

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 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 RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN.

Despatches indicate that the Russian troops are making progress in the battle of the San River which again illustrates that the Muscovite army has no stronger ally than old Father Time. Three weeks ago the Austro-German forces started a great offensive movement across Western Galicia. The Russians, outnumbered at first, retreated in orderly fashion until much of the force of the attempted blow had spent itself. Now, reinforced, they are preparing to come back after a manner which must cause concern in Vienna and Berlin.

It is reported that Austria has already found it necessary to divert troops from the eastern frontier to meet the Italians coming in over the border. The Italian armies have not yet encountered resistance in force, but it is not to be expected that Austria can continue to allow them free access to some of her most important and most valuable provinces. The enemy must be met, and every regiment taken from the Russian line to send against the Italian invasion gives just that much advantage to Russia. If, at the same time, the British and French troops on the western battle line are able to inflict a decisive defeat on the Prussian, Saxons and Bavarian soldiers opposing them, and Germany is forced to divert men to keep the Allies from crossing the line, the way should be well opened for a mighty Russian effort which should carry the war into territory as yet untouched by it.

Germany is putting up a desperate fight, but the weak spot in her lines must be found and then rapid powerful driving movements should hasten the day of collapse. In the meantime it is well to note that the Russian Bear is still "on the job and going strong."

UNRELIABLE LAURIER

Liberal newspapers are attempting to blame Sir Robert Borden because he has paid no attention to the hysterical suggestions of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at a recent political meeting in Toronto. They call attention to the fact that Sir Wilfrid promised that if the Government would agree to hold no election while the war was on, he and his party would refrain from all acts of party warfare for a like period. Laurier's previous proposals of political truce were so speedily torpedoed by his own party that his latest suggestions can inspire little confidence. He, himself, did not hesitate to father a resolution which was practically a motion of want of confidence in the Government's proposals for securing revenues necessary to prosecute Canada's part in this war. There is no indication that if his present proposal should be accepted he would be any more willing to stand by it.

And suppose Laurier did request a political truce, and so far as he was personally concerned, faithfully lived up to it, is it reasonable to believe that he could control the utterances of such violently partisan Liberals as Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell, Mr. Kyte, Mr. Mackenzie and others of similar ilk? Could he curtail the output of such Grit slander factories as the Telegraph and Times, the Halifax Chronicle or the Toronto Globe? Even if Sir Wilfrid was absolutely sincere in his request for political peace his journalistic snipers would not respect the signal to "cease firing." In view of these facts it is not surprising that Sir Robert Borden pays no attention to the Laurier outburst, for he knows well that a truce with Laurier would be regarded by the Grits as a "mere scrap of paper" to be shamelessly violated when the exigency of party politics seemed to demand it. Laurier is as unreliable as ever.

WASHINGTON NOT DECEIVED.

It is not to be expected that the American government will be fooled by the half-splitting terms of the German note, or will fail to see that Germany has carefully avoided any guarantee that the interests of Americans will be safeguarded in the future. Washington is more likely to insist upon an absolute compliance with the terms so plainly set forth by Secretary Bryan, that American lives and American property shall be held sacred, and

that prompt reparation shall be made for the Lusitania crime. Also much importance is likely to attach to the fact that, even while the German note was in course of preparation, German naval officers torpedoed an American vessel and showed characteristic unconcern for the safety of American citizens aboard her.

President Wilson has adopted an absolutely sane and commendable course in his dealings with Germany. He has shown no sympathy with the German element in the United States which demanded that the nation should plunge into war, on the contrary he has been more patient and more tolerant than most of his predecessors would have been, but patience does not imply cowardice in a nation any more than in an individual. The United States may not actually engage in warfare against the Huns, but if Berlin does not show accelerated speed in transmitting a satisfactory reply to certain simple straightforward proposals, the Kaiser may find that his ill-advised brutality has contributed to bring another powerful and wealthy nation to the point where it will regard the extermination of the Hohenzollern dynasty as a most desirable and commendable thing, and will not hesitate to aid in the process.

ROUMANIA AND BULGARIA.

The opinion is growing that the Allies have but to say the word and Roumania and Bulgaria will exchange their positions "on the brink" for active participation in the war. The immediate effect of the entry of these nations would probably be the defeat of Turkey and the opening of the Dardanelles. Even those who view the war from the German standpoint admit that the entry of Roumania and Bulgaria would be of far reaching importance in determining the victors in this war game. Thus we find Walter E. Ives, a Prussian officer, writing in the New York Times that Roumania's entrance may mean that "a German victory will be removed to the distant future."

Both nations have competent armies of good size, and the irony in Roumania's case is that her military organization is largely the product of German experience and brains. German officers practically reorganized the Roumanian military system and introduced compulsory service. As a consequence every man who is physically fit is a trained soldier. It is the strategic position of Roumania, however, which causes the most anxiety in Berlin and Vienna as to her future intentions. If she acted in concert with Bulgaria the enemy could be admitted at once through any number of vulnerable gateways to the great plains of Hungary, and a most valuable ally furnished to the hard fighting Russians. It would at the same time close another door through which Germany and her ally could normally receive food supplies in the months to come when hunger may be a greater menace to Berlin and Vienna than it is today. Unquestionably the Teutonic Alliance will exert every effort to meet the views of the possible new enemies, and keep them contented with their present attitude of neutrality.

Holland is the latest nation to be mentioned as likely to enter the war. The geographical location of the little Dutch kingdom is such that the use of her territory would be worth more than her soldiers to the cause of the Allies.

Switzerland must be walking very gingerly just now. Its population is divided between French, Italian and Germans. For five centuries it made no history and was happy. Now it is in the limelight and greatly puzzled.

Early this morning German aeroplanes were reported near London. Well, it is safe to say that, in view of past experiences with the same sort of animal, Londoners lost little sleep.

No matter what the merits of that street railway dispute the public has the right to demand that it should be settled as speedily as possible.

June, the month of roses, brides and bugs.

Current Comments

Laurier's "Bloody Key"

(Hamilton Herald)
There is a line of one of Lowell's poems about the unwisdom of opening "The Future's portal with the Past's blood-ruined key." In his speech in Toronto last evening Sir Wilfrid Laurier, alluding to the possibility of a general election, said, "I do not care, so long as the war lasts, to open the portals of office with that bloody key." What bloody key? A general election? The war? Or what? When an orator borrows a metaphor from a poet he should make sure that it fits his purpose.

If The Premier Goes To Britain

(From L'Evenement)
If the Prime Minister of Canada judges it to go to London, it is certain that he will worthily represent the sentiments and aspirations of the Canadian people. Whatever propositions are made to him on the part of English politicians he will know how to answer with the wisdom and strength that characterizes his speeches, and we can say that the nation will speak through him. In 1915, as in 1912, Sir Robert Borden is before all a Canadian; during the war as well as before war—he does not want his country to degenerate into a simple dependency of England.

England's Humanity

(New York Sun)
It must be further observed that in all her activities at sea England has acted with conspicuous humanity. "Have you nothing better to do than rescue us?" asked a German naval officer when an English man-of-war boat fished him out of the water after his ship had been sunk in a North Sea battle. Not only have the English taken the lives of no sailor or passenger of a merchant vessel; they have saved all the fighting men they could. It is the contrast of German barbarity in the slaughter of non-combatants, including women and children, that horrifies the nations. Nobody has any complaint to make of the mere sinking of the Lusitania. It is the murder of 1,150 unhappy people that elicits the condemnation of all civilized hearts and minds.

A Changing Hate.

(Ottawa Journal.)
"God punish Italy!" is the German idea now. In recent official and journalistic German deliberations on the subject we find the Kaiser's lately referred to as perfidious, treacherous, traitorous, a faith-breaker, a political brigand, covetous, sinful, doubly sinful, inhuman and a black-maller. And the curious thing is that not a single phrase among the foregoing but applies infinitely more to what Germany did to Belgium.

Jewels and Junk.

The God of War.
Newspaper readers who take their war news from the official reports sent out by Berlin are gradually coming to the opinion that Ananias was the God of War.

Evalyn Thaw at the Imperial and Jess Willard also in moving pictures. These things prove that the marriage ring and the prize ring alike sometimes lead to the stage.
William the Villain.
Though extolled by the Huns of that false Kultur land.
This "Wilhelm the Second" filled with hate fit to burst.
The true civilized world, for his deeds underhand,
Thus reviles him, with loathing, as, "Villain the First."

Just and noble minds rejoice in other men's success and help to augment their praise.—William Penn.

Dr. Durn-Bug.
Old Dr. Durnburg in the States is hissed when he explains.
He has a beard and moustache.
But he hasn't any brains.

The milk of human kindness is usually distributed in rather small cans.

Different Perspective.
(New York World.)
Near-Sighted Customer—Aren't you making your rolls a little larger these days, Mr. Bachmann?
Baker—Hum! R-r-rolls—them's loaves!

Meeting Truth.
Truth is certain, soon or late, to appear.
In front of us, whatever we may do.
To avoid the meeting. Better when we hear.
Her steps approaching for the interview.
Prepare at once, and meet her face to face!
—Lytton.

A Striking Lass.
"Blanche is a striking girl."
"What's striking about her?"
"She pounds the typewriter by day and the piano at night."

This is the month of weddings. Let



Bring Roses to the Cheeks
Coca-Cola
Coca-Cola

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

The fellow was setting awn my front steps, this afternoon bragging about who had the dirtiest hands, each wun saying thare was the dirtiest and Sam Krauss sed, Awl rite, 'lets have a derty hand contest, i bet mines dertier than eay 2 of you put togethir, I havent washed them slnts befor lunth.

Thats nothing. I havent washed mine slnts aftr brekfist, sed Sid Hunt Thats nothing. I havent washed mine slnts befor brekfist, and then i didnt wash them rite, I sed.

And we all held out our hands to see wich wuns was the dirtiest, and they was awl pretty derty, awl rite, beeing a pritty close contest awn akkount o sum of the fellos nuckels beeing orfrit derty but thare slnts naies beeing pritty good and sum of the fellos slnts naies was feare but thare nuckels wasent sp had, and sum of the fellos hands was derty awl ovr without beeing as derty as sum of them, was in spots, and Pods Simkness alseey cuzzin Persey calm alawng jest then and we told him to decide wich wuns hands was the dirtiest.

I guess Penry Pottses is the dirtiest, but I dont see as it anything to be proud of, sed Persey.

Herray, mines the dirtiest, I win I yelled as if I thawt it was sumthing to be proud of. And pritty soon I went hoam to see if suppr was redy, wich it was, pop and ma and my sistir Gladdis beeing in the dining room eeting it awlredy, and ma sed, Benny, befor you kum in are you sure yure yure hands are fit to sit down to the tabl with.

Yessum, yes man, I sed. Beeing so hungry I didnt want to go upstares and wash them, and I went in and sat down and ate my suppr quick like, so as not to have to meny of my hands in site at wunt.

Without thawt wat you say about yure hands awl depends awn who ask you how derty they are.

us hope that the June brides will not be of the class to think their husbands should be satisfied with an icecream soda for breakfast.

Growing old holds one consolation. We can't be both bald and gray in the same spot.

Now if the Russians will only remain for a time on the River San, copy readers and proof readers will have a chance to dodge the lock-jaw.

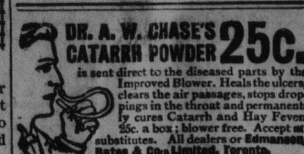
The Fighting Five

(William Watson.)

Where the waves are like chargers that curvet and prance
As they toss their white manes in retreat or advance
The Lennox, the Loyal, the Legion, the Lance,
Went forth with the cruiser Undaunted.

The Foe he was brave—let him lack not his due!
For Britons shall never ignobly refuse
A gallant salute to an enemy's crews
That with cowardice cannot be taunted.

But they who are brave in a cause that is ill
Have Heaven for a foe that o'er-matches them still.
And vainly they lavish their valor and skill,



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