

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 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.

GREECE MUST DECIDE.

There is a persistent demand from English newspapers and English public men that the British Government should require Greece to make definite declaration of her intentions, and do it at once. The communications which have already passed from Athens to the capitals of the Entente Powers, while not unfriendly in tone, have not dispelled any of the doubt as to the position Greece may take. As Greece puts it the point of view is reasonable, but this is a time for plain speaking with an entire discard of fair words that mean nothing.

Presumably, Greece is a friendly power, consequently, she should show cause for declining to ally herself with the Entente Powers against the Teutonic alliance, and she should do it at once, in the plainest and most definite language. Then the Allies will know how to act, for the time has passed when chances can be taken with any of the nations aptly termed "the shifting Balkans." Up to the very day of alliance with the Teutonic powers Bulgaria was loud in her protestations of friendship for Great Britain, and above all for Russia. The mobilization of her army was, so Sofia repeatedly declared, for the purposes of "armed neutrality" solely. Yet, in a very few hours, an armed neutral was transformed into a dangerous enemy. After being fooled once in the game of Balkan diplomacy, the Allies should take care to guard against a repetition of the experience.

It has been said that no matter what may happen, Greece could never be unfriendly to Great Britain, France and Italy; that the Greek people would not stand it but would rally around Venizelos in revolt rather than see Greece allied with the Germans. That is all very good, but, in the light of the Bulgarian lesson, it is just as well to make sure of everything and it must not be forgotten that King Constantine has already shown himself strong enough to have his way, which seems to be the German way, against the openly expressed wishes of the Greek people. The King's decision has twice driven Venizelos from office, by his refusal to accept a policy which if adopted would before this have made Greece's position absolutely clear.

It should also be remembered that the King of Greece is the brother-in-law of the Kaiser and may yet prove strong enough to draw his government to the side of Germany. Nothing would suit Germany better than to have Greece as an ally, for British and French forces have already passed through the Greek port of Saloniki, and while engaged with the Bulgarian enemy could easily be attacked by the Greeks in the rear.

Such a thing, of course, might never occur, but it should not be forgotten that Greece mobilized her army at the same time as Bulgaria and that Greece was false to her treaty with Serbia, which bound her to come to the aid of the gallant nation now rendering heroic assistance to the cause of the Allies. It is an axiom of business that a man who breaks his word once is not to be trusted again. Greece has already defaulted and should not be given the opportunity to repeat the manoeuvre.

THE RESULT IN KING'S.

Dealing with the municipal elections in Kings county, the Telegraph, yesterday morning, said: "Political issues entered to some extent into the elections but not so prominently as in other years. There were a few changes in the representatives, but it is believed the relative party strength in the new council will be the same."

This is an utter misrepresentation and published for the purpose of minimizing the Conservative victory. The fact is that the Conservatives managed to turn over eight seats and now have a majority of ten where in the old council they had two. Instead of "the relative party strength in the new council" remaining "the same," the Conservative majority has been multiplied by five.

The Telegraph also says that "political issues entered to some extent into the elections." That is correct; they did. And one of the places where a straight party fight was waged was in the Parish of Hampton. The result

there can best be told by the following communication received last evening from a worthy and reputable resident of that parish:

"For some years the Parish of Hampton has been represented at the Municipal Council of Kings by S. H. Flewelling, Liberal, and J. William Smith, Conservative. A little while ago the Hampton Village organizer, William Gilliland, decided that there was a chance to secure a Liberal victory, and E. S. Carter was summoned and at once responded. Though warned of danger, the rabid element insisted on a straight party fight and selected John L. Coleman and Andrew S. Beyea as the standard bearers. Associated with Councillor Smith was Robert Flemming and at the poll a complete victory was won by them, the vote standing: Smith, 222; Flemming, 155; Beyea, 142; Coleman, 140. An other Brit victory? It is to laugh."

WAR COMMENT.

The German and Austrian armies invading northeastern Serbia are reported to have effected a junction with the Bulgarian troops and as a result of this success the enemy controls a passageway through Serbia and Bulgaria toward Constantinople and the Aegean Sea. It is likely they will be able to send men and munitions to the aid of the Turks and as a result the Allied operations in Gallipoli and the Dardanelles will be seriously hampered.

Roumania is reported to be uneasy, with an agitation in favor of participation on the side of the Allies rapidly gaining ground. This may speedily materialize, and if it does, the situation will be changed, for Roumania, of all nations, is in the best position to block the road to Constantinople which the Germans and Bulgarians are endeavoring to open.

British and French troops are fighting side by side with the Serbians in the southern part of that country and there they have succeeded in holding the invaders in check. Additional forces are on their way to the scene and the campaign from now on should develop with rapidity.

The situation on the main eastern and western fronts has not materially changed, although the Russians on the southern end of their line are more than holding their own. On the western front the fighting has been heavy but with no marked advantage to either side. Taken altogether the only dark spot in the whole war area is to be found in Serbia where the situation is admittedly serious.

TONIGHT'S MEETING.

The young men of St. John should turn out in force at tonight's meeting in the Queen's Rink to hear Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Fowler, M. P., in a patriotic address. Recruits for the 10th have already come forward in good numbers and from the class of men offering for service it is evident that the popular commanding officer will take a splendid battalion to the Empire's battle-lines.

The need for men to join the colors is as great as at any time since the outbreak of war and New Brunswickers who feel that they should do their bit for the Empire will find no better opportunity than that which now presents itself. Tonight's meetings should be one of the greatest successes of the entire recruiting campaign.

The Cavell Case

(From the New York Tribune.) It is not the brutality but the bluntness of the Germans in the execution of Miss Cavell which today excites the astonishment of all non-Teutonic men was guilty of an offence for which death was an extreme but possible punishment. Her guilt was not in question. Even natural indignation should not lead one to overlook the essential fact in the case, which the woman herself recognized.

But granted the guilt, granted the possible warrant of the death penalty, what could have prompted those in authority, while neutral diplomats were asking clemency and the attention of the world was turned toward the case, to hurry the prospective victim before the firing squad, to seek in the cover of night a disguise for the deed and in haste a protection against possible clemency? Alas, Miss Cavell was but an of-

fender against German military rules. Dead, dead after summary conviction, dead under circumstances that gave the incident the character of a midnight assassination and the color of an atrocity, she becomes to all men of English blood a martyr and an inspiration to new patriotic devotion.

Writing of Napoleon's act in executing a German, Thomas Carlyle said: "I am not sure but he had better have lost his best park of artillery, or had his best regiment drowned in the sea, than shot that poor German bookseller, Palm. It was palpable, murderous injustice, which no man, let him paint an inch thick, could make out to be other. It burnt deep into the hearts of men, and the like of it, suppressed fire flashed in the eyes of men as they thought of it, waiting their day, which day came."

Now let us concede there was no injustice done. Let us agree that a life was forfeit. But what was the profit as against the loss in taking that life. It was simple for the governor of Belgium to issue the order. It was easy to hurry a helpless woman before a firing squad. The thing was as easy as it was sure—Justice was done, German justice was done with an English woman.

But why was it that no German official could perceive that only German justice was done? Why was it that the governor could not recognize that on the next day the thing would be on the lips of a world? Why could he not realize that for tomorrow and for all tomorrows, as long as the English language runs, his own name would be remembered only with Miss Cavell's? What is the about the German that prevents his perception of the permanent as contrasted with the incidental? The Belgian episode was a final indication of the same blind stupidity in large that in little crops out in the new case. Belgium was conquered in a fortnight. German military power had reason with a little people in the briefest time, but for how many generations of men will this tale be told with horror and hatred to the scorn and loathing upon those other generations of Germans?

There is something almost pathetic in the German dullness to the things that move the world. It is the man, pleads for the good will and the approval of neutral mankind. It stands almost as a suppliant for the aims of approval of other races. But in the same moment, without warning, without reason, without anything but an incomprehensible stupidity and folly, it does something that shocks the moral sense, the humanity, of men and women the world over.

It is easy to rage at this latest incident. There is in the helplessness and nobility of a gallant English woman something that appeals to all that is chivalrous, all that is gentle and kindly in the nature of men of all breeds and tribes. There is an instinctive desire to cast aside all restraints of language and of action and join in a general denunciation, a universal crusade against an inhumanity so gross, a brutality so incredible.

Yet such a motion must be transitory. Since history began deeds such as this have carried the death warrant to the man and method responsible. From one end of Britain to the other, today, men are enlisting because of Miss Cavell's fate. Those who faintly whispered peace are putting away the thought and blushing for shame at the execution.

The thing is like the Zepplin raids, it is like the Lusitania slaughter, it is like the Lusitania massacre. The wrongs done to the women and children of the world are too terrible. They only serve to rouse the spirit, strengthen the arm, nerve the will. "Terribleness" is but the emptiest of threats and the weakest of weapons.

American will feel a deeper sympathy for Miss Cavell because an American minister's own words certify to the enormity of German inhumanity. For us there is a plain case, testified to by one of our own countrymen. The fact is clear and facts, he said again, not of ill-quality but of inhumanity, surpassing brutality, unbelievable stupidity.

Again and again in these columns the facts have been presented that German defeat was inevitable because the German idea was destructive of all that civilization, religion, humanity meant. There are days when the magnitude of the victory of German arms shakes faith in the ultimate rightness of things. But even as the doubt comes, some German offending, blundering brutality serves to demonstrate that there can be no compromise with Germany by her enemies. She wins her battles splendidly, but she loses her wars, her chances, her possibilities, sordidly, stupidly, hopelessly.

Looking at the courage, the heroism of a British woman, is it possible to believe that British men will fall where their women have succeeded gloriously? To believe this is to believe true all Germans have said of British decadence, weakness, futility. Something there is of enduring grandeur in this woman's sacrifice. So von Winkelried died—but Switzerland lives. So Here perished—but the French have gone forever from the Tyrol. It is an act that mobilizes all that is real, enduring, noble in a race. The results will be found in all the days of the victor's of German arms. Europe at last frees herself from a tyranny which is both brutal and stupid and in its stupidity has sealed its doom.

is Now Sergt.-Major.

James Fellow, Rockland Road, whose son, W., went across with the Artillery of the First Contingent, under Major Magro, has received a letter from him. The young soldier, who is in France has been promoted to Sergt.-Major. In September he saw Major Gambille, Sergt.-Major Hiddescomb, Bomadier Mundy and others, all of whom were well and fit for the work ahead of them. Mr. Fellow has another son, Corporal Fred P. Fellow, in the 26th Battalion at the front.

Little Benny's Note Book

Last night I started to read in bed before I went to sleep, reading a book called 29 Ghost Stories, and each time I read a story I would look around the room and start to read the next ghost story to see if it was as scary as the other ones, which each of them was, and after I had read 4 of them I closed the book and looked awl around and I turned over and looked under the bed, thinking, G wizz, I wish I had red those stories in day time instead of nite time.

And I got up to put the gas out, and wen it was half way out I looked awl around the room agen and evrything looked funny and wen it was 3 quarters out I looked around agen and evrything looked as if it was going to jump out at me as son as the gas went awl the way out. So I turned it up half way way agen and went to bed, leening over to look underneeth of it evry wunt in a wile, and I was pritty near asleep and the door opened and who was it but pop, saying, Hello, I thawt I saw the lite burning in yure room, wats the big idee.

Sir, I sed. I say have you any partickler reason for retiring with the lite burning, sed pop. Yes sir, I sed. Name it, sed pop. Sir, I sed. State yure reason, sed pop. It makes the room more cheerfull, I sed.

And do you insist awl the room being cheerfull looking wile you slum-bir, O no, that went do, thats to lit, sed pop. It makes the room warmer, I sed. O, I see, sed pop, you put yur window all the way up to let the air in and leave the gas lit to make the room warmer, verry verry, sed pop. And he started to wawk over to turn it out, and I sed, Dont turn it out pop, dont turn it out.

Wy not, sed pop, and I sed, I bli reading ghost stories. Thats diffrent, sed pop. And he went out and I looked under the bed about 2 more times and then I went to sleep and in the morning wen I wook up the lite was out, proving pop must of came back agen and turned it out wen I didnt no it, being asleep.

YES—IT IS POSSIBLE TO STOP RHEUMATISM

Rheumatism is a tormenting and stubborn malady. In some cases it yields to treatment which is without avail in other cases.

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LATE HAVANA PRICES

Havana circulars of October 22nd, received by the Board of Trade report: An active inquiry has prevailed for haddock in drums and as a consequence the price advanced, while codfish and hake remain unchanged with a very slack demand in evidence. We quote as follows: Codfish at 7.25, haddock at 6.75 and hake at 5.25 cents per pound. As the active demand which was in evidence for cased codfish has not fallen off, the stocks have been much reduced and holders have raised their prices. We quote Norwegian variety at \$12.50 and American codfish from \$9.00 to 9.50 per case. During this week 800 boxes of herring arrived and the price declined to \$1.40 per large box. A very active demand has continued for potatoes and the price only suffered a light decline in spite of these heavy arrivals. We quote at \$3.50 per barrel and at 21-8 cents per pound for those packed in bags.

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Children's, sizes 8 to 10 1-2, \$1.50, \$1.65, \$1.75, \$1.95, \$2.25, \$2.50

Misses' sizes 11 to 2, \$1.85, \$1.90, \$2.10, \$3.00.

Growing Girls', sizes 2 1-2 to 7, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$3.25, \$3.50.

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Wedding this Morning. A wedding will be solemnized in the Exmouth street Methodist church at eight o'clock this morning, when Rev. Mr. Lane, the pastor of the church, will unite in marriage Miss Mary Sprout, of Winnipeg, and niece of Contractor James Sprout of this city, to G. P. Ross, of the local police force. After the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Ross take an automobile tour through the province on their honeymoon.

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