

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN N. B. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1914

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THE WAR NEWS

Last night's cables said that while the German attempt to capture the French channel ports seemed to have been checked for the time being, yet "they were still pushing on with all the forces at their command." The danger, therefore, of German occupation of the French coast of the Straits of Dover has not yet passed. The official correspondence is somewhat cautious, and contents itself with saying that the allies have succeeded in holding their position at every point, and have been able to advance slightly in the region between Ypres and Roulers. The heaviest of the fighting is still in that little corner of Belgium between Arras and Valenciennes, and here the Germans are massing their troops in a determined effort to cross the French border and seize the channel ports as a possible basis of attack upon England. We are told that the opposing forces are so strong that many days must yet elapse before a decisive result is attained by either side.

The announcement that the British steamer Manchester Commerce, so well known in St. John, has been sunk by a German mine in the waters north of Ireland, while on her way from Manchester to Montreal, comes as a decided surprise, since it shows that the Germans have been able to get out of the North Sea and around the north of Scotland to sow mines close to the regular steamship route by the northern channel between English and Scottish ports and Quebec. If German mine layers are able to get around to the waters north of Ireland they may be able to do a good deal more damage to British commerce. The loss of the Manchester Commerce will cause the Admiralty to make still more vigorous efforts to rid the North Sea of hostile craft.

This paper expressed the view yesterday that after the defeat of Maritz there would be no more talk of serious trouble in South Africa. News came last night, however, that Gen. De Wet, the formidable Boer cavalry leader in the South African war, and Gen. Beyers have started a rebellion in the Orange Free State and Western Transvaal. The Union government has issued a proclamation, and Gen. Botha has left Pretoria to direct the loyal forces in putting down the new outbreak. The government declares that the great majority of the citizens of every province of the Union are loyal. Indeed it had been announced that Gen. De Wet had offered his services to England, and there was also an impression that Gen. Beyers, although he had last month resigned his position as general of the forces, because he disapproved of the action of the government in relation to the war, would not take part in any overt acts of rebellion. This South African trouble is not serious of itself; but it has a bad moral effect, and when the news is served up in Germany by the German press bureau, with that skill for which this bureau is noted, it will convey to the minds of the people a very wrong impression, and tend to encourage them in the belief that the British Empire will soon be torn to pieces by internal dissension.

Surveying the whole situation from day to day, the magnitude of the task which confronts the allies becomes more and more manifest, and the fact is more strongly pressed home that the great need is now and for many months to come will be more men, to reinforce the armies now fighting in Belgium and France. More than one correspondent during the last few days has spoken of the probability of the Germans establishing winter quarters in France. If before they did so they could capture the French channel ports, the task that would confront the allies in the spring would be very much more difficult. We can only hope that the latter will be able to prevent this calamity, even if they are not able with their present forces to drive the Germans from their entrenched positions along the whole line in Belgium and France.

SCHOOL GARDENS

Mr. R. P. Steves, M. A., superintendent of elementary agricultural education in New Brunswick, contributes a short article to the October number of the Agricultural Gazette of Canada on the subject of school gardens. During the term ending June 30 there were thirty-two school gardens under control of the department in this province, an increase of ten over the number for the previous year. Superintendent Steves states that the improvement in the gardens is marked and that there is an increasing interest on the part of teachers and trustees.

In about nineteen schools whose teachers lack the legal qualifications for teaching agriculture some attempts were made at practical work, with gifts of seeds provided by the department. There is a record of fifty-nine home plots conducted by children, and a few girls' and boys' clubs have also been established. Superintendent Steves states that at least 1200 children have come under the influence of this work by practical conduct and instruction. This is a very valuable work. The article by Superintendent Steves is illustrated by a view of the school garden at St. John's.

TORONTO HOME GUARD

There should be an inspiration to St. John and other cities in the account of a church parade and inspection which took place in Toronto last Sunday. It was the parade of the home guard of Toronto. More than 1200 men and boys were in line. The number included 1048 non-commissioned officers and men, 41 officers, 95 instrumentalists and 72 boy scouts. They paraded to St. Paul's Church to hear a sermon by Hon. Lieut. Col. the Venerable Archbishop Cody, after which they were reviewed by Premier Hearst, Sir William Otter and other distinguished citizens. The World says that boys scarcely in their teens and men long past sixty were in the ranks, and they represented every class from the naturalized alien to city aldermen and from legal experts to day laborers. There were men who had never before marched in a military parade, and others who wore medals for active service. Toronto has reason to be proud of the manner in which her citizens have responded, not only those who are eager and fit for foreign service; but those, young and old, who wish to set an example and do what they can in this critical period in Canadian history.

The London Chronicle says that we are probably on the eve of important events at sea.

The Ottawa Dairy Company which has decided to sell milk without profit during the winter months has demonstrated the fact that the milk of human kindness may be found even in Ottawa.

Today's despatches tell of more brilliant fighting by the British troops in Belgium. The German attempts to break through their lines failed utterly, although it was necessary to use the bayonet to prevent the capture of the British position.

The St. John Standard has described the Montreal Evening News as not a Conservative but an independent paper. The moving spirit and one of the joint owners of the Evening News, is Mr. B. A. Macnab. Sir Robert Borden was Mr. Macnab's guest at St. Agathe for Thanksgiving.

As a contribution to the discussion of the canten in the army may be quoted the following extract from a letter written by General Sir John Haldane, Williams, who is British military attaché at the general headquarters of the Russian army. He says:—"The men here and officers are all splendid. Not a drop of drink allowed anywhere, except in the hospitals, and the result has done wonders in the army."

The people of New Brunswick are beginning to ask what happened to the report of the Royal Commission of inquiry into the Dugal charges. Hon. Mr. Clark is still acting premier. If Mr. Fleming should be invited to resume his duties as premier, he has a right to that consideration. If he should be invited to step down and out, the people of the province are entitled to that consideration.

Commissioner Wigmore was introduced to the fourteen Conservatives at the Buchanan meeting last evening as one who would be an able representative from St. John with Hon. J. D. Hazen. The commissioner in the course of his remarks is reported to have expressed the view that Conservatives should talk elections all the time. That is evidently the view of the more active spirits in the party in this constituency. The only possible harm it can do is to distract their attention from matters which are just now of infinitely greater importance.

The death of Mr. A. Bowler, agent general for New Brunswick in London, comes as a sad surprise to all his friends in this province. Mr. Bowler has done good service since he was appointed to represent the province in the Mother Country. An Englishman himself, and a practical farmer, he had gained a practical knowledge of farming conditions in this country, and was therefore well qualified to set before intending emigrants the advantages of New Brunswick. When the war is over we may anticipate a more active immigration movement, and the loss of Mr. Bowler's services, in view of his experience he had gained, will be keenly felt.

Wherever two or three Conservatives are gathered together, as in the case of the "largely attended and enthusiastic meeting" of fourteen in Beauséjour last night, they pass a series of resolutions concerning Mr. Hazen. This is part of a painful and prolonged effort on their part to keep themselves convinced that Mr. Hazen is a great statesman. It must be a drop of bitterness to their cup when they reflect that, while Mr. Hazen is acting as war minister and also as first lord of the Canadian Admiralty, Major-General the Hon. Sam Hughes is in England gathering unto himself all the glory and reputation.

TO CANADA.

(By Percy Mackaye.)

Men of Canada,
Fellow Americans,
Proud our hearts beat for you over the border;

Proud of the light you wage,
Proud of your valiant youth
Sailing to battle for freedom and order.

On our own battlefields
Many's the bout we had—
Yankee, Canadian, redcoat and ranger;
But our old brotherhood,
Staunch through the centuries,
Shouts in our blood now to share in your danger.

Ah, it's a weary thing
Waiting and watching here,
Numbing ourselves to a frozen neutral-
ity.

Yes, in a world at war,
'Tis our good part to keep
Patient to forge the strong peace of final-
ity.

Though, then, our part be Peace
Yet our free fighting souls
League with your own 'gainst the world-
lust of Vandals;

Yes, in the dreadful night,
We, with your women weep
And for your shrouded dead burn our
shrines candles.

So, by the gunless law
Of our same fighting souls
By our souls' faith, that no border can
sever,

Freedom!—now may you fight,
Waging the death of war,
Silence the demons of cannon forever!

Kin-folk of Canada,
So may your allied arms
Smite with his legions the Lord of Dis-
order!

God speed your noble cause!
God save your gallant sons!
The longest and sharpest, neediest?
De Blois—"What was it?"
De Carve—"A wealthy patient made me cut something off his bill."

The Complete Butcher.
"What's the beef, Benny?"
"Oh, it's the part of the cow we eat
before she grows up."

Uncle Wants to Know.
City Nephew (on vacation)—"I'm
studying now for the doctor."
Rural Aunt—"Do tell! Ain't the doc-
tor able to do his own studying?"

Unpleasant Amputation.
"De Carve—"I performed a very dis-
tasteful operation this morning."
De Blois—"Indeed! What was it?"
De Carve—"A wealthy patient made me cut something off his bill."

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standing on the revolving platform and stop whistling and yelling at the horses long enough to munch them. Those apples they were heavy and firm and just the thing that a boy needed to throw at some enemy on the straw stack. A straight swift throw and a quick dodge around the barn settled many a score in the good old days.

Every fall I ate those apples and until a week ago my mouth would water whenever I thought of them. But last week I found that a neighbor had grafted them on a tree in his orchard and I had a chance to try them again. They were right in their way, but I have a dozen varieties that are much better. I am quite certain that they are the same apple, appearance and flavor—but some divine quality has left them—or me. I could hardly finish the one I started to eat, for back of it pleasant flavor there was a harsh tartness that I found unpleasant. And the result of this was that I took a short stub of a pencil and fashioned for your amusement a little ballad of old-time apples.

The Apples of Yester Years.

In my turbulent youth in Victoria's day—
(For that phrase, O Flaccus, the praise be thine!)
The apples I dilled and stewed away
Were especially dilled, juicy and fine.
To my palate unsullied they were wholly divine.

But the evil days have fallen I fear,
So I parody Villon and sadly repine—
Where are the apples of yester-year?

In the bountiful seasons ere came to stay
The coding moth with its evil line,
And the Fasciculum (Hyp. Hoony!)
There's nothing like Latin to make verse shine!

The apples we revelled with seemed to combine
All creature comforts with mental cheer,
And no one without them would venture to dine—
Where are the apples of yester-year?

It is too much Science, so some folks say,
And they shake their heads with a scowl con-
dition, Too much Bordeaux and lime-sulphur spray
Have put on the apples "The Indian sign."

The olden apples were rare as wine,
Pressed from the grapes in a comet year;
So I ask at the close of this ballad of mine,
Where are the apples of yester-year?

L'Envoi.
Prince, I vow by the sacred Nine,
You can get them today and they're not so dear,
So I pledge you in cider—a brimming stein—
For we still have the apples of yester-year.

"WAR WITH JAPAN"

PURE MOONSHINE.

SAYS COLLEGE PROFESSOR

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 28—"Pure moonshine!" This was the exclamation of Prof. Harry Pratt Judson, president of the University of Chicago, when he was asked about the likelihood of Japan and the United States going to war over the Philippines.

President Judson has just returned after seven months spent investigating conditions in the Orient for the Rockefeller Foundation. He declared: "Japan has none but the most friendly intentions toward this nation and does not want the Philippines. I talked with all classes of people in Japan, from the prime minister down to the common

citizens, and their sentiments were

varying to the effect that Japan would not take the Philippines as a gift. "Japan seems to take little interest in the war," continued the university president. "Save for the newspapers, scarcely would have known the war was engaged in the struggle."

"They have no ulterior designs against this country or against China. There is a genuine question as to whether Chinese neutrality has or has not been violated. But it is equally a question whether the original German occupation of Chinese territory was not also a violation of neutrality."

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