

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 19, 1915.

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THE WAR NEWS

The end of another week finds little change in the active fighting, although British, French and Italians all report some ground gained, and Russia reports a successful counter move against the Austrians in one quarter while being pressed back in others.

Last night's cables convey the impression that Bulgaria is expected soon to join the Allies. With regard to the United States, the German under secretary of foreign affairs is quoted as saying he is satisfied with the prospect of an amicable settlement, but a powerful section of the German press is opposed to any compromise in the matter of submarine warfare.

There is reason to anticipate long casualty lists as a result of the heavy fighting for some days past along the British and French fronts, although it is certain that the German losses, both along the British and French fronts, continue to be large.

The British government has decided there will be no general elections for at least a year, and no municipal elections will be held this year. The fact illustrates in the strongest manner the determination in the Mother Country to concentrate upon the one great task of bringing the war to a satisfactory conclusion.

There is here a lesson for the government of Canada.

With regard to munitions of war, the Russian government is reported to have taken over all the factories capable of turning out munitions, and will speed up the production of that for which they have the greatest need. There should be continued agitation till every factory in Canada is also doing all possible in the same line of work.

There is nothing actually discouraging in the general war situation. While the cheery optimism of months ago has disappeared, and it is realized that the task is far more formidable than most people anticipated, the fact remains that the Allies have an immense superiority in available men, that they are certain to get more help ere long, and that when they have become so industrially organized as to be able to provide all the ammunition required they will gradually break down the force of German resistance.

WAKE THEM UP.

A delegation of British workmen has returned from the war zone convinced that the great need is munitions of war. This should interest Sir Robert Borden and Major General Hughes. They are sending thousands of Canadian soldiers to the front, and they have a right to insist that the lives of these men be not thrown away in fighting without sufficient support by the artillery arm of the service. The production of shells in Canada can be enormously increased. The government cannot shift its responsibility for the safety of Canadian lives upon a shell committee or the British government. If Sir Robert and Major General Hughes cannot measure up to the requirements they should give place to men of greater force and determination. The plea of the soldiers in the trenches is for more shells. Why is Canada not supplying more of them? It is idle to boast that she is now making large numbers when she ought to be and could be making very much larger numbers. When will this country be industrially organized so that it should be able to supply to whom she is the people to look but the government?

ENDED IN SMOKE.

The resolution condemning the encouragement of smoking among soldiers at the front created a stormy scene at the Methodist Conference in Toronto. It was passed at one session, but was brought up again at the next by Rev. Dr. German, who moved that it be rescinded. He referred to the man who sat in his study smoking and reading the war news, and yet did not want the soldiers in the trenches, fighting our battles, to smoke. Rev. Dr. Chambers said: "I think it a great pity that this resolution was brought before the meeting, and I am among the ministers who deeply regret that it was accepted. I also wish to express my regret that Conference went out of its way to throw slurs upon our soldiers." Several members defended the resolutions and the debate waxed warmly with many interruptions, but Dr. German's motion to rescind was finally ruled out on a technicality and the matter dropped. The Conference, we are told, then listened to an address on "The Divine Love." The change must have been somewhat abrupt, but presumably the brethren were able to adapt themselves, even if some had to soothe their nerves later with a pipe or cigar.

HE JUST LAUGHED

"A man in New Brunswick had asked him if Mr. Rowell's politics were practical. He thinks of what God wants done," he had replied. The man just laughed."

Mr. Rowell is the Liberal leader in Ontario. The man who made the remark quoted concerning him was Rev. W. J. Smith of Montreal, Field Secretary of the Social Service Department of the Toronto Methodist Conference. The New Brunswick man who laughed was evidently a supporter of the Clarke and Borden governments, and until recently an admirer of the Roblin government in Manitoba. He laughed at the notion of uprightness in politics. Of course he did. He knew better—at least so far as his party was concerned.

Rev. Mr. Smith related the incident in the course of an address in one of the Toronto churches last Sunday. He denounced party politics, and wondered when men would become sensible and vote for cleanliness instead of party. Of course we are a long way from the abolition of parties in politics, but there is nothing to prevent the defeat of a party which has grown openly brazen and reckless in its plunderings, and which laughs at the mere suggestion of honesty and good faith in public life.

A GREAT GRECK.

When the King of Greece refused to sanction the entry of that country into the war on the side of the Allies, Premier Venizelos resigned. In the elections just held he and his policy have been overwhelmingly endorsed by the people. In view of this fact the following sketch of his career will be read with general interest.

"Venizelos ranks among the greatest statesmen of Europe today in the view of Mr. A. G. Gardiner, editor of The London Daily News. Others have compared him with Cavour, Gambetta and Bismarck, and the comparison is significant of the impression yielded by his personality. He is, by birth, a Cretan of Athenian origin, his grandfather having fled from Greece a century by so ago in order to escape from the tyranny of the Turk. During the troubled events that led to the liberation of Crete from Turkish rule Venizelos, then a young barrister, became the leader of the Cretan people, and later the president of the first Cretan assembly. When Prince George, brother of the present king of Greece, attempted to rule Crete as a despot, Venizelos led the revolt that resulted in the flight of the prince to Paris. His record in Crete made Venizelos the idol of the Greek people, and the work he has done since he became prime minister brought him to the regeneration of the Hellenic idea. But his real greatness has been shown not in what he accomplished in Greece, but in the possession of a wider outlook. Venizelos has been ready to recognize the rights of other peoples, and the disruption of the Balkan League, his own creation, was not attributable to him, but to the intrigues of Austria, with whose ambitious plans the league threatened the independence of Greece."

This was his great and small. Prime Minister Asquith's two sons were wounded in the fighting at the Dardanelles.

The Standard, discussing the Chandler enquiry this morning, omitted any reference to the case of Col. Sheridan, M. P. P., and his son who was a bridge foreman at fourteen.

Purifying politics by padding the pay lists is a device which ought to fall into disfavor. A change of government would help. Meanwhile let us have all the information available on the subject.

New Brunswick is to have another battalion, under command of Col. H. Montgomery Campbell. Recruiting will begin at once. Meanwhile more men are yet needed for the 53th.

The press of Norway and Sweden angrily protests against Germany's methods of submarine warfare. There is not a neutral nation now that has any sympathy with the German cause.

When the older people of St. John or Fairville or any other place deprive themselves of the pleasure of attending places of entertainment, and otherwise enjoying themselves at considerable daily expense it will be time enough to talk of asking the children to sacrifice their playgrounds on account of the war. Let us be fair to the kiddies.

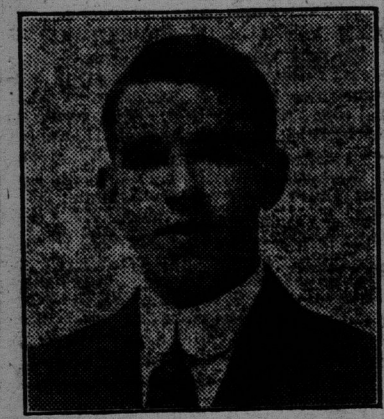
When evidence of graft is produced as in the Kent county case before Commissioner Chandler; and when a government newspaper talks to give a fair report of the evidence, and tries to deceive the public as to its nature; and it is evident that the course of the newspaper is directed by the government, it is quite useless to expect an end of grafting operations as long as that government remains in power.

The Jitney has come to Toronto, where a Jitney Association has been formed. The managers hope to see a hundred cars in service by the end of the month. A proposition to establish thirteen routes, practically gridironing the city, has been made to the board of control, but it declines to give certain exclusive rights asked for. The company says it is ready to spend \$200,000 to \$250,000 if it can get what it asks for. Vancouver is another Canadian city with a jitney service. No doubt the number will increase.

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LIGHTER VEIN.

Good Night!

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She—"No; but if the two syllables were transposed I'd not only be interested but enthusiastic."

The minister was delivering his farewell sermon. He had been having trouble in collecting his salary and concluded to quit. Here is what he said: "Now, brethren, I have been appointed chaplain of the penitentiary of the state, and this will be my last Sunday among you. I will preach from the text, 'I go prepare a place for you,' and the choir will sing 'Meet Me There.'"

PUBLIC

CONFIDENCE

The great public has the utmost confidence in the outcome of the present war, the integrity of the British Empire, and the glorious future that awaits. One small proof that this is so may be taken from our recent experience.

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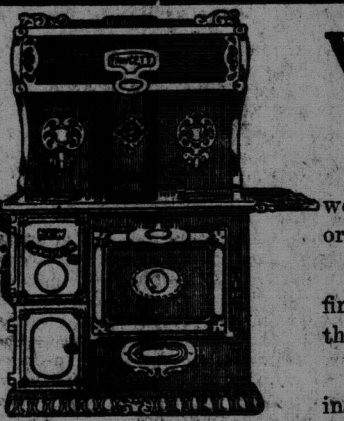
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ENGLAND OCCUPIES GARDEN OF EDEN

Made a Wilderness by the Turks, It May Again Be Made a Garden in Reality.

(Boston Globe.)

Probably few persons who read Lord Kitchener's statement in the House of Lords in January that "in Mesopotamia the Indian expeditionary force has continued its northward advance, defeating the Turks and inflicting on them heavy losses," realized the significance of this announcement. It means that England has captured the Garden of Eden!

The literal truth of the account of the Creation in the Book of Genesis has, of course, been attacked for thousands of years, but there has never been much doubt in the minds of scholars that the author of Genesis in describing the happy home of Adam and Eve had in mind a real country, one that this country, or garden, was located in Mesopotamia, for the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers, the Gihon and the Pishon. The Euphrates and the Tigris bound Mesopotamia today.

Five thousand years before Christ it was the seat of a wonderful civilization, with arts and sciences, some of which are not known to the advanced civilization of today.

Mesopotamia was early Christianized, and in the 4th century A. D. the single city of Edessa contained 800 monasteries. When the Roman Empire began to wane Mesopotamia was taken by the Arabs, but was partly retaken in 1097 by Godfrey of Bouillon, and Edessa was

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of the Young Turk movement, the Turkish government undertook new irrigation works in Mesopotamia, trusting (the construction to Sir John Johnson, the eminent engineer. The work was continued by Sir William Willocks, brother of the Aswan Dam, and on Dec. 12, 1913, the Euphrates barrage was opened.

The great barrage, or dam, has a head of sixteen feet and has already made possible the irrigation of an extensive tract of rich land. The valley upstream toward Babylon had been cleared for fifty miles before the present war broke out, and had the Turks not been carried away by their ancestral deliriously the great Mesopotamia Lake might now be well on toward completion.

Now that Lord Kitchener's forces have successfully invaded the region it is probable that the British government will take over the administration and do for Mesopotamia what it has already done for Egypt, restore the prosperity it enjoyed before the coming of the Turk.

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This statement is endorsed by Mr. Marmaduke Easton, Justice of the Peace, who writes: "This is to certify that I am personally acquainted with Mr. Colin M. Kiel and believe his statement regarding Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to be true and correct."