

The Charlottetown Guardian

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MONDAY OCTOBER 15th 1917.

THE UNION GOVERNMENT

The Union Government, towards the formation of which Sir Robert Borden has so long and persistently set his face as a flint, against which Sir Wilfrid Laurier set his face with equal persistence, is now an accomplished fact.

The self-sacrificing loyalty of those Conservative members who voluntarily abandoned their cabinet positions and their political aspirations in order to make a union of the two parties possible will not be forgotten in the history of Canada's greatest crisis.

It is to be regretted that there are still some Liberals who hold aloof from this union of political parties, that there are still some who hold to their former party gods in the hope that something may yet turn up that will reinstate the party and restore them to the former, or hoped for, political patronage.

So far as the Liberal party is now concerned, it is practically leaderless. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, although the nominal head of the party, has cut himself adrift from the party as a whole and is depending upon the anti-conscriptionist section of Quebec and the political heeleders who are still clinging to what they regard as the old Liberal party.

In our province the Liberal candidates with the exception of Mr. J. J. Hughes have not yet publicly declared themselves. Mr. Hughes has pledged himself to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the anti-conscriptionists and the enemy aliens of Canada.

It now remains only to support the Union Government, to stand solidly behind the Union Government. The part of Canada and the few Canadians who do otherwise must take the consequences of their act.

The leading Liberal journals are at one with the Union Government. The Toronto Globe, the oldest and most representative Liberal organ says:

In this time of national crisis as in the period surrounding confederation, patriotism has broken down the bonds of party. There are many difficulties yet to be faced but the same spirit which has overcome the obstacles to union ought to triumph in the administration which is to follow.

The Free Press, Winnipeg, (Liberal) says: The personnel of the new government is a guarantee that Canada is to have

an administration that will be disinterested and capable.

The Phoenix, (Liberal) Saskatoon, says: The union cabinet is a national expression of the united and determined activities of Canada to do their full part to win the war.

CONSCRIPT LABOUR

According to the Military Service Act now in force, all men of military age and fitness and whose present occupation is such that they can be withdrawn from it without detriment to national interests, are to be drafted for military service.

In this province of ours—and it may be said at present of all of Canada—there are no unemployed except those who will not work, those who are content to roam from one day's employment to another, those who work only when driven to work by the imminence of starvation and who even then will beg or steal in preference to work.

Why should these, in a country whose great need is labour, be permitted to lie as an incubus upon the chest of the country? In our province farm labour is at present probably our greatest need, but few of our farmers would care to take into their homes or place in charge of their stock men whose reputations have been earned in idleness or worse.

In a recent issue of The Charlottetown Guardian, extended reference was made to the peat fuel to be found on hundreds of acres in different parts of the province. We have millions of tons of this fuel available for the digging and drying, fuel which according to the tests made recently in Charlottetown and elsewhere compares favourably with soft coal which now costs about eight dollars a ton.

The peat wealth of the province should certainly be utilized next summer in view of the scarcity and high cost of coal. The method above referred to is one way in which it can be done; there may be others.

NOTES

The natural inclination, says the London Globe, is to laugh at "Harry Lauder's Logic" as the latest patter man, just as, years ago, the audience at Drury Lane burst into fits of laughter at the contortions of the clown, unaware that they were the agonized efforts of Grimaldi, tortured with rheumatism, to reach the shelter of the wings.

THOUGHTS EVOKED BY A SERMON

Sir,—We have had another Thanksgiving Day. And we were thankful spontaneously, humbly, hopefully, gratefully thankful to Him Who doeth all things well, the One we have trusted alike in darkness and sunshine.

In this attitude of mind we entered a certain church on Sabbath evening, when we found ourselves confronted with the pertinent question: "Can we be consistently thankful?" And souls responded: "Yes, we can be consistently thankful."

But this was before we became capitalists. Somehow, in our stupid noddles we had imagined ourselves labourers, had even gloried in the thought that we were one with the great struggling masses of humanity.

We entered the church on this momentous evening fifteen-hour-a-day labourers, we emerged therefrom under the magical transforming power of eloquence,—wealthy capitalists. "Wonderous transformation." Magical, indeed, the eloquence that with the wave of a well-manicured hand can transform a horny-handed, stable-scented clod-hopper with his smowly lantern into a rapacious capitalist, but such a miracle it became our amazed privilege to witness when the speaker of the evening, with an eloquent though brief sidelong glance at two of the most complicated and serious social and economic problems of the day, viz: "Conscription of Wealth," and "The Struggle Between Capital and Labor," arrived at the happy conclusion that "Labor" is represented alone by fixed salaries and stated wage-earners, leaving us with an amazed vision of grasping food producing capitalists, and to clinch his argument gave us an instance of a Western farmer who had through the high prices due to present conditions paid for his farm with one crop.

Encouraging, indeed, to fifteen-hour-a-day overall capitalists! But unfortunately for our hopes he did not bring to our notice the hundred and one Western food producers who have in loneliness and privation fought the fight with nature, frost and hail and drought; drought and hail and frost, and occasionally low prices for long weary years, in many cases personally known to us for ten or fifteen years, before receiving the reward of their labors, but who may now have a chance to "get on their feet" in business parlance.

Nor does he express sympathy with the pioneer woman of the west who, under unimaginable hardships, fights out her life-battle, raising her family in many cases in a one-room shack, in some cases even beginning in a sod shack. (I have seen it.) And she and her family are entitled to all the prosperity that a kind Providence sends her "in the tide that turns in the affairs of men," whether ministers like it or not. As well tell us when we meet a rare master mechanic that there are no plodding duty performing struggling artisans, or when a lawyer becomes premier tell us that our streets are not paved with the weary feet of grizzily grey professionals who had not yet realized their early ambitions.

Strange logic this, the logic that singles out the successful one who only proves the rule and ignores the struggling mass of humanity whom "God loves," a logic acceptable only to superficial and prejudiced minds. We have thought much and read much on the food producing problem. We hear of the enormous profits of middlemen, of the evil of trusts and speculation in holding necessary food for higher prices, but nowhere among informed circles have we yet found criticism of the profits of producers.

Those in a position to judge, who understand the situation, realize the increased difficulties under which producers labor, and instead of criticism we find production. Anyway, the farmer does not set his own price, circumstances set it for him.

Higher prices naturally follow increased cost of production, and the wise man makes the best he can of

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS. Furnished by W. S. Lousor.

WHAT IS LOVE?

Love is not getting, but giving not a wild dream of pleasure, and a madness of desire—oh, no, love is not that—it is goodness and honor, and peace and pure living—yes, love is that and it is the best thing in the world, and the thing that lives longest.

MISS PLUMMER'S Xmas Gift Fund. Amounts received: Mrs. F. P. Taylor \$1.00, Mrs. Murdoch McKinnon \$1.00.

the inevitable and does not scorn the hand that feeds him. The question of high prices is not a new one. Wise minds have for years noted with alarm the rapidly increasing cost of production and the cry "Back to the land" has been ringing in our ears. The war did not cause it all. It only precipitated it. The rush to the city to avoid the drudgery, the isolation of farm life, the lack of what many look upon as the advantages of life, has had its share in the present crisis.

And the poor? Yes, we will always have the poor among us to give those of us who have more of this world's goods than we need a chance to lay up treasures in Heaven where moth and rust doth not corrupt nor greedy capitalists break through and steal with exorbitant prices. But there is another class. We know of cases where farmers not far distant from Charlottetown sought help to save their crops when in dire need of help, but the worthy labor representatives would not go out to work so far from the city. The farmers' hard working wives were compelled to work in the fields in the broiling heat of an August sun to save the crops. We, personally, know of women who have helped save no less than fifty to sixty acres of hay annually.

Is it for the benefit of these gentlemen and their families that these women (and they are many) should be deprived of their profits?

But in fair play it is only right that all should be given a chance to reap the enormous profits of food production. The farmers fortunately hold no monopoly of the land. We would therefore suggest for the benefit of those who suffer from the injustice imposed upon them by the millionaire food producers of P. E. I. that they be given the privilege to buy, stock, equip, work, live on and pay for a farm. We would also further extend to them the privilege of banking their surplus cash; in other words, "the profits accruing from their labors" over and above expenses the heaviest of which will in all probability be the building of a summer resort in which to spend their summer vacation.

Thanking you for space, I am, sir, etc., FOOD PRODUCER.

LANGEMARCK 1914-1917.

Langemarck is a village in the famous Ypres salient both on a high road and railway from Ypres to Thourout. It was a peaceful village, situated in the dull, monotonous plains of Flanders, and the horrors of war first broke over it in the fall of 1914, during the first battle of Ypres. On that fateful April evening of two years ago Langemarck was directly east of the left wing of the Canadian line, and in it were bulked several battalions in reserve.

To the amazed Canadians in this little village, late in the evening of April 22, 1915, came probably the first intimation of the enemy use of gas in warfare. The tidings were borne to them by fleeing Turcos, panic stricken by a fear not human, their faces contorted by the effects of the gas, scarcely able to gasp out the tale of this new murder by the Hun. The whole world knows how the Canadians met the new device, and the fatal breach in the line to the left of them, and of the valiant, dogged struggle they waged that saved Ypres, Calais, and the seas for Britain.

Now Langemarck has been retaken. Then flesh and blood fought machinery; today Britain, in equipment, out distances the German. Between the losing and the taking of it represents the patient, determined preparation of an Empire to beat to its knees a nation that knows no law of man or of God. It must afford peculiar satisfaction to the stalwart men who remember that three days two years ago, when they went into the Valley of the Shadow of Death for England's sake, to hear that the great tide of the Might of Right, never again to recede, has avenged signally their comrades in death.

GRATEFUL TO CANADA.

In all the trials and sufferings of the war it is a source of constant consolation and pride to the people of this country that the States of Great Britain and their soldiers have shown such unflinching determination and valor in the struggle. We well know the bitter sacrifices which Canada has made. The Ypres salient and Vimy Ridge have been watered with her best blood, as with ours. In death, as through all the years of their State's existence, her sons have been at our side. And we are grateful to them and to her.—London Daily Mail.

Miss Plummer's Xmas Gift Fund

Amounts received: Mrs. F. P. Taylor \$1.00, Mrs. Murdoch McKinnon \$1.00.

MICHAELIS FEARS AN ECONOMIC ALLIANCE.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 13.—At the plenary sitting of the Reichstag yesterday, Dr. George Michaelis, the Imperial Chancellor, asserted that peace was impossible as long as Germany's enemies demanded any German soil or endeavored to drive a wedge between the German people and their Emperor. The speech of the Chancellor was delivered during the discussion of the resolution against propaganda in the army in favor of a German peace.

"The German nation will stand to peace as one man, unshakable, and persevere in the fight until its right, and the rights of our allies to existence and development, are assured. In its unity the German Empire is invincible."

"We must continue to preserve until the German Empire on the continent and overseas, establishes its position. Further, we must strive to see that the armed alliance of our enemies does not grow into an economic offensive alliance."

CANADA'S SOLDIERS ARE CLEAN-LIVING YOUNG MEN

MONTREAL, Oct. 13.—In a Thanksgiving sermon in the American Presbyterian church here this morning, Rev. G. W. Gordon, "Ralph Connor," paid the following tribute to the Canadian soldiers in connection with the war: "We are thankful that the moral fibre of our people has shown itself to be so splendidly firm. The Canadian armies are made up of men for whom we ought to be profoundly grateful. They are clean men. They are good-living men. They are men worthy of the homes from which they have come and they have not forgotten these homes and they are not going to be unworthy of them. I have had the opportunity of seeing a great many of them, both in England and France and we have a right here in Canada to be thankful that our boys are just as good and many are better than they were at home."

CALL GUESTS BY PHONE TO ENSIGN'S WEDDING

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y., Oct. 13.—War hastened the wedding of Ensign James Franklin Gilkinson, U. S. N., R. F. and Miss Anahid Sona Kazanjian of New Rochelle, which took place in Christ Church, Pelham Manor, this afternoon. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Albert F. Tenney. The bride's only attendant was her mother, who acted as matron of honor. The best man was Ensign Raymond Earle Baldwin, and the ushers were Ensign Samuel Moffatt, Ensign Eugene J. Noyes, Avery Hallowell of the French ambulance, Boatswain Louis Compton, Machinist Mate Bruce Sheldon, Quartermaster James C. Cleary, Bedros Kazanjian, Jr., Frederick Treveltyck, and Seaman William Arnold.

Mr. Gilkinson, whose home is in Middletown, Conn., is a graduate of Yale University and was studying law at Columbia University when he volunteered in the Naval Reserve force. When he received his commission last week, the wedding date was set and the invitation sent by telephone and telegraph. The couple met four years ago at Rosemary School, Greenwich, Conn., where the bride was a student and where Mr. Gilkinson visited as a member of the Yale Glee Club.

The bride is a worker in the New Rochelle branch of the American Red Cross, of which her mother, Mrs. Bedros Kazanjian is Chairman.

SOCIAL SERVICE CONGRESS CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE HALL. OCTOBER 16, 17 AND 18, 1917.

The Hon. the Lieutenant Governor will preside on Tuesday; His Honor the Chief Justice on Wednesday, and Premier Arsenault on Thursday.

An exceptional opportunity for the people of the Island.

Some of the Subjects to be discussed:— The Family, its Perils and Safeguards. The Care of the Criminal. Methods of Dealing With Vice. Prohibition. Conservation of Human Forces and Resources. Social Reconstruction After the War. Child Welfare. Graft and Patronage. And many others of equal interest. The visiting speakers are—

Dr. Hastings H. Hart, Director the Child Helping Department, Russel Sage Foundation New York.

Mr. Alexander Johnson, Philadelphia, Secretary National Conference in Social Work, and of National Committee on Provision for the Feeble-Minded.

Rev. Canon L. Norman Tucker, D.C.L., London, Ont. Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rev. T. Albert Moore, D.D., Toronto, Ont. General Secretary Social Service and Evangelist of the Methodist Church for Canada, Newfoundland and Bermuda.

Rev. J. G. Shearer, B.A., D.D., Toronto, Ont. Superintendent Social Service and Evangelist of the Presbyterian Church for Canada, Newfoundland and Bermuda.

KEEP THESE DATES FREE:— OCTOBER 16, 17, 18 Usual One Fare Railway Tickets

THE CENSORED ENGLISH SOLDIER.

(London Paper.) The reticence of the British military censorship which almost uniformly suppresses mention of English units while occasionally recording the deeds of Scottish, Irish, Canadian, and Australian regiments, is assisting the Germans in a peculiarly mischievous form of propaganda in foreign and Allied countries. The enemy is now pretending that English troops are so rarely referred to because they never do anything. England's part in the war, these German slanders allege, is to make profit and to drive others to fight. The casualty list tells a different tale, but it is not read abroad.

Appeals have been made to the high authorities who are responsible for the policy pursued, as yet with little success, though we note that the Northumberlanders are mentioned by Sir Douglas Haig in last night's report. The correspondents are not allowed to telegraph names or regiments unless they have been passed by the censorship. Mr. Beach Thomas, who represents The Daily Mail at the western front, has asked that proper honor might be given to English units. That request would not be made if it carried the risk of disclosing to the Germans the identity of the divisions present at a particular part of their front. But each Territorial regiment has now so many battalions that this danger has passed. Nothing material would be revealed if justice were done and nothing would be given away if the feats of our most skillful armies were published with the names, as the German, French Italian, Russian and Austrian Departments record the deeds daily of their flying champions. As it is, our censorship seems devised to produce the entirely mistaken impression that we have no great flying men.

Every page of this war is full of heroic episodes; not a country but has its deeds and its legends of sacrifice. The extent and the sorrow of those sacrifices is shown by the lengthening list in our English churches and college chapels and before our shrines of those who have given everything that man can give for a noble cause. But who knows of these lists outside England?

IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

A new Arctic meteorological station, equipped with wireless telegraphy, has been established at the mouth of the Yenisei, and will send daily reports to the official observatory at Petrograd.

You Will Be Able To start the day right if you secure one of our alarm clocks. Special price \$1.50 Full guaranteed G.H. Taylor Jeweler and Optician