

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1918

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WHERE SYMPATHY MUST GO.

New participants in the comity of nations have come into being as a result of the war. The Czech-Slovaks, the Poles, the Jews, Armenians and Arabs, for example, have far stronger claims upon the sympathy of the Allies than has Germany or Austria or Turkey. The rights of these people are more worthy to be considered than the "honor" or dignity of Germany. The latter country is intent upon saving its own face, and making it possible at some future time to attempt again the virtual enslavement of the world. The Allies must finish their task. Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Scandinavia must be released from the dread or the sinister influence of the Hun. Serbia, Roumania, Italy, Greece and France must be considered. Russia must be given full opportunity for democratic development, without Prussian dictation. There must be an independent Poland and a Czech-Slovak kingdom or republic. Recognition of the Jews must emerge from this struggle. The Armenians must be freed from Turkish oppression. The Arabs must have a larger freedom.

These are the considerations which must govern the action of the Allies in their imposition of terms upon the Central Powers, whether taken singly or as a group. The map of Europe and western Asia is to be redrawn. Turkey realizes what is coming and is apparently ready to grant autonomy right and left, but there must be substantial guarantees. Whatever is granted by any one of the Central Powers will be granted under pressure, and it would be a fatal mistake to take their word for anything. The opportunity has come to make democracy the ruling principle, and nothing short of a complete triumph should satisfy the Allies, who have suffered and sacrificed so much for an ideal. Until that is accomplished there should be no parleying and no armistice.

OVER THE TOP NEXT WEEK.

Will the Canadian Victory Loan be as successful as the American Liberty Loan? The latter called for no less than \$6,000,000,000 and was over-subscribed. Every consideration that should lead American people to lend money to their government appeals just as strongly in the case of Canada, and the Canadian loan pays a higher rate of interest.

The war has made Canada prosperous because there was money to carry on business, both industrial and commercial. Dry up the springs of monetary supply and industry and commerce would languish, and hard times come to the country. The man who buys Victory bonds does more than help the men at the front. He helps to make his own community and himself prosperous, and to make the country better able to carry on when the war is over and the soldiers return. The returned soldier who went with his wife in search of a Victory bond knew what he was doing and why he should do it. Of course the thing that most appealed to him was the opportunity he had to help his comrades at the front, since he could no longer march with them in person against the foe of Canada and of civilization. His example should be an inspiration. Let it also be remembered that it is not merely the surplus available for investment at a good rate of interest that counts most for patriotism, but the additional bond which means some saving and perhaps some sacrifice to make its purchase possible. All Canada should go over the top with a rush next week to do her part in bringing the war to a speedy and satisfactory end.

OBSTRUCTING THE ROADS.

An appeal and a warning in respect to the care of the roads is issued in behalf of the provincial road department. It is pointed out that too many farmers throw poles into the ditch to make crossings for their teams and then forget or omit to remove the poles. The obstructed ditches do not drain the roads, and in case of heavy rains do much damage. Those who thus obstruct the ditches violate the law and are subject to penalty, which certainly should be enforced. The really good citizen is he who would take some little trouble to remove an obstruction, no matter who placed it there, but very few seem to regard their citizenship from that viewpoint. The roads would be kept in far better condition if every man using them could be brought to realize that a little community service of this sort is due from him whenever it can be rendered at little or no cost to himself. Good roads mean better service and in the end lower taxes. Every village and settlement should have a good roads association or committee, to create a healthier public sentiment in regard to the care of the roads, and to see that penalties are inflicted upon those who violate the law. After all the people suffer if the roads are bad, and it is a matter of self-interest to co-operate with the department in keeping them in good condition. When a government honestly tries to do its duty in the matter it is serving the public interest and deserves co-operation and

MATTHIAS ERZBERGER.

Matthias Erzberger, leader of the Centrist party in the Reichstag, was recently put forward as a spokesman of the new Germany which professes to be opposed to militarism and the settlement of international disputes by war. The Toronto Star recalls an interesting light thrown upon the character of Erzberger by the Abbe E. Wetterle, ex-deputy at the Reichstag and in the Alsace-Lorraine Chamber, in a book entitled "Behind the Scenes in the Reichstag—Sixteen Years of Parliamentary Life in Germany." We quote:

"Erzberger is described as a big fellow with a smart and vulgar face. He at first threw himself heart and soul into the anti-clerical movement, but turned his coat at a day's notice. 'He has no convictions, but only appetites.' One day he proposed to the writer of the book a plan for acquiring land near Berlin, which would be used for the construction of a canal and the establishment of a large commercial port near the capital. The Abbe declined to have anything to do with the scheme. Subsequently he found that a deal with a Parisian syndicate for the purchase of the land had fallen through because of Erzberger's demand for a commission of 150,000 marks. 'Erzberger,' he says, 'has no nobility of feeling.'"

It is precisely a man of this sort the German Junkers would be expected to put forward to do their dirty work. The Toronto Star truly says:

"The description is not such as to create confidence in Erzberger as one of those who would inaugurate a new order in Germany. Character, as well as professions, are essential for any such reform. Sound morals must be the basis of right international relations. It will be an exceedingly difficult matter to restore the confidence of the world in German good-faith."

The London Times correspondent at Bern recalls the fact that this same peace-loving Matthias Erzberger wrote in 1915:

"The greatest ruthlessness is in reality the greatest humanity. If it should be possible to destroy the whole of London that would be more human than to allow one of our fellow-countrymen to bleed to death on the battlefield, because such a radical cure would lead most speedily to peace. England has taken from us more than 400 merchant ships. The answer to this should be that for every German merchantman on English town or village will be destroyed by our airmen."

This is the gentleman who now wants peace and a league of nations. He is a typical German bully.

It would be a serious and might prove a fatal mistake for any individual or community to assume a careless attitude in regard to the epidemic of misanthropy. St. John has been very fortunate that the number of deaths has been relatively small. In this respect it has been very much more fortunate than many smaller communities. We have not yet reached the end, however, and it would be a great mistake to relax vigilance or treat the matter lightly. The precautions taken have had an excellent effect, but should be continued.

Prince Maximilian tells the Reichstag that if President Wilson wants "peace by violence" instead of a "peace of justice" Germany must fight on. Some German Socialist newspapers are now in circulation. They suggest that the Kaiser climb down, as one guarantee of good faith, and one journal recommends the gallows for the authors of the war. Germany cannot afford as confidently as the Allies to let matters go on as they are going at present. Austria and Turkey will not wait.

The British are in the outskirts of Valenciennes. The Belgians and British continue to drive the enemy out of Belgium. Everywhere the enemy is forced to give ground. French forces have reached the Danube river in Bulgaria and Serbian troops are still driving northward. While Berlin talks the Allies fight, and that is the only right way to settle the question.

Eighteen thousand Roumanians who were forced to fight for Austria but were captured by the Italians are now in the Italian army fighting against Austria. Czech-Slovaks are fighting in the French ranks on the western front. When the war is over these people will come into their own.

These German princelings need to be taught a lesson. Prince Maximilian refers to the Germans as "a proud people, accustomed to victory." Until they are a humiliated people forced to make reparation for their crimes their pride will remain a menace to the world.

The Kaiser and the Catholic and Protestant churches of Germany are asking God to help them escape the consequences of their sins. A while ago they were marching with God to victory. Their God is a deluded German. Peradventure he sleeps.

The evacuation of territory held by the Germans need not be made the subject of negotiation. Foch is attending to it in a very satisfactory manner.

Who is the ally editor of the Standard?



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News Notes About Prominent Baptists

(Maritime Baptist.)

Rev. R. W. Hopkins is settling with the churches on the Upper Blackville field. The unfortunate lack of a parsonage at Forest City compelled him to close his work on the Green Mountain-North Lake field before it was fairly begun. However, the change provides a live pastor for the Blackville field, where one was greatly needed. Rev. C. N. Barton has, we understand, accepted a call extended to him by the Victoria field. His removal will leave both Perth and Andover without pastors, a result which is to be regretted. A recent casualty list contained the name of E. MacPhee, Tryon, P. E. I., "killed in action." We fear that this may be Earle MacPhee, who a few years ago was granted a license to preach by the Tryon church.

On Sept. 22 Dr. J. L. Campbell, pastor of the First Baptist church of Vancouver, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination. In spite of his fifty years of service he continues to minister to one of the strongest Baptist churches in Canada with undiminished strength and zeal.

The Moncton Suburban church and its pastor are rejoicing that the parsonage at Lewisville is no longer without a mistress. On Oct. 16 a happy event occurred in St. John West whereby Rev. S. W. Stackhouse and Miss Alice Marion Stearns were made one.

We have learned on good authority, though directly, that the Dartmouth church has secured a successor to Rev. F. E. Bishop in the person of Rev. W. B. Beanson. This will leave the Temple church (Yarmouth) without a pastor. Mr. Beanson's evangelistic gifts, though not yet fully developed, and his work has been blessed in the conversion of many.

Some news notes from Windsor, N. S., in a recent issue of a local paper, mention the resignation of Rev. H. G. Kennedy and the resulting loss to the

Baptist church of that town and to the community life in general. The correspondent stated that he accepted a call to a church across the line.

The churches on the Digby field have recently enjoyed the privilege of welcoming home their pastor and his bride after the vacation period. The congregation at Digby gathered at the parsonage, and besides extending to Mr. and Mrs. Robbins a manner of good wishes, presented to them a substantial check. A week later Hill Grove friends met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Nichols, where again the pastor and wife were made the recipients of a tangible expression of the good will of the

people. Mr. Robbins has entered upon the fourth year of his work with these churches. He has done excellent work in the past but we shall expect to hear even better things of him in the future.

Much sympathy is felt for the clerk of the German street church, Stanley E. Fisher, who has been sadly bereft by the death of his wife, which occurred on Sunday morning after a brief illness of pneumonia. Two small children are left motherless. Mrs. Fisher was a daughter of E. M. Sippell, so well known to the Baptists of these provinces through his long connection with the denominational paper and his active interest in all denominational activities.

MARSHAL FRENCH MAY QUIT.

Goes to London to Report Failure of Irish Conscription.

Dublin, Oct. 23.—Field Marshal French, lord lieutenant and governor-general of Ireland, has gone to London to submit his views to the cabinet on the government's failure to enforce conscription in Ireland.

It is understood that he will resign if a satisfactory arrangement is not reached.

RAILWAY STRIKE ENDED

Calgary, Alta., Oct. 22.—George W. Beatty, international representative of the freight-handlers' union, announced this afternoon that the freight handlers' strike at Calgary and at other points on the C. P. R. system had been officially called off. The terms agreed to by both parties are those which were suggested by Senator Robertson and have been fully reported.

THE SPIRIT OF FRANCE

The spirit of France was magnificently displayed at Lyons, France, recently, when a beautiful French girl of about eighteen, presented herself at the library desk of the Y. W. C. A. and asked if she might borrow a copy of the "French Revolution."

Investigation found that she was making shells for the army at a munition factory close by.

"Yes," she said, quietly, "I want to know all there is to know about my beloved country. My country is all that I have left."

Subsequent conversation showed that her home had been burned by the Germans in northern France, that two of her brothers had been killed in action and that her mother and father had both died during the war.

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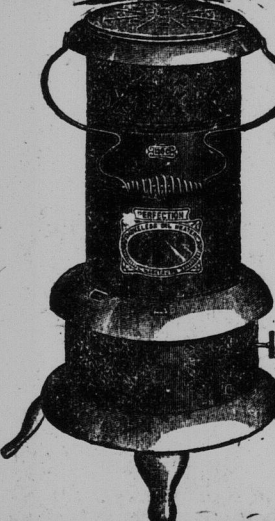
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