

The Charlottetown Guardian

Office at Charlottetown, Branch Office at Sum... Morning Daily (founded 1891), \$3.50 per year...

FRIDAY JANUARY 11th, 1917.

PEACE TALK

The world hunger for peace is again indicated by the interest shown in the speeches of Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson on the Allies' war aims...

Nothing but a complete humbling of German arrogance will bring the war to a conclusion. It is as evident now, with Germany nearing exhaustion, as it was when her victorious armies were triumphantly marching through Belgium and Northern France towards Paris...

The speeches of Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson, repeating as they do the original terms laid down by Mr. Asquith, have caused consternation in Germany. The German people, duped by their military rulers into a belief that they were on the eve of a victorious peace, have found in this new determination to go on to a peace dictated by the Allies, something different from what they had hoped for...

GERMANY'S EXPECTED DRIVE

"Sound, if brutal German policy," says the New York Tribune, "dictates that in the time remaining to Germany before the United States arrives she should concentrate all her energy and all of her efforts on a final assault upon France. Such an assault will be impossible when the United States has a million troops on the west front. Such an assault would have been impossible if the Russian armies had retained half or three-quarters of a million more troops on the east front. But Russia as at present controlled has presented Germany with the final opportunity to win the war. Germany is bound to take advantage of it."

Germany can strike no harder than she has struck. That she will make a determined attempt on the western front there can be little doubt, but the Allied armies there are stronger than ever, and Germany will be foiled.

A RUSSIAN SAVIOUR?

Dr. A. J. Sack, Director of the Russian Information Bureau, believes that a saviour for Russia has arisen in the person of the Cossack hetman, General Kaledine. Dr. Sack has followed the Russian situation from the beginning with remarkable precision, predicting with almost every accuracy events which have come to pass. He says:

"In Russia Kaledine's name became well known during the war as the Commander of the Eighth Army. General Kaledine acted then against the Germans in the same manner as he is now acting against the Bolsheviks. He is always very slow, taking his time to prepare a plan and the necessary measures for its accomplishment, but when he strikes it is almost always a mortal blow. After hearing many things about Kaledine from the Russian officers who have fought under him, I would say that Kaledine may be called the 'Russian Genghis Khan.' His movements are slow, but they are sure in reaching the objective."

"Kaledine will have the backing of all the constructive forces of the Russian democracy. There was a definite report that the Constitutional Democrats are supporting him, and it is not impossible that he has also the support of all the Socialist factions opposed to the Bolsheviks. Five secretaries of the Kerensky Cabinet, led by the moderate Socialist, Prokopovich, have joined General Kaledine, and it is probable that he also has the support of other prominent leaders."

"It must be said most emphatically that Kaledine is not a counter-revolutionist and his object, as far as we know, has nothing to do with any plan for the restoration of monarchy."

"The Bolshevik danger in Russia is like a cancer. If it is not operated on in time it is bound to grow till it reaches the vital organs and kills the patient. The danger has now come very close to the vital organ of the new Republic. The operation must be performed immediately, and General Kaledine is the man to perform it. In this he will have the support of the overwhelming majority of the Russian democracy, which hates the tyranny of Nicholas Lenin not less than she hated the tyranny of Nicholas Romanoff."

FOOD CONTROLLERS AND KNOCKERS

Sir Arthur Yap, the British Director of Food economy, is being attacked because of his orders or advice he is failing to please everybody. When the war is over, he, Mr. Hanna of Canada, and Mr. Hoover of the United States might have an interesting time showing their heads to each other and pointing out the spots where the crank and politicians tried to hit them.—Montreal Gazette.

RETAILERS NOT YET SUBDUED

Consumers have looked for great results from the food administration. Mr. Hoover has done a giant's work thus far, but it is not the kind of work, unfortunately, which the householder understands or feels. The householder has been looking for months for smaller bills from the grocer and butcher, but the bills are not small unless the housewife actually has bought less. And no infrequently the bills are larger despite the fact that the buying has been reduced in volume. It should not be overlooked, either, that food administration is brand new. Mr. Hoover has been acting only a few months. Only just now has he reached the point where he is in a position to deal with the retail problem. It may be taken for granted that it will be solved in due time.—Buffalo Express.

NOTES

All the world's a stage, but only a few performers get the spot light.

It sometimes happens that men use a force of nature, such as electricity or gravitation, long before they understand it. Such a force of nature and human nature is democracy. The war has unchained it. How far it will carry us no man knows. But to doubt that democracy will win is to doubt that the morrow will dawn.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent) OTTAWA, Jan. 7.—Members of the cabinet are finding their way back to Ottawa and the end of the week saw all here with the exception of the Prime Minister and Sir George Foster. Sir Robert is expected back the day after tomorrow, but the accident sustained by Sir George in Toronto will delay his return several weeks. Since the Union Government was formed there have been very few full meetings. The election caused the Ministers to scatter far and wide, and since then the Christmas holidays have given an opportunity for relaxation after the strenuous campaign. The decks are now cleared for action, and it is the intention to move on in settling down to hard work. The order in regard to Prohibition, which was the start off in the Ministerial programme, will be implemented by an immediate enquiry into the manufacture of intoxicants. The manufacture is to be banned at a date to be agreed upon after this investigation. At the present time very little spirits for beverage purposes are being distilled although the distilleries are mostly working at full capacity the alcoholic output being used for municipal purposes. Prohibition of the manufacture will not hit the distillers so hard as the prohibition of the sale. There are some sixteen million gallons of the "real stuff" on tap in the United States, the local sale of which, outside of Quebec, has been banned by provincial enactments, while on April 1st the transportation from "wet" territory, such as the United States and Quebec, to "dry" provinces is to be stopped.

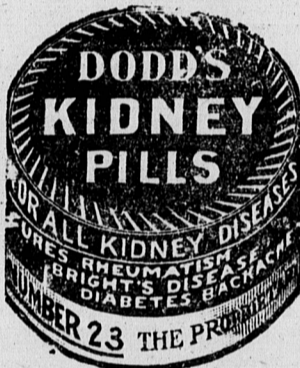
The manufacture and importation of alcoholic beverages comes within the federal purview. Regulations in respect to sale have heretofore been left to the provinces, which, with the exception of Quebec, have adopted prohibition. The Dominion, however, has as much power to prevent the sale as to prohibit the manufacture, but any enactment on the subject would be Dominion-wide even if in its practical effect it related only to the "wet" province of the Dominion. Following the principle of provincial autonomy it is semi-officially announced that nothing prohibiting the sale of intoxicants in Quebec will be considered until the Legislature of that province has decided as to what action it will take in the matter. If it should fail to enact a measure of prohibition at the forthcoming session the question will naturally be taken up at Ottawa. In the meantime there are rumors about the effect here because of the serious loss of revenue which would follow the adoption of prohibition the Quebec Government will not be prepared to do away with the liquor traffic. In that contingency an interesting situation involving conflict between the Dominion and the province will arise. By the way, as a result of the prohibition on order recently made it is pointed out that at least \$12,000,000 of revenue which heretofore has been derived from the liquor traffic will have to be obtained from other sources. Last year the customs revenue on spirits alone was \$7,000,000. A quarter of a million came from wine and \$250,000 from beer. The excess on spirits and malt exceeded \$11,000,000.

The Government has adopted a progressive programme of state-owned ship-building, which will involve an annual expenditure of between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000. The present average cost of shipping is \$200 per ton. The ships, as indicated, are to be built and owned by the Government. Whether they will be wholly operated by the administration or in part chartered to responsible parties, is a question of policy which has not yet been determined. It is not the present intention to establish new shipyards but to use to the fullest capacity those now in operation. Ships now being constructed in Canada for the British Government will be completed by the early summer. Hereafter the Canadian Government will do all the constructing, the feeling being that when it provides the finances it should exercise full control and ownership. The labor situation just now is not the best, but by equitable distribution of man-power among the existing yards it is hoped to produce the maximum of efficiency. Before the year ends some of the ships will be launched, although it is to be expected that work will be retarded somewhat by the finishing up of the work now being done to the order of

the British Government. An important feature of the project is the establishment of rolling mills for turning out steel plates. Heretofore the United States has been relied upon as the source of supply for this material, but owing to the abnormal demand for steel for the ship-building programme there it is apparent that Canada, to get the desired results, must develop her own resources. It is planned to establish rolling mills in connection with existing steel plants at Sydney, New Glasgow, Hamilton and Sault Ste. Marie. The maximum capacity per year calculated on is three hundred thousand tons. Considering the population of the country this is regarded as favorably comparing with the United States whose shipping output is placed at a million a year. This ship-building programme promises to be a great factor in national enterprise. From the practical point of view it is destined to help supply the world-wide deficiency in ocean tonnage, while employment will be provided for thousands of skilled workmen. The fact that it is all to be done as a state undertaking emphasizes the unusual character of the departure which implements one of the earliest announcements of the Government.

Reports which have come to the Military Service Council indicate that the great proportion of the class just called to the colors are coming forward for service at the different battalion headquarters. Where delinquency was the more anticipated the situation is reported to be not unsatisfactory. In the past few months very close tabs have been kept on eligible for service who have made no move at all under the Act or else have failed to secure the exemption they sought. The authorities know their men, and there is small chance of their escaping the dragnet of the law. They cannot get out of the country for immigration inspection has been greatly stiffened, while the present temperature is not conducive to their "taking to the woods." Several thousand young men, it is stated, are being detained in Canada who have been residing temporarily in the United States and came home for Xmas. They cannot get back now, because residing out of the country they have not lost their Canadian citizenship. They will be compelled to go through the same formalities as those in their class and failing to be exempted will, in the ordinary course of events, be drafted. In this connection it may be again stated that negotiations are on foot looking to an arrangement or convention with the United States

(Continued on page six.)



CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Time Table in Effect December 31st, 1917.

Table with columns: Trains Outward Read Down, Trains Inward Read up, Atlantic Standard Time, and various station names like Charlottetown, Hunter River, Emerald Jet, etc.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson,

THE LOVE OF GOD

God's boundless Love and arching sky Above us when we wake or sleep. Above us when we smile or weep. Above us when we live or die. God's tireless Love! Beside the cot Of her sick child the mother sleeps. The Heavenly Father ever keeps Tired watch—He slumbers not. God's patient Love! Misunderstood by hearts that suffer in the night. Doubtful—yet waiting till Heaven's light Shall show how all things work for good. God's mighty Love! On Calvary's height, Suffering to save us from our sin, To bring the Heavenly Kingdom in, And fill our lives with joy and light. God's changeless Love! The wandering one Forsakes, forgets, dishonors; yet, Repenting, going home, is met With no reproach—"Welcome, my son!" God's endless Love! What will it be When earthly shadows flee away, For all Eternity's bright day The unfolding of that Love to see! M. D. BABCOCK

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