

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 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.

AS FRANCE SEES IT.

General Joffre has supplied material for a French historical review of the war to date in which the evolution and development of the splendid army now representing the French Republic on the battlefield is graphically told of. It is shown that France, like Great Britain, was not prepared for the war when it came, although in other articles purporting to deal with General Joffre, and supposedly based on intimate knowledge of the French commander in chief, it has always been pointed out that for the past ten years he had expected the supreme effort of his life to be the very conflict against Germany in which he is now engaged.

Collier's Weekly, in a recent issue, carried a splendid article on Joffre, in which it was claimed that he had been instrumental in rebuilding and strengthening the fortresses along the German border and had made a special study of the roads of Alsace and Lorraine in preparation for just such an emergency as he was called upon to face. But, according to the most recent French publication, France had neglected to train her officers as they should have been trained before the war broke out and it is claimed that some of the early reverses were due to inexperience of the men commanding units of French troops rather than to the fact that they were opposed to forces of superior numbers.

The result of the campaign in France and Flanders, particularly the failure of the German advance on Paris, is contrasted in the French account, with the happenings of 1870. In the present case the aid contributed by the small British army and the gallant Belgians proved equal to the task of holding the Germans back until the Allies could muster a sufficiently strong force to commence to win back the territory occupied by the enemy. If the French armies in 1870 had been able to hold the Germans off for six months Germany would never have conquered France. While the Germans in the early stages of the present war had the advantage of training and experience, yet France has been quick to learn, and today, man for man and officer for officer, the French troops are the equal of the Germans not only in bravery but in military experience and tactical skill.

France now has from 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 men at the front and half as many reserves to be called upon when needed. Germany cannot have more than that so even if she were fighting France alone the contest would be more nearly equal than it was in the first few weeks of the war when the Germans, ready and organized, were able to drive their hosts through Belgium and into France before the soldiers of the Republic were prepared to meet them. If Russia mobilized more quickly than was expected the reverse is now admitted to have been the case with France. The supposed mobility of the French army did not show as well as expected and, consequently, it required several months to get the French war machine in good running order. At no time since the war opened has France been as well represented on her fighting line as now, and evidence of this is seen in the reports of the French movements in the Vosges region, although what is being done in that direction is regarded merely as preliminary to the more ambitious movement which will result, it is hoped, in driving the enemy back over the border to his own territory.

The splendid army of France is well assisted by that of Britain. In August last Great Britain had practically no troops in the field, but it is estimated that her army of the present day in France and Flanders numbers well up to 1,500,000 men, and it has already been seen that they can be depended upon to give a good account of themselves. At the least calculation the effective forces of France and Great Britain, now confronting the enemy in the eastern arena, total from 3,500,000 to 4,500,000 men, and the armies opposed to them cannot be larger. At the outset of the war Germany, with her numerical advantage, could well afford to lose man for man with the Allies but now the case is different. By no sort of strategy can

she hope to win in the west by force of numbers and her tactics in the future must be in the direction of conserving her forces.

It is not easy to forecast, but it would appear that the situation as reviewed "from the French standpoint" is most encouraging. The writer of the French historical sketch now claims for the Allies superiority in numbers, in intelligence and in morale. With these advantages he predicts that the advance to German soil cannot be much longer delayed and that, once under way, it will be in the nature of "a sweeping triumph."

THE BRITISH PREFERENCE.

Free traders and those who want Canada to lower her tariff have objected strenuously to the recent increase of five per cent, in the duty levied on British goods on the ground that it is unpatriotic and unloyal as it strikes a deadly blow at British trade with Canada. Those who argue in that strain, however, take very good care to ignore the fact that in reality the British manufacturer doing business with Canada has more protection now against all manufacturers, except those located in Canada, than he had under the old tariff. The general tariff has been increased by seven and one-half per cent, while the British tariff is but five per cent, higher, thus giving the British manufacturer an advantage of two and one-half per cent, he did not enjoy before.

Industrial Canada, in dealing with the British preference, sums this phase of the matter up as follows:

"For example, take the case of an article formerly dutiable under the general tariff at thirty per cent. The advantage of the British manufacturer was as follows:

Foreign article paid . . . 30 per cent.
British article paid . . . 20 per cent.

Advantage of British
over foreign article 10 per cent.
The new regulations alter the situation as follows:

Foreign article now
pays 37½ per cent.
British article now
pays 25 per cent.

Advantage of British
over foreign article
now 12½ per cent.

"Our three tariffs, British Preference, Intermediate and General Tariff are relative, and, if the relation is maintained when a general increase is made, it is obvious that those enjoying the lowest tariff receive an advantage over those affected by the higher tariff."

"Concern for the manufacturers of the United Kingdom is not the chief motive actuating those who oppose the tariff measures. They see an opportunity to strike another blow against the policy of protection, which they hope will be a popular blow, because the economic aspect of the case is likely to be overlooked in the military fervor of the moment."

The developments of the enquiry at Ottawa into the purchase of war materials have not supplied the sort of campaign material the Grits hoped for. If wrong has been done the Government will see to it that restitution shall be made. Powell, the Ottawa drug clerk, who made a big profit out of supplies has already returned to the treasury that money with interest. The Department of Justice will insist that the Liberal appointees who profited from the purchase of binoculars are punished to the extent of the law. The dishonest farmers who sold decrepit or unsound horses to the Government, and the inspectors who passed them will also receive attention. The sum total of the investigation has been to show that some persons acted dishonestly with the Government, but there has been no attempt to prevent the production of all evidence and in none of the evidence submitted has the slightest suspicion been thrown on the Government or any member of it. Even making all allowance for the tendency of Grit newspapers to exaggerate and misrepresent the facts the alleged "scandal" at Ottawa has, as yet, shown nothing to compare with the Laurier "dog biscuit" frauds at the time of the South African war.

Admiral Peary at a club luncheon in New York a week or so ago predicted

that before another hundred years the United States would either usurp full control of the government of the North American continent or else face obliteration as a nation. The forecast is perfectly safe for long before there is a possibility of its being realized both it and the man who made it will have been forgotten.

The Times remarks: "It is possible that citizens are to a greater or less extent dissatisfied with some or all of the present members of the city council." This is a most peculiar admission from the Times. When it was advocating the adoption of the commission system of government it was not prepared to admit that there was any possibility of dissatisfaction.

Careful perusal of all available accounts of Russian operations has brought the conviction that if the letter "Z" had been excluded from the alphabet a whole lot of towns in Poland and Galicia would not have got on the map at all.

During the discussion in the House of Commons on Monday, on the amendments to the Controversed Election Act, Mr. Pugsley said "that the election law was a failure for preventing corruption." Well, Mr. Pugsley should know.

DR. MATTHEW GIVEN PLATE

Handsome Piece of Silver from Customs Men—Sixty-Two Years of Service.

Dr. George F. Matthew, who after sixty-two years of faithful service, recently retired from the customs service here, was invited to the office of A. T. Dunn, the collector of customs, yesterday afternoon and presented with a handsome piece of plate. The gift was from the employees of the customs house and Collector Dunn made the presentation.

Dr. Matthew was taken by surprise but made a suitable reply, in which he referred to the history of the customs service in St. John since he joined the staff in 1853. The staff had more than doubled in that time. He made reference particularly to several of the members of the staff, who had passed away.

The piece of silver was suitably engraved with the dates of Dr. Matthew's entry into the service and his superannuation. In making the presentation Mr. Dunn referred to the long service of Dr. Matthew and the good work he had done as a member of the staff. He felt that Dr. Matthew had the good will of every man in the service today and he wished him many years of good health.

CUBAN GOVERNMENT AND RECENT FIGHT.

St. John, April 7th.
To the Editor of The Standard,
Sir:—I desire to deny most emphatically through the columns of your esteemed newspaper the report published in a number of papers in Canada and the United States that my government took official notice of the Johnson-Willard prize fight in Havana.

In this connection, I will add that the Cuban Rural Guards (Mounted Police) which surrounded the Arena at Marianao, Cuba, were placed there to prevent any riots by the negro foreign population.

The publication of these lines will be greatly appreciated by
Your obedient servant,
CESAR A. BARRANCO,
Cuban Republic's Consul.

STEAMSHIP NOTES

Manchester Line S. S. Manchester Miller, Capt. Musgrave, arrived yesterday from Manchester with general cargo for St. John and other points.

Schooner Harry from Perth Amboy, which passed City Island on the 2nd inst., for Halifax, carried away her bowsprit, jibboom and headgear attached, during a northeast gale, re-

USE COCONUT OIL FOR WASHING HAIR

If you want to keep your hair in good condition, the less soap you use the better.

Most soaps and prepared shampoos contain too much alkali. This dries the scalp, makes the hair brittle, and is very harmful. Just plain mulitised coconut oil (which is pure and entirely greaseless), is much better than soap or anything else you can use for shampooing, as this can't possibly injure the hair.

Simply moisten your hair with water and rub it in. One or two teaspoonfuls will make an abundance of rich, creamy lather, and cleanses the hair and scalp thoroughly. The lather rinses out easily, and removes every particle of dust, dirt, dandruff and excessive oil. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and it leaves it fine and silky, bright, fluffy and easy to manage.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

Pop was reading the paper in the setting room last nite and I was setting awn the floor thinking and playing with 3 marblis, and I sed, Say, pop.

Well, wats awn yure mind now, besides hare, sed pop, and I sed, if I stayed up awl nite do you think I cood count up to a millyin.

Wy dont you try it, sed pop.

If I did I probberly be to sleep to go to skool tomorow, I sed.

Thats so, I nevver thawt of that, you think of evvrything, dont you, sed pop.

Yes sir, I sed, if I stay up awl nite and try it, will you let me stay soam from skool tomorow and sleep.

O well, its only a questahn of vanity, noboddy evvir reserved eny lasting good from counting up to a millyin, perhaps you better put it awl till yre about 90 years old and have nothing bettir to do, sed pop.

And he kep awn reading and smooking and I kep awn playing with the 3 marblis and thinking, and aftir a wile I sed, Say, pop.

Orlissar, hes in agen, sed pop.

If a man nevver got shaved, wood the hare awn his faze get as lawns as the hare awn a ladys hed, I sed.

Wood you like me to experiment awn myself for you. I imagine it wood only take about 40 years to prove weathir it wood or not, sed pop, and I sed, Well, do you think it wood.

It wood get as lawns as the hare that axully belawngs awn sum ladys heds, if the truth was any nown, sed pop, as the poet so trooly rote. The hare awn her hed was lawns and brite but she draped it ovir a chare at nite.

And he startid to read agen, and pritty soon I sed, Pop.

It time you went to bed, sed pop, and I sed, Cant I ask you wun moar questahn before I go.

I nevver refuse dyng request, out with it, sed pop, and I sed, In the stone aen wen awl the littel dawgs ust to be big dlnysaurissses, wat did the dawg ketchir do.

They did without, now beet it to bed, sed pop.

Wich I did.

turned to City Island for repairs.

The steamer Ramore Head arrived yesterday from Dublin with general cargo.

The steamer Whatley Head, Capt. Mead, sailed from Greenock on April 1st for St. John.

The steamer Grampian sailed from Liverpool on the 3rd for St. John.

The steamer Marina, Capt. Brow, sailed from Glasgow on April 2 for St. John.

DARING FEAT BY PEGGOLD.

Paris, April 6.—Another daring exploit has been added to the long list of those successfully carried out by Adolphe Pegoud, the French aviator, who is reported to have attacked and brought down a German Taube near Saint Menehould, while he was alone on patrol duty on April 2. The report of the incident says that when Pegoud saw the German approaching he flew rapidly towards the hostile air craft and sent it to earth with a few well-placed shots. He then landed beside the Taube and took prisoner the German pilot and observer, neither of whom was injured. Earlier in the same day Pegoud is reported to have driven off three other German aeroplanes, one of which had dropped nine bombs on a railroad station.

Pegoud who first gained fame in 1913 as the originator of the feat of flying upside down in an aeroplane, was awarded the French military medal early in March for services rendered the army during the war.

Log Driving Company

The annual meeting of the St. John River Log Driving Company was held yesterday morning in the office of the

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