

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1918.

"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.

WAR COMMENT.

The opening of the month of October finds the Allied armies still progressing to gloriou success with the decisive period of the whole war within measurable distance. St. Quentin has fallen. Cambrai is in flames, the last resort of the Germans who will shortly be forced to evacuate that city if, indeed, they have not done so already. Five distinct sectors on the western battle line General Foch is smiting the enemy with a force that is certain to be successful and all attempts at counter-attacking have proven futile.

The peace news rivals in importance the events on the western front. Following Bulgaria's ignominious withdrawal from the conflict there are reports that Turkey is sending out "feelers" looking to a separate peace while the newspapers of Budapest, the capital of Hungary, are suggesting that the dual monarchy shall make similar overtures, although coupling with the suggestion the proviso that such a step shall be in agreement with Berlin. German newspapers, however, do not appear to regard seriously the thought that Austro-Hungary will remain in the war until Germany is willing to quit for an editorial comment upon the Bulgarian situation contains an expression to the effect that "we, the German people, must soon bear the brunt alone."

Meanwhile, James W. Gerard, who for the greater part of the war was United States ambassador to Berlin and whose story of conditions in the Kaiser's court has been one of the most thrilling pieces of war literature, is telling American audiences that there should be no peace negotiations until Allied troops have actually occupied German territory. And Mr. Gerard is right. There would be a general feeling of relief should the war end tomorrow, but there will also be found a very general opinion that it must not terminate until Germany has been made to experience some of the suffering she has forced upon France and Belgium, and that she has seen her own cities in ruins and an invading army possessing her acres.

It is not to be supposed that Allied forces on German soil could be guilty of the atrocities that characterized the Hun in Belgium and in France. Such a thought is impossible. It is not the breach, but at the same time Canadians, in common with the people of all other Allied nations, would experience a genuine satisfaction upon receipt of the news that Berlin is in flames and the Kaiser and his whole entourage are prisoners of war to be dealt with as the Allied authorities should decide.

Everyone wants the war to end but there are a great many people who do not want that end to come until Germany has been trampled into abject submission and made to drink long and deeply from the cup of misery she has held to the lips of the world since August, 1914.

THE COST OF LIVING IN ST. JOHN AND OTHER CITIES.

Perusal of the September issue of the Labor Gazette, published by the Department of Labor of the Canadian Government, reveals that St. John is among the most expensive cities in Canada in which to live. One of the interesting features of that publication is a comparative table giving the retail prices of staple articles of consumption as at the middle of August last and that table shows prices in this city as high as in most others and lower than practically none. A few examples will suffice:

In August last sirloin steak sold for 45 cents per lb. in St. John, 40 cents in Halifax, 38 in Sydney, 35 in Fredericton, 35 in Moncton, 29 to 31 in Quebec, 32 in Montreal, 33 in Ottawa, 45 in Toronto, 45 in Hamilton, 25 in Winnipeg and 41 in Vancouver. Why steak should cost five cents per lb. more in St. John than in Halifax is not explained.

The same month showed new laid eggs at 65 cents per doz. in St. John, 60 in Halifax, 60 in Sydney, 55 in Fredericton, 50 in Moncton, 55 in Quebec, not quoted in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, 45 to 60 in an average of other Ontario towns, 47 in Winnipeg and 75 in Vancouver.

Family flour was higher in this city than in any other city or town in the Maritime Provinces, with the exception of Truro, and as high as in any city in Canada. Butter was cheaper than in most other centres.

Coming to fuel we find anthracite coal quoted at \$16.50 per ton while the highest figure in any city or town outside of the Maritime Provinces was reached by Prince Albert at \$15.50. Of the Maritime Province towns Sydney also ranked higher than St. John,

where the price was \$16.50. This, however, was offset by the fact that Sydney folk were able to buy soft coal at \$3.50 per ton while in St. John the prevailing price was \$10.00 to \$12.75.

The price of wood fuel was stated to be \$14.00 to \$18.00 per cord for hard wood and \$3.00 for soft wood, a figure in both cases far in excess of the prices asked elsewhere in the Maritime Provinces.

In other items making up the family budget the showing is practically the same. It is true that in some articles prices in St. John were lower than elsewhere but the general average will be found to be much higher than in most other Canadian cities of approximately the same size.

There may be an explanation for this condition but if so it does not present itself at this time. Possibly the Board of Trade, or the food or fuel controller could throw some light on the situation.

AN INTERESTING RUMOR.

One of the interesting rumors circulated in Ottawa is that Hon. Dr. J. D. Reid, Minister of Railways and Canada, will shortly resign from the Cabinet owing to ill health and that he will be succeeded by Hon. Howard Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines in the Ontario government. As Dr. Reid is at present in California on a vacation and Sir Robert Borden is also absent from the capital it is impossible to obtain confirmation of the report from authoritative sources.

Hon. Dr. Reid, who represents Grenville, Ont., in the House of Commons, entered Sir Robert Borden's cabinet upon its formation in 1911 and at first held the portfolio of Minister of Customs. He succeeded Hon. Frank Cochrane as Minister of Railways and Canals and has proven an excellent administrator of the Canadian Government Railway system. The portfolio is an important one, carrying with it large amount of travelling and much arduous work and it is not expected that the proposed acquisition of new lines of railway by the Government will make it an easier position for a minister not in possession of the most robust health. As Dr. Reid's health has not been good for some months the report of his retirement may be more than mere idle rumor.

THE POLICE SITUATION.

It is difficult to see just what a Board of Trade delegation hoped to accomplish toward the solution of the police difficulty by suggesting that it should be considered by a conciliation board. The difference between the striking policemen and the city council is not one in which there is room for the offices of a conciliation board. If the question involved a matter of wages, or hours of labor, it would be easy to understand how the proposal might be productive of good, but in a dispute over such questions as that one side or the other or both might be inclined to compromise.

In the present case the issue is clear cut and it is not apparent that room for compromise exists. On one side are the policemen who desired to form a union affiliated with other labor organizations. On the other are the city commissioners who contend that while there is no objection to a local organization among the members of the police force there is strong objection to such a body affiliated with organized labor. The issue between the two parties is clearly defined and it does not appear that a compromise can be possible. One side or the other must definitely yield.

Canadians should not allow the succession of brilliant Allied victories to blind them to the necessity of subscribing liberally to the new Victory Loan. The war may be almost over but it still has to be paid for and in the opinion of the Government offering have the satisfaction of knowing they are helping to pay for it while, at the same time, they obtain a safe and profitable investment for their funds. It's good business and good patriotism at one and the same time.

The association of Canadian press men promoting the advertising campaign for the Victory Loan has offered a prize for the best cartoon and the best poem. Why not let it go at the cartoon? This war has produced enough of horror as it is without turning loose a flood of amateur poets upon a long suffering community.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, is responsible for the statement that if anyone read for enough into an account of any war in which Turkey was engaged he would come to this sentence: "The Turks then fled." He

cent events in Palestine suggest that history is repeating itself.

The Crown Prince of Roumania has renounced his throne rather than give up the woman he went out of his station to wed. At that he probably has the better of the bargain.

The progress of Spanish influenza suggests that it is more dangerous and almost as disagreeable as the good old fashioned gripe in its palmy days.

Sofia has quit Constantinople next, with Vienna wavering. Berlin alone is left to face "a world in arms." "Der Tag" approaches.

A BIT OF VERSE.

THE BRITISH DEAD.

By Joseph Lee, second lieutenant, King's Royal Rifles.
Here do we lie, dead but not discontent.
That which we found to do has had accomplishment.
No more for us uprise or set of sun.
The vigilant night, the desperate day is done.

To other hands we leave the evening sword.
To other tongues to speak the arousing word.
Here do we lie, dead, but not discontent.
That which we found to do has had accomplishment.

Forget us not, O Land for which we May it go well with England, still so well.
Keep her bright banners without blot or stain.
Lest we should dream that we had died in vain.

Brava be the days to come, when we Are but a wistful memory.
Here do we lie, dead, but not discontent.
That which we found to do has had accomplishment.

A BIT OF FUN.

Not a Cricketer.

The irate little man rushed into the shop and bellowed wildly on the counter.
"Look here!" he cried, holding out a handful of something "that looked like seeds." "Yes, sold them to me yesterday—camphor balls!"

"Er—yes," said the puzzled chemist.
"To kill moths," ejaculated the little man, who then asked, "How in the name of thunder d'you think I'm going to kill moths with them balls? If we can show me a man that can hit a moth with one of them I'll say I'm a fool and I've broke with them. Kill moths, indeed!"

Her Harriest Days.

"The other day a lady confided to us that the happiest days of her life were spent during the three years that she was eighteen."

R'rouse.
She—You shouldn't make fun of my nose, I didn't choose it.
Her Brother—That's right, sis; it turned up unasked.

A Show-down.
A young grass w'd makes it plain
That she has learned her biz;
"No man shall win my hand again
Until he has shown his."

HARTLAND FOLKS ARE IN FAVOR OF INCORPORATION

Place Will Now Become a Full Fledged Town — Victory Loan Campaign Organized — Other Breezy News.

Special to The Standard.

Hartland, Oct. 1.—The question of incorporation was submitted to an election by the ratepayers of the village on Saturday, when the result of the progressive would-be incorporation won out by a majority of fifty, and hence in due course Hartland will become a full-fledged town. It is an enthusiastic committee, of which E. W. Malr is chairman, in Hartland, W. D. Keith is chairman, with Principal C. Douglas Dickson as secretary, while H. H. Hatfield, Dr. Curtis and M. L. Hayward are a committee to look after loans of \$5,000 and over. Coun. F. W. Smith is chairman of back Brighton, with E. S. Estabrook as secretary. It is rumored that Coun. Smith intends to take \$10,000 of Victory Bonds himself.

The ground throughout the entire county is being thoroughly prepared for the allotment to the county will be over-subscribed, as it was last year. Carleton County led the province last year and the parish of Brighton led the county. We therefore must live up to the good record already established.

On Thursday afternoon the death occurred of Mrs. Coley A. Craig, who has been ill for nearly a year of tuberculosis. Mrs. Craig was always a loving and dutiful wife and mother in her home, and a very patient in her long illness. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her passing four children, Mrs. Orran Hovey, Masters Whitfield, and John and little Miss Sybil Craig, all at home. The funeral was held on Saturday afternoon and

Little Benny's Note Book

BL. LEE PAPE.
Us fellows was wawking along yesterday and we came to a place with a rope all around it so nobody couldnt go past, and a big sign saying "Danger." And we stood there looking at the sign, Puds Simkins saying, "Wares all the danger, I dont see any."
Gosh, if I never see any more danger than this, I wont see much, sed Leroy Shosetter.
The sumbdy jest had the sine and didnt want to waste it, I sed.
Lets us get under the rope and wawk rite across to show how much we dont care, sed Sam Cross.
Ony G, wat if there reely is some danger? sed Sid Hunt.
You show me any danger and ill give you a nickel, sed Sam Cross.
Him probably not having a nickel, but Sid Hunt didnt show him any danger, so it didnt make any diffrents, and we all got under the rope and started to wawk over to the other side, wawking pretty fast but not running, and wen we got half way across, sumbdy yelled, "Hay there, are you kids crazy, come back out of that hay, Being a man jest wawking up with 2 red lanterns. And us fellows ran the rest of the way and quick got under the other side of the rope, and jest then 2 bricks came down kersack rite in the place were we milt of bin if we hadent moved. Properly being part of the danger, and us fellows kepp on going, and the man with the red lanterns kepp on yelling after us till we got around the corner, wich we did as soon as we could.

JAPS DISARM 15,000.

Tokio, Friday, Sept. 20.—(By The Associated Press).—Fifteen thousand armed Austro-German prisoners from Blagovestchansk reached Helho on September 12 and were disarmed, according to a statement issued at the war office. The statement says that Japanese and Chinese which have been on duty along the Amur River entered Blagovestchansk with the main force of Japanese cavalry when that city was taken by the Allied forces.

ADMIRABLE EXPLOIT.

Paris, Sept. 30.—"The American army in taking Montfaucou has accomplished one of the most admirable exploits of the war," General Manoury today told a deputation of French and American officers. The deputation had called on the victor of the battle of the Ourcy to present him with a medalion of himself made by M. Halon, the sculptor.

ITALIANS WINNING.

Rome, Sept. 30.—Italian troops in western wing on the Allied advance in Macedonia continued on Sunday to pursue the Bulgarians who were retreating toward Uskub along the Tetovo River says the war office statement today.
Numerous Austrian detachments attacked Italian advanced posts in the Gaidarcia Valley, west of Lake Garda, Saturday night. The official statement from the Italian war office says that the enemy was driven back across the Chiese River.

HOLD UP PROHIBITION.

Washington, Sept. 30.—The emergency agricultural appropriation bill with its rider for national prohibition from next July 1 until the American armies are demobilized after the war was sent back to the Senate and House today by the conferees who were unable to agree to a slight provision.

GETS 66 AIRPLANES.

Paris, Sept. 30.—Lieut. Rene Fonck, the leading French aviator, who brought down six enemy airplanes on September 26, now has a total of 66 enemy machines to his credit.

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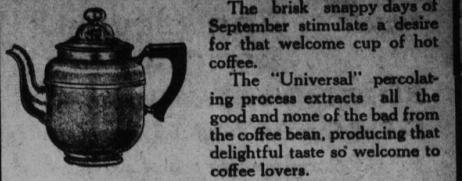
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