

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1914.

### THE WAR SITUATION.

Each day sees a little more definite information coming through from the great battle line along the Alps in Northern France, and the despatches of last night contained the most cheering news yet received. It is stated, on good authority, that the German fighting had been going on, has been completely broken, that the German troops are fleeing with the allies in hot pursuit. Elsewhere on the battle line the situation has not materially changed although the allies have made advances, and are today holding ground which, a week ago, was possessed by their enemies.

The defeat of the right wing, where General Von Klueck was in command, and which had previously been reported as beaten, cannot but have a mighty effect upon the whole engagement. Upon Germany it will leave an impression similar to what might be felt by the people of the British Empire if a situation could be imagined in which Lord Kitchener and the flower of the British army could be defeated. Von Klueck and Von Bulow are the German Kitchener and the German Roberts. Popular idols with the people, that is, as popular as any officer can be to a people who for years have been ground under the heel of excessive militarism, news of the defeat of either would shock with a shock. But it is not the only shock the Germans are likely to receive in the next few weeks.

On the Eastern frontier, where the Germans have massed great force to stop the Russian advance, preparations are in the making for another great battle which may prove to be most decisive. So far the Russians continue their forward movement without let or hindrance. They have successfully met and overcome all resistance to their progress and before this must have become a very real source of terror to the residents of Berlin. The coming big battle will be fought on German soil and the despatches indicate that from the number of men engaged and the care exercised in the preparations it is likely to be the greatest of the several great battles in which the Russians have already participated.

Turning again to the consideration of the situation along the Alps it is of importance that the allied armies are daily receiving reinforcements of fresh troops while the Germans do not possess similar advantages. The Indian troops are expected to enter into the fighting there very shortly and one despatch of last evening stated they might arrive in time to complete the victory for Great Britain.

There is no word as yet of a naval engagement although, on the Pacific, the Japanese are proceeding with the siege of Tsing Tau in workmanlike fashion and have already reduced two of the important forts defending the German position. The whole Japanese fleet is said to be in action against the German straits and when details of that battle come it will likely be found that the Germans have once more met with defeat. Altogether the news of this morning is decidedly good and what is of much importance appears to be but the prelude to other equally favorable tidings which may be expected at any time. The backbone of the German resistance on the Alps, if not broken, is very badly bent and from now on the operations should run strongly in favor of the allies. It is sincerely to be hoped that such will be the case.

### "MAKING OVER" EUROPE.

Although the German power is not yet crushed, the opinion of the European people, outside of Germany and Austria, is that there can be but one conclusion to the present mighty struggle, and, already, they are talking of the making over process which must follow the downfall of the Kaiser's Empire. Just what may happen affords ground for much conjecture, and while the governments or public men concerned are making no predictions, it is possible to pick a thread here or there which contributes, in a slight degree, to illustrate the trend of opinion.

In a recent speech, for the purpose of stimulating interest in recruiting for military service, Mr. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the British Admiralty, said, "Let us, whatever we do, fight for and work towards great and sound principles for the European system. And the first of these principles which we should keep before us is the principle of nationalities, that is to say, not the conquest or subjugation of any great community or of any strong race of men, but the setting free of those races which have been subjugated and conquered; and if doubt arises as to disputed areas of territory, we should try to settle their ultimate destination in the reconstruction of Europe, which must follow from this war, with a fair regard to

the wishes and feelings of the people who live in them."

Aside from the spirit of absolute fairness which marks Mr. Churchill's statement, and which is characteristic of British statesmen, the despatches are seized upon by British editors and publicists as foreshadowing the return to France of Alsace and Lorraine, and to Denmark of Schleswig-Holstein. German Poland is regarded by many as territory which should have its own government. The Czar of Russia has already pledged himself to see to it that the Kingdom of Poland shall be reinstated in its integrity under Russian suzerainty. This means that Russia is prepared to give up her Polish provinces to the new kingdom, and Russia may be depended upon to see to it that Germany and Austria do the same. This is certain to be one of the conditions upon which any peace negotiations will be based.

As to other changes, there is an opinion in Britain that Bosnia is likely to be turned over to Serbia in return for her gallant work, while Montenegro will go Herzegovina, and Roumania will get Transylvania. It Turkey is so careless of her national existence as to imperil it by entering the struggle on the side of Germany, there is a possibility that the Ottoman Empire will be greatly reduced in area. Russia is one of the countries likely to benefit from such partition but it is also likely that, in such event, undertakings would be demanded of the Czar's government guaranteeing the continuance of certain arrangements now in effect with the Turks.

As a reward for her neutrality, even if she does not enter the war as an ally of Britain, France and Russia, Italy is picked upon by English writers as one who will substantially benefit. The selection made for her by observers of conditions is Trieste, and the portion of the Austrian coast, originally hers, which was taken from her by Austria some years ago. As to Germany proper, it is the opinion that the states making up the Empire may be divided into smaller kingdoms or principalities. To the present dynasty nothing but ruin is expected to remain, and it is also believed the Kaiser, or whoever may succeed him, will be bound by conventionalities as to military and naval strength which will forever remove the Prussian ruler from a position where he can imperil the peace of the world. This, in itself, will, in years to come, be worth the expenditure on account of the war to Britain, if it can be counted in dollars or pounds, and no estimate taken of the great loss of life.

The war may be of long or short duration, but it is generally believed that the allied powers have already agreed between themselves as to the division of territory which will follow the outbreak of hostilities as the result of the making over process is not regarded by British writers as within the range of possibility.

### CANADIAN OPPORTUNITIES

The weekly trade report issued by the Trade and Commerce Department of the Dominion Government is a valuable publication in that it keeps business men and manufacturers informed of opportunities for the extension of Canadian trade. Just now it devotes considerable space to the list of household utensils formerly secured by Great Britain from Germany and which can be furnished in Canada. The list includes enamel ware, small wooden tool handles, brush broom, spade and fork handles, brushes of various kinds, wood and enamel bowls, wood forks and spoons, clothes pins, rolling pins, pastry, bread and baking boards, skewers, bowls, towel rollers, blind rollers, nails, fencing, mops, wooden knobs, pails, wringing machine rollers, locks and keys, small tools and hardware sundries. These, in the past, have been supplied from Germany but the report points out that Canada could supply them as well and with profit to Canadian manufacturers.

In addition to this list there is also opportunity for Canada to supply articles formerly obtained by Great Britain from continental sources most of which are now closed. Included in these are feathers, poultry, pit wood, lumber, salmon, woolen and cotton rags, horns, bones, fur, paper, chair seats, wood pulp, wall paper, seeds, turned wood, wire and wire nails, starch, staves and some sorts of musical instruments.

In the lists quoted surely there are some articles which manufacturers in New Brunswick or in Eastern Canada could supply. The British market is one of the best markets in the world. The Canadian shipper of natural products has found this to his profit and in some lines of manufactured goods Canada enjoys a profitable trade. The Department of Trade and Commerce is laboring zealously

to extend and develop that trade and Canadian manufacturers should be only too willing to co-operate with them as the result would be decided to the advantage not only of the manufacturers themselves, but to the thousands of workmen who find employment in the great Canadian industries. The men who go to fight for the Empire are doing a great service, but those who stay at home and "keep the wheels turning" are also entitled to some credit.

### N. B. APPLES FOR BRITAIN

It is a capital and praiseworthy idea that the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association should make a contribution of New Brunswick apples for use by the wounded soldiers and sailors in the hospitals in Britain. Not only will the gift be appreciated by the recipients, but it should prove a good advertisement for the fruit grown in this province.

The Government of New Brunswick has given 100,000 bushels of potatoes as the gift of this province to the Empire. This will also prove of much advertising value and when it becomes known that the province which can grow potatoes as good as those made up of the gift shipment can also produce fruit as luscious as the New Brunswick apple, there should be much more interest taken by Englishmen in this country where opportunities are so great. It was a generous and wise action for the Government, on behalf of the people of the province, to make such a splendid contribution of New Brunswick's representative vegetable. It is equally commendable that the Fruit Growers' Association of the province should contribute the dessert to follow the meal.

With western beef, flour made from Manitoba or Alberta wheat, New Brunswick potatoes and a dessert of New Brunswick apples, the British soldier, he be ill or well, should feel some affection for the country which produces such good things.

### To Our Men.

You have left the plough, the spade, the pen,  
You have left the factory dumb;  
You are ranged in the ranks of British men,  
Pray not too late you come

First line, second line, third line, fourth;  
Flower of the Nation's youth,  
From homes in the East, West, South,  
You'll fight for the Right and Truth.

First line regulars, trained and cool,  
Second line drilling and going to school  
In sight of your household gods.

Third line rushing to honor's roll,  
The next big gap to fill;  
Fourth line arming from Pole to Pole  
Where the Empire's flag flies still.

Never a whimper from women weak,  
Nowhere wavering men;  
Grave or a gallant death you seek  
In the final fight and then—  
—Harold Boulton in the Westminster Gazette.

### What a Submarine Is.

So much has been written concerning what the submarine, by a flight of imagination, may achieve, writes the naval correspondent of the London Morning Post, that most people are uncertain as to what the submarine actually is and does. To begin with, she is shared like a cigar, and she carries on her back, inside the tubular steel hull, valves and tubes and pipes line the walls; aft, in a space so low that the engineers can hardly stand upright, are the internal combustion engines and the electric motors which drive the vessel when it is under water. Below the main floor, or deck of the hull, are the petrol and stores. Forward are the torpedo tubes. Amidships there projects downwards from the ceiling a thick brass column ending in a brass cross-piece. This is the base of the periscope. When the boat is submerged and the officer desires to see what is going on above, he sets a hand on each arm of the cross-piece, which is level with his face, and rotates the column, when he looks into the mirror. In the mirror he beholds an image, little and bright, of a section of the sea and horizon, and by swinging it he can scan the sea in a circle, reflected in the periscope above, which is the eye of the steel fish. Alongside the periscope is the upright steel ladder leading through two hatches to the deck of the conning tower, which is raised five or six feet above the top of the hull. It is about four feet in diameter and is protected by a breast-high rail lined with canvas. Here is the wheel, and here, when the vessel is running awash, stand the captain and the quartermaster. In fine weather those of the crew who are not required below are grouped on the little half-deck below the conning tower, just above the steel hull itself. Officers and men are dressed in sea-boots, sweaters and rough clothing. The submarine running awash forges silently onwards with a heavy grinding noise, the water lifting and dripping from the gills which project on either side of her snout. Below, the hull is filled with the crashing of the furious engines cramped into the narrow tube, the roar of the engines, the splash of the water, the hiss of the petrol gas, the fatal chlorine gas is formed, and the crew are suffocated.

The method of the submarine is to sink, or less, on the surface, until she sights a hostile vessel. As she is so small she can see her. Then she sinks. The captain and the crew go below; the hatches are closed; and the captain, swinging his weight upon the cross-piece from the periscope, his eye upon the mirror, gives his orders. The crew are lying along the hull, ready to turn valves on or off. The internal combustion engines are stopped and the propeller shaft is connected up to the electric motors. There is a sudden silence.

The process of submerging is a process in the brain of the captain. He has a mental picture of what each tank contains, and how much weight is driven but forward or aft at each order, and what will be the effect upon the vessel. He communicates this process to the vessel itself. He must first dip her bows slightly, then her stern, then bows again, and so on. If he makes a mistake the submarine may dive down, and then all is gone. The process is reflected in the brain of his lieutenant, who stands near by the captain. In ordinary sessions, if there are a dozen people at hand who can put it right, because they know what ought to be done. Not so in the submarine. The only person besides the captain who knows what is going on is his lieutenant; but the consequences of a mistake would follow so quickly that the lieutenant could not rectify it. Nor would he know in all probability that a mistake had been made until the consequences began. The men lying outside the valves know nothing except how to do what they are told. Nor is there any sensation of motion as the boat sinks. It seems to be as still as a drawing room on shore.

The periscope, which is about the size of a saucer, remains about eighteen inches above the surface, and, viewed from the deck of a ship, all that is seen is a flitting pennant of that is seen as it cuts the waves, like a sea-bird's wing. In any way it would be almost imperceptible at two or three hundred yards.

Upon approaching to attack the submarine sinks lower and submerges her periscope, so that her captain, looking in the mirror, sees his little and bright picture washed out in green—the green of the water. And from above nothing is visible at all. The submarine is now blind. She cannot see through water. But she can steer a course. The captain has made his calculations before he submerged his periscope. And the range of a German torpedo is about 3,000 yards at 25 to 30 knots. The submarine can fire her torpedoes, and above presently rising until her periscope is above water, then herself continue beneath the surface until it is safe to rise, and like a whale, to breathe again.

### Huns in Training.

Dr. Louis Livingston Seaman of New York. It will be remembered, called to New York from Antwerp an indignified protest against the bombardment of that city by Zeppelins. Dr. Seaman is a well-known figure in New York; he has figured conspicuously, for instance, in the work of the American Committee for the celebration of the Century of Peace. An English journalist had an interview with him, and part of which may be quoted:

The doctor (says the interview) is a typical product of the United States with a worthy for running out to wars, and he is not at all engaged, unofficially otherwise. With means enough to pursue his hobby and with a surgical skill which makes him welcome in any hospital, he has seen every war of his generation "from the inside." He came to Antwerp instinctively, and the next day was tending the Zeppelin wounded and working to rouse the United States to a sense of the atrocities of German war methods.

"It is exactly news to me," he said, "and I reckon it won't be exact."

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by news to America that these Germans are war-mad barbarians. I have seen a good deal of them before this. The other day in Potsdam I saw proudly displayed the astronomical instruments which the Germans, under Von Waldersee, stole from Peking. That was a vandric trick against which such General Chaffee in China protested at the time. The German General sent his letter back to him without any reply.

In that Boer campaign (I was there) the Germans practised on the Chinese the game they are playing now on the Belgians. Their army came when all the real fighting was over. By August 13 there was no more fight left in the Chinese than in so many jack rabbits. The Germans arrived November 20, and for want of any fighting began a policy of systematic murder. They'd send punitive expeditions all round the country, levying on each village they encountered a war tax. If the tax were not paid the village was fired, and the inhabitants slain. From accounts which came in to us the native population was in some cases almost exterminated. That was to give the German soldier his taste of blood, to fit him for the work he is doing now in Belgium, and might be doing in England if the luck had gone that way.

I saw more of the Germans in their colony in East Africa in 1904. I was out there investigating sleeping sickness. The Germans had imposed a most oppressive hut tax on the natives, a tax which could only be paid by six months' forced labor each year; and the natives were stirred up by their priests to revolt. German atrocity in reprisal was something incredible. One incident. The priests or magic men, to encourage the natives, had told them that the German rifles shot out nothing but water, which would not harm them. Well, one day, before my very eyes, the Germans collected 208 of the chief men of a village, assembled all the rest of the inhabitants, including women and children, strung the men up to trees and then fired volleys into their hanging bodies. The firing went on until the bodies were riddled with holes."

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