The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

By Carrier $5.00
By Mail 3.00
Semi-Weekly, by mail 1.00

Invariably in advance.
Advertising rates on application.

United States Representatives: Henry DeClerque, Chicago, Ill. Louis Klebahn, New York.

British Representative: Frederick A. Smyth, London.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 10, 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.

KITCHENER'S APPEAL.

Earl Kitchener yesterday told the people of the Empire that conditions had improved in Britain since the war opened. With the first shock of conflict came the realization that Britain was not as well prepared as had been thought; the navy, as always, was in an excellent state of efficiency, the army also was capable but too small for the work it had to do. The call was made for volunteers and the response from all parts of the red mapped lands was such as to demonstrate to the world in unmistakable fashion the solidarity of the Empire, and the intention of its people to fight the war to a finish. Noble as that response has been, however, there is still much to do, and men are as greatly in demand as ever.

It must be remembered that after almost one year of fighting the Germans have not yet been driven back to their own territory, all the British and French have been able to do is to hold them from advancing into France. Belgium is still under the heel of Prussianism while at no point, except for a small space in Alsace, is German soil feeling the weight of an enemy's foot.

Beyond a doubt when the "big drive" comes in the West events will move with rapidity. There will be terrible fighting and heavy losses but, given the proper number of men and adequately supplied with munitions, the Allies can win. Already Great Britain has a great army in training and, evidently, it is the intention soon to send them to the front for it will be noticed that Earl Kitchener's chief request is for reserves.

The call of the British Secretary for War, while primarily intended for Great Britain and Ireland, should find a response from Canada. Already this country has 135,000 men under arms, at the front or ready to go there, but that number is very small when compared with the great and vital interest we all should have in the colossal struggle being waged in Europe.

If Great Britain should not win Canada would be Prussianized and the fight against that process would make demands upon us much heavier than those already made. The safety and continuance of the Dominion is being fought for today just as surely as if the enemy's war vessels were off our coasts and the enemy's troops in our streets. If Britain falls Canada falls, and if Britain wins Canada benefits. There is every reason therefore why the young men of this country should realize their duty and join the colors. Earl Kitchener's appeal should only bring that duty more clearly home to them.

"A DIRTY SHAME."

When Grit newspapers and Grit politicians, for partizan effect wholly, charged some months ago that the Canadian manufacturers who made shoes for the soldiers had slighted their work and that as a result the shoes were of inferior quality they were guilty of a deliberate slander upon one of the country's greatest industries. The charges were not true; that has been amply proven, but the very fact that they were made sufficed to place a stigma on the important boot and shoe industry of this country that cannot soon be removed and as a direct result of it this country has lost war orders for shoes to the extent of millions of dollars.

Had there been the slightest bit of evidence to support the allegation that the Canadian soldiers were sent to the front poorly shod, then the Grits would have done a public service in requesting that the facts should be made known. But such evidence did not exist; on the contrary it was shown clearly that the shoes were not only up to the standard but far to be preferred to the article issued to the British troops.

Soldiers serving in the trenches, when they learned of the charges, have written home to express their opinion of the Canadian shoes and in every case that opinion has been favorable. Men who have "done their bit" and have returned after receiving honorable wounds in their country's service also add their testimony concerning the excellent character of the supplies furnished to the Canadian soldiers. An interesting instance of this was furnished at a meeting in St. Lambert, Quebec, on Wednesday evening, when one of the speakers was Major Paul R. Hanson, formerly of St. John, who was badly wounded in France and was invalided home. Major Hanson told the story of his experiences in the trenches and then referred to the Canadian boots. On this point he is quoted as follows by the Montreal Gazette of Thursday morning: "'It was not fair to say the Canadian boots were bad,' declared Major Hanson. 'If they had only asked or sent a letter to Lieut.-Col. Meighen or any officer and asked about them, they would have saved the whole cost of that investigation, because it was a dirty shame!'"

Major Hanson is not a politician and has no axe to grind by making the statement he did; he is simply trying to refute a slanderous lie started by a group of men whose desire it was to serve their party rather than their state.

AN INTERESTING WAR VIEW.

E. Alexander Powell, special correspondent of the New York World, who has been with the armies fighting in Europe, sends an interesting article to his paper, which is republished in the Boston Globe. In the course of the article Mr. Powell replies to certain questions which he expects may be asked of him, and in this connection gives some particularly valuable and informative opinions concerning the British army in France, the work it is doing, and the losses it has sustained. We republish this portion of the article:

"How many troops has England in France?"

"About 750,000."

"What is the condition of the British army?"

"It is a new army. It is without experience, and it is without experienced regiments to stiffen it and give it confidence, for the regular army which England sent into France last August has ceased to exist. The old regimental names remain, but the officers and men who composed those regiments are today in the hospitals or the cemeteries.

"The losses suffered by the British army in France have been appalling. The West Kent Regiment, for example, has been three times wiped out and three times constituted. The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry landed in France 1400 strong. Today only 150 remain.

"The present colonel of the regiment was a private in the ranks last October. The crying need of the British army at the moment is for trained officers and non-commissioned officers."

"Why are the British holding only 40 miles of battle front, as compared with 17 held by the Belgians and upward of 500 by the French?"

"Firstly—Because the British army is composed of green troops, while the French ranks, thanks to the Universal Service law, are filled with men all of whom have had three years with the colors.

"Secondly—Because the British sector is by far the most difficult portion of the western battle front to hold, not only because of the configuration of the country, which offers little natural protection, but because it lies squarely athwart the road to the Channel ports. It is to the Channel ports that the Germans are going if men and shells can get them there.

"Thirdly—The fighting is of a more desperate and relentless nature along the British front than elsewhere, because the Germans have a deeper hatred for the British than for all their other enemies put together."

"Who do you think is going to win the war?"

"The Allies."

It is reported that following the attempted assassination of J. P. Morgan, President Wilson and Vice-President Marshall were also threatened with death. The report is probably true, for it is in abnormal times such as these that cranks flourish.

Confronted by the irrefutable proofs of its duplicity in the N. T. R. matter the Evening Times has nothing to say. The truth of the matter is that the Times' sniper has been silenced. Before that newspaper attempts another attack upon the Borden Government its editor will be well advised if he consults his back fyles to recall just what he said when receiving his pay from another hand.

From Italy comes the charge that Austrian soldiers, forced to retire from the trenches left poisoned cigarettes behind them in the hope that the oncoming Italian soldiers would smoke them. If the story is true it appears the Austrians went to needless trouble. They could probably have achieved the same result by strewing the trenches with some ordinary Christmas cigars.

Current Comment

The Same Neutrality.
(Ottawa Journal.)

Holt, whether crazy or sane, seems to have been impelled by the same peculiar ideas which prompted murder, pillage and plunder in Belgium, the shelling of Rheims, the dropping of bombs on undefended towns of England, and destruction of non-combatants on the high seas. All these served no possible military purpose, but were designed and carried out with the idea that they would cow the victims into a spirit of surrender. Holt, by the same policy of frightfulness, hoped to cow J. Pierpont Morgan from doing business with the allied governments.

It is an interesting flashlight upon the psychology of Prussianism.

Absolutely Neutral?
(Chicago Tribune.)

At last New York is to have a "neutral daily," according to the Editor and Publisher and Journalist. The names of the backers guarantee the neutrality of the paper. They are: Hugo Schweitzer, president; Emil Kipper, vice-president; Henry Weiss, secretary; Max Stoehr, treasurer. (Pass the cold cream.)

Indomitable.
(Pall Mall Gazette.)

The spirit of Russia is really sublime. Her armies have achieved great victories, but they have also endured great reverses; and, along a part of their line at any rate, the situation at the present moment is somewhat anxious. Yet the Russians are able to talk of their "demoralized enemy." Such a spirit inspiring such a people, and supported by the forces of the Allies and the moral support of the world, can march only to victory.

Trench Humor

An inscription on a cold storage wagon taking provisions from Brussels to the front read: "All the ice has been removed and this car is filled with hot stuff for Berlin."

Here is a letter from a British private showing Tommy Atkins' brand of humor:

"There's one chap in our company has got a ripping cure for neuralgia, but he isn't going to take out a patent, because it's too risky and might kill the patient. Good luck's one of the ingredients, and you can't always be sure of that.

"He was lying in the trenches the other day, nearly mad with pain in his face, when a German shell burst close by. He wasn't hit, but the explosion knocked him senseless for a bit.

"'Me neuralgia's gone,' says he, when he came round.

"'And so's six of your mates,' says we.

"'Oh, crikey!' says he.

"His name's Palmer, and that's why we call the German shells now 'Palmer's Neuralgia Cure.'"

The men who live in dugouts frequently call their abodes "rabbit-warrens" and themselves rabbits, and when the big guns give 10 seconds' warning they cry: "Here comes the gamekeeper!" and dart into their holes.

Busy Mr. Carter

(Fredericton Gleaner.)

The ultra-modest Mr. E. S. Carter, the Agent General for the Grit press in this province, is at present buisly ingaged in sending out doses of political "dope" to the smaller Grit papers in order that the same may be copied into the St. John Telegraph and duly credited to the aforesaid papers, the idea being to give the impression that these "clippings" reflects public opinion in the various parts of the province. This morning, for instance, the Telegraph reproduces the result of some of Mr. Carter's efforts—probably penned in its own office—clipped from the Fredericton Grit organ. For absolute silliness this is Carterism at its best—or worst.

The Day of Battle

Now who will speak, and lie not,
And pledge not a life, but give?
Slaves herd with herded cattle;
The dawn grows bright for battle,
And if we die, we die not;
And if we live, we live.

The faith our fathers fought for,
The kings our fathers knew,
We fight but as they fought for!
We seek the goal they fought for,
The Chance they hailed and knew,
The praise they strove and wrought for,
To leave their blood as dew
On fields that flower anew.

Now who will fight and fly not,
And grudge not life to give?
And who will strike beside us,
If life's or death's light guide us?
For if we live, we die not,
And if we die, we live.

Swineburne.

BOARD OF TRADE NOTES.

The Board of Trade has received the revised toll rates of the Cape Cod Canal, particulars of which are to be had at the offices of the Board. Vessels drawing 18 feet can now use this canal.

Tourist enquiries were received yesterday from Mechanicville, New York, Philadelphia and Boston parties.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

We got up a gaim of leedir for dorsey today, Reddy Merfy beeing the leedir awn akkount of yelling ferst, and Puds Simkins beeing ferst man, me beeing 2nd man and Pudses sissey cuzzin Persey beeing last man, and aftir Reddy Merfy had jumped ovir posts and fire plugs and touched peepil awn the backs and diffrent things and the rest of us had did it aftir him, Reddy wawked up Skinny Wilsons frunt steps and rang the bell, and Skinnys farthir caim to the doar, beeing even skinnier than wat Skinny is.

Is Skinny in, sed Redy Merfy.

Theodoar is not in, if thats who you meen, sed Skinnys farthir.

Wat do we care, sed Reddy Merfy and wawked down the steps agen.

And if he was I woodent let him associate with you, yure an impewdent yung man, sed Skinnys farthir. And he slammed the frunt doar and Reddy sed, Go awn, Puds, its yure tern. And Puds rang the bell and Skinnys fathir caim to the doar agen, saying, Well.

Is Skinny in, sed Puds.

No, no, dident I jest tell that uthir skamp, sed Skinnys farthir.

Wat do we care, sed Puds. And he wawked down the steps agen and Skinnys farthir sed a sware werd and tryed to kick Puds and jest missed him and shut the doar agen, and Reddy sed, Go awn, Benny, yure next. And I went up and rang the bell, thinking, G, I hope sumboddy elts comes to the doar.

Ony noboddy elts did, Skinnys farthir coming agen, and he had wun hand behind him, and I wunired wat was in it, wich I fown out in a minit, awn akkount of as soon as I had sed, Is Skinny in. Skinnys farthir throo a hole glassful of ice wattir in my fase, beeing wat he was holding behind him, and then he slammed the doar agen without even telling me weathir Skinny was in or not, thinking I noo awlreddy, I gess, and I went down the steps wiping the wattir awf me with my sleeve and saying, Its yure tern, Persey.

I ain't going to do it, sed Pursey, And he terned erround and ran like enything with the 3 of us aftir him, wich if we had cawt him we wood of gave him the law, ony we dident catch him.

OBITUARY.

Curtis Steeves.

Curtis Steeves, 22 years old, son of Mrs. Richmond Steeves, Demoiselle, Albert Co., while working in a plaster quarry last week was injured by a piece of falling plaster. His injuries were not considered serious, but it developed that he was internally injured, and death resulted in two days.

Thomas Vye

Newcastle, July 9—The remains of late Thos. Vye of Wilson's Point, who died on the 7th, aged eighty years, was held to Lower Derby Baptist cemetery yesterday afternoon. Rev. M. S. Richardson of Newcastle officiated. Deceased had been married to a Miss Esson of Derby, who died before him. The surviving brothers and sisters are: Conductor Edward S. Vye, Blackville; Geo. A. Vye, Digby, N. S.; Mrs. Geo. P. Searle, Napan; Mrs. Isaac Leighton, Newcastle; and Mrs. James Macdonald, New Glasgow, N. S.

NEW POLICEMAN.

Richard Hogg was yesterday morning sworn in as a police officer. The latest addition to the force is 22 years of age, six feet two inches tall and weighs one hundred and eighty pounds. He comes to the St. John police force well recommended, and with a good record behind him, having served two years on the police force of Glasgow, Scotland, his native city, and two years with the C. P. R. as a police officer.

THE FUNDS

For Belgian Orphan Fund.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Daniel Mullin, Belgian Consul, for the Belgian Orphan Fund, and deposited to the credit of the Belgian Orphan Fund in the Union Bank of Canada, St. John, N. B.:

Previously acknowledged	$625.75
Miss Ethel McFadzen	2.00
Master Stuart McFadzen	2.00
A Friend	1.00

Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

Mrs. E. E. Church, treasurer of Soldiers' Comforts Association, acknowledges the following subscriptions for the work of the Association:

Mrs. Wm. Vassie, jr.	$5.00
Mrs. Arthur Kirkpatrick (monthly) for July	.50
Mrs. W. B. Tennant	2.00
Mrs. Jos. Thompson, Grand Bay	2.00
Miss Maud Fowler, Portland, Me. per Mrs. C. B. Allan	2.00
Mrs. Walter E. Foster	5.00

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S. Kerr, Principal

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