

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 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.

### THE QUEBEC BRIDGE.

Once more the work of placing the central span of the great bridge, spanning the St. Lawrence River from Quebec to Lévis, is under way and last night's despatches contained the pleasing information that the span had been lifted some thirty feet without mishap and it was the opinion of the engineering experts that this time the work would be successful.

The last attempt to place the central span of the bridge was made in September of last year and on that occasion the structure plunged to the bottom of the St. Lawrence and twelve lives were lost. Since that time engineers have been busy testing and changing, correcting errors revealed by the disaster, and making new plans by which it was hoped the next attempt would be successful.

The bridge as designed and almost completed is a massive structure. It has two cantilever arms supported on piers of stone. These arms are so balanced that they are capable of holding between them the central span, work on the actual placing of which was commenced yesterday, and will, it is believed, be completed without mishap. This central span is 640 feet long, 88 feet wide and 110 feet high. It has been constructed on pontoons at Sillery Cove, some distance east of its location and was towed up the river at the flood tide. This in itself was no ordinary undertaking, for despite the river current which at that point on the swift, it was necessary to place the pontoons containing the span exactly between the two cantilever arms so that when the great jacks started the work of lifting the span could be raised to the place it is to occupy. These pontoons have been properly placed and the span lifted some thirty feet, an operation which will be resumed today. After the span has been lifted to a height of more than 150 feet it must be firmly secured to the arms. To the lay mind the task seems superhuman and if, as believed, it can be accomplished without mishap will surely be a triumph of engineering.

The checked history of the bridge project is worth recalling. The Quebec Bridge Company was formed as early as 1898, with a capital of \$1,000,000. Federal and provincial subsidies were granted in aid, but it was soon found that the capital was utterly insufficient for the work. Progress was nevertheless made with the masonry. As the enterprise was deemed a necessary link in the National Transcontinental Railway, the Government gradually took it over. Thus it was possible to begin work on the bridge proper. On August 29th, 1907, 250 feet of complete superstructure suddenly collapsed, killing sixty men and causing a loss estimated at \$1,500,000.

New plans were secured. A Government commission was created to handle the project. New piers had to be built as the first piers were incorporated. Slowly the work proceeded until September, a year ago, when all was ready to resume the middle span. Up to that date the money expended upon the structure had reached a total of \$17,000,000. The span came safely off the pontoons, but when it was clear some chords failed to meet the strain. The whole span twisting like a cobweb, plunged to the bottom of the St. Lawrence with ninety men, twelve of whom lost their lives.

The work of building and planning has been once more completed. Yesterday the work of raising the span was commenced and all Canada waits anxiously for the good news that it has been successfully placed in position. As the Quebec bridge will carry the rails of the National Transcontinental Railway to the Maritime Provinces its completion furnishes another reason why work on the Courtenay Bay development should be rushed to completion.

### THE BENEFIT OF CLOSURE.

Liberal newspapers which protest against the application of closure rules in the House of Commons conveniently forget that the same rules were applied by the Liberals when they were in power, and that the same Liberal politicians who today are damning closure were loud in their approval of it on the former occasion.

The criticism of the Liberal press is not to be taken seriously. Such terms as "war rule," "Prussianism," etc., are the only ones they know how to use to express their rage and chagrin at being deprived of the privilege of smothering valuable war legislation under a deluge of needless words. As a practical business measure there is something to be said in favor of closure no matter which party applies it.

Closure rules in Parliament regularly enacted would require opponents to put their statements in concrete form before rising to their feet. They would reduce Hansard to a readable and valuable record.

The views of any member of Parliament on any subject of public interest can be stated in twenty minutes, the views of most Parliamentarians may be given in five minutes.

In the present case, the French through six or eight months of each year, exhausting the energies of the administration and Commons alike and bringing the whole business of government into disrepute in the country.

"They think they shall be heard for their much speaking" is as true today as it was 2,000 years ago. They are not heard for their much speaking.

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## GERMAN GOV'T

### MAKES CRAWL

Will Probably Make Count Von Luxburg Official Scape-Goat.

Buenos Aires, Sept. 17.—Dr. Luis B. Molina, the Argentine minister at Berlin today informed the Argentine foreign office by cable that the German government had expressed regrets over the actions of Count Luxburg, the German minister to Argentina. Dr. Molina reported that Baron Von Dem Bussche-Haddenhausen, under-secretary of the German foreign office, had informed him that Germany was disappointed by Count Von Luxburg in his despatches.

The under-secretary, who acted for Dr. von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, during his absence in Munich, asked the Argentine minister to request Count Von Luxburg that he should inform the Argentine government of the entire matter personally. Dr. Molina was asked to obtain a safe conduct for Count Von Luxburg in his despatches.

Count Von Luxburg today announced that he probably would sail on September 20 for Bilbao, Spain, on a Spanish steamer.

Foreign Minister Puercedon, after reading Dr. Molina's cablegram, announced that he declined to accept the assurances of Baron Von Dem Bussche-Haddenhausen as a satisfactory settlement of the Luxburg incident, because it was merely the verbal side of an under-secretary. The Argentine foreign office is awaiting a formal note from the German government before closing the incident.

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## Little Benny's Note Book

I wanted to go to the movies with Sid Hunt last night, and I only had 4 cents, and Sid had a extra cent, and he took it out and looked at it, saying, Well, I'll lend it to you if you promise to give it to me back sure tomorrow.

Wich I sed I woud, and we went to the movies, the picture being called, The Love of Lady Lillian, being pritty good but nothing extor, and today I had a sent and I was waiting for the ice cream sanwitch man to come up the street so I ood buy one, and Sid Hunt came up saying, Got that sent?

I expect to have it tomorrow sure, I sed. Keeping on looking at the ice cream sanwitch man coming up and feeling the sent in my pocket and not saying weather I had it then or not, and the ice cream sanwitch man went past ringing his bell and I started to wawk up after him, saying, Well, I haff to go sumware.

Ill go with you, I aint got anything elts to do, sed Sid. And he started to wawk alongside of me, me saying, All rite, you can come if you want, but I wawk pritty fast.

Do you want to have a contest wawking fast? sed Sid. No, I sed. And we kapp on wawking, not wawking so fast, and pritty soon we cawt up to the ice cream sanwitch man, on account of him having stopped on the corner, and Sid sed, G, I wish I had a sent to buy one with.

Wich all of a suddin I had a good idee, saying, If you had one woud you give me haff of it? Id give you a bite, not haff, sed Sid. G, darn if heer aint a sent in my pocket all the time, I sed. And I took it out and gibe it to Sid, and Sid bawt a ice cream sanwitch and gave me a bite, me biting all the way up to ware his fingers was.

### GRAND MANAN.

An island lay upon the deep,  
A quiet and a peaceful land;  
Its grassy hills and rocky steep  
Were peopled with a modest band.

It lay upon a deep blue sea  
And basked in sunshine's golden glow,  
A place serene and world-care free,  
Where ceaseless tides had ebb and flow.

A fog, upon the waters blue,  
Came on apace with mighty stride;  
Its cold, dank hand soon shut from view  
The woods and flowered meadow-side.

Into the peaceful lale there came,  
One fair, but fateful August day,  
The distant sound of drum, and call  
For mighty men to join the fray.

The sturdy, peaceful fishermen  
Anchored their boats and dropped their nets;  
They hastened at the King's behest,  
Some never to return again.

The war raged on from year to year,  
More boats lay idly on the tide,  
And Sabbath service saw the tear  
That neither's brave were fain to hide.

Now, when the village lies asleep,  
Beneath the silent, shining moon,  
I pray her lads across the deep  
May bravely fight and win the boon.

O may these boys not once forget  
The quiet lale from which they came,  
But bravely fight and with their net  
Enmesh the foe, bring peace again.

—Laura M. Suples.

Many a child is called "stupid" and a dunce, when the whole trouble is that the youngster can't see the blackboard or printed page clearly. Given the right glasses, the stupid child usually becomes one of the best pupils. The child can't tell, nor can you, the condition of the eyes. But our optometrist can. It is a good thing for the child, and for you, to have an examination of the eyes made at Sharpe's at the beginning of the school year.

—Laura M. Suples.

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## Shall It Be Hair or No Hair

Cuticura Soap shampoo provided by light touches of Cuticura to spots of dandruff and itching are most effective. They tend to arrest falling hair and promote a healthy scalp.

—Laura M. Suples.

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