

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1916.

"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.

### BRITAIN TRIUMPHS IN THE AIR.

From the outset of the present war it was never doubted that Britain would triumph on the sea, her native element in which since Trafalgar she has reigned supreme. It was also felt that while the enemy by reason of long preparation would have an initial advantage over Britain and her Allies in the land fighting the quality of the Empire's soldiers would eventually turn the scale in their favor. To those who were not familiar with the facts it appeared as if Germany would score heavily in aerial work. The advertisement given to her Zeppelins and the tales of prowess credited to her airmen impressed the world with the belief that in the air at least Britain had met her match if not her master. Now it is known that Britain rules in the air almost as completely as on the sea and that for only a few short months was her superiority in that direction in doubt.

When war broke out Britain had approximately 80 fighting aeroplanes with 250 officers and a thousand men. Today no one knows except the Royal Flying Corps itself how many aerial machines there are under the British flag or how many men to fly them. But there are air squadrons by the hundred, airmen by the thousands and mechanics for repairs and other work no less important than that of flight itself by the tens of thousands. Some idea of the growth of this arm of the fighting forces of the Empire may be guessed from the fact that where before the war five million dollars were spent annually, the expenditure for the last twelve months is ten or twenty times that amount. Great Britain is believed to own military aircraft now to the value of \$200,000,000—an amazing growth for two years.

At the start of the war the British air fleet was somewhat superior to the German, although the world at large believed that Germany was far in advance of all competitors in military aviation. Later, however, the Germans caught up, and early in the present year they surpassed the British. Only a month or two was necessary for Britain to realize the fact and today there are no aeroplanes in the world that can match those which British airmen use daily in flight from London to the battle front.

The British airman in the qualities that make for successful aerial fighting is superior to the Hun—despite the world-wide advertisement given the latter by the Berlin press agencies. But the British air service does not advertise. Its declared policy, as expressed by one of its officers, is "not to advertise particular men—not to 'star' anybody—but to produce the highest level of efficiency amongst all the flyers." It has leaked out, however, that many British airmen have already eight or ten vanquished opponents to their credit; and, of course, it was a British airman, Lieut. McCubbin, that vanquished the Hun flyer Immeleann.

Ordinarily, the airmen on the western front spend hours every day in flight. They are in danger all the time they are in the air. Yet how little they regard the peril may be gauged from the fact that they have already flown over the enemy's lines no less than a million miles.

### GOOD TIMES AND THE WAR.

Republicans in the United States are analyzing President Wilson's claims relative to the prevailing good times. The administration protests against the suggestion that American prosperity is due to the war, but it is pointed out that United States' exports of domestic goods reached in the second year of the war a total of \$4,200,000,000 and that these exports were \$1,900,000,000 greater than in the year just before the war. Furthermore, they exceeded the imports by \$2,100,000,000. The analysis goes farther and asserts that of this grand total of exports 53 per cent. was potential munitions. Munitions, exclusive of foodstuffs, in 1915, made up only 10.5 per cent. of American exports. In 1916 they made up 38.5 per cent. Chemicals, cartridges, and other explosives before the war amounted to \$34,000,000. Last year they reached \$591,000,000. Before the war the country

sold \$400,000,000 worth of horses and mules. In the second year of the war they sold \$96,000,000 worth.

These trade figures, it is argued, show plainly what the end of the war and the death of the munitions business will mean. Indirectly, also, the war has brought \$100,000,000 worth in trade which the United States did not enjoy before the war. This sum is represented in increased exports to South America, British India, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and British Africa, and was obtained largely without competition. In South America the United States has gobbed the trade which was once Germany's and some of England's as well. These conditions, says an exchange, the Republicans argue, render it imperative that the United States shall be ready to meet the most severe competition which the belligerents of Europe will be able to offer when the war is concluded. It is contended at the same time that the figures show the failure of the Democratic tariff to improve the trade of the country and that it cannot stand the test when the trying after-the-war days are here.

### A TRIBUTE FROM YPRES.

It is curious, yet true, that many important items of news which would be of great interest to every resident of Canada seem completely to escape the attention of the Associated Press cable correspondents in London, as well as the representatives of other news gathering organizations there.

A recent English newspaper brings an illustration of this in the shape of a tribute which the mayor of Ypres paid to the Canadians when they left the deadly salient surrounding that city to transfer their attentions to the Somme. It reads as follows:

"On its departure from Ypres on October 7 and 8, 1914, the German army, in making me hostage, threatened me with a prompt return to the city which it called the 'key of Calais,' which was itself the door to England. Since then your heroic troops have kept the key, the door has remained closed, and during two years have rendered vain all the efforts of a superior enemy force to press through. Victory approaches at last. Soon the sun of our deliverance will shine on the salient of Ypres, bathed in the blood of your heroes, who have fallen on the field of honor in the cause of justice and civilization. We of Ypres will strew on those graves laurels and roses. When our people at length return from their long exile and build anew their ruined hearths and homes, they and their children will celebrate for all time to come the glorious deeds of England and of Canada."

"RENE COLAERT."  
No citizen of Canada can read this fine tribute without experiencing a lively feeling of satisfaction that the loyalty and patriotism of more than 350,000 of Canadian young men made it possible for this Dominion to bear a share in the work which called forth the tribute of the Chief Magistrate of the famous old "Cloth City of Flanders."

### A NEW BRITAIN.

The Round Table, the brilliant organ of British imperialism, carries in its September issue a remarkable article containing the following passages:

"Many have discovered for the first time what every foreigner sees, and what every Briton from across the oceans knows, that the British are not a nation as the French are a nation, because the revolution of social equality has never yet been made. The great mass of the nation are fighting even now not for an England which inherits noble traditions and fine qualities but which is separated from them by the impalpable barrier of caste. This separation which has added bitterness to every political and economic dispute has been wonderfully bridged in the trenches. There is a growing sense that it must be bridged at home."

"Social superiority and privilege must give way to common humanity and common sacrifice. In future we must be a more united and a more equal people than we have been in the past."

Such an utterance would have been impossible in any publication of the Round Table stamp before the war. Had it appeared then it would prob-

ably have been regarded as a partisan attempt to arouse class against class. The war, however, has temporarily blurred class distinctions and their accompanying prejudices in the old land. Unity of feeling, common sacrifice and devotion to the great cause have filled thinking people of all grades with a longing to see this fine spirit preserved after the war and used in promoting the happiness and well-being of the whole British nation. The brotherhood of the battle field has given to the masses and the classes a new respect for each other and it will be a pitiful anti-climax if the old divisions and hatreds ever return.

If this is to be prevented radical changes in the social structure of Britain are necessary, particularly in the sphere of education and industry. The worker and the employer, the land-owner and his tenant must be brought to regard each other from new viewpoints. Statesmanship, public spirit and idealism have awakened Britain into a mighty fighting machine. They will all be required for the treatment of the complex problems bound to come in the creation of the new after-the-war Britain.

### ENGLISH SIDELIGHTS ON THE WAR

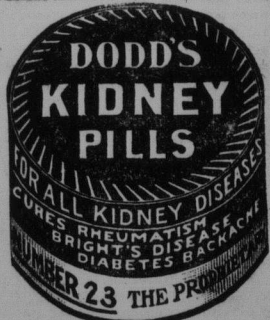
[News notes compiled from latest available English newspapers.]

It has been decided to erect a prominent monument to the late Lord Kitchener on Marwick Head, in the Isle of Birsay, Orkney, near the sunken reef where his Majesty's ship Hampshire went down. The elevation of the headland will render the erection of this monument visible from both land and sea. As the object of marking the spot near which the famous field-marshal ended his days is of a national character, the appeal for funds will be general.

An amicable arrangement has been made and an agreement signed between representatives of the Dutch Fishing Association and the British Government regarding the future disposal of the Dutch herring catches and the release of the 120 to 150 Dutch fishing boats which have been laid up in Scottish ports since June 26. The vessels are to be released on condition that Germany shall not receive more than 20 per cent. of the whole season's catch. Holland is to retain another 20 per cent. for home consumption and the remaining 60 per cent. is to be sold to neutral countries only. On every barrel of this 60 per cent. the British Government will pay an additional 30s.

Among the new recipients of the British Military Cross is Second Lieutenant Pieter Hendrik Schalk Bezuidenhout, R. F. A. It is recorded of him that on one occasion, when his dug-out was blown in by a shell which killed some men and wounded others, although much shaken himself, he bore the whole weight of the roof on his shoulders for some time and prevented it falling in on the wounded. This incident will recall to readers of the elder Dumas the fate of Portos.

At a recent meeting of the Bristol Health Committee the medical officer reported that there had been no fresh cases of bubonic plague since August 10, and the three mild cases previously reported had either recovered or were well on the way to recovery. The contagion had been traced to rats in a rag warehouse, seven of which were infected. All the rats had been caught and destroyed, and a staff of thirty inoculated men had been employed to



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## Little Benny's Note Book

Weather: Darker tords nite.

Narrow escape. While proving that he could ride no handed on his bicycle, Pude Slimkins rode over a hole and fell off and came down on a part of him which if it wasn't there to come down on Pude wood properly of him injured.

Editorial on Eating. Everybody shoed eat at least 3 good meals a day with dispart at least 2 of them, and nobody shoed eat between meals except babies. It is better to eat 3 little than to mitch, being a good thing to stop wen you haf to leave your belt out about 2 holes. Growing boys shoed have plenty of meat, vegetables, root, bred and butter, soap, cake and other dizersits. It is considered pullite to eat more at picknicks than wat you do home.

Letters to the Editor. Deer Sir, Can you tell me who invented sis-penders?

Answer—No.

Deer Sir, If a man and a haft can wawk a mile and a haft in a day and a haft, can you tell me how meny men and a haft can wawk a haft a mile in a haft a day?

Answer—No.

Sislety Notes. Miss Mary Watkins has a attractive new bloo dress reachting elitley above the nees, as dresses is getting shorter.

3 Cheers.

Pome by Sidney Martin.

Save the wimin and children ferst

And drive the villins out!

Whose that running the uther way?

Ed Wernick the Boy Scout!

Avartisement. Wy not lern to immerate berds by wisseling? Lessins chep, according to wich berds. See Sid Hunt.

destroy all the rats to the amount of over 200 tons. Sixteen tons of disinfectant had been used in the city and port. At the docks hundreds of rats had been examined, but not one was found to be infected. It was therefore clear that the docks were free from suspicion, and the local Government Board's bacteriologist was leaving Bristol. The rats were not imported, but some came from other towns in the United Kingdom, and the public health authorities there had been notified.

In his annual report the Health Officer of England's great arsenal city Woolwich says: "Excessive emotions, especially grief and fear, unfavorably influence all, but especially women, and through the women their children. To these emotions must be added the resulting tendency to indulge in alcohol. This, no doubt, has been to a large extent counteracted by the wise regulations which have been adopted by the Government; but there is no doubt that it has unfavorably influenced the health of women and children. The effect of the lightning order, too, in addition to causing accidents, has been to interfere with ventilation of ten unnecessarily, and this may be one reason of the greatly increased mortality from respiratory diseases. Then there has been the fear of Zeppelin raids. Many miscarriages have been attributed to this cause. Overwork by long hours has no doubt been a contributory cause, shortening the life of those who were already feeble from disease or age. As a result of the increased prosperity in Woolwich, the homes are better furnished, the provision of bedding is more satisfactory, and the children are better clothed. With better financial conditions many of the homes I almost despair of have become improved almost beyond belief, which goes to prove very emphatically that if we want to eliminate the slum type of human being and the slum type of home the surest and quickest way is to give the workman a good living wage. It is only natural that wives and mothers get tired of struggling against a tide of difficulties which every day threatens to engulf them. Owing to the steady fall of the birth-rate and the recent rise of the death-rate the natural increase of the population has reached the lowest point recorded since 1891."

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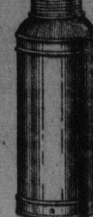
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