

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William street,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

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YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS
By Carrier \$5.00
By Mail 3.00
Semi-Weekly, by mail 1.00
Invariably in advance.
Advertising rates on application.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 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.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

The return to power of Premier Venizelos, in Greece, is a fair indication of the warlike spirit of the Greek people. It will be remembered that Venizelos resigned his position of Prime Minister because of differences of opinion with King Constantine as to the future course of the nation, and he did not desire that his views should be a source of embarrassment to the government, or to the King. Premier Venizelos, who succeeded Venizelos as chief executive, was quite explicit in his views of the situation. He readily admitted that if Greece entered the war on the side of the allies it would be simply as a matter of business. There is no question of national honor involved. Greece wanted to know as to her future status; she wished to be definitely informed whether territory said to have been offered to her by the Allies would be absolutely assured to her, and she also expressed a natural desire as to guarantees of her integrity after the conclusion of hostilities.

The anxiety of Greece is regarded by the Allies, the official organ of the Greeks in America, as very natural and proper. As that newspaper puts it, there would be no profit in the Greek nation sending troops out of the country to fight the battles of the Allies if, after the war, Greece, weakened by the campaign, would be left at the mercy of any of the Balkan nations that desired to take up arms against her. Evidently the Greeks are profiting from the lessons of early history. There is no lack of examples where the peoples of old engaged in sentimental quarrels against a common enemy, and were afterwards made to suffer. Greece must be assured that the Allies will admit her to the same class as the larger powers, bound to each other by agreements which specify there shall be no separate peace, but that the Euboea shall be continued on the lines of "each for all and all for each."

Venizelos was not as insistent on this point as his predecessor; he was willing that Greece should render what assistance she could and then trust to the honor of England, France and Russia to see to it that she was properly requited in accordance with arrangements said to have been under consideration. Apparently the people are behind Venizelos, for the returns of the elections just held show that he has an immense majority over his opponents. The King of Greece can hardly afford to ignore the evidenced public desire, and it may be assumed that the Grecian armies will be found side by side with the men of the greater fighting powers fighting against the menace of injustice as typified by Prussian militarism. In ranging her soldiers on the side of the right Greece is but living up to her traditions and her history.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Heavy fighting is reported from all sides of the war area with little or no decisive result. The Italian forces continue their advance into Austrian territory, and it is reported that a fierce battle is in progress. On the western front the British and French troops have been locked in desperate engagements with the enemy and are reported to have gained some successes, but only after very heavy fighting. In the east the Germans and Austrians are still attacking the Russians, but the report from that area has become much more satisfactory during the past few days. According to the German reports it is not so difficult to defeat the Russians as it is to induce them to remain defeated. The Muscovite has not lost his ability to come back at crucial times with the result that German and Austrian successes have been but temporary.

England continues to give her attention to the problem of increasing her supplies of men and munitions. Yesterday the attention of the British House of Commons seemed to be turned in the direction of air craft and some of the members evinced a desire for information as to what Britain was doing to meet the enemy in this field of war. The word was given that plenty of aeroplanes, larger than any now in use, and capable of coping with the most powerful

Zeppelin have been provided. It is believed that Germany will undertake air raids on Great Britain, which in number of craft engaged and viciousness of purpose will eclipse all previous efforts. England is not unprepared, and judging from the frank statement made yesterday will be in a position to give the invading air squadrons a reception of the proper sort.

Fighting in the Dardanelles continues to swing to the advantage of the Allies. Slowly but none the less surely the Turkish forces are being driven back, and the British and French draw nearer to Constantinople. That the operation will be successful is assured, and when it is completed it should have a marked effect on the campaigns in all the areas of conflict.

AN AMERICAN VIEW

The better class newspapers in the United States are inclined to regard rather lightly the situation in Great Britain in regard to munitions of war. The Boston Transcript in an editorial thus deals with the question and pays delicate compliment to the dogged determination of the British people. The Transcript says:

"The English are habitually a steady people. They usually grow cooler as the danger draws nearer. They have won many battles by their imperturbable coolness under fire. Steadfastness rather than mobility has been the victory-winning characteristic of their soldiers. Their military virtues are their civil virtues disciplined and organized. Nevertheless the civilian English are occasionally susceptible to panicky emotions and when these gain the upper hand they go deeper into depression than more volatile people. The contradiction between their habitual phlegm and their occasional periods of depression is so pronounced that these periods present a spectacle which is far from representative of British characteristics. As a Scotch infidel is the worst infidel, and a German radical is the most intense radical, so a panic-stricken Briton is the most striking example of utter loss of nerve, national characteristics being inverted in the individual."

"Just at present the ammunition panic in Great Britain has entered upon a phase of pessimism expressed in an article in the British Weekly, the editor of which is Sir William Robertson Nicoll. The British Weekly tells its readers that the next three months will determine the result of the war and the result will depend on the immediate making up of the British ammunition deficiency. The superiority of Germany's ammunition supply, it is asserted, gives it a second great opportunity of which it will certainly take the fullest advantage. The Germans, we are next told, are almost certain to attempt invasion, and all these things are liable to happen while Great Britain is lamentably short of ammunition. Then we are reminded that if Lloyd George is not given full swing as munition minister, he may resign."

"If these were the opinions of a military expert they would be the gravest of grave utterances, but Sir William Robertson Nicoll is a clergyman, and his paper is one of the organs of the dissenters. Moreover, he is an intimate personal friend of Lloyd George, and the popular realization of this relationship gives his editorial special significance to British public opinion. When that opinion has time to rally it may, however, come to regard Sir William Nicoll's pessimism as a designed factor of Lloyd George's campaign to turn the United Kingdom into one great ammunition factory. To call the attention of a people to a real exigency publicists often exaggerate it. Preaching that England is in danger is a good way of rousing all Englishmen, but the preaching may be overdone. Loquacity in war times is especially dangerous. At this distance it looks as if the English government was betraying its own military secrets, but it may be in reality only seeking to shake a people out of their complacency and bring them to a sense of the magnitude of the struggle. As the war goes on the consumption of ammunition proceeds and the demand increases by leaps and bounds. Hence it is that the retreat of the Germans from the Marne to the Aisne, when the ammunition of the Allies was only that accumulated in

peace time, affords no criterion of today's requirements."

The Telegraph today may be expected to explain why it did not make mention of the political talk fest at Rigaud on Sunday. The Standard and Telegraph received the same story of that meeting. The Standard published the report as it came through. The Telegraph deliberately suppressed it because the editor of that newspaper who is attempting to delude its readers with Laurier's fake pledges of political truce knew very well that a statement of Mr. Lemieux's political activities would speedily undeceive people as to the real attitude of the Grit party. Sunday meetings appear to be gaining in popularity with the Grits. There was one in Gloucester county not long ago at which partisan speakers indulged in misrepresentations similar to the brand used by Mr. Lemieux.

Judging from the war news the Italian army is moving up to the fighting lines and getting into action in earnest. Germany and Austria will soon feel the striking force of a million fresh soldiers fired with national enthusiasm and sustained by the ancient enmity against the dual monarchy. Many past wrongs will be righted before this war is over.

Solicitor-General Meighen who is soon to visit St. John and deliver patriotic addresses says that next to the war the gravest problem in Canadian affairs is the railway situation. The shadow of Laurier's monument, the N. T. R., hangs like a cloud of gloom over this country from the Bay of Fundy to Prince Rupert.

Laurier wants a pledge of no election as the price of his silence on political questions. If the Grit opposition were really honestly eager for Canadian success in this war it should not ask for a bribe as the price of its loyalty.

There is one argument in favor of permitting Germany to have all the food stuffs she wants says the Boston Transcript—it might stop her from starving the Belgians.

Germany is still forcing the fighting. It is all for the best. Fighting at top speed will the sooner exhaust the enemy.

From all reports the terrible Turk is in for a terrible trimming in the Dardanelles.

The Shade

Sol 'tis the shade of a vanished ship
That sails the North Sea drear,
With wooden walls and gleaming sails,
And guns ranged tier by tier.

There's one who treads the quarter-deck
As though on a deathless quest,
With sightless eye and empty sleeve,
But a lion's heart in his breast.

Oh! the ships I sailed, and the ships I fought
Belong to bygone age.
They now fare forth in hulls of steel
The deadly war to wage.

Their great guns shoot for many a mile
Where ours but carried one—
And the only thing that has not changed
Is the man behind the gun.

The great gray ships sail back and forth
As they sailed in days of yore,
Old England's pride and England's strength
Guarding her rock-bound shore.

And he who dares their wrath, shall
With more than mortal foe,
For our memory's green, though our bones be dust,
And he'll fight 'gainst us, also.

Fisher, Beatty and Jellicoe—
These are the men today,
But Hardy!—they've not forgotten us,
And they fight in the same old way.

Ready to die, as Cradock died,
In men fight off Coronel,
When he fought his ships to the better end
In the midst of a blazing hell!

But look! From the flagship grim and gray
A signal flutters bright,
As it flutters free on Trafalgar day
When we proved Old England's might.

"England Expects"—tis my signal old,
And they fly it once again,
For she puts her trust in her sailors bold,
And she'll not expect in vain.

—F. W. Denny.

FRENCH FACTORIES

TURNING OUT SHELLS AT

RATE OF 173,000 A DAY

Paris, Thursday, June 2.—(Correspondence)—The French press is now clamoring for more cannon and more ammunition with as much insistence as the English. They take as their text Gen. Castelnau's declaration: "War must be waged not by the shock of men, but by the shock of ammunition."

A year ago the ammunition supplies

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

This afternoon I was waiting for me to get throo darnin' wun of pops socks so she cood put sum buttins awn my pants, and aftir I had wated a wile I sed, Im going out, ma, you can fix my pants sum uthir time.

You bettir not go out till ive mendid you, yung man, youve ony got 2 buttins left to fassen yure appears to, sed ma.

Which was awl I had, but I went out anyhow, and nun of the fellas was around so I went around to Mary Watkins street and Mary Watkins was setting out awn her frunt steps, and I sat alawnside of her, saying, Hello, Mary, and she sed, Hello, I was jest going to start to go to the grocery stoar, do you want to kum with me.

Awl rite, I sed.

And she got up awl of the steps and so old I, ony wile I was doing it sumthin' did sumthin' in back of me, beeing my back slapendr buttin flyin' awl, and I quick put my hands in my pockits awn akount of not noing how much pertekshin wun slapendr buttin wud be.

Dont you no its not pulitte to wawk alawng the street with a lady that way, sed Mary Watkins.

Wat way, I sed. Noing wat way, awl rite, ony not wanting to take them out awn akount of wat rite happin.

Wy, with yure hands in yure pockits, sed Mary Watkins.

O, thats the new stile, thats awl rite, sed I.

No its not awl rite ethir, and you jest take them out agen, she sed.

Its wlr rite for me, I sed.

Wy is it, sed Mary Watkins.

Bekause Im independent, I sed.

Well you cant wawk alawng with me with yure hands in yure pockits, she sed.

Awl rite, then Ill go hoam, Im independent, I sed. And I started to wawk hoam and Mary Watkins called aftir me, you can keep them in if you want.

I no I can, I sed. And I did, and kepp awn wawking hoam.

Feels Badly Over Dismissal.

George Duffey, who was dismissed from the police force a few days ago, in conversation with a Standard reporter yesterday said that he felt badly over being dismissed, as it was the first time in his life that he had ever been dismissed from a position. The cause he gives for the dismissal, he says, was a trivial one. He said that on Sunday evening he was asleep in his home and was not awakened until some time after the hour he should have reported on duty. He said that he was not aware that he could have reported at police headquarters late and thought it would be necessary to lose the night. He explained the matter to the chief, but it had no effect.

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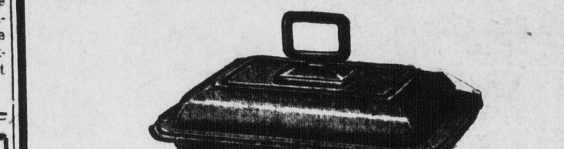
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