

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1915.

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

CONCERNING MACHINE GUNS

The information from Ottawa that sufficient money has been concentrated at points in Canada to provide the Canadian contingents with 1,000 machine guns, or forty guns to each regiment in the two Canadian divisions to be maintained in the field, is good news. St. John citizens can well congratulate themselves that at least twenty of these guns will be provided through the generosity and public spirit of men of this city.

The province of Ontario, where, as Premier Hoar said, yesterday, a war tax has been imposed, has contributed sufficient money to the machine gun funds to secure at least five hundred of these great offensive and defensive weapons. As the result of Canadian generosity the equipment of the Canadian soldiers will be raised to a point superior to that of the enemy.

The British regulations originally provided for four machine guns to a battalion, while the Germans had twelve, then sixteen and, in some cases twenty to the same number of men. Canada has even improved on that and it is proposed to send with each Canadian unit as many skilled men as can be secured to operate the increased number of guns.

Hon. A. E. Kemp of the War Purchasing Commission, interviewed in Ottawa on the matter of machine guns, contributed some important information. He says that negotiations had been underway for some time to secure an adequate number of such weapons and that a continuous supply was now assured. No doubt many of those first received will be sent to the front to regiments already there and only enough kept in Canada for instructional purposes, but in future each regiment as it goes to the front will be well equipped.

The cost of each gun complete will be in the vicinity of \$950. Canadian troops will be equipped with the Lewis type of gun, as the Maxim and Colt guns have been to a great extent taken up by the British and allied troops. The Lewis gun is made in Birmingham and is reputed to be the equal, if not the superior, of the Maxim or the Colt. It is a heavier gun and more expensive. It is impossible to manufacture such guns in Canada in time for the service required of them.

In a recent address, Mr. Lloyd George, speaking of the production of munitions, said it would require nine months to organize a factory and equip it to produce one gun. For the pressing emergency Canada has therefore contracted for her supply of these guns with well known established factories.

Although Ottawa informs us that sufficient money has been contributed for the provision of 1,000 guns, that fact should not prevent the continuance of contributions, for every gun provided to the Canadian soldiers increases their margin of protection by just that much, and letters from the front have been very insistent on the need of such weapons. Canada owes it to the men she has sent and is sending to the front that they should be equipped with every weapon and article that will increase their chances of success. To do less would be to neglect a duty. Already the Government is doing all it can do in this regard and the men are well protected, but it is impossible to have too many machine guns and their provision affords a splendid opportunity for wealthy Canadians, themselves unable to go to the front, to do their share in the Empire war.

A HOUSE DIVIDED

While under the ram-rod rule of Prussia the dangers arising from internal differences among those entrusted with the administration of the various departments of government or even, for that matter, those dangers that might arise from the total disaffection of a certain element of the population within the Empire itself are reduced to a minimum, yet it cannot be denied that in a time of great danger and stress like the present such cross currents as are seen to swirl and twist in the advancing tide

of Prussian militarism cannot be entirely despised or ignored.

That there are such cross currents no one will deny who has been watching the stream of Prussian statesmanship. While the Chancellor and the Foreign Office were doing their best to smooth things over with the United States in the matter of the Lusitania outrage, and while they had even at one time endeavored to excuse themselves for an act that they themselves with all the rest of the world knew full well was nothing more than cold-blooded piracy and murder on the alleged ground that it had been said that that vessel was armed, and when they had succeeded, so far at least as any one on the outside could infer, in persuading the government at Washington that such being the case there would not be any great likelihood of a repetition of such an act, just at that moment another of Admiral von Tirpitz's pet schemes of the deep and hurried several shells at the Orforda after having in vain endeavored to torpedo her.

For this act of piracy there can be urged no such excuse as was offered in the case of the Lusitania, for this vessel was never accused of carrying guns and as a matter of fact was actually on her outward voyage and hence could not even be accused of carrying supplies and munitions to the enemy.

Those who are acquainted with the inner workings of the Kaiser's war machine are not unacquainted with the fact that there is a strong difference of opinion and of policy at the present time between the Chancellor and the head of the Kaiser's Kiel Canal fleet.

These two stalwarts have actually carried their personal differences into the press and as a result the Deutsche Tages-Zeitung has been suppressed by the Chancellor, who apparently has felt much aggrieved by the audacity of Admiral Herr von Tirpitz.

Perhaps in time His Excellency the Chancellor will see that in insisting upon his right to determine the policy of the German navy the most courageous admiral was entirely within right and reason, for no one in Germany or out of Germany can deny that Admiral von Tirpitz has himself succeeded in taking the very best of care of the German high sea fleet. The Chancellor will do well to measure his words and to control his wrath for should von Tirpitz decide to confer upon his Kiel Canal fleet an appropriate reward for all its splendid accomplishments he might let them all out on the "Spree" where, being German, they would all be quite safe. Then beware, Herr Chancellor.

FACTS VERSUS HYSTERIA.

The Davidson commission to investigate the purchase of war supplies left Ottawa last evening for the Maritime Provinces, and will hold its first session in Summerside, P. E. I., on Thursday. It is also likely that other maritime province centres will be visited, and any matters that may present themselves will be thoroughly investigated.

That it is the desire of the Government, and of the Commission, to have all war contracts probed to the depths, is apparent from the method of procedure in Ottawa. A similar desire to turn on the light was manifested in the sessions of the Public Accounts' Committee at the capital some three months ago.

Under the Laurier government the Public Accounts' Committee was the sphere where Mr. F. B. Carvell, of Carleton, got in his fine work. He was the gentleman who "sat on the lid" and prevented revelations of graft and incompetence from coming to light. The Borden Government has no such functionary and desires none. And the result of the Davidson enquiry to date has been to show that millions of dollars have been expended by the Government for war purposes, and that the expenditure has been honest and businesslike.

Recently the Auditor-General was called to the stand in the enquiry in Ottawa and his evidence was a distinct testimonial to the capacity and honesty of the Government. The Ottawa Journal, one of the safest and sanest newspapers in the Dominion

of Canada, comments on Mr. Fraser's statement in this way:

Before the Public Accounts Committee about three months ago Auditor-General Fraser, after it had been shown that something like \$6,000 of a \$60,000,000 war vote had been diverted from its proper channel, said that there were other contracts which he deemed wise to investigate. Three weeks ago, before the Davidson Royal Commission, Mr. Fraser was asked, if we remember rightly, if he had found further evidence of wrong-doing, or anything that incited his criticism, suspicion or condemnation.

His reply was that he had found nothing wrong, but that there were some matters he desired to further probe. Yesterday Mr. Fraser was again asked by the Royal Commission counsel if he had discovered wrong-doing, and again the answer was in the negative; the auditor-general adding that many things that seemed suspicious at first were being explained in the light of later developments. Mr. Fraser was referring to expenditures under the recent \$100,000,000 vote as well as to the vote of \$50,000,000 last August.

The auditor-general's statement should be given the widest possible publicity. Coming after a disastrous period of reckless abuse and vilification of Canadian business and government by an ignorant or partisan press anxious to advertise its virtue by attacking the virtue of others, of denunciation by a hysterical and glib section of the pulpit, this testimonial to the honest, business-like expenditure of scores of millions of dollars is refreshing.

Despite all that has been said and done to make things look as black as possible, the plain, unvarnished fact stands out that not one-twentieth of one-quarter per cent. of war money has been lost. The newspapers that went off at half-cock and shouted "margotry" from the house-tops should now crawl into a hole and pull the hole in after them.

Another British submarine has passed the barriers of the Dardanelles and entered Constantinople harbor, which is additional evidence that the British underwater craft can equal their enemies in everything except in slaying women and children or torpedoing unarmed neutral vessels. That is one game they play better in Germany.

Russia has indulged in prayers for victory, a most commendable proceeding. At the same time it is not unwise to remember that the Great Napoleon was accustomed to declare that while Divine aid was most desirable, yet it would not make up for men or munitions.

The shadow of the war obscures everything else. In normal times a tragedy such as that which occurred in Chicago on Saturday would have been regarded as most appalling. Now it is passed over with scarcely a thought outside of the community affected. And yet by it one thousand lives were lost.

In considering the Russian situation it is well to remember that Grand Duke Nicholas has been playing the game of war much longer and much better than the multitude of arm chair critics who, time and again, have seen his finish.

In spite of the firm tone of the third American note the Germans yesterday sent to the bottom another American vessel. The only argument with which to appeal to the Teuton is the bullet or bayonet.

The War Poet

Half a ton, one ton, war poems upward;
All wanting theirs in print, deluded
six hundred,
Stormed at by editors,
Watched by competitors,
Hounded by creditors,
Who also had blundered,
Then they felt awful, all that six hundred.

More verses, poor verses, how they all wondered
When they all heard their fate; sorry
six hundred,
Trying to make words rhyme,
Working hard all the time,
Thinking their work sublime,
Would-be laureates wondered
Why their poems got the "hook"; gifted
six hundred.

When will they ever learn
And to the farm return all that six hundred,
Helping to make the hay,
Forgetting to write the lay,
Picking the pink bouquet,
Keeping the crows at bay,
Hearing the neighbors say
Words that are bright and gay,
Basking in old Sol's ray,
Listening to horses neigh,
Making each blessed day
Bring them their real earned pay,
Glad they are far away,
Far from the city fray,
Trusting perchance they may
Teach some poor simple "Jay",
In some place far away,
Always on farm to stay
Hoping they will oblige,
Then they'll feel great, that noble six hundred.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

THE ICEMAN.
The iceman comes down our alley
And with our cook tries to flirt,
He carries a hatchet to chop with
And jeerily wares a bloo short.

He chops awf a peeco and holds it
Undir the hydrant to wash awf the dirt
And the waitr splashes beer and there
And sumtimes awn his bloo abert.

He yells, Eny ice, eny ice today,
You can hear him for a block or moar,
And thata how you go hee coming,
Wich is wat he dux it for.

He can make moar noise than 7 kids,
Awf akkount of noing how to bawl so.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.
A J Mercer, Halifax; T C McGovern, Toronto; Mrs W B Porter, New York City; C A Watkins and wife, Philadelphia; Mrs and Miss Lent, Highland, N. Y.; Helen B Danforth, Bear River; Mrs P Morrisey, F Anderson, Miss F Morrisey, Boston; J E Duffee, New York City; W C Patrick, Toronto; Wm Smart, Montreal; C K Burt, Toronto; D K MacDonald, J E McCoy, Montreal; W H Wilkinson, Toronto; C Howie, Chatham, Ont.; J T Hallisey, Truro; Percy W Kinney, Boston; A J McLeod, Montreal; E S Carter, Rothesay; J R Wright, I Beebe and wife, E Orange, N J; G Putnam and wife, Boston; R G A Beck, L H Fischer, L J Gaboury, Montreal; C W Pavcett, Sackville; C D Dennis, Amherst; W M Hodges, Lockport; C F Lenday, Bridgeport; E J Laughlin, Portland; C H Morrill and wife, St. Louis, Mo.; A S Coughton and wife, Trinidad, B W I.

Victoria.
Earl A Smith and wife, New York; Mrs F C Hastings and 3 children, N. Y.; J H Wells, Boston; James J MacDonald, do; H Brown, Montreal; D A Seaman, Montreal; T S Landers, Truro, N S; W J Canvath, Riverside; A M Dann, Hampton; R A Malloy, Fredericton; Mr and Mrs A Williams, Miss Burpee, Woodville; Mr and Mrs Atwood Savage, Wilson's Beach; H C McCluskey, Sussex; Dr B F Johnson, Grand Manan; J C Mackay, Halifax; C Mackay, do; Frank McDonald, Fair Haven; W E Scott, Toronto; W R Mills, Moncton; E H Sinclair, do; M R Byron, Ottawa; J W Menzies, C H Brabazon, A Murtagh, C Shaw, J T Smith, R Larmour, F Pepin, C McIntyre, A Stewart, do; A E Cronk, Haverhill; Geo Hallett, Sussex.

Dufferin.
C M Cudlip, City; Leck Worthall, Toronto; G R Westmore, City; H C Priest, Toronto; W S McCart, Eastport, Me; A Crookshank and wife and children, Fredericton; H B Warren, Yorkers, N Y; Miss Helen Barnes, Salisbury; W T Anderson, Morell; P E I; A Proudfoot, Hopewell; I L Wilson, Boston; D J Johnston, Moncton;

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On Saturday I published a list of all boys and girls who are not of either water colors or chalk. To the young artist who drew a valuable Art Book.

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UNCLE THE ST

This Contest C

Coupon to be Used

STANDARD O FOR BOYS

Full Name _____
Address _____
Age Last Birth _____
July 27, 1915.

The Prize winner's name will be published in The Standard on July 27, 1915.

Special Knit

In Aid of The Red Cross Society I am publishing particulars you all to enter for the prize, as given to the above society, and be greatly comforted by your efforts. Make a knitted face measuring knitting cotton, and knit plain, hang up by. Then pin the above not later than Thursday, July 27, 1915.

This contest is open to boys of years of age, as I want you to possible, knowing that they are soldiers.

To the girl or boy who makes a knitted face, I shall also send in the most.

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