

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MAY 2, 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.

## THE WAR NEWS.

There has been a decided improvement in the tone of the war news during the last two or three days. It is now reported that German attacks in the direction of Ypres have been regulated with such a heavy toll of casualties that the advance in that sector has slackened. In the fighting in Mesopotamia and Palestine, although these operations are of little importance when compared to the major campaign, the British have made substantial gains, in one operation advancing their lines twenty miles in two days and capturing a considerable number of men and guns. The unrest in Austria appears to be spreading and a report last night had it that Bohemian troops had joined the Italians and were already fighting against the Austrians.

While the Bohemian incident may develop much importance, it was not unexpected, for in several of the recently published books dealing with the Austrian campaigns, the attitude of the Bohemians has been the subject of comment. D. Thomas Curtin, in his volume, "The Land of Deceitful Shadow," tells that in the earlier campaigns of Austria against Russia, Prussian regiments were brigaded with the Bohemians to prevent wholesale desertions. If these desertions are now taking place, as alleged by last night's despatches, the inference is that the Central Empires can no longer prevent them. It is also stated that Austria is suffering with social and industrial unrest and that the party which desires complete separation from the war policy of Berlin and aims at a separate peace is growing in numbers and influence.

It must be admitted, however, that Germany's allies have proven most loyal to her. While Roumania, Serbia, Montenegro and Russia have been practically removed from consideration as effective fighting forces on the side of the Entente, the Austrians and Turks continue to carry on for Germany, while even the Bulgarian forces are occasionally heard from. The withdrawal of Austria, if the present unrest should lead to that, would be far more serious for Germany than the crushing of Russia was to the Allies, for the addition of the United States tended to more than offset any loss sustained by the removal of the weaker Allied nations. The withdrawal of Austria would permit of the addition of large numbers of Italian troops to the forces combating Germany in the west and as that campaign must be won by the side possessing the greatest weight of men and guns, might prove an important factor in determining the result. Altogether the latest despatches are decidedly more encouraging than for several weeks previously.

## AN APPRECIATION.

The Montreal Acadien publishes in its last issue the following appreciation of Hon. James A. Murray:

"Provincial government supporters in the House did their best by all petty means in their power to picture the Honorable James Murray, ex-premier of the province, as a bigot, a fanatic and a hater of the French. It is impossible to commit a greater injustice than this to a statesman who has shown throughout his career such a noble spirit of tolerance and justice, and who took advantage of every occasion to prove the good intentions by which he was animated towards his fellow-citizens of French origin. While Minister of Agriculture and Prime Minister he was a prudent and progressive, a wise and enterprising administrator. The one distinguishing feature, greater than any other, is the scrupulous integrity which he has always displayed in public welfare. He enjoys everybody's confidence and the respect of even his bitterest enemies. The uncalculated defeat which he sustained in the elections of February, 1917, interrupted him from giving to the country the full measure of his talents and brilliancy; but he will soon get his revenge, for at the very first chance that the people get, they will again entrust him with the government of the province.

"Last Thursday, Mr. Murray made a powerful speech on the budget; a speech full of figures and facts, extremely well balanced and of an impeccable logic. Certain parts of it throw a clear light on the contrast existing between the Government of which he was the leader and the one that today mismanages provincial affairs."

## SAVING WHEAT AND SUGAR.

There will be loyal acceptance of the new regulation of the Canada Food Board which restricts the use of sugar in commercial candy-making and of sugar, fat and wheat flour in various bakery products. The sugar situation

is reported to be such that careful handling is regarded as a necessity. The Cuban crop is good but the shortage of shipping makes it a problem to get adequate supplies into this country. The consumption of sugar in Canada and the United States has been abnormally large and if shipments of cane-sugar are to be made to Britain and France, which, before the war, depended so largely on the German beet product, there must be a reduction in quantities used on this side of the Atlantic.

Even more necessary is the conservation of fats and wheat. Between now and the next harvest the men overseas will require every pound of wheat and wheat flour we can spare and even at that it is regarded as questionable whether enough can be forwarded to meet the needs. The demands on United States wheat will also increase as the American army in France grows.

There will be regret that the bakers and confectioners of the country will have their legitimate business interfered with by this war order but they are not the first manufacturers to be put on short rations since this war commenced because of the impossibility of securing necessary supplies. Such articles as are put under the ban by the newest food regulation can be regarded as luxuries of the table and the requirements of war are now so severe that it is not at all unlikely that all but the most common necessities will have to be given up. The loss of table delicacies and highly sweetened foods is but a very small matter compared to the sacrifices the people of Britain and France have been making with cheerfulness for months. Canadians will survive even though the products of the baker and confectioner may be less toothsome in the future than in the past.

## THE LARGEST "DRY" TOWN.

The honor of being the largest city in the world under prohibition which formerly belonged to Toronto has passed across the international boundary. Yesterday, May 1st, the whole State of Michigan moved out of the wet column and at the same time Detroit ceased to become a refuge for the thirsty. The change will be a severe blow to residents of Windsor, Ont., and vicinity who since the passage of the Ontario prohibition law were accustomed to "cross the river" to the Detroit metropolis for their "inspirations."

By the terms of the constitutional amendment which made Michigan a dry state the sale or manufacture of alcoholic liquor is forbidden except for medicinal, mechanical, scientific and sacramental purposes. Detroit is now the largest city in the world under prohibition.

## POTATO SITUATION.

The Canada Food Board is anxious to avoid any waste of potatoes during the coming weeks. The general opinion of dealers is that there is still a considerable, although not an excessive, amount of potatoes in the hands of the producers, but that the market is fairly firm, and if the producers will sell freely the total surplus will be disposed of at or near the prevailing price of about \$1.75 a barrel. It is just possible that on account of the shortage of rice in the British West Indies, because of lack of tonnage, a market may be found for some of our surplus in those islands.

In the midst of the world shortage of cereals it would be criminal for the food value of our potatoes to be wasted. No doubt at present prices the farmer will be a loser, for with the high cost of production last year, and only one-half a crop, potato production was an unprofitable venture. Unfortunately, the cereal crop in this province was also a very low yield and most people do not appreciate the farmer's situation in regard to these essential crops.

But the price of potatoes to the consumer has been so high that the consumption has been limited. At the present prices, however, potatoes are a nutritious and profitable food and our cities and towns should encourage an increased consumption. Every effort should be made by dealers and municipalities to lower the spread between producer and consumer in order that the farmer may not suffer more than is actually necessary, and that the consumer may be stimulated to make the largest use of this perishable food.

But it is imperative now for the grower to get his potatoes upon the market with as much expedition as possible, and in this effort he should have the support and help of the consumer. Each party should see in addition to his private interest the patriotic duty of conserving and using this important food supply. Potatoes are perishable, their food value on the farm is small, a new crop from the south will soon be on the market, the present prices will not be exceeded and in a few days the farmer will be so busy with seeding that it will be difficult to find time to haul his potatoes.

The producer and holder of potatoes. Its Founder was a carpenter. His help.

As well as those of other foods are liable to a severe penalty for waste or hoarding. Wherever there are avoidable wastes of potatoes it is the duty of the municipal authorities to punish those responsible; and the Canada Food Board is pledged to take action for the prevention and punishment of waste, hoarding and monopolizing of corn and supplies.

## FEAR.

(From the New York Tribune.)

In Great Britain, as in this country, it has been incredible from the first that Germany should ever be able to win. The emotion of fear has been almost unknown. But to put itself wholly into the war the civil population, like the army, must know what it is to be afraid. Then it will drop everything else and attend to the business of survival.

The effectiveness of Germany in war is owing less to efficiency than to the emotion of fear. Her military tactics are dictated by fear. Hitting first and below the belt was a cowardly act, justified to the people by a doctrine of fear. For an offensive defensive the motive is fear.

The war madness of the Hohenzollerns is itself a frenzy of fear. If the British and American people were really afraid the war would go very differently. Imagine how much more effective we should be in war if German shells were dropping in New York!

## YOUTH IN WAR.

(Chicago Evening Post.)

Youth thinks nothing can happen to it. It is this that makes the eighteen-to-twenty-year-old boy the best fighter. We say "fighter," and we mean just what the word means. In a dash forward in the face of death's fire, in a hand-to-hand "scrap," in plugging into the heart of a field of fallen hope, youth serves best, and best will be served. Caution comes with years, and with caution comes dominance by the nervous system. The healthy boy has no nervous system, or if he has he does not know it. For certain kinds of offensive maturity serves better than youth, but where it is a case of getting there without stopping and the rush of the full, swinging storm, youth's the thing. There is the advance to the offense under cover. For this the old man—yes, old man as war makes age—of thirty is as good or better than the babe of twenty, but when the tide is off send youth to the scratch and bid it stay.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The now familiar letters "R.F.C." and "R.N.A.S." having become a thing of the past, their place being taken by "R.A.F." denoting their fusion into the Royal Air Force, this is a change which has been long foreshadowed, and it is to be hoped that the splendid esprit de corps which has always prevailed among the members of the separate military and naval wings will permeate the new force. In the R.A.F., the R.F.C. ranking of officers is to be adopted, but the distinctions will be of the naval type—face on the arms, surmounted by a bird and crown—while the cap will be that of the R.N.A.S. The new dress—once the existing uniforms are worn out—will be khaki during the war and light blue afterwards, the latter being now available as an optional mess dress.

## THE LAST LINE.

(From the New York Tribune.)

In what was perhaps the great single emergency of the war the far the British war cabinet made two momentous decisions, namely: (1) To throw the last line of British reserves against the German tide, and (2) Henceforth to trust the United States to keep the allied man power good. We are now the last line of reserves. There is no other great source of men.

## HUNS LOVE THE IRISH.

(Rochester Herald.)

The unprotected Irish schooner Nancy Wignall was torpedoed by the Germans, and the drowning sailors were shelled as they struggled in the sea. The Germans love the Irish, don't they?

## A BIT OF VERSE.

AT THE SIGN OF THE RED TRIANGLE.

I wasn't much on religion when I was back at home, but now I'm a different man. And very little Gospel truth got under my skin, and the Church folks didn't miss me much when I went overseas. And the trousers of my uniform wasn't bagged none at the knees.

But when I hunted for a place to read the news and write, A game to pass the time away, a bit of fun at night, All this and more I found at hand, just for asking, mine. Tho' first I didn't save my Red Triangle sign.

I found the chaps who run the place the best kind of good sports, And ready with a word of cheer when we felt out of sorts. For when a man at dead of night hands out a good hot drink And smiles, just like he wanted to, it makes a feller think.

Well, when we'd had that sort of thing in camp and up the line, I got to feel as if it was the sort of stuff for mine, And when our dead and wounded chums lay 'round like fallen trees

A feller couldn't help sometimes but get down on his knees. I haven't any quarrel with religion of that sort, And I can fellowship the man who shows himself a sport, And now as I can make it out, the old Y. M. C. A. Is practising the Christian faith the right and proper way.

Its Founder was a carpenter. His help.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

The Irruption of Mount Vesuvius.

A PLAY

First Sittsen. There goes that funny noise again. I bet you, 10 cents Mount Vesuvius is going to irrup.

2nd Sittsen. O, I don't know. It ain't irrupted yet so why should it irrup now?

3rd Sittsen. G. wat do you say we run?

First Sittsen. It wot be a grate site if it irrups. I woodent want to miss it. I woodent want to see it irrup wen Im not looking.

2nd Sittsen. You woodent see me staying heer long if I thawt it was going to irrup. But I dont, so thats wy you see me staying heer.

3rd Sittsen. Well, I think we awt to run, jest for luck, thats wat I think.

First Sittsen. There, do you heer that? If that aint Mount Vesuvius doing that, wat is it? I sertyntly hope Im looking wen it irrups if it irrups.

2nd Sittsen. O, it aint going to irrup. How can it?

3rd Sittsen. Well, it aint making those funny noises jest for fun. Ill run with anybody, wat do you say?

First Sittsen. I say go ahead and run if youre so anxious to.

2nd Sittsen. Dont stay heer out of politeness.

3rd Sittsen. G. look at him running. If he was running mutch faster he woud be flying.

2nd Sittsen. If I thawt it woud irrup Id run too, but wats the use of running wen I dont think it will?

Mount Vesuvius. (Irripping) Boom boom boom!

ACK 2.

Scene, Pompey, 3 days later.

3rd Sittsen. Lava, lava, nothing but lava.

THE END.

ers fishermen. And common people liked to come and listen to Him then. And if you're looking for Him now I have no question but You'll find Him working somewhere near the Red Triangle hut.

—D. E. HATT.

## A BIT OF FUN.

Help! A gentleman asked the housemaid: "Can you tell me of my wife's whereabouts?" Bridget hesitated a moment and then said: "Faith, sir, I believe they are in the wash."

From Oakville. One day we had a fine hen in school for our nature-study class. Early in the day she laid an egg in her cage. "Children, I have a surprise for you," said the teacher as she began nature-study lesson. "Tain't no surprise to me," said a wide awake youngster. "I seen him when he done it."

Not the Same One. With rounding lips and an air of great importance, the small boy of a large next door in Belfast imparted the happy fact to his teacher. "The devil's dead," he said. "What makes you think that?" said the teacher. "Dad said so," explained the small boy. "I was standing in the street with him yesterday when a funeral passed, and when dad saw it he said: 'Poor devil, he's dead.'"

## SERIOUS SITUATION AT UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Institution May Have to Look to Young Ladies to Fill the Freshman Class as Young Men are Off to War—Staff May be Cut.

Fredericton, May 1.—That a serious situation may face the University of New Brunswick next year was the statement made today by a gentleman who is familiar with the conditions that exist in that institution. Owing to conditions arising out of the war it is expected that the number of young men who will enter college next fall will be away below the average, and that the institution on the hill will have to look to the young ladies of the province to keep the freshman class at anything up to the average number, which is somewhere between thirty-five and forty students. It is also said that the east to the colors is bound to make inroads on the engineering and forestry classes, and making allowance for those who are of military age, that these classes may be reduced to one graduate each when the enormity of 1919 comes around.

Out in Staff? It may also be necessary, according to the same authority, to reduce the members of the faculty and to amalgamate the work done by one or two of the professors. This, however, has not yet been decided upon, and it is a detail which remains to be worked out. The question will probably be taken up at the next meeting of the University senate, which will meet here within the next two weeks.

Lectures were completed for the college year at the University today, and the students will have tomorrow to get ready for the examinations which start on Friday.

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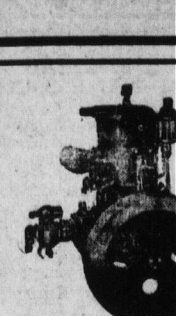
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