

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1916

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 21, 1916

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## NOT ALL SHADOW

There was sunshine as well as shadow in Mr. Frederick Palmer's review of war conditions when he returned to New York the other day on leave from the Somme region. The first despatches he had here gave only the darker portions of the veteran correspondent's story. It is a relief to turn to some of the passages which appeared only in detailed reports of the Palmer interview. Let us examine a few paragraphs. Palmer was with Kuroki during much of the heaviest fighting in the war between Japan and Russia. He was asked last Friday how the fighting on the Somme compares with the tremendous assaults of the Japanese at Port Arthur.

"Talk about courage!" exclaimed Mr. Palmer. "There was nothing at Port Arthur to compare with the way the British charged against the supposedly impregnable German positions on July 1, when the grand offensive began. Every battalion was set a certain objective—all modern attacks against frontal positions must be made in that way—and every battalion meant to reach that objective dead or alive. Some battalions reached their objectives with losses of 8 and 10 per cent. Others reached and held their objectives with only two survivors.

"In the Thiepval and Beaumont-Hamel sectors some battalions disappeared 'in the blue.' They were engulfed similarly as dozens of German battalions were during the attack on Verdun."

As to Roumania:

"Feminists thought that Roumania might be beaten by October 15. When she was not, they thought that she surely would be all in by November 1."

"In mid-November, with Roumania still holding, the conclusion was that the German army had lost its old power of offensive. On the western front German deterioration was evident enough, but it was not thought sufficient to interfere with the eastern campaign."

In the West there will be terrific fighting all winter. "Every time the weather favors, the French and the British, who have the guns and shells for it now, will open their murderous curtains of fire—whirlwind curtains, creeping curtains, double, treble and quadruple curtains, and the infantry will charge under the canopy of death and tear off another gain of a mile or so of front and take a thousand prisoners or more."

No rest for the Hun all winter. And in the spring:

"When spring comes the French and the British will continue their fight with more men and more ammunition, and the Italians will continue theirs. If the Russians have munitions to continue all summer with drives of the same kind, something will break somewhere on the long front of the Central Powers, or if it does not the Allies mean to go on with the war another year."

He asked where the idea that France is exhausted could have arisen. "From all I can see," he went on, "France has the largest trained force fully equipped for first-line fighting since the war began. Paris appears more nearly normal and business is better than at any time since the war began."

He thinks Germany's effort to win in the East while holding the Allies on the present western line is doomed to failure.

"Hindenburg's elevation to chief of staff was in answer to public will, and particularly to that of the trenches. Hindenburg has set eyes on the East. As Germany must yield Belgium and Alsace, she seeks through Turkey her outlet to new fields of expansion. In the West Hindenburg's idea was an elastic front of defence of something the same order which he maintained against the Russians so successfully."

"But the East is the East and the West is the West in this war, as all German prisoners agree. The cold facts are that through the month of September on the Somme the German losses were double those of the British and the French, as they were also at Verdun. The kind of elastic front which yields Thiepval and Douaumont and Vaux at such a cost cannot endure. Success in war seems still with the offensive, and the initiative on the western front is still with the Allies."

And, in sum:

"Germany must eventually crack under the pressure of the Allied armies, and I believe that the solar plexus blow which will decide the war will be struck along the western front."

In the telegraphic summary of Mr. Palmer's interview many of the stronger passages were omitted. That he expects a prolonged struggle is evident enough, but it is equally clear that he thinks the German back will be broken in 1917, even though a campaign in 1918 to finish the grim work may well be thought likely. He paints with bold strokes a picture of what is going on there is a strong call to the young blood of Canada. Some of the men who outdid on the Somme the heroism of the Japanese under Nogi at Port Arthur were Canadians. Will their brothers rest here in inglorious security while they "carry on?"

## CAMPAIGN FUNDS

The New York Times says that William W. Marsh, treasurer of the Democratic Campaign Committee, believes that no one person should be allowed to contribute more than \$1,000 to a political campaign fund. He also believes that no limit should be placed on the amount campaign committees receive or expend. Mr. Marsh is raising \$500,000 to cover the deficiency in the Democratic campaign fund, and his proposition applies only to future campaigns. He gave it as his opinion that the presidential campaign just ended will be the last of its kind in the United States.

States, and that before another president is chosen the law governing campaign contributions will be materially changed.

Some New Brunswick Conservative leaders, in the light of developments in recent years, would hardly subscribe to Mr. Marsh's doctrine if meant to apply to this province. Mr. Marsh speaks of persons being "allowed" to contribute and makes the limit of benevolent giving \$1,000. Very wrong, very, very wrong, the use of that word "allowed." As applying to this province under some conditions as disclosed, read "compelled" and take off the limit.

## WHERE ARE THEY?

Has anyone seen anything lately of the ancient inhabitants who used to go about saying that the seasons were changing and we did not any longer have the winters he knew forty or fifty years ago? Early in this century we had a few mild winters and, so hopeful is the race, here and there a man began to say that our climate was changing visibly. Delighted with the idea, other men swore that it was even so. Editors here and there began to refer to this region as "the banana belt."

There were so many people who preferred mild winters to severe, that any evidence favorable to the warm side received a quick welcome and hearty. Men who knew nothing whatever about it surmised that the Gulf Stream was changing its course. This passed from mouth to mouth, and lost nothing in the transfer, and finally other men farther down the line said they had it on the best authority that the Gulf Stream had changed. Along about that time some idle person proposed a scheme for either damming the Strait of Belle Isle or building out a tremendously long breakwater which would give the Gulf Stream a new direction. All sorts of people welcomed the idea. A few doubters said that while this delightful plan would add three months of summer to the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland it would have a contrary effect upon New England and New York, and that the Americans might object under some ancient and universal law which forbids tearing down the old landmarks and changing the natural course of the streams. Still, somebody would have made an attempt at it if somebody else could have been found to advance the money. Mere talk about it helped along some, for just about then we had another mild winter.

A little later there came another year during which the thermometer on the North Shore of this province was found shamelessly registering forty below zero at high noon. One of the oldest inhabitants came out of winter quarters long enough to remark that it was about time the wolves returned to New Brunswick, and he recalled, with evident delight, the good old days when as a boy he heard the packs go howling along the mountain ridges within fifty miles of St. John, and shivered under the bed clothes as the yelping was carried to him on the biting north wind.

Gradually the idea that the Gulf Stream was changing or was likely to be diverted, died out in these parts. These disconnected observations, "howlers" on and "apertainers" to the weather, as Captain Bill Devery used to say, are suggested by the thought that during this present November we have not suffered so much as usual from sultry days and mosquito-bitten nights.

As most men know, there is a war being waged in Europe and tremendous conflicts in air and on land are being fought. The fate of nations, the fates of all peoples of the world, in fact, hinges upon victory or defeat for this side or that. And now for the other side of the picture—the only news on the entire front page of one of Boston's chief newspapers on last Saturday had to do with football and the weather.

The Young Men's Catholic Institute building in Cliff street, thrown open to the public last evening for inspection, drew admiring comments from all. It promises to be the scene of much good work among the youth when activities in the physical classes and other branches are begun.

Many a sermon has been preached from text less striking than that supplied in the letter from "The Boy Who Died," published in the Times last evening. If you missed reading it, take it up again. It is well worth while.

Once more the war is brought home to us in St. John. The steamer Rappahannock, reported sunk by a German submarine, with probable loss of forty lives, was a frequent visitor to this port.

Our dominion troops are again in winter fighting. A dash on the Ancre front on last Saturday, in which British and Canadians took part, was made over snow-covered ground.

More men! More men! The recruiting returns show that they are not coming fast enough.

Once more attention is directed to Greece, where a tense situation again is reported.

Christmas only five weeks away.

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## LIGHTER VEIN

The lecturer was most emphatic upon the point. "It is to the pioneers of big movements—the men who are always in the forefront—that the honor of this fair country of ours belongs," he had said.

At the close of the lecture an old woman approached and shook hands, thanking him for speaking so kindly of her son.

"I think you have made a mistake. I don't know your son and I cannot have mentioned his name tonight," said the lecturer.

"Yes, you did. My son is one of those pioneers of big movements."

"O, I see. What is your son, madam?"

"What is he?" the proud mother asked in a surprised tone. "Men, he walks in front of the new steam roller with a red flag."

## Hardly Right

Officer—What's that in the ditch?  
Tommy—Private Igginbottom, sir.  
Officer—What's he doing there? Why don't you help him out?  
Tommy—Well, sir, wouldn't that be a soft thing to do, seeing as 'ow I've just put 'im in?—Punch.

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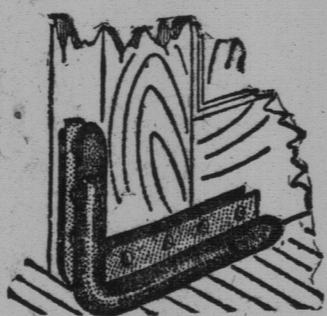
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Positively no additions or changes to listings can be made after the above date, for the next issue.

A representative of the Company will call for your order. Subscribers who wish any changes or corrections should forward them at once. Phone Main 3400 and ask for Exchange Manager. Advertising space in this Directory for sale.

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The WHITE STAR DOMINION

## SAVE DAYLIGHT AND ALSO MONEY

Adoption of Plan to Set Clock Ahead Will Be Considered at New York Convention Jan. 30

(Boston Transcript)

New York, Nov. 15.—The adoption of the daylight saving plan by setting the clock forward one hour in the United States, through public concurrence, from May 1 to Sept. 30, 1917, will be considered at a national daylight saving convention to be held here on January 30 and 31 next, plans for which were announced here yesterday.

Chambers of Commerce and boards of trades throughout the country will be represented, and the governors of all states, the mayor of 150 cities, the American Bankers' Association and state banking organizations, the American Federation of Labor and various other commercial, financial, labor and scientific bodies, will be requested to send delegates.

The American Railway Association has been asked to lend its support and will consider the project at its semi-annual meeting here today. A report drawn up by a committee headed by E. B. Thomas, president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, will be submitted today, recommending that while the roads should not antagonize the movement they should not agree to the plan "until it had been previously adopted by the principal business and municipal centres, together with the state and localities." Individually, many of the railroad presidents favor the plan, according to information received by the New York daylight saving committee, which has arranged the national convention.

This committee, appointed by Marcus M. Marks, president of the Borough of

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Directory of The Leading Fuel Dealers in St. John.

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## The Treatment of Influenza or La Grippe

It is quite refreshing these days to read of a clearly defined treatment for influenza or La Grippe. An article in the Lancet Clinic, Dr. James Bell of New York City, says he is convinced that too much medication is both unnecessary and injurious. When called to a case of influenza, the patient is usually seen when the fever is present, as the chill which occasionally occurs in the disease, has practically passed away. Dr. Bell then orders that the bowels be opened freely with salts, "a tonic of citrate of magnesia." For the high fever, severe headache, pain and general soreness, one anti-tamnia tablet every three hours, will quickly followed by complete relief. Ask for A-K Tablets. They are also unexcelled for headache, neuralgia and all pains.

Manhattan, Is prepared to confer with railroad heads, and with financial interests before the convention is held and will endeavor to learn from the attorney-general of the United States whether it is constitutional for congress to enact a daylight saving law. The committee has been informed by the legislative reference bureau in Washington that such a statute is not unconstitutional, according to Mr. Marks, although a number of congressmen have written individually favoring the plan.

On behalf of the committee, a scientific study of daylight saving as it would affect the United States is being made by Professor Harold Jacoby, astronomer of Columbia University, who will report his findings to the convention.

A report prepared by the committee, based upon an analysis of annual reports of public lighting corporations of the United States, estimates that the proposed plan would effect a saving of upwards of \$40,000,000 in the people's gas and electric bills next summer.

## LOOK OUT THE WINDOW

(Toronto Globe.)

The Toronto News says: "We are still unconvinced that we could reduce prices and destroy food combinations in Canada by subjecting the Canadian people to the ruthless domination of the world-circling American trusts and corporations." Does the Editor of The News never look out of his office window? At any hour of the day he can see the wagons of the "world-circling" American food trusts carrying meat to the citizens of Toronto from a market controlled by Chicago meat packers and operating under the shelter of Canadian food taxes.

## WOULD TAX CATS

(From the Rutland Herald)

Ernest Harold Baynes, speaking in Woodstock for the preservation of song birds, advocated a tax on cats. "It is fair to tax dogs, which may be good hunters, watchdogs or herd dogs, surely it is fair to tax cats, especially house-cats, whose occasional exploits with rats and mice barely give them a claim to support."

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