The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 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.

A CHRISTMAS REMINDER.

With Christmas less than four weeks away it may not be amiss at this time to suggest to the public the folly of curtailing their Christmas plans unless they find it absolutely impossible to carry them forward on the same scale as in former years. There is a tendency on the part of worthy men and women to economize on Christmas this year and devote the money so saved to the Patriotic and other funds Still others hold the view that while our Canadian soldiers are on the field of battle those at home should not indulge in pleasure or diversion and that the practice of gift giving so generally indulged in at this season should be curtailed or eliminated.

While it is advisable that all possible support shall be given to the funds which have as their object extending help to the soldiers or their dependents, it is also not unwise to regard for a minute those soldiers of commerce and industry who are doing their best to keep things going at home while the lads in khaki are preserving our freedom and security on the battlefield. If every man in St. John should decide to eliminate Christmas gifts and devote to the funds the money so saved, the Patriotic Funds would receive the greatest impetus in their history, but, at the same time, the scores of business men who, by their pay-rolls, make it possible for thousands of citizens to live and to support the various worthy objects, would experience a decline in Christmas business which might have a very serious effect on the future. The business houses of the city are entitled to consideration in this regard, and a policy which has for its aim the skimping of Christmas purchases in order that the money may be devoted to patriotic objects may, after all, fail of its purpose.

Then there are the children to consider. Christmas is essentially a children's festival and the child who, used to a well-filled stocking or gaily trimmed tree, with the usual assortment of gifts, awakens Christmas morning to find the tree and the gifts missing from their wonted place will experience a heaviness of grief that will not be wholly assuaged by the knowledge that the money which might have been spent for the Christmas pleasure had gone to provide necessaries for the boys at the front. Hundreds of families in St. John have representatives in khaki and if those brave fellows could be consulted regarding the suggested curtailment of Christmas plans it is safe to say they would pronounce against any such proceeding.

The second idea, that because the soldiers of the Empire are fighting the Empire's battles and, consequently, cannot be in their accustomed places in the family circle, we should don sackcloth and ashes and turn Christmas joy into Christmas gloom has absolutely nothing save a false sentiment to commend it. Why should Christmas be restricted on that account? Is it not rather a cause for rejoicing that the Empire today is engaged in the prosecution of a righteous war against tyranny and aggression, and that there is every prospect of that war being carried to a successful issue? Our boys are helping to settle the account of the grossest attack against civilization that the world has ever known and is there no cause for joy in the knowledge that they will be successful and that account will be closed so thoroughly it will never be reopened?

This war has seen the British Empire united in an enduring glory such as it never before enjoyed. Petty differences, picayune grievances are forgotten in the face of the greater, the supreme duty. And is it not a reason for good cheer in this Christmas season that after the war is over, after the people of the red mapped lands have passed through the fire of testing, the true gold in that wonderful organization, the British Empire, will stand forth as a mighty guarantee to future generations that, under the rippling folds of the Union Jack, there is a nation united and strong, guardians of the rights of the weak, champions of liberty and the sanctity of the plighted word..

It is in proof of their title of the defenders of liberty, justice and freedom that the children of Britain are fighting and if the fortunes of war decree that there shall be a vacant chair in some households on Christmas Day, it is at least better to be glad now that the souls of our loved ones are welded to the white heat of heroism than to grieve over the fact that representatives of our name are absent from their accustomed places doing the business of their King and of mankind. By all means let us have Christmas as usual. Consideration of the events of the past year will show many reasons whywe should do our utmost to make it a Merry Christmas for every one.

WAR COMMENT.

Apparently a new development is on the way in the Balkans. Observers in London and Paris attach much importance to the fact that Lord Kitchener, after a visit to the Near East has now gone to Paris, where he will hold important conferences with those entrusted with France's participation in the war. The Kaiser is reported to be in Vienna in conference with the Emperor and it is believed the situation in the Balkans will be the subject of their consideration.

It commences to look now as if the plan to make a second Belgium out of Serbia was another of the German mistakes. While the Austro-German-Bulgarian armies are still on the offensive in that zone of war the opposition confronting them grows heavier every day. The gallant Serbians have put up a fight beyond the expectations of their most sanguine supporters and, like the Belgians in the early stages of the war, have delayed the advance of the enemy so long that Britain, France and Italy have been able to gather large armies in or near Serbia and when the decisive action comes it is almost certain to prove disastrous to German hopes and ambitions in that quarter.

Also, the success of the British expedition to Mesopotamia has interfered materially with the German plan. The sole purpose of an attack through Serbia was to open the way to Constantinople and the territory tapped by the Bagdad Railway which has been built by German money almost to the gates of the Turkish capital. But the British are likely to reach Bagdad first and even if the enemy succeeds in clearing the road to Constantinople his effort will be robbed of its full success. With a British fleet and British and French forces blocking the approaches to the Dardanelles, with a Russian fleet, powerful and active, in the Black Sea, with a great Russian army massed on the borders of Roumania, ready to march down into Bulgaria, and finally, the British troops in control of the Bagdad Railway at and beyond Bagdad, Germany's position will be more difficult than at present.

That Germany's original design has been thwarted is now evident even to the German authorities. Monastir may fall, the enemy's troops may gain the narrow strip of Serbian territory where their progress is still being challenged, but they have already failed of their main object in the Balkans as in the other areas of war.

TORONTO GLOBE'S NEW EDITOR

Various Liberal newspapers throughout Canada have had nice things to say regarding Stewart Lyon, who succeeds Rev. J. A. Macdonald as managing editor of the Toronto Globe, but remarkably little to say concerning the gentleman whose place he takes. The Times, last evening, republished from the Ottawa Free Press, Liberal, a tribute to Mr. Lyon but, like other newspapers, did not give to Rev. Mr. Macdonald even a word. In order to remedy what was so evidently an oversight The Standard republishes the following from Beck's Weekly of last week. It probably presents a view of Rev. Mr. Macdonald and his successor which most Liberal newspapers would like to take. Beck's Weekly says:

"The Rev. J. A. Macdonald has resigned the editorship of the Toronto Globe, and will confine himself henceforward to the duties of a contributing editor—a euphemistic and self-contradictory phrase which he imports from the Outlook and Colonel Roosevelt. Presumably, Mr. Macdonald loses nothing by the change; the Globe will undoubtedly gain. A reviewer of Mr. Macdonald's recently issued volume in praise of peace remarked that the eminent editor was an orator and preacher, but no writer. He might have added that he was also no editor

"The Globe, a newspaper which, as the foremost organ of English-speaking Liberalism in Canada ought to have at its head one of the foremost Liberal thinkers in the country, has had its policy directed for it by underlings and small politicians during practically the whole time of Mr. Macdonald's editorship, for the nominal editor has been constantly touring this country (or preferably the United States) singing a paean of praise of the Millennium and representing it as due next week. As a consequence the Globe has become very small potatoes indeed.

"Mr. Stewart Lyon, who succeeds him, has been the real worker at the editorial desk for some years past, but has naturally not had the opportunity, while responsible to a sort of absentee landlord in the person of his peripatetic chief, of imparting his own character and personality to the paper. With a freer hand and a more dignified position, Mr. Lyon will be able to do much bigger things. It is even possible that he will prove to be that apostle of the new Liberalism for whom some millions of Liberals in this country are now waiting, having come to the conclusion from perusal of the Montreal Herald, that the Hon. G. P. Graham is not 'it.' Anyhow, Mr. Lyon has a grand chance."

The Splendid Serb

"By your old men's bones on the mountain,
By the blood of your youth in the plain.
By the tears unshed for your holy dead,
By the children of your slain,
Ye who fought till no fight availeth,
O Serbs! 'tis the hour to shield
All that is left of your people—
The hour to yield!"

Hark! on the hill-winds ringing
O'er the thundrous drone of war,
From the snowy height of Kara Dagh
To the valleys of Vardar,
The splendid Serb has answered
From a patriot's soul of flame,
"Better to die in honor
Than live in shame!"

"It is said . . . it is done. Till we perish
We fight and we ask not why,
Back from our blacken'd homes and fields
Till we've nothing left but the sky,
Till the last man on the last lone hill
Shall cry as death calls his name:
"Better to die in honor
Than live in shame!"

O world of men and sorrows!
In words of immortal light
The whole of the art of living,
The creed of eternal right,
Comes down from the Serbian summit,
For each man's soul the same:
"Better to die in honor
Than live in shame!"

—James Bernard Fagan.

REV. GILBERT EARLE'S GOOD SUGGESTIONS RE PATRIOTIC APPEALS

Fairville, N. B., Nov. 29th, 1915.

To the Editor of The "Standard:"

Sir,—Presuming that your report in today's "Standard" of Rev. W. H. Barraclough's sermon in Centenary church last evening is substantially correct (and from what I know of his views I think it would be). I would like the privilege through your columns of associating myself very decidedly and heartily with the message he gave. The objection is of course not to the patriotic causes, they must be sustained to the full as sacred obligations, but some present methods of sustaining them should be improved, because actions react on character and the Christian church is mightily interested in character.

The present situation is unfortunate if and where it means lack of unity in action, and it will be a great pity if because unhelpful things are thought and said by anyone we miss the finding a point of contact.

Would it be possible for the various patriotic societies to meet in a delegated conference, get out an approximate budget of their needs (to be revised if the needs grow) and make a straight appeal to the public either by a monthly house to house canvas or by a public subscription list? The clergymen and others who object to present methods would le believe accept the challenge and their co-operation would be worth while, the others would surely respond also. There would be less excitement than in the present methods would, I believe, a work which is always an interest and it would give what after all is the main objective, a steady and sure income.

May I say that a committee of clergymen and laymen representing all denominations (Catholic and Protestant) in Fairville, made representations as to their views of raising funds to the Lancaster Red Cross Society. The ladies very graciously listened and the suggested plan was followed with the result (so I am informed by officers of the Red Cross Society) that the income of the local organization is on a steady and regular basis and sufficient for their present needs.

For this, applied jointly to a budget representing all these worthy endeavors I plead, suggesting that contributions, unless earmarked, be divided between each society represented in the budget according to its estimated need.

The result would be helpful to the funds, remove a sore, minister to character, and I am sure help to the friendliness of all concerned.

Thanking you for space, yours faithfully,

GILBERT EARLE.

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

We was going to have a club meeting last nite to vote awn weather or not to led Ed Wernick in the Club, nun of the fellos wunting him in awn account of him awl the time tawking about how wundirfill he is, and yestidday aftir skool Ed Wernick sed to me, Hay, Benny, if you vote to let me in Ill give you my unkles pleecemans club, thare awl going to get noo clubs next weak, and my unkel promised to give me his old wun.

Awl rite, Ill vote for you, I sed. Thinking it woodent make eny differents awn account of nun of the othir fellos woodent vote for him, enyhow.

Aftir suppir we awl went up to the club room ovir the plase ware Sam rawses farthir keeps his awtomobeel, wKich is wy Saw was eleckted presidint of the Club.

Ed Wernick going with us awn account of us saying he cood get thare and watch wile we was voting about him.

Gentlimen of the Club, sed Sam Krawss, I will now pass erround littel peeces of paper and if you wunt Ed Wernick in the Club jest rite Yes awn it and if you dont, jest rite No.

Wich he toar up a peece of paper and gave us a littel hunk of it, not being a very swell of a ballit, and we awl rote awn them with our pencils or sumboddy eltses if we dident have eny, and then we folded the ballits up and gave them back to Sam, and Sam opened them and eetch wun sed Yes.

Herray, Im elecktid, sed Ed Wernick.

Dont forget you promised me your unkels old pleecemans club wen he gets his noo wun, sed Sid Hunt.

The dickens he did, he promised me that, sed Sam Krawss.

Go awn, Im the wun he promised that to, sed my cuzzin Artie, and the rest of us awl yelled that we was the wun. Proving he had promised awl of us, and Reddy Merfy sed, Gentlimen of the Club, I say we hold anuthir eleckshin.

Wich we awl seckonded the moshin, and Sam Krawss toar up anuthir peece of papir for ballits, and everybody rote down No.

LECTURED ON ITALIAN MUSIC

Fine entertainment by Mrs. Cortland Robinson assisted by local artists.

A large and appreciative audience was in attendance at the illustrated lecture on Italy and Italian music with musical accompaniment by Mrs. Cortlandt Robinson and given in the schoolroom of Trinity church last evening. The proceeds are to be donated to the apple fund and quite a neat sum was realized. The pictures as thrown on the screen during the lecture were most interesting, while the lecture was highly appreciated by the large number present. The programme was as follows:

Paper on Italian music, Mrs. Cortlandt Robinson.
Song—"Caro Mio Ben," Miss Knight.
Song—"La Spanguola," with mandolin accompaniment, Miss Knight and Miss Doherty.
Sanctus in plain song melody, Miss Knight.
Song from Don Pasquale (Danizetti) Lucrezia Bori.
Song from La Sonnamula (Bellini) Anna Case.
"Celeste Aida" (Verdi), Alessandro Bonci.
Song from Tosca (Puccini), Giovanni Martinelli.
Intermezzo — Cavalleria Rusticana (Mascagni).
Prologue from "Pagliacci" (Leoncavallo), Thomas Chalmers.
Overture—William Tell (Rossini).
La Donna Mobile (Verdi), Alessandro Bonci.
Song from "Madame Butterfly" (Puccini), Miss Knight.
Accompanist, Miss Hilda Galley.

DIED.

MALONEY—In this city, on the 27th inst., J. Leo Maloney, leaving his wife and two children to mourn. Funeral from his late residence, 126 Douglas Avenue, Tuesday morning at 8.30 to St. Peter's church for high mass in requiem. Friends invited to attend.

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Soldiers' Metal Mirrors, Nickel Silver (not plated) . 90c.

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New

IF WE WALKED ON OUR HANDS!

Suppose the entire human race walked on its hands instead of its feet!

What funny-looking hands we would have in a few years.

Take a look at your hands and study them carefully. What a wonderful piece of workmanship! Then look at your foot.

The foot was originally as delicately built as the hand. It contains just as many bones, muscles and nerves.

It is the abuse of the foot that has made it stiff, awkward and almost useless, excepting to walk on.

Proper treatment of the foot will restore much of the beauty and flexibility it naturally possesses.

There are many beautiful human hands, but very few beautiful human feet.

Think that over.

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Women's Work.

Among the various other patriotic activities of the Women's Canadian Club is the work of a branch known as the Correspondence Committee for letters to Wounded New Brunswick Soldiers. The members of this have been kept busy sending to boys in hospital, letters of cheer, and they have received many appreciative replies. The names are taken from the casualty lists and letters sent.

In some cases it is necessary to write to the next of kin for particulars and this was done recntly in the case of the wounding of Pte. Etienne Poirier, reported wounded with the 26th

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