

The Charlottetown Guardian

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SATURDAY, MARCH 2nd, 1918

THE PATRIOT'S DEFENCE

The Patriot's characteristically hysterical outburst in its yesterday's issue will scarcely be regarded by any of its sane readers as an effective defence of its attitude on the election. It scolds the Guardian with considerable venom and ill-concealed animosity. It utters no word in defence of the policy it pursued during the election campaign, but makes unwarranted accusations against the Guardian.

The Guardian has nothing to retract. Throughout the whole campaign it consistently followed the policy pursued by every respectable Liberal and Conservative newspaper in Canada with but very few exceptions of which the Patriot is one, and its claims to respectability are badly smirched by its yesterday's effort. Moreover, the Guardian's attitude has been amply justified by the civilian vote in every province in Canada except Quebec and Prince Edward Island and by the soldiers' vote in every province including our own.

Our contemporary's statement that "Mr. Sinclair was the choice of the people of his native country and had a majority of over eight hundred over Mr. Martin," is not according to fact. He had a bare majority of four votes, for the soldiers who voted against him in Canada, France and England are also electors of Queens County, the Patriot's allegation to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is true the Guardian, in common with our sons and daughters overseas and elsewhere throughout the world, and in common also with the best element in our own province, regretted the action of the majority of our stay-at-home population in voting against the Union Government and its war policy and in favour of a policy that every province in Canada, with the exception of Quebec, overwhelmingly turned down. We expressed the opinion that party-mad politicians of the Patriot stripe were to blame for misleading and deceiving our people and the evidences of this misleading and this deceit will unfortunately continue for many years hence to rise in judgment against those false leaders.

What justification has the Patriot to offer today, in the light of all that has occurred, for such appeals as the following, picked out at random from its last frantic efforts to mislead its readers:

"Every young married man between the ages of twenty and thirty-four will, if otherwise eligible, be compelled by law to go to the war. Hence every young married woman voting for the Unionist candidates will be voting to send her husband to the war when the second draft is called."—Patriot, Dec. 14th, 1917.

"Laurier will help by dismissing these majors and colonels and giving your boy a chance to be promoted. By giving your boy and his dependents better treatment and bigger pay."—Patriot, Dec. 14th, 1917.

"Married soldiers, who are Liberals, have been wounded, patched up, then wounded again and then patched up and sent back to the firing line, while others, young unmarried men, without a scratch have been allowed home on furlough because they are Tories. Vote for Warburton and Sinclair and wipe out these abuses."—Patriot, Dec. 15, 1917. (Last issue before election.)

"It is our firm conviction that after Monday next, the Tory party in Canada will be buried so deep it will not see a resurrection day for the next fifty years."—Patriot, Dec. 15, 1917.

With such appeals as these to the credulity and the ignorance of men and women, party-mad politicians, male and female, and the Patriot as their mouthpiece, succeeded in deceiving the majority of our people. The Patriot objects to calling it a stigma on our province. What would the Patriot call it?

What has the Patriot to say of Colonel Davison's admission that the Guardian's policy was the right policy and that it would have been a serious blow to Canada and the Empire had the Patriot's policy carried the day?

The soldiers have given their answer. The people whom the Patriot wilfully deceived will henceforth know what value to place upon its leadership and its prophecies.

The Patriot tried to make out that the

soldiers voted against Laurier because of their ignorance of the question at issue. That contention is disproved by the fact that the soldiers in Canada, who were fully informed on the subject, voted in the same proportion for Union as did their comrades overseas.

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BOONS

Only an academic interest attaches in this province to the discussion between the dissatisfied shareholders of the Maritime Telephone and Telegraphic Company and their directors over the proposed sale of their holdings in the P. E. I. Telephone and Telegraph Company to the new Eastern Telephone and Telegraph Company. But there is one statement in the circular from F. B. McCurdy & Co., republished in yesterday's Guardian, which requires correction and explanation. It is as follows:

"A few years ago the Dominion Government laid a copper cable between the Island and the mainland connecting at or near Pictou, N. S., and there is now excellent telephone connections between the two systems, although special publicity has never been given to this great convenience and many business men and telephone patrons are unaware that telephone communication with the Island has been made possible.

"It is understood that the Dominion Government is laying or has laid a cable between the Island and mainland connecting at or near Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, thus providing direct connection between the New Brunswick Telephone Company and the P. E. I. Telephone Company, and therefore opening up increased territory and business for the P. E. I. Company."

These cables were laid over two years ago and every publicity was given to the matter at the time. This improved connection with the mainland was one of the benefits obtained by Ex-Premier Matheson and Premier Arsenault through representations to the Public Works Department at Ottawa. The cable between Amherst Cove and Cape Tormentine is a four core one and is now in use by the Railway for telephone communication regarding the ferry between Port Borden and Cape Tormentine. It also carries a direct telegraph line between Charlottetown and Moncton for railway purposes. Premier Arsenault is now negotiating with the P.E.I. Telephone Co., and the New Brunswick Telephone Co., to have the New Brunswick system connected with the P. E. I. system in the same way as it is connected with Nova Scotia through the cable connecting Wood Islands with Caribou. Some difficulty has arisen owing to the fact that the New Brunswick line does not extend further than Port Elgin, but it is hoped that the New Brunswick Company will see their way clear to cover the gap.

The Premier while in Ottawa recently had a conference with Premier Foster of New Brunswick and the latter promised his cordial co-operation in order to have the matter brought to a successful conclusion.

While on this question it may be remarked that the agreement between the Dominion Public Works Department and the Anglo-American Telegraph Co., has now been signed and will go into effect at an early date. Under this agreement a mutual exchange of business will take place between the P.E.I. Telephone Co. and the Telegraph Co., and a telegraph message will be forwarded from the nearest telegraph office to the nearest telephone office to the person to whom the message is intended and be delivered by the Telephone Company.

The Telegraph Company is also about to rebuild its laid lines, and the work will be proceeded with as expeditiously as the scarcity of wire and labour will allow. This is another boon obtained through the efforts of the Provincial Government and is one which is certain to be appreciated.

THE MOMENTOUS FACT

If the Russian democracy have decided to abandon the struggle against military autocracy, the American democracy are taking it up. This, the Prime Minister's phrase, is the most momentous fact of the year. It is the substitution of a highly skilled, scientifically organized, and enlightened nation, for one which though great hearted and valliant has always been the worst organized state in Europe. But America is not yet ready for the fight, and meantime the ring must be held in the main by Great Britain. The Central Powers will do all they can to force a decision before the great American army can be trained and transported to Europe.—The Scotsman.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

If so your way is not quite clear Up to the golden heights of cheer Keep plodding on intent on it, And as you go just do your bit As well as e'er you can, and let No gloomy thoughts of dark regret Absorb your mind. Just think of joy Whatever things rise to annoy, And soon or late, somehow, somewhere, You'll find the pathway leading there, And out of shadows of the night You will emerge into the light.

When the Prince of Wales last week took oath and his seat in the House of Lords, Queen Mary and the Princesses Mary and Victoria were present in the Royal Box. The Prince wore Royal robes and the collar of the Order of the Garter. He was introduced to the Peers with the usual ceremony. The peers in the procession, the Prince's Parliamentary robes. The Prince of Wales automatically became a member of the House of Lords on attaining his majority, but he did not take his seat until Feb. 19th.

The Duke of Connaught attended by Lieut.-Col. Sir Malcolm Murray and Capt. P. H. Ashworth, is at present in Egypt. His Royal Highness has been depicted by the King to visit the troops in the Egyptian command and to present such decorations as have recently been conferred by His Majesty on officers and men in that country.

Consul and Mrs. Pierce and children are being welcomed home from their extended trip South. Their young niece Miss Alice Gwin, who accompanied them on a visit has already made a circle of friends proving quite a favorite among her schoolmates, as she is continuing her education while here.

The Great War Veterans held a meeting on Wednesday afternoon at which a Ladies Auxiliary was organized under the Presidency of Mrs. (Judge) Stewart. One of the interesting items of this meeting was a short but spicy speech from one of the veterans of the original 26th which was almost entirely wiped out. Such men as this brave speaker make war very real and call forth the best that is in those who are at home, as well as those overseas, doing their bit.

Bruce Carruthers, son of Dr. Carruthers is leaving very shortly for Toronto where he will take up electrical engineering. Bruce will be sincerely missed as he is a genuine favorite with young and old and will be followed with lots of good wishes for his success.

Mrs. G. A. Sharp entertained a number of friends very pleasantly at her pretty home on Grafton Street last evening.

Mrs. Carson Flood of Halifax, whose friends here remember her quite pleasantly will probably spend the spring months in Montreal at which place Mr. Flood is now conducting his business.

Miss Olga Crosby of Borden, is the guest of Mrs. W. F. Tildmarsh, Brighton, for a few days.

The inclement weather early in the day did not interfere with the success of the reception held at the home of Mrs. and Miss Russ on Tuesday evening under the auspices of the Guild of St. James Church. The short musical program left little to be desired while the dainty refreshments and amusements provided passed away several hours very pleasantly.

The Women's Canadian Club of Toronto, of which Mrs. James George, who visits Brackley Beach, each summer, is the President, are carrying on a very active patriotic work. This week they had a most interesting lecture with unique limelight views by Dr. E. E. Prince, Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries on "Our National Fish Supply and the present food prices. Among those noted in the audience was Mrs. Arthur Bearlato formerly of this City, whose home is in Toronto.

Among the distinguished visitors here this week was His Grace Archbishop Sinnott of Winnipeg, who came home to attend his father's funeral.

Mrs. W.L. Scott of Ottawa is visiting her father Sir W. W. Sullivan who is spending the winter in St. Catharines, Ont.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

GOD CARES

What a vast proportion of our lives is spent in anxious and useless forebodings concerning the future—either our own or those of our own dear ones. Present joys, present blessings slip by and we miss half their flavor, and all for want of faith in Him who provides for the tiniest insect in the sunbeam. Oh, when shall we learn the sweet trust in God that our little children tell us every day by their confiding faith in us? We, who are so mutable, so fickle, so irritable, so unjust, and He, who is so watchful, so pitiful, so loving, so forgiving, why cannot we, slipping our hand into His each day, walk trusting over that day's appointed path, thorny or flowery, crooked or straight, knowing that evening will bring us sleep, peace and home? O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home! Beneath the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defence is sure.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Whear, had a short but pleasant visit to Moncton this week.

Dress skirts are longer than they were last season, and a trifle narrower, especially when some form of overdrapery is used.

Mr. W. K. Rogers who was quite ill from a severe cold early in the week is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wellner are being welcomed back to social and business circles, having arrived early in the week from Toronto.

Miss Jean Trivett, daughter of the Rev. S. Trivett, of Gushboro, formerly of Milton is now on the staff of military nurses at Camp Hill Hospital, Halifax.

The musical committee of the First Methodist Church entertained the choir to a very choice musical program and delectable supper in the Heartz Memorial Hall last Wednesday evening at which abundance of wit and good humor prevailed.

This week has been saddened for many by the sad and unexpected deaths of several prominent citizens.

The Artilleryman's Association is quietly doing a splendid patriotic work as was shown by their meeting on Tuesday afternoon. The boys at the front are certainly being well looked after by the energetic society.

At the Supreme Court in Georgetown on Wednesday Chief Justice Matheson was presented with a congratulatory address on his elevation to the Supreme Court Bench.

Congratulations are showering in on Mr. Donald Nicholson and Mr. McIsaac as the result of the Soldiers' Vote in France and England.

Among the recent visitors entertained at Witley Camp by the P. E. I. Island Officers of the 10th were Dr. Gordon Alley and Mr. L. E. Prowse, both of whom were made royally welcome.

Mary Pickford, the Charlottetown moving picture favorite who has charmed so many here—only this week and who makes her home in Los Angeles, Cal., being called upon to pay her income tax, interviewed the collector, and was informed that her share of assistance to the Federal Government would be \$200,000. This would mean an income of over \$500,000. She has also adopted one of the California regiments now in camp, and says she will be their god mother. She was moved at the large amount she will pay, but took it good-naturedly and with cheerfulness. This large income shows what it is to be such a favorite actress.

The final skating party at Government House, Ottawa, this season was held last Saturday afternoon. Their excellencies the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire were not present owing to the recent death of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice.

PRICES ADVANCE IN FUR MARKET

(Special to the Guardian) NEW YORK, March 1.—Never before in the history of the local fur trade has there been so active a demand for all kinds of skins as has prevailed this season. Besides reducing the catch throughout the country, the cold weather has stimulated consumption to such an extent that the available supply of skins in the hands of dealers and manufacturers is now far less than in many years past.

The cause of this experienced fur men say it is probable that the April sale of the New York Fur Auction Sales Corporation in this city will establish a new high level of prices. Beaver, Red Fox, Lynx, Muskrat, Wolf, Squirrel, Klonisky, Nutra and the better grades of Skunk, are already selling above the prices paid at the January sale while figures equal to those obtained then are being paid for Badger, Ermine, Fisher, Marten, Mink, Wildcat, Wolverine, Raccoon, Otter, Leopard, Austrian Opossum, Mole and Cross Gray Blue and White Foxes.

REGISTRATION BOARD FOR THE DOMINION

OTTAWA, Feb. 26.—A sub-committee of the war committee of the cabinet, to be known as "the Canada registration board," has been constituted by an order-in-council, passed today to give effect to the government's declared policy of mobilizing the resources of the nation for the prosecution of the war. The aim is to provide a maximum contribution in men, foodstuffs, munitions and ships. The order-in-council recites that, in order to give effect to this policy, it will be necessary to have made an accurate and complete inventory of the man and woman power of the country.

The personnel of the board will be: Hon. G. J. Robertson, chairman, F. B. McCurdy, M. P., Halifax; Mrs. Adelaide Plumtree, Toronto; G. M. Murray, Toronto; Eug. McQuinn, Montreal; Tom Moore, Niagara Falls.

FRENCH PREMIER LAUDS BRITISH

PARIS, Feb. 27.—Premier Clemenceau after a two days' visit to the British, Belgian and Portuguese fronts, declared to a representative of the Matin that his impression was an excellent one. As to the British armies, he said, he could not sufficiently praise their bearing and their morale. "Everywhere the defensive organizations are in admirable order. Our friends wait with phlegmatic impatience for the formidable shock announced by the Germans, which according to them, cannot now be long in coming. I wish particularly to emphasize the perfect harmony which exists between the Entente Allied headquarters."

WHAT FOOD CONTROL MEANS

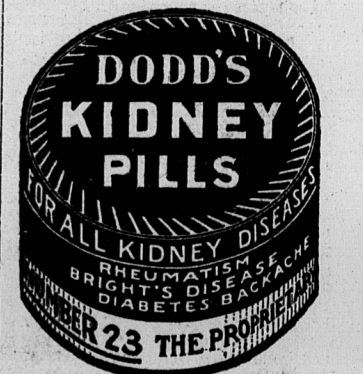
R. E. GOSNELL

Please don't confuse rationing with price-fixing. We may have to come to rationing to come rationing yet. It is rationing yet. It is not a pleasant prospect especially for the men and women who do not voluntarily bend their neck to the yoke of circumstances. The voluntary system must be tried out completely before it is applied to the people as a whole. If public opinion cannot be made to respond willingly after knowing the reasons for the sacrifices to be made, then rationing must come, and the real majority of people do not realize what rationing means. It doesn't mean food at lower prices, but it means a great deal less of certain kinds of food than of other kinds. You will miss your two or three lumps of sugar in your tea, lashings of cream in your coffee, and dessertless meals, and when that time comes the Food Controller will get "good and unpeppery" with a freedom-loving people. It will have to come down to a basis in which the man who actually works with his hands indoors and outdoors must have favorable discrimination against the man of sedentary habits, who does not require the protein foods and fats, such as beef, bacon, sugar, beans and eggs, which go to make up bodily repairs and muscular energy. The man who does not work with his hands or works only with his brain requires very little of the protein element in his food. All his needs in that direction can be supplied by other and less strong foods. The man who works steadily and hard all day must, like the men at the front, be well fed. While in Washington, I endeavored to obtain as much as possible of the official mind on the subject of food control and in respect of labor and other economic conditions. I think I could epitomize it as follows: The voluntary method has measurably fallen down thus far, and it is going to require much courage to devise methods of control. We must search all the corners of our brains for ways and means to control consumption. Self-denial and sacrifice must be our duty; they will contribute measurably to the upbuilding of American life. Food control in Europe has been tried many times, never effectively except by Germany. The conservation of the food saving idea when put upon a voluntary basis is only effective with the patriotic, more intelligent class. Increased wages due to the war invariably result in increased consumption; it is the same in this country as abroad. It is particularly marked in Italy. To save arbitrarily enough from consumption, beyond what can be saved by the more prosperous, means pressure brought to bear on the working classes, who are already disgruntled and discontented, and any program contrary to this might prove dangerous.

NEW FOOD DISTRIBUTION

LONDON, February 26.—The new plan of food distribution went into effect today and every person who desired to make purchases of meat, butter or margarine, was required to produce a ration card. The food ministry announces that no complaints have been received and that the plan is working smoothly. Persons of the poorer classes appear to be well pleased with the change, because they are no longer compelled to stand in long lines at the markets. The success of the plan, so far as it relates to conserving available supplies of meat and bringing about a more even distribution among all classes, was indicated quickly. The restaurants and hotels offered meat dishes for luncheon as usual, but few purchased them. At one of the largest restaurants in the city only four meat orders were served, and at others few, if any, were dispensed. As butter and margarine virtually disappeared long ago in the restaurants, the rationing plan is little noticed except in homes, where the distribution undoubtedly is more even.

England, and possibly to the United States and Canada. There is an apprehension in the United States that in reconstruction views especially with the position of wage employed by labor in a situation in which labor is such a factor of need it will swing to an extreme that will bring about a disorganization which has not the elements of correction in it. The disposition of labor, with higher wages than ever before, is to spend freely rather than to save, and with the bourgeoisie and the wealthy classes not disposed to exercise economy in food especially, but in many things in which there is an unnecessary need to speak of vulgar display, the danger of bad example is extremely great. In the last analysis, all revolutions have been the result of abuse of power—power whether represented in the form of wealth or authority—on the part of what generically may be called the ruling classes. Politically, under a democratic form of government, we are prone rather to ponder the working classes than to ignore them; but from the personal point of view we are prone to social snobbery, which is much more strongly resented than even legal oppression. Our luxury-loving tastes, with the means to gratify them, and the inevitable creation of a social caste among the things that tend to accentuate a position that may eventually develop to a dangerous point. In the United States there is a feeling in certain circles that in an undue prolongation of the present strike the people will get war-weary and demand, as the Bolsheviks have demanded, that the war should cease regardless of what should be the fruits of peace. Should we not, therefore, as a serious-minded, sensible people, set our house in order, having the facts clearly before us, so that by the reasonable co-operation of all the people, a common object in the interests of all the people may be achieved? The most fatal of all blindnesses is the blindness of those who with vision unimpaired will not see.



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