

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 29, 1916.

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THE WAR NEWS

While we rejoice that Roumania has entered the war on the side of the Entente Allies, adding more than three quarters of a million men to the fighting forces against the Central Powers, we must not overlook the fact that the enemy is still so formidable that every foot of ground gained by the Allies on any front is bitterly contested, and there are still no smashing victories.

But Roumania will help. Austria must now greatly lengthen her lines of defence, which means making her lines of men thinner and less able to cope with Russia and this new enemy. Russia has been reported to have a large army on the Roumanian border. If so, it will now be free to pass through Roumania and join in a vital thrust through the passes into Transylvania. The action of Roumania will also seriously affect the food supply of the Central Powers from the very outset. It may be assumed that Roumania will also soon be at war with Bulgaria, and thus lessen the task of the Allies at Saloniki. Eventually it will mean that Turkey and Bulgaria will be crushed and the Allies free to complete their strangle-hold upon Austria and Germany. But that will be many months hence.

The developments of the last two days make the position of Greece all the more interesting and less problematical. It must be obvious even to the pro-German king of that country that there must be no more fighting with the Central Powers, and it seems a reasonably safe prediction that even the benevolent neutrality toward the Allies of which Venizelos speaks will soon give place to co-operation in the field, in which case the defeat of Bulgaria and Turkey would be much more quickly accomplished. The most momentous events of the day are now transpiring in the Balkan region, and the feeling prevails in the Allied countries that the outcome will perceptibly hasten the end of the war.

On all other fronts there is comparative quiet, but very soon the situation will assume a new aspect all round the circle.

The effect of Roumania's action upon the policy of Austria and Germany is, of course, an uncertain quantity; but, with the growing consciousness of defeat, the policy of Austria and Germany is not likely to be more than a desperate gamble for a few more days.

THE END NOT IN SIGHT.

We have progressed far enough in the war to be assured that the Central Powers cannot win, and that the British Empire is perfectly secure. There never was any serious doubt in Canada about the ultimate safety of the Empire, but there have been times of grave anxiety. One after another the sources of anxiety were removed as the Germans failed at the Marne, at Ypres, on the Russian front, in the North Sea, and at Verdun; and as the later developments of the war made it clear that if any more of the neutral powers came into the conflict it would be on the side of the Allies. Events in the Balkan region during the last week have greatly increased the feeling of confidence that has been steadily growing. The whole outlook grows brighter day by day.

But the war is far from being ended. We are not even sure that it will end when Turkey and Bulgaria have been defeated, Austria-Hungary prostrate, and the German armies driven out of France and Belgium. We believe Germany will be so torn by internal dissension before that point is reached that her government will be forced to yield; but so many beliefs and predictions have been falsified by the facts in these two years that it is not well to be dogmatic. Certain it is that the blasting process is still very slow on the western front and on the Italian front, and that the great Russian advance has been retarded of late, while the Allies are still without important victories to their credit on the Balkan front. Most of Belgium, part of France, Serbia and part of Russia, have still to be cleared of the enemy, and heavy losses must be sustained by the Allies before the task is accomplished.

There is always the possibility that the collapse of the enemy may come sooner than expected, but in England they are still planning for a long war; and Canada must take her cue from England. There is and will continue to be a great demand for recruits and munitions, and the same need as now for keeping the country on a war basis. Canada is still at war, and will be at war for a long period. War is still the chief business that should command the attention and govern the conduct of the Canadian people.

NO CAUSE FOR PESSIMISM.

The state of mind of a man who cannot see any virtue outside of one party and is finally compelled to denounce the party is not one to be envied. Sympathy is therefore due to the esteemed editor of the St. Andrews Beacon, who, in a review of the political situation in New Brunswick, says:

"The debacle of the government would be viewed with little alarm by people throughout the province if there were any assurance that it would be followed

by the advent to power of an administration that would be efficient and would place the welfare of the country before party advantage and personal ambition. Since Mr. Hasen resigned the premiership the province has been without such an administration, and there is no prospective premier in sight to whom the province can look with confidence and full-fledged hope.

That is to say, the present government ought to be defeated, but as the party to which it belongs is the only one which produces leaders who can be trusted, therefore to place the opposition in power would do no good.

The editor of the St. Andrews Beacon is an honest and sincere man. He ought to be willing to believe that there are other honest and sincere men, and that they are not all confined to one party. If he has been a careful observer, he must have noted that there is in this province a growing unrest and a desire to reform the administration of provincial affairs. The revelations which have shocked him have shocked others, and reform is in the air. The first step is to remove the present government, and when that is done and a new administration formed, the next step will be for the press which has urged reform to detach itself from the new government to the extent that it will as fearlessly criticize the new as it denounced the old. Perhaps the Beacon fears that the whole press of the province is also tainted. Well, it is for the Beacon to live and learn. The Times is convinced, not only that the leaders of the opposition party are sincere in their expressed desire for a thorough reform of the provincial administration, but that they will find the press as ready to criticize wrong-doing as to approve of what is honest and progressive and for the good of the province. We are really entering upon a new and better era in New Brunswick politics. There is no reason whatever for pessimism, but for hope and confidence.

There will be no objection to an early return to standard time in St. John. Daylight time has been very satisfactory during the summer, and should be made universal in summer hereafter, but early in September standard time might fairly be re-adapted.

Returned soldiers who have been engaged in recruiting work complain that they have not received their pay. What of that? Hasn't Sir Sam Hughes had another review of troops and a dinner with Lloyd George? Isn't that the important thing? What kickers these soldiers are. They kicked about the Ross rifle, and the food, and the "swank" of the officers—and a lot of other things, while Sir Sam and Col. J. Wesley Allison were saving the Empire. Poof!

Why should the government party in Canada ever hold a convention? The Standard this morning nominates the candidate. Its Hartland correspondent says: "Your correspondent has authority to state that Dr. Rankine will be the choice of the convention next Thursday when the delegates will ratify the entry of Hon. B. P. Smith into the government as minister of public works." Evidently all the convention can do is to accept the man thrust down its throat by those in "authority." There's democracy for you.

If it is deemed necessary in the interests of the discredited local government that the St. John Standard should be sent free to numbers of people who would not subscribe for it, the post office department should see to it that proper postage is paid. The people should not be taxed to offer the men behind the Standard special privileges. They have a perfect right to give away papers if they enjoy that species of philanthropy and that kind of circulation, but they should not ask the postal department to help.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT ATTITUDES

(Haltfax Recorder)

The Tory press has tried long and hard to offset the revelations in Manitoba and Ottawa by making a great noise about charges against Liberals in the Saskatchewan legislature. Some months ago, J. E. Bradshaw, a Tory member of that body, made twenty-seven charges against thirteen Liberal members, the gist of the charges being that these men had accepted bribes to vote against Premier Scott's prohibitory liquor bill. The premier at once appointed a commission to inquire into the charges, and the commission did its work thoroughly and has now reported. Of the twenty-seven charges made, two were dropped by Bradshaw and fifteen others were thrown out by the commission as being absolutely without a shadow of evidence. Of the ten charges investigated the commission found seven of them sustained involving four members out of the thirteen accused. All are private members of the house, and none a member of the administration was found to be involved. Hon. A. P. MacNab being completely exonerated. The guilty ones will no doubt summarily get their punishment, and the whole matter seems to show that Premier Scott is relentless against anything dishonouring to the legislature of Saskatchewan, and that no such doings as those carried on for years at Winnipeg will be for a moment tolerated by a Liberal government.

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LIGHTER VEIN

"I want you to take a picture of our Joe here," said the fond parent to the country photographer.

Joseph was requested to stand in a certain attitude and look toward the photographer. That gentleman's specialty was quick developing, and in a short space of time a proof was placed in the mother's hand. She looked at it very uneasily for some time and then remarked:

"I seen a notice in the window there to say you can do photos to customer's desire, so I'd be obliged to you if you can put another face on Joe. You see, it's to be sent with an advertisement which said they wanted a boy, smart-looking and honest."

"Bill had charge of the animal tent," said the old circus man, "and among the pets was a leopard, the only one we had with the show, and quite enough, too. This leopard gave Bill more trouble than all the rest of the menagerie put together. It was certainly an ugly brute."

"Well, one day when we were resting downstate, I had come up to town to arrange about some advance business. I was eating my dinner in the hotel when a telegram was handed to me. It was from Bill and read: 'The leopard has escaped. Frowning about town. What shall I do?'

"That was just like Bill. He had to have explicit directions, even in an emergency like this. I didn't want to make a mistake."

"I immediately wired back to Bill: 'Shoot him on the spot.' I didn't think any more about it until a couple of hours later, when I received another telegram from conscientious, careful Bill, asking, 'Which spot?'

Young Hopkins had become a happy benefactor and his father thought it advisable to administer to him a certain lecture on how to make marriage a success.

"When you have any differences of opinion," he began, "if you are not able to persuade your wife that you are right—and you probably will not be able to do so—you must compromise."

"Well, we started from Friday to Monday at Brighton and spent the rest of the summer in Switzerland."

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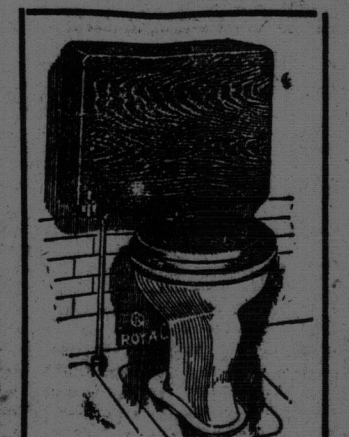
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THE LATE ARCHBISHOP SPALDING

Archbishop Spalding, who died in Peoria, Ill., on last Friday, was seventy-six years old. He had been ill for some years, having suffered a paralytic stroke in 1906.

The Most Reverend John Lancaster Spalding was consecrated bishop of the Catholic diocese of Peoria, Ill., on May 1, 1877, and resigned because of ill health on Sept. 11, 1906. In the following May he was created titular Archbishop of Scythopolis.

He was one of the most prominent prelates of the Catholic church in the middle west states and received nationwide notice when President Roosevelt named him as one of the arbitrators to settle the anthracite coal strike in 1902. He was the author of several books dealing with labor topics, and also wrote several works on religious questions.

For 260 years the ancestors of Bishop Spalding lived in America, the first of the name to come to the new world being a follower of Lord Baltimore. During the reign of King Henry VIII, and Queen Elizabeth in England, the

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J. T. HARPER, PUBLISHER, DIES

James Thorne Harper, president of the Crescent Company, electrotypers, of 338 Pearl street, New York, and a son of the late James Harper, mayor of New York during 1844-46, and with his brother, John, founder of Harper & Brothers, one of the oldest publishing firms of this city, died a few days ago at his home, in his sixty-second year.

After leaving college, Mr. Harper spent a year and a half in European travel and then entered the composing room of Harper & Brothers. He passed through the various departments and in 1890 became a member of the firm. Six years later, when the business was incorporated, he became its secretary and retained that office until the consolidation between the S. S. McClure Company and Harper & Brothers in 1899.

Chinese Gambling Case

In the police court yesterday afternoon evidence was commenced in the gambling case against the fourteen Chinese, who were arrested in the raid on Sunday night. Detectives Barrett and Briggs, Inspector Caples, Sergt. Sullivan and two Chinese, named as witnesses by the police gave evidence and the case was further adjourned until Wednesday morning. The gambling game, as it was carried on by the Chinamen, was demonstrated for the benefit of the court officials. Six of the Chinese taken in the raid were allowed out on a deposit of \$100 each.

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