

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 20, 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.

THE ENTENTE THRUST.

The extraordinarily good news from France on Thursday was supplemented yesterday and last night by intelligence which further heartens the nations of the Entente and the United States, and must carry additional confirmation to the war barons and the enthralled people of the Teutonic allies. So great was the surprise produced by the French and American attack along a twenty-eight mile front between the Aisne and the Marne that many of the German soldiers fled without fighting and some of their officers were captured in their beds.

Ludendorff and the German Crown Prince yesterday poured in reserves, and while they were unable to stem the torrent rushing against them they were enabled to recapture one town in the violent fighting which raged all day. The French maintained their positions hard by the city of Soissons, and it is possible they are in possession of that important centre this morning, as it is untenable for the Teutons. In other sections of the long line the French, aided by the Italians and Americans at a few points made steady progress until they have rounded up more than 150 square miles of reclaimed soil of France.

The thrust has saved Rheims from falling and has vastly strengthened the Allied line in that region of the country. Foch will be careful not to make the mistake of advancing too far at this time, for it is necessary to maintain good communications and not make the colossal blunder the Germans did when they swarmed across the Marne on Monday without first getting possession of Rheims and its environs.

Another important development yesterday was the advance of the French forces south of the Marne against the invaders. The new attack by Foch there resulted in the improvement of positions, the capture of two villages, and with the success north of the stream, assures the safety of Paris.

The British are still harassing the enemy. Yesterday the Scotch had their day and captured a town and prisoners.

The German submarine campaign has been renewed on both sides of the Atlantic and several well known vessels, naval and mercantile, have been sunk. In consequence of the renewal of this phase of Hun warfare ocean routes will probably advance.

STOP KICKING AND HELP.

Our American cousins may have been a bit late in entering the war, but at least they are setting a splendid example of wholeheartedness in it, now they have started, and one which in Canada seems to need to emulate. In the United States, the people are moving resolutely almost as a unit, and any critic of the Government action or of the national performance needs to mind his eye, as the saying is. He has to have a very definite reason for his complaint, or he will find himself in trouble.

In Canada, on the contrary, we tolerate almost any kind of opposition or grudge; we seem to think the war is to be won by kicking against our own organization and our own efforts. Judges try to smash the conscription which is necessary to support our gallant men in France; newspapers which have professed to see a necessity for Union Government lose no opportunity of finding fault with the course or members of the Government; farmers object to being subject to the same conscription as other classes; labor men object to conscription; manufacturers and grain growers alike fuss about the tariff; employ, as protest against too many men being taken from industrial and railway work; Protestants suspect Catholics; and Catholics denounce Protestants; French-Canadians club military police and English-speaking Canadian lawyers, as well as French-speaking ones, are ready to earn a dirty \$25 or \$50 fee by taking cases to get soldiers out of the army by a technicality under the Hanes Corpus. And so on and so on. And the community stands it all almost in silence.

One might easily imagine from such manifestations that a majority in Canada are under the impression that we have sent 200,000 soldiers to France to play childlike tricks there. This country has got the only possible war Government which is available. No miracle can bring any other of that kind. The alternative is a Laurier Government. The present Government and no other can be looked to by every Canadian whose heart is second for the winning of the war. The Government can only do its best if it is supported vigorously in its main effort, regardless of minor shortcomings. Cannot men of us quit imagining that

this is an ordinary era, in which no call exists for anyone to exercise self-restraint regarding his own particular views or grievances or fads or suppositions, even though our squalling takes the vitality out of our war effort?

The world is on fire, and half of us are engaged in bellowing by turns that our share of the fire brigade has too many clothes on, or too big feet, or is likely to get a cold in its head if it keeps on, or has paid too much for a trumpet, or that the chief should be on the north end of the base instead of some other end, or trying to get the firemen away by Hobbies Corpus.

The chief consolation is that on the whole Canada has done pretty well up to the present, and the high heart so far shown by sufficient of the people will probably carry us through.

THE ECONOMIC BATTLE.

From many quarters the counsel comes to the Government's, Imperial and Colonial, to proclaim now a boycott of Germany at the close of the war and for long years afterward. The desirability of having the British Empire made self-contained, supplying within itself all the things needed, is dwelt upon. The achievements of the Mother Country and the Dominions in furnishing, under the pressure of war conditions, many things which in former times had to be imported, are pointed out with much satisfaction. The dependence of Germany on other nations for the raw materials required in her industries is shown by convincing statistics. Let it be known then, say these advisers, that these materials will no longer be supplied. Let Germany be notified that, as the penalty for her crimes, she will be boycotted after the war, that after being crushed on the battlefields she will be crushed again, for long years to come, in the economic battle that she will have to face.

The advice is, in some respects, natural, and it finds widespread favor. No argument is needed to convince one that Germany must be punished in every possible way for her immeasurable wrongdoing. And it may do Germany good to let her see how large a power of punishment the British Empire and our Allies have in the economic field. But it may not be the wisest course to form conclusions and binding commitments just now, even where the desire to punish is so natural and proper.

It is not good policy for an individual or for a nation to make decisions under the influence of anger. It is better to take time for reflection. It is a grave question, to have the benefit of the latest light that is available, than to be obliged to carry out some policy on which pledges were given in the dimmer light of an earlier period. There is much room for the opinion that at the Economic Conference held in Paris several years ago the Allies prematurely, unnecessarily came to conclusions that could not be reached by a similar gathering today. Fortunately these conclusions dealt with the objects to be sought rather than the means to be employed, and therefore there was less commitment to policy than many supposed. If a similar meeting, representing the Allies, were called today, it is pretty certain that the resolutions of the Conference would have to be revised. President Wilson's declared views as to after-war trade relations with Germany are not in harmony with the spirit of the Paris resolution as interpreted by many.

There is nothing to be gained by hastily coming to conclusions now respecting situations that are yet in the future. No conference resolutions, no legislation of any kind, will be needed to govern the action of the British people in future relations with Germany. The thousand atrocities committed by the Germans, the violation of the laws of war and all the laws of humanity, the infamies which have marked Germany as the "wild beast" of the world, have created a situation in which nobody will want to have anything to do with the Germans. Nothing that can be produced at home or can be purchased elsewhere will be brought from Germany. The individual citizen will require no official action to induce him to boycott German goods. Germany will, in this way, be made to feel the strength of the economic weapon which the Allies possess. Where all this is so clear, so certain, there is no need at this time for binding agreements to shut out German trade. The people of the Allied nations—certainly those of the British Empire—can be trusted to do this for themselves as far as it is found wise and proper. As for treaties, contracts, or understandings that may be proposed now, wisdom seems to suggest that these had better be left to be framed

when the necessity arises, in the light of the situation that may then be disclosed. The terms of peace, when the blessing of peace comes, may have something to do with such things. Whether they do or not, there is no reason why the British people and the Allies should not keep themselves free to deal with all such questions in the broader light that will then come to all.

WHY?

For a Government that has been consistent in its preachings of economy, if not in its practice, the Foster administration certainly occupies an unique place in the annals of New Brunswick.

An instance: For several weeks the Royal Gazette, printed in Fredericton by the Mail Publishing Company, has contained a list of the automobile owners of New Brunswick. This list is not alphabetical, nor does it chronicle the automobile owners in numerical sequence; naturally the question arises, why is it published, as it is of no use in its present form and only a matter of distinct inconvenience to those who desire to identify an automobile owner either by his name or number. In the Journals of the House of Assembly for 1917 there is contained a list of "automobiles registered in New Brunswick to November 1st of the preceding year. This list is numerical, and in such a form is useful; but what in the world is the use of publishing a list in the Royal Gazette that is neither numerical nor alphabetical, and which merely serves, as we understand it, to give the Mail Publishing Company an excuse to draw more money from the provincial treasury? This is as it appears to us; if there is an explanation we would be glad to have it from those in authority, but we must say that from evidence at present at hand it looks very much as if the Foster Government was finding an easy way for one of its newspaper supporters to grab maybe a little money from the public chest.

THE EDITOR'S MAIL

LETTER FROM E. S. CARTER.
 St. John, N. B., July 19, 1918.
 To the Editor of The Standard.
 Sir—Your correspondent, who styles and signs himself "An Honest Observer," makes an unfair and venomous attack upon me in this morning's issue with regard to the free ferry service crossing the Kennebecasis and complains apparently that quite recently a charge was made for ferrying at Ferry's Point on the Sabbath Day. I wish "An Honest Observer" had signed his own name so that I could know if he were a resident of the Parish of Kingsport or of any other place without charge. I do not believe that there is a resident who has enjoyed the advantages of the free ferry service since the opening of navigation in 1917, who would write such a letter as that signed by "An Honest Observer." There was never any intention, I repeat, that the ferry service would be free to any one except those living on the Kingston Peninsula or in the parishes adjoining the river. There never was any statement made by me so far as I know, by any member of the government that the ferry service would be free on Sundays. The primary intention of this free ferry service was to help the farmers and others living on the Kingston Peninsula to reach the markets in St. John without being obliged to pay a toll for crossing the wide stretches of the Kennebecasis—a toll that was not exacted of many other farmers in other sections who were able to cross expensive river bridges without charge.

I can say, Mr. Editor, without any hesitation that the free ferry service has given the greatest satisfaction to the people particularly on the Kingston Peninsula, in fact I have two very generously signed memorials to this effect but have never felt that it was necessary to make them public. I invite "An Honest Observer" to sign his own name to any complaint that he has to make about this public service and it will give me great pleasure to discuss the matter with him either in the press or on the platform as to whether the people are benefited or not.

I may say that the order to charge for ferryage on the Sabbath Day at Ferry's Point was given verbally by the Minister of Public Works when inspecting the service and detailed more fully by me at the minister's request in a letter to the ferryman, Mr. Wetmore, and it is only fair to say that an

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 Just think! You get rid of a hard corn, soft corn or a corn between the toes, as well as hardened calluses, without suffering one particle, without the slightest irritation of the surrounding skin. Just a touch of Freezone on a sore corn gives instant relief.

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Pop was in the settin' room mackin' and thinking with his feet, and I sed, Pop, can I ask you a favor?
 Meny ask but few receive, sed pop. Meaning I food if I wanted to, and I sed, Will you get me a pen nife, almost all the fellows, pritty neer, have got pen nifes, and I aint.
 Perhaps you're the fession that proves the rule, sed pop.
 Sir, I sed, and pop sed, Nuthing, and I sed, Well, can I, pop? Will you?

My sun, sed pop, let me tell you a little story and perhaps after you've herd it you will look at the subject with different eyes. Its a story about a little boy, just your size, named Artichie Comhop, and he asked his father so awfen for a pen nife that finally his father whose last name, by the way, was also Cowhop, got so tired of saying no that one day he sed yes jest for a change, and thus, being a man of hlawerd, he had to buy Artichie a pen nife. One day Artichie was wawking to and fro sharpening pencils and fornatine and things with his new pen nife, and suddenly he bumped into his grato granfather, whose name also happened to be Cowhop, and it was the first time the old gentleman had ever bin stuck with a pen nife, and so, not being use to it, it killed him.

And now how do you feel about it?
 Jest the same, I sed, because I aint got any grato granfather.
 So you aint, I never thavt of that, sed pop, well, perhaps if you ask me awfin enuf I mite get tired of saying no too.
 Wich I've asked him 9 more times already but it hasent bin awfin enuf yet.

excepted was made to residents living either in Rotherley or in Kingston who desired to attend divine service.

One more statement made by your correspondent to two men being required to attend to the Gondola Point ferry can best be answered by the fact that this free ferry service began at 4 o'clock in the morning and ends at 5 o'clock at night and the ferryman within call is supposed to answer and cross for passengers or teams up to midnight. Does "An Honest Observer" maintain that any other man should be called upon to work from 4 o'clock in the morning until midnight?

Thanking you for your space,
 I am, Yours very truly,
 E. S. CARTER.

A BIT OF VERSE

TENDERFEET IN CAMP.

Black bugs in the water,
 Red ants everywhere,
 Chiggers round our waist line,
 Sand fleas in our hair—
 But the dust of cities
 At any cost we shun,
 And cry, amid our fitchings,
 "Isn't camping fun?"

Sand in fried potatoes,
 Apples hard and green,
 Thickest, strongest cocoa
 "Most was over soon—
 But we eat with relish
 "Hot dogs" overdone,
 And say, between the fly bites,
 "Isn't camping fun?"

A BIT OF FUN

Didn't Know Beans.
 There was a young girl in Racine,
 Who planted a Boston baked bine;
 She said with a frown:
 "Baked beans are all brown,
 But this one is coming up grine."

Both Going It Blind.
 She—How do I know you are not marrying me for my money?
 He—If it comes to that, how do I know you are not marrying me to reform me?

The Greater Fat.
 Son (a golf enthusiast)—You must admit, father, that it requires great skill to drive a ball a hundred yards—
 Old farmer—Shucks! It don't require half as much skill as it does to drive a pig fifty feet.

Too Serious.
 In a case of assault by a husband on his wife, the injured woman was

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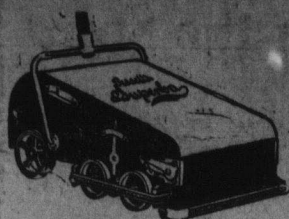
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