

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 52 Prince William Street,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 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.

SIR SAM HUGHES IN ENGLAND.

It is only necessary to read the summarized editorial references of the London press upon the return of Sir Sam Hughes to the motherland to gain an idea of the place the Canadian Minister of Militia has won for himself in the esteem and affection of the British people. Britain realizes that Sir Sam has done a great and important Empire work in "transforming in a few months a feeble militia into one of the greatest fighting forces in the world." In the motherland the war is the uppermost question in the public mind and things outside of the great struggle do not count. In this mind the public is quick to see the things that are really worth while and the work accomplished by Sir Sam Hughes has already counted heavily in the scale of British success. If indeed it has not actually turned the scale on more than one critical occasion.

The yelpings of the Carvels and Kytes, the criticisms of a violent Grit press and the jealous hatred of the Minister of Militia which has actuated many of the bitter attacks upon him by opposition men and newspapers are not considered in England. The part such men and such newspapers are playing stamps them for what they are and the stamp is in no way creditable.

On reaching England Sir Sam was greeted and acclaimed as one of the big men of the Empire as he undoubtedly is. It is unusual for the British people to display great feeling over any person or any event; therefore the depth of the greeting to the Canadian Minister of Militia is the more significant. In this connection it may be interesting to speculate on the sort of reception Mr. Carvell or Mr. Kite would be given if either went to England. Indeed it is very doubtful if they would be permitted to land providing that the bars are still raised as strictly against Empire enemies as was the case some months ago.

KEEP THE HEARST PAPERS OUT.

The Toronto Mail and Empire is waging a vigorous fight against the Hearst newspapers and is urging that they should be kept out of Canada. The Mail and Empire says: "Monday's issue of the New York Herald had two editorial articles on the subject of Great Britain. In one it was alleged that Britain is to blame for the suffering in Poland; in the other there was a fiery protest about the stopping of two neutral ships bound from the United States to Manila, by British cruisers. It was argued that Britain had no more right to stop these ships than if they had been going from New York to Boston. 'Our rights are violated, our sovereignty is insulted, our sovereign flag is scorned.' This article is headed 'No Insult Too Bitter for Us to Swallow.' In Tuesday's issue there was a double-column editorial protesting against the interference of the British censor with messages and letters sent from Germany to the United States. In the course of this editorial the bitterest hatred of the British Empire was displayed, and profound sympathy for the German people and the German Emperor was manifested. Such articles as those referred to have appeared in almost every issue of the Hearst papers since the beginning of the war. Hearst has done his best to inflame the American people against the cause of the Allies. Had he the power he would probably plunge his country into the war as a Teutonic ally, not because of his love for Germany, but because of his hatred of England."

It is a scandal that the Canadian authorities should permit the Hearst papers the use of the Canadian mails. They have barred papers printed in the German language and published in the United States, papers that had a small circulation, whose obvious German origin would render them harmless, since they would be read only by such people of German origin as sympathize with the Fatherland. Yet the Hearst papers, with their wide circulation, printed in the English language, and disguising their anti-British sentiments under the cloak of "Americanism," are given all privileges by the Canadian post office. It is probable that the Hearst papers have a larger circulation in Canada than any of their American competitors.

They are read here for their sporting news, and for their special comic features. Malignant and distorted though their editorials are, they are written by a man of keen mind and great powers of expression, a writer, it is said, who is the most highly-paid in the United States. Why they should be allowed to circulate here at this time we do not know. A man who stood at a street corner and preached sedition would be arrested anywhere in Canada outside of Quebec. Why should the Hearst papers be allowed to vilify the British Empire every day of their issue with the tacit approval of the Canadian censorship? Either there should be no censorship at all, or the Hearst papers should be kept out of Canada while the war lasts.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

Efforts in the United States to expand the regular army are not meeting with any great success. The necessary laws have been enacted by Congress but the men do not come forward. A soldier's life under normal conditions has little attraction for the average American, nor, for that matter, does it appeal much to the citizen of any democratic country.

Neither is the experiment of calling upon the state militia for service along the Mexican border answering fully to expectations. The young fellows without dependents like it well enough for a while, as an experience and an adventure, but the men who have to leave their families or to sacrifice positions in the business world regard it as an imposition. They do not see why this burden should be placed upon them when other citizens are exempt.

At the same time it is noticeable that when a real war is in sight the American is ready enough. More of them are in the Canadian army than have volunteered to serve their own country since their troops were ordered to the southern frontier. There would be many thousands more of them enlisted here were it not for the operation of the neutrality laws.

The truth is that a democracy, and especially a well-fed democracy, will not consent to waste time in the half-idle and almost wholly vacuous life that is a soldier's lot in peace time. A comparatively few can be found to do it but the endeavor to keep a standing army of any size does not appeal to the people.

The United States must follow the British plan of establishing a large navy which will ensure safety from invasion and give time for getting together an army when the need arises. All they require on land is a nucleus for training purposes and, for extraordinary police work on occasion.

T. J. CARTER DENIES TELEGRAPH FABLE.

Andover, N. B. Aug. 26, 1916.
To the Editor of The Standard:
Sir,—One of the minor liars of the St. John Telegraph's large and widely distributed "Ananas Staff," recently reported to that highly valued (I forget the price, but remember that it was highly valued) distributor of light fiction that Mr. J. L. White and I were in Frederick urging on Premier Clarke Victoria's claims for representation in the government in which was reported anxious to secure a force-cast berth.

The report is, of course, an absolute lie from start to finish, and I would not trouble to contradict it if it were not satisfied that as usual it was fabricated and published for some dishonorable purpose.

The child who writes the Telegraph editorials has a good deal to say about the "opposition party." It does not remember events of ten or eleven years ago; as the work of The Liberal Organizers (the word Liberal, as applied to them is a misnomer) progresses it is apparent to all grown-up people that they are organizing, not an opposition party, but the same old gang heretofore branded individually and collectively by the Telegraph at chieftains; they are not in the unpurged view of the Telegraph an opposition except in the sense that a band of burglars who are about to loot a bank are opposed to the lawful guardians of the bank's funds.

Contrary to the Telegraph's unpurged opinion frequently expressed less than a dozen years ago, I have always believed, and still believe, that many of the opponents of the present administration are honest men; but their morals and manners have not been improved by the acquisition of "The Telegraph." However, "it is wasting soap to lather an ass' head." I will not ask further space.

Little Benny's Note Book

I had my cap on just going out last night and the door bell rang and it was Mr. Perkins to see my sister Gladdie having a package in his hand looking like candy, and I looked at the package and said, Do you want me to go up stairs and tell her you are here.

She knows my ring, I guess and will be down shortly, said Mr. Perkins.

He went up and told her if you want me to, I said. Well, if it will give you any pleasure, I suppose it won't do any harm, said Mr. Perkins.

All right, I'll go, I said. Which just as I started to do, Gladdie started to come down, while Mr. Perkins was putting his cane in the hall rack, and I said, Mr. Perkins is here, Gladdie.

So I said, said Gladdie, good evening.

Oh I see, said Mr. Perkins. And they went in the parlor and sat down. Mr. Perkins still holding the package, and I stood in the parlor door looking at the package and wondering if it was chocolate, and Gladdie said, Benny, I see you've got your hat on, were you just on your way out? Don't let me detain you.

Wait! I said, and Gladdie said, I say, were you just about to go out when Mr. Perkins came in?

Yes, but I'm not in any hurry, I said.

And I kept on standing there looking at the box, and all of a sudden Mr. Perkins looked down at it, saying, Well, can you beat that, I didn't know I was holding this soap all this time, while I was passing the drug store I noticed they were having a sale of my favorite soap, so I invited him to go up and get it and put the package on the piano, and sat down again, and I said, Well, I guess I'll go now.

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