

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 83 Prince William street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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Managing Editor,

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS \$5.00

By Mail 3.00

Semi-Weekly, by mail 1.00

Invariably in advance.

Advertising rates on application.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1915.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved"—H. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE UNBEATEN RUSSIAN.

If the reports of the terrible loss of life suffered by the Teutonic armies in the fighting around Vilna, are accurate, the opinion that, despite temporary successes the Germans would find the Russian army a hard nut to crack is once more vindicated. Since the commencement of the Austro-German drive across Galicia and Poland, a drive resulting in the capture of many fortresses and much territory, the Russians have always managed to withdraw the greater portion of their armies without suffering serious losses. These successes, occurring once or twice, might be ascribed to the fortunes of war, but when the same story is told again and again, that while the Teutons occupied this or that city or fortress, the Russians made good their retirement to positions some distance removed from the scene of hostilities, it begins to look almost as if the whole Russian movement was part of a well designed scheme to lure the Germans many miles from their bases before giving decisive battle.

The phrase "luring them on," as applied to Russian retreats, fell into disrepute at the time of the Russo-Japanese war, but even in that campaign, where the Japanese, thoroughly modern in their methods of war, and equipped for war, faced a Russia, but little improved since the days of the Crimea, the result might have been different if the conflict had been prolonged for another year, or even six months. Russia would then have had time to gather her mighty resources and the Japanese eventually must have been crushed by sheer weight of numbers.

Germany has been wonderfully successful in her present campaign on the eastern lines, but already there is much speculation as to what will happen when, far removed from railway systems, the Huns will face not only the alert and vigorous Russian armies but also the terrible cold of a Russian winter.

Percival Gibbons, who has been in Russia for several months, writing in Collier's, expressed the opinion that the Teutons should find little difficulty in invading Russia and progressing for several hundreds of miles with little or no opposition, but would find it impossible to occupy that country for any length of time and, that in the long run, the Russians must triumph. While Mr. Gibbons may be unduly optimistic it must be remembered that he has had the opportunity of observing conditions and gathering first hand information, and it is also interesting to note that many of his predictions made weeks ago are now approaching verification. For instance, he forecasted that the Germans would capture Grodno, Dubno, Brest Litovsk and Vilna, but would be heavily punished in the fighting. Riga, he regarded as comparatively safe, and Riga alone of all the fortresses in that section of the country has not yet fallen. He also expressed the opinion that the Germans would be encouraged to push on and on into Russian territory with the elusive foe just far enough ahead to be comparatively safe. One day, probably in the depth of the Russian winter, would come the turn of the tide and then would follow defeat for the armies of invasion.

So many of Mr. Gibbons' predictions have already been justified that his version of the fate in store for the Germans has attracted more than passing interest. Recent reports indicate that the Russians have been making a stand with some success and it would not be surprising if, after all, the path on which the Germans have made such progress should prove too smooth to be safe. The Russian is as yet unbeaten and the generals of the Kaiser's forces, flushed with their successes may well pause and reflect on the fate of Napoleon. He led a victorious army clear to Moscow, but lost it on the return journey.

IN THE BALKANS.

While no definite information as to the attitude of Bulgaria is given out from London, and the newspapers in the Empire capital say the riddle of the Balkans is not yet solved, indications are that the war cloud will once more centre over those turbulent

little states. The greatest war in history was ostensibly started as the result of a tragedy in Serbia; it would be more than a coincidence if it should be hastened to its conclusion by the action of Serbia's neighbors.

Bulgaria's entrance into the war on the side of the Central powers is indicated and is almost certain to be followed by the addition of Greece to the ranks of the Allies. Bulgaria's first hostile move would probably be against Serbia, and Greece is bound by treaty to come to the assistance of King Peter when his armies are attacked. The Bulgarian armies are variously estimated at from 500,000 to 750,000 men, but the former figure is likely to be more nearly correct. Greece, on the other hand, can hardly muster more than 400,000, and as her forces are widely scattered, mobilization would probably be a slow process. Thus the Central powers would gain the initial advantage from the alignment of Bulgaria and Greece as indicated.

It would remain for Roumania to hold the balance of power, and just what she would do with it is attracting more than a little attention. She could afford to remain neutral if assured that victory would rest with Germany, for Berlin has hoped for no more than neutrality from her, and, if victorious, would probably be prepared to reward Roumania for keeping out of the fight. That she does not propose to hold aloof if by so doing she will confer an advantage on Germany, is indicated by Roumania's refusal to permit German soldiers and supply trains to cross her territory. Roumania has an excellent army of 600,000 men, and already is well prepared for war. Should she decide to cast her lot with the Allies she might hasten a decisive result in the Dardanelles and assuredly would complete the ring of steel surrounding Germany and Austria-Hungary.

That the Allies are not to be caught napping by developments in the Balkans is indicated by the German reports that heavy reinforcements have been sent to the Dardanelles so that if Bulgaria arrays her armies on the side of the Central powers, the Allies advancing toward Constantinople will be prepared to give the newcomers an interesting reception.

While there are all sorts of surmises as to what may happen, the situation is still complicated. The next few days, however, should be productive of important developments which may be of far reaching effect in deciding, for the present at any rate, the issue in the Near East.

THE CITY STREET WORK.

The situation at City Hall is peculiar. When the departmental expenditures for the current year were under consideration a delegation from the Board of Trade, representing some of the heaviest rate-payers in the city, called on the Council and requested that the estimates be reduced to the lowest possible figure. The aldermen made reductions in their departments and also decided to eliminate the grants usually made by the city to certain public and semi-public institutions and organizations. There was opposition to this, and the grants were restored in part. But the departmental estimates were not increased.

Now it appears that the Commissioner of Public Works has expended all the money at his disposal and, unless permitted to make an overdraft, will shut down the street plant and discharge all employees who are not under annual contracts. It was expected that the Commissioner would spread his appropriation to cover the whole year, but Mr. Potts thought differently and proceeded along the line of getting the street work done in the summer months when conditions were most favorable and the city would be likely to get the most value for the money spent. In that course he was absolutely correct.

He is also correct in his opinion that if permission to overdraft is refused he will be forced to discharge his men, but there is another side to the question. The men who will be displaced are, as a rule, the laborers whose wage is small, and who, even

in normal times, have difficulty in making income and expenditure meet. If they lose their work how are they to live during the winter months? Will they be able to find other employment in a winter when the supply of men is likely to exceed the demand? Or, will they become public charges to be supported after all by the taxpayer? This is a phase of the situation that might well receive some attention.

TELEGRAPH AND THE BRIDGE

The trolley wires were strung across the new bridge at the Reversing Falls yesterday and indications are that early in October the street cars will be running to the eastern end of the structure. Meanwhile, the Telegraph continues to empty its editorial wrath upon the heads of the representatives of St. John City and County in the Legislature of the Province.

Those who have been uneasy over the Telegraph's violence need have no fear. The bridge is still in place, and as far as known the explosions from Canterbury street have not weakened it. It is likely to stand for many years as a tribute to the energy and ability of the administration so ably led by Hon. George J. Clarke. The Telegraph's "grouch" is due to the fact that the bridge was built by the Clarke Government, instead of by some other administration; for that reason it is all wrong and the street car service is being unduly delayed. But if Mr. Pugsley had a hand in it the Telegraph editor would have been unable to find words of sufficient strength to tell its virtues. And, at that, the editor of the Telegraph boasts of his "extensive vocabulary."

Canada's Clarion Call

By Dr. A. H. Chandler.

To arms to arms! O hasten to the cry Ascending, prayer-born to God's throne on high For fresh recruits! Respond now, to the call Of comrades in the trenches—who have all Been heroes in the fray— At Langemarck "saved the day"— In khaki clothed, resolved to win or die.

Chorus.

From Lonsburg To Vancouver Across the Alps of Canada— Hark! the reply—"We come! we come!" To join in song, with huff and drum For victory, hurrah! hurrah!

To arms! to arms! shirk not your duty while Your dear old Mother dwells in Albion's Isle, Good Mother England, mistress of the wave.

Around the world, whose sheltering arms will save, Cause Tyranny to cease, And bring good-will and peace— Thrice-blessed with high Heaven's love and smile.

Chorus.

To arms! to arms! and at the front help quell And drive the enemy through the gates of Hell, Those outraged women; and the little

Killed ruthlessly by Satan's horrid Huns. Oh! hear their dying cries— Their mortal agonies, "Vengeance is mine," God saith—"All will be well."

Chorus.

MONTREAL

The Fifth City in North America.

New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Montreal. Thus ranks Montreal, the fifth largest city in point of population (over 700,000) in North America, and also the largest city in English speaking portions of the British Dominion beyond the seas. Mount Royal, the magnificent public park, than which no city in the world has a superior, never presents so beautiful an appearance as in its autumnal tints.

The Canadian Metropolis with its immense stores, theatres, concert halls and other places of amusement in full swing is particularly attractive at this season of the year. Special excursion fares on Government Railways will be in effect Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and 2, good for return until Oct. 18. The fare from Halifax to Montreal and return on these dates will be \$19.45, and proportionately low rates will prevail from all points in the Maritime Provinces. With the excellent accommodation on the two through express trains, the Ocean Limited and Maritime Express, passengers from the Maritime Provinces are assured of an enjoyable fall holiday.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.

F P Thompson, Fredericton; E H Jacobs, B. Jacobs, J M Sovell, L. Moffatt, M Silver, Montreal; H D Lyman, New York; W H Andrews, New Orleans; W P Kearney, R L Jones, D F Fraid, Montreal; W Smith, Salem; W F Mahon, Halifax; S G Heath, B N Foster, D Hornell, Toronto; L Montgomery, Sarnia; F L Green and wife,

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

Skinny Martin.
Skinny Martin is a friend of mine,
He lives around our way,
A good many people never heard of him,
But I see him every day.

He's 4 times skinnier than Puds Stinkins
And twice as skinny as me,
Only it don't seem to effect his appetite,
You awt to see him eat, O. G.

His rite name is Algernon,
Wich is wat his mothir calls him by,
And properly if it wassent for his legs,
He coodent jump so high.

O his mothir calls him Algernon
And the gerls call him a tease,
And his felloes call him Skinny,
And his stockings have holes in the nees.

O you awt to see him awn Sundeys,
If you like to look at views,
Seking awn the steps with his fathir,
In his patten lethr shoes.

He likes to run 6 times without stoppin,
Awl the way around the block,
But wen he has to go a errand around the cornir,
It seems to be a orrill shock.

Greenwood, Ont; J O Green, W E Adams, Boston; W H Snowball and wife, C R Gannon, Chatham; W H Bell, Toronto; J H Hobbs, Utica; H H Lovelace, Boston; Mr and Mrs E G Clarke, Wilkes; Mr and Mrs W E Plummer, Melrose; H Horne, Toronto; R T Hecker, Auburn; Mr and Mrs A S Cormier, Boston.

Victoria.
Mr and Mrs J Moore, Truro; James A Teller, Ottawa; A E Whitman, Perth; T A Hobbiey, Halifax; Seth Jones, Sussex; O D Wood, Montreal; H P Dixon, Vancouver; J P Naves, Earl Crandall, Vancouver; C T Niebet, Sussex; C A Biegelow, Cambridge; H B Dingee, B M Badger, W C Harding, Boston; A B Eldridge, Mildred Eldridge, Yarmouth; P P Clarke, Halifax; J T Smith, Ottawa; N E Sharpe, Pictou; R M Vanwart, Mrs and Miss Vanwart, Boston; W R Huntley, Parrsboro; A M Flemming, and wife, Halifax; A W Carpenter, Queenstown; Dr J H Brennan, Campbellton; J Johnson, Woodstock.

Pianos in England.
This week's bulletin of the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, states as follows with reference to the market for pianos in Great Britain: "Since the outbreak of war, imports of pianos from Germany have naturally ceased and makers are finding it impossible to execute all orders received. Furthermore, the majority of the working classes are earning double their former income of normal times and are consequently spending more freely. The pianos in demand among the artisan classes range in prices from \$100 to \$200, and if Canadian manufacturers can produce at these figures there should be no difficulty in procuring orders. Some little production may be encountered at the outset, as is usually the case when unknown articles are being introduced to a new market; but there is no reason why Canadian pianos should not ultimately enjoy as favorable a reputation as Canadian organs, although the latter, it is to be feared, are known among the purchasing public of the British Isles as 'American.'"

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price.

Glasses for the Business Man

Clear sight increases efficiency manifold. The business man who looks at many letters, contracts, memoranda, blue-prints, etc., is fearfully handicapped mentally and physically if he cannot see perfectly.

Properly fitted glasses give perfect vision, enabling you to do more and better work, and feel good after doing it.

Glasses you get at Sharpe's will be perfectly fitted to give you natural, clear sight. They will be comfortably adjusted to your features and give you distinction and dignity in appearance without your glasses, being conspicuous.

Business men always praise the thorough efficiency of Sharpe's optical service.

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JEWELLERS & OPTICIANS,
21 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Opportunities for Girls

It looks more and more as if, owing to scarcity of skilled men, women will have to do much of the work hitherto done by men. This is especially true of office work. Of course, we are prepared to qualify either men or women to take advantage of their opportunities, and you can enter at any time. Catalogues containing tuition rates, etc. mailed to any address.

W. Kerr,
Principal

CONTRACT AWARDED.

Tilmon D. LeBlanc, of Moncton, was on Tuesday awarded the contract for the building of a combined City Hall and country market in Moncton, the contract price being \$62,740. The other tenderers were: R. A. Corbett (excluding painting and glazing) \$68,459; Engineers and Contractors Ltd. \$7,245; J. A. Thibideau \$84,500; Dominic & Dooty T. LeBlanc \$6,770; Rhodes-Curry Co. \$72,900.

Patriotic Fund.

The following contributions have been received:
Proceeds of concert at Harcourt \$38.35
Mrs. F. B. Chitt \$1.00
W. S. Parrie \$10.00
C. A. Curley, birthday remembrance \$10.00

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Shoe Packs

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Shoe Packs \$3.00 to \$10.00

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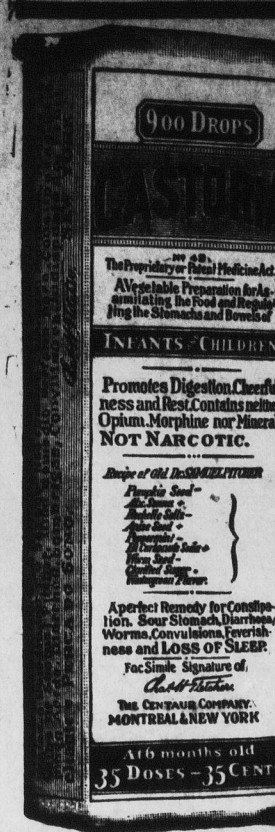
Clear stock \$35.00
Western Hemlock Flooring, Clear Stock \$35.00
7-16 Fir Sheathing, Clear \$27.00
2-4 Fir Sheathing, Clear \$25.00

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