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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1916.

SIGNIFICANT DISTINCTION

Probably no more significant statement has been made since the war began than that made by the Rev. Dr. Pierce in the course of his sermon in St. James' Church last Sunday night when he said that the war had "depleted the pews more than the poolrooms." The statement was made after careful enquiry in such cities as Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa, where both churches and pool rooms abound. The cry has long since gone out that the churches, both in the cities and country districts, are fairly staggering under the loss of men since the war began. And the loss has not fallen on the pews alone, it has depleted the pulpits also.

This fact emphasises as nothing else could do, the issues at stake in the present war. These issues are what the Christian church stands for, the ideals which Christian men and women are ready to lay down their lives for. Canadians today consist of only two classes, those who either directly or indirectly are carrying their share of the war burden and those who are not. Those of military age, physically fit and not deterred by bonds which cannot be broken without injury to others or to their country, are in the battle lines; those unfitted by age or physical condition are contributing of their means to help those at the front or the families they have left behind. All of these are doing their duty and the burden of that duty has fallen most heavily upon the churches by depleting them of their men and by diverting the ordinary financial assistance from the church to the war funds. And there is the other class, the class whose ranks have not been appreciably depleted, whose money has not been diverted to other than the ordinary selfish purposes. They are, in the larger cities, the "poolroom" class; in such cities as our own the ordinary loafer, the pleasure seeker, the man who will neither go himself nor help the man who goes.

It is hoped that the distinction may appeal to our men during the present campaign. Our churches cherish with pride and with a stronger Christian faith, their "honour roll" which they reverently unveil once a year. Young man, this is the place for your name, the other is the "dishonour roll."

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TWILIGHT RECITALS

The growing popularity of the Twilight Recitals, begun only a few weeks ago, is a distinct compliment not only to those whose musical talents have been so much appreciated but to the larger class of citizens who derive pleasure from such entertainment. That we have musical talent of an exceptionally high order in Charlottetown has long been recognized and, from the attendance at the recitals so far given, it is evident that there is a very decided and general taste in the City for good music. A quiet hour or an afternoon once a week, spent in listening to the music of the masters, vocal and instrumental, and rendered by musicians of undoubted talent cannot fail to be elevating and inspiring and it is pleasing indeed to see so many take advantage of it. The Daughters of the Empire through whose instrumentality these recitals have been arranged, are to be complimented on the excellent result of their efforts while those who are so kindly giving of their talents for the pleasure and edification of others will have the lasting gratitude of all.

That Charlottetown has a goodly sized audience always ready and willing to patronize real talent has been repeatedly shown. The best dramatic, musical and literary companies or individuals have always been greeted with large and appreciative audiences. True, the less meritorious also receive their generous patronage but this only proves that there is room enough here at present for both classes. It has been observed in all cities that entertainment of either class grows by feeding and that, generally, one supersedes the other. If those whose taste aspires to the better class of entertainment always encourage the best, the circle will grow while the poorer will die of starvation. For this reason, if for no other, the twilight recitals given by the best musical talent in the City should be given the most generous encouragement possible. It is the beginning of a much needed educational movement and will lead to improvement along many other lines.

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OUTRAGING HUMANITY

If it were possible to add another stain to the name of official Germany it has been added in the recent deportation of Belgian civilians—men and women—to Germany. German infamy which during the past three years has proved itself capable of any imaginable fiendishness has in this last act placed the final seal on its damnation. Men and women, incapable of self defence, herded like cattle in cattle cars and sent to Germany to become the slaves and worse, of German taskmasters! And this to be endured until Germany is throttled and forced to let go her hold on those who survive of her victims! Turkish treatment of Armenians has shocked the civilized world, but the Turks had the excuse of being but semi-civilized and of harboring a life-long hatred of Christianity. Christians expected nothing better of the Turks. But cultured Germany, the seat of the world's universities the world's educators!

The United States is shocked and may enter a protest against this latest outrage which takes precedence in infamy over the murder of women and children on the high seas. The Brooklyn Eagle comments thus upon it under the caption "Germany again Outrages Humanity."

Germany has begun to exercise the last barbaric prerogative of a ruthless conqueror. Belgium, which has been crushed, her cities razed, her people put to the sword or brutally outraged, has now been called upon to pay a final penalty for the crime of resisting invasion. The men remaining in the land are being taken captive, herded into trucks and taken to Germany to serve their captors.

The world was loath to believe the first reports of wholesale deportations of Belgians to Germany, where they are being put at forced labor. Confirmation, however, has come in unmistakable form. Cardinal Mercier, that true modern saint, whose courage shines above that of any other soldier in Europe, has cried out. Having appealed in vain to the German authorities against the outrage, the Primate of Belgium has protested to the civilized world, giving the details of the crime for the first time. But this is not all. General von Bissing, Governor General of Belgium, has admitted the facts and made a most amazing defence.

As usual, it is England that is to blame. "Thanks to England's ruthless economic throttling of Belgium, more than a million pauperized Belgians—men, women and children—are dependent on public charity," says the German Governor General. It was to remedy these conditions that General von Bissing "encouraged the voluntary going of unemployed Belgian laborers to Germany," and "evacuated the congenitally idle who refuse suitable work at good wages." It is difficult to understand at this distance how the "congenitally idle" could have been provided with suitable work at good wages if England has throttled Belgium economically, or why, if the Belgians were so willing to "bow to the inevitable," it was necessary to use compulsion.

The plain truth is that Germany once more stands revealed as the outlaw of nations, the merciless despoiler of peoples; as contemptuous of the laws of nations, or humanity, and of the opinion of the rest of the world as at any time since she inaugurated the reign of terror. Nothing that Germany has done to Belgium is worse than this. It is of a piece with the slaughter of non-combatant men, women and children on land and sea; with the forcing of Russian Poles to fight against Russia; with the Zeppelin raids upon sleeping women and children; with the enslaving of women in Northern France and Belgium; with the shelling of Scarborough; the tacit acquiescence in the Armenian atrocities. Only a government desperate to madness could conceive of adding this final outrage against Belgium to the record that has placed it beyond the pale of civilization.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PATRIOTIC FUND

(Continued from Page Three.)

which, so far as the Patriotic Fund is concerned, would have the opposite tendency. I may say that throughout Canada, so far as the records that I have been able to obtain show, there is no province in which the Government has made a gift relatively as large as that which has been made by the Government of Prince Edward Island, and when Sir Herbert Ames, makes the proposal that whatever the popular and voluntary contributions might be short of $50,000 should be made up by the Government—well, the Goernment may say: "We have done that." It depends on just how far the voluntary fund went. If the voluntary fund had gone to $35,000—as we would have every reason to expect—the amount granted by the Government would have met the request in full. So far as the suggestion is concerned, as to the Opposition and the Government gettting together and arriving at an understanding, I do not think we can very well discuss that matter here. Those who are accustomed to read the newspapers of the province may have observed that such an effort was already made, and they may possibly have in mind what the result of that effort was. There are some persons who go so far as to suggest that the proper method of dealing with the Patriotic Fund would be that the Dominion Government, which has charge especially of war and fiscal arrangements should advance whatever amount is required and administer it. I think there are the gravest possible objections to such a scheme. Taxation is one method of securing money for patriotic purposes, and it succeeds to a certain extent; beyond that it fails and breaks down. The Patriotic Fund, while not a charitable fund is one that should come not by compulsion, but by voluntary gifts by men who are in a position to contribute to that Fund and in proportion to their power of contribution. It is not a charity on the part of those who receive it, but it is an appeal to the bounty and the patriotism of those who are blessed with more than a usual supply of money—those who have money to spare and who could not be reached by the ordinary methods of taxation to the extent that their ability enables them to assist the fund. We can only make a scale of taxation—to tax the property a man has, to tax the income he may obtain; but we cannot tax men in proportion to their giving power. Some men are in receipt of small incomes and yet may give comparatively largely because they have a small burden to bear. Others, on the contrary, may have large incomes and having correspondingly large responsibilities, find themselves taxed to the limit. The giving power of a man is what he has in excess of actual requirements, and no method of imposing taxation can ever meet that condition. The Patriotic Fund appeals particularly to all such men, and it is incumbent on those whose taxation does not represent the full measure of their duty to the State to consider how much they should give and the extent of the sacrifices they should make; and that sacrifice, as Mr. Justice Fitzgerald properly remarked two years ago, should be such as to make every man feel. He should give until he feels it—give to the point where the power of his giving is limited only by other equally cogent and important considerations. I suggest that the people in the farming communities have not responded to the calls in respect to this fund to the full extent that we would have hoped. I do not blame the farmers. They are the people from whom we are all sprung—simply ourselves in another condition of life. Fortunately they are in a condition of thrift greater than we have seen in this province at any time before. Fortunately for them also, there is no rural community from here to the Pacific coast where the people are so uniformly well to do. They have the power to contribute, and I believe they have the heart and the spirit to contribute largely, if only an appeal should reach them with that force and clearness that is necessary in order to unlock the sources of their liberality. Many will give abundantly if only the case is put before them strongly and convincingly, and I suggest that in the campaign which has just opened to recruit another three-quarters or full regiment within this province, we should have absolute coordinate action between the recruiting officers of the campaign and the Patriotic Fund. They are complementary parts of one great campaign. The country should be studied by the recruiting officers and by the Patriotic Committee and a plan mapped out for the whole province, and every meeting held in the Province should be regarded as consisting of two equally important and indispensable classes of persons one class whose duty it would be to enlist and the rest, whose duty it would be to subscribe to the limit of their ability to the Patriotic Fund. So that in every such meeting no man or woman would be free to evade the full measure of their duty. If you cannot go and are bound to stay at home for good reasons, there is something that you can do, and the thing to be done by those who stay at home should be, as far as it is possible to make it, the equivalent to the dangers to be encountered and the hardships to be faced by those at the front. I believe we should conduct a campaign from one end of this province to the other, in which the strongest recruiting speeches would be those made by men who stood up for the Patriotic Fund. Mr. Justice Fitzgerald has had he chief part of the duty of distributing the Fund, and there are some complaints. Well, there would be some complaints if the fund were distributed by any other person in any other manner, and those complaints would be perhaps just as numerous. I have had experience enough in dealing with the distribution of public monies and am aware of the utter impossibility of satisfying everybody; but I am of opinion that, on the basis on which that Fund is being administered, Mr. Justice Fitzgerald has put the province under a deep obligation to him for the continuous attention which he has given it, and the exceeding care he has taken in the equitable distribution of the fund. I have heard it said that the distribution of the fund should be placed on a more liberal basis. If that is so, it is a defect that is very easily remedied. It is a very easy thing indeed, if expenditure is too low and you have money available, to increase the expenditure; and so far as the question is concerned which Dr. Fullerton so properly put at the meeting, I am quite sure that the Patriotic Relief Committee are quite willing to sit down with him and the recruiting officers and consider the distribution of that Fund as part of the whole recruiting scheme, and if the result of that conference should be the determination that there should be a higher allowance made on the basis of the increased cost of living, nothing is simpler than to do it. One thing must be made perfectly clear, however, and that is an absolute understanding that can be placed before meetings as to precisely what the soldier will be entitled to and also what his family will be eintitled to. Such a plan would be a strong feature in inducing recruiting throughout the province. I do not know that I would have found it necessary to make a speech, unless for the fact that the proposal was made that the Government should undertake to do certain things which we have already done as well as we could. The Government has to deal with many men and many minds; and when it has already done with the best intent and to the extent that it was possible to do it, we might perhaps do better to omit further discussing the question what the Government should do with the Opposition or not. The Government has done its best and will continue to do its best and make proposals to its friends on the other side of the House for joint action wherever it seems in the interests of the Province and the Empire to do so. We have done if always and will continue thus to the end. As to what may be further guaranteed, that will also be subject to the gravest consideration. But we must remember that, first and foremost, the Patriotic Fund is a fund that appeals to those who have been blessed with power to give above the ordinary necessities of life and just in proportion as they have that excess over their requirements; and no system of taxation will take the place of the generous heart and the full purse.

Mr. Agnew gave his experience in collecting in the first three lots of the first district of Prince County, in which he appointed sub-committees to go around and see every person in the district. The result was a subscription of $2,200. He said he was also placed on a committee of the Army Field Service Fund and collected about fifteen hundred dollars and about two thousand bushels of oats, and it was his experience that those who gave most to the Army Field Service Fund were those who gave most to the Patriotic Fund. He said that some men who had considerable means gave not a single cent, and the question was frequently asked why were'nt they made to contribute, since they benefited by the service of the men at the front.

The Premier here said that the Government had adopted the course of going as far as the Legislature thought wise in imposing a certain tax, and what Canada asks is that the Patriotic Fund shall do its part in full. He could not help feeling that if the plan he suggested were adopted, of giving the generosity of the people full vent, there would still be men who would refuse to do their duty. Those men would be cursed for the rest of their days. They were cursed now in the condition of mind in which they were. He suggested that first of all they should perform their duty to the full extent and shirk nothing. He drew attention to the splendid work that was done in Alberton, simply because the matter was energetically taken up. The same thing could be done with varying success but with general success throughout the province, and he urged on them to face the responsibility and the difficult position in which they were in a way they had never faced them before.

Dr. Fullerton suggested that if it once got abroad in the province that the Government would make up the deficit in order that there might be realised the sum of $50,000, every voluntary act would at once be damned. He reminded them that the Fund from its very inception, had been a voluntary one, and he thought that the people of the province—among whom there were unpatriotic individuals just as there were elsewhere—should be given a fair opportunity to show their patriotism and generosity, which had not heretofore been adequately appealed to.

Mr. A. A. McLean, M. P., suggested the appointment of a paid secretary who could look after the details of the Fund and supply information. He said there was a paid secretary in Ottawa whose office was open all the time and who gave any literature asked in regard to the Fund, from the large stock kept for the purpose of distribution. A secretary, he suggested, could relieve Mr. Justice Fitzgerald of a considerable amount of minor work, and could attend to all the correspondence. With the assistance of a secretary, he said, the province could be easily organized from one end to the other.

Judge Stewart thought that if the voluntary system of contribuion was to be successful a thorough organized canvass would have to be made.

Dr. McMillan thought that every effort should be made to secure voluntary contributions by appeals at patriotic meetings and that the province should be thoroughly organized in the manner suggested by Mr. McLean.

Mr. W. F. Tidmarsh was also of opinion that a paid secretary should be appointed who, he said, would greatly relieve Judge Fitzgerald in connection with the minor details of the work. He made the valuable suggestion that a card indexing system might be employed, and the secretary could receive the names of applicants, take all information concerning their applications, and when convenient the Judge could deal with them.

Continued on Page Six

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DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

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A GOOD THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

It is divine to forgive and forget. All great men forgive those who injure them and forget the injury. Oftentimes, in our wilful obstinacy, we refuse to forgive and forget, and we suffer much loss. Many business men sustain great financial losses through their unwillingness to forgive and forget. If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, forget your neighbor's faults. Forget the temptations. Forget the fault-finding, and give a little thought to the cause which provoked it. Forget the peculiarities of your friends, and remember only the good points which made you fond of them. Forget all personal quarrels or histories you may have heard by accident, and which, if repeated, would seem a thousand times worse then they are. Blot out as far as possible all the disagreeables of life; they will come, but they will grow larger when you remember them, and the constant thought of the acts of meanness or, worse still, malice, will only tend to make you more familiar with them. Obliterate everything disagreeable from yesterday; start out with a clean sheet for today, and write upon it, for sweet memory's sake, only those things which are lovely and loveable.

Dyestuffs Shipped To Russia By Mail From United States

NEW YORK, November 14—That large shipments of dyestuffs to Russia, worth many thousands of dollar stamps from Washington to Brooklyn by mail, was learned today.

Although there is supposed to be a great shortage of dyes in the United States, a Brooklyn manufacturer has for some time been making extensive shipments abroad, apparently under an assumed name.

The packages are being sent to Nathan Salowegesk in Moscow and appear to be shipped by a person of the same name in Brooklyn. That this is part of the plan to keep the shipments secret is revealed by the fact that there is no record of any dye-makers by the name of Salowegesk either in Manhattan or Brooklyn. The name is evidently used to conceal the real name of the shipper.

The material is shipped in cartons weighing about 16 pounds, through the registry department of the Post Office, and has come in such volume that the postal authorities have had to procure a large number of two-dollar stamps from Washington to use in sending it.

Some idea of the value of the shipments may be had from the fact that one load of packages recently brought to the Post Office required $4,000 in stamps to pay its postage. The shipments have been going on for a long time, it was learned.

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