

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until the 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.

### MR. FOSTER'S CABINET.

Newspapers supporting Mr. Walter E. Foster and his twenty-six followers in the Provincial Legislature have made the claim that the Murray Government, by retaining office from the date of election until the present week, had seriously delayed the transaction of public business, that the premier and his associates should have resigned within a few days after election and made way for the new administration.

The provincial elections were held on February 24th and 26th. After the latter date Mr. Foster could have had no doubt that he would be called upon by the Lieutenant Governor as the leader of the opposition party, and that it would be up to him to select a cabinet, yet it does not appear that he made preparations for such an event. Mr. Foster returned from Fredericton last evening and when asked by a representative of The Standard said he had not decided upon his associates, and had no announcement to make as to the composition of his cabinet. The premier designate—though not yet the premier-elect—has had more than a month to think the situation over, but it does not appear that he has made up his mind which of his twenty-six followers he will admit to the inner circle.

There should be no difficulty, with such an array of talent as Mr. Foster stands behind him, in selecting the most remarkable government this province has ever had; they are all of cabinet rank, if their friends are to be believed and, doubtless, none of them are too modest to admit it.

If there is as much reason for immediate action as the Telegraph and Times seemed to have discovered before Premier Murray's resignation, then it is to be hoped that Mr. Foster will get to work at once. There are certain little matters to be attended to before he and his friends can actually control the affairs of this province—and nine years is a long time to go hungry for the fruits and emoluments of office.

### CANADA-WEST INDIES TRADE.

The Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa has just issued a statement which shows the great development of trade interests between the Dominion of Canada and those of the West Indian Islands which came under the 1912 reciprocal trade agreement effected by Sir George E. Foster. The figures available only show the trade to the end of the year 1915 but the growth established by them is most remarkable. The exports from Canada to the Barbados, British Guiana and Trinidad, the three largest of the West Indian colonies coming under the agreement showed a growth of 85 per cent. in the same period the exports from the United States increased but six per cent. This appears to be a reasonably good answer to those who, in 1912, professed to see no value in the trade proposal and who held that the geographical position of the United States and the West Indian colonies gave to the neighboring republic an advantage too powerful for any trade agreement to overcome.

The Canadian articles which have been most affected by the West Indian trade development are boots and shoes, cordage, lumber, paints, paper, soap, butter, cheese, condensed milk, fish and flour. The four products which have been most affected by the treaty are fish, flour, oats and lumber. In these four items, there has been a remarkable transference of trade from the United States to Canada. From 1912 to 1915, the exports of fish from Canada to the West Indies increased 52 per cent, while the United States exports of the same article decreased 36 per cent. The transference of the trade in flour has been even more notable, Canada's exports to the West Indies having increased in three years by no less than 155 per cent., while American exports of flour decreased by 64 per cent. Canada's export trade in oats increased by 62 per cent, while that of the United States decreased by 53 per cent. Canada's exports of lumber increased 55 per cent, as against a decrease in American exports of lumber amounting to 46 per cent.

Clearly these figures show that the definite predictions of the fearful ones in 1912 have not been realized. On the contrary the reciprocal agreement is producing the sort of results that Canada desires. The delegates now attending the Imperial Conference in London might find more than a little inspiration in the history of Canada's credit, prospects nor security.

trade relations with the West Indian colonies covering a period of five years after the reciprocity treaty of 1912.

### THE HOME GARDEN.

The movement to increase the production of foodstuffs during the year 1917 has now reached large proportions in Canada. The high prices of all articles of food and the certainty that during this year a still larger quantity than in the past will be required for export if the requirements of our armies and our overseas brothers are to be met, are the causes contributing to the campaign. The Government has urged upon all the necessity of making every acre produce and indications now are that the advice will be generally followed.

In addition to bringing home to every farmer in Canada the desirability of increasing his production and thus adding to the prosperity of the nation, a campaign of the home garden is being waged in most of the Canadian cities. Amateur gardeners are being encouraged to go in for their favorite avocation on a larger scale than before, in fact to carry it beyond a hobby and make of it a tangible factor in combating high prices. It is not expected that the home gardeners will produce in competition with the professional agriculturists, if they grow sufficient to partly meet their own table requirements the campaign to enlist their aid will be considered successful. The movement has much to commend it and it is hoped that St. John will fall in line with other cities in a ready response to its appeal.

Commissioner Wigmore, at a gathering of returned soldiers the other night, outlined a practical plan which he has had in mind for some time. He has offered to place at the disposal of returned soldiers plots of city land in the vicinity of Silver Falls. This land he will bring to a state of cultivation and will also provide the necessary seed. All he asks is that the men who agree to take up the proposition shall keep the gardens up to the standard and when the crop is harvested in the autumn, devote it to the dependents of men now serving overseas. The New Brunswick Power Company also has a garden plan in which it hopes to interest its employees. That company will devote land at Glen Falls to the purpose, provide the necessary ploughing and furnish tools and seed, allowing those who engage in the work to take the crop for their own use. Both of these seem to be workable schemes and as the season is yet sufficiently early to allow others to develop before seeding time it may be that the coming summer will see notable accessions to the ranks of St. John's amateur gardeners.

### A BILLION FOR FRANCE.

England is not worried concerning her own financial strength. Her worries arise from the demands which her Allies make upon her. Lord Northcliffe, discussing the assistance that the United States may render to the Allied cause, suggested a loan to France.

The New York World advises Congress to give France a billion dollars. The big American newspaper suggests a gift, not a loan. It says the gift should be a privilege; that it is an obligation.

France expended hundreds of millions of dollars in helping the American people win their independence, and not a cent of this has ever been repaid. Now is the opportunity to reciprocate, not meanly or grudgingly, but proudly and gratefully.

Says The World: "Every schoolboy knows what France meant to the United States when the fate of the democracy trembled in the balance. We have no more right to mean less to France in 1917 than France meant to our forefathers in 1776. We are the richest country in the world. We have everything that the French require and we cannot give it too quickly or too lavishly. A billion American dollars are worth more to France today than the million American troops. The dollars and what they will buy can be mobilized at once. They will carry new heart and courage to the French people and relieve the French government of the gigantic financial burden under which it is struggling."

France is borrowing in New York today at an interest rate of more than six per cent, and is compelled to provide on a loan of \$50,000,000 collateral worth \$120,000,000. France loaned money to the United States at five per cent, when the colonies had neither credit, prospects nor security.

## IMPURE BLOOD IN THE SPRING

### The Passing of Winter Leaves People Weak and Depressed

As winter passes away it leaves many people feeling weak, depressed and easily tired. The body lacks that vital force and energy which pure blood alone can give.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are an all-year-round blood builder and nerve tonic, but they are especially useful in the spring. Every dose helps to make new, rich, red blood. Retaining strength commences with their use and vigor and cheerfulness of good health quickly follow.

There is just one cure for lack of blood and that is more blood. Food is the material from which blood is made, but Dr. Williams' Pink Pills double the value of the food we eat.

They give strength, tone up the stomach and give digestion, clear the complexion of pimples, eruptions and boils, and drive out rheumatic poisons.

If you are pale and sallow, if you feel continually tired out, breathless after slight exertion, if you have headaches or backaches, if you are irritable and nervous, if your joints ache, if your appetite falls and food does not nourish nor sleep refresh you, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills will make you well and strong.

Ask for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and do not be persuaded to take something else. If your dealer does not keep these Pills they will be sent by mail, post paid, 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 by writing The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

### SUBMARINES ARE QUIETED.

The New York Herald's naval correspondent writes: There are indications that Germany's new thrust at the food supplies of Great Britain by means of unrestricted submarine war on merchant shipping has not achieved the success hoped for by its promoters. The toll of victims, while serious, does not show that marked increase which had been expected in view of the reports of the expansion of the U-boat flotillas. The menace, of course, is still serious and has yet to be reckoned with. The fact that it has not attained the formidable dimensions necessary to starve the British Isles into submission is a relief.

For common ills that flesh is heir to, old Mother Nature gives us the cure in her simple, healing herbs. When the liver gets sluggish—when the blood becomes laden with impurities—and that miserable dragged-out feeling comes over one that says "I must get back to Nature for the remedy and take Dr. Wilson's HERBINE BITTERS.

This reliable tonic and blood purifier contains the curative principles of Dandelion, Mandrake, Burdock and other medicinal herbs that clean, purify and enrich the blood and build up the whole system. 25c a bottle. Family size, five times as large, \$1. At most stores. The Brayley Drug Co., Limited, St. John, N.B.

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## Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE. Mr. Lewis came in to see pop yesterday afternoon, and him and pop sat in the parlor looking at it drizzling outside, Mr. Lewis saying. This is my idea of a disagreeable day. And the motion, sed pop, and yet, such is the power of force of habit, I'd be willing to bet a box of cigars that if you told the average man it was a fine day, he would say, it surely is, without stopping to think. I'll take that little bet, heer comes sumpbody now, try it on him, sed Mr. Lewis. It's a shame to take the sears, sed pop. And he opened the window just as Mr. Simkins started to go past with his overcoat collar turned up, pop saying, Ah there, Simkins, fine day. Not so you can notice it, sed Mr. Simkins. It's a shame to take the sears, sed Mr. Lewis. Give me time, give me time, sed pop I sed the average man, you can't call the fieriest man that passes the average man if there ever was one, try it on him, sed Mr. Lewis. Which jest then Mr. Jones, being the man that lives next door, started to walk up his front steps and close his umbrella, and pop opened th window again, saying, Nice day, Jones. All rite for snails and fishes, sed Mr. Jones. It's a shame to take the sears, sed Mr. Lewis. I sed the average man, Jones is a fool, sed pop. So is the average man, sed Mr. Lewis. And pop dident try it on anybody else.

submission within the next two or three months. The reasons for this lack of success on the part of Lord Curzon has been termed the greatest menace which this country has had to face since the Napoleonic wars have been made known officially in the British Parliament. The Admiralty representatives have indicated that in spite of the haste with which the new campaign was sprung on the world, and although it is not very old, the counter measures which have been provided have achieved considerable success. Lord Lytton has declared that, whether in the destruction of hostile submarines or in escape from attack the success gained is sufficient to justify a large measure of confidence in the effectiveness of the steps which are being taken.

Many Submarines Destroyed. Sir Edward Carson has stated, in an interview with a French journalist, that Great Britain has destroyed a large number of enemy submarines, and as Lord Curzon said in the House of Lords debate on February 13, the most effective method of fighting the submarine danger is to destroy the submarines.

Perhaps the most serious feature of the new blockade is not the amount of tonnage which has been destroyed, but the manner in which many of the neutral Powers have accepted the German threats at their face value. These threats of wholesale slaughter have apparently had an effect upon neutrals, which has not been the case with the Allies, who for two years have felt the full force of Germany's submarine war. Ships have been prohibited from leaving neutral ports by their owners or by the government of their country, and this stopping of traffic occurs in spite of the liberal terms of insurance offered by the British government.

There are notable exceptions to this condition of partial paralysis, and such exceptions are likely to increase when the real state of affairs has been assimilated by the merchants and ship-owners concerned. The best influence in the direction of a resumption of traffic must be the knowledge that the allied seamen are getting the better of the U-boats, a knowledge which will stimulate and deepen the confidence engendered by the prompt and vigorous action of the British navy at the beginning of the war.

"Organized Madness." The submarine stroke, which must have been many months in preparation, can hardly have reached its full intensity, and even when it has there are other means of supplementing it. If the development of submarine war in its most terrible form is madness, it is, as Lord Curzon has said, cold, calculated, premeditated and well organized madness, having behind it not merely the mind of the men who devised it, but the enthusiastic indorsement of the German people.

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