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W. V. MACKINNON,
Managing Editor.

ALFRED R. MCGINLEY,
Editor.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

"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.

TO STRIKE AT RUSSIA?

Despatches, rather pessimistic in tone, come from Petrograd. It is stated that the Germans, hoping to profit by the recent revolution which cost the Czar his throne, are about to launch a mighty drive in an attempt to get through to the Russian capital, force Russia to make a separate peace, and then turn to the western front with renewed vigor in a last effort to end the war on terms that will permit Berlin to save something from the wreck.

It is not to be expected that any nation, particularly Russia, could pass through events such as the recent revolution without bearing some of the scars of battle. In Russia the points of conflict between the classes and masses have always been acute and, naturally, there must be some dissatisfaction over the result of the dramatic occurrences of the past few weeks. But the people are in control of the situation and the people represent the war party, freed of bureaucratic influences.

Those who best understand the Russian situation, who, for years, have been observing the trend of events in that mighty land, have no hesitation in declaring that the revolution will be productive of a greater measure of assistance to the Allied cause. While it is not apparent that the Emperor himself furnished occasion to doubt the sincerity of his undertakings with the Allies yet it is known that the Russian government had been under a sinister influence which has been removed. Consequently it is believed that the result cannot be other than good.

As for a great German effort to drive to Petrograd the only fact to lend color to the story is to be found in the release of thousands of men from the "Tewtons" western lines. The shortening of the line as the result of the retreat from Peronne and Baupume to new positions would naturally provide soldiers for other fields and the Russian field is the only one in which such a drive might be expected. There is no occasion for alarm in the most recent rumor. It may be taken for granted that the Allied war council is well informed of all the happenings in all of the areas of conflict and that any attempt on the part of the enemy to incept a forward movement in Russia will be met by a more vigorous aggressive on the western front.

WHEN UNCLE SAM JOINS.

Now that the American people are satisfied that they can no longer avoid war with Germany, there is much speculation as to the course our neighbors will pursue as well as the extent of their participation. In fact there is a general recognition that the two nations are at war now, but with Germany doing the fighting. There is, however, much diversity as to the measure of participation and the course to be adopted.

Some leading Americans, including Col. Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President, and probably the biggest man in the American nation today, hold to the opinion that the United States should become actively allied with Britain in the same sense that France, Russia and Italy are allied; that American warships should search out the enemy on the seas and American soldiers should go into the trenches in Europe, with the Stars and Stripes waving side by side with the Union Jack and the Tri-color of France. Holders of such a view expect that the United States will definitely throw in its lot with the Entente, share the Entente's tasks, and pledge itself to make no separate peace until the Entente's purposes had been served.

Against this there is the opinion that Washington should carry on a separate war against Germany and end it when it is felt that the purpose of the war has been achieved, but without regard to the intentions or desires of the other members of the Entente Alliance. The United States, by reason of its situation, would be in a position to do this if it deemed wise.

The consensus of opinion, however, seems to be that there will be an agreement between the United States and Britain of such a character as to ensure "team play" during the war but which will not commit Washington for a single day after the war ends. This seems the most probable solution of the case, but it should be remembered that so long as Germany continues to give cause for war many things may happen the effect of which may be to completely change policies which today may seem to be wise.

Another question of interest is—will the United States send a great expeditionary force to Europe? Col. Roosevelt is the principal advocate of that course, but there are many who oppose it, many who claim such an undertaking would not bring out the greatest and most valuable measure of assistance of which Washington is capable. The New York World contends that the Allies can put sufficient men in the field to carry the war to a successful conclusion, that what is really needed is supplies, money and the assistance the American navy can give in ridding the sea of the submarine menace. It would be a long time before the United States could send overseas an expeditionary force large enough to be of real value, but money, supplies, credit and foodstuffs could be made available immediately.

The suggestion that the United States should at once extend a credit of a billion dollars to the Allies is generally approved, but the New York Times demands it that is all the United States should do—lend money at 6 per cent. to the nations that are fighting the battle for freedom and the United States? The Springfield Republican says that if the United States goes to war it should fight "robustly," as though it were speaking of a man rubbing himself down with a bath towel. The New York Sun says that the United States must fight, not merely with calm confidence in the justice of its cause, but with furious indignation. Whatever the means finally adopted, we may be sure that the determination of the vast majority of American people is to put every ounce of their strength into the war. Once in the fight they will not draw until Germany is put out of the combat.

A CALL TO WOMEN.

The New York Times draws attention once again to the grave danger that confronts the world of a shortage of food. It points out that the world's reserves will be exhausted at the end of the crop year. We are dependent upon what we produce this year for the food that we may have to eat in the next year. It is a situation that demands our utmost and serious attention.

And so the Times does not mince matters. It has a word for the women. Listen to these plain spoken phrases:

"This country is rich in women who have much time to themselves and have to kill it, some in paying for tea and cakes by listening to papers on every subject under heaven at women's clubs, some by losing and neglecting God's sunlight at tedious afternoon games of bridge, some by frittering away time on charitable and war relief concerns and occasions, whose purposes are sufficiently served without them; and so the rosary of idle women might be strung for many a bead."

Why not, asks The Times, do something necessary, fruitful, a public service? It goes on:

"A great deal less space this year, if you please, for flowers to arouse your neighbors' envy and take the dust of motor cars. A potato vine in place of peonies this year. Come peace or war, the country has to be fed."

"PERFECT LOVE" GIVEN AS MOTIVE IN NOTE LEFT BY GIRL SUIDES

Portsmouth, N. H., March 26.—A motive for the suicide at a local restaurant Thursday night of Miss Margaret Spaulding, an instructor in the home making department of the Garland school in Boston, and her companion, Miss Ethel Stanton, a pupil in the home making department of Dana Hall school, a preparatory institution at Wellesley, Mass., is sought by the police.

A note left by the girls signed "Peggy," as Miss Spaulding was known to her intimates, and "Ethel" said that the sisters had decided that it would be better for them to die, but gave no clue to the cause for the tragedy. Dr. Taylor, assistant medical referee, after an examination of the bodies Friday said that each girl had shot herself in the right temple. Miss Stanton used a revolver of 32 calibre and the other a similar weapon of 22 calibre. Up to the time of their deaths the young women were in normal and apparently healthful condition, he said.

An inquest did not seem necessary, but might be held, wished by Miss Spaulding's father, George F. Spaulding, of Newton, Mass., who came here Friday.

Miss Spaulding was 18 years old and had acquired a local reputation in Newton in athletics before she entered the Garland school. Recently she became an instructor in the home making department, where Miss Stanton, who was 22 years of age, was a pupil. According to a member of the faculty the young women were known to be acquainted, but it was not known that they were close friends. Miss Stanton, unlike her friend, was of a delicate constitution and a month ago she was transferred to the Dana Hall school in order that she might have more opportunity to be in the open air. Dana Hall school is a feeder for Wellesley college and the home making department is under the direction of the Garland school.

The police Friday received a telegram from C. E. Malahbury, executor of the estate of Miss Stanton's mother at Cincinnati, asking that the body of Miss Stanton be removed to Cincinnati.

Miss Spaulding last summer was a director at the Quanset camp in Newton and it is said that it was at the camp that she became acquainted with Miss Stanton. During the winter, in addition to her other work, she taught dancing at Newton Center and attracted some attention in exhibition dancing.

It appears that the young women met on Wednesday and together came to this city, where they registered that night at the Rockingham Hotel. Little was seen of them about the hotel and they had remained at attention until they had remained at a late hour in a booth at a restaurant on Congress street following a dinner Thursday night. They seemed to be absorbed in conversation and several times ordered coffee. It was approaching time for the place to close when the waiters and a few late diners were startled by two revolver shots from the booth which the young women occupied. Miss Stanton was found dead and Miss Spaulding died a few minutes later.

Light was thrown on the suicides later Friday when the police made public a paragraph from the joint note left by the young women. It read:

"We have experienced perfect love for each other and cannot bear the thought of separation. So we will end it all."

The police said also that a wish was expressed that the bodies be buried together. The separation referred to is supposed to have meant the separation from the Garland school of Miss Stanton when she was transferred to the Dana Hall school.

It was announced that no inquest would be held.

ABSOLUTE EQUALITY FOR RUSSIAN JEWS.
Washington, Mar. 26.—Absolute equality of Jew in Russia with all others to own property, to reside in any place, to serve in the army and navy; to participate in educational advantages and at the polls, has been proclaimed by the Russian government at the Russian embassy. There is no further restriction upon the issue of passports to Russian or American Jews who wish to visit Russia than those common to other persons.

Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

Yesterday afternoon Kumpliny B met in Kernal Puds Simkins back yard for a drill, the following being present: Genrel Martin, Kap- tin Potts, Lookoutnik Wernick, Kernal Simkins, Sargent Hunt and Pri- vate Persey Weaver. Which just after Genrel Martin had called the roll, Private Weaver thoo down his broomstick, saying, I resign.

Hay, cut that out, wat are you trying to do, bust up the army? sed Genrel Martin.

I resign, sed Private Weaver.

Hay, Persey, dont resign, wats the mattir? sed Sargent Hunt.

Im tired of being the only private, sed Persey. And he startid to wawk out of the yard, and Genrel Martin sed, Halt, serround that man, Kumpliny B.

Which we did, all getting erround him and yelling, Deserter, deser- ter.

I am not, I only resigned, sed Private Weaver.

Lets give him a cort marshill, I sed, and everybody yelled, Cort marshill, cort marshill.

Private Weaver, you are sentenced to be cort marshilled, sed Gen- rel Martin. And we all got a hold of Persey and took him into the yard house, being the outside kitchin of Pudses house, Genrel Martin saying, The prisoner is accused of being a deserter, all witnesses will please say, I.

I, everybody yelled, and Genrel Martin sed, The prisoner is elected gilty, I sentents him to the law, 40 punches is the law, a kick in the slats and a punch in the jaw.

40 punches is the law, a kick in the slats and a punch in the jaw, all us officers sed together, and Private Weaver quick sed, All rite, Ill stay in, I was only boling, I didnt resign.

The optinist is pardoned, sed Genrel Martin. And Lookoutnik Wer- nick folded up a piece of paper and went out in the alley and came galloping back in the yard with it, being the pardin.

Attenshin, Kumpliny B will now drill, sed Genrel Martin.

Which we did.

PIERRE EDOUARD BLONDIN; PATRIOT.

Hon. P. E. Blondin's answer to those who charged him with disloyalty is to offer his services to King and country on the field of battle. It is an answer that is a masterpiece of the man and entirely in keeping with the fine spirit of patriotism that has distinguished his conduct since the first day of the war. Despairing the taunts and jeers of his compatriots to the Canadian ism never measured up to his own. Mr. Blondin has labored industriously, unceasingly and not unsuccessfully during the past two years to awaken the spirit of civilization in the supreme duty of the hour. No finer speeches in the cause of the British Empire, of humanity, freedom and democracy have been spoken than those delivered by this young French-Canadian statesman who now implements noble lan- guage by a self-sacrificing deed. Unlike many others, it was never his wont to talk one way in Quebec and another way in Ontario. Speaking last year before the Empire Club, in Toronto, he concluded with this splendid peroration:

"Happen what may to me, happen what may to this government, for- wards—I care not—we care not—so long as this country is safe, so long as this Empire of freedom is safe. Nay, let it be the way the Allies put it, in the way it will rebound for cen- turies in the temples of nations: What matters it whether we live or not, so long as the heritage of nineteenth cen- turies of civilization is left for those who come after us. Rather die with liberty than live in slavery."

But equally fine was his speech to French-Canadians at Nicolet a few days before, with this impressive warning:

"What Belgium is and Northern France, what Serbia and Poland have become, we may be tomorrow. This is the question of the hour, the only one, the most solemn hour in the history of the world has struck. Thousands of miles from here a grim game is being played, with the world's destiny and our destiny at stake. On the fate of the Empire, on the success of the Al- lies depends our own fate. Conquered, the Allies must leave our commerce, our institutions and our liberties de- ceased in the hands of Germany, the land of militarism, autocracy and barbarity."

Mr. Blondin, like others who have gone before, has had slurs cast against his sincerity and his patriotism. He is reputed to have said something about shooting holes through the British flag, in connection with some memories of the rebellion of 1838, when many Canadians, both French-speak- ing and English-speaking, took to arms against a regime which was in some respects both autocratic and unjust.

But like John J. C. Abbott, who, after signing in his youth a manifesto for annexation to the United States, be- came a Prime Minister of Canada and a British Knight, and like Thomas D'Arcy McGee, who from being a Young Irelander in 1848, became the foremost advocate of British rule in Canada, Mr. Blondin has shown that he has heart enough and brains

enough to advance a good cause when the good cause calls. As the Montreal Herald, a politically opposed news- paper, said generously:

"Mr. Blondin, as one who at the bot- tom of his heart perhaps really loves and respects the British flag, may have exercised a sort of family privilege by abusing it, but he evidently does not intend that any outsider shall have the privilege of doing so, if he can help it."

It is not by what they did or said before the war but by what they say and do during the war, that men will be judged in this country after the war. Pierre Edouard Blondin may have said things years ago that it were better to have left unsaid; but at the first sign of danger he proved himself a Briton. Canadians today, irrespec- tive of party, salute him as a patriot and a man.

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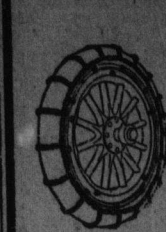
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