

The Evening Times and Star

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THE WAR NEWS.

Today's cables tell of enormous losses suffered by the Austrians in their desperate and vain assaults against the Russians. The latter continue to make progress not only in Galicia and in North Poland, but are steadily holding their own in the Carpathians.

THE TIDE HAS TURNED

The German press is preparing the German people for bad news. There has been, as a matter of fact, much bad news for the people of that country, suppressed, or offset by utterly unfounded assertions to the effect that, despite all difficulties, victory would finally rest with Germany.

Two of the city newspapers appear to have discovered that a petition is being circulated asking for a plebiscite on the repeal of the commission plan of government. The most diligent search, however, appears thus far to have failed to discover the names of those who are responsible for the petition. This is very, very sad.

Major-General Lessard is heartily welcome in St. John. The Canadian Courier has repeatedly urged that the inspector general be sent to the front as commander of the second contingent. His popularity as a military officer is very great in Toronto, and he has a splendid military record.

Because of the discovery of powder in a shipment of New Brunswick potatoes to Boston the ban has again been placed upon shipments to the United States. Apparently the farmers see themselves to blame. In view of the fact that there are very large quantities of potatoes seeking a market there could be no difficulty in finding an

ample supply of perfectly sound tubers for export.

Bank clearings at St. John continue to show an increase over those for the corresponding period last year. Trade conditions in this province are sound.

The United Farmers of Ontario at their recent convention unanimously declared that "the time has come when we should have complete free trade with Great Britain."

Mr. Frederick Palmer, the well known newspaper correspondent, who is at the front in France for the Associated Press, says "one is impressed with the immensity of the British resources," and with the confident feeling everywhere prevailing that the Allies have gained the ascendancy. He says that the British artillery fire is now stronger all along the line than that of the Germans.

The New York Herald, referring to the declared policy of the Allies to prevent the landing of any supplies from other countries in Germany to the fullest extent possible, says: "If as a result of these measures neutral commerce is temporarily embarrassed, this embarrassment will be more than compensated for by the earlier cessation of hostilities, since, with their ending neutral commerce will be freed of all shackles and will once more come into its own."

The city of Halifax has found it necessary to add at least one additional school building each year for the past five or six years, and yet finds that while forty pupils is the maximum number advisable for each teacher, and fifty is the maximum allowed under the Education Act, yet there are numerous departments in which there are fifty or more pupils, and in at least half a dozen schools the assembly halls must be used as class rooms. Both Halifax and St. John are cramped for school accommodation, and they could much better afford to be cramped in one direction.

Mr. Sydney Thompson, secretary of the Single Tax Association, of Toronto, makes this suggestion for raising necessary additional taxation on account of the war: "Suppose \$40,000,000 is required from new taxes, and assuming the population of Canada to be eight millions, this would mean a tax of \$5.00 per head. All that would be necessary would be to notify every municipality that they must collect a tax equal to \$5.00 per head of their population with their other taxes, and to levy it against the value of the land only." The Toronto Globe regards this as a valuable suggestion, which could be effectively carried out by the provinces.

By this time the Turks must have heartily repented of their folly in joining Germany in the war. Their armies have been everywhere repulsed, and the fall of Constantinople is not likely to be long deferred. No country will step in this time to save the "sick man of Europe." Russia will gain access to the Mediterranean, and the Balkan States will be forever relieved of the Turkish menace. It is of course possible that the Turkish armies may still do some hard fighting, for they are a fighting race; but their efforts to bring on a holy war have failed so utterly that the result must be of a most disheartening character.

The Conservative leaders in parliament, including Premier Borden, Hon. Robert Rogers, Hon. J. D. Hazen and others, hereby assailed Professor Shortt yesterday because of his recent remarks about two thousand dismissals and ten thousand appointments by the government in three years. The ministers attempted to make it appear that Dr. Shortt had made an unfair and untrue statement. Mr. Sinclair of Guysboro proved from the official returns that the statement of Dr. Shortt was well within the mark. The ministers, however, continued to attack Dr. Shortt, but refused to accept the suggestion of a Conservative member that they should order an investigation or summon Dr. Shortt before the bar of the house. Were they afraid that Dr. Shortt would prove too much?

The readers of the St. John Standard do not need to be told that Conservative politicians and a portion of the Conservative press have utterly disregarded the political truce, and have been doing their best to create prejudice against Liberal leaders, and even to impugn the loyalty of Liberals. In parliament yesterday Hon. George P. Graham produced pamphlet after pamphlet scattered broadcast free of postage by Conservative members making shameful attacks upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberals generally, although the latter were doing everything in their power to encourage recruiting and giving the government whole-hearted support in carrying out its war policy. Mr. Graham stated the Liberal position in one sentence: "We are eager," he said, "to vote millions for war, but not a dollar for graft."

GILLETT'S LYE. FOR MAKING SOAP, SOFTENING WATER, CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SINKS, CLOSETS, DRAINS, AND FOR MANY OTHER PURPOSES.

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