

The St. John Standard

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"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 SOLDIERS' VOTE.

The counting of the soldiers' vote has been proceeding in London, but it will be a few weeks before the results are known and the exact complexion of the next House of Commons is determined.

The general returning officer at Ottawa has issued a statement intended to counteract the prevalent impression that the votes of the soldiers are capable of manipulation by the authorities and can be thrown into a selected number of constituencies to the political destruction of the opposition candidate in such constituencies.

There is no warrant for this impression. In the act. Each soldier's ballot is contained in an envelope specifying the constituency in which it is to be counted and the direction of the soldier must be followed in the counting. Under the law the soldier is expected to vote in the constituency in which he lived before going overseas; but there is a provision which permits a soldier, who is a British subject and has no domicile in Canada, to designate to the constituency in which his vote is to be counted. It is this provision which has given rise to the belief that soldiers' votes can be thrown to local seats.

It is, of course, possible and indeed probable, that soldiers at the front might have thrown their votes to certain constituencies in order to secure the defeat of candidates whose views they regarded as anti-war, and anti-war; but in all such cases the action is taken by the soldier himself and not by the authorities. The votes will be counted precisely as they were cast. Half the returning officers who will count the ballot were nominated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

WHAT VON KUHLMANN SAID.

Premier Lloyd George's statement at British cannon will reply to German silence on the question of peace. Von Kuhlmann meant when he spoke some time ago in the main committee of the Reichstag of his unwillingness to let the German war aims be known. A recent report of which is now available, and here is a passage referred to:

It is said, whether bona fide or not I will not decide, that Germany has shown great reserve in the matter of her war aims because she contemplates a carefully thought out and deceitful manoeuvre. It is said that if once Germany actually succeeded in assembling her enemies at a conference table she would demand impossible claims, since she calculates that their people, weary of war and prepared for far-reaching political sacrifices, would not longer support their statesmen in refusing the German demands. For this reason it is said to be necessary to continue fighting until Germany has been forced to a detailed public statement of her conditions of peace. I would discuss these contentions if they had not been accepted by the enemy statesmen. If our adversaries are anxious to know what our aims are, the matter is very simple indeed. There are a sufficient number of ways available. History has not furnished an example any diplomatic conference purporting to settle international affairs which was convened without previously having informed it by confidential discussions of intentions of the parties who were privy to it.

From the tone of Mr. Lloyd George's speech it is clear that the Allies are able to get any frank statement from Von Kuhlmann promised. The German now is, was Von Kuhlmann, or has he been overruled?

AN UNHAPPY FAMILY.

The Carinas has gone mad, as it is not to be wondered at, burden of sorrow has been heavy and all her dreams have come night. In 1894 when she proceeded St. Petersburg to become the consort of the Czar of all the Russias, she was expressed in English newspapers that the Princess Alix of Hesse, daughter of Queen Victoria, and her surroundings gloomy in a distant court. The forebodings of her were justified, as events have shown. Terror has followed terror for Carina and sinister interests have been her, to her own undoing. Mystery of the royal heir's illness has been explained, but it appears to have brought grief to the Czar. Today the erstwhile royal are prisoners, anxiously hoping opportunity to escape from a people of which once held in veneration. How are the fallen!

Nicholas II. was of a line which

has brought disaster to several of its representatives. Cruelty has marked some reigns and the hand of the assassin has been more acute than in any other kingdom or empire of modern times. Ivan II. was imprisoned in 1741 and assassinated some score of years later. Peter III. was assassinated in 1762. The Emperor Paul was murdered in 1801. Alexander II. was assassinated on March 13, 1881. Nicholas II. has been in peril of violent death quite often. He has had to flee the wrath of his subjects more than once. The revolution which was the outcome of the war with Japan, and of the people's sickness of an absolute monarchy that promised reform and at the same time hindered its establishment, almost secured the downfall of the dynasty. The strivings for liberty have been unceasing ever since, and the present great war has seen them burst into a deluge, the end of which is uncertain. Meanwhile Nicholas Romanoff, who until the other day was Czar of an empire which comprised one-sixth of the territorial surface of the globe, is a man without an occupation, without a home, and who is probably soon to be without a country.

THE NEW CALL FOR MEN.

That Great Britain would be compelled to call more men to the colors has been anticipated ever since the Russian collapse and the near-collapse of Italy. The civil and military disorganization of Russia enabled Germany to move large bodies of troops for the much-needed reinforcement of the western front. No one, outside of Russia, supposed that this transfer would not take place, despite whatever stipulations that have been laid down by Russia and accepted by Germany, as terms of the armistice, with regard to it. The same conditions which enabled Germany to transfer German and Austrian troops to the western front, necessitated the withdrawal of British and French troops, to an unknown number, for the reinforcement of the Italian army. These changes called for new measures, and those measures are being taken. The burden must be borne by Great Britain, inasmuch as France "has poured forth her strength in the struggle," to use Sir Auckland Geddes' words, and months must elapse before the United States army can reach its necessary strength in the field. There is, therefore, no mystery as to the necessity for the new call, the details of which have been communicated to the Imperial Parliament by Sir Auckland Geddes as Minister of National Service. Interest centres chiefly in the plan which is to be followed, and in both the positive and the negative sides of that plan.

The call is for a minimum of 450,000 men, and more may be required. A section of the British press has urged insistently that the government draw upon the Irish reservoir of man-power, the estimate having been made that there are not less than a quarter of a million eligible men in Ireland. The government has decided not to take this course, being satisfied that "the reasons which excluded Ireland from the first compulsion act, have lost none of their potency." It has been decided also, not to lower the age limit, as Germany has done, and not to raise it, as Austria has done. The men required are to be taken from among the younger men previously exempted in very large numbers, because of their employment in essential industries. Their places will be filled by older men and by women. The number of men now under exemption on occupational grounds, exceeds one million, so that there should be little difficulty in finding the 450,000 required for the new call, the problem being rather to place them in the industries from which they are to be drawn.

The speech of Sir Auckland Geddes contains the clearest statement yet given as to the mobilization of British man-power. The total enrollment in the armed forces is placed at 7,500,000, of which England has contributed 4,500,000, the Dominions and colonies 900,000, Scotland 620,000, Wales 280,000, and Ireland 170,000, the remaining million being composed of natives from various dependencies, employed as fighting troops and as labor corps carriers, etc. The army enrollment is placed at four millions, while the naval personnel has risen in number from 150,000 to 400,000, a very notable and highly significant increase. What Sir Auckland Geddes says is that no less than 1,600,000 men from the eastern front of the Central Powers will be released for service against the British, French and United States armies in the west, with the United States forces still very far from their intended strength. His statement is in no

sense depressing, in so far as it deals with the military situation. Excluding Russia and Rumania, which, of course, must be excluded, the Allies have a substantial superiority in man-power over the Central Powers; the resources of the Allies and America are sufficient to ensure victory, and "nothing but a psychological catastrophe" can save the Central Powers. "What is proposed is that those resources be put to their fullest and most effective use. "At sea," says Sir Auckland Geddes, "we must be supreme; in the air we must win supremacy, and on land we must do the best we can to fill the gap Russia has made until America can take her place. And all the time we have to keep our vital industries going."

Following upon the speeches of Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson affirming the determination of the Allies to win the war, comes this new call upon the man-power of Great Britain, good proof that Britain is ready to back her words with deeds, and to keep the reinforced enemy fully employed on the western front until the arrival of the United States army establishes a superiority which, in Sir Auckland Geddes' words, will be the sure herald of complete and final victory.

A BIT OF VERSE.

NURSES OF THE EMPIRE.
We did not need to ask you,
You came with loyal heart,
And, faithful to your calling,
With zeal, to do your part.
You knew the cause was righteous,
You heard the great appeal,
And willingly you offered
To soothe, to cheer, to heal.

We do not need to tell you
How great your trials may be;
We bless you for your goodness,
And pray for victory;
Whatever may yet befall us,
In conquest or defeat,
A nation kneels to thank you,
A suppliant—at your feet.

—John Light.

A BIT OF FUN.

NEVER ABUSED PAPA.
The little tot was "lost." At the station the officer tried all sorts of questions to ascertain who she was. Finally he said: "What name does your mother call your father?" "She doesn't call him any name," replied the child; "she likes him."

THE PRACTICAL WIDOW.

Miss Gusher—You should see the wonderful letters Jack writes me. Widow Wyse—Yes, my dear, but the question is, will he show as much enthusiasm in drawing a cheque for a grocer's bill as he does in composing a love letter.

EXPLAINED.

Wife—I dreamed last night, dear, that I was in a box party at the theatre. Hub—Oh! That explains why we were talking so loud in your sleep.

THE HIGHER MATHEMATICS.

A man with a fishing pole sat on the river bank near the Archison water-works intake. "How many have you caught?" someone asked him.

THE NAVY LEAGUE MET YESTERDAY; M. P. FENNELL SPEAKS.

Dominion Secretary-Treasurer of League Gives Interesting Address—Col. Sturdee Appointed to Represent the League at Dominion Executive Meeting.

A meeting of the Canadian Navy League held yesterday afternoon in the Board of Trade rooms was addressed by M. P. Fennell Jr., the Hon. Dominion secretary-treasurer of the league, who outlined the purpose and aims of the league. Col. E. T. Sturdee presided.

After calling to the meeting to order, he referred to the expected growth of the league and said that the members of the local branch would have to put their shoulders to the wheel to bring it up to the expectation of the league.

HEAD STUFFED FROM CATARRH OR A COLD.

Says Cream Applied to Nostrils Opens Air Passages Right Up. Instant relief—no waiting. Our clogged nostrils open right up; the air passages of your head clear and you can breathe freely. No more yawning, snuffling, blowing, headache, dizziness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh disappears.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream to your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothes the inflamed or swollen mucous membrane and relief comes instantly.

It's just fine. Don't stay stuffed-up with a cold or nasty catarrh.

Little Benny's Note Book

I was watching pop smoking and thinking in the setting room, and all of a sudden I sed, Pop. Present, sed pop. Did you know how to ice skate wen you was a boy? I sed. I shoed say I did, sed pop, there was only one other boy that cood come enyware near me, and he coodent come very near.

G, pop, I sed, I bet you cood do tricks and everything. Tricks and everything any ipresses it mildly, sed pop, I cood cut a figure so neatly you wood of thawt it had bin done with a ruler. I mean a compass, and wen it came to fast skating, well, the wind had to let itself out some to keep up with me, thats all.

I bet people stood around watching you, and everything dident they, pop I sed. With all due modesty, they did, sed pop. Do you think I'll ever be able to skate that good, pop? I sed. Wy not? sed pop, blood will tell, and also, a chip of the old block is worth 2 in the bush.

Well G, pop, I sed, I bet you didnt just use ordnary skates that you had to strap on every time, did you, pop? I shoed say not, sed pop, I used the finest skates procurable and they were rivited on the hansomet pare' of skating shoes on the hole lake.

Well will you get me some like that so I can try to learn to skate as good as wat you used to, pop? I sed. Good nite, you cant get an outfit like that for less than 10 dollars at the cheapest, sed pop, and I sed, Well goah, pop, they must of cost even more wen you was a boy.

Say, I dont know wat you intend to be wen you grow up, but take it from me, you'll test out a politician, sed pop. Well will you, pop? I sed. And he sed, maybe he wood. Wich maybe he will.

MEAT INJURIOUS TO THE KIDNEYS

Take a tablespoonful of Salts if Back hurts or Bladder bothers.

We are a nation of meat eaters and our blood is filled with uric acid, says a well-known authority, who warns us to be constantly on guard against kidney trouble. The kidneys do their utmost to free the blood of this irritating acid, but become weak from the overwork; they get sluggish; the eliminative tissues clog and thus the waste is retained in the blood to poison the entire system.

When your kidneys ache and feel like lumps of lead, and you have stinging pains in the back or the urine is cloudy, full of sediment, or the bladder is irritable, obliging you to seek relief during the night; when you have headach, nervousness, and dizzy spells, sleeplessness, acid stomach or rheumatism in bad weather, get from your pharmacist about four ounces of Dr. Satter's table-spoonful in a glass of water before breakfast each morning and in a few days your kidneys will act fine. This famous salts is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush and stimulate clogged kidneys, to neutralize the acids in uric acid, so it is no longer a source of irritation, thus ending urinary and bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is inexpensive and cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink, and no body can resist its pleasant taste. A little occasionally to keep the kidneys clean and active.

the branches in Montreal and other large centres. He stated that the league \$100,000 which amount was from five to two dollars.

Mr. Fennell stated that the constitution which had been drawn up was very comprehensive and really needed but little explaining. He spoke of the initial steps taken two years ago which had led up to the organization of branches in nearly every city in the Dominion. The league has already sent \$75,000 to the British military to be expended in relief work with the navy and the Canadian navy. Here the question was raised as to whether St. John would have to send their supplies to Halifax and then call on that city to send back supplies when needed for distribution at this port. This, Mr. Fennell thought would not be necessary but thought that arrangements could be made later to keep here what supplies would be necessary for local distribution but said that Halifax had been chosen as the headquarters for supplies as that port was the naval base in Canada.

Among other matters brought up was the educating of the children in naval matters by lectures, also placing of reading matter in the libraries pertaining to the navy and the establishing of training ships in the various ports where the boys could get a similar training on the sea to what they receive through the Boy Scouts on land.

The question of having a paid or unpaid secretary to establish branches of the league in the smaller centres of the province was discussed. A motion was passed appointing Col. Sturdee, R. M. Smith and Mr. Fennell to a committee to arrange for the securing of a secretary and treasurer. Col. Sturdee was appointed to represent the league at a meeting of the Dominion Executive to be held in Montreal the first of February. The meeting then adjourned to await the call of the chair.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT OF LATE SENATOR ELLIS, P.C.M.

(Continued from page 3).

Promote Liberty.

And that this is a part of our obligation of which we are not unmindful I am conscious when I contemplate the numbers of brethren who have gone from every lodge and are now striking their blow for liberty on the battlefields of Europe and elsewhere. Let us who are at home see to it that we support our brave brethren by every means at our disposal. We have prayed for them tonight. Let us see to it that our prayers are followed by our labors. Let the Craft be forward in every good work to ameliorate the lot of the sick and wounded, and to minister to the needs of the widow and the fatherless. (And in this connection let me urge the brethren who are present here this evening to support the effort which the local branch of the Red Cross are to make in this city next Thursday.)

Secondly, as Masons it is our duty to Practice Liberty.

And by this I would have you understand that the Craft is not to be used as a means for self-advancement. Shame on the brother who has joined because of the good he could derive from it in his business, but rather I would have you see in it a priceless opportunity for the practice of that true Liberty which consists in the service of our brother men, and seek to link the service of the Craft with the service of the community.

Lastly and above all let us see to it that we provide Liberty with that true Divine atmosphere in which alone she can exist. The Holy Bible is the conscious realization of the Spirit of the Lord. Shame on the Mason whose Masonry is but an empty ritual and very comprehensive and really needed but little explaining. He spoke of the initial steps taken two years ago which had led up to the organization of branches in nearly every city in the Dominion. The league has already sent \$75,000 to the British military to be expended in relief work with the navy and the Canadian navy. Here the question was raised as to whether St. John would have to send their supplies to Halifax and then call on that city to send back supplies when needed for distribution at this port. This, Mr. Fennell thought would not be necessary but thought that arrangements could be made later to keep here what supplies would be necessary for local distribution but said that Halifax had been chosen as the headquarters for supplies as that port was the naval base in Canada.

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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Transfers in real estate have been recorded as follows: St. John County. Edith Dean et al to Katherine G. wife of H. E. Reardon, property in Wall street. F. G. Spencer et al to Louis Gaud, property in Simonds. F. G. Spencer et al to Phillip Gaud, property in Simonds. Kings County. G. G. Brown to O. W. Brown, property in Springfield. W. E. Edgar to O. W. Brown, property in Westfield.

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Washington, Jan. 22.—The thirty German ships seized by Brazil, when that country entered the war, have been chartered by the French government for war purposes.

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