

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 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.

GERMANY'S "HIGH FLEET"

That it is not the intention of the German Admiralty to allow the navy, now languishing in the Kiel Canal, to engage in serious and decisive combat with the British warships, has been apparent for many months. German contempt of the British navy is confined to some of the minor officers in the German service who drink to "Der Tag" as solemnly and with as much ceremony as if they meant it. Beyond a doubt it is Germany's dearest wish to remove from the seas the last vestige of that splendid fighting force which, for years, has stood as the guarantor of world freedom, but there is sufficient intelligence in the German nation to realize that before that wish can be brought to fulfillment there must come a mighty battle with the odds greatly in favor of Britain. Germany has no kidney for such a supreme test and, in consequence, has permitted her war vessels to hug the guns of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven, while Britain has maintained the open freedom of the seas.

Now "Grand Admiral" Von Koester, has rushed into print to declare that Germany cannot afford to take the chance of meeting Britain on the high seas. He admits that the British navy is so superior to that of Germany that even if each German ship sent to the bottom in battle could account for at least one of the enemy, Britain would still have a sufficiently strong armada to keep the sea lanes open thus ensuring her own food supplies, and ravage the German coast at her pleasure. Admiral Von Koester has no wish for a fair fight. He prefers to wait until conditions so shape themselves that the vessels now in the Kiel Canal can be assured of victory. "Our fleet," he is reported to have said in an address before the students of Kiel University, "must protect us under all conditions and may accept battle only when it can reckon on victory." It is not the Admiral's opinion that the expected battle will come soon.

Unfortunately for Von Koester the time, place and manner in which the British and German vessels shall come into the clash which will remove Germany from the calculations as a naval power of world importance, does not rest with him. The British navy has the power to bring the enemy to action when the British Admiralty believes the psychological moment has arrived. When Britain decides it is time to remove the German fleet operations will be commenced to that end and will be carried through. There is more than a grain of probability in Von Koester's statement that England will eventually dictate the terms of peace with her navy. Realization of this affords an excellent reason why Germany should desire to avoid, as long as possible, contact with the British ships.

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL."

At the present time not a little attention is being directed to the old Mosaic commandment, Thou Shalt Not Kill. This is well. The most sacred thing in this world is human life and to advance protection all modern nations have enacted their own laws which are everywhere accompanied with the severest penalties for their infraction. In this connection it is interesting to observe that some of the well known Pacifists, both of America and of England, have invoked this old Mosaic imperative in support of their contention that, inasmuch as all war involves the destruction of human life therefore all war is a violation of the law of God and as such it is impossible for any individual or nation claiming to be Christian to engage in it.

A prominent American Pacifist writes, in a recent issue of the Outlook, New York: "As a Christian, I refuse to be a hangman or a soldier even as I would refuse to shoot my neighbor." And then he adds: "In case we drift into war with some other nation, I shall gladly go out, stand against the wall, and be shot as a coward and traitor for refusing to kill citizens of another geographical territory, for I shall then be dying for a high principle I believe in instead of the unpeakable hell of war, which I do not believe in."

There is little reason to doubt but that if this American Peace Prophet could only succeed in having his gospel of non-resistance adopted by the United States and also by Great Britain the Kaiser would not hesitate to manifest his angust pleasure by conferring upon this non-combatant son of free America the dignity of the Iron Cross, for to the Kaiser and his entourage the fact that England and her allies have not hesitated

to take the field in defence of honor and home has proved exceedingly embarrassing.

The world has still much to learn as to that highest of all arts, the art of living together in peace and unity and it is to be feared that humanity must still journey far before the lion will lie down with the lamb but that much-to-be-desired day will scarcely be hastened by refusing to stop the devastations of autocrats and wholesale murderers like the Prussian War Lord. Many people will continue to hold with the late Dr. Dale, one of England's sanest teachers, that this old Mosaic commandment, Thou Shalt Not Kill, is not and never was intended to be a prohibition of war, for as he pointed out the nation to which it was given had a strict military organization constituted by the very authority from which the commandment came, and Moses, himself, prayed to God that the house of Israel might be victorious over their enemies.

Nor will the Christian world content that it is bound by the teaching of the Sermon on the Mount not to resist the assaults of enemies, for, of course, it was never intended that all the precepts found in that sermon should be taken literally. Who, for example, among the circle of those who insist that war is always a violation of the teaching of Jesus because He said: "I say unto you that ye resist not evil but whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek turn to him the other also," would feel themselves called upon to give all they had away to beggars because this Jesus also said: "Give to him that asketh and from him that would borrow of thee turn not away." Quite on the contrary, they would probably discover many reasons for refusing such indiscriminate charity. Most of us, of our pacific friends, like the rest of us, seem to feel a bit more secure at night and actually sleep better when the key is turned in the front door, although to do so is in a way to doubt the absolute sufficiency of the protection provided by moral suasion.

CARVELL AGAIN!

Apparently Sir Wilfrid Laurier's expressed desire for a political truce during the period of the Empire war does not cause ex-Captain Carvell of Carleton County to go into transports of joy. Carvell is not particularly anxious for an appeal to the country; rather is he inclined to follow the course most suggestive of "safety first," as he knows full well after the recent object lesson he had in his own county, when his mouthpiece, young Mr. Simms, was easily defeated by Mr. B. Frank Smith, that his own political career is nearing its termination. Ex-Captain Carvell is not a fighter except with his mouth, but he possesses just enough political acumen to realize that if Sir Wilfrid's policy of a truce obtains, members on the Opposition side of the House, in their criticisms of the Government must, at least, approach the truth and clothe their ideas with some refinement of language; in other words comport themselves as gentlemen. Such conduct is not in Carvell's line. No other member of the House of Commons can equal the Carvell record for insinuation, misstatement or malicious innuendo. With the possible exception of Mr. Kyte of Cape Breton he is the muckraker par excellence, of the party of Laurier, and because of this has been selected on more than one occasion to perform party tasks which did not commend themselves to Sir Wilfrid.

In his speech in the debate on the address on Monday, the Liberal leader placed himself on record as favoring a truce in matters of party moment. But the words of Sir Wilfrid had hardly died away before Carvell and one or two others of his calibre had questions on the order paper which were put there for no other purpose than to provoke party discussion and promote partisan strife. It is not unusual that his activities in that line should draw to Carvell the unstinted praise of the machine Grit press. Possibly he and they can find justification for their attempts to promote party differences in Carvell's own attitude toward this war and the men engaged in it.

He has no respect for the Canadian soldier. Why should he have? Were not the great majority of men now bearing Canada's part in this war former members of the Canadian militia and is not the militia the same organization of which ex-Captain Carvell once remarked "all you get in the militia of Canada is that you teach about twenty-five per cent. of the men of the Iron Cross, for to the Kaiser and his entourage the fact that Eng-

land and her allies have not hesitated

under the direct control of a "General by the name of French," of whom this Carleton County Solon said "his General French's ideas are ridiculous?" Carvell lacks proper and decent respect for the British military hero whose deeds have already made him one of the greatest soldiers of all time; he has not a good word for the Canadian soldiers who have abundantly proven their quality. These things the people know, and these things his party leaders are forced to recognize. But has the Grit chieftain, the Laurier who once was reckoned as a force in the land, so far gone to seed that he will permit a pledge of a truce to be immediately followed by the insidious, make-in-the-grass like tactics of the Carleton County blatherskite and make no protest?

LAURIER LETS PERSONAL SPITE GET BETTER OF HIM

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Robert Bickerdike, of St. Lawrence, Montreal, introduced his bill for the abolition of capital punishment, which has been before the House at several sessions. He was proceeding to state that capital punishment was a national crime, legalized murder, morally indefensible and a relic of the dark and feudal past when a baron murdered Rome, when Speaker Sproule somewhat dryly observed that he was getting away from the limitations of debate, governing first reading of a bill.

The bill was read a first time.

Bill to Amend Railway Act.

Mr. J. E. Armstrong, of East Lambton, introduced a bill to amend the Railway Act. He said that it was similar to the measure introduced last year to compel steamship companies to file their tariff of rates and tolls with the Dominion Railway Board. At present only those companies which were owned by railways were compelled to do so and there were \$500 owned by other companies not so controlled. Mr. Armstrong also proposed to give the Railway Board power to restrict certain privileges now granted by the railway companies to individual shippers, manufacturers and speculators.

Sir Robert Borden introduced his resolution to appropriate one hundred million dollars for war purposes. It will be taken up at a later date.

The Premier, in reply to a query from Mr. Michaud, of Victoria, N. B., stated that the Department of Justice was taking the necessary measures for the extradition of Werner Van Horn, accused of blowing up the Canadian Pacific Railway bridge across the St. Croix river.

Sir Robert also told Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the promised information regarding war expenditures was ready on Monday, but that certain data, consisting of confidential nature by the military authorities, had to be excised and the pages reprinted. The information would be brought down in a day or two.

The government replies to questions by private members on the order paper brought the first batch of information desired by some of the Maritime Province members. In reply to Mr. Sinclair, Minister of Naval Affairs, Hon. J. D. Hazen said that no formal action or decision had been taken by the government not to continue the Nobe and Rainbow in full commission, as was indicated in the last annual report of the Naval Department. Mr. Hazen said that no order-in-council had been passed in regard to the matter, but owing to the gradually decreasing number of men on these vessels it was found necessary to take the ships out of full commission.

Hon. Frank Cochrane told Mr. Sinclair that the total expenditure in connection with the National Transcontinental investigation committee was \$65,666. Of his amount F. P. Gutelius, General Manager of the I. C. R., had received \$23,570. Gutelius was employed thirty-eight days on the working of the commission, and during that time he was not paid as general manager of the I. C. R. But may first, 1913, and December 31st, 1914, Mr. Gutelius had received \$33,302 as general manager of the I. C. R.

Mr. Sinclair was also told by Mr. Cochrane that the Department of Railways had made a survey in 1914 for a branch line of the I. C. R., in Guysboro county, between Sunny Brae and the town of Guysboro. The survey had cost \$20,000, and seven persons were employed on it. A sixteenth grade had been obtained, but no report of the survey had yet been completed and presented to the minister.

Lobster Fishing Regulations Not to be Changed.

In reply to Mr. Sinclair, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries said that no action had been taken on the application of the lobster packers of Maritime Provinces, asking for a closed season for lobster packing during the year 1915. The minister added that lobster fishing would be allowed to proceed as usual this year, and that no action for a closed season could be taken, unless there was a practically unanimous request from both canners and fishermen.

As evidencing the effect of the special coasting trade restrictions in the Maritime Provinces, Mr. Sinclair was told by the Minister of Marine that twenty-two vessels, having a gross tonnage of 23,791 tons, had been withdrawn from the Canadian shipping registry during the same period, mostly on inward waters, was 1914, with a gross tonnage of 65,342 tons.

Mr. Frank Carvell was told by the Minister of Railways that the Intercolonial Railway was not yet operating the portion of Valley Railway between Fredericton and Gasqueton, inasmuch as this part was not yet completed to statutory requirements. Mr. Cochrane said that under present arrangements there was no proportion of gross receipts between the Valley Railway Company and the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Turpin was told by the Minister of Railways that the department had still under consideration the question of constructing a spur from the I. C. R. at Bathurst to the harbor. There is a long list of questions and notices of motion for the production of papers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier is requesting information in regard to the shooting of American duck hunters by Canadian militiamen in the va-

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Me and pop was taking a wawk befora supper yestidday, jest wawking without lawking and awi of a suddin a geri cam up to pop and stuck a little flag in his buttinole, saying, Wont you please buy a flag for the benefit of free milk for babies.

I sartainly will, sed pop, enybody who makes a baby pay for its own milk is a brute.

And he gave her a dime and gave her the flag back, saying, Keep this for the next vicktim, it makes me feel like the last act of a musical comedy to have flags sticking out awi over me.

O, thank you so much for helping the cause of free milk for babies, sed the geri, Being a pritty pritty geri, awi rice, and me and pop kep awn wawking, and pritty soon who cam up to pop but anuther geri, being prettier than the first wun, saying, O, please buy a flag to help lawng free milk for babies.

But I jest bawt wun, sed pop.

Now yure jest teasing me, ware is it if you bawt it, sed the geri.

O, well, wat do I care, sed pop, heers a dime for the cause, nevyr let it be sed that any baby had to dig into its own pocket for milk money with Wil-

lum Potts was around and kep yure flag, as lawng as I didnt take it from yure astirle it woodnt be fare to take it from you.

And me and pop kep awn wawking, and darn if pritty soon anuther geri didnt start to hum up, being prettier than the first 2 put together, saying, O L, no youll buy a flag for free milk for babies.

Well, as long as you no it, I mite as well do it, sed pop. And he gave her a dime, saying, Woud you mind putting 3 flags awn me insted of wun, im ratheer eccentric about flags.

Serteny, if you wunt them, sed the geri. And she put wun in each buttinole and gave pop the other wun, and he went lawng holding it up as if he thawt he was in a parade, and attir a lawng wile anuther geri cam up, being as funny looking as wat the uthr 3 was pretty, saying, O, excuse me, I see youve awready contributed to the cause. And we kep awn wawking, and pop sed, Confound it, jest my luck I cood of turned that wun down weathir I had any flags or not.

Mr. Chas. Wilson, of Laval, inquired in regard to the execution in Canada since 1867, and also in regard to the prisoners of war in the Dominion.

The Auditor-General's report, tabled in the House of Commons this afternoon, draws attention to loans made through an issue of Dominion notes to the extent of \$10,000,000 to the Canadian Northern Railway, and to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway to the extent of \$6,000,000, on security of collateral pledged by the companies last September, which note issues were, according to the Auditor-General, not authorized by parliament. His report notes that these advances to the railway companies were made from an issue of Dominion notes placed to the credit of the Minister of Finance in two of the chartered banks, secured by the proceeds of this extra note issue were not placed to the credit of the consolidated revenue fund, as required by the Dominion Notes Act. Therefore, the Auditor-General's letter to the Finance Department on September 22nd last, says: "In my opinion the government has no legal authority for making these loans, and therefore I cannot sign the certificates."

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The Auditor-General's report, tabled in the House of Commons this afternoon, draws attention to loans made through an issue of Dominion notes to the extent of \$10,000,000 to the Canadian Northern Railway, and to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway to the extent of \$6,000,000, on security of collateral pledged by the companies last September, which note issues were, according to the Auditor-General, not authorized by parliament. His report notes that these advances to the railway companies were made from an issue of Dominion notes placed to the credit of the Minister of Finance in two of the chartered banks, secured by the proceeds of this extra note issue were not placed to the credit of the consolidated revenue fund, as required by the Dominion Notes Act. Therefore, the Auditor-General's letter to the Finance Department on September 22nd last, says: "In my opinion the government has no legal authority for making these loans, and therefore I cannot sign the certificates."

As already intimated by the Minis-

ters of Lake Erie and also in regard to petitions for the immediate construction of the Georgian Bay Canal.

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