

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 30, 1916.

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THE WAR NEWS

From pro-German sources yesterday came the boast that Roumania would be crushed like Serbia by a swift and terrible stroke. It was alleged that Roumania has only a few weeks' supply of ammunition. In short, the reading of the German side of the story almost causes one to shiver over the prospect. It is not at all probable, however, that the Central Powers can spare the men and munitions required to crush Roumania; or that the latter has failed in these months of waiting to gather a large supply of war materials. The thing Germany would like to do, and what would of course do her the most good, would be to gain a swift victory over Roumania and restore her own lost prestige in Greece; but we may take it for granted that the Allies have understood the situation for some time past, and that Roumania did not strike before she was ready or before plans of concerted action with the Allies had been given careful consideration. A Roumanian statesman more than a year ago bluntly asked of what benefit Allied sympathy would be to Roumania after the Teuton steam-roller had gone over her as it went over Belgium; and we may be sure that all the chances were well weighed and plans perfected before she declared war. She must fight and fight hard, but the Allies are now able to give her such assistance as they could not have given at an earlier date. Moreover, she gives them assistance of the most valuable character, and her entry into the fight alters the whole complexion of the Balkan struggle.

That Greece will follow Roumania seems now a foregone conclusion. The people are growing more excited and more bitter against Bulgaria, which is seeking to seize Greek territory to her gain with, and the petition sent to the Greek king, ending with an open threat, shows that the very throne is tottering, and that momentous events are about to transpire.

The Roumanians have lost no time in attempting to capture the passes into Hungary, and heavy fighting is in progress there. The attitude of Roumania and Bulgaria toward each other is not yet determined, but it is difficult to see how a state of war can be avoided. On other fronts the Allies continue to press slowly forward, gaining a slight advantage day by day. This is true on the British, French, Italian and Russian fronts, and there is as yet no indication of any more of those terrific German drives which at intervals have changed the aspect of the struggle. It would really seem, although it would not do to assume too much, that the Central Powers are now so hard pressed on all fronts that they cannot concentrate enough men and munitions on any one of them to make a great offensive movement. It is theirs to defend, and not to attack.

How long will the war last? Much depends on the developments of the next few weeks in the Balkans. Already there are further signs of disaffection in Hungary, where irritation against Austria is steadily growing, and internal troubles in the Dual Monarchy will yet be an important element in the situation, even though deferred for some time longer. It is still too much to hope, however, that the war will end this year, or early next year. The Central Powers were on the offensive for two years, and their strength in defence, while it has yet to be tested is undoubtedly formidable.

THESE ARE ST. JOHN PROBLEMS

If Supt. Leonard, of the Ohio State Reformatory, were a citizen of St. John, he would be an advocate of converting the old penitentiary property into an industrial farm. He said so, after looking over the property yesterday. He would remove the granite cells and convert the main building, a massive stone structure, into workshops, for use in the winter season. In summer he would have farming, reclaiming land and making it more valuable, gardening and some raising of live stock and poultry. He does not believe in keeping any man idle in prison. It is bad for the man and bad for the state. While he is the father of the suspended sentence for first offenders in Ohio, he recognizes that such an institution as an industrial farm is still necessary, but there should be as few guards as possible, and if the right atmosphere is created few are needed. The Times yesterday told the wonderful story of the reformatory of which Dr. Leonard is the superintendent, with its thirteen hundred men between eighteen and thirty years of age, all first offenders, the vast majority of whom are restored to good citizenship through its agency. And the number includes young men convicted of manslaughter. That is perhaps surprising to us, but these men at the end of their term are provided with opportunities to redeem themselves in the life of the community and they embrace it. The percentage of lapses is very small.

It is worth while to have a man like Dr. Leonard come to us and speak out of his great experience, and we would do well to profit by his kindly counsel. He says he does not believe there are any born criminals. They are developed, even among the feeble-minded. Where

home, or religious, or educational, or community influences are not what they should be, the state in its clumsy way tries to repair the damage, and it must not do its work in a revengeful spirit or with a desire to punish for punishment's sake. The industrial farm may be made a great reformatory agency, but idleness in the jail has the opposite effect. We are gradually learning that lesson.

Dr. Leonard, in addressing the Rotary Club yesterday, touched upon another matter of vital interest. He had been at the police court and listened to the evidence and argument in two pitiful cases involving the future welfare of little children whose fathers have forgotten or repudiated their responsibility and the mothers have also failed to save the situation. In contrast, Dr. Leonard told of a home he had learned of in this city where a young couple with a little child of their own had adopted a little orphan and made it also as their own. There it was, the normal child in a normal home. Broken homes had provided his institution with 75 per cent. of its inmates. In every county in Ohio there is a Children's Home, where neglected or dependent little ones are sheltered, and the state is proud of them; but Dr. Leonard opines that a generation will arise which will wonder that in our state of civilization all these children who were normal were not placed in foster homes, to grow up under proper family influences instead of in an institution. This is the aim of the Children's Aid Society of St. John, as far as that result can be attained. The number of cases in which the society will probably have to take drastic action is really appalling, and reveals a condition of parental unfitness and neglect which constitutes a very grave social menace. This generation will not solve the problem, but it is doing a fraction of what it ought to do.

The late Mr. R. G. Murray took an active interest in many things relating to the progress of the city and province, and his early death is regretted by his fellow-citizens.

With Hon. B. Frank Smith and Mr. Daggett as persecuted saints and Mr. Carvell as the evil genius, the Standard goes bravely on with its work of political regeneration. A breathless "phew" waits. Is the country safer?

There is too much speeding of automobiles, and there are too many accidents. Strenuous regulations should be vigorously enforced. It is apparently necessary to protect some people from themselves.

The school accommodation of St. John is more cramped this year than last. Even the high school building is now overcrowded, and a new use must be made of the fine assembly hall. How long will the people be content to starve the educational interests of their children?

"Take no prisoners. Despatch them all with the bayonet," was the order issued to a German army corps. Not long afterwards many members of this corps themselves were prisoners. It would greatly simplify matters for the Allies if all the wounded and unwounded prisoners they take were killed at once; but the Allies are not murderers.

The municipal council yesterday very wisely decided to begin the work of improving the public hospital plant, and will first construct a separate power house with laundry. This is an essential part of the needed work of extension and improvement. Due care that the contract price is not excessive, and that the city gets value for every dollar expended, will be the next consideration.

Hon. William Pugsley describes the elevator site and proposition of Mr. Gutelius as a temporary expedient and a makeshift. He has brought the matter to the attention of Hon. Dr. Reid, and suggests that the citizens bring it to the attention of his constituents, outside of a few, are thinking and saying. St. John must now wait another winter in any case, and this whole question should be considered in its relation to St. John as a national port which ought to develop trade enough, not for a half-million bushel elevator, but for a group of large elevators serving berths in Courtney Bay as well as the present harbor.

WM. A. BRADY HURT IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

Plainfield, N. J., Aug. 30.—William A. Brady, theatrical producer of Manhattan; Jules Eckert Goodman, author of "The Man Who Came Back," and John Turk, business manager for Mr. Brady, were badly injured in an automobile accident near Dunellen. The rear axle of Mr. Brady's car broke and a wheel came off, causing the car to skid to one side of the road. The three men, riding in the rear seat of the motor, were thrown into a ditch.

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Too Dusty
An old couple from the country wandered into a moving picture show in the city. As they entered a cowboy picture was being run, and the old lady remarked to her spouse:
"Bill, let's not go too far down in front; the dust these horses are kicking up is pretty thick."

Hot Stuff
A boy placed a big apple on the front steps, and went across the street to see who would take it. A gentleman who observed the action said: "You shouldn't do that, my son. Some poor boy may be tempted to steal it."

Some Logic
Jack says that he himself is a liar—
But since Jack is a liar, what he says is not true;
Therefore, Jack is not a liar.
But if Jack is not a liar, what he says is true—
Now Jack says that he himself is a liar.
Therefore, Jack is a liar.
But if Jack is a liar, what he says is not true;
Now Jack says that he himself is a liar.
Therefore, it is not true that Jack is a liar;
Since it is not true that Jack is a liar, what he says is true;
But what he says is, that he himself is a liar.
Therefore, it is true that Jack is a liar.

Lashing a Lazy Liver
with pills may give temporary relief—but the pill habit is not a health habit. It will put the liver out of business in time—and then everything else goes out of business. Get the health habit by eating **Shredded Wheat Biscuits**, the ideal hot-weather food, which contains more digestible, brain-making, muscle-building material than beefsteak or eggs. The tasty, delicious crispness of the baked wheat gives palate joy and stomach comfort. It supplies the maximum of nutriment in smallest bulk, and its daily use keeps the bowels healthy and active. For breakfast with milk or cream, or for any meal with fresh fruits. Made in Canada.

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Town Car	.	.	.	78000
Sedan	.	.	.	89000

f. o. b. Ford, Ontario

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