

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1918.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—M. M. The King.
 TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

A LAND OF DESOLATION.

It is reported from Washington, as published elsewhere in this morning's issue of The Standard, that travellers escaping from Russia report the existence of an appalling condition. Responsible men are being executed because they are suspected of being in opposition to the Soviet government and altogether that once great country is in a state of absolute chaos.

But Russia will not commence to feel the full weight of the misery brought about by the Bolshevik successes until winter sets in. What that country will then be like is a picture of which no one who has not lived there since the adoption of Bolshevik rule can form the slightest conception.

Even the carefully prepared Bolshevik news, which is, in addition, censored by Germany, since Germany controls the telegraph lines, gives us an idea of riot and bloodshed, anarchy and terrorism, famine and pillage, which seems the last step in the disintegration of a people.

But when these horrors are added the horrors of a winter without food or clothing, except such as can be taken by force from their possessors; when in many districts food will not be in existence even until the next force; when to the universal reign of anarchy is added the daily threat of execution at the whim of irresponsible bodies of self-appointed judges, without scruple, without intelligence, who are merely the expression in the highest degree of criminal brutality, the picture of residence in the Russia of today must remain indescribable.

Some hint of it is given by James Kealey, the former proprietor of the Chicago Herald, who has been conducting an investigation of conditions in Russia for the United States Government.

"European Russia this coming winter," Mr. Kealey says, "will, yes, must be, the world's most awful graveyard. Famine isn't a possibility. It is a certainty, today an actuality. Pestilence is rearing the first crop of a gigantic harvest. According to my information from a quarter to one-third of the inhabitants must die before next summer. There is neither work nor food to support the population, and today the working people are simply predestined victims of hunger and disease. Productive labor has been annihilated and no nation can live without it."

"All financial system has vanished. Debts have been repudiated, banks abolished, and the gold reserve of the nation largely stolen. The printing press is the monetary right arm of the Bolshevik government. Three months ago the Trotskyites had turned out 25,000,000 rubles of the old pattern notes. The postal service having gone to the scrap heap, communities finding it difficult to secure supplies of this fiat currency took to manufacturing their own notes, which are not accepted outside their own districts or towns. Travellers, should they be such hardy individuals in Russia at the present time, would have to pay the cost of exchanging these notes as they passed from place to place and at a rate of from one-half to two-thirds their face value."

This is what has been achieved by Germany and Germany's instruments, Lenin, Trotsky, et al. If Germany had not already had too much on her hands, by this time she would have stepped in and taken over from them the administration of the country. She has reduced Russia to the point where Russia has ceased to be a nation, to a point where it is in a condition to be swallowed piecemeal by the first well-organized, powerful nation that comes along. Germany had laid her plans to be that nation. That she will not carry out her programme is not due to the Russians, even though there are millions of them who have no sympathy with what has been done. It will be due to the superior claims of the Allies on the various fronts, other than the Russian front, have had on Germany's attention. She is now fully occupied with other tasks than that of assimilating a rundown and exhausted nation. And it is quite safe to say that she will remain so occupied to the end.

EXIT OF J. C. WATTERS.

That J. C. Watters was not re-elected to the presidency of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress did not come as a surprise for reports from that gathering during the two or three days preceding the election of officers foreshadowed that there would be a change. His successor, Thomas Moore of Niagara, who defeated Mr. Watters by a substantial majority, represents the safe and sane elements of Canadian unionism and his election is a good omen for the upbuilding of organized labor in Canada upon a stable and enduring basis.

Ex-President Watters is an ultra-radical and a Socialist, rather than a

genuine Labor Unionist. His course of action during his incumbency of the office of president of the congress—an office which gave him the appearance of being able to speak authoritatively for the workers of the Dominion—showed that with him internationalism bulked larger than patriotism, and that he was an apostle of demagogism rather than a real leader. He was as far separated as the poles from such a leader as Samuel Gompers, whose sound common-sense, broad vision, and sturdy patriotism, have shed such lustre on Organized Labor in the United States.

Last year, Mr. Watters, by his infatuated opposition to Military Service, to the Victory Loan, and to almost every measure adopted by the Government to aid in the winning of the war, divided the workers of Canada into two opposing camps, and almost succeeded in making wreck of the cause of Labor Unionism in the Dominion. After the Dominion elections of last year, he bowed to the coming storm, and his public utterances suddenly assumed a more moderate tone. He even helped, in several instances, to smooth out labor difficulties, and occasional references to the duty of workers to speed up production found place in his speeches and newspaper interviews. At this year's meeting of the Labor Congress he showed a similar change of spirit, in his capacity of presiding officer at its meetings. But the transformation came too late. The damning record of three years could not be blotted out by a few months of exemplary conduct. He failed to lead Organized Labor with wisdom, or even with sanity, in a great crisis, and has paid the penalty by being cast aside for another, and it is to be hoped, a wiser leader. Few will lament his fall. All will hope that his successor may profit by his fate.

SPANISH INFLUENZA.

What is popularly called "Spanish influenza" is now prevalent in several sections of the United States. Where the disease has appeared cases have been numerous, says The Detroit Free Press, but the mortality is low. An epidemic of influenza swept Spain and invaded several other countries last winter. From medical investigations it has been determined that the malady is an acute form of la grippe, which more than a quarter of a century ago was epidemic first in China, then in Russia, and eventually swept over the civilized world. At its first appearance la grippe caused many deaths. As it came to be better understood and treated it lessened in virulence year by year. It seems in this recrudescence to have regained some of its old severity.

Dr. Rupert Blue, of the United States health service, has lately made a telegraphic survey of the situation in the United States and has sent out instructions and warnings to physicians and people that the ailment may be so combated as to reduce its ravages to the lowest possible terms. Dr. Blue finds the onset of the disease is rapid, after infection requiring only one or two days for full development. He urges isolation of sufferers, disinfection of respiratory passages, and says:

"First, there is a chill, then fever, with temperature from 101 to 103, headache, backache, redness and running of the eyes, pains and aches all over the body and general prostration. Persons so attacked should go to their homes at once, get to bed without delay and immediately call a physician."

"Treatment under direction of the physician is simple, but important, consisting principally of rest in bed, fresh air, abundant food, with Dover's powder for the relief of pain. Convalescence requires careful management to avoid serious complications, such as bronchial pneumonia."

The disease may be avoided by two concurrent methods: First, keep out of crowds, if possible; second, constantly disinfect nose and throat. In addition see that all bodily functions are kept normal.

In the earlier years of la grippe pandemics many persons went to their physicians and received directions for the use of coal-tar remedies as preventives, with considerable success. This method is again being followed in many places.

The critical moment has arrived in transformation of Russia. The Bolshevik power is breaking up, and Allied troops have entered Russia by the

three gateways that still remain, in the North, in the Caucasus, and in Siberia. It is characteristic of the anomalies of the situation that whereas in the North Bolsheviks are fighting us, and describing us in their military bulletins as "the enemy," in the South our troops have come to the rescue of other Bolsheviks, who, with Armenian volunteers, are defending Baku against a Turkish force. So far our operations in Russia are in the initial stage. The difficult work of preparation has been successfully surmounted, the enterprise is launched, its aims are proclaimed, and our troops are already in contact with different sections of the Russian population.

That the British force has been welcomed in the North is beyond question. The population of Archangel only submitted to Bolshevik rule when it was forced on them by an armed expedition in January, and have since endured the yoke most unwillingly. The great majority of the inhabitants of the thickly wooded northern governments are sturdy, independent peasants. There are few large landowners and little industry apart from saw-milling. The class struggle has been hardly felt in this region, and there has been little sympathy for Soviet doctrine. And for months past the population has been looking to England for relief.

Reliance on British Help.

As long ago as last December, when I was travelling to Kieff in a carriage full of soldiers who were discussing with some amusement the declaration of Ukrainian independence, I heard a soldier from Archangel put the view prevailing among his people in a sentence. "Well," he said, "if Russia is going to split up into a lot of separate states, we in the Archangel government think the best thing we can do is to put ourselves under England." When at the end of March I travelled north from Petrograd to Murmansk, I found the arrival of British troops eagerly anticipated all along the line.

That the Allied troops will be received with sympathy by the local population in the North is certain. The fighting, such as it is, has not gone entirely in our favor. A small force that marched along the flat road from Onega Bay, to outflank the Bolshevik force, was retreating towards Vologda. What is of more importance for the immediate purpose of the expedition is that a British force has gone up by boat along the most beautiful stretch of the river in Russia. From Kotlas, a short branch railway leads to Viatka, a considerable town on the main line from Petrograd and Vologda to Siberia. It was reported recently that in Viatka the Bolshevik regime, never firmly established, had been overthrown by the local insurrection. From Viatka it is not very far through Perm to Ekaterinburg, which, according to the Czechs-Slovaks, the prospects of our getting into touch with the Czechs-Slovaks, the interior seem, therefore, very favorable.

But it must be remembered that all our military operations in the North, including the occupation of strategic points, the maintenance of communications and the creation of a Russian force, must be carried out with great energy before winter comes on, and before the Germans succeed in effecting counter-strokes. In the Caucasus the conditions are even now, as they always have been, most distinctly unfavorable to our plans.

Our chief difficulties, however, will be not military, but political. The Bolsheviks are falling, though the reports that Lenin and Trotsky have left Moscow are hardly credible, and it is for many reasons highly improbable that they would take refuge in Kronstadt. But their fall will leave many complications. Their fall will leave many complications. Their fall will leave many complications.

Our Task is Clear.

Our task in Russia is clear. The work of our troops is to help Russia to free herself from the Germans, and to restore to her people liberty of action. We cannot, and must not, impose on Russia any particular political system, nor can we, while engaged in the work to which we have set our hand, allow ourselves to be entangled with any particular faction, or permit anything we do to prejudice the free reconstruction of Russia. For instance, we are being assured, and shall be assured, on the one hand, that only a monarchy can save Russia; on the other hand, that the Russian people will have nothing but a republic. And pleading with the Allies the partisans of each theory will be tempted to urge that their opponents are tainted with pro-Germanism. But it would be a very great misfortune if the Allies were to allow the directness of their aim to be impaired by considerations of this kind. They know that there are both monarchists and republicans who have been most stubbornly pro-Ally, and there are monarchists and republicans who in one way or another have displayed German sympathies. The issue as between a monarchy and a republic in Russia is not one on which the Allies can, ought, or are even likely to make a declaration, still less to take action.

And it would be dangerous to let the view become prevalent that we, in our military and economic action in Russia, are working for or against either one of these strong currents of feeling. It would be equally dangerous if the Allies were to let themselves be persuaded into imagining that one movement is necessarily pro-Ally and the other necessarily pro-German. Our only course is to be impartial in bulk and in detail. According to the terms of the British proclamation, we have no intention of imposing any political system. Our concern is with Russia. And we shall achieve a real political success if we can hold together all pro-Ally elements, of whatever political coloring, until the main task is accomplished.

Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

Some man was standing on the corner yesterday afternoon giving out little sampl bottles of cologne to whoever went past, so I went past and he gave me one, being sutch good cologne you could smell it all the way throo the cork, and I went around the block and came back and went past him again with my cap pulled away down for a disguise, and he handed me another bottle, and I went around the block again and started to go past him with my cap on backwards, and the man sed, Wat, you still, agen?
 Meaning he had saw throo my disguise the first time, and he wouldn't give me any more, and I went home with the 2 bottles of cologne, thinking, G, I know, I'll put some on me and go around and let Mary Watkins smell me.
 And I took the cork out of one bottle and sprinkled all the cologne on my hair and clothes, not being much of it but smelling as if there was a lot more, me thinking, Maybe I better put the other bottle on for good measure.
 Wich I did, and I went around to Mary Watkins house and Mary Watkins was setting on the front steps, and I sat down alongside of her without saying anything about the cologne, and she didnt say anything and I sat closer on account of thinking maybe it didnt reach that far, and she kept on not saying anything, so I sat still closer, and she sed, We dont you push me off the steps wile youre about it?
 Me not saying anything, and after a wile I sed, Do you smell anything?
 Serteny, do you think I'm deff' sed Mary Watkins. Meaning nobody couldnt help smelling it, and I sed, Its cologne, did you smell it all the time?
 Yes, but I didnt know wat it was, and I didnt say anything because I didnt want to hurt your feelings, sed Mary Watkins. And she kept on moving farther away without saying w, and pritty soon I got up, saying, Well, I gess I got to go home now. Her not telling me not to, and I did and had to eat suppr in the back yard and hang my clothes up on the clothes line all nite and give my hair a bath, and now you cant smell it unless you come rite up to about 2 feet of me.

A BIT OF VERSE

CITED FOR BRAVERY.

(Ella A. Fanning, in the New York Times.)
 "Balley's Ben," he was called on the street—
 Jest th' most o'nary boy t' meet!
 Tow-headed, freckled, an' bashful—
 "No!"
 Let a gal speak an' he'd run away!
 Wa'n't no young patridge ever was
 "No!"
 But—"Brave under fire!"
 When trouble broke he was wild t' go,
 But his strict home-made Ma said
 Didn't believe in a "wicked war."
 One o' them good, timid wimmin—
 Less fer this earth than th' heavenly choir!
 But—"Brave under fire!"
 Then th' first draft come and Ben got
 his call!
 His shifless Dad didn't mind at all.
 An' though his Ma, she took on some—
 well,
 She quit grievin' after a spell,
 Glad he was down on th' ground, not
 a flier—
 But—"Brave under fire!"
 Once he got home in his khaki rig—
 Wouldn't a' known him, tall an' big,
 Too-head cropped, close an' his skin
 grown clear.
 Then his squad salled, an' fer half a
 year,
 Wa'n't any news, though you might
 inquire
 But—"Brave under fire!"
 Course, Ben, he writ, every time he
 could.
 Then come a battle near some French
 wood,
 Planes droppin' bombs, big guns
 rakin' shell,
 Huns like gray devils let loose from—
 well,
 They jest kept gainin' an' gittin'
 igher—
 But—"Brave under fire!"
 Yonder, there, see, in the Town Hall,
 They've put an Honor Roll on th' wall,
 There's a blue star on th' schoolhouse
 Bailey's Ben's kin—massy; don't they
 brag!
 Cited—by Pershins—say, wot's much
 And—"Brave under fire!"

A BIT OF FUN

Both Levelled.
 "She married a diamond in the rough, I am told."
 Yes. It was a most unfortunate marriage."
 "How so?"
 "She lost her own polish trying to give him one."—Birmingham Age-Herald.
 Master Card.
 "Why do they call these aviators' cards?"
 "Because they generally take the trick."—Baltimore American.
 Another Doctor Now.
 "What seems to be the trouble."

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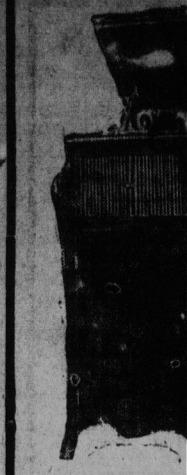
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J. MAR

PRESENTATION POPULAR

Lieut.-Col. Powell With Toilet Set Leather Case Reception Com

A most interesting place yesterday afternoon. Tour Apartments, where of the citizens' reception for soldiers called a Lieut. Col. Powell, who, given an important case, takes him from the glory of a toilet set, with a case. The presentation was Mayor Hayes, who, in chosen words, expressed the citizens at the seat. The presentation was Mayor Hayes, who, in chosen words, expressed the citizens at the seat. The presentation was Mayor Hayes, who, in chosen words, expressed the citizens at the seat.

MARRIED

CARMICHAEL-BOYD
 N.B., on Wednesday the Rev. C. A. S. W. Estella Boyd to Rusk Carmichael.

DIED.

GODSON—In this city, 23, 1918, William J. Godson, his wife and one son. Funeral from his late home, Exmouth street, Wednesday, September 25, 1918. Friends invited to attend.