

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1915

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 8, 1915.

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## WHERE ARE THE MEN?

Have the young men of St. John made up their minds that they do not care a button whether Britain or Germany wins in this war? Have they decided that it does not concern them whether Canada remains a free Dominion or becomes a German colony?

The attendance at the recruiting meetings would certainly suggest that the men care little and the women less. Why, then, sing the national anthem any more? We may as well look this situation in the face. The news from the war zone is not satisfactory. It indicates that the British Empire must put forth its full strength or there will be no British Empire. That is the issue—plain and simple.

The citizens of St. John must wake up. The attention of the people is too much divided. There are too many appeals for attention to other things when the one great and essential thing at this moment is to get men, and more men.

Do the business men of St. John realize the situation? Do the women of St. John realize it? If they do, why is there no general enthusiasm, and why do gifted speakers like those who spoke at the Opera House last evening find themselves facing a mere handful of people, while hundreds upon hundreds stroll up and down past the door on pleasure bent?

A recent letter from London tells of a bomb from a German Zeppelin falling upon a bus in the street, killing every passenger. Are we waiting for German bombs in St. John?

It is quite true that a small number of recruits is secured each day, and that many St. John men are now in the trenches and more en route; but their courage and devotion will have been in vain unless they are supported by steadily increasing numbers.

The business of St. John today is war. Too many citizens either do not believe, or do not care. If they do not believe, their ignorance is appalling. If they do not care, they do not deserve the freedom they enjoy.

Every man and every woman should think war and talk war, with a grim resolution to see it through to a successful issue. That is what the German people are doing, and they have had forty years of preparation.

A young New Brunswick soldier, writing to his father before leaving England, says:

"I expect to be in the trenches when you get this. Keep up the good work (of recruiting) and don't worry about me. I shall come through one way or another. Anyhow, I shall have no right to the name of quitter in the time of deeds and not words."

Who follows where these young men have led?

## THE WAR NEWS.

What the Germans did to the Belgians the Turks are doing on an even larger scale to the Armenians, with full German approval. Germany could put an end to the Turkish atrocities, but has no desire to do so. The Turks regard this as an opportune time to exterminate the Armenians, and the story of the atrocities perpetrated has shocked the world outside of Turkey and Germany. The United States has protested, and it will be interesting to note how vigorously her protest will be pressed. Today's cables indicate that recent events in the Balkans have made the situation of all foreigners in Constantinople more perilous, as the Turks are more confident, and are showing an ugly disposition toward non-combatants as well as prisoners of war.

The attitude of Greece is still very uncertain. Roumania still refuses to permit the shipment of German contraband through her territory. The Germans are attacking Serbia and French and British troops are hastening to her assistance by way of Saloniki. Greece is bound by treaty to aid Serbia, but the new cabinet gives no sign of an intention to keep faith in that regard. The whole Balkan situation is far from satisfactory at the present moment. Bulgaria may be able to delay the forcing of the Dardanelles, and with the stormy season at hand this becomes a very serious matter. The recent successes in the west and the resumption of the offensive by Russia are for the moment overshadowed by the very grave situation in the Balkans.

It has taken the British a month to advance 800 yards along a four mile front at Salvia, in the Dardanelles. This tells us clearly enough how difficult is the task, for that advance was made at heavy cost.

The war news leads to but one conclusion—the British Empire must send more men to the front.

## THE UNITED STATES ARMY

The question—What could the United States army do if that country became engaged in war?—is dealt with by Mr. J. Bernard Walker in the American Review of Reviews. He says the actual strength of the trained army that could take the field if the United States were invaded is 80,000 men, made up of 80,000 regulars and 60,000 effective militia, or little more than the total number of casualties reported in some engagements in the present European war. Not only so, but these troops are scattered from Maine to California, and Mr. Walker adds:

"Moreover, when they were concentrated, our troops would be short of field artillery, short of field howitzers, short of machine guns, and our officers would be new to the task of handling so large a body of men."

The writer in the Review has very positive views as to the remedy for this state of affairs. He says:

"We should maintain constantly in the continental United States an effective regular army of 125,000 men, and the militia should be so enlarged that it could at any time put in the field 275,000 effective troops, these 400,000 men being fully equipped with artillery, transport, and all necessary means for rapid concentration and swift attack. Back of this first line should be a trained citizen army of half a million, capable of quick concentration at depots in which at all times should be maintained the necessary artillery, ammunition and equipment—with adequate reserves—for field operations on the largest scale extending over a protracted period. Properly led this army of defense, we should require not less than 40,000 trained officers. These can be secured by the enlargement of West Point, and by the extension of those student and civilian camps which have been showing such excellent results during the past summer at Plattsburg and elsewhere."

It was announced yesterday that very important additions would be made to the strength of the American navy, and there is a strong agitation in favor of a larger and better equipped army. If the present war should end without completely crushing the power of Germany it would unquestionably be necessary for the United States and every other nation to adopt a strong military program. If, however, Prussian militarism is utterly broken and destroyed, the need of great armaments will be far less pressing, and we may hope for such an international agreement as would ensure lasting peace in the world. The armament makers in the United States may be expected to support an extensive military and naval programme of preparation. On this point another writer in the Review says:

"Much as it is to be regretted, the profitable experience of munition makers in the past year will keep alive the jingo element in the United States, and Washington will undoubtedly be conscious in the future of the presence of strong lobbies made up of representatives of these interests. The stock of one concern, which has advanced from about \$20 to nearly \$600 a share, has been affected almost entirely by the prospect of American war contracts. Not a few of the plants erected for the manufacture of heavy armament, rifles, and ammunition are built to stand years after the present war is over. Mechanics are being trained for a life work and not for an emergency situation."

As long as the war lasts the military propagandists in the United States will have ground for their contentions. Let us hope the end of the war will be such as to leave them without arguments to support any other than an international arrangement to prevent war.

The Presbyterian Synod, in a series of resolutions adopted yesterday, says:—"We cannot impress too deeply upon our people the gravity of the situation and the urgent immediate need of every available man enlisting and of our mothers and wives continuing their sacrifice. We would also encourage our people to practise economy and thus conserve the resources of the country."

Hon. W. T. White says that Canada is growing richer, nationally, notwithstanding the war. The crops are excellent, the balance of trade is in our favor, and the country prosperous. The finance minister adds that the spirit, patriotism and enthusiasm of the people since the outbreak of the war has been an inspiration to the government. That patriotism and enthusiasm must be maintained and given even more significant expression.

The Halifax Chronicle says:—Saloniki, where the Allied troops have been landed, is the key point diplomatically and militarily in the Balkan situation. It belongs to Greece as spoil of the two Balkan wars. Bulgaria covets it, and after the first Balkan war the Greeks had to shoulder the Bulgarian troops out of the city. Saloniki is a larger city than Athens, but its importance is not derived from that fact. In normal times it is a great port with far-reaching trade relations. It is at all times a great strategic position commanding the gulf of the same name, a great inlet of the Aegean.

Sir Edward Grey's assurance that the Allies will stand by their Balkan friends was given, we may be certain, with Saloniki in mind.



LIGHTER VEIN.

"Sadderman seems to be always worrying over something."

"Yes, he is generally troubled with three kinds of trouble all at the same time—all the trouble he has ever had, all he has now and all he ever expects to have."—Puck.

"Don't you think women ought to vote?" asked Mr. Meekton's wife.

"Well, Henrietta, there's no doubt in my mind that they ought to vote. But my opinion of some of the other women is correct, I don't see why you should want to intrust them with such a responsibility."

Edmund had just begun to attend the public school and had found a new friend, a child of whom Edmund's mother had never heard.

"Who is this Walter?" she asked.

"Yes, ma'am, he is," said Edmund, enthusiastically.

"Does he say any naughty words?" pursued his mother.

"No," replied Edmund, with emphasis, "and I'm not going to teach him any."

"Look here," said the head of the firm, addressing the new stenographer, "this letter is all wrong. Your punctuation is very bad and your spelling is worse. I can't afford to send out any such stuff to my clients."

"Well," she replied, "I'm sorry if my work don't suit you, but was you expecting to get a Mrs. Noah H. Webster for \$15 a week?"

## MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES.

Ottawa, Oct. 7.—The regulations which have been in force since 1913 requiring the inspection and certification of potatoes in Canada before they could be exported at all the United States were repealed by order-in-council today.

It is hoped that prompt action will be taken by the United States and that will be equally broad in its scope.

Judge Wood of the Divorce court in Los Angeles has instituted what is termed a "reconciliation chamber," where people are sent to stay if they cannot patch up their differences. The plan is proving a great success.

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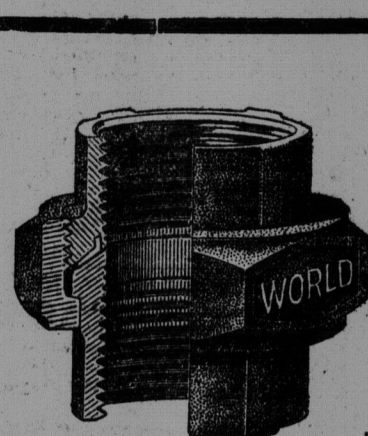
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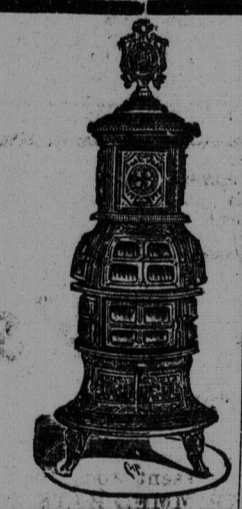
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## THERE IS NO MONEY IN RAISING TRIPLETS

State Department Decide No Bonus Will be Paid—Public is Misinformed

Ottawa, Oct. 8.—The State Department has rendered an important decision on the question of triplets.

Applications for state aid for the proud but anxious parents of triplets have been received by the government during the last few days. There have been two or three of such applications, which have been based upon a belief that the government sanctioned and encouraged these achievements by granting bonuses.

The applications were turned over to the State Department for an opinion as to whether the arrival of three children at one birth could be construed as being a work for the general advantage of Canada and entitled to a bonus. The department has turned over some tens

of musty records without finding that any subsidy was ever granted on these grounds in Canada, although in England during the reign of Queen Victoria bonuses were given as a matter of royal bounty, the practice being discontinued during the reign of King Edward and restored during the reign of the present king. It does not apply to Canada.

Be early at the auction tonight! There's going to be a crowd.

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