

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1918

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THE FIGHT STILL ON.

Emissaries of the New Brunswick Railway Company are constantly on the job at Fredericton, seeking to influence members of the legislature and get the proposed increase of rates. It would pay the company handsomely to maintain a strong lobby at Fredericton if its advocates could persuade a majority of the members of the house that the increase should be granted. The support of the Fredericton Gleaner has been gained, and the St. John Standard is straddling the fence. Citizens of St. John went to the capital and stated their case, and it is unanswerable, but the power company's advocates are putting up the plan of impending bankruptcy and skillfully dodging every reference to watered stock. At the last hearing before the corporations committee Mr. Taylor had no answers to give to questions along that line, but kept talking away about other things to divert the attention of the members from the real cause of the demand for higher rates.

It cannot be believed that the members of the house will permit themselves to play into the hands of men whose sole purpose has been to enrich themselves by the deal which transferred the property from the St. John Railway Power Company. It would be a reflection not only upon the intelligence but upon the good faith of the people's representatives if the interests of the people of St. John were sacrificed for the benefit of a few profiteers.

The artful suggestion is put forth that even if a commission is appointed an increase in rates should meantime be granted, with provision for a rebate if the report went against the company. How could patrons of the street railway who had paid seven cents instead of five cents get back their money?

The people are being held up to provide dividends on watered stock. That is the whole story. If this is approved and endorsed by the people's representatives in the legislature the same game will be played wherever there is a public utility to be exploited. St. John is the first trench. The public interests which are endangered should be defended here and now. Any citizen who feels there is anything he can say to make the facts clearer to members of the house should go to Fredericton and say it. The power company is camping there, and is putting forth every effort that thorough organization renders possible. That is how the unorganized public so often fails to make good its case.

THE WAR SITUATION.

An Associated Press cable of yesterday's date, setting forth what the correspondent believes to be the prevalent views of the Allied commanders regarding the great German offensive, says: "As far as it has gone, the German offensive may be looked on as a failure, since none of its objectives have been attained and the Allied armies are still intact, while the Germans now, owing to the diminution of their forces through casualties, are in an inferior position to that which they occupied before the battle began. The only result they can show is the recapture of a large tract of country they themselves devastated, where they may be compelled to dig themselves in."

We must assume that there is some ground for the optimistic tone which prevails in the face of a continued withdrawal of British troops under heavy pressure to new positions. It is certainly good news that French reinforcements have arrived. The British have been outnumbered but have fought superbly, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Each withdrawal has been made methodically to previously prepared positions, and the abandonment of the Ypres salient has shortened the line, which is of course desirable when the defenders are numerically inferior to the enemy. Another correspondent says:

"Had anyone said months ago that there would soon be rejoicing to see the British withdraw and abandon the Passchendaele Ridge system, which was won with such difficulty last summer, it would have excited derision. But the whole British army is glad at this bold move. It not only lessens the danger from the enemy drive about Wytschate and Bailleul, but it greatly shortens the defensive line. It seems hard in a way to give up ridges over which the British battled forward in such a fashion last summer, but it is decidedly for the best and will help defeat Prussianism. The retirement was a result of mature judgment and was no snap-shot affair, for it was known it was pending. The new lines had been prepared and artillery had been placed in position before the

infantry quickly began to pull back under cover of darkness."

At no point have the Germans done more than force a withdrawal of the British, who yielded up shell-torn territory that the Germans themselves had previously devastated. They have still to defeat the British armies and their French and American Allies and we are told that fresh American as well as French contingents are arriving on the scene of the great British struggle. The great question, and the one which must cause profound anxiety for days to come, is whether enough French and American troops are available to check the enemy before he has forced a still further withdrawal, even to the Channel itself. The British have borne the full force of the second drive of the great offensive, and fought on knowing they were greatly outnumbered. Must this continue? Obviously there is a limit to what an outnumbered army can stand, and there is naturally a growing feeling of discontent and a questioning as to whether those in high quarters have done all they should and might have done to meet the crisis that has now developed. We may well believe that the last week in England has been the most anxious since the war began, and we cannot withhold our admiration for the calm determination of the people, which is as marked as the splendid courage of the soldiers fighting sternly on against heavy odds. They must win, because of that very quality of bull-dog tenacity and endurance, but it is weary waiting and the cost is staggering.

THE HEALTH ACT.

For nearly four years the energies of millions upon millions of people have been devoted to the task of destroying life or crippling and maiming millions who will never again be what they were before the war began.

What, on the other hand, are we doing to conserve life, apart from the activities of the Red Cross and the hospitals? The war taught us that an alarmingly large percentage of our young men were not physically sound. What steps are we taking to guarantee that the rising generation of young men and women will be physically found to a greater extent?

There is only one way to do it, and that is to have a well equipped public health department, carry on a province-wide educational campaign, and see to it that the infant death-rate is lowered, epidemics prevented, and physical defects of children removed before they become a serious handicap in the struggle of life.

It is greatly to be regretted that partisanship should enter into the discussion of this subject. It is of too great importance to be treated other than with a desire to achieve the best results. We have already delayed too long. This province must not forever lag behind in the march of progress. The bill now before the legislature should pass. The province must mobilize its health forces.

The duty is pressing and imperative. The province today contains great numbers of persons who are handicapped because of some physical defect that might have been removed in childhood. Health lies at the basis of national efficiency. Money spent to promote the public health is wisely expended, and yields returns of the highest value.

It was a kindly and generous thought which prompted the officers of a Russian steamer in port to present to the Children's Aid Society of St. John a valuable piano that had given pleasure to themselves on shipboard during the past year. Their example should not be lost on our own people, as there is great need to take thought for the welfare of neglected and dependent children in our midst. These Russian officers by their generous act will bring brightness into many young lives now or in time to come to be under the care of the Children's Aid Society.

It is charged that there are some persons in this city who profess to believe that England could have had peace before the present time; that it is England's fault that the war goes on; that the Germans are as good as we are, and that they are going to win. Whoever hears any talk of that sort would be doing a public service to inform the police or the military authorities.

The civic candidates should make clear their attitude in relation to the New Brunswick Power Co.'s demands and the question of harbor commission.

The following is a Munchausen tale, showing the quality of the mud in Flanders at the present day.

A soldier walking along a road noticed a hat, which he attempted to kick out of the mud. What was his surprise to find a head under it, and to hear a voice calling for help.

When the man was extricated, he said: "I was on horseback." So together they proceeded to dig out the horse. The horse's mouth was found to be full of taken from a wagon which had sunk still farther down.—Everybody's Magazine.

THE JOYS OF GARDENING.

Don't you want a garden plot? Just a little corner lot? Seeds to plant, and things that grow; That's the life you want, I know!

Just a spade, and rake, and hoe, Seeding soldiers, row on row; Guard them from the wily foe, (Regiments of weeds, you know.)

Just a shower of gentle rain, Then the sun to shine again; Soon, fresh rows of tender green, Shoot up, where the seeds have been.

Now, once more, the hoe and rake, Sure, success comes in their wake! Keep some yards of hose at hand, Water's always in demand.

Just a bit of work, you see, Good fresh air, for you and me; Everybody's doing it, "Come on, fellows, do your bit!"

NARCISUS.

LIGHTER VEIN

When Clubs Are Trump. Feeling seedy, he went to the doctor, And here's the advice he got—"Indian clubs are good for your liver, Bohemian clubs are not!"

—Cartoons Magazine.

A Split Affinity. "I've broken his heart in a dreadful way." "Did the girl that he hadn't won." "Yes, in half," said the other, "I saw him today."

With two girls at dinner—not one!" —Cartoons Magazine.

Son Will Have to Get a Hump on Now. Mother (reading aloud from letter from son Bill, in France): "I have been transferred to the camouflage department." "Is what is camouflage?" "Father—"That is—why, or that is a kind of feller who flags the—er—camel trains." —Cartoons Magazine.

URGES UNIONIZATION OF FEMALE LABOR

Women Workers at a Disadvantage, Says Professor MacIver—Not on Same Plane as Men

The curious development of women's suffrage was touched upon by Prof. R. M. MacIver, speaking at Willard Hall in Toronto last week under the auspices of the Political Education League, during the course of an address in which he commented on the changes through which the world is passing and the dangers and opportunities connected with those changes.

The speaker declared that always women's suffrage had first originated in outlying parts. In the British Empire it began in Australia and New Zealand, while in Canada it was started in British Columbia. Prof. MacIver argued the example had to come from districts where tradition was least strong, and when tradition was broken the rest was easy. In social evolution the advance of men and women always goes together.

The granting of suffrage is only the beginning of the struggle. There is much to fight for, much to assist, and much to change.

Prof. MacIver, in comparing the work of men and women, showed three great disadvantages on the women's side: the average age of women in industries is younger than men's; women enter industries which, as a rule, do not require skilled labor; and, lastly, the majority of women work for very low wages.

The reason for the latter he explained as being the different relation of the women to the family, generally in the form of a contributor of which the man is the support.

The speaker stated that all these conditions will create a serious situation in the future. Women have replaced men on a wide scale, and when the time comes for restoration, what will become of the women? Because women work for less wages it will be difficult to replace them. One remedy may be equal pay for equal work and one standard for men and women, but Prof. MacIver gave as his opinion the best solution of the problem would be the unionization of women in industry.

Washington is preparing machinery to confiscate the 11,000,000 bushels of wheat held by farmers across the border.

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Wall Paper, 8c, 10c, 12c, 15c, to 30c. roll. Cut-out Borders to Match, 2c, 2 1/2c, 5c, 7c, to 14c yard. Lace Curtains, 75c, 85c, \$1.25, \$1.45 to \$2.75 pair. Curtain Muslins and Lace, 12c, 14c, 18c, 22c, and 25c yard. Ladies' Waists—White and Colored Voile and Muslins, 75c, 85c, and 95c each. Silk and Crepe de Chine, \$1.20, \$1.95, \$2.25 and \$2.50 each (special value). White Fabric Gloves, 25c, 35c, 45c, and 90c pair. Black Kid Gloves... Special, \$1.10 pair China Cups and Saucers, 17c, 20c, 22c each. Plates... 15c, 18c, 25c. Large Cake Plates... 25c. Large Berrie Bowls... 25c. Porridge Dishes... 8c each. Enamel-ware, Window Blinds, Curtain Rods. COME FOR BARGAINS

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Big New Camp For Airmen

Beamsville, Ont., to be Home Of Hundreds in Training

For Aerial Gunnery—May Have Real Sub for Target—Boom Conditions in Old Town

(Special Correspondence of The Toronto Globe.)

Beamsville, April 12.—Airmen are daily arriving from Texas at the Beamsville aerial gunnery camp, which is being rapidly completed under the hands of an army of workers. The Beamsville camp, when completed, it is said, will be the largest aerial gunnery camp in the world. It parallels the international highway, the Queenston and Grimsby stone road, runs along it for over two miles and has a depth of about three-quarters of a mile along the next concession road. The block of land has all been cleared of fruit trees, bushes and fences. But all the farm buildings have been left standing and will be utilized.

All the side roads are being torn up and new solidly-built stone roads are being laid. New stone roads of good width are also being laid all through the camp. At present there are on the grounds at different points nine hangars for the housing of airplanes. Each of these hangars accommodates six machines, making a total housing space for fifty-four machines.

Many New Buildings. Machine shops have been built and are being equipped with all the latest and most modern machinery. Big garages with room enough for fifteen and more automobiles are up and in use. Office buildings have been built and some are still under construction. Buildings for the holding of lectures and other uses are being built and are more to be built.

Cook houses and dining rooms for the men have been erected, and they are massive big buildings, having accommodations for thousands of men. Bunk houses are up and are being occupied by the mechanics that are already on the ground.

Up on the hill on the south side of the Q. & G. road will be found the hospital and it is a most modern one in every way.

All the buildings are of frame construction and covered with heavy tar paper, all the joints and cracks being cemented. The number of carloads of lumber, timber, shingles and paper used run into the hundreds, while the window frames and lights run into the thousands.

May Have a Real "Sub." Down at the lake a second big piece of land has been secured, and rifle ranges and targets are being built here. A large breakwater will be built out into the lake for about three-quarters of a mile, and will extend east and west for a distance of about three thousand yards. This will be used for bombing and dropping and aerial target work from the "planes." It is also rumored that a

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real submarine will be playing around in the lake for the cadets to shoot at.

The whole camp has been wired for electric lights and telephones. A special electricity station was built on the grounds to step the electric power down from the D. P. & E. 40,000 volt lines which run along the G. T. R. This power is also used for running machinery and charging batteries, as well as for lighting. Water mains have been laid from the village and placed all over the camp. Special springs were secured by the Beamsville Council from land owners along the mountain to feed the reservoir in order to supply the camp with water.

COMMANDER WYATT ACQUITTED

Halifax, April 18.—Commander Frederick Wyatt, R. N., who was chief examining officer at the port of Halifax at the time of the Mont Blanc-Inco collision, and was arrested on a charge of manslaughter, was late yesterday afternoon acquitted in the supreme criminal court.

Judge Russell charged the jury strongly in favor of the defendant.

J. Stonewall Jackson, a descendant of the famous Confederate leader, joined the U. S. marines on his 18th birthday.

IN THE SPRING

will be the great test of a life and death struggle on the Western front. In the everyday walks of life, it is the spring time that brings ill health. One of the chief reasons why the run-down man finds himself in a bad state of health in March or April, is because he has spent nearly all his hours for the past four or five months penned up within the walls of his house, factory or office. It is the reason for our diminished resistance—that is, lack of outdoor life, coupled with perhaps over-eating, lack of good exercise, insufficient sleep, and constipation. In other words, we keep feeding the furnace with fuel but do not take out the "clinkers," and our fire does not burn brightly. Always keep the liver active.

There is nothing better for health than taking an occasional mild laxative, perhaps once a week; such a one as you can get at any drug store, made up of May-apple, jalap, aloes, sugar-coated, tiny, easily taken, which has stood the test of fifty years of approval—namely, Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. But for the "Spring Tonic" the general run-down condition, the lack of ambition, the "blues," one should take a course of treatment every spring; such a standard tonic as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, now to be had in tablet form for fifty-cent vials. Watch the people go plodding along the street. There's no spring in their step. A vitalizing tonic such as this vegetable extract of Dr. Pierce's gives you the power to force yourself into action. The brain responds to the new blood in circulation and thus you're ready to make a fight against seagullion which holds you in bondage. Try it now! Don't wait! To-day is the day to begin. Gain a little "pop," and laugh and live. Vim and vitality are the natural out-pouring of a healthy body. It does not spring up in a night. Try this spring tonic, and you gain the courage that comes with good health.

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