

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 14, 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.

## TO MOBILIZE ALL CANADIANS.

June 22nd has been set aside by the Dominion Government as a day for the mobilization of Canadians for national service in the highest sense of the word. On that day every Canadian, man or woman, between the ages of sixteen and sixty, will be required to register and to give particulars as to age, social condition, occupation, and other data that may be deemed necessary or of value. The idea, which is to take an inventory of Canada's manpower, is a most commendable step in the way of national organization that has yet been undertaken.

There is little doubt that our manpower could be utilized to better advantage than it has been in the past or at the present time. Thousands of men and women are engaged in unnecessary occupations from which the state derives no benefit, and in which they are practically wasting their time. To win this war and to adequately prepare for the period of great development to come after the conclusion of peace, to grapple with the mighty problems that will present themselves, it is necessary that Canadian men and women shall apply themselves as never before, not only with energy but in the channel of effort for which they are best fitted. It is to provide as far as possible for this great and beneficial change that the registration movement is undertaken.

Faithfully carried out and followed up it is likely to prove a boon not only to Canada as a nation but to those thousands of Canadians who, for lack of intelligent direction, may have failed to secure to themselves or to the state the most complete returns for their effort.

## THE AMERICANS IN FRANCE.

Prompt denial from officials who should be in a position to speak with authority followed last evening's newspaper report to the effect that the American soldiers will not be used in France until they have arrived in sufficient number to form a complete, powerful, self-supporting army.

The inference to be drawn from the despatch is that the British and French armies are strong enough to do without American assistance until our newest ally can muster a powerful army of its own, and, despite official denials, it is quite probable that this is the real condition of affairs. Americans have already been used in the fighting in France and with good effect, and this is the point made by officials who deny the report.

But the fact that they have been used, and are today fighting with British and French troops under one central command, does not of necessity indicate that a different plan may not be followed as soon as they have a sufficient number of men to form a distinct fighting force of their own. And this may not be long delayed for one report is to the effect that at present the Americans in France number half a million men. That, in itself, is a much larger army than the British had in the battle of the Marne, or for many months thereafter.

But whether the Americans fight by themselves or brigaded with British and French troops, we may be assured that the new army will grow in size and power just as speedily as is humanly possible. The United States engaged in this war with a deadly earnestness that daily becomes more apparent. Preparations are well under way, and while, for obvious reasons, it is not possible to give details of the splendid work accomplished from Washington it can be predicted that, before the summer is over, the strength of Uncle Sam's arm will be exerted with a punishing force that will set a new mark even for this already unprecedented world struggle.

## DENIAL BY A TRUTHFUL GERMAN.

No one who has sought to know the truth has been deceived by the German plea that the war was provoked by English and French intrigue and that Belgium was a mere catapaw in their hands. But it is pleasing to have confirmation of Germany's blood-guiltiness from what may in the circumstances be regarded as an official source.

Dr. Muhlson, whose revelations of the infamous conversation between the Kaiser and Dr. Helfferich of the Deutsche Bank, in which the Kaiser declared (although diplomatic negotiations were still in progress) that no one would be able to accuse him this time of hesitation, and that Austria was to be backed up in her demands on Serbia, even to the point of war, has made a further disclosure which completely contradicts the despicable

lie that Belgium was really in league with England and France for an attack on Germany.

Dr. Muhlson was formerly a director of the firm of Krupp, and from his present home in Switzerland, he presents to the world his memorandum, made while he was still a director of Krupp.

Before the war Belgium ordered at Krupp's four 28-centimetre guns for Antwerp. These were ready and paid for at the beginning of 1914; but, as their emplacements were not ready, the Belgian Government begged Krupp to delay delivery and Krupp's reluctantly agreed, and at the outbreak of the war the guns, which were worth £160,000, were seized by the Prussian Ministry of War.

Denial of alleged Belgian duplicity could hardly be more explicit. If Belgium were in league with England and France, with design to make war on Germany, would she not have been warned by them not to leave her weapons in German hands? If Belgium had had any inkling of war, it is probable she would have left her guns with the Krupps?

## AN APPRECIATION.

(Le Moniteur Acadien.)

The Provincial House has one of its most aggressive members in the Hon. B. Frank Smith. He was minister of Public Works in the Murray government when the defeat of February 1917, interrupted an administrative career promising great results. While at the head of this department, he inaugurated important and useful reforms and outlined for the future an ambitious programme for the improvement of public roads, programme that his successor would have been well advised to follow, in place of wasting public monies in the scandalous manner that characterized the administration of the department of Hon. P. J. Veniot last fall.

Mr. B. Frank Smith is a self-made man who, thanks to his industry and the intelligent use of much natural talent, has attained the highest position in commercial and political circles. He is a fighting politician of great strength and would sooner fight than eat. His political friends have for him sincere admiration, while his opponents are inspired with that salutary fear which marks the beginning of wisdom.

A learned parliamentarian, a fluent and eloquent speaker, he always commands the attention of the House. In his speech on the budget, he roused the hilarity of the house, by comparing Mr. Veniot to an old breach-loader that belonged to his father. This ancient fire-arm was furnished with a false chamber and when fired, made a deafening roar but hurt nobody.

## A NOBLE CANADIAN.

When Hon. Dr. H. S. Beland, Canada's first volunteer for service in the great war, returns to Canada he should be given a welcome commensurate with his heroism and the hardships he has suffered for more than three years. Dr. Beland, who was Postmaster-General for a brief time in the last Laurier government, was in Belgium when the war broke out. At once he offered his services as a surgeon and in that capacity did his work with the Belgian forces in the field. During the early days he fell into the hands of the Germans and was not only Canada's first volunteer but also the first Canadian prisoner of war. Since his capture he has been kept prisoner in Belgium. Yesterday the cables brought word that he had been released. The news will be joyfully received by all Canadians.

## A Destroyer's Fight.

Here is the story of a destroyer's fight against two submarines. One of our own ships on convoy duty spotted a periscope half a mile away, but before she could close with the enemy he had dived. Down went the depth charge, and wreckage and portions of the submarine came to the surface. Just then another periscope was sighted, and our destroyer's gun went for the second enemy. The submarine fired a torpedo at the destroyer, missing her, and then disappeared.

One of H. M. ships was escorting an oil carrier through dirty weather when the latter was torpedoed without the escort or convoyed ship having seen anything. Half an hour later a submarine was sighted. Our defending boat shelled the enemy, then rammed him, sustaining a severe shock in contact, and then blew him

up. The usual oil and wreckage came to the surface and a couple of German sailors were seen swimming. Our men succeeded in rescuing one, and then the U-boat fighter returned to the torpedoed oiler and towed her to port. "A very creditable performance," says the Admiralty.

A German submarine grounded one morning, but so well was she shadowed that a group of drifters was waiting on her before she knew it. Although these vessels were outraged by the enemy's guns, they engaged him in gallant fashion, under a heavy fire all the time. They were joined by one of H. M. ships ten minutes after the engagement opened, and the submarine abandoned the action. We ceased fire, and shortly afterwards the U-boat blew up.

## A New Art in Flying.

(Westminster Gazette.)  
An officer who has been spending much time among the airmen at the front writes: "Nothing can equal the cheerful devotion of these pilots. They are at it morning, noon and night, and it is not too much to say that they saved the situation. Such continuous and concentrated flying is a new art which hardly began before Cambrai has never been seen, and its value in checking the enemy advance and dispersing reinforcements cannot be exaggerated." We gladly quote this passage from a private letter, for we feel that no testimony to the work done by our airmen in France during the present offensive can be too high a tribute to their services. Never before have the fliers taken so prominent a part as a combatant arm, and in that capacity they have shown that the aeroplane must be counted among the indispensable auxiliaries of any fighting force in a time of advance or retreat.

## He Has No Chance.

(From the Toronto Globe.)  
The Kaiser, it must not be forgotten, is a theatrical personage. His people have been staggered by the losses sustained during the past month. The occupation of Dunkirk would enable him and his military advisers to swaggar a bit to point once more to a determined attack upon the English Channel. For these reasons it would seem probable that the enemy may postpone the resumption of his offensive on the Somme, and concentrate his available resources for a determined attack upon the Kemmel Hill sector. It promises more immediate and spectacular results, if successful, than the continuation of the drive toward Amiens. If it fails the failure will not be so marked as would be a failure from Amiens after arriving within nine miles of that city. But whether at Kemmel Hill or on the Somme, the Germans must continue to attack. Defensive warfare now would be for them a final confession of defeat.

## A BIT OF VERSE

### THE SONG OF THE HOE.

The Farmerettes sing as they loyally go  
To the fields of the turnip and beet;  
And the song that they sing is the  
Song of the Hoe.  
With its jubilant melody sweet.  
It's a song for the faithful, the trust-  
worthy soil,  
A song for the wearisome pleasure  
of toll,  
A song of the carrot and corn,  
The dew of the eve and the morn,  
A song of the spade,  
Of the new garden laid,  
The garden where weeds dare not  
grow—  
It's all in the Song of the Hoe.

The Farmerettes sing as they shovel  
and plover  
And sow the first seed of the year,  
"We too, are good soldiers who grace  
fully bow  
To the call of a land we love dear;  
A song of brave labor, of patriot zeal,  
Of hearts that are true to their loved  
nation's weal."  
Of honor and cheer for our own,  
The loved who have left us alone  
While they fight, as do we,  
For the Flag of the Free!  
We sing as we finish each row  
The jolly, old Song of the Hoe!  
—Laraine Sheldon, in the New York Times.

## A BIT OF FUN

Why She Couldn't Spell.  
Old Mrs. Donohoe managed to get along in the world in spite of her educational deficiencies. One day she was called upon by a lawyer to sign a rather important paper.  
"You sign it yourself, young man, an' I'll make me mark," said the old woman. "Since me eyes gave out I'm not able to write a word."  
"How do you spell it?" he asked, his pen poised above the proper place.  
"Spell it whatever way ye please," said Mrs. Donohoe promptly. "Since I lost me teeth there's not a wurd in the wurrd I can spell."

Speding Him Up.  
"Don't worry," said the doctor, "I'll soon have you husband well and back to work again."  
"I'm so glad," replied the wife.  
"So am I," replied the M. D. "Because the sooner he gets back to work the sooner he'll pay my bill."

Overdoing It.  
"How do you account for your success in politics?"  
"Some of it is due to the violence of my enemies," replied Senator Sorghum. "They went after me with such indiscriminate wrath that a lot of people voted for me out of sheer sympathy."—Washington Star.

What Were They?  
Small Girl (entertaining her mother's caller)—How is your little girl?  
Caller—I am sorry to say, my dear, that I haven't any little girl.  
Small Girl (after painful pause in conversation)—How is your little boy?  
Caller—My dear, I haven't any little boy, either.  
Small Girl—Then what are yours?  
The People's Home Journal.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.  
The Park Ave. News.

Kind Ackshin Rewarded. Last Saturday afternoon Lew Davis was setting on his front steps and a lady stopped and sed she was thirsty and asked him to go in and get her a glass of water. Wich Lew Davis did, and the lady gave him 2 cents. And after that Lew Davis stopped 10 other ladies and asked them if they wanted a glass of water, but none of them did.  
Sports. Skinny Martin announces that he challenges anybody except Reddy Morry to a duel with boxing gloves.  
Real Estate News. Sid Hunt and Leroy Shooter are thinking of taking down the fence between their back yards and making one big back yard, the only thing that prevents them being that they haven't bin able to get their parents consent and don't think they will.  
Sisley. Mr. Benny Potts has intirely recovered from his cold and has got another one.  
Intristing Facts About Intristing People. Puds Simkins can count up to 5 in French, and believes that that will make the langwidge mutch easier for him to learn in case he ever goes to Frants.

Pome by Skinny Martin.  
O Life is Crool and Sad  
I had a 2 dollar bill in my pocket,  
As I wended my way so glad,  
But it was only to buy some groceries with.  
O life is crool and sad!

## UNITED STATES TO AID SLAV PEOPLES

Capt. Laguardia Tells Congress of Bohemians, Serbians and Other Slavs to Break Away from Hapsburg Dynasty.

Rome, April 12.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press).—"Get together, break away from yoke of the Hapsburgs, establish your great Yugo-Slav confederation and we will be glad to welcome you not only as sister but as ally."

Captain Laguardia, on his way to the Italian front, remained in Rome just long enough to address the assembly. He surprised the delegates by speaking in the Serbian language.

In the presence of Italian senators, deputies and diplomats, assembled with the all-Slav delegates to decide upon common action with Italy against Austria, Captain Laguardia said that the American people were unfamiliar with the intricate politics of the Balkan states which were so complicated, he added, that only a few natives understand them thoroughly themselves. "Make it simple," he went on. "All unite into one big people, one powerful nation, that is the sort of politics we understand and that is the way we want to help you. We will provide for you, help you until you are strong enough to look after yourselves. I am sending your resolutions to the House of Representatives and they will be read by millions of Slavs in America living as free citizens in a free country."

London, May 1.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press).—"A plan to safeguard the interests of Ulster by giving its representatives a veto power in proposed new Irish Parliament, over measures which conflict with Ulster interests, has been characterized by Premier Lloyd George as a 'workable expedient.' This fact has just been disclosed by making public a letter which the Premier wrote to Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the Irish Convention some time ago when the convention became deadlocked over the Ulster question and sent delegates to confer with the Premier in London.

"The government understands," wrote Lloyd George, "that it has been suggested that a safeguard of Ulster interests might be secured by provision of an Ulster Committee within the Irish Parliament with power to modify and, if necessary, to exclude the application of Ulster of certain measures either of legislation or administration."

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**FUNERAL**  
The funeral of Sister M  
took place yesterday mor  
o'clock, from St. Peter's  
St. Peter's Church. The  
was headed by the childre  
er's School, directed by  
Principal. Following the  
twenty Sisters of Charity  
tives and members of the  
ion. Solemn Requiem Ma  
brated by Rev. F. Costello  
deacon, and Rev. J. P. Co  
R., sub-deacon.  
His Lordship Bishop L  
the final absolution assist  
Rev. Mr. J. J. Walsh, V.  
Wm. M. Duke. There w  
gregation present. The  
were James B. McGrath,  
Walsh, Thos. Buckley and  
gerald. Interment was in  
Catholic cemetery. Pray