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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 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 BRIDGE INCIDENT.

It is not to be supposed that the attempt of an alleged German officer to destroy the bridge over the St. Croix River, near Vanceboro, will be regarded by the government of the United States as other than the act of a criminal, who is to be dealt with by the provisions of the Canadian Criminal Code. Under the extradition treaty between Canada and the United States offences, such as Van Horne is charged with, are included in the list of those specifically extraditable, and already, Canada, at the request of Attorney-General J. B. M. Baxter, acting for the Province of New Brunswick, has taken the steps leading to a request for the operation of the processes provided for in that treaty.

If Van Horne had entered Canada under the direct instructions from the German government, or with military force and accomplished the attack on the St. Croix bridge, his act would be merely that of a national enemy, and while the United States might take action against him on the ground that he had violated the neutrality of that country by making it the base of a hostile attack, he would, if captured in Canada, become a prisoner of war and subject to trial by military rules. Under the circumstances, and in the view of the Attorney-General, he entered this country as a civilian, and the moment he crossed the boundary line became bound by the criminal laws of the Dominion.

Application for the extradition of Van Horne has already been made, and it is not presumed that the government of the United States will meet it in any but the friendliest spirit, such as would govern the attitude of that nation in any ordinary criminal case. If he is brought to Canada and tried, it is to be hoped the full penalty of the law—imprisonment for life—will be invoked, not because of the amount of damage inflicted by his rash and criminal act, but as a warning to other seekers after notoriety who might be tempted to follow in his footsteps.

The Attorney-General, as soon as advised of the occurence, took prompt and proper action. In fact he anticipated the requests of the Dominion officials, and it is largely through his energy in arranging preliminaries that the case has already reached the stage where the formal application for extradition has reached Washington. The people of the United States had in the Thaw case an example of the promptitude of Canadian justice. On that occasion Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, lost no time in having a criminal wanted in the neighboring republic turned out of Canada. Attorney-General Baxter has been as prompt in the present case where the conditions are just reversed and it is expected and believed that the United States officials will show equal celerity in their response.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Apparently the German forces are preparing to make another attempt to get to the French channel ports but, so far as despatches from the theatre of war indicate they have been checked at every turn. In fact the net result of yesterday's fighting in France and Flanders is well summed up from London in the brief statement that the Allied armies have been able to hold all the ground formerly held and, in some cases, to occupy German positions.

It is not alone in the western zone of the war that the Germans are resorting to spasmodic and desperate efforts to loosen the noose of steel which is gradually but surely strangling them. As a rat fights with even greater ferocity when cornered, so the leaders of the Kaiser's armies, convinced now that utter defeat must be their eventual portion, are adopting the tactics sometimes credited to Napoleon and pressing their campaign with an utter disregard of the cost to their men.

In Central Poland, Marshal Von Hindenburg's army appears to be in a critical position from which he can only extricate it by cutting his way through the Russian lines in the direction of Warsaw. Such an attempt, if successful, would go far toward relieving the heavy pressure on Hungary and East Prussia and, in addition, would contribute an important military and political advantage to Germany. Consequently it may be expected that some of the heaviest fighting of the war will result from the German general's attempt to break out of the grip of the Russian Bear. West and Southwest of Warsaw heavy fighting is also in progress, but the report is similar to that from the other fields of encounter. The desperate rushes of the Germans were at first successful but the effect was overcome by the steady overpowering pressure of the Muscovite advance and the close of the day found the Russian forces in the better position.

While German submarines are reported as being at large in the English Channel, and advices received tell of an attempt to torpedo a British hospital ship, there have been no fresh losses. Traffic is naturally somewhat restricted as it will likely continue until the raiders have been accounted for. Meanwhile the British public will take much comfort from the statement of Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, that "for the first time in history England can say that the sea is free." Generally the trade routes to and from Great Britain are as safe as they were before the war. Local conditions, such as the recent torpedoing of vessels in the Irish Sea, may cause temporary inconvenience and some alarm, but the essential fact is that British commerce is free to go and come with little or no danger of molestation. This condition, of course, guarantees to Great Britain and her Allies an uninterrupted supply of foodstuffs and removes any apprehension which might be felt on that score.

Conditions in Germany are precisely the reverse. Her commerce swept from the seas, the government has found it necessary to enforce restrictive legislation regarding the bread supply and following the commandeering of cereals, military authorities are also taking steps to ensure the confiscation of all household utensils containing metals which may be useful to them. Naturally this does not tend to increase confidence in Germany's ability to prosecute a successful war but, on the other hand, must enormously add to the discontent and disaffection already felt. Altogether the situation for the Allies is decidedly favorable while for Germany and Austria-Hungary the most critical period of the war appears to be at hand.

BERLIN AND WASHINGTON.

Many people are watching with keen interest, the trend of opinion in the United States in its relation to the European crisis.

At the outbreak of the war, as is well known, the government of the United States declared for a strict neutrality, and up to the present there are few who would hesitate to agree that the government at Washington has honestly endeavored to make good its policy of neutrality, notwithstanding all the difficulties that have been necessarily involved. Accusations to the contrary have upon several notable instances lacked confirmation in fact, and have as a consequence fallen harmlessly to the ground.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, there has never been a particle of desire that the attitude of the government of the United States should be prejudiced in the slightest degree in her favor. While it is a fact that various British writers have at different times scored the government of the United States for its silence, when Germany ruthlessly violated the essential laws of nations, yet it can be asserted that so far as the British Government is concerned, there has been no disposition to question the conduct of the administration at Washington. England has not been looking for any neutral countries to fight her battles for her; the most that she has expected, and the limit of her demands, is that she be left free in accordance with the accredited laws of nations to fight her own battles on this supreme occasion, as she has hitherto done for centuries.

If up to the present time Great Britain has derived more of advantage from the great factories of the United States than has Germany, this has simply been owing to the fact that by her superior power at sea she has been able to take these various supplies home. The American markets are open to all the world, and Germany is as welcome to buy goods in America as is Great Britain. Germany's difficulty has been that since she declared war on Great Britain she has not experienced her accustomed facility in carrying home her goods purchased in America and elsewhere. We grant that all this has proved quite inconvenient to the German war office; but then this is, one of the things that really cannot very well be avoided, if Germany insists upon being the apostle of "Kultur" to a most uncultured world.

The world would have a higher respect for the German people if they were disposed to play the game which they have invited with a bit more of the manly and heroic, and to show that they were at least willing to do their own work, even if some of it was exceedingly dirty. But this they are not willing to do. Their splendid diplomacy succeeded in winning the moral approbation of the most cultured Turk, and having suceeded at Constantinople, they evidently discovered no reason why their splendid 'Kultur' should not be equally successful at Washington. Unlike Great Britain, Germany cannot regard with equanimity the neutrality of the United States of America, and if she can only secure by fair means or foul the assistance of the United States in her attempt to stamp out democracy in Europe she will doubtless regard her battle as good as won.

Today the world is watching what is being done at Washington. People are asking "Will the United States get mixed up in this war?" To most people it is simply unthinkable that Mr. Wilson and his government would commit such a rash act, the results of which would surely prove disastrous not only to the Democratic party, but which would likewise also involve the gravest possible issues to the whole American people. Germany has gone far in her attempt to gain the support of the United States, and indeed to accomplish this she would not hesitate to bring that great country to the brink of national ruin, but we are persuaded that, however, for a time under the tuition of Count Von Bernstorff party politicians at Washington may play with these matches "made in Germany," the sovereign people of America, in whom still lives the spirit of Abraham Lincoln, will see to it that they do not set fire to the house. With all the diverse influences at work at Washington, by which Germany still hopes to embroil Uncle Sam and defeat the cause of Democracy, the pulse of America beats true to the rights and liberties of the common people, and the great American nation can be relied upon to maintain those splendid principles for which Abraham Lincoln lived and died.

A PRAISEWORTHY CAMPAIGN.

The campaign being inaugurated by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Agricultural Departments of the various provincial governments, which has for its purpose the stimulating of Canadian farmers to the necessity ad advisability of increasing their crop production next year, is a most praiseworthy one and merits the complete co-operation of all. Next year Canada will be called upon to supply foodstuffs to take the place of what ordinarily would have been produced by millions of European agriculturalists who have been forced to abandon the plough for the rifle. Those European fields will go untilled during the season of war and consequently there will be a much greater demand upon the farmers of Canada and the United States. And Canada can become equal to the added responsibility if our farmers take steps in time to meet the changed conditions. There is hardly a Canadian farm which is worked to its capacity or which by the planting of additional acreage could not largely increase its output.

The Canadian Government has speedily awakened to the necessity of a larger crop next year and is losing no time in impressing this fact upon the men most interested. To this end a series of conferences have been arranged at which practical agriculturalists will point out that the proposed crop increase is not only a patriotic duty but can be made a source of profit. In thus taking steps to provide against the certain shortage in foodstuffs with which the world will be faced the Government of Canada and the provincial governments acting in concert with it, will earn the deep gratitude of the people of a very large portion of the civilized globe.

THE GREAT-WEST LIFE HAD A GOOD YEAR

Business Improved so That Report Showed Largest Surplus Earned in the History of the Company.

The annual statement of the Great-West Life Assurance Company was presented at the annual meeting held in Winnipeg yesterday. The business for the year showed a substantial increase over the previous year. The conditions prevailing on account of the war stimulated business for this insurance company so that the surplus earned for 1914 was $892,951, the largest in the history of the company. The business issued in 1914 was $24,412,261 and the net death claims for the year amounted to $396,449. The report showed the company to be in a strong position and looking after all claims in a satisfactory manner. The full report for the year will be mailed to any one interested upon request. G. Wetmore Merritt of this city is the manager for New Brunswick.

ASK TIME EXTENSION TO COMPLETE WORK

Providence, R. I., Feb. 2—The Southern New England Railway, a Grand Trunk subsidiary, petitioned the legislature today for an extension of time until July 1, 1917, for the completion of the company's construction work in Rhode Island. In the charter granted the road the time limit is set as July 1, 1915.

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins caim ovir to our house last nite, beeing the hole Wilkins family exsept the baby, and aftir they had stayed a wile tawking to pop and ma about the war and the different things the baby duz, they went hoam to see if Winfield was still asleep, Winfield beeing the naim of the baby.

That Mrs. Wilkins serteny is a pritty littel woman, sed pop.

Goodniss, I cant see eny medals awn her, sed ma.

No, its not the kind of bewty she wood get medals for, sed pop, shes not a horse show bewty, but did you evvir see sutch perfeckt coloring, sutch dainty feetchirs, sutch fine hare.

I can see nuthing remarkabil in her watevvir, sed ma, to me she is quite plane, you mite say awlmost hoamly, but you men are awl alike, you see bewty ware thares nuu to seē, and viser verser.

Viser yure eye, sed pop. Im broad minded enuff to value bewty for its own sake, weathir its in a man, a woman or a chid, the questshin of bewty is purely impersinil with me.

O well, perhaps thares moar in her than I can see, sed ma; but I nevvir cood undirstand wy Mr. Wilkins picked her out, now, thats wat I call a handsome man.

Who, that double barriled shrimp Wilkins? sed pop.

Thares no use of yure calling him jellus naims, sed ma. I think hes the handsomest man I evvir saw, I cood sit awl nite looking at his eyes.

And I cood stand awl nite kicking his slats, sed pop, of awl the putty faced, insignifikint, useliss looking, under sized ersters, that fello takes the bloo ribbon, handsome, ha ha, thats the richest Ive herd in yeers, ha ha.

Pure jellusy, sed ma.

Wat, jellus of that mizribil, hammired down snipe, sed Pop. O kum, thats a good wun, ha ha ha, handsome, O shades of Appolinaris, ha ha.

O yes, good looks are purely impersinil with you, hee hee, sed ma.

Bah, sed Pop. And he startid to reed the papir as if he was mad as enything, wich he proberly was, and ma sed. Hee hee, wunts moar and started to play solitaire by herself with a pack of cards.

Just Try This When Hairy Growths Appear

(Modes of Today)

A smooth, hairless skin always follows the use of a paste made by mixing some water with plain powdered delatone. This paste is applied to the hairy surface two or three minutes, then rubbed off and the skin washed, when every trace of hair will have vanished. No pain or discomfort attends the use of the delatone paste, but caution should be exercised to be sure you get real delatone.

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Getting A Good Watch

Howard, Waltham and Hamilton Watches are indisputably the best American Watches. These movements are made in different grades, selling at different prices but you can depend on any watch of the above makes being an accurate timekeeper. But even though that is true, where you buy a Waltham, Hamilton, Howard, or any other watch, is very important if you want satisfactory watch service.

The jeweler cases the watches with the exception of the Howard. His skill in doing that has a great deal to do with the way your watch runs. More than that, the watch must be adjusted and regulated to keep time in your pocket. Even the factory cased Howard requires that.

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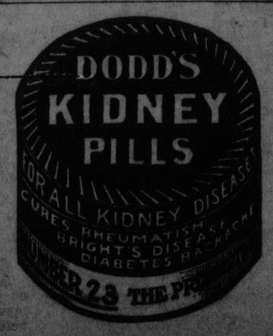

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