

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 1918

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"AMERICANS FOR AMERICA"

An article by David Lawrence in the Saturday Evening Post sheds a flood of light on the difficulty of the situation which confronted President Wilson before war was declared on Germany. Not only is it now known that a German propaganda had been carried on for years with the deliberate purpose of Germanizing America, but that its success in some states had been so great as to shock the nation when the facts were revealed by documents submitted recently to the senate. In the words of Mr. Lawrence:

"That dread German Kultur, which has hypnotized a nation beyond the Rhine and driven it into mad combat with the world has been preached and practiced in our schools, colleges, and churches, and its sinister hand placed on our political parties to bring about the choice of persons in federal, state and municipal elections favorable to Germany."

The president of the National German American Alliance said in 1915:—"We will not permit our Kultur of two thousand years to be trodden down in this land (the United States). Many were born here and many are giving out German Kultur to the land of their children. But that is possible only if we stand together."

How well they stood together is shown in the statement that there are 401 public schools in which German is the only language taught, and that in Wisconsin, Nebraska, the Dakotas and some other states public money has been spent largely for the maintenance of exclusively German schools, where English is the foreign tongue.

All this is now being changed. The different states have been aroused and drastic legislation has been adopted. It is now proposed, Mr. Lawrence's article sets out very fully the whole German policy of poisoning public opinion in the United States long before the war began. But the country is now wide awake. Its sons are giving their lives on European battlefields to crush the very Kultur which had so insidiously sought to Germanize their native land, and those at home will know how to deal with even the whisperers who seek to impede the onward march to victory. The heart-rending, now going on in the great democracy will be followed by a steadily rising tide of wrath against the whole tribe of Germany, at home and abroad. As Mr. Lawrence points out, the Munro doctrine did not reckon with the policy of "peaceful penetration" adopted by the National German American Alliance, but the awakening has come in good time, and "America for the Americans" must hereafter be supplemented by the dictum "Americans for America."

CROPS AND THE WAR.

The May Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics says that 96 per cent of the fall wheat of Ontario was winter killed. For all Canada, the area that will produce a crop of fall wheat is reduced from 699,100 acres to 388,000 acres. The yield will be 29 per cent below the average for the past nine years. It is fortunate that to offset this serious reduction there is a large increase in the acreage of spring wheat. A statement issued last week says:—"The total area sown to wheat for the whole of Canada for 1918 is estimated at 16,090,000 acres, as compared with 14,726,800 acres, the finally established figure for 1917. The area to be harvested of fall wheat is 388,000 acres, and the area sown to spring wheat is 15,742,800 acres, so that the increase of the latter as compared with 1917 is 1,713,200, or 12 per cent. The area sown to oats is placed at 13,789,000 acres, as compared with 13,814,400 acres last year, an increase of 425,600 acres, or 3.2 per cent. The acreage of barley is 2,908,800, as compared with 2,922,200 in 1917, of rye 294,400, as against 211,200; of peas, 300,480, as against 198,881; of mixed grains, 606,280, as against 497,284; of hay and clover, 8,200,800, as against 8,228,284, and of alfalfa 100,800, as against 109,285. "The areas sown this year to wheat, oats, barley and rye are the highest on record for Canada."

If the spring wheat should yield well and be harvested in good condition it will be a very satisfactory crop situation, but the demand for food for the Allied nations in Europe will be so enormous that Canada must release the largest possible portion of her crop for export. As a matter of fact the people of the United States are today showing a keener desire to use substitutes for wheat than has yet been shown in Canada. The relation of the food supply to the winning of the war cannot be too strongly emphasized. There will be grave hunger in the world for a considerable time after the war is over.

Another Refutation of Tales About Our Soldiers

Toronto, June 18.—Before the Canada Club here yesterday, Colonel H. A. Bruce, a distinguished Canadian surgeon and member of a British mission to the United States, paid a high tribute to the fighting qualities of Canadian soldiers and indignantly rejected stories of drunkenness among the Dominion troops.

WELL DONE SOUTH END.

The meeting held in the assembly hall of the King Edward school last evening may well be the beginning of a neighborhood community movement which will be of great benefit. This meeting was announced in the four churches of that section of the city, and members of all of them were present, keenly interested in the matter of providing a base-ball field and athletic ground for the boys. The pastors of two of the churches were there, and there was an excellent representation of older men who were formerly active in athletics as representatives of the south end. The ladies also were there, and a fine spirit of community fellowship prevailed. With such a beginning, if a playground can be secured, there should be a new and brighter era for the boys. Rev. H. A. Cody must have been deeply gratified with the response to the appeal of his recent letter, and his personal efforts to get public sentiment crystallized into action. If we had good neighborhood playgrounds in different parts of the city there would be developed a healthy rivalry in clean athletic sports which would quickly make the big athletic field at the entrance to Rockwood Park the arena of competitions in which St. John would not be put in the shade by the athletes of any other community in the province. But, more important than that, the boys of St. John would be built up physically by clean sport and given an entirely different outlook. They would not be young outlaws dodging the police in their efforts to give expression to the play instinct that is in them. The city council may very well ally itself with a healthy community movement of this sort, to discourage it would be to hamper the development of that community spirit which is so great an asset to any city. It may well be that we are at the beginning of a development which will bear lasting fruit. The south end folk have set a fine example. The older boys overseas would be very glad to know that their younger brothers were to have the opportunity for free play which is so essential to real manhood growth.

The time feeling of anxiety over the situation on the western front has been relaxed, and the news from the Italian front is encouraging, while the growing troubles at home in Austria and Germany give rise to the hope that these troubles may presently weaken very much the power of the enemy to strike his hammer blows on either front. We are gaining time, and time brings more American troops into the struggle on the side of democracy. There is much heavy fighting ahead, but the morale of the Allied armies is unshaken. They are out to win, however long the conflict may rage.

It is a national duty for every person over the age of sixteen to register. Not to do so would be unpatriotic. As many as possible should register before June 23, in order to relieve the pressure on that day. If the war is prolonged this registration will be of the highest value. It involves no hardship but is essential to an effective mobilization for war work.

The appointment of a medical inspector and school nurse is a forward step in connection with St. John schools that will give value for a great deal more money than it will really cost. It is the beginning of a brighter day for every child suffering from neglected physical defects, and it will make for better health conditions in many of the poorer homes of the city.

By giving the chairman of the school board and the superintendent of schools authority to grant the use of the assembly halls of school buildings at their discretion for community service the board has acted in conformity with public sentiment.

The action of the school board in granting some increase in teachers salaries was necessary under the conditions that prevail today. The scale of pay in this province is very much lower than in the west.

The Kaiser is talking again. He says the Anglo-Saxons are slaves of Mammon, while Germany stands for right, freedom, honor and morality. Is he a fanatic, or merely a brain liar?

The food board has fixed the price of sardine herring. There are other prices in need of fixing, if the board does not weary of well-doing.

Today's war news is of a reassuring nature. The Austrian drive on the Italian front is held at all points.

LIGHTER VEIN

"Mayme says she likes to feed her mind." "I don't think she's going to do it by devouring serials."

Justified Doubt. "Are you sure, Jack, that she's the right kind of a girl? Has she the right judgment?" "Why should you doubt her?" "Well, she selected you."

Domestic Science. "My daughter is taking a course in domestic science." "How is she making out?" "All right, I infer. She writes that she just made the scrub team."

Always Right. "What's the dispute about?" the storekeeper asked his clerk, and added: "Remember, in this store the customer is always right."

"He says you're an old shark," explained the clerk briefly.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Initial Dig. "Has the excavating been begun for your new house yet?" "Yes, I've just dug up a thousand dollars advance money for the contractor."

A Good Speech. "Did you make any Liberty bond speeches?" "Only one," replied Dustin Stax. "But I flatter myself it was a pretty good one."

"What was it?" "I said, 'Give me five million dollars' worth.'"—Washington Star.

His Reason. "Why are you in favor of government ownership?" "I'm not exactly clear," replied the candid man. "But I've a vague idea that I'd like to see some lines of business in the hands of elected officers who might try to make a hit by lowering prices instead of raising them."—Washington Star.

For Playground In South End

Public Meeting Decides to Take Action—Will Interview Council This Afternoon

A delegation from the south end of the city will wait upon the city council this afternoon with an appeal to have the section of ground at the foot of St. James and Britain streets cleared up and converted into a baseball diamond and athletic field.

This course was decided upon at a very representative public meeting of south end citizens, both ladies and gentlemen, held in the assembly hall of the city.

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King Edward school last evening. If a favorable reply is received an organization will be formed as a later meeting to head up the project so that play will be properly organized under the leadership of south end citizens interested in healthy sport for the boys. In spite of the unfavorable state of the weather the meeting was largely attended. At the outset A. M. Belding was elected chairman, on the motion of R. E. Armstrong, seconded by John T. Power. Rev. George Scott was named secretary of the proceedings. His name was put in nomination by Rev. S. S. Poole, seconded by William C. Cross. The chairman outlined the present status of the movement in the city looking to the establishment of neighborhood playgrounds and athletic fields in the different quarters of the city. He and Rev. Mr. Cody had looked over the situation in the south end and had come to the conclusion that a portion of ground lying along Courtenay Bay between St. James and Britain streets could be secured. This with a vacant lot adjoining which might also be got would make a playground and baseball diamond. In conclusion he called upon Rev. Mr. Cody who in introducing the resolution said the ground in question was far from being ideal for the purposes in view. Still there was no other obtainable and they must just make the best of a bad situation. The resolution was seconded by Thos.

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Killed but before it was put to the meeting Mr. Alward objected that the field was too small for a baseball field even with the addition of the vacant lot. Engineer Hatfield, however, said although the property was undoubtedly small there was no trouble in making it quite big enough for the purposes intended. The chairman also, while admitting the baseball diamond would not be fit for professional ball, yet pointed out the boys of the south end would have fine opportunities upon it and after all it was worth while to cater to their needs.

Mr. Armstrong, while he also regretted the smallness of the proposed baseball diamond, yet thought it would be distinctly worth while for the south end to endeavor to acquire it and clean it up as it was a disgrace to the city in the present condition.

In reply to a question by the chairman Engineer Hatfield said that he estimated the cost of cleaning up the lot at between \$400 and \$500.

F. L. Potts said that he was born in the south end of the city and had lived in it all his life. He took a great deal of interest in everything that was for the benefit of the people of that section and he was prepared, if necessary, to give \$50 towards the expense of having this work done. As he looked upon the present scheme it was merely a temporary expedient. What they ought to look forward to and work for would be a large permanent playground. (Applause.)

At this point Engineer Hatfield said there was another vacant lot on the south side of Britain street which might be secured and Mr. Potts remarked the city had power to expropriate land for necessary purposes and they should make it clear to the council that this was one. It was then moved and carried that a committee of seven be appointed to wait upon the council at 8 o'clock this afternoon. Their names were A. M. Belding, Rev. H. A. Cody, Thos. Killen, F. L. Potts, John T. Power, Mrs. Hoyt, and Miss Stella Payne.

There was a general discussion participated in by Messrs. Armstrong, Power, Killen, Mrs. W. C. Good and others. F. H. Quirt, Messrs. Armstrong and Hatfield represented the Rotary Club.

The chairman reminded the meeting that the appointment of the committee was only the first step in the work and that it would be necessary for them to form a permanent organization which might superintend the sports of the boys on the ground when it had been put into shape. He expressed the thanks of the gathering to R. E. Emerson, chairman of the board of school trustees, for the use of the assembly hall.

After it had been decided to meet again at the call of the chair the meeting adjourned. Later Mayor Hayes was communicated with and the committee will be given a hearing this afternoon.

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