

The Evening Times and Star

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TONIGHT'S MEETING.

Those who witness the parade through the streets of St. John this evening will be thinking of other parades through the same streets of men in khaki, some of whom have since become immortal through their deeds and others of whom are today in the trenches wondering why more of their comrades are not answering the call of their country in the greatest crisis in its history.

We remember the men of the 20th and other units as they went with heads up and swinging stride on their route marches, and we know now they went with the same springing step when they cheered but their own were heard, and the thunder of the guns welcomed them to the place of danger close to the enemy they went so far to meet.

Many a citizen of St. John will seem to see the serried ranks tonight, marching beside their former companions, and if young men who are fit and free do not imagine they see also an accusing finger pointing in their direction as the phantom host goes by, it will be because they do not yet realize the need and the duty of the hour.

Tonight should be made memorable in the annals of St. John. The number of men rallying to the colors should leave no doubt in the minds of the people of other parts of Canada that St. John and New Brunswick will do their duty; no doubt in the mind of the King that his appeal will be answered; and no doubt in the minds of the gallant fellows now at the front that the gaps in the ranks will be filled and the men they left behind prove worthy of their fellowship.

Lt. Col. Fowler's appeal will be seconded by that of Sgt. Knight, who bears the scars of battle. The presence of the commander of the battalion will make tonight's meeting the more interesting for all intending recruits, and his words will be an inspiration as well to those who cannot go to the front, but can do a great deal at home. If the rank proves too small, arrangements are made for an overflow meeting.

THEY ARE NOT PAID

Every now and then one hears it asserted that men and women working for the Red Cross Fund are well paid for their services and that a portion of the funds collected goes for this purpose. The Times has already pointed out that the treasurer of the Patriotic Fund is the only official paid by that organization, and he gives his whole time to the work and is one of the busiest and most worried men in St. John. With regard to the Red Cross, the only other that the men are paid crops up now and give their time and effort to the cause, but are themselves contributors. They deserve something better than to have it suggested by anyone that they are prompted by self-interest or are paid for their service. Red Cross Fund work is volunteer work, nobly done by noble women all over the country. And yet the Times is told that within a week in this city a group of women discussed this very question of the amount spent for salaries and some were convinced it was a fairly large sum. In this case, as in that of the rumors about large numbers of St. John soldiers being killed, it is only necessary to start the story and it travels fast. And yet, in these days of accurate information without a moment's delay. Why will some people repeat silly or damaging or cruel rumors without making an effort to get at the truth?

HARD FIGHTING AHEAD

Capt. Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, the British press representative in the Dardanelles campaign, says: "To say we are going to hinder the march of Germany through Bulgaria is absolute nonsense. We cannot get into Bulgaria this year, for there are only three or four weeks more in which operations are practicable on account of winter. But there is no reason why we should not continue to hold Saloniki and keep our troops in Greece."

Capt. Ashmead-Bartlett asserts also that there are 800,000 seasoned Turkish troops at the Dardanelles and he sees no prospect of getting through to Constantinople.

A London cable last night said that the German and Bulgarian armies had effected a junction in north-eastern Serbia, and now had a clear road through Bulgaria to the Aegean Sea and Constantinople. This means that Germany is now able to supply both Bulgaria and Turkey with much needed munitions. The same cable points out that the Allies cannot afford to weaken the other fronts by withdrawing troops for the Balkans, for the Germans are showing activity on all fronts. They are continuing to attack the Russians in the east and the French in the west with

great vigor, and we are told that the position of the Russians on the northern part of their battle line is still serious. This is the state of affairs today. It is not what has been desired or anticipated after fifteen months of war. The victory gained by German diplomacy in Bulgaria and Greece has made the task of the Allies very much more difficult. Of course new elements may presently enter into the case that will brighten the prospect, and there is no doubt about the ultimate triumph of the Allies if the supply of men and munitions is kept up; but we may as well face the facts and prepare for a prolonged struggle.

A Doubting Thomas says Queen's Rink will not be filled with men tonight. In other words he thinks the men of St. John are not interested in the safety of their country. He will know better tomorrow.

This will be a great winter in Halifax. Not only is an army of men at work on the new harbor works, but in addition to the large permanent force there will be several battalions of troops quartered in the city. Halifax is to be congratulated on having a powerful influence at Ottawa.

The German government disowns the men who plotted in New York to destroy vessels loaded with munitions for the Allies. That is to be expected. The denial is made because the plot was discovered. Germany would deny anything nor affirm anything if it seemed to be of any advantage to her. She is the most faithless nation in the world today. Even the Turk is not in her class.

A number of Conservative papers have resumed their attacks upon Sir Sam Hughes, and it is hinted that those closest to the Hon. Robert Rogers are the most virulent in their attacks. This is worse than a grit and tory squabble in war-time. Sir Robert Borden should try his skill as a peacemaker at home, even while abroad he wields his trusty blade. If Sir Robert would also speed up the work of providing equipment for men as fast as they enlist he would be doing the Empire a good turn.

The Conservative Montreal Gazette mildly observed that the inquiry into purchases of military supplies at Regina indicated that the quantities supplied were not in every case equal to the amount for which bills were made out. This seems to open the way to a prosecution. In the horse purchases it may have been the duty of the government through its agents to see that the animals offered to it were fit for service. In the matter of giving under-weight and charging for full there is neither excuse nor defence in custom or in law.

King George appeals to Canada for more men. Sir Sam Hughes is reported as saying that men are coming in as fast as they can be equipped. The obvious remark is that Sir Sam is not producing equipment fast enough. King George wants men. The Empire needs them. They are needed to save Canada. Is a failure to provide equipment after fifteen months of war to prevent Canada from providing the men needed? Who knows best what is needed, the King and Kitchener—or Sir Sam Hughes?

BESIEGED BY BEARS ON DRIFTING ICE FLOE

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—A thrilling story of a fight with Polar bears on drifting ice at the mouth of Hudson Bay is brought to Ottawa by a government expedition which has been erecting wireless stations in the far north.

A T. Fleming, a wireless expert, who headed the expedition, reports that while the party of six were endeavoring to locate a site for a wireless station at the entrance to Hudson Bay they found themselves adrift on a huge ice floe in a blinding snowstorm. On the following day they were without food, and on the approach of night discovered that they were being surrounded by two dozen Polar bears. The men took refuge on the top of the giant berg, while the bears gathered around and laid siege. During the night the bears made an effort to reach them, and one of them was killed by a well directed shot.

In the morning the unwelcome visitors beat a retreat, and the men, half starved and badly frostbitten, succeeded in reaching camp.

They're going quickly—the tickets for the \$5,000 drawing.

CRAB APPLES

Sweet Potatoes Roman Meal Karmon Water .. AT .. Jas. Collins 210 Union St.

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LIGHTER VEIN.

Gen. Horace Porter told this story—"In the mountains of New Hampshire I encountered an old negro who loved to talk about the deeds of the colored troops of which he was a member during the rebellion, and whose present occupation is that of driver on an ancient and rickety stage coach.

Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas tells this one on himself: "I had an appointment to speak in a town in Eastern Arkansas on a Saturday, and I arrived on a late train the night before, carrying nothing but a small hand grip. I went to a hotel near the depot. There was no one on duty at the hour except the night porter, and he was acting as porter, clerk and general overseer. I registered and he showed me to a room; but in a few minutes he came back and said: 'Boss, my 'struction is, when a gentleman haven't any baggage, to collect in advance.' 'Why, I've got baggage,' I replied, pointing to the little grip. 'Folks,' he says, 'you've stayed too long on that 'n' ready.'"

Does your watch pass the inspectors? Has it been recently cleaned and repaired but CONDEMNED BECAUSE YOU DID NOT HAVE THE WORK DONE BY THE OFFICIALLY APPOINTED INSPECTORS?

A WORD TO RAILROAD MEN

OUR ABILITY IN REPAIRING AND ADJUSTING WATCHES IS SUCH THAT NO INSPECTOR DARE PRESUME TO CONDEMN WORK FOR WHICH WE ARE RESPONSIBLE. WE GUARANTEE THIS TO YOU.

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It Is About Time to decide what stove you are going to use this winter. Whether it is going to be a Feeder, a Hot Blast or an Oak Stove, or whether it will pay you to put in a furnace. If you can't make up your mind, call and tell us what you have for heat and we will help you to decide. We have heating stoves in all sizes and styles, ranging in price from \$6.75 upwards, and can supply your wants. R. H. IRWIN 18-20 Haymarket Square

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