greatly reduced rations and no prospect of early relief. The Hungarian food minister is quoted as saying that there is no present hope of getting food from Roumania or the Ukraine, while the harvests in Austria and Hungary have been retarded by wet weather, and normal rations of bread and flour cannot be restored.

The new German offensive which has been daily expected for some time past on the western front has not yet come, and during the lull the French have materially improved their position. They have retaken important ground and captured a considerable number of prisoners, in the course of a constant and very effective pressure upon the enemy's lines. The British have pursued the same policy with success. All this, however, is in no sense decisive or an indication of future events. A great German drive is assumed to be in preparation.

The Italians continue to make gains in Albania. The news from Russia is to the effect that the Czech-Slovaks are practically controlling western Siberia, and are gradually loosening the grip of the Bolsheviks, although the latter claim to have achieved some success east of the Ural Mountains. The Russian situation is still obscure, but rather more encouraging for the Allies. Word comes from Tokyo that Japan does not deem it necessary to send any troops to eastern Siberia at present.

Chancellor Von Hertling is reported to have said in the Reichstag that both political and army leaders in Germany are ready "to receive peace proposals from the Allies if they are offered in a spirit of sincerity." The Allied peace terms have already been offered, with absolute sincerity, the latest announcement being that of President Wilson. There is to be no peace until Prussian militarism is crushed.

Toronto Globe: "The splendid record of the American War Department in the dispatch of soldiers to the front during the past three months is likely to be duplicated in the matter of aircraft. The delivery of airplanes has been dispatching steadily and rapidly; but it is now announced that while up to June 8 only 286 combatant battle-planes had been delivered, the production then was at the rate of 80 per week, and is doubtless increasing rapidly. More than 2,000 Liberty airplane motors have been delivered, and the production is now at the rate of over 115 weekly. The aviators of the United States will not have long to wait for their fighting wings."

The German submarine captain who, when his derelict craft was about to be sunk by a British patrol boat, asserted that there were none on board but himself and crew, when in reality there were four British seamen tied up below decks, was a typical German murderer and liar. The good-natured tolerance of the British is revealed in the fact that these Germans were saved when they might have been sunk with their pirate craft.

It is announced that there are now two million British soldiers in France. There are over a million Americans, though these are not yet fully trained. Add them to the redoubtable French army and we are able to understand why confidence is expressed that the next German offensive will fail like the others.

The people of the Rhine cities are very anxious to have a stop put to the aerial bombardment of cities behind the lines. It is pointed out that women and children suffer—meaning German women and children. These Huns hate to take their own medicine.

The provincial government grant of \$4,000 to the Soldiers' Home will be universally approved. The Home should be of great benefit to the veterans of the city and province, and they deserve the most generous recognition.

The Commercial Club of Oldtown, Maine, is calling a public mass meeting in the auditorium of a large school building to consider plans for a great recreation field with play room for all the young people of the city.

The enrolment of men in Canada's army continues to be greater than the wastage. That is as the people of Canada would have it, but would not have had it had not the military service act been adopted.

Germany is putting the screws on Holland and demanding large food supplies. The Dutch are a long suffering people.

The Courtney Bay dry dock contract is once more signed. They'll soon have to get a new pen.

TRADE AFTER THE WAR.

An interesting booklet on Export Business has just been issued by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The purpose is to stimulate interest in the development of foreign commerce for Canada after the war, in order not only to provide business for factories now engaged on war orders, but to increase the production of factory, farm, forest and mine, and thus ensure national prosperity. Two paragraphs explain this matter more fully, as follows:—

"We should endeavor to seek a fair share of the world's commerce. It is a recognized fact that extensive trade over the seas tends to stabilize industry by ensuring to manufacturers and producers a larger sphere of activity. Increased orders from foreign countries tend to change seasonal demands to steady demands the year round, and this is the ideal condition we should seek to bring about in this country. Until recently Canadians, with a few notable exceptions, felt that the home market was sufficient for their activities, and few of our manufacturers and producers gave any consideration to the question of entering foreign fields. Now, however, we realize our ability and necessities and if we are aggressive our foreign trade will doubtless develop rapidly. In the export of foodstuffs and raw materials we possess a decided advantage over many other countries, an advantage due primarily to nature's generosity in the provision of resources, and we should therefore make the most of our opportunities."

The booklet goes on to point out some of the essentials in opening up successful trade in other countries. One of these is the granting of credit, as is the prevailing custom, with, of course, a proper scrutiny of risks, which can readily be done with the aid of banks and mercantile agencies. An illustration is given of a Canadian house that lost a perfectly safe order amounting to \$100,000 simply because cash payment was demanded. It is further pointed out that there must be a careful selection and study of foreign fields before attempting to develop trade, and that a local representative, if a branch cannot be established is essential. Several firms might send a joint representative. The question of export companies is also discussed, and it is pointed out that an Export Association has been formed in Canada. Such important matters as packing, marking, quoting prices, correspondence, prompt execution of orders, selection of salesmen, training of foreign representatives, sources of information and other considerations are discussed, and the booklet then presents for the study of possible exporters a statement of the value of the leading articles imported in 1913 into Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Brazil, British Guiana, Chile, China, Cuba, France, Great Britain, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa, and Trinidad.

This little book should be of much value, not only for the information it contains, but because it directs attention in a pointed manner to the necessity of preparation for after-war conditions, when Canada must face the problem of idle war industries, returned soldiers, and a very heavy national debt. There will be the keenest kind of competition in industry and trade after the war, and without adequate preparation success cannot be achieved. With her immense and varied natural resources Canada, which has not been ravaged by the war, should be in a position to command large markets; but her business men must study the situation and get ready for the test of their intelligence and enterprise.

An Ottawa despatch says that eastern as well as western spruce is now in demand for the making of airplanes. Spruce does not split when pierced, as do some other woods, and it is light in weight. Western spruce is said to have been chiefly used because the trees are larger. If narrower spruce will do, New Brunswick has great quantities to spare.

Twenty-five thousand schoolboys and young men took part in the annual Fourth of July athletic carnival in the playgrounds of New York on July 4. The games were under the direction of William J. Lee, supervisor of recreation in the public parks and playgrounds. In some of the parks there were special events for young girls and women.

Ottawa and Hamilton city councils have arranged for a large supply of wood for next winter's use, to meet the coal shortage.

The United States protects the consumer. The price of sugar, for example, will be equalized and proper distribution ensured by a government board.

Former M. P. Dead.

Toronto, July 12—John Hargrave, secretary of Gooderham & Worts, Ltd., and a member of the firm of Hargrave & Sons, manufacturers agents, died here yesterday, aged fifty-three. At one time he was prominent in politics, representing West Northumberland in the dominion house. He came to Toronto twenty-five years ago.

LIGHTER VEIN

A little barefooted boy came into the grocery store and asked up to the candy case. Sticking one grimy hand into the pocket of his overalls he pointed with the other to the row of candy Easter eggs in the case.

"I want one of those," he remarked.

The clerk handed him one and the little fellow turned to leave.

"Where's your money?" asked the clerk.

The small boy shrugged his shoulders and kept on toward the door. "Daddy gets things in here without money," he said, "and what he done I do, too!"

Pittsburg Post.

In the Backwoods.

A commercial traveler went into a country store in a backwoods district one pleasant day recently. After securing his order, he remarked to the proprietor that they were having a great time over in Europe.

"That so?" asked the storekeeper.

"Why, yes, a great fight," replied the commercial man.

"Well, they've got good weather for it, ain't they?" was the reply.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Private Billings went over the top this morning, was knocked down by a German shell, stabbed five times, rolled off a trench parapet, run over by two tanks and dragged three miles by a runaway mule, but came back fresh and smiling according to Brooklyn Eagle. Before enlisting he was a "stunt man" for a motion picture company back in the States. He says war is child's play.

A medical journal vouches for this story: A distinguished surgeon, while making his rounds through a hospital, was momentarily dazed when a wounded

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soldier inquired quizzically: "Say, doctor, when one doctor doctors another doctor, does the doctor doing the doctoring doctor the other doctor like the doctor wants to be doctor, or does the doctor doing the doctoring doctor the other doctor like the doctor doing the doctoring wants to doctor him?"

Murphy Stopped.

An officer on board a warship was drilling his men.

"I want every man to lie on his back, put his legs in the air, and more them as if he were riding a bicycle," he explained. "Now commence."

After a short effort one of the men stopped.

"Why have you stopped, Murphy?" asked the officer.

"If ye please, Sir," was the answer. "O'm coasting!"—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Henry van Dyke, former minister to the Netherlands, said the other day:

"The morale of all the Allied soldiers is always excellent. They joke about their wounds."

"I met a wounded Canadian aviator from the Escadrille Lafayette at a tea. He sat in a bath chair, with his legs propped straight out, and his two crutches at his side."

"How is the leg coming on?" I said.

"Well, anyhow," he laughed, "it isn't—ha, ha—coming off!"—Current Opinion.

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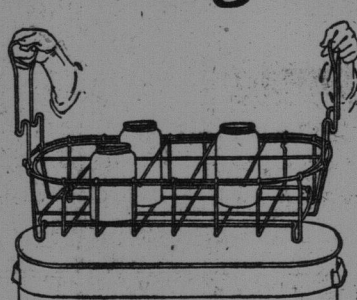


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