

The Charlottetown Guardian

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FRIDAY JANUARY 19 1917

SILENCE NOT CONSENT

The Guardian has been asked why it has remained silent in face of the recent utterances of the Chief Justice on matters of public interest and importance. In a nutshell, the explanation is this: The Guardian has no burning desire to wear a martyr's crown. There is such a thing as contempt of Court, and the Court itself is the sole judge of what constitutes contempt. Therefore in discussing the pronouncements of a judge with which we are at distinct variance it would be very difficult for us to draw the distinction between matters of political and public importance and judicial obiter dicta. We might transgress unwittingly whatever our anxiety might be to avoid even the suspicion of seeming discourtesy to the Court.

The Chief Justice's recent deliverances, however, serve to bring to public notice the conditions under which any public discussion of such deliverances must take place. If it were the pronouncement of any public man other than a judge on the bench, a newspaper which differed might discuss it freely and fully express its sentiments in regard thereto. The existing conditions are altogether unfavourable to such freedom of the press when a judge, from his seat on the bench, seeks to discuss the propriety of certain procedure on the part of another arm of the Department of Justice. The administration of the law is not helped by heated references or scolding on the part of the judiciary, nor does such procedure when repeated tend to encourage that respect, which criticisms from the bench ought to command.

It must thus be obvious the tremendous disadvantage at which those of us who differ from the Chief Justice in his views of the administration of the Prohibitory law are placed. For instance, the Patriot in commending the deliverance of the Chief Justice says: "Drunkenness is rampant; liquor is sold as openly as in the days of 'free rum'; prosecution is a mockery and the enforcement of the law is becoming a byword of contempt."

There is not a single individual outside Falconwood, not even the esteemed Editor of the Patriot, believes the literal truth of this. It is a political lie, it is worse, it is a blasting lie calculated to damage not only the reputation of the Province abroad but to injure the cause of prohibition elsewhere. In Quebec, as in Nova Scotia, the Liberal Premier has cited the Patriot as his authority for stating that under Prohibition the evil of drunkenness is intensified. We ask anyone is that so, or is it not? If it is not true, why should any newspaper seek to publish it abroad? Must not there be some ulterior motive, some reason hidden below the surface? We all know that it is so, for conditions were never better than they are at present, there never was less drunkenness throughout the length and breadth of the Province, and never less crime.

So much for our esteemed contemporary's wholesale charge. It would be impossible for the Guardian to express an honest opinion with regard to several points in the Chief Justice's deliverance in regard to the administration of the Prohibitory Law without placing itself in a position of constructive contempt of Court. We have no desire to transgress in this respect. We hold the Chief Justice and his office in high esteem. We go farther, and maintain it is the duty of the press to safeguard the judiciary from unnecessary and wanton criticism, and to do all in its power to keep the Court out of public discussions. We believe in respect for law and authority and endeavour to put in practice what we preach. But it will be seen at what disadvantage public writers find themselves who hold at times opinions and convictions strongly adverse to those expressed by judges of the Court. We must have ever before us the fact that in a trial for contempt of court all the ordinary safeguards for the freedom of the press are non-existent. In such a trial the Court is at once prosecutor, judge, jury, and executioner, and may impose what penalty it pleases. It has happened again and again that Editors of newspapers expressing their honest convictions have been hailed before the Courts they have offended in the heat of a controversy and fined large sums or sent to prison for months. And why? Because they failed to see eye to eye with a judge on the bench. We had a recent example in Winnipeg, on which occasion, every newspaper almost in Canada took occasion to comment upon the archaic laws which placed it in the hands of an offended Court to mete out punishment according to the measure of its offended dignity—and without appeal.

It will be clear from this that no newspaper that may honestly differ from the Chief Justice is free to express its convictions with regard to his judicial obiter dicta without running the risk of dire consequences. We, therefore, leave the subject for the meantime

and shall readily return to it when the dignity of the Court and the freedom of the press are not concerned. But we may be free to express our opinion that the laws and conditions, governing public discussion of this description ought long ago to have been amended. Men who have attained to judicial positions are still men, subject to like passions and errors of judgment with ordinary lay mortals like ourselves; and a state of things in which any man can be prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner in one is contrary to the principles of natural justice and personal freedom.

As the Guardian feels unable to express its honest convictions with regard to the deliverances of the Chief Justice because of the limitations we have referred to, we have preferred to remain silent, but we do not wish our political opponents to hug the fond delusion to their soul that in this instance silence means consent.

WOMEN FARMERS

At present and for some time past quite a number of women are attending the classes in the Guelph Agricultural College with a view to being able to assume the management of farms now owned or in prospect. While female management of farms is somewhat rare in Canada—except in cases where the death of male management has thrown the burden upon wife or mother or daughter, it is not an uncommon thing in other countries to see large farms successfully managed by women. Even in our own province several farms might be mentioned in which the wife or mother has shown executive and business ability that more than supplements the masculine end of the management of the farm. During the past summer it was not an uncommon thing to see women plowing, harrowing, driving loads of produce to market, while such pleasurable pastimes as driving the mower or binder or hay-rake has for many years been regarded, and rightly so, as a privilege to be envied.

Last autumn during the Georgetown Exhibition, a visitor was interested in seeing a woman driving a small herd of handsome looking Holstein cattle to the show ring. On enquiry he learned that she not only had an exhibit of Holsteins but of Oxford Down Sheep and that every animal she entered carried off a prize, most, if not all, of them first prizes. The visitor, greatly interested in this bit of history followed it farther and discovered that she had not only taken prizes for animals but for a magnificent collection of house plants. She was able not only to derive profit and pleasure from the care and selection and feeding of animals but found time in the midst of her duties to cultivate the refining and ordinarily feminine pastime of growing house plants and flowers and otherwise making her home attractive.

With some three thousand of our men absent from the province and a thousand or more seeking a fortune in the munition plants in our sister provinces or otherwise getting out of the way of the recruiting officer, the time has come when women must take up the duty of farming if our annual production of foodstuffs is to be maintained. And there is no reason why they should not. Their management of a farm does not necessarily mean manual labour that is beyond their natural strength. The successful farmer is not he who does all the work himself but who is able to direct it wisely and a woman has just as much managing capacity as a man has. Heretofore the management of the farm has, through custom rather than fitness, been left entirely to the men, the women being the carers of the immediate home premises. Now that men are not available because otherwise engaged, a change has been brought about to which we must adjust ourselves if the prosperity of our country is to be maintained. What is needed is technical knowledge of farming, the ability to direct and economize labour, to understand the general market conditions and in all of these our women are, on the whole, the equals of the men. Men and women may be classified as competent and incompetent but in this classification neither has any advantage over the other. There are just as many competent women as there are competent men, indeed with the masculine tendency to wander off into forbidden paths, the advantage lies with the women; at any rate it is the men who appear the oftener in the Courts for the violation of the laws, the men rather than the women who waste their substance in riotous living.

It is a well known fact, authenticated by official figures, that the country's food supply has not kept pace with the growth of population. Our men, who were producers on the farms, are moving in larger and larger numbers into the cities to become consumers and this, more than the war and more than any other, has been the cause of the abnormal prices of the past few years and will continue to be the cause of still higher prices in the future.

There is not a farmer in this province that could not be successfully managed by a wide awake sensible woman. What is needed is that the women take up the real business of farming, learn its principles and pride themselves upon their management. There is land enough and room enough for them all and the life would be an infinitely more enjoyable one than most of the occupations now taken up by women.

NOTES

Buffalo Bill is dead, and the period which he represented seems so far back that he might almost as well have been a relic of the Stone Age.

At a Quebec political meeting Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux announced that the Laurier Opposition had decided to oppose an extension of the Parliamentary term. The result of that would be to force an election before next October. The Laurier organs that have been calling for a Coalition Government know of the party decision.

PEACE DISCUSSED BY SOLDIERS IN ENGLAND

Miss Rebecca Doucette, formerly stenographer for the Tignish Trading Co., Ltd., and who is now employed with "The National Acme Co." of Windsor, Vermont, U. S., received the following letter from her brother Pte. Wilfred Doucette of the 105th Canadians, who is at present in England:—

Witley Camp, Surrey, 28-12-16 Dear Sister:—Received your letter on my return from France. I spent a jolly good time in Edinburgh, Scotland. It was hard to have to come back to soldiering after enjoying the luxury of sleeping in a comfortable bed and eating good meals for six days. Nevertheless, I am back to Witley and working like "sixty". The work in the orderly room has not slackened a bit. The holding of the 105th Battalion together, seems to be a hope abandoned, still, there's a possibility yet of being filled up again. I suppose you have heard that we sent 350 men across to France. Some of them are in the front line trenches, while the remainder are still at the base.

Well, I must tell you a little about my trip to Edinburgh. Of course, I couldn't commence to explain everything I saw. The people there are the most hospitable I've ever met. They treat the Canadians awfully well, but death on the English. I visited Fort Bridge, ten miles out of the city. This is an awful structure; 310 feet high (the highest in the world) and a mile and three quarters long. There are submarines and other means of naval warfare in its abounding waters. I was also to the top of Sir Walter Scott's monument. This is 200 feet 6 inches in height, containing 287 steps. It was almost as tedious to climb, as to scale the mass of the old Higgins. As museums of the city were simply wonderful. There were many scenes of antiquity to be seen in these. I remarked "I wish I had paid more attention to British History in my school days" then those scenes would come familiar to me. There were also other monuments, such as Wellington, Burns, etc.

The most wonderful sight was the Old Castle, (Edinburgh Castle). On entering this place, we were escorted around by a guide. But a fellow would require his shorthand note book and pencil, to remember all this old veteran told us. I was through Queen Mary's Room and down in the prison, where many ancient heroes were kept, awaiting execution. We tried to see the Crown Room, but it was closed, so we couldn't achieve this wonderful advantage. We were shown the trade marks of an Air raid which took place some few months ago. I saw a large stone building with the roof full of holes where the bombs penetrated it. The bombs struck the side of the Castle but didn't do any damage, just scarcely marked it. The people were not at all fitted out for an raid, having no guns to protect themselves, but at the present time they are well guarded. You can see the muzzle of the gun pointing through the numerous windows of the old castle. Well, to write about all I've seen, this wouldn't be a letter, it would be more like a bible, so I will leave off and hit on the war news.

As you doubtless know, we are not allowed to state much about the war in letters going to neutral countries, (but perhaps this fact will escape them, if you write back to the "dear old spot" myself very soon. And Fred is in Boston, I had a letter from him a few days ago. Well, my dear sister, as it is drawing close to dinner hour I shall now say good-bye. Jack, Sylvester and Herb all send you their best regards. Write often.

Your Brother "WILFRED" Pte. Wilfred J. Doucette 105th Canadians c/o Army Post Office London, England

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

AFTER ALL. "The Better Days Before Us." We take our share of fretting Of grieving and forgiving. The paths are often rough and steep, and heedless feet may fall; But yet the days are cheery, And night brings rest when weary, And somehow this old planet is a good world after all.

Though sharp may be our trouble, The joys are more than double, The love surpasses the coward's, and the least are like a wall. To guard their dearest ever, To fall the feeblest never— And somehow this old earth remains a bright world after all. There's always love that's caring, And shielding and forbearing, Dear woman's love to hold us close and keep our hearts in thrall; There's home to share together, In calm or stormy weather, And when the heart's flame burns it is a good world after all. The lip of children's voices, The chance of happy choices, The bugle sound of hope and faith through fogs and mists that call; The Heaven that stretches o'er us, The better days before us, They all combine to make this earth a most enjoyable evening to a close. I am Sir etc. RAY McDONALD

"HAPPY FIFTH'S" NEW YEAR

The Happy Fifth, now at Aldershot, had a number of visitors from 105th the New Year, and played another game of baseball with their old Hall-fax Rivals, whom they again defeated. Aldershot, Jan. 2, 1917.

Sir:—On Sunday we had a pleasant visit from our old friend, Corp. Charles McInnis, of the First Contingent that left Charlottetown. He is looking well and is in fine spirits, especially for a fellow who has been through as many battles as he has—and came through without a scratch.

We also had a pleasant call from Pte. John Doyle of the 105th at Witley on Sunday last. He is also looking well and reports all the boys fine. On New Year's Day we had a visit from Lieut. McLean, Pte. Lou Matheson, Pte. McLean and Pte. Stevenson all of the 105th. We were all glad to see the boys, and needless to say they were glad to see us. We had the pleasure of seeing Pte. Matheson in his old position on the baseball field, when our Battery again defeated the 273rd Battery from Halifax, account of which follows:—

At three o'clock both Batteries accompanied by their teams, marched onto the field, which was in much better condition than at the previous game, each team confident of victory. There was an exceptionally large number of spectators present, all in the highest pitch of excitement. At 3.15, Umpire Sergeant Bruce of the 272nd Battery called the game with 273rd boys at bat. The first man to bat for the 273rd was Munnery, the first catcher, who after making several foul hits, was finally put down without reaching first. Campbell the next man up got a pass to first, but was retired while trying to reach second, and Palmer at bat was put down in one, two, three order.

Our boys coming to bat were unsuccessful in reaching first, and the first inning ended with the score 0-0. Dunn being the first at bat, for the 273rd boys went out on three strikes. Captain Cobbet, coming to bat, lined a nice one out to right field man, Lou Matheson, of the 105th boys, which he handled beautifully and the Capt went out at first. The next man up, fanned and thus the side was retired without a man reaching first.

272nd boys coming to bat, this time Lieut. Murphy was the first man up, and was retired on bunting on the third strike. Sergt. Major Lea, the next man up, put up an easy fly to the pitcher and was also retired, now it was "Breezy's" turn at the bat. There was a crash, and just a streak getting to first, the first base man being on his feet, making a wild endeavor to catch the ball being thrown to him, bumped Breezy, which was too much for him, and the ball went bounding past; also Breezy was by this time bounding to second. Matheson came to bat, but Breezy took a long lead at second and again fooled them, and causing the pitcher to over-throw to third and thus he reached home quite safely, while Matheson reached first on a pass. The "Battery Giant" next stepped up, and all the 273rd rosters called, "he is easy" but he first ball pitched, he posted it, but here a pretty catch was made in centre field by Baker of the 273rd and our boys were again retired.

The 273rd boys going to bat for the third time were again retired in A.B.C. order, and 272nd boys coming in took their place at the bat. The first man to bat was Steeves the reliable pitcher of the 272nd, who hit a nice one to the catcher and went out. McIntosh came next and reached first on a pass. Keoughan, next man up also got a pass to first, with McIntosh on second base and Keoughan on first. Our catcher, Garret came to bat, and landed a beauty out in the field, bringing McIntosh home. Keoughan getting as far as third, and reaching second himself. Lieut. Murphy came again to bat, and lined a nice one out to the short stop, who let the Lieut. reach first and thus the bases were full. Sergt-Major Lea came up, but was put down on three strikes. Again "Breezy" came to bat, with the old determination in his face. The first ball pitched he caught fairly on his bat, and everybody on bases started to run, but the unexpected happened, the 273rd boys, knowing their bat and placed themselves deep out in the field and Locke, playing left field, succeeded in pulling the ball down out of the air, and so our boys were retired.

The first man to bat for the 273rd boys being Munnery, he got a pass to first, and succeeded in reaching home before the sides were retired. Our boys coming to bat for the last of the fourth innings were again retired without getting any further than second base. The remaining three innings both teams worked hard to score, and some very fine playing took place, but to no avail, both sides were put down each time without reaching as far as second base, and thus one of the finest exhibitions of base ball came to a close, owing to the darkness, with the score 2-1 in favor of the 272nd Battery.

The Locals of Charlottetown may possibly think or rather those that are left of the Locals, that the 273rd base ball team are an easy team to beat but the boys now play the game to win, not for the little bit of exercise they used to get in Charlottetown. In the evening a most enjoyable smoker took place in one of the large rooms of the Barrack at which some very good speech-making took place. Lieut. Murphy in the chair. Lieut. Murphy addressed the boys in a very affable manner. He was followed by Sergt-Major Lea, Q. M. S. Acorn, Sergt. Bruce, Corp. Boyar, Hogan, Edr. Murnaghan. All the gunners present in the room had a chance to have his little say, also Lou Matheson of the 105th and Pte. Stevenson and McLean also of the 105th. Then there were three cheers given for Lieut. Murphy, also for Pte. Matheson who did such good work on our base ball team in the afternoon. The singing of "God Save our King" brought a most enjoyable evening to a close. I am Sir etc. RAY McDONALD

Typewriter Speed Secrets Told by the Mistress of the Keys

HOW TO MAKE YOUR MACHINE SING AT THE RATE OF ELEVEN STROKES A SECOND OR 137 PERFECT WORDS A MINUTE—A PANDORA BOX OF GOOD ADVICE TO THE FRATERNITY OF FLYING FINGERS.

STORY EIGHT. As we begin the combination phrases and paragraphs that will make your typing better. I want to give you an exercise to improve the suppleness of the fingers. You will recall I gave you, in a former lesson, a "Tense" exercise to limber up the muscles. This one refers to improving the condition of any single finger which goes on strike because it is too stiff. THAT WEAK TIRED FINGER. Rest all the fingers on some surface even the arm of a chair, and practice raising only that finger which is weak. It may take a month to overcome the weakness, but do not let your determination weaken. Nothing worth while in this world comes easily. It generally develops that the third finger of each hand is the most difficult to control, and it is mainly to benefit this particular finger that this exercise is given.

KIMBALL'S SPEED COPY. The two following extracts are from "The Value of Typewriting Contests" by J. N. Kimball, the copy used in the New London, Conn., contest in February, 1915. "There is something in the make-up of every man of normal build that urges him to play whatever game he is playing better than some other fellow can play it, and if he is neither lame nor lazy that same something urges him to try to play it better than any other person on earth can play it. It makes no difference what the game may be, if more than one is playing it the time will come when somebody will claim to be better than his fellows and will stand ready to challenge the world to produce someone who can beat him at it. It will always be so until the time of progress cease to revolve for the verities of progress lies in this spirit of emulation, this ambition to be first in whatever one undertakes."

WORKING THE ALPHABET. Take the alphabet in its natural order: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z. Strike the keys at the fastest speed compatible with perfect rhythm. After you have run through it with the carriage moving every fraction of a second, reverse the test and type the alphabet backward from z to a: z y x w v u t r o p n i k j h g f e d c b a. The first part of the test will be easier than the last, but you must slow down on the first until you can type them both with exactly the same speed. An attentive bystander should never be able to guess whether you are writing the alphabet backward or forward.

GOOD PRACTICE PARAGRAPHS. We now approach the time when we must devote some attention to writing paragraphs from various books. For this purpose I have selected the "Presidential Addresses and State Papers" of Theodore Roosevelt sent to Congress in 1891, and would suggest that you take the following paragraph: "How to secure fair treatment alike for labor and for capital, how to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employee, without weakening individual initiative, without hampering and cramping the industrial development of the country."

REPEATING THE PRACTICE. With the instructions thus far outlined, hearing on various exercises for the benefit of improving individual and collective fingering, I want to emphasize as strongly as possible the necessity of repetition. The mere giving of exercises for one finger or for all the fingers on a hand and the practicing of it once or twice will naturally be of little or no value to the student. The exercises should be written many times. MARGARET B. OWEN, Copyrighted 1916 by Margaret B. Owen. All rights reserved.

ROADMASTER'S PATRIOTIC FUND A Start Made - Who Follows in the Train?

In response to several appeals, Mr. A. W. Bruce, Red Point, has opened a Roadmaster's Patriotic Fund. The idea being that every Roadmaster contribute \$2.50 to the Fund. The money may be sent to Mr. A. W. Bruce, to Mr. H. W. Blinning, Bank of Nova Scotia, or to the Editor of the Guardian and it will be acknowledged in the columns of the Guardian. Andrew Mooney, Little Harbour \$2.50 S. A. Bruce, Kingsborough \$2.50 A. A. Bruce, Red Point \$2.50 Robert Wares, Wheatley River \$2.50 Archie Bowles, Murray River, \$2.50 Layton McCabe, Alexandria, \$2.50 Artemas Betts, Cumberland, \$2.50 Harry Webster, Cape Traverse, \$2.50 Harry Webster, Cap. Traverse \$2.50 Garfield Stewart, Red Point, \$5.00 Angus A. Campbell, Black Pt. \$2.00* Christy A. Campbell, Black Pt. \$1.00* Nelson Stewart, Black Pt. \$1.00* A. A. Moore, Pownal \$2.50 Alex. A. McDonald, Little Pond, \$2.50 D. J. McDonald, Glenham, \$2.50 * Paid into the bank at Souris. NOTE:—By request it has been agreed to accept \$2 contributions as it is more convenient to mail this amount than \$2.50.

U. S. SECRETARY OF NAVY ASKS EXTRA \$12,000,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels laid before the house naval committee today his tentative plan for spending \$18,000,000 to equip government yards for shipbuilding, to hasten the strengthening of the navy. He already has \$5,000,000 for the purpose, and has asked for an additional \$12,000,000.

SALES OF FURS Safety First Nothing is more important to the Fur Shipper than doing business with an Honest—Reliable—Responsible—Safe Fur House. "Ship to Shubert" the largest house in the World dealing exclusively in American Raw Fur. Write for the latest edition of "The Shipper's Guide" containing valuable market information you must have. A. B. SHUBERT, Inc. 25-27 WEST AUSTIN Ave. Dept. CH1, CHICAGO, U.S.A.

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