

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1914

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ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 14, 1914.

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THE WAR NEWS

In discussing the probable length of the war it is necessary to remember that winter has come, and that there are German armies still in Belgium, a portion of France and a portion of Russia. Except in a corner of East Prussia and perhaps a small section near the French border the Germans are not yet fighting on their own soil. They must first be driven back into Germany, and then exhausted by fighting until they are no longer able to offer effective resistance. This is not a matter of weeks or of a few months. There can be no doubt that, while an offensive campaign is being carried on both in the east and in the west by the German armies, preparations are being made for defence when the inevitable hour of retreat comes. It is quite within the bounds of reason to assume that the most desperate and bloody fighting of the whole war may take place next summer on German soil.

General Baden-Powell and some military observers are still of the opinion that Germany has not abandoned the hope of making a raid on England. General Baden-Powell points out that Germany can assemble and send out forces from nine different points to the English coast, and he is inclined to think that they would prefer the coast of the northern counties, in the hope of destroying some of the great industrial centres of the country. He thinks it quite possible that they would endeavor to land nearly 1000,000 men. Of course before an effective landing could be made there would be a great sea fight, since the British coast is thoroughly patrolled. It is quite possible that Germany has planned an invasion of England, and that it may not yet have been entirely abandoned, but it would prove an even more hopeless enterprise than the attempt to capture Paris or break through to Calais, or to crush the tremendous military power of Russia. General Baden-Powell and others are quite right, however, in continually reminding the British people of possible dangers, in order that greater vigilance may be exercised, and they do well in emphasizing the fact that this is not to be a short war, and that therefore more and more men must be drilled and prepared to do their part in the tremendous task that must be accomplished to ensure the safety of the Empire and the future peace of the world.

The latest reports from Belgium and France do not indicate any material change in the situation, and the Allies still appear to be gaining ground at some points, and holding their own at others. It is evident that the supreme effort of the Germans is now being made in the east, in the hope of gaining a decisive victory over the Russians before the winter season has further advanced. The reports from Petrograd, however, indicate that while very determined attacks are being made by large German armies, they are being repulsed and no substantial victory has yet fallen to the German arms.

Much has been said about the wonderful revival of activity by the Russian army, and the defeat and vigorous pursuit of the Austrians a few days ago appeared to be having their own way in Serbia. The rumor is revived that Roumania will shortly enter the field on the side of the Allies.

Today's cables tell of a daring exploit by a British submarine, which entered the Dardanelles, dived under five rows of mines, and torpedoed and sank a German cruiser Dresden in the South Atlantic, and the Karlsruhe and other German converted submarines are still at large. The large British squadron, however, which last week accounted for four German cruisers may be relied on to complete its task.

The winter port season at St. John has had an auspicious opening that gives promise of a busy season.

Major-General Brabant, who commanded Brabant's Horse in the Boer war, is dead. Quite a number of distinguished officers in the British army, well advanced in years, have died since the present war began.

The Italian government has demanded reparation from Turkey for the forcible removal of the British Consul at Hodeida from the Italian Consulate. Italy, in the present temper of its people, is not likely to stand on ceremony with the Turk for any length of time.

Those churches which yesterday entertained groups of soldiers at supper, and are also providing social centres to be opened certain evenings in the week for the benefit of the men at the armory, are giving an illustration of practical Christianity as well as patriotism.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has again emphasized the desire and determination of the Liberal party in Canada to "support the government in any effort to provide for the defence of the Empire." The great Liberal statesman realizes that this is not a time to divide the people of this country into two hostile

camp, and that the patriotic duty of the moment is to place behind the government the full force of public opinion and public support, in carrying out the great task of rendering the most efficient aid to the Mother Country.

With fuller information from Belgium the world is shocked by the out-rages and massacres committed by German soldiers. The story makes one of the blackest pages in the history of any nation which claims to be civilized.

The effort to arouse greater interest in the boy scout movement in New Brunswick should receive hearty support. An efficient boy scout is not only strong physically as a result of his activities, but he has learned many things that are of benefit to himself and make him more useful in the community.

A Montreal paper tells of a valuable social centre work that is being carried out there with one of the school buildings as a centre. Not only boys but grown up persons utilize the centre. There are Italian workmen studying English, Jewish men and women also engaged in study, and boys who were compelled to leave school at an early age in order to add something to the family income. The gymnasium is well patronized. The girls have gymnastic work and sewing and other classes, and the school building, which is open every evening, is proving its usefulness in a new and splendid way.

The Cologne Gazette, giving expression to German opinion, says that public opinion in the United States is so friendly to Great Britain that Germany must reject the American republic as an arbitrator between the warring nations. It is a curious fact that while the secular press of the United States has had no difficulty in discovering the righteousness of Britain's cause in this war, a considerable portion of the religious press has failed to sound a clear note in that regard. Rev. F. S. Porter, in the course of a sermon in this city last evening, quoted several extracts from American religious papers, one of which described Britain as "a run-soaked nation," suffering for her own sins, and another which was very far from intimating to its readers that Britain, in fighting for the sacredness of treaties and the right of smaller nations to live, was pursuing a good many people who have not yet grasped the essential fact that peace with dishonor is worse for humanity and worse for the cause of true religion than even such a dreadful war as is now convulsing Europe, waged in behalf of righteousness.

TRAVELED 2,500,000 MILES AS MAIL CLERK.
John W. Norton, Now 70, Still Makes Run He Has Held 45 Years.

To work at one job forty-five years, to see the railroad on which he works grow from a thirty-five mile thread of rails to one of the greatest systems in the United States, to have traveled a distance of two and a half million miles, is the record of John W. Norton, a railway postal clerk. He runs between Kansas City and La Junta, Colo., on the Santa Fe, the distance being 572 miles. Norton makes five round trips a month. When he first entered the railway mail service the Santa Fe was only thirty-five miles in length, extending from Topeka to Osage City, and it was a "one man" run. A few years later the road was extended to Dodge City, and afterward across the Colorado line. When Dodge was still referred to as "Cowboy Capital," the Indians were so numerous that a company of soldiers was placed at every station west of that point to protect trains from them. In those days buffalo were so numerous the train often had to stop to allow a mounted herd cross the railroad tracks. "People didn't write letters so often then as they do now, and Norton, standing on the mail train, receiving \$900 a year. Since then the post office on wheels has grown to such an extent that he now has six men under him. He receives \$1,700 and \$30 expense money annually from Uncle Sam. During the Christmas holidays his crew handles as many as 2,500 pouches filled with registered mail alone on one trip, to say nothing of tons and tons of other mail. The mail these men handle annually will run into billions in number.

Mr. Norton entered the mail service when that branch of Uncle Sam's business was in its infancy. He is seventy years old and still hale and hearty, and takes his run out as regularly as he did forty years ago.

STUCCO GOWN DECREED AS FASHION'S LATEST

The stucco gown is the thing, according to the latest bulletins of the Fashion Art League of America. "Sandpaper and putty tints are being taken up by smartly dressed women," read the bulletin. "Fine covert cloth in the sand or putty shades, is the smartest fashion for tailored suits."

The bulletin attests the popularity of the short coat and makes a forecast that white hats will supplant for winter wear the black hats of autumn. "With the covert suit and white hat," continues the bulletin, one must be sure to wear white-topped laced shoes or spats."

Difficult to Do
"Why doesn't the policeman pay his fare?" inquired the old gentleman on the trolley train, observing that no money passed between the constable and the conductor. "You know, sir," explained the conductor, "you can't get two-pence out of a copper."—London Tit-Bits.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Reassured.

"I say, old chap, I'm in shocking luck. I want money badly, and haven't the least idea where I can get it."

"Well, I'm glad to hear that. I thought perhaps you had an idea you could borrow from me!"

Her Rival.

"Do you think only of me?" murmured the bride. "Tell me that you think only of me."

"It's this way," explained the groom, gently. "Now and then I have to think of the furnace, my dear."

The Ubiquitous Female.

She (during argument)—You must not forget that truth is a woman's ally. He, Well so is untruth, for that matter.

She—What do you mean?
He—You've often heard of Misrepresentation, haven't you?

In a hospital at Cape Town during the South African war, the keenness of certain amateur members of the nursing staff tended to aggravate, rather than alleviate, the sufferings of some of the wounded.

At last, the British soldier's native wit came to the rescue. One morning a sick soldier's bedclothes, displayed a slip of paper inscribed:

"Too ill to be nursed today!"—Tit-Bits.

The workman was digging. The wayfarer of the inquisitive turn of mind stopped for a moment to look on.

"My man," said the wayfarer at length "what are you digging for?"

The workman looked up.

"Money," he said.

"Money?" ejaculated the amazed wayfarer. "And when do you expect to strike it?"

"Saturday," replied the workman, and resumed operations.

High Up in Church Work.
"That man over there is away up as a church worker."

"What! that insignificant little fellow?"

"Yes, that's Steepie Sam."

"My husband is one of the most stubborn men in the world."

"He can't be any more stubborn than mine."

"Oh, yes, I'm sure he must be. Yesterday I had an engagement to meet him at three o'clock."

"Well, it was nearly 4.30 when I got there, and he won't admit yet that the rest he got while he was waiting did him good."

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Fobs
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79 King Street

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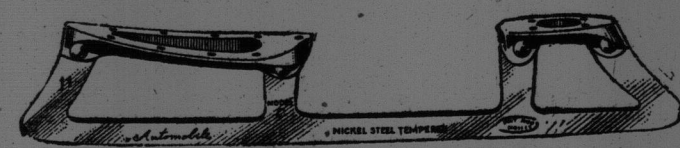
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"Don't let the fire burn through the oven."

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Maple Syrup
—at—
Jas. Collins
210 Union St.
Opp. Opera House

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FOR MEN AND BOYS

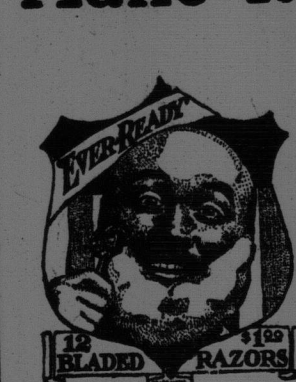
"Automobile" \$5.00
"Meteor Hockey" \$3.25
"Hockey King" \$3.35
Other Men's and Boy's patterns from 40c. to \$4.50

FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN

"Auto" \$2.50
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"Beauty" \$1.80
Other Ladies' and Children's Skates from 40c. to \$2.00

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Shaving Brushes 50c. to \$3.00
Razor Stropps 25c. to \$1.50

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CANADA IN THE WAR

Official announcement has been made of the death of four more Canadians at Salisbury Plains. They are George Durnett, divisional engineer; Pte. F. G. Ross, G. E. H. M. Penn and Pte. John Ivern.

The American steamer Maracaibo, formerly owned by British interests, was captured by a British warship last week and brought to Halifax on Saturday. She was bound for Genoa, and received from the Italian government that her cargo was not intended for re-transportation.

Representations have been made to the Dominion government by E. A. Christy, a director of the Western Dry Dock Co. of Port Arthur, Ont., to the effect that facilities are available there for the building of submarines. He says that his concern could make them.

Sergeant J. B. Rainford, sent back from Salisbury Plain with other Canadians medically unfit, was in the city on Saturday, and said that the men there expected to be sent to the front about February. Sgt. Rainford says he saw Belgian boys with their arms cut off, seeking aid in London.

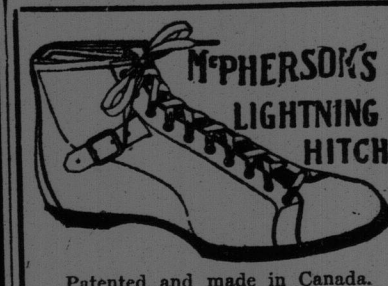
W. Taylor, a corporal in Gen. French's army in action in France, passed through St. John on Saturday on his way to his home in Vancouver, B. C. He arrived here on the steamer Scandinavian, and had been sent home because of physical disabilities, having contracted a severe case of rheumatism in the trenches where he said the men were fighting "high deep in water." "The British will never let up until victory is assured," he said.

Rev. Dr. MacDonald, of St. John, chaplain in the second contingent, occupied the pulpit in Brunswick street Baptist church at Frederickton yesterday and preached to the men of the 23rd Field Battalion who attended under Lieut. Col. Seely.

Masons of Ontario have sent \$12,500 to the Belgians to be distributed by King Albert among his distressed subjects. "We hope to send other sums," says Grand Master W. D. McPherson, M. P. P.

BROTHERHOODS TO AID

German Street Brotherhood yesterday afternoon undertook to raise the sum of \$400 for the Free Kindergarten Association. Members pledged themselves to collect and contribute sums ranging



Patented and made in Canada.

This Skating Boot has the largest sale, and is the most satisfactory article on the market. We carry stock for St. John, and can fully recommend them.

Men's, - \$3.50 and \$4.00
Boys', - 2.85 and 3.25
Ladies', - 3.25 and 3.50

Other makes in Skating Boots—Men's, \$2.25; Boys', \$2.00; Ladies', \$1.90, \$2.00.

We make a Specialty of Mail Orders.

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We want every boy and girl and the fathers and mothers to know that our store is Santa Claus' headquarters from now until Xmas.

Great variety of Iron and Mechanical Toys:

Meccano, \$2.00, \$4.00, \$6.00 to \$10 ea.
Erector, \$1.50, \$2.75, \$4.35 to \$7.00 ea.
Mechanical Toys, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, to \$8.50.
Iron Toys, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, to \$2.50 ea.
Train on Tracks, 25c, 50c, 75c, to \$2.75 ea.
Electric Trains, 95c, \$1.10, \$2.50, \$4.00 to \$10.00 ea.
Mirrors, \$2.50, \$5.00, \$7.50 to \$10.00 each.
Doll's Carriages, leather, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.45, \$1.60, \$1.95 to \$4.50 ea.
Toy Pianos, 85c, 45c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.4 to \$7.50 ea.
Horses, 10c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 45c, 65c to \$8.50.
Rocking Horses, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$3.25 to \$9.50 ea.
Every thing in toys, be sure to come early before eager crowds of holiday shoppers swarm our store.

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236-240 Paradise Row Phone M. 12

A large slew-footed colored man leaning against the corner of the road station in a Texas town when noon whistle in the canning factory and the hands hurried out, bearing grubby buckets. The colored man, with his head on one side, until rocketing echo had quite died. Then he heaved a deep sigh and marked to himself:

"Dar she go. Dinner time fur folks—but jes' 12 o'clock fur me!"

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