

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY OCTOBER 29, 1917

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ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 29, 1917.

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## THE ITALIAN DEFEAT

The first feeling upon reading of the smashing victory of the Austro-Germans over the Italians is naturally one of deep depression. It proves that the enemy possesses a strength and a striking power greater than had generally been believed was possible at this stage of the war. It is quite true that the utter cowardice of the second Italian army enabled the enemy to gain more ground than might otherwise have been the case, but neither had we reckoned on that cowardice. If it be true that the enemy captured nearly or quite 100,000 men and 700 guns, besides regaining much lost territory and opening the road to the plains of northern Italy, the reverse is indeed a very serious one for the Allies. It will give the German government another opportunity to assert that the Allies are being beaten, and so encourage the people to continue the war. The effect it may have on Russia is also a matter for grave concern. It ought to make the Russian people more eager to fight; but will that be the result?

And yet the case is very far from being hopeless. It was announced that the Germans had determined to make a determined effort to put Italy out of the war, and great armies and heavy artillery were massed for the attack. Because of the collapse of Russia it was possible to withdraw large armies from the eastern front. They have been far more successful than anyone anticipated, but Italy will be aroused as never before since the war began, and France and Britain will lend whatever assistance it may be in their power to offer. There is naturally great rejoicing in Austria and Germany, but the ring of steel is still around them, the British and French have made further important gains in the west, an American army is now on the firing line, and the news from Russia is still hopeful. The lesson of the Italian defeat is that nothing should be taken for granted in relation to the duration of the war, but that the Allies should act continually on the assumption that the end is yet a long way off; and that men, munitions, food and ships must be provided in a constant stream until a decisive victory has been gained.

## THE FOOD CONTROLLER.

Is Controller Hanna aware that when he paints conditions black, in relation to present and future food supplies, he is encouraging the price booster and the profiteer?

What is wrong with our food controller? Does he want the speculators to flourish and the people to hoard supplies? That is exactly what he is doing. It is not at all necessary to pursue such a course in order to get the people to economize. The Germans try to win by frightening everybody, but the plan does not work out well.

If Mr. Hanna has not sufficient business ability to approach his problem in a businesslike way he should give place to someone who can be relied on to act with discretion and with courage.

This is no time to have the office of food controller filled by a man whose motto seems to be "I can't." Food speculation and hoarding are not necessary to win the war. They help to prevent victory, and whoever encourages either is helping Germany.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

As the first step toward the formulation of a progressive public health policy the provincial government has decided to have made a sanitary survey of the province. Hon. Dr. Roberts is heartily supported by the premier and his colleagues in his desire to adopt a public health policy worthy of an intelligent province. Naturally the first step is to make such a survey as is now to be undertaken. Dr. Roberts on his recent visit to New York went into the whole question with leading health authorities, and as a result Mr. John Hall, of Orange, N. J., has come to St. John and will at once enter upon the work. An interview with Mr. Hall in today's Times gives further information, which will be of universal interest. The Premier government does well to give its careful attention to this subject. New Brunswick has too long lagged in the background in regard to matters pertaining to public health.

## THE CROPS OF 1917.

The Bulletin of Agricultural and Commercial Statistics, published by the International Institute of Agriculture of Rome, sums up the various official estimates of yield of crops so far furnished by the governments of the important producing countries. The first part of the summary relates to wheat, and shows that while this year's crop was larger than that of last year it was far below the average for the years 1911-15 inclusive. We quote:—

"For wheat, the Institute has ascertained the yield of the following countries:—Spain, France, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, United States, British India, Japan, Algeria. These countries have produced in the aggregate 68,268 thousand quintals, while in 1916

the total was no more than 498,705. The crop of 1917 therefore represents 103.8 per cent of that of 1916, but, if compared with the average of the five years 1911 to 1915, we find the yield of the present year to be only 88.6 per cent of this average. It is therefore the case that the crop of 1917 is decidedly better than that of 1916, but this fact does not cancel its appreciable inferiority to an average yield."

The crop of rye was not only larger than that of last year, but much larger than the average for 1911-15. The total, however, is not large. The Bulletin says:—

"With respect to rye, the total yield of Spain, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, and the United States is 22,548 thousand quintals, or 110.7 and 126.8 per cent of the yield of 1916 and of the average, respectively. The position with regard to this cereal is quite satisfactory but the area cultivated is relatively a small one."

Much more favorable is the report with regard to oats and corn, both of which largely exceeded not only last year's crop but also the previous five year average. We quote:—

"The facts as to oats are very favorable, the yield in 1917 being estimated at 289,644 thousand quintals as against 289,644 thousand quintals as an aggregate for Spain, Switzerland, Canada and the United States. The respective percentages are 116.9 per cent and 118.1 per cent. The corn crop also affords a parallel, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States yielding 881,626 thousand quintals, or 126.8 per cent and 117.7 per cent as compared respectively with the crops of 1916 and 1911 to 1915. The plentiful corn harvest of 1917 is all the more important, since this grain is cultivated so widely and at present fulfils a considerable role in the provision of human food."

The report deals with one other item, that of barley, and here the crop though larger than last year's is not quite up to the previous five year average. The Bulletin says:—

"As to barley the total yield of the following countries, Spain, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, United States, Japan, Algeria, is 101,086 thousand quintals, representing respective percentages of 102.4 and 96.4 per cent. The position of this cereal is therefore an average one."

In connection with any consideration or discussion of grain crops and the relative yield, it is necessary to bear in mind that the reserves upon which under normal conditions the world counts have been exhausted, and it is now a question whether one year's crop will last till the next harvest. There is also the very serious problem of transportation. Europe stands in dire need, and that need will become more pressing as the months pass. While, therefore, there is reason for great satisfaction in the fact that this year's grain crops were greater than those of the previous year, there is urgent need of a still more vigorous campaign for increased production next year, and for the most rigid economy in order to save as much as possible of this year's crop to meet the conditions in Europe.

In this connection it is gratifying to note that so far as New Brunswick is concerned the provincial committee for increased production, backed by the department of agriculture, has decided to purchase considerable quantities of seed grain for distribution, and is also endeavoring to make certain a sufficient supply of fertilizer for next spring. Every agricultural society in the province should heartily co-operate, in order that the crops of 1918 may make a new record for New Brunswick.

The Canadians have won another notable success by the capture of Bellevue Spur, "a dominating and vital position west of Passchendaele, to which the Germans had clung tenaciously." There was heavy hand to hand fighting, and counter attacks were made by the Germans, but the gallant Canadians won and held their ground.

That Russian guns were turned on Russian soldiers who fraternized with the enemy is evidence that the Russian government is not thinking of separate peace. A cable to the New York Tribune predicts that Russia by next spring will once more be a tremendous factor in the war.

The rumor that Sweden may expose the cause of Germany is probably not well-founded. The pro-German party in that country has not been increasing of late, if we may trust the news from that quarter.

The interview with a business man in today's Times on Food Controller Hanna and potato prices points out how untenable is Mr. Hanna's position.

And now the Spanish cabinet has resigned. Spain is playing an ignominious part in the war. Her little neighbor Portugal shines by comparison.

The dispatches indicate that union government is being received with favor in quite a number of western constitutions, though not in all.

# AFTER SICKNESS

## THEY GAVE HER VINOL

### And She Soon Got Back Her Strength

New Castle, Ind.—"The measles left me run down, no appetite, could not rest at night, and I took a severe cold which settled on my lungs, so I was unable to keep about my household work. My doctor advised me to take Vinol, and six bottles restored my health so I do all my household work, including washing. Vinol is the best medicine I ever used."—Alice Record, 437 So. 11th St., New Castle, Ind.

We guarantee this wonderful cod liver and iron tonic, Vinol, for all weak, run-down, nervous conditions. The Ross Drug Co., Limited, Wassons Drug Store, St. John. Vinol is sold in Fairville by P. H. Wilson and in Hampton by Donald's Drug Store. Also at the best druggists in all New Brunswick towns.

## LIGHTER VEIN

Little Boy, Big Appetite

Mrs. Stickett, notorious for her saving habits, entered the doctor's office, leading by the hand a stoutly built boy of nine years of age and exceedingly healthy appearance.

"Well, Mrs. Stickett," said the doctor, "who's my patient? I don't seem to recognize his face. Not a village boy, is he?"

"No, doctor, my nephew from town."

"Not much wrong with him, I should say," laughed the doctor, pinching his red cheeks.

"It's about his appetite, doctor," said the boy's aunt, in a low voice.

"What?" exclaimed the doctor, staring at the well-fed young patient.

"Surely he doesn't need an appetizer," said the lady, in horrified accents. "I want you to give me something to make his appetite less. He'll eat me out of house and home, and his mother's holiday is up if his appetite ain't cut down."

Why He Is Thin

"What makes you so thin, Bligson?"

"My wife's ill."

"And you're worrying about her, eh?"

"Not exactly. It's the form not the severity of her illness that affects me."

"How so?" From what is she suffering?"

"Extreme Hoovers."

Entirely Different

"When the telephone was first invented people laughed at it," remarked the reminiscence citizen.

"Did they?" commented the busy operator.

"Well, they don't any more. They get angry."

# DISQUIETING STATEMENTS

## Declaration by Officers of Petrograd Garrison—Kerensky on Matter of Removal of Capital

Petrograd, Oct. 29.—The officers of the Petrograd garrison met today to discuss the position of the Russian army and adopted a resolution declaring that any authority on the part of its chiefs is virtually non-existent. The resolution says in part:

"The community, as it is at present, cannot defend Russia. On the contrary, the approach of winter and the present subservient aspirations of the enemy and its lack of any sense of responsibility will complete the ruin of the country. We do not renounce our duty but in answering for ourselves we do not answer for our men. The time has come to make this declaration openly, so that nobody may be deceived or trust in vain delusions."

Petrograd, Oct. 29.—Premier Kerensky, speaking on Saturday in the preliminary parliament, said that the government never debated the possibility of surrendering Petrograd to the enemy as a result of its deliberations. On the contrary, the defence of the capital to the uttermost had been the constant pre-occupation of the government which, as a result of its deliberations, decided not to leave Petrograd until the highest interests of the state demanded such a course.

Premier Kerensky added that the present strategic situation was sure and that there was no necessity for the preliminary parliament.

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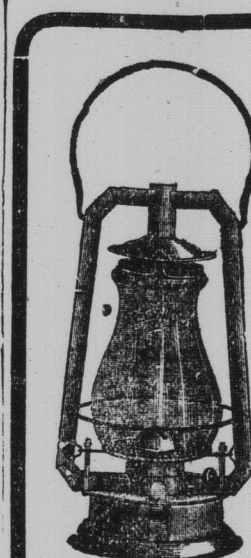
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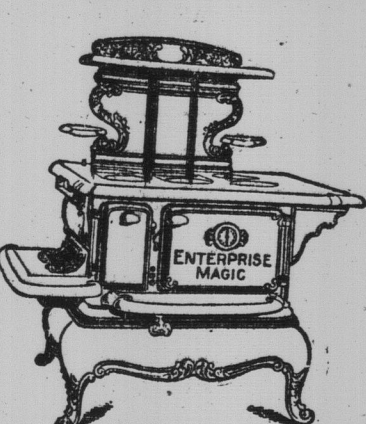
## Prepare for the Long Nights!

### Lanterns for the Dark and Rainy Season

Cold Blast—Plain	\$1.20	Jap'd	\$1.25
Dash—Plain	\$1.40	Jap'd	\$1.45
Wright's Cold Blast—No. 2 Brass Font			\$1.40
Brass Junior Cold Blast			\$1.30
Gem—Nickel Plated			\$2.50
Searchlight—No. 20			\$2.70

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## THE MAGIC

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### Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

## JUST ARRIVED

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## ANTHRAX

The disease of anthrax occurs among sheep, horses, cattle and other herbivora or grain eating animals. No animal of any of these classes is capable of resisting anthrax infection providing suitable conditions obtain. The disease is also liable to attack human beings although it does not appear epidemically in man. Many cases have been reported where men have died as a result of contracting anthrax from the skinning of an infected animal or from handling the wool or skins of animals that have died from the disease.

This information is brought out in Bulletin No. 28 of the Health of Animals Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture entitled "Anthrax." The bulletin is written by Dr. Chas. H. Higgins, pathologist, and deals with the subjects of occurrence, methods of infection, soil infection, diagnosis, etc. It is pointed out that the carcass of the animal that has had the disease should be destroyed by fire, care being taken that all discharges and litter about the animal be burned with it, even to the halter that it has been wearing. Under no circumstances should the animal be skinned, as this is a most dangerous procedure. Neither should it be dragged over the farm. Deep burial is sometimes resorted to, but it is not nearly so satisfactory as burning.

Veterinarians, farmers and others who have reason to suspect the existence of anthrax are compelled, under the Animal Contagious Disease Act, promptly to notify the minister of agriculture, the veterinary director-general or the nearest veterinary inspector.

## Don't put on the roof until you investigate



It is poor economy to save money by substituting something inferior but wouldn't you like to save on cost if you could get something better? You can get a better roof for less money if you put on

# Certain-teed Roofing

Before its merits were recognized, roll roofing was regarded as a more or less temporary roof—but now CERTAIN-TEED has demonstrated that it is not only a most durable roof, but also the most efficient roof.

It is economical to buy, inexpensive to lay and costs practically nothing to maintain. It is light weight, clean, sanitary, fire-retardant and weather-tight.

It is now used as the preferable type of roof for office buildings, factories, hotels, stores, warehouses, garages, farm buildings etc., where durability is demanded. CERTAIN-TEED is guaranteed for 5, 10 or 15 years, according to thickness (1, 2 or 3 ply).

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**Certain-teed Slate-Surfaced Asphalt Shingles** are supplanting wood and slate shingles for residences. They cost less, are just as good looking, wear better, won't fall off, buckle or split. They are fire-retardant, and do not have to be painted or stained.

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\$3.90 for 1-2 Ton  
\$4.45 for 1,400 lb. load  
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\$7.50 per ton—2 Ton loads

This is Grand Lake run of mine coal. It has a lot of small coal and slack in it; but it will coke and run together on a wood fire—makes a strong heat, lasts well, and is good value. Only 60 tons for sale.

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10-31.

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## HIGH HONORS FOR NURSES

A Canadian Associated Press cable from London, under date of Oct. 28, announces awards of honors for several of the Canadian nurses who have been overseas on duty, among them two St. John nurses, Miss Edith McCafferty and Dr. Margaret Parks.

The former has received the award of the Royal Red Cross, first class; the latter the award of the Associated Royal Red Cross of the second class. Miss McCafferty, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis McCafferty, has been overseas since May, 1915, spending the greater part of the time in France, principally in No. 1 Canadian Hospital, Etaples, and some months ago being promoted to be matron of the Princess Patricia Special Red Cross Hospital, Ramsgate, England.

Miss Parks was one of the nurses who went across the Atlantic with the first contingent. She, too, has spent practically all the time in excellent war service at No. 1 Hospital, Etaples. She is stationed at the present time at a casualty clearing station, "Somewhere in France." She is a daughter of Mr. John H. Parks, this city, and has a brother, Major John H. Parks, at the front, who was recently decorated with the D. S. O.

A card received from Miss McCafferty this morning was dated Oct. 8, Ireland, where she was on furlough.

# LONGING FOR A CHILD

Young Wife Almost in Despair. Now has Beautiful Baby Girl.

There is nothing more charming than a happy and healthy mother of children, and indeed child-birth under the right conditions need be no hazard to health or beauty. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has brought joy to many childless women by restoring them to normal health. Here is a notable case. Omaha, Neb.—"I suffered from female troubles when I was seventeen years old. At eighteen I was married. The trouble was no better so I consulted a physician who said that there was no hope. I could do and I could not have children. I read of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and decided to try it, and it has proved worth its weight in gold to me for I am not only well but have a baby girl, so when I hear of any woman suffering as I was I tell her of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. W. H. HUGHES, 19 Majestic Apts., Omaha, Neb.

In many other homes, once childless, there are now children because of the fact that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound makes women normal, healthy and strong.