

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, APRIL 18th, 1918

THE WAR SITUATION

The war news this morning and yesterday is not particularly bright but there is no cause for gloom or despondency, no cause for dismay. The Allied armies are retiring, it is true, but they are retiring in good order, tired, it is true, but not beaten nor going to be beaten. The worst that can happen is retirement to the coast and even that may happen but if it does the allied armies will have behind them the British fleet and no German host on land or German fleet at sea can get within range of its guns and get away. Whether this, the worst, shall happen, it would be idle to predict as events are chasing each other with such rapidity that what is assumed now may be contradicted by the facts before it reaches our readers.

The advance made by the Germans is accounted for by the fact that they are fighting practically in their own country with railways intact, built specially for this war, giving them a mobility impossible in France or elsewhere. They have massed their troops in the narrow sector in which this drive is being made and by pouring them in wave upon wave, their blow has met with comparative success but at a cost in men which makes it a disaster rather than a victory. The territory they have occupied is covered with their dead and behind them are their millions at home pleading, to the point of rebellion, for a cessation of the slaughter.

EDUCATION REPORT

The report of the Superintendent of Education for the past year, has been issued. Like other departmental reports it will be read in the light of the war. There have been changes during the year some of them no doubt directly due to the war, others indirectly.

The number of male teachers in 1917 was 110 as compared with 138 in 1916, while the total number of teachers in the past year was 601 as compared with 595, an increase of six for the year. Part of this decrease in male teachers is no doubt due to the fact that many of them had joined their brethren in the army.

The number of boys enrolled during the year was 9,291 a decrease of 274 from that of the previous year. This also may be attributed to the drain upon farm help caused by the war. There was an increase of 102 in the enrolment of girls, making a total decrease in enrolment of 172.

The total expenditure by the government for education during the year was \$178,607.37. In this connection it is interesting to note the steadily growing increase in expenditure for education in recent years. A table is given in the report showing this growth since 1885 when the total government expenditure was \$109,316.85. With but few exceptions during this period each year showed an increase over the preceding year, that for 1917 being \$4,644.81 in excess of 1916.

Another noteworthy feature is the steady growth of teachers' supplements. In 1891 these amounted to \$9,672.50. Last year they reached the respectable figure \$28,751.25, while the grand total expenditures by school districts grew from \$146,883.40 in 1891 to \$251,230.55 in 1917.

The average salaries paid to first class teachers have increased from \$526.47 for males and \$343.61 for females in 1911 to \$665.16 and \$472.77 respectively.

An interesting comparative statement is given showing the expenditures per pupil by the governments of the different provinces. Prince Edward Island has the distinction of standing highest in this list, the percentage paid by the government being 71.1 that in the other provinces being as follows: British Columbia 49.4; Ontario 5.8; Quebec 16.3; Nova Scotia 25.4; New Brunswick 34.8; Manitoba 20.; Sask., 13.1; Alberta 6.7. In this connection it is interesting to note that the total cost of education per pupil is very much lower in P. E. Island than in any of the other provinces, the figures being as follows: Ontario \$32.81; Quebec \$25.70; N. S. \$14.05; N. B. \$20.; Manitoba \$50.30; Sask., \$62.46; Alberta \$49.81; B. C., \$49.80; P. E. Island \$13.24.

Commenting upon these figures the Superintendent quotes the principle laid down by the National Education Association of the United States as follows: "Local taxation supplemented by State aid

presents the best means for the support of the public schools and for securing the deep interest which is necessary to their greatest efficiency. State aid should be granted only as supplementary to local taxation and not as a substitute for it."

Proceeding the Superintendent says: "There is little doubt that one result of our method of school support has been a lack of interest or weakened sense of responsibility consequent from the small direct taxation heretofore necessary."

Another result made possible by the small local cost for the support of a school has been the creation of a number of small districts. It would therefore appear that the increased support now necessary should come from local taxation as it only will arouse greater interest and tend towards the consolidation of small schools."

The report abounds with valuable information and much food for thought which space at present prevents further reference to.

GOLF LINKS FOR PASTURE

The President of the Charlottetown Golf Club, Mr. W. K. Rogers, has just concluded arrangements with Mr. L. L. Jenkins, Superintendent of Falconwood Farm for the lease of the Golf Course for pasture for the Asylum cattle for this season, which will release other lands that would have had to be pastured and may now be cultivated. This is practical patriotism and will result materially in increasing production. The Golf Club is to be congratulated on making the first move to put theory into practice in the matter of helping to provide the Allies with food. The Golf Club shows good sense in that they have handed over to a practical farmer land which they could not very well cultivate with advantage themselves. We hope that the arrangement will continue for as long as there is need of increased production.

YPRES ANNIVERSARY

It is proposed to celebrate, the 13th anniversary of the taking of Ypres by the Canadians, throughout Canada on Sunday. All military headquarters have agreed to hold a military display and special military services in Protestant and Catholic churches. In Charlottetown, arrangements are in the hands of the Army and Navy Veterans' Association and plans are being made for a military parade of returned soldiers, with special service in one Protestant church and the R.C. Cathedral. In St. John the Protestant members of returned forces will march to St. John's Church, where a special service will be held and sermon preached, and the Catholics will parade to the Cathedral, where a sermon suitable to the occasion will be delivered and special service held. The War Veterans hope that similar arrangements will be made here. A special service will also be held at the Monument in the Square at 12.15, where the Paardeberg and Ypres anniversaries will be commemorated. As there are some Veterans unable to march it is intended that they should not be deprived from taking part in the celebration, and automobile owners are to be asked to lend their autos for the benefit of these heroes. Further particulars will be given later.

AN ENTERPRISING ISLAND

A notable little British possession is Grenada, the gem of the West Indies, and one of the most beautiful islands in the world, says an exchange. When war began the demand for imported foodstuffs generally and particularly of flour was on the increase, but as soon as the islanders saw that they could help much by growing their own food they set to work. So well have they contributed in this form that an official report says Grenada "has shown greater prudence than some of the other colonies," and there has been "a plentiful supply of local foodstuffs. Grenada has an area of only 120 square miles and a population of 72,000. A quarter of a century ago when the West Indian sugar outlook was black, the people of the island turned their attention to fruits, cocoa, spices, etc. By enterprise they remained prosperous, and the population is today double what it was then.

We could dump the island of Grenada into any one of the three counties of Prince Edward Island without causing much disturbance, yet our little sister island has nearly as large a population as our own. This is one of the reasons why they are progressive, why they are well off. Another reason is that they have adapted themselves quickly to the new conditions. In this they have set an example which bigger islands may well follow.

GERMAN BOOKS A DEADLY AGENT

At the bottom of the agitation going on in all Allied nations against the German language is, no doubt, a hatred of everything German. The Good Book taught the Allies not to hate; but the Germans taught them to make an exception. It must be admitted that there is a great deal of unofficial hatred of Germany, Germans, Germanism and other germs prevalent today. The movement to abolish the teaching of the German language, and to ban all books written in the German tongue does not depend upon hatred for its justification. German textbooks have been used among Allied students not only to teach the language that the Kaiser and Hindenburg exhaust to express their opinions of current military events, but to propagate Germanism, to sow the seeds of that German which we have seen flowering in Serbia and Armenia and Belgium, of which a pampered bud was the execution of Edith Cavell.

Please Don't Hate the Germans

We have not exactly with us, but among us, this morning, many a spectacled student who deprecates the teaching of German. We had with us yesterday the choice spirits who make complete jokes at the expense of the Americans who were in favor of entering or lynching Dr. Karl Muck.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

THE FAITHFUL HORSE

Of all dumb animals the horse is the one which most deserves the gratitude of man, says a writer in the Baltimore "Sun." It has been his docile and willing servant for ages. It has helped him to conquer the reluctant earth. It has eased and aided him in the dull business of getting a living. It has played a greater part in human progress than many a race of men.

Until man had made the horse his servant and ally the thing that we now know as civilization was out of his reach. The mere labor of getting his daily bread consumed all his energies. But when the first plough-horse threw its weight forward a new era dawned for humanity. Thereafter man began to have leisure to plan and dream. Life became to him less a matter of muscle, and more, a matter of mind. It was then that progress really began.

The horse appeals very little to the theatrical sense. It is a silent, patient, undemonstrative beast, with little of the humanlike emotionalism of the dog. It does not dash into raging torrents to save its master's life; it is not a destroyer of burglars and kidnapers; it does not cuddle down on hearth rugs. One rarely loves a horse, perhaps, as one loves a dog. But in those drab but invaluable virtues which distinguish the honest friend and true comrade, willing to take his share of labor in the heat of the day, the horse is without a peer.

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSOTT, D. D.
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Dr. Linscott in this column will help you solve your heart problems, religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious care that perplexes you. If a personal answer is required, enclose a five cent stamp. No names will be published; if you prefer, sign your initials only; or use a pseudonym.

Mrs. H.—The relation between you and the married man you mention may be quite innocent, but the public are suspicious of such things, and I am quite sure it will be better for both of you to respect public opinion.

INQUIRET.—I do not know where Heaven is. I do not even know whether it is a place or a condition, but I believe it is a place. Jesus said "I go to prepare a place for you." It may be that our disembodied spirits will be of the nature of thought, without material form, and can travel a million miles as quickly as you. Perhaps the whole of space may be the "place" that Jesus is specially preparing for us; or it may be that one of the vast planets is Heaven. When our spirits are reunited with our bodies they will be changed into "celestial" or spiritual bodies. Matter may exist without visibility having self-contained force and motion with almost the velocity of thought, as exemplified by electricity. It may be this is what is meant by "celestial bodies" and if so, then the "place" called Heaven, may well be the entire universe. One thing at least is certain, that the Christian's future home will be a happy place.

Since Dr. Karl Muck has been interdicted they have fallen silent, but nevertheless the theories of the denatured philosophers who used to tell us that we were not fighting the German people, but the Kaiser, disregarding the fact that to really fight the Kaiser we had to kill a few million of his subjects, and of their successors, who warned us sternly not to hate the Germans, but to disembowel them in a sympathetic and detached manner and blow them to pieces, with no offence meant, or else to drown them with the utmost good-will, are yet abroad in the land. There is a possibility that they will do harm if not combated. We need not worry about our fighting men being influenced. The danger is to those of us who do the talking and the listening.

Conscripting Beethoven

To all such a recent German publication is to be commended. It is a prominent number of what is called the "Universal Edition" of various German composers, and is, better known to music lovers as Beethoven's Sonata. It has been issued from Leipzig, and to take the opinion of Maurice Krammer, a writer in a Swiss paper, the edition is an excellent one. Paper, type, and engraving are good, and the piece is obtainable at a low price. It is subsidized and recommended by the Imperial and Royal Department of Austria-Hungary, and is thus entitled to be considered a Germanic text-book. The preface or commentary, which occupies some 70 pages of close text to the 24 pages of music, is written by a Heinrich Schenker, and instead of talking about Beethoven he talks about the great war. In fact, he tries to prove that Beethoven had foreseen the war, and that his masterpiece was written with the idea of providing his countrymen with consolation in their day of trouble. The book, obviously, was issued for the purposes of German propaganda, and Beethoven is conscripted from the tomb to bear witness to the Kultur which he must have loathed.

Setting Beethoven to Hymn of Hate.

Beethoven disappears from the picture almost immediately, or as soon as the present commentator has specifically and comprehensively insulted all foreigners who previously had endeavored to express some opinions upon his art. The bulk of the 70 self-printed pages is devoted to an explanation of the "world-wide plot against Germany. References to music are few and far between, and the author of the introduction goes down to the racial characteristics of the nations now opposing Germany. O, the French, he says that they are "a people devoid of all sincerity, of all intelligence, of all culture of life, on the whole, the fullest of artists of life." The English are, if possible, worse. The love of sport has completely destroyed any rudiments of civilization that the English might have inherited. They have no morals, no religious sense, no scientific spirit

ing. And the most disgusting of them all probably, were the Old Comptibles.

Bandits, Beasts, Fools

The Italians are mere bandits, and the Russian is a beast. The Americans are a rabble of shop-keepers, without Kultur, whose dull brains are exercised only over the coarsest buffoonery. Fortunately for the writer, he casts no aspersions upon Canadians, or we should have answered him in stinging fashion. We meet his forbearance with equal restraint, and merely call attention to the book to show what dependence Germany places upon the book as an agent of propaganda. A writer in the New York Times says: "Any book whatsoever, from the innocent-looking school book to the pretentious treatise on philosophy, from the children's picture book to the music score—anything in short that comes to us from a German printing press—is open to suspicion." If German propaganda can be conveyed by means of musical composers long dead what source is closed to Kaiserism?

A SOLDIER'S MOTHER

Sir,—I read in the columns of your paper recently, letters from farmers signed, "J. D. L., 'A.A.S.' King's Co., one 'voicing the sentiments' of the other, reproducing a grievance, a grab, a robbery, etc. I, as a soldier's mother, with my boy 'Somewhere in France,' have had some hard problems to solve ere he left me and since I see you are sorely perplexed; let me solve your problem for you, dear farmers.

Why find fault with the Food Controller? He controls high prices (thank heaven) not low prices. Why fling epithets at him—a figure head, etc. There are some "loyal" people who are figure heads. Why accuse the press? The press never advocated the overproduction of a perishable product. Methinks you should profit by experience.

You cannot blame your increase of acreage, when doubtless your produce yield was wholly potatoes. You received \$2.20 per bush last spring, some farmers refused to sell even at those figures. Now, the price is as low as 35 cents per bush. You should profit by experience, but evidently you are a dreamer, and dreamed that you would receive a still higher figure this spring (and if the war continued) a fabulous price, but dreams come generally the reverse they tell us. Pray, do not give up the hog still holds about his snout. The solution is this: Turn your surplus potatoes over to your neighbor, the hog raiser, the hog will grant his approval, and when he has disposed of them, slaughter him and I will guarantee every soldier's mother will not object to your price, in order that her boy "Somewhere in France," may have a generous share of bacon. Then divide your profits with your neighbor, and we mother's will share the glory with you when the war is over. We should be entitled to the honor: That we gave our sons to fight for Canada, and you; That you sent the hogs and potatoes to feed them.

I am, Sir, etc.

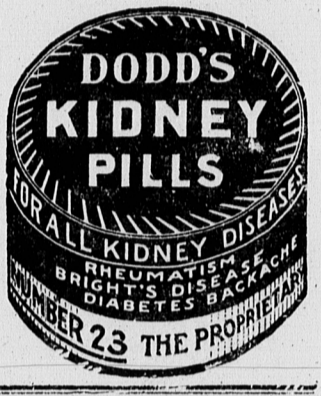
A SOLDIER'S MOTHER.

Address and Presentation

A very pleasant farewell social was held Thursday evening, 11th inst., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Ways, Hunter River, when forty of their friends gathered to say farewell to their daughter, Mrs. W. E. Callbeck, and her two little sons, previous to their departure to their home in Calgary.

A very pleasant evening was spent in social plays and music, refreshments being served. The following address was read, by Miss Beatrice Van der Stine, and a beautiful cut glass table tray was presented to Mrs. Callbeck by Miss Annie Andrews. The address reads as follows: "Mrs. W. E. Callbeck, Dear Friend, On learning that you are about to leave your native Isle for your adopted home in Western Canada, to join your husband, we your friends of Hunter River, feel that we cannot let you go from among us without taking this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of your true friendship and service. By your rare talent you have added greatly to the choir service of the churches and those social gatherings for funds for war purposes. Please accept this small gift as a token of our true gratitude and thanks. We wish you and your family a pleasant and safe journey home, and that the Divine Master may grant you and Mr. Callbeck and family many happy years to work in His service."

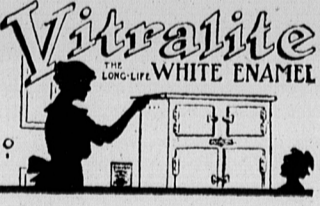
(Signed) Mr. and Mrs. D. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Slackford. —For the friends, Mrs. Callbeck, in a few brief words, thanked her many friends for the kindness shown her. The pleasant evening was brought to a close by singing "God Save the King" and "Splendid Men."



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