

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1918.

"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.

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL DAY.

The capture of the town of Albert by the British troops, was the outstanding feature of yesterday's operations on the western front. Albert, which is northeast of Amiens on the Aisne river, fell into the hands of the Germans many months ago and since then has been the scene of much heavy fighting. It is an important railway junction point and its capture places in possession of the Allies the hinge to the whole position in that sector.

While the British were scoring the success referred to, the French, operating further south, gained a number of villages and caused the Germans to accelerate their retreat. In the fight the Germans are abandoning much valuable war material and it is reported that more than 200 cannon have been taken during the past two days. Humbert and Mangin, in command of the two French armies facing the enemy are pressing their successes home and it is now regarded as a certainty that the foe will be unable to make a sustained stand at any point within the present fighting area.

Evidence continues to accumulate that the retreat may not stop even at the Hindenburg line. Reports are that the retirement will involve the abandonment of much more territory than the enemy originally intended, that already he has gone beyond the position where it was planned to make the first stand and the pursuit by the victorious Allies is being so closely pressed that he is unable to check it. This is of course most encouraging news, at least so good that a change will naturally be looked for, as it seems reasonable to suppose that the Germans must soon face about and endeavor to check the drive. The territory they captured in the operation of March is being lost as quickly as it was gained and from every point of view the Allied movement has become the major operation of the entire campaign. How long it will continue is a matter for conjecture but from present indications the end is still far off. It is well said that the present may develop into the last big engagement of the war.

## PRINCE ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT.

Citizens of St. John will have an opportunity today not often accorded to them, that of extending a loyal welcome to a Prince of the blood royal in the person of Prince Arthur of Connaught, son of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, grandson of Queen Victoria the Good, nephew of King Edward VII, and first cousin of the present King of England, His Majesty George V.

Prince Arthur of Connaught comes to Canada fresh from an important and honorable mission to the Court of Japan. He has also seen service in the present war and bears wounds suffered in action. For a time he was on the staff of General Alderson, when that officer commanded the Canadian forces overseas, and in that position won the affection of all soldiers.

In this connection a story is told of Prince Arthur's introduction to the Canadian troops. It happened near a town in France where the Canadians were stationed. General Alderson addressed the troops and at the conclusion of his remarks introduced Prince Arthur with the words: "He doesn't look like a prince but he is a good fellow," and Arthur of Connaught, mounted on an army transport wagon, spoke to the Canadians in words that amply justified the introduction.

Prince Arthur's visit to St. John is merely an incident in connection with his Canadian tour. He will arrive in the city this afternoon at three o'clock and will spend an hour or so here. But in that brief time he will have an opportunity of forming some opinion of the city and its people. The nature of his reception should be such as to make it certain that that opinion will be favorable. Every flag-pole today should bear a flag. Let our royal visitor see on every side the emblem of that Empire for which he has already shed his blood. And let the people cheer as they have not cheered since the early days of the war. Let the eyes and ears of Arthur of Connaught tell him that the great heart of the City of the Loyalists beats true.

## THE PREMIER IN ENGLAND.

Those little Canadians who have indulged in criticism of Sir Robert L. Borden because he has spent much time in the Motherland in attendance upon the important sessions of the war cabinet will doubtless read with interest the opinion of the London Times upon the work and achievements of the Canadian premier. That newspaper holds the opinion that Sir Robert's visit to England has been of immense benefit to Canada and to the Empire.

"His great reputation has been decidedly enhanced; his influence at the war cabinet is strong; sturdy, deliberate will is what the British look for in statesmen and even critics will concede this to Borden," are among the phrases employed by "the Thunderer" to voice its appreciation of the Canadian Prime Minister.

The work of Canada's sons on the battlefields of France and Flanders has won for this Dominion laurels that will not soon fade. It is not too much to say that the bearing and calm, reasoned, chilled-steel patriotism of Canada's premier has added materially to the reputation of the Canadian nation. Sir Robert L. Borden's presence at the war cabinet is a very real investment for the Canadian people; it will continue to draw profitable interest for many years to come.

## IN CARLETON COUNTY.

The United Farmers of Carleton County are to be congratulated on their decision not to run a candidate against the old political parties in a provincial bye-election held in that county during the life of the present legislature. There is no real necessity for a special farmers' candidate in Carleton, or any other county. If the electors engaged in the great agricultural industry feel they need representation in the legislature that representation can be secured by nominating farmers as candidates of existing parties. The Parliamentary Companion, in its list of the members of the present legislature, classifies five of them as farmers while a sixth is a director of a farming and fruit company. This, out of a house of forty-eight members, is about one to eight, and does not show that in the past the farmers of the province have been very keen for special representation in the legislative halls.

The situation in Carleton was especially complicated by the replies made to the farmers by representatives of the provincial government party, who said they would support a farmers' candidate if he in turn promised to give independent support to the government. Obviously no such arrangement and properly confined its reply to a promise to submit the name of the farmers' candidate to a party convention and if it was ratified he would receive the party support. This situation has been cleared by the action of the United Farmers themselves.

The way is now open for both old line parties to choose their men and there is no doubt that if a suitable farmer presents himself as an aspirant for the nomination of the Opposition party he will receive full support. Also if the government burns with eagerness to have a Carleton County farmer in the legislature it can do something toward that end by issuing the writ for the bye-election.

## A GRACEFUL TRIBUTE.

Under the caption "Hurrah for Canada," the Rochester Democrat-Chronicle pays tribute to Canadian war effort and sacrifice as follows:

"We all know that Canada has done nobly on the battle front in France, but it is doubtful if we realize just how heavy a price she has paid that freedom might not perish from the earth. Some figures recently made public give eloquent testimony in this respect. Starting with a regular army of only 2,000 men, Canada has raised and trained an army of more than 450,000. Of this number 43,000 have given their lives for the cause and 112,000 have appeared on the casualty lists as wounded or sick. About 50,000 have been returned as unfit for further service, 2,224 are still in German or neutral military prisons, and 384 are set down as missing. The quality of service rendered by the Canadian soldiers and nursing sisters is indicated by the fact that some 10,000 of them have been decorated or have received distinctions of one kind or another. And this is but a part of the great work done by our loyal sister nation to the north. The least we can say in the light of this record is 'Hurrah for Canada!'"

A despatch the other day stated that a British contingent had completed a 700 mile march over the desert and mountain from Baghdad to Baku and seized the great oil port on the Caspian Sea over possession of which Germany and Turkey have been quarrelling. Just another evidence that the British have a faculty of turning up unannounced in the most unexpected places.

Albert County shale may yet prove a valuable aid in solving the fuel problem. Experiments privately made in this city have shown that the shale burns well as an auxiliary fuel in a closed stove or as free burning fuel in

an open grate. A larger quantity of the shale is now to be brought to the city and a thorough test made of its capabilities. The result will be awaited with interest.

It is most encouraging to learn that the wheat acreage of the province this year is much larger than in past years and that the crop promises well. New Brunswick will never be a great wheat raising country but if we can grow sufficient for our own needs until such time as the production of the west can once more be moved along its normal channels it will be an achievement worth while.

The son of the Earl of Minto is coming to Canada as a member of the Duke of Devonshire's staff. In his duties he will have a distinct advantage in the fact that Canadians have many pleasant memories of his kindly, gracious and tactful parents who formerly reigned at Rideau Hall.

Tomorrow afternoon the War Fund, the second vessel to be built in this city since the revival of shipbuilding, will take the water. There will be earnest hope that her career will be more successful than that of the unfortunate Doranfontaine.

The barbers are talking of increasing the price of haircuts to one dollar. The bowl and the household shears of our forefathers may once more come into general use. And every bald headed man will become a noted economist.

Prince Arthur of Connaught is very welcome to St. John.

## THAT "HUNGER" STONE.

(Brooklyn Eagle.)

Two bridges cross the Elbe from Tetschen to Bodenbach—the river is about the width of the Passaic at Passaic Bridge, but not so mild—when the water is low the chain bridge is crowded all day with superstitious people, mostly women, gazing into the stream below to detect, if possible, a flat white boulder in midstream. They seek what they don't want to behold for upon this rock, during the terrible famine of 1785, when half the population of the town died of starvation, an illiterate stone mason carved, in a mixture of Polish and German, the legend: "When you see me, then weep."

Although the flat stone rock is visible nearly every August during the season of drought, the good women of Tetschen are always able to find something to grieve over. They take satisfaction in ascribing their misfortunes to the exposed tablet. From generation to generation an "Old woman" recites the inscription during low water, while a throng of mattering, superstitious women watch him from the Elbe-Quai, or of later years from the railway bridge. "Believe that whenever the boulder is exposed has caused the rock to be regarded as an evil omen through out Bohemia and the adjacent German lands," the legend reads. "It is universally spoken of as 'the hunger stone.' Curiously, the Elbe ran flood the entire summer of 1914, and there has not been low water in any season since the war began, and now. This renders the Bohemians more sure of impending calamity."

The proprietor of the Hotel Ulrich will shake his head when asked about "the hunger stone," and assure you that the omen never fails. Tetschen is only thirty-eight miles southeast of Dresden. Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary would do a clever thing if he had a dam built somewhere in the mountains, from which he could feed water in the dry seasons and always keep hidden the "hunger rock" at Tetschen. In Bohemia and throughout Germany, the removal of any one of them would be wise.

A few days ago the Associated Press wires carried briefly the announcement that the famous "hunger stone" in the Elbe River, at Tetschen, Bohemia, is exposed. This stone is covered by water in the ordinary stage of the river, and its exposure is believed to presage a season of drought and consequent famine.

## A BIT OF VERSE

### THE RETIREMENT.

Farewell, thou busy world, and may we never meet again;  
 Here I can eat, and sleep, and pray,  
 And do more good in one short day,  
 Than he who is whole age outwears  
 Upon the most conspicuous theatres,  
 Where naught but vanity and vice appear.

Dear solitude, the soul's best friend,  
 That man untroubled with himself  
 dost make,  
 And all his Maker's wonders to behold,  
 With thee I here converse at will,  
 And would be glad to do so still.  
 For it is thou alone that keep'st the soul awake.

How calm and quiet a delight  
 To read, and meditate, and write,  
 By one offended, and offending none!  
 To walk, ride, sit, or sleep at one's own ease;  
 And pleasing a man's self, none other to displease.

Lord! would men let me alone,  
 What an over-happy one  
 might I in this desert place,  
 (Which most men in discourse disgrace),  
 Live but undisturbed and free!  
 Here, in this deepest recess,  
 Would I, maugre Winter's cold,  
 And the Summer's worst excess,  
 Try to live out to sixty full years old;  
 And, all the while,  
 Without an anxious eye  
 On any thriving under Fortune's smile,  
 Contented live, and then contented die.

—Charles Cotton.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Pop was in the setting room trying to think, rinking his forehead and squinting his eyes and scratching his head, and I started to wonder what time it was, saying, Pop, what time is it by your watch?

Huh? said Pop. And he took out his watch and looked at it and put it back in his pocket without saying what time it was, and pritty soon I said, What time is it, pop?

Huh? Wala that? I just got finished telling you, didn't I? said pop. No sir, you looked but you didn't tell me, I said. And he took his watch out again, saying, Confound it, I'm trying to think, its 5 minutes to 8.

Yes sir, I said. Jest wanting to know on account of wondering, and I went out in the hall and set down on the top step, and ma came out of her room in a hurry with her hat on, saying, Goodness, I hope Im not late, I wonder what time it is.

And ma stuck her head in the setting room door, saying, Willyum, what's the time?

Time to let a man try to think, for the love of Peet, said pop. And he pulled his watch out again, saying, 2 minutes to 8.

Its the best time I have tonight, blast it all, how can a man think? said pop. And he kept on trying, and ma quick went down stairs still saying, 2 minutes to 8. And pritty soon the front door opened and my sister Gladys came in, saying, Whose that up there, is that you Benny?

Did Mr. Parkins telephone yet? and I said, No, and she started to come upstairs, saying, He said he would call up before quarter after 8. Pops in the setting room, he knows what time it is, I said. And Gladys stuck her head in the setting room door, saying, Father, what time is it?

Holey jumping cats, what is this, a family habit? said pop. I only asked you what time it is, I dont see anything so dreadful about that, you dont have to tell me if you dont want to, Im sure, said Gladys.

One minute after 8, a mans got a fat chance to think around hear, I must say, said pop.

And Gladys went up to her room and Nora, being our cook, came out of the dining room and started to come upstairs, ma saying, What time is it, Nora?

Well would you look at the little man setting on the top step all by himself wondering what time it is, Ill soon find out for you, my harty, said Nora.

And she stuck her head in the setting room door, saying, Mr. Potts, sir, what's the time, Benny wants to know, bless his little heart.

Blast his confounded impudens, you meen, wares he is, wares he is? said pop, mad as anything.

Wich I was jest closing the front door on my way out.

## A BIT OF FUN

### Undressed Fowl.

Mary, from the city, watched the farmer's wife plucking the duck for the morrow's dinner. Mary was interested in farm life. "Please, ma'am," she asked, "do you take off their clothes every night?"—New York Evening Post.

With a Double Half Hitch. "They sent the marine reporter to the absence of the society editor to write up the wedding of the heiress to a foreign nobleman, and how do you suppose he headed it?" "How?" "Tied Up to Her Peer."—Baltimore American.

A Regular One. "Did your new dressmaker give you a fit in that new gown?" "I should say so. They had to call in two doctors when I saw myself in it."—Baltimore American.

Happy Suggestion. "Smith gave me a couple of seats for the theatre today." "Topping! I'll get ready immediately." "Do, and perhaps you'll be in time for once. The seats are for tomorrow evening."—Casell's Saturday Journal.

And Start Something. Canvasser:—What party, Mrs. O'Grady, does your husband belong to? Mrs. O'Grady:—I'm the party. What about it?—Milestone.

Jealous. "I understand Casey's wife won't speak to him." "What's the trouble?" "I think it's jealousy. Casey is going around with black eye that 'as didn't give him."

## SONS OF THE SOIL TO RECEIVE MEDALS THIS AFTERNOON

Sixty-Nine Boys Who aided in Greater Production Movement Qualified—Presentation on King Square.

This afternoon at two o'clock the Sons of the Soil medals issued for those boys who have served on the farms and aided the greater production movement, will be presented to the boys in the St. John district, which takes in the entire county who have completed or will complete three months' service on the farm this season. The medals will be presented by Gen. Macdonnell and short addresses will be delivered by Premier Foster and Mayor Hayes.

The boys will meet at the Great War Veterans' Home at half past one this afternoon where they will form up and march to the King Square and after the presentation of the medals will be given a position where they will have a good view of the later proceedings when the address is presented to H. R. Prince Arthur.

Reprints sent in by the supervisors show that in nearly every case the boys made good and had been real help to the farmers during the time they were on the farms and out of the seven hundred and twenty-one boys placed only a few complaints had been received from the farmers. On the other hand the farmers had used the boys well and only one case had arisen where it had been found necessary to take the boy away from a farm.

The theatres in the centre of the city: Opera House, Gem, Imperial,

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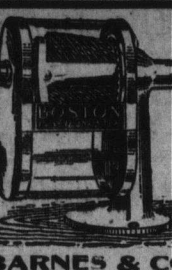
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