

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 31, 1915.

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THE WAR NEWS

While the activity of German submarines continues, Germany is threatening to surround the British Islands with mines and cut off her supplies. This threat cannot be carried out, and is of a piece with many other German threats and boasts which have not been followed by effective action. Large as has been the number of steamers torpedoed by the Germans, they have been but an insignificant fraction of the number going safely to and from British ports. The unexampled savagery which marks the latest phase of German submarine warfare will only have the effect of arousing greater bitterness against Germany, and a stronger determination to crush beyond the possibility of resurrection the utterly devilish spirit of Prussian militarism.

During the last day or two there has been no outstanding feature of the war either in the eastern or western zone. Serbia announces her readiness to launch another attack against Austria whenever the Allies declare that the proper time has come. The ex-emperor of Greece, in response to a great popular reception in Athens, declared that Greece must join in the conflict on the side of the Allies. In the Dardanelles no new movement of importance appears to have developed. The Russian armies in the region of the Carpathians are still on the offensive. King Albert of Belgium, in an interview with a Swiss newspaper, makes a dignified statement regarding Belgium, pointing out that before the war his country had scrupulously observed all the requirements of neutrality, and expressing his utter amazement and horror at the acts of cruelty perpetrated by the Germans. The king of the Belgians is one of the noblest figures outstanding in this great crisis in the affairs of Europe.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES

Comparing the estimates for 1915 with the expenditures for 1914, as submitted to the legislature by Provincial Secretary Landry yesterday, it is noted that a reduced expenditure is provided for in connection with the Boys' Industrial Home, colonization roads, crown land classification, exhibitions, education, fish, forest and game protection, immigration, printing, provincial hospital, wharves, miscellaneous public works, crown land surveys, and some other items. The interest charge, however, jumps from \$270,000 to \$380,000. The estimates provide for larger expenditure on the administration of justice, agriculture, public buildings, roads, sinking funds, and some other items. While the expenditure for 1914 is set down as \$1,488,774.28, the estimated expenditure for 1915 is \$1,557,488.75. As the expenditure of 1914 exceeded the estimates for that year by more than \$25,000, it may safely be assumed that the expenditure for 1915 will very considerably exceed the estimates. Dr. Landry claims that the ordinary receipts for 1914 exceeded the ordinary expenditures by a little over \$120,000. Last year's receipts, however, included \$50,000 from the federal treasury in compensation of fishery revenues claimed by the province. Moreover, the alleged surplus of \$120,000 will doubtless bear looking into, as it is not a difficult matter to produce an apparent surplus when a deficit ought to be shown. It is a matter of bookkeeping. The one great fact which stands out in the budget is that the government, with an enormously greater revenue than that of the government which was in power prior to 1908, manages to spend all the money and boast up the estimates for the next year. Meanwhile the interest burden to be borne by the people is largely increased. It is to be regretted that the government did not get that \$100,000 taken from the lumbermen, and the other sums which W. H. Berry is alleged to have received. One would think also that it might have been possible for a prudent government to save a portion of the salary of Hon. J. K. Fleming during the period when the facts which led to his resignation were being brought out. Doubtless many other directions in which the financial statement for the year might have been improved have been overlooked by the provincial secretary, in the course of a speech in which he seems to have endeavored to convey the impression that the aggregation at Fredericton deserved all the credit for the fact that industrial and commercial conditions in the province of New Brunswick are and have been better for a year or two than in other provinces of the dominion. One fact stands out very clearly. It is that the Conservative motto: "dash away and spend the money," has been whole-heartedly adopted by our rulers at Fredericton.

THE CIVIC GRANTS

The action of the city council in restoring 75 per cent. of the grants to the various organizations hitherto receiving them meets with general approval. If it is true, however, that the Playgrounds Association is only to get 75 per cent. of \$2,000, that organization will have just cause to feel aggrieved. There was \$8,000 available for playground purposes last year. The association received \$2,000, and the department of parks and playgrounds, of which Commissioner Potts is the head, spent the other \$6,000. That is to say, \$8,000 was actually

spent last year, and the association therefore ought to receive 75 per cent. of \$8,000. But it was promised, and had been actually granted, \$5,000, and had assumed important obligations, expecting to be fully able to carry them out. If instead of \$8,000 it gets only \$1,500, its activities must be very greatly curtailed, even if the receipts of Violet Day should be as large as is hoped. The experience of this organization and of the Children's Aid Society will certainly not tend to encourage forward movements on the assumption that confidence may be reposed in the good faith of municipal bodies. There should be a strong agitation to have all such grants as are regarded by the citizens as right and proper provided for when the estimates are made up, and included in the assessment for the year. Then there would be no disappointment, no miscarriage of plans, and no need of delegations to City Hall.

AMERICAN OPINION.

There is published on the 1st and 15th of every month at Washington a small magazine called The Tribune of Liberty, which is devoted to a vigorous advocacy of the cause of the Allies in the great war, and to a protest against an unsympathetic neutrality. One article in the first issue of the new magazine is headed: "Cowards, do you Want to Live Forever?" and includes this paragraph:

"This rather pointed and personal inquiry flung at his panic-stricken troops by an irate general must come home hourly to very man and woman not irredeemably debased. The man who wishes to save his own precious hide, while better and braver men, yes, even babes and old women are offering up the last full measure of devotion—such a one is the most contemptible of creatures. Is our country content to play the part of such a creature? In other words, is the great American republic a candidate for the contempt of mankind?"

There is also printed with approval this ironical question by Mr. W. D. Howells, the eminent novelist: "Suppose the Allies should triumph in the battle which they believe they are fighting for free men and free minds, for justice and honor among the nations, for peace and good will on earth, will not it be a good thing for us to remember that we once did our worst to embarrass them, since nothing could discourage them?"

The following striking statement by Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, who is described as a worthy successor of Henry Ward Beecher, is also quoted with approval: "Neutrality does not mean the wiping out of conviction. If the time ever comes when I must add God and the devil together and divide them by two in the name of neutrality I will withdraw. I believe it is the first duty of German-Americans and of native born Americans to uphold the fundamental principles of self-government, and of an industrial civilization as opposed to a military machine. If this means protest and criticism I accept both. German success means a world filled with armed camps. I am not sinning against the laws of neutrality. I am trying to freshen the old American ideals of self-government for the young men and young women of Plymouth Church. In the whole-hearted support of America's free institutions involves dissent from imperialism and militarism, I am not responsible."

To illustrate the spirit of modern Germany the Tribune of Liberty quotes from the address of the Kaiser to the German troops leaving for Peking in July, 1900, as follows:—

"When you meet the foe you will defeat him. No quarter will be given, no prisoners will be taken. Let all who fall into your hands be at your mercy. Just as the Huns a thousand years ago, under the leadership of Attila, gained a reputation in virtue of which they still live in historical tradition, so may the name of Germany become known in such a manner in China that no Chinaman will ever again dare to look askance at a German."

Copies of The Tribune of Liberty are to be sent to newspapers and magazines, libraries, clergymen and Y. M. C. A.'s, if sufficient funds can be secured for that purpose, and the publisher also gives a list of books dealing with the war from the standpoint of the Allies. It is very evident that public sentiment in the United States in favor of the Allies grows stronger as the war progresses, and as further evidences of German disregard for human rights are revealed. The comment of the New York papers yesterday on the latest work of the German submarines is as bitter as any that could come from a British source.

The famous Gutelius agreement cost the city of St. John a lot of money.

The more the public accounts committee inquires into that horse purchase in Nova Scotia the less fitted certain prominent Conservatives become to don the mantle of an exalted patriot.

If Chancellor Lloyd George should become indisposed, the St. John Standard would no doubt nominate Hon. Dr. Landry as the only living man who could fill his shoes, and administer the finances of the Empire as the thing ought to be done.

LIGHTER VEIN.

"In many ways," observed Mrs. City-flat, who was visiting a friend in the country, "I find that a horse is much like a man."

"Wall, I dunno," answered Farmer Squash, as he applied a match to his corn-cob pipe. "I have found them quite different in some respects. For instance, a horse is worth more after he's broke."

"What a cheerful woman Mrs. Smiley is!"

"Isn't she? Why, do you know, that woman can have a good time thinking what a good time she would have if she were having it—London. Answers."

It is on the country circuit, and the audience is sadly lacking in appreciation of the effort of the actors.

Catcalls and groans, vegetable and eggs are directed at the stage, but still the well-meaning performer, who is in the midst of a long monologue, continues to recite his lines.

Finally a despairing spectator hurls a boot on the stage and the actor starts to retreat behind the scenes.

"Keep on playing!" cries the manager in the wings. "Keep on playing till we get the second boot!"

"No, said the man who was shot in the head by his friend while they were out shooting, lost the greater part of an ear and was scratched considerably, 'I don't mind the wounds so much, but it breaks my heart to have my head mistaken by my most intimate friend for a rabbit.'"

A bailiff sent to seize a quantity of furniture on an order of foreclosure was instructed to make a complete inventory. He did as directed. When it came to the dining room, the tally of the furniture ran thus:

"One dining-room table, oak.
"One set chairs (six), oak."
"One sideboard, oak."
"Two bottles whiskey, full."
Then the word "full" was stricken out and replaced by "empty" and the inventory went on in a hand that struggled and lurched diagonally across the page until it closed with—

"One revolving doormat."

Diamond's Peculiar Position

The South African Diamond Mines are closed. The cutting and polishing industry of Antwerp is ruined. The only other centre of the kind, Amsterdam, is little better off.

At present there are no Diamonds being put on the market. The controlling syndicate is holding their surplus stock.

The Canadian government has recently levied a war tax of 7½ per cent.

Diamonds must just naturally go much higher. The American continent, which is being helped by the war, buys about 70 per cent. of the world's output.

We have a beautifully selected stock of this kind of gems. Our prices have not been changed. They are the lowest in the land.

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Leave Orders Early
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"Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Oven"

Think of the heat in the fire-box of your stove when the fire is burning brightly. It is really a little furnace. You cannot expect the thin iron oven wall to stand it.

If the lining is gone, better telephone

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THE HORSES

Public Accounts Committee Hears More of Graft — That Spade and hield Patent

Ottawa, March 30.—Another act in the national tragedy of war graft was unfolded before the public accounts committee today. How a Conservative member of parliament bought \$72,000 worth of horses for the government, through middlemen of his own choosing, was told to the committee by the secretary of chief government whip. This secretary, though "not an expert on horses," bought \$19,000 worth of horses, acting on the instructions of a mysterious friend of A. DeWitt Foster, M. P. for Nova Scotia, the Conservative member in question.

The said mysterious friend, named F. B. Keefer, has as mysteriously disappeared with all the records as to the prices paid for the horses, as to the character of the horses bought, and as to the prices received by the farmers who sold the horses.

All the auditor-general has are the checks paid to the middlemen on the order of Mr. Foster, acting as purchaser for the government.

The committee has also the word of the Conservative whip's secretary that he simply obeys the instructions of

Keefer, who was "probably" acting for Foster, that he bought the horses, received the money through Keefer from Foster, and gave it to the farmers. Whether the country really got the horses purchased or the farmers got all the money paid out by Foster is still to be investigated.

The offer to the story which the Conservative members of the committee attempted was that the average price paid for horses by Mr. Foster and his middlemen was only \$170.54 each, as compared with an average of \$173.81 for the 1477 horses purchased in eastern Canada for the first contingent and an average of \$186.64 which Col. H. I. McLeod, a Liberal, bought for the militia department, in the Sydney district, for an average of \$225.70 which Major S. B. Anderson, another Liberal, paid for 195 horses purchased in the Moncton district.

To Mr. Fowler McKay declared that he paid every cent of the \$19,630 received from Foster to the farmers from whom he bought the horses.

That Spade and Shield Patent.

Just before the committee adjourned, there was another interesting development with regard to the inventor of the patent combined spade and shield with which the first contingent is equipped. The patent for this is held by Miss Ida McAdam, private secretary to the minister of militia, and some 25,000 of these spades costing \$1.35 a piece, are now at the front, with more on order.

This afternoon Colonel Stoneman, of

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W. B. Howard, D.P.A., C.P.R., St. John, N.B.

Hamilton, a retired officer of the 13th regiment, told the committee that he had brought the idea to the attention of militia officers at Ottawa, as far back as 1902. When the war broke out he had written about it to the president of the United States, to the French government, to Lord Roberts, to Lord Kitchener, and to General Hughes. He got answers from all of them except General Hughes, and in each case it had been stated that the idea was being considered by the military experts of the respective governments. A blue print of the spade, which was designed both for entrenching purposes and as a shield for soldiers when firing at the enemy through the hole in it, the spade was also submitted to General Hughes. A little later when Colonel Stoneman visited Ottawa he found that the patent had been taken out in the name of the general's private secretary.

"I never thought of patenting it myself," said Colonel Stoneman. "In the first place it would not be patriotic, since it was used for war purposes, and in the second place I think it absolutely absurd to patent it. I never thought of making any money out of it myself."

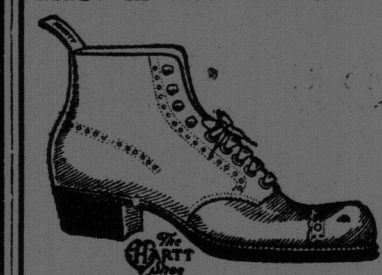
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Major T. E. Powers of St. John has won promotion in France and been placed in charge of a division of signalers engaged in keeping open a long line of communications.

The British government has invested \$10,000,000 in the dye-stuffs industry.

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Ladies' Mesh Hand Bags—Reduced to \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.75, \$3.50.

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Children's White Dresses—Reduced to 50c, 75c, 95c.

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The Salvation Army jubilee, which was to have been celebrated this year, has been postponed owing "to the extraordinary conditions produced by the war."

PIMPLES

APPEARED ON HIS

FACE AND HANDS.

The primary cause of pimples arises from the blood not being in a good condition. When the blood becomes impure you will find that pimples will break out all over the body, but more particularly on the forehead, nose and chin, and although they are not a dangerous trouble, they make you appear unsightly both to your friends and yourself. What you need, when these pimples break out, is to get a real good blood purifying medicine such as Burdock Blood Bitters. One that will build up the blood by cleansing the blood of all the impurities and poisons which cause the skin to break out in these eruptions.

Mr. F. A. McKendry, Portage La Prairie, Man., writes: "Last summer I was all run down and unfit for work of any kind. All kinds of food seemed distasteful to me. Pimples appeared on my face and hands, and I seemed to grow worse every day. One day a friend advised me to try Burdock Blood Bitters. Half-heartedly I did so, and the results obtained were marvellous. I regained my health, I took on flesh, and in a short time the pimples and skin eruptions disappeared entirely; thanks to the healing powers of B.B.B. I freely recommend it to all sufferers."

B.B.B. is manufactured only by The T. Millbrae Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

CANADA IN THE WAR

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Mrs. Nettie Massey, Concord, N.B., writes: "For five years I suffered with what three doctors called psoriasis. They could not help me. One of them told me if anyone offered to guarantee a cure for \$50.00 to keep my money, as I could not be cured. The disease spread all over me, even on my face and head, and the itching and burning was hard to bear. I used eight boxes of Dr. Chase's Ointment, and I am glad to say I am entirely cured, not a sign of a sore to be seen. I can hardly praise this ointment enough."

Can you imagine a more severe test for Dr. Chase's Ointment? This should convince you that as a cure for eczema and all forms of itching skin disease Dr. Chase's Ointment stands supreme. Put it to the test, 50c a box, all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.

MRS. MASSEY.