

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William Street,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

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Yearly Subscriptions: \$5.00
By Mail: 3.00
Semi-Weekly, by mail: 1.00
Semi-Weekly to United States: 2.00
Advertising rates on application.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 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.

ROUMANIA COMING INTO LINE

That Roumanian opinion has been influenced by the aggressive campaign the Allies are putting up in the Balkans, coupled with Russian successes in Bessarabia, is evidenced by the latest despatches from that area. Last night's cables brought the statement from authorities in Petrograd that the chief purpose of the Russian aggressive movement in Bessarabia was to capture Bukovina for the Roumanians, and it was expected that could be accomplished in a few weeks. Once that is done, Roumanian armies are prepared to march into Bulgaria and join with the Allies in the general attack.

It is admitted now that the withdrawal of the British and French forces from Serbia produced a bad impression in Bucharest and made more difficult the task of the strong and influential friends of the Allies in that capital. However, the Allied forces at Salonika have been reinforced to a point where General Castelnau believes they are unbeatable, and this is supported by the opinion of London observers who were reported yesterday as saying that the position at Salonika was secure and the fighting would now probably take on the character of trench work, similar to the condition which has prevailed on the western front for more than a year.

These assurances are heartening to Balkan friends of the Allies who, while warmly sympathetic to the cause of Britain, France, Russia and Italy have, nevertheless, feared that entrance into the war on the side of the Entente Powers might, after all, result disastrously.

While events are moving thus satisfactorily for the Entente Powers it is evident that German agents are becoming anxious. The effort by German agents to blow up the residences of influential Roumanians was doubtless actuated by a desire to intimidate pro-Ally Roumanians into silence. But the real Roumanian attitude is well revealed by Prince Basarab Brancovan, a Conservative deputy in the Roumanian Parliament, and a representative of traditional ideas of Roumania, who has declared that now that the Allies are acting energetically, and Russia is ready to attack Bulgaria, the time has come for Roumanian intervention. "We are getting to the place where Premier Briand ought to act," says he.

By far the strongest and most influential of Roumanian statesmen publicly urge that Roumania must, at a suitable moment, enter the war with the Entente. Perhaps the new Russian offers reported by the Giornale d'Italia, the organ of Baron Sonnino, Italian Foreign Minister, have to do with bringing Roumania to a speedy decision. It seems to be generally believed in Roumania that the action of the Bucharest authorities in seizing Dobruja in the Balkan wars has definitely freed the country from any obligation toward Austria in the defensive alliance secretly entered into many years ago.

If the Allies keep on pouring troops into Salonika the great German attempt upon Egypt and India may never take place. The bringing of Allied forces in Greece up to a strength of half a million might be the signal for both Greece and Roumania finally to enter the conflict.

A MERITED HONOR

It was a happy thought on the part of Mayor Frink to arrange a demonstration in honor of Major W. R. Brown of the "Fighting 26th," and the dinner held in the Royal Hotel last night was a delightful and fitting tribute to a hero. Major Brown is one of the most competent officers who left St. John for the battle front and his career on the firing lines has been such as to add lustre to this city and province. A true son of Albion, Major Brown joined the 26th with a long and creditable record of military service, and his experience and knowledge were of great value to his junior officers and the men of his regiment. His tribute to the men of the 26th that "one would not want better soldiers" is in line with the reports already received in this city concerning that gallant battalion. St. John is proud of the "Fighting 26th."

and every man in it and all citizens will unite in the hope that the guest of last evening, whose conduct in the memorable fight of October 13th, was one of the outstanding features of that day, will long be spared to enjoy the confidence, honor and esteem of his multitude of friends both in the land of his birth and the country of his adoption.

"WAR DEBTS"

Grouping the expenditure of men and money under the general head of "war debts" the Montreal Gazette sums up the situation as follows:

"The Reichstag has voted the credit of ten thousand million marks (\$2,500,000,000) asked for by the German Government. The Finance Minister stated that under the budget of next year a large addition would be made to the taxes. It is difficult for outsiders to speak confidently of Germany's financial and economic condition, the Finance Minister having cast an air of mystery over his recent doings. But the state of the foreign exchanges in neutral countries, like the United States and Holland, shows that in the judgment of the commercial world matters are far from satisfactory. The discount on the German mark in New York has recently gone from fifteen to twenty per cent., whilst on the other hand sterling exchange has much improved in the last three months. This will be the fourth German war loan. The last credit, voted in August, brought the total to thirty milliards of marks, or \$7,500,000,000; so that with the addition of this one the aggregate will be \$10,000,000,000, an appalling sum."

"In France at the present moment the national debt is being augmented at the rate of \$13,750,000 a day, of which \$10,000,000 is military expenditure proper. The recent five per cent. loan was successful. The war outlay is steadily increasing. The cost of munitions has gone up tremendously, and the aggregate of the war expenditure since August, 1914, is now in French money not far from 25,000 million francs, which has to be added to an old debt of 35,000 millions. France has advanced considerable sums to Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro. The debt in 1870 was only about one-fifth of its present proportions; that did not, however, include the expenditure in the war of 1870-71. The French are the most thrifty people in Europe, but the burdens now piling up will tax their capacity to the utmost for years to come."

"Since the commencement of the war the British Parliament has passed eight votes of credit, totalling in our money 8,300 million dollars. This includes the loan made in the United States and the borrowings in the United Kingdom by loans and Treasury bills. It is thought by Mr. Asquith that another credit will not be required till February next. The cost of the war now is 175 million dollars a week. Since April England has advanced 195 million dollars to Canada and other Dominions and 290 millions to the Allies. These are stupendous figures. If the loss of human life by all concerned could be ascertained it would probably reach well on to five million men."

It is reported that if President Wilson of the United States does not ask for another term, Champ Clark, Speaker of the United States Congress, will be the Democratic candidate for the office. Then, here's rooting for Wilson, for Champ Clark, be it remembered, was the gentleman who, in the reciprocity campaign, declared that the Stars and Stripes should be floating from the Gulf of Mexico to the North Pole. It is well for Champ and his prospects that he is not called upon to run an election in Canada. Even Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the champion of a "Yankee dollar," would hardly dare to vote for him.

The report that the Valley Railway is to be closed down makes temporary political capital for opposition newspapers, but it is not to be taken too seriously. The Standard is confident that an arrangement will be reached whereby the road will continue during the winter months to provide the best service possible under existing conditions.

The Germans expect to be out of the trenches before next Christmas. If the opinions of writers familiar with conditions on the western front are to be taken seriously they will be out of the trenches some time before that—and with the Allies in hot pursuit.

The Kaiser's illness prevents him from taking the trip to the western front which he had in prospect. However, it is but pleasure deferred, for if he remains in Berlin long enough he will probably be able to see the western front from his kitchen windows.

The Old Year passes away tonight. Let us hope that 1916 will make a better record.

"Outclassed"

The devil sat by a lake of fire, on a pile of sulphur rocks. His head was bowed upon his breast, his tail between his legs. A look of shame was on his face, the sparks dripped from his eyes. He had sent his resignation to the throne up in the skies. I'm down and out the devil said, he said it with a sob. There are others that outclass me and I want to quit my job. Hell isn't in it with the land that lies along the Rhine. I am old and out of date and therefore I resign; One Krupp munition worker with his bloody shot and shell. Knows more about damnation than all theimps in hell. Give me job to Kaiser Bill or to Ferdinand the Czar, Or to Sultan Abdul Hamid or some such man of war. I hate to leave the old home the spot I loved so well. But I feel I'm not up to date in the art of running Hell, And the devil spat a squirt of steam at a brimstone bumblebee. And muttered I'm outclassed by Hohenzollern devilry.

FOUR MORE NAMES ON ROLL OF HONOR

ROLL OF HONOR.

Ernest F. Dyer, Young's Cove Road, Queens County.
Pearson J. McFadden, Princess street.
Wilfred G. Prince, Hampton.
Percy Gibbons, Brittain street.

Recruits are coming along in a very satisfactory manner, four being signed on yesterday and a great many more are waiting to be examined. There was no recruiting meeting last evening.

HARKINS PLAYERS IN GREAT COMEDY TODAY

At the Opera House tonight the W. S. Harkins Players will present "Baby Mine," one of the funniest comedies ever written. It is a laugh from beginning to end. This will be the first production of "Baby Mine" at less than \$1.50 prices. It will also be presented at the New Year's matinee and evening performances. Tonight all soldiers who have returned from the front will be the guests of the management. Those who apply to Mr. C. B. Lockhart, chairman of the returned soldiers reception committee, will receive tickets from him good for seats, and "Baby Mine" will provide them with laughs.

EX-VICE-PRES. FAIRBANKS INDIANA'S CHOICE AS NEXT PRESIDENT

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 30.—Former Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks was endorsed at a love feast here today as Indiana's choice for the Republican nomination for president, and at the same meeting, which filled to overflowing the largest theatre in the state he was pledged the solid delegation from Kentucky in the national convention at Chicago next June.

In a very brief speech he dealt

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Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Me and ma and Ant Gladie and my cousin Sue awl went down town today, and I had to take Sue home agen awl about of ma and Ant Gladie waiting to stay down and buy Christmas presents and not wanting me and Sue to see wat they bawt, and me and Sue was waiting awl to the trolley car, me making her wawk pritty fast awl akount of it being pritty cold, and she sed, Stop wawking so fast, it aint cold.

Maybe it aint, but I am, I sed.
And I kepp awl wawking fast and the ferrst hing I noo Sue wasent there, and I terped erround and ware was she but standin awl on side of a skiny man dressed up like Santer Klaws and ringin a bell to let peopl no he wanted them to drop munny in a box, and I went back, sayin, Hay, come awl, Sue.

Im telling Santer Klaws wat I want for Christmas, and Sue. Yes, and Im going to see that she gets it awl, sed the skiny Santer Klaws. And Sue kep awl tellin him wat she wanted till I grabbed a hold of her arm and pulled her away, sayin, G wiaz, you want to mutch, Im cold.

Wich I was, and we kepp awl wawking to the trolley car and pritty soon wat did we pass but a littel fat man, dressed up like Santer Klaws, and wat did Sue do but run over to him, sayin, O, Im going to tell him wat I want for Christmas.
But you told the uthir wum, didnt you, dam it awl, Im cold, I sed. Let her tell me, young man, dont be selfish, sed the fat Santer Klaws.

I aint selfish, Im cold, I sed.
Wich I was, and Sue kept awl standin there tellin the fat wum wat she wanted till I pulled her away agen, and in about a minit we came to a littel Santer Klaws without wiskers, and I grabbed a hold of Sue and she started to pull away, sayin I want to tell him, I want to tell him.

Well they cant awl be Santer Klaws, can they, I sed, and Sue sed, Well wum of them mite be, how do I no wich wum, and I sed, Do you no that littel man I've got that waz his bed, and she sed, Yes, and I sed, Well Ill give you that if you promise not to stop at any moar Santer Klawses, Im cold.

Wich Sue promised, wich it was a good thing she did, because we passed 4 moar of them, awl different sizes, awl the way to the trolley car, and me gettin colder and colder.

visorously with the leading questions. He urged the necessity of not only adequate national preparedness against hostile invasion, but also adequate national protection against industrial invasion. In suggesting a platform for the Republicans in 1916 Mr. Fairbanks said:

"We must adopt a protective tariff measure which shall safeguard our industries and supplement the resources of the public treasury, and guard us against inundation at the end of the European war."

Cotton Mill Employee Injured.
Vernon Pitt, of 4 Chubb street, machinist, was admitted to the General Public Hospital yesterday morning after receiving injuries at the Cornwall and York Cotton Mill. His clothing caught in a shaft and he was whirled round probably two hundred times. After being picked up it was found

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FUNERALS.

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon of Daniel Parker from the residence of the son-in-law, George H. Brown, Lancaster Heights. Rev. R. K. Hayward conducted services; burial was in Cedar Hill.

The funeral of James W. Brickley took place at 2.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon from his late residence, 71 Water street, to the Cathedral, where Rev. Miles Howland read the funeral service. Interment was in the