

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1918

OPPOSED TO THE METRIC SYSTEM

The Manufacturers' Action Has Roused Interest

British Report Cited—Frederick A. Halsey Expresses Satisfaction at Action Taken by Convention in New York

(New York Evening Post.) Manufacturers and business men generally were much interested to-day in the action taken by the National Association of Manufacturers at the close of its three-day convention at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in condemning the movement to introduce the metric system.

Whereas, The agitation for the adoption of the metric system has been again revived and is being vigorously conducted, and whereas, The British Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy After the War, which voted against adopting the system in Great Britain The resolutions passed by the National Association of Manufacturers follow:

Resolved, That we endorse the work of the American Institute of Weights and Measures in opposing the adoption of the metric system.

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our own. The practical argument that its adoption is desirable in order to secure uniformity in the markets of the world has been shown to be unfounded. We are not satisfied by any evidence which has been brought before us that trade has actually been lost to this country owing to the fact that the use of the metric system is not compulsory.

But to attempt to make the use of the system universal and obligatory in this country would cause great losses and confusion at a particularly inopportune moment for the sake of distant and doubtful advantages. We are convinced that so far from assisting in the re-establishment of British trade after the war, such a measure would seriously hamper it.

As regards the educational advantages claimed for the change, we have been referred to a statement quoted by the select committee of 1895 that no less than one year's school time would be saved if the metric system were taught in the place of that now in use.

It is often popularly supposed that the introduction of the metric system would render possible the immediate sweeping away of many complicated chapters in weights and measures. As we have already indicated, this belief is, in our opinion, wholly fallacious.

We are not convinced that the metric system is, upon the whole, even theoretically superior to the British system, and we are satisfied that the practical objections to the proposed change are such as decisively to outweigh any advantages which are claimed for it.

Resolved, That we endorse the agitation for the establishment of the metric system as particularly untimely because of war taxation on manufactures, and because under present conditions the overwhelming activity of manufacturers in war work makes proper consideration of such a subject impossible. It is further

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Hon. Dr. H. S. Beland, M. P. for Beauce, Que., who has been released by the Germans after imprisonment in Belgium since the outbreak of the war in 1914. He was postmaster-general in the Laurier cabinet in 1911.

AMERICANS PUT LARGE NUMBER OUT OF FIGHT

Themselves Suffer Very Light Casualties — Great Work Near Torcy — Germans Disguised as French

With the American Army in France, June 6.—(By the Associated Press)—Reports received here from Chateau Thierry are to the effect that the Americans in the fighting with the Germans killed a large number of the enemy and themselves suffered very light casualties.

Some of the Germans said they had been told that the Americans were not trained, but that they had found the Americans could shoot.

ST. JOHN VISITORS AT SUSSEX. Sussex Record: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Adams of St. John are at Sussex Lodge, Mrs. J. V. McLean of St. John, who has been one of Sussex's most popular summer visitors for several years, had a very pleasant stay at the house.

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MUTT AND JEFF—FOLLOWING THE CAPTAIN'S EXAMPLE IS NOT ENOUGH FOR JEFF

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By "BUD" FISHER