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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 28, 1915.

"AN ELECTION OR AN AGREEMENT"

Sir John Willison, the principal press agent of the Borden government, has favored this country by a liberal expression of his opinions on the political situation in the Toronto News of August 19. This pronouncement by Sir John Willison will commonly be accepted as a sort of "official feeling" put out by the Conservative administration in order to test the pulse of the country and of the Liberal party as well.

Sir John's position as the leading journalist on the Conservative side in this country is widely recognized, though it cannot be said that many other newspaper men on that side regard his tenure of office with anything like profound satisfaction. Some excuse for this feeling among other Conservative writers is certainly to be found in Sir John's article of August 19, entitled: "An election or an agreement." Sir John wastes considerable space in saying, somewhat ponderously, that it would be unfortunate if interest in the efficient prosecution of Canada's war plans were weakened or modified in any degree by political controversy, and just there Sir John falls into a little rut of political dishonesty. He and his leaders know, just as the whole country knows, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, long ago, made a specific offer that if the government would agree to postpone the elections until after the cause of the Allies had become triumphant, the Liberal party would instantly discontinue all partisan activities, all preparations for a campaign, and all attempts to make partisan profit in the discussion of public questions. Sir John Willison, in proposing now that there must be an election, or an agreement to postpone the elections until after the war, not only ignores Sir Wilfrid Laurier's offer of some months ago, but also ignores Mr. Borden's conduct in declining to recognize that offer, or to give it a manly "Yes" or a manly "No."

Sir John says that undoubtedly there is feeling in Canada against a general election under existing circumstances, but he asks that if the government foregoes the right to dissolve parliament, what guarantee have the ministers "that the opposition will not profit to the utmost by the concession." The answer to that question is already very widely known. The government of the day has quite as good a guarantee in the honor and faith of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his associates as the Liberal opposition has in the honor and faith of Sir Robert Borden and his associates.

Sir John Willison not only attempts to beg the whole situation, but actually has the impudence to suggest that if an agreement be arrived at whereby the elections shall be postponed until after the conclusion of the war, that such agreement shall be extended "for two or three years after peace is proclaimed." One sometimes wonders, upon reading such words from the pen of Sir John Willison, whether he was knighted for ability or merely for nerve.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been ready to make a binding agreement to interrupt and to forgo all purely partisan activities until after the war provided the government will give an official undertaking that the elections will be postponed until peace has been concluded. It is now for the government to make a straightforward answer to his proposal. Sir John Willison's article, in addition to being a most unsatisfactory and reprehensible presentation of the case, merely gives the country to understand that the government finds itself in difficulties and is casting about for a way out. Apparently Sir John believes that the Liberal party may be willing to purchase a pig in a poke. If that is his estimate of the opposition he will be undecieved presently.

The government should have a better spokesman. It is universally recognized that the people of Canada believe partisan activities should be deferred until after peace has been concluded, and that in the interval, be it long or short, the whole driving force of this nation should be devoted primarily toward the successful prosecution of the war. If Sir Robert Borden and his ministers desire to recognize and act upon this very sound public belief, the road before them is both short and easy. Let them agree with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his advisers that there shall be no federal election until a treaty of peace has been signed. The government, far more than the opposition, has sinned in the matter of carrying on partisan activities during the last twelve months. If those activities have been unfortunate, and if the government now wants a political truce—as the country and opposition certainly do—the thing can be done for the asking. But the government must play fair, and its proposals must be much more reasonable than those unofficially outlined by Sir John Willison.

LOOKING FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE

In a stirring speech at a great patriotic meeting in London a few days ago, Mr. Balfour, First Lord of the Admiralty, declared that after a year of fighting the resolve of the nation and of the Empire was not only unshaken but that the confidence of the British people in the outcome of the war was even more sure than in the early days of this great struggle against Prussian tyranny. It was a great audience which had met on the first anniversary of the outbreak of hostilities to express unbounded enthusiasm in Britain's cause and to demonstrate to the world that it shared the confidence of the admiralty, and that the nation was determined to see the war through to the end.

Mr. Balfour paid a remarkable tribute to the service of the British fleet, the heroism of the British soldiers in France and the splendid work done by Russia's army in the face of tremendous odds. He doubted that there was ever heroism greater than that which had been shown by the Russian soldier. His interesting references to the thorough manner in which Germany prepared for this war bring out more clearly the miscalculations made by the German military authorities. As Mr. Balfour said, neither on the west front nor on the east front have the carefully prepared plans of the German general staff been successful. One and all of these plans have completely failed. Regarding the manner in which the Kaiser and his associates misjudged the resistance of Belgium and France and the strength which Britain would be able to put into the field with her Allies, Mr. Balfour said:

"Unfortunately for them, and unfortunately also for the world, they did not foresee. They wholly miscalculated, and they have plunged us and civilization in a war which for its character, for the utter destruction of life and property which it has already produced, and which before it does it will yet produce, has no parallel in the annals of mankind. That is my first ground of confidence. An enemy which has miscalculated for a year may perhaps miscalculate until the end of the war."

Mr. Balfour went on to say that though he was primarily with the admiralty, he welcomed the opportunity of praising the heroic body of men upholding British honor in the fields of Flanders and in the Mediterranean. He spoke of the splendid assistance given to the Empire by Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and Newfoundland, and referring to the statements of those who had spoken slightly of the forces Britain would be able to put into the field, he drew attention to the highly important fact that the losses by death and wounds in the British army since the war began are more than twice all the losses by death and wounds suffered by the Germans in the war against France in 1870. Here are his words with respect to the future:

"I know that what we have done has not fallen short, but has far exceeded what was expected from us, but what we have done is only part of what we are going to do. (Cheers.) We have not yet shot our bolt. We have not yet been able to put forth our full strength on land. We had to create a new army; we have created a new army; we are still creating a new army. (Cheers.) Putting aside for the moment all the things the navy has done, ignoring the all important part it has played, let those who consider only the military aspect of the question wait until the end. Let them weigh what we have done and they will be in a position to judge what we shall do when we promise yet more. We see before us Germany gradually coming within sight. We do not say it is near, but coming within sight of our last resources to keep up her full numbers. We are not yet in sight of our full numbers—(Cheers)—and for my own part, as I am confident that the historians will say that this country has played its part and its full part in maritime matters, so they will say that it has not in any sense fallen short of what it could do in military matters, while it has far exceeded anything which any of its critics or any of its friends expected that it would do." (Cheers.)

Mr. Balfour gives most convincing reasons for his confidence in the Allies, who have pledged themselves to carry the war to the bitter end. The resolution declaring that on the first anniversary of the declaration of a righteous war "this meeting of the people of London records its inflexible resolve to continue to a glorious end the struggle in the maintenance of those ideals which are the common and the sacred cause of all the Allies," shows the spirit behind the British cause. That spirit is to be found in all parts of the Empire—in all the countries of the Allies. It is bound to carry us on to victory.

A CALL FROM THE MEN WHO HAVE GONE

The letter from Rev. E. B. Hooper, Chaplain of the 28th Battalion now in England, which will be found on another page, ought to cause every young man in New Brunswick to consider this question: "What am I doing to assist the Empire in its life struggle while thousands of my fellow men are dying in the trenches for all that make life for me worth while?" It ought to convince every able-bodied man of military age in this province that it is shameful not to be performing some national service; that in hesitating to report at once to the recruiting office, if he is free to do so, he is adopting the cowardly course and leaving the brave men who have already gone to face the enemy to fight the battle alone and without the help they are entitled to expect from others of their kind.

Mr. Hooper's reference to the splendid

appearance and fine spirit of the 28th Battalion fill one with pride and leave no doubt in the minds of relatives and friends back home that "these lads of New Brunswick are equal to the very best." His description of an important review of the Canadian troops, among whom the men of the 28th occupy a high and important place, is interesting and welcome news, but it is the chaplain's appeal to the strong and young who have not yet responded to the cry for help that will strike to the heart of the manhood of New Brunswick. It is a call from one who has seen and knows—from one who thought past regulations for military service, did not hesitate. Consider well what he says:

"One more word, and that to those men who are young and strong and whose manhood's sake, for your Empire's sake, for God's sake, hesitate no longer, but come, follow on where so many have led the way. More men, More Men, MEN is still the cry. The need is terribly great. The man who can come and will not come is a man to be shunned and despised forever. Afraid of hardships? Afraid of death? When the cause of civilization is at stake? When British honor, justice, and liberty are in jeopardy? I am an old man, a timid man, a man to whom home and peace mean everything, yet I am proud to be here. I glory in my aching heart, I do not say this to blow my trumpet, but to remind you young men that I have already won the right to speak to you strongly on the duty of the hour, to every man who calls himself a man and a British subject."

Where is the man physically fit and free to join the ranks of those who are actively defending the Empire, who can read these words from the chaplain of the 28th Battalion and then fail to act as his conscience dictates? The men who are now in the trenches and those who are about to take their places on the battlefield of France, or at the Dardanelles, are looking toward Canada and wondering how many of their friends and acquaintances are rallying round the colors. They are fighting a great fight, but they ought not to be left to fight it alone. They are facing an enemy that has been trained from childhood to subordinate everything to the Fatherland. Are Canadians less patriotic? We refuse to think so. Canada is a country which we can love as much as the Germans can love Germany, but we must not forget that Canada is as much at war with Germany today as Great Britain or France is and that no man can hope to escape the stigma by which he will be forever branded unless he promptly accepts his full share of the burden.

Every man who falls in the cause of freedom and justice cries out for vengeance. Are Canadians, are New Brunswickers to ignore that call? The man who risks his life in this fight for the protection of the homes and the property of his fellow citizens is doing two men's work, his own and that of the man who stays at home. The latter perhaps is a model citizen in every other way, and yet, if he fails at this critical time how can he escape the censure of brave and honest men? The time is surely coming when one would rather not be the man who, without good and sufficient reason, stayed at home.

GERMANY'S METHODS.

It would be surprising indeed if the statement given out by Count Bernstorff in New York yesterday should receive serious consideration at Washington. The bald announcement from Berlin that the murder of United States citizens on the Arabic was contrary to the intentions of the German government adds insult to injury. The Arabic was torpedoed without warning and without any steps being taken by the submarine commander to ascertain whether or not Americans were on board. Who ordered the submarine to attack the Arabic if the German government did not? Certainly it is not to be believed that the submarine commander acted upon his own responsibility. And besides, it is highly significant that in tendering "sympathy" to the United States in the loss of two or more of its citizens no intimation is given by the German government that it intends to comply with President Wilson's demands regarding the right of neutral subjects to travel unmolested on the high seas.

It would be quite out of place for Canadians to attempt to instruct or advise the American people as to their proper course of action, but it is interesting at this stage to recall President Wilson's note to Berlin following the Lusitania massacre and the two notes that have been sent since. In those notes he declared that it was the intention of the United States to insist upon the right of American citizens to travel on the high seas at all times and in any manner they might choose, and he demanded a specific assurance from the German government that no more attacks would be made upon passenger ships without first ascertaining if Americans were on board and, if so, giving them a chance for their lives. Instead of giving this assurance Germany has consistently declared that she will not abandon any phase of her submarine warfare and that "Americans traveling on British passenger ships do so at their peril." Therefore such statements as that given out by the German ambassador are evidently intended to soften American feeling and influence or delay the decision of the American government.

It must be assumed that the President will not be influenced in this way, however. No doubt he will go on gathering the official facts with respect to this latest crime on the high seas, and unless he is prepared to back down completely, his action is likely to be prompt and final. There is proof that the torpedoing of the Arabic was deliberate and without warning; that no attempt was made by the ship's officers

to ram the underwater craft, or to run away. In fact it is known that no one on board saw the submarine, although the torpedo itself was plainly visible. Germany stands before the world today as the "wanton and unregenerate murderer" of innocent non-combatants and peaceful American citizens. And President Wilson and his government are not likely to withdraw from the firm stand taken many weeks ago.

THE MASK OF SECRECY.

The ammunition factories filling large orders for the countries at war are finding it more or less difficult to avoid delays caused by secret tampering with machinery, with supplies en route to the factories, or as a result of labor troubles inspired by hostile agents. In some cases unexpected delays have been caused by fire, explosions and other accidents. Only a few days ago one of the largest cartridge manufacturing plants in the United States was forced to shut down until its difficulties with the British war office inspectors could be straightened out, it having been found that the manufactured articles varied from the specifications, thereby making the cartridges useless.

These factory difficulties lend interest to a rather striking article in the Saturday Evening Post by A. C. Laut, a well known writer. The title is "Old General Red Tape" and the author endeavors to prove that secrecy, conspiracy, and intrigue have been the curses of the war from the beginning and that it is a question whether all parties to the great contest do not realize now that secrecy has been a stupid, costly blunder from the first. This writer refers at length to the manufacture of war supplies and maintains that secrecy has been everybody's worst enemy. For example, cases are cited of delays caused by military inspectors sent out from Europe to pass on the munitions of war being shipped from the United States, and reference is made to the fact that hundreds of American plants are running only from forty to sixty per cent of their capacity, while more than \$30,000,000 of war orders were turned down in Pittsburgh. This is not due to workmen, but to the incompetence of many of the inspectors and the vast amount of red tape and secrecy behind their instructions. In one plant shells had been made according to specifications under a certain print. When the inspector arrived he carried another print which differed from the first by five ten thousandths of an inch. Consequently the inspector rejected the shells; and this was at a time when his country was losing thousands of men through the lack of a sufficient quantity of shells and ammunition. The author thus describes other cases:

"A certain company contracted to make bullets to measure five-hundred-one-thousandths, or exactly half an inch in diameter, and to weigh exactly so much. The bullets were to be tested chemically and passed as a Western apple pucker test by dipping them through an exact aperture for size. There were two million and a half pieces of ammunition to this order, and two hundred balls to each piece—which, of course, took what kind of ammunition it was. In a word, there were 2,500,000 by 200 little lead bullets, to be punched through the inspector's little test rings. Those that fell through passed; those that did not, did not pass. Question: If the inspector's figures were as thick as his head how many years would it take him to complete that test? A certain company accepted an order to manufacture powder. Now, that company had ample facilities to manufacture powder in quantities to supply every one of the belligerents in full quota for all possible needs. It could manufacture more powder than there are armaments to shoot it off. I suppose no one will deny that every single belligerent is desperate for powder; but this particular government must have powder made after a very particular formula—different from any formula in the United States. The government would accept only this formula. The company had accepted the very special ingredients prepared in a very special way. The time required for making powder depends on the size of the grains. I quote from an officer high in the ranks of the American War Department: 'To dry smokeless powder requires thirty days to five months. Now, I do not know what particular powder this order called for; and if I did inadvertently find it out I should not be permitted to tell; but the insistence on this formula delayed this contract easily by three or four months. If the government would have accepted the powder manufactured for the other nations—for the United States, for instance—that government could have had literally incalculable quantities almost instantly; but the inspectors would accept only this formula. Run over in your mind exactly what the British forces did to us on November 4 to April, and why they marked time, and you will have a faint idea what stupidity is doing in this case under the military mask of secrecy.'"

The writer in the Post makes it clear that war order factories do not resent inspection. They understand that shells and guns must be made properly and to scale; but it is the underground wire system that is apparently hampering the best efforts to supply munitions of war, and this system, the author points out, is costing the nations dearly. Spies, investigators, observers and detectives are everywhere and nothing can be sent across the ocean without the enemy learning of it. As a result war materials have jumped enormously in price and it is the opinion of the Post writer that the increase is due directly to the speculation working in secret. As an example of further difficulties encountered through the secret work of enemy sympathizers, the following is given:

"Take the well-known case of a plant built for the production of an explosive. The contract for the delivery of the explosive runs for two years. The factory was to be erected this summer, complete in every detail. Strike followed strike; delays succeeded delay. One day a shipment of bricks did not come. Another day the cement had gone astray. Owens went wrong. It became apparent that the factory was being purposely delayed. Neither side courted the exposure of investigation. One side did not want it known that it was obtaining the

explosive here. The other side did not want it known that its own agents had hampered the delivery according to contract. The builder was paid of ninety per cent on what he had finished, with ten per cent, holdback against future discoveries of flaws in construction. This was one of the foremost plants in the world."

"A gunboat plant has had three fires in three months. A Canadian arsenal has been dynamited. A shell plant in the state of New York has had to build a stockade sixteen feet high to keep out trespassers, and one of the largest powder plants has five hundred detectives on guard—one hundred mounted—day and night. I do not fancy that this plant maintains such numbers of guards solely owing to spy-and-kill-phobia. Another Canadian consignment. A lot of machine-guns, seven hundred pieces, valued at a thousand dollars each—was ordered for the Allies from a plant in the Middle West. It reached shipside damaged secretly in a way that would render it useless in the action."

The writer in question declares that if there had been no secret diplomacy there would have been no war, and that if the mask could be torn from the secrecy shrouding intrigue today the war could be materially shortened. No doubt that is true. Secret diplomacy ought to be killed forever with the signing of the next peace treaty. It is responsible for most of the international crimes. It ought to be done away with, and there are many observers who believe that the present war is sounding its death knell.

THE MANITOBA VERDICT.

The finding of the Royal Commission which investigated the charges of graft in connection with public works in Manitoba does not come as a surprise. No other verdict could have been arrived at in view of the evidence submitted. It is a striking condemnation of the dishonest conduct of trusted servants of the people and places the guilt squarely on the shoulders of the men who were responsible for robbing the province of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The people have already removed the grafting politicians from power; it now remains for those in authority to punish the offenders through the courts.

The evidence in the Parliament buildings scandal brought a blush of shame to every honest man in Manitoba and in Canada. It revealed barefaced stealing on an astounding scale, and it also revealed the shameful fact that even after the Royal Commission began its work, frenzied attempts to beg the issue and keep the public in ignorance were made by Sir Rodmond Roblin and his colleagues, ably assisted by at least one member of the Federal cabinet. And in the midst of the damaging statements of witnesses in the case, a Conservative lawyer of Winnipeg, in the hope of diverting public attention, made "charges" against Premier Norris, Sir Rodmond Roblin's successor—charges that were promptly investigated by a second Royal Commission and declared to be utterly false and baseless. Then came the almost complete annihilation by the electors of the Roblin-Roblin machine in the province and the triumphant return to power of the Norris government.

The Mathers commission finds that all the charges have been proven; that Thomas Kelly & Sons, the contractors on the Parliament buildings, were advised of contemplated changes in the plans before tenders were due; that a conspiracy was entered into with them to defraud the people for the purpose of obtaining a large election fund out of "extras," and that in this way the province was cheated out of more than \$892,000. It specifically names Sir Rodmond Roblin, Mr. Caldwell, Acting Minister of Public Works and the contractor, Kelly, among the guilty. Others, too, who were close to Sir Rodmond are held responsible.

Manitoba has made splendid progress in its political housecleaning, and no one who was guilty of disgracing the fair name of the province should escape the punishment he deserves. What has been done in Manitoba will also be done in other provinces of the dominion—in British Columbia and New Brunswick—at the earliest opportunity.

PRISON CAMPS.

The militia department has investigated the charge made in Berlin that German prisoners at the Amherst detention camp are ill-treated and poorly fed, and has found that there is no foundation for such a complaint. Two American consuls who looked carefully into the matter concur in this verdict and point out that with the exception of a few "irreconcilables" the prisoners are contented and well satisfied with their treatment and with the food supplied. The military authorities declare that the Germans at Amherst are given the same kind of food that is served to the soldiers at the Canadian training camps. This is in striking contrast to the food given to Canadian prisoners in Germany, proof of which is found in a German prison camp menu which is printed in the Weekly Scotsman. Here it is:

Sunday—Morning, coffee; noon, barley, turnip, cabbage, Jerusalem artichokes, evening, mangel, turnip, cabbage.

Monday—Morning, coffee; noon, rice and preserved fruits; evening, mangel.

Tuesday—Morning, flour diluted in water; noon, chestnuts; evening, potatoes.

Wednesday—Morning, flour; noon, preserved beans; evening, barley and oats pulped.

Thursday—Morning, tea; noon, barley, turnip, cabbage; evening, barley cooked in water.

Friday—Morning, coffee; noon, cod, artichokes, turnip, cabbage; evening, sausages and potatoes.

Saturday—Morning, mangel of everything; noon, turnip, cabbage, and Indian corn meal; evening, barley and oats pulped.

This menu was taken from a note-book kept by M. Charles Violet, a Red Cross Brigadier, who has recently returned to France from Germany, where he was a prisoner. M. Violet adds that there is in such a diet just enough to

keep one from dying of famine. If the Canadian prisoners in Germany were getting anything like the consideration that the Germans in the Canadian detention camps are receiving, there would be no need of their relatives back home worrying about them.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The fall of Osowetz deprives Russia of another first-class fortress, but, like Novogeorgievsk, it was left by the retreating Russians for the purpose of annoying and retarding the pursuers. And for several months its garrison has succeeded in its purpose.

The Chicago Board of Education proposes to teach every one of the school children to swim. How long will it be before swimming will be included in the school curriculum everywhere. No one can overestimate its value and it ought to be a part of every child's education.

Berlin admits French gains on the western front, and the German movement against the Russians has been halted considerably. The Riga victory has put new heart into the Grand Duke's armies. We shall see some striking changes in the campaign on both fronts before the snow flies.

Constantinople is short of coal. No doubt the Turkish army is also in great need of ammunition. If Roumania and Bulgaria stand by their refusal to allow guns and munitions to be sent through their territory from Germany, the Turks may soon be forced to give way on the Gallipoli peninsula for the same reason that the Russian armies were forced to retreat from Poland and Galicia. Turkey's prospects are daily growing dimmer.

"Henceforth," says the London Times, "the burden of destroying the German menace will rest in far greater degree upon our shoulders. We shall not shrink it. France and Russia, both sorely tried and putting forth the utmost of their strength, will be compelled to look to us for more energetic aid. They will not look in vain. There is nothing for it now but to strain every nerve in this fight for freedom, and to prepare for further battle as we have never yet prepared."

There is reason to believe that the Allies have made more progress at the Dardanelles than recent despatches have indicated. Apparently the War Office has inside information of a highly encouraging character, for the impression prevails in London that the Allied troops hope to force the straits within the next few weeks. There has been terrific fighting on the Gallipoli peninsula, and no doubt the British and French armies there are much larger than has been generally supposed. With the assistance that Italy can give, the fall of Constantinople seems to be appreciably near.

Referring to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's activity in behalf of recruiting in the Province of Quebec, the Montreal Gazette, Conservative, says:

"It was stated by a number of recruiting officers that there has been a marked difference in feeling amongst possible French-Canadian recruits for the battalion since Sir Wilfrid Laurier made his speech at the St. Lin demonstration last Saturday. I never expected to have met with such success in organizing my battalion," said Lt.-Col. A. Dansereau, yesterday. "Not only did recruiting start off well, but it has steadily improved and instead of getting around twenty men a day, as at the start, I am getting thirty and forty and even more."

A day or two after the lynching of Leo Frank, a Georgia prisoner, three negroes in Alabama were murdered by an infuriated mob. They had been accused of poisoning mules, but as there was no proof against them they were allowed to go by the authorities. About the same time a citizen of Tennessee was lynched in Arkansas. The American people have been shocked by this disregard for law and order, and are demanding that drastic measures be taken to suppress the spirit of brutality manifesting itself in certain States. It would seem to be a condition of affairs that ought to be dealt with promptly.

No one knows exactly how many submarines the different countries now at war have in service. Since the outbreak of hostilities both sides have been building submarines as rapidly as possible, so that the proportion is probably about the same as it was in 1914. In that year Great Britain had ninety-six vessels of this type, including two Dominion submarines; France had ninety-three; Russia had forty-three and Italy twenty—a total for the Allied nations of 232. Germany in the same year had thirty-nine submarines and Austria fourteen. Turkey, apparently, had not completed her proposed purchase of two submarines in that year. The total number for the enemy countries, therefore, was 58. It is possible, of course, that the additions since the war began have changed the proportion considerably, but there is no doubt that the Allied superiority in submarine strength is enormous.

The Brooklyn Eagle warns President Wilson that the United States can no longer continue on friendly relations with Germany and retain its self-respect. It declares that Washington already has ample proof that the Arabic was not resisting to warrant prompt action by the President. The destruction of the Arabic, says the Eagle, is Germany's answer, written in characters of crimson, to the American notes to Berlin. The Eagle concludes with this word of advice:

"The President will not act precipitately. But when he does act, we believe that he will be consistent with himself, firm in his assertions of the national honor and unequivocal in his notification to Germany that the United States will not shrink from any issue that Germany thrusts upon us. The country will stand with the President as long as he stands with himself. And as reported, the first step he must take, a step that can no longer be avoided without national abasement and humiliation, is to send Count von Bernstorff out of the country and simultaneously recall Mr. Gerard from Berlin. After that Congress could well be assembled to provide for whatever may be forced upon us."

"The local government organs," says the Chatham World, Conservative, "are doing their best to make the government responsible for the Gloucester road and bridge frauds, just as they have made it responsible for the Flemming-Berry blackmail scheme, by attacking the men who are bringing the frauds to light and proclaiming the innocence of the culprits who have been exposed."

The leading American journals are taking a very broad view of Great Britain's action in placing cotton on the contraband list. The following from the Cleveland Plain Dealer is fairly representative of the general opinion expressed:

"Inasmuch as cotton is an important material in the manufacture of munitions, the action of the anti-German Allies is comprehensible and, from their standpoint, defensible. A mere declaration of the contraband character of cottons would probably fulfill all the requirements of international law. It is made clear, however, that the Allies intend to make concessions to placate the cotton interests. Cotton to the quantity normally imported by the neutral nations of Europe will be permitted to be shipped. The cotton growers will lose only their Austrian, Turkish and German markets."

THE TRUE SITUATION.

The following verses were sent to The Telegraph by a correspondent in Lynn (Mass.), who says they were written in shorthand on blank pages in a notebook of exercises in the German language, and smuggled across the border.

THE MUSIC PLAYED ALONE.

Munich, November 4, 1914.
(By Mercy Eldredge.)
Like splendid pictures in gold frames,
At breaking of the day,
Three months ago the soldiers marched
To the battle front-away.

And week by week with aspect bright,
More soldiers, more and more,
Have singing crossed the barracks court
And passed out from its door.

Today more soldiers went away,
With flowers on their caps,
In warm gray coats and polished boots
And shining knapsack straps.

With holy water came the priest,
To bless them from on high,
And friends and relatives were there,
To say to them good-bye.

But when all should in chorus sing
A song of the fatherland,
Friends, relatives and soldiers sobbed
To the music of the band.

It is not true that thinking men
Are glad to fight and die,
Except they clearly understand
A righteous reason why.

And so, in the barracks court today,
The music played alone,
The tears gleamed were shed to meet
A hundred hearts of stone.

ONE CAN DO NOTHING.

Munich, Mid. May, 1915.
(By Mercy Eldredge.)
The Munich parks are pretty now
That May makes all things new,
And people sit or walk about,
As they are wont to do.

But mid day songs and fragrant scents
The say without dissent,
This lovely weather does not fit
A world with sorrow rent.

And for her love of Italy,
That artist girl in white
Has sobbing lain awake throughout
The hours of a night.

The papers say the town is pleased
The Lusitania's lost,
But friendly greetings are as dull
As flowers touched by frost.

And a girl from Briegens dares to say,
The German Kaiser's mad,
That my country did not do the deed,
I'm very, very glad.

And oh, that longing deep for peace,
And oh, that question, Why?
One can do nothing, is the phrase
That's ended with a sigh.

Progressive.

(Tit-Bits.)
A clergyman had taught an old man in his parish to read, and found him an apt pupil. Calling at the cottage some time after, he found only the wife at

"How's John?" asked he.
"He is well, thank you," said his wife.
"How does he get on with his reading?"

"Nicely, sir."
"Ah! I suppose he can read his Bible comfortably now?"
"Bible, sir! Bless you, he was out of the Bible and into the sporting papers long ago!"

Former P. M. G.'s Daughter.

(London Daily News.)
Miss Philippa Fawcett, the daughter of a former postmaster-general, is taking over a postman's round in a rural part of Suffolk, while the regular postman does the heavy work. The postmaster-general, having ordered the postmasters to release their postmen and employ women in their places, Miss Fawcett is among the many women who have volunteered to act as letter carriers. She has been informed that as the parcels she will have to carry may in many cases be too heavy for a woman's machine, she will have to use the post office bicycle, which will necessitate the wearing of gymnasium costume.

The Long View.

(Ottawa Citizen.)
Winston Churchill, who was so freely blamed for inaugurating the Dardanelles campaign, may yet be hailed as a patriotic brilliant military genius. If the British and French win the passage to Constantinople, as sooner or later they must, it will be possible to send munitions and supplies to the Russian lines, and thus to the front. The attempt to Germanize the postmaster into the Czar's dominions. Without these supplies the position of the Russians would be particularly critical.

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Fredericton, Aug. 25.—The annual meeting of Union of New Brunswick Municipalities was held at 8 p.m. today by King Kelley, of St. John. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Mr. Kelley, Mr. H. Smith of York County, Mr. Mitchell of Fredericton. Mr. Kelley particularly to the union contributing to fund. Responses to the welcome were made by Mr. Craghan of Newcastle and Mr. O'Brien of Lancaster, St. John. President Kelley then gave his annual address. In complimented Fredericton. He pointed out the fact that each representative on active service matters of importance in provincial legislation which achieved during the year. He pointed out the fact that the union had expressed the hope that the highway construction and would be taken out of politics. J. W. McCready, city clerk of the union, presented his report. He also said that of public works would be a convention, a proposed highway administration way away with some of the duties.

A. R. Slipp, M.P.P. for the course of a brief address the same criticism referred to Mr. Baxter as was directed to the members of the legislative or than municipal councils. F. H. Sexton, director of education in Nova Scotia, "The new demands of education."