

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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## "UNITING" CANADA

It is scarcely conceivable, at a time like the present, when our Empire is fighting for its very life, when human liberty is trembling in the balance, when every day brings sorrow to many homes in our midst, that men of whom better might well be expected should descend to the trickery of the frenzied politician in order to win some petty partisan advantage.

The whole war situation has been threshed out time and time again. Every newspaper reader, Liberal and Conservative, knows how matters stand, and every newspaper reader, Liberal and Conservative—who is not either an enemy to his country or a political maniac, desires above all things else the end of the war, and the coming home of the boys—those that are left of them.

This being so how can one read with patience, read without disgust and loathing the so-called arguments of the professedly loyal frenzied politicians who are today doing more to hinder Canada's help in the war than our worst enemies could do?

They tell us now—they who a few months ago howled for conscription, that conscription is not necessary, and they distort official figures to prove their contention. They tell us there are so many reserves in England, so many in Canada. The official figures, undistorted show conclusively that instead of providing two men in reserve for one in the trenches, as they claim, the Canadian forces in England could provide a bare two months reinforcements at the rate of casualties obtaining when the official figures were submitted and the proportion today is even less favorable. In yesterday's Guardian we quoted the message of Sir Arthur Currie who is in command of the Canadians in France, in which he said that the men are being overworked because they have not sufficient relief, reserves being inadequate; that "if support is withheld or even delayed it means that additional burden will have to be borne by men who are already doing the seemingly impossible." And he adds, "From the agony of the battlefield goes forth the prayer that our home land does not desert us in the hour of our need and of our approaching triumph." While our boys are enduring the "agony of the battlefields" and looking to the home land for help, the frenzied politicians in the home land are trying to persuade us there is no further need of help!

They tell us solemnly and with much flagflapping that "Laurier is the one man that can unite Canada." How is he going to do it? By getting all the other provinces of Canada to unite with Quebec on Quebec's terms, namely that Quebec stay at home and the others do the fighting. These frenzied politicians who preach this doctrine know that in carrying it out they will have the help of every Austrian and German and other alien enemy and slacker in the country; that if they succeed Canada will henceforth, perhaps for all time to come, be ruled by Quebec and by Canada's alien population; that during the remainder of the war period and the reconstruction period after the war when more aliens are flocking in, our soldiers will be deprived of the control in national affairs which is properly theirs.

Suppose Canada were so "united" by the "one man" capable of effecting such a consummation, what then? Where would Quebec, the centre of united Canada, stand? How would her sister provinces regard her? How would they and we regard our own province of Prince Edward Island, for example, if we had refused to contribute our quota to the winning of the war? How would we look in the face our neighbors who had fought and suffered for us?

There is one way in which Canada can be really united, that is, for all Canada to share equally in meeting the danger that threatens all Canada alike. This way was proposed by Sir Robert Borden when he offered half the seats in his government to the opposition in order that there might be a united, non-partisan government behind Canada's effort in the war. And this was refused by the "one man" who wishes to unite Canada to suit himself and those behind him. With this "one man," who al-

ready controls about sixty-four of the sixty seats in Quebec and all the seats in the western provinces that are dominated by Austrians and Germans, the little Grit politicians of all Canada have united in abusing the government in criticizing its every effort, in trying to discredit it in the eyes of the people and finally to defeat it. Should they succeed where would Canada be in the war? How would that prayer "from the agony of the battlefield" be answered? Where would the "approaching triumph" find us?

## CANADA SHOWS THE WAY

Discussing the duty which devolves upon the Empire to care for returned soldiers, the London Daily Mail, one of Lord Northcliffe's principal newspapers, says:

"We congratulate Canada on the lead she has given in the treatment of her soldiers, and hope the example will be followed in this country without delay. In November last an order was issued by the Canadian Government directing that no person receive Government employment who had not served in the army. What Canada is doing, all the states in the British Empire will do before the war ends."

There has been a lot of unfair and misleading criticism of the Borden Government. But the truth is, as this great British Journal points out, that in looking after returned soldiers, Canada leads the way. This was the testimony of Sir Rider Haggard, and it is the testimony of Australia, which has copied the work of the Dominion Military Hospitals Commission.

The other day the Metropolitan Magazine cabled Lord Northcliffe asking him if he had any suggestions to make as to how the United States could efficiently prosecute the war. Here is what the great British journalist replied:—

"If you come in I have one thing to say to you, and it is this: you can learn a great deal from the example of Canada."

This tribute to Canadian achievement, from the man who stands out above all others as the ablest critic that the war has produced, should be for every Canadian a matter of pride. Cheap-jack politicians, more intent upon partisan capital than winning the war, may belittle and sneer, but for what the Government and people of Canada have done in this great struggle, the outside world has only admiration and praise.

## A GREAT PRIME MINISTER

"Canadians are of no party when they cheer their Premier on his departure upon a mission which has for its object the casting of Canada's vote for the freedom of the oppressed and the down-trodden."

The foregoing words from the Toronto Globe, the leading Liberal journal in Canada, correctly interprets the sentiments of the Canadian people irrespective of origin or party. However much Canadians may differ in their politics, there can be no honest disagreement between them as to this: that in all the essential requirements of his high office, in statesmanship, tact, courage, integrity, vision and patriotism, Sir Robert Borden has shown himself a great Prime Minister, a worthy leader of his country through the greatest attack upon civilization that the world has known. He fills his position as the first Commoner of Canada, and represents the Dominion in Imperial Conferences and in international pourparlers by divine right of intellect, and with all the moral authority of an Imperial statesman backed by the united support of all that is best and highest of the greatest of the overseas Dominions.

## NOTES

Mr. Root thinks that affairs in Russia are not so bad. Apparently Mr. Root is the sort of optimist who would order an oyster stew in a hotel in the expectation of finding a pearl with which to pay for his meal.

No more medical men are available in Britain for army service. Canada has mobilized a large number of medical men, but it and the United States have almost an excess yet. There is room here for an official effort at obtaining volunteers for the service.

A peace party is developing in the United States and has men in Congress to voice its views. At present the spokesmen are getting more hostile than supporting criticism, in which regard they are like their fellow thinkers in most other lands. Real lovers of war may not be numerous anywhere; but when a country is in a struggle for its existence, they have the mass of manly men to support them.

# CANADA'S EFFORT

## THE DOMINION IN THE GREAT WAR

*"What stronger breast-plate than a heart untainted? Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just, And he but naked though locked up in steel, Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted."*

Reviewing all that has been accomplished during the last thirty months, it is no vain national boast that the Canadian people have far exceeded the expectations laid down at the outset—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

### VII.

In the interest of agriculture members of the Expeditionary Force still in Canada have been granted leave during the plowing, sowing and harvesting seasons. In the spring of 1916 nearly 20,000 men temporarily left the various military camps to do necessary work on the land. As many availed themselves of the privilege during the late summer and autumn seasons. The Department has dealt with important questions respecting patents held by alien enemies. It has served extensively as purchasing agent for the British War Office. Up to the end of February, 1917, while acting in this capacity it bought 7,000,972 80lb. bags of Canadian flour; 49,904,451 bushels of Canadian oats; and 100,480 tons of Canadian hay, at a total outlay of nearly \$70,000,000. This great business, conducted under the direction of the Minister of Agriculture, has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars for Great Britain and put millions of dollars into the pockets of Canadian farmers. The exports of hay were made by the establishment of Government compressors in several of the Provinces. At the height of the season the Montreal plant employs 500 men and handles 6,000 tons a week. No fewer than 64,000 railway cars and 441 ocean transports were employed in the shipment of these extensive purchases.

### DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

The Department of Trade and Commerce has done valuable service in connection with the war and in helping to maintain prosperity in the face of war-time conditions. In August, 1914, this Department despatched the Canadian Government's free gift of one million bags of flour to the people of the United Kingdom. The order was placed with six Canadian milling companies and the Department issued cheques in payment for shipments upon inspection at Montreal. The first shipment went forward on August 24th and the last on December 15th. The flour was distributed to seven different ports in the British Isles, as requested by the Imperial Authorities. The Department also handled gifts of flour, oats, cheese, fruit, and other food, together with contributions in money from the farmers of Ontario. In cash and produce these donations exceeded \$100,000 in value. Collecting and shipping were not a light undertaking, but all was done effectively, the gifts forwarded promptly to London and used to great advantage by the Imperial Authorities.

The Department's apple campaign in the autumn of 1914 is an example of its wise activities. The war had closed the European market for Canadian apples, the crop was large and quantities of this delicious and valuable fruit were likely to go ungathered. The Minister undertook to interest the public in the wider use of the fruit, in the hope that a demand would be created and apples that otherwise would be wasted, saved and sold at reasonable prices. It was decided to advertise the apple and its uses through the Canadian press. Attractive advertisements were published in daily newspapers throughout the Dominion. Over 60,000 booklets, printed in English and French, and entitled "Apple Defigures," were distributed throughout Canada. The campaign proved a thorough success; it brought remarkable results. The public took, at moderate prices, large quantities of apples that otherwise would have been lost.

The Department has acted in co-operation with other Departments in the purchase, inspection and shipment of war supplies for the British and Allied Governments. Late in October, 1914, it began to purchase blankets for the French Government. Orders were placed for 457,000 blankets and in good time thirty-four Canadian mills entrusted with the contract delivered 406,716 blankets. Owing to the anxiety of the French Government to obtain a proportion of the order at a very early date, 43,000 blankets were bought in the United States. This order alone ran into \$1,600,320.82. In March, 1915, the Department handled an order for 35,000 bags of flour from the British South African Government. The Maple Leaf Milling Company, of Toronto, submitted the lowest tender (\$3.65 per barrel at New York) and was awarded the contract, which totalled \$129,603.50. In July, 1915, Italy came into the Canadian market for 600,000 undershirts and 100,000 blankets. The Department undertook the work of inspection and paid for the goods. The transaction involved an outlay of \$1,019,886.84.

The Department had to do much work in connection with the purchase and export of wheat to meet the urgent needs of Italy in the autumn of 1915. The order came through the British Government from the Allies Purchasing Commission. It was necessary to get the grain to Fort William before the close of navigation, in order to meet Italy's immediate requirements. The Government therefore could not purchase direct from the farmers. To purchase through brokers would have involved a commission and probably a sudden rise in the market. At the time a great deal of the Canadian wheat crop was in the hands of middlemen who would have derived all the advantage of advancing quotations. The Government, moreover, was obliged, as a virtual trustee for the Allied Governments, to avoid undue inflation of the market. The Administration therefore suddenly announced that all wheat grading Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Northern, then in the elevators at the head of the Lakes and east of the Lakes, should be held for further orders. This action had the effect of raising the value of all wheat back of the elevators, that is to say, of all wheat still in the hands of western farmers. The Department of Trade and Commerce had great difficulty in securing adequate transportation facilities, but the wheat was finally taken to its destination by fifty ocean-going steamers.

Following is a statement showing the war orders placed by the Department of Trade and Commerce to date:

For Great Britain—1,000,000 bags of flour	\$ 3,003,005.06
" France—406,916 army blankets	1,600,000.00
" Italy—101,974 army blankets, 605,120 shirts	1,019,886.84
" Italy—11,416,485 bushels wheat approximately	10,000,000.00
" New Zealand—503,224 bushels wheat	1,000,401.30
" South Africa—35,000 bags flour	129,603.50

From the outset of the war the Department has sought to stimulate the production of articles formerly made in enemy countries. At an exhibit at the National Industrial Exhibition in Toronto, Canadian-made toys were contrasted with foreign and British-made toys. A much more extensive exhibit of enemy manufactures has been put on in Montreal and Toronto, with a view to stimulating new manufactures in this country. This display includes about 10,000 samples of Teuton products, of which it is felt that Canadians can produce imitations or sub-

OTTAWA.—An order-in-council was passed by the government to-day offering a reward of five thousand dollars to any person giving information which may lead to the arrest and conviction of the parties who dynamited the residence in Montreal of Baron Atholstan.

stitutes for both the domestic and foreign markets. With this end in view the Department has appointed a Board of Scientific and Industrial Research, modelled on the plan adopted in Great Britain. This Board consists of advisory experts working in accord with the Privy Council. It includes scientific experts and representative business men and manufacturers who recognize the necessity for applying scientific methods and research to the industries of Canada.

Some months ago the Minister of Trade and Commerce issued a call for national organization and co-operation to meet industrial competition after the war. In Great Britain and Allied countries it is believed that in the new world which will come with the return of peace business must be more thoroughly organized, products improved and better methods of marketing adopted. The Minister has urged upon the banking, commercial, industrial, transportation and scientific leaders of the Dominion the necessity of giving post-war conditions their most careful consideration and of taking joint action to make their deliberations and conclusions effective.

Early in the war the Department prepared a publication giving minute details of enemy country exports to Canada and other countries. This book was widely circulated for the information of Canadian manufacturers and business men. A representative of the Department has visited a number of foreign countries to secure special information regarding openings for the Canadian lumber trade in those countries. Trade agents have been sent to different parts of Russia, to promote Canadian trade with a nation which is certain to make great commercial strides when peace is restored.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Government has taken measures to protect the land titles of Canadian soldiers. This service has been performed by the Department of the Interior. Settlers who join the Overseas forces do not forfeit their homestead entries. The benefits of this provision have been extended to all Canadian settlers in the armies of Great Britain and her Allies who may be unable to resume occupation of their properties or complete their homestead duties. That is to say, no Canadian settler in any of the Ally armies will lose his farm by reason of absence through military service, wounds or illness, and in case of death his heirs are entitled to the same relief. This relief may be from further cultivation or from residence, or both, as may appear fair and reasonable. Total disability or death on active service procures the issue of the patent forthwith regardless of residence or homestead duties. In case of death, the patent goes to the heirs of the deceased. Men who take up land after enlistment are protected against cancellation. In like manner, holders of Canadian mining rights who are engaged in military service with the British or Allied forces are guaranteed against loss of their rights for the duration of the war and six months thereafter.

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 DAILY SELECTIONS FOR  
 GUARDIAN READERS  
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 Furnished by W. S. Louson.  
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 CHANT OF LOVE FOR ENGLAND.

### SAFE IN DISCOMFORT.

It is better to be cared for than to be comfortable. It is said that the experiences of freezing to death and of drowning are very pleasant and comfortable; but the bodily life is not being cared for in the best way just then. God pledges himself to care for us, and to supply our every needs. But we must remember, as John Hay of the Inland South American Missionary Union recently said in commenting on some of the blessedly testing experiences of the missionaries in South America, "It is not always comfortable when God is taking care of you. And we think that if we're uncomfortable, God is not taking care of us." Yet the discomfort may be the best evidence of his care. The surgeon's knife that cuts away a diseased, death-dealing matter is a loving and careful knife, even while it cuts into our life; but God's love cares for us all the while. If we will but care more for his care than for our comfort, he will keep us in peace and joy in the midst of every test.

S. S. TIMES.

### CABAL RUMORS MERELY TWADDLE

OTTAWA.—Stories which are appearing in the Liberal press to the effect that there is a cabal against Sir Robert Borden in the Conservative party and that the private members are murmuring against his leadership can be described as the silliest twaddle. It is only part of a Liberal game. Sir Robert Borden never stood higher in the estimation of the party at Ottawa than at the present time. He has played and is playing the part of a big statesman. He has left no stone unturned to unite all the winners of the war elements of the country. Out side the Liberal politicians who have proven that they are interested in winning the election, not winning the war, union is already as good as accomplished. The Laurier Liberals would rejoice if Sir Robert were not the leader of the government which appeals to the country. They know his never known such a holocaust of head he alone, can rally the war aims result as represented in the forces of the country. Under any present tragic World War. And John our other leader, Laurier would triumph. Hence the Liberal stories.

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Extravagance, always a folly, in these days becomes a crime; thrift, always a virtue, in these days becomes a national duty.

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