

The Charlottetown Guardian

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LOOKING BACKWARD

Advantage of the German submarine scare is being taken by one or two Opposition journals, including our evening contemporary, to proclaim the alleged superiority of the Laurier Naval policy over that of Borden. Only those with short memories will be misled by the rehash now being served up. The facts are that the Laurier Government refused to take any action in the naval defence of Canada until they were compelled thereto by the patriotic sentiments of the country, and warnings from England that danger threatened. Even then they only put forward a policy which was more or less a sham, and which they did not attempt to put into effect.

Tenders for a weak naval force were called for and received, but when the Borden Government came into office two years later nothing had been done. The new Ministers found the tenders filed away in a pigeon-hole, where they had lain for six months. The Laurier ships had not been ordered. In 1912 there were renewed warnings from London of impending trouble in Europe, with private communications from the British Admiralty, which Sir Robert Borden confidentially submitted to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It was now clear that the old Government had delayed so long that a Canadian navy could not be built in time to meet the crisis which Germany's aggressive ship-building programme would shortly precipitate. The Prime Minister told Parliament that the storm might be expected in 1914 or 1915, and he therefore proposed his temporary emergency policy of building three super-dreadnoughts and loaning them to the Imperial authorities against the dread day already fast approaching. Sir Robert Borden appealed for united action in the interests of Canada and the Empire and the Opposition responded by blocking the vote for months in the House of Commons and by then killing it in the Senate. Had the Liberal leaders not taken this reactionary partisan course Germany might not have been misled into believing that Canada would not stand by the Mother Country in case of war and that the Empire might in fact disintegrate under armed attack. Had Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues acted as statesmen and patriots instead of as mere partisans Canada, like New Zealand and Australia, would today be represented in the North Sea by the most powerful warships in the world. In office Sir Wilfrid Laurier refused to follow Australia, New Zealand and Natal in contributing to the upkeep of the British navy, which had defended Canada for 150 years free of cost. In Opposition he utilized his authority over a servile Upper Chamber to balk a Government which was ready to do its duty by the Empire in preparation against a rising danger. He would do nothing himself and he would let no one else do anything.

RECRUITING AND TRAINING

We reproduce with pleasure the following paragraph from a letter received by a friend in Charlottetown from Mayor T. Edgar McNutt of the 105th Prince Edward Island Regiment. After telling that the "boys" are all well and busily training he proceeds:

"I understand we are likely to go to France as a unit. Of course no one knows for certain but all ranks are ready to serve King and Country when and where called upon. I hope we shall soon hear that a goodly number of men from the Island have offered themselves as re-inforcements for this Battalion. There are plenty of young men on the Island, a large number of them right in Charlottetown who were very fond of telling me and others what we ought to do and what we ought not to do, but so far as I know these people are still at home and, I suppose, giving advice to others.

"The cry is still for more men and I hope these young men at home who are within military age will respond if they are physically fit. I want however to give a word of warning to parents. It is this: 'Do not allow your boy to enlist unless he is of the full age of 18, no matter how big and strong he may be. This is no boy's job and a boy under 18 years of age can best serve his King and Country at home by filling the positions of older men who enlist. A large percentage of boys who gave their ages when enlisting as eighteen have fallen into the hands of the medical officers. They are not able to stand up to the training they have to do and the kind of life they have to live. This is a man's job, not a boy's. I believe from what I have seen that the parent who allows a boy to enlist under 18 is doing a wrong to his boy and throwing a burden upon the country. By all means get these young boys to undergo some training at home so that in case the war is prolonged they will be, to some extent at least, prepared to do their duty when their turn comes."

Major McNutt, long before the present war, was dreamed of as one of the strong advocates of military training in schools. As long ago as July, 1911, a paper read by him on this subject before a meeting of the Sons of England in Charlottetown, was published and favourably commented on in the Canadian

Military Gazette. There was at that time, and since a group of advocates of military training in schools. Missionaries beyond the seas to preach the gospel of school military training and here and there small beginnings were made but the doctrine did not take hold of our peace-pursuing people. Had the system been introduced and followed up there would not be in Canada today as many medically unfit as there are, nor would there be so much difficulty in recruiting Canada's half million men. We have learned many lessons since the war began; we may learn more yet, but perhaps the greatest lesson of all is the need of some form of military training and military discipline among our boys. Whether the war shall be prolonged or not, whether this shall be the last war or not, there is no better adjunct to the education of a boy than the physical and mental culture involved in a course of military training. The number of physically unfit revealed by the recent recruiting in Canada and even in this province is appalling and would certainly have been very much less if a system of military training and medical inspection of school children had been in vogue.

We believe we are nearing the end of the present war, and that few of the boys now under military age will be called upon for military duty. Nevertheless the need of military training and discipline is just as great as if the war were to continue, as great as if other wars were to be waged. Preparation for the ordinary battle of life requires physical strength and mental discipline and for these no other system yet devised is as effective as military training.

As to the urgency of the call for men and more men and the hope that the call now made for re-inforcements for the 105th Battalion will be responded to in a manner that will be creditable to the province, we heartily concur in the sentiment expressed by Major McNutt. The time has gone by for shirking. There is men's work to do and the men will do it—the others will not.

WAS U53 BUILT IN U. S. ?

The Providence Journal is authority for the statement that the German submarine, U-53 was built in the United States, not far from the city of Boston. Whether the Journal can substantiate its allegations time alone can tell but it will be remembered that it was the Journal that made the startling revelations which resulted some months ago in the expulsion of Captain Boyed and Von Papen from the United States. At that time Washington officially denied the allegations against these two German worthies but subsequent revelations proved their truth and the menials were sent out of the country in disgrace. Washington is also denying the U-53 story but that is by no means proof that the submarine crossed the Atlantic. Before the Journal made the statement there was a widespread feeling that the ship had never seen Germany. One thing is quite clear, namely that she could not cross the Atlantic without receiving supplies en route. There must have been a mother ship to supply oil and other necessities which, owing to her size she could not carry for the whole voyage. That the mother ship and the submarine both could escape the vigilance of the British fleet for seventeen days would be somewhat remarkable, much more so than that she had been built in a United States shipyard. There will probably be more about this. The Boston Advertiser, commenting on the charge made by the Providence Journal says:

"In the present instance, the basis for the new allegations is unknown to the general public; but it would unquestionably prove a very embarrassing matter for the United States if it should eventually prove that Captain Rose's craft had actually been built somewhere on the United States coast. It is the business of the United States to prevent a deliberate violation of neutrality; and to allow the construction of a commerce destroyer in an American shipyard would be an offence which would cost heavily."

The situation created by the U-53 may easily become embarrassing for the United States. There will be explanations, possibly revelations, and the official silence in London regarding the matter is ominous.

TO AWAKEN GERMANY

The "Telegraaf" of Amsterdam has published particulars of a very outspoken anti-war pamphlet which, it learns, has been circulated in Germany. It is entitled "People of Germany, Awake! An open letter to German citizens and workers," and the author is Dr. Hermann Ruesemeier, who states that he was political editor of the Berliner Morgenpost until September, 1914, when he quarrelled with Herr Rudolf Cuno, the chief editor, who declared that "anyone who does not help to deceive the people is a rascal." The author further states that both Herr Cuno and Herr Georg Bernhard, manager of the Vossische Zeitung, explicitly admitted that Germany provoked the war in order to gain the hegemony of Europe. One passage in the brochure quoted by the Dutch paper runs as follows:

"In informed circles the truth is known, and the German people ought to know it. There are at least 1,250,000 fallen, about 750,000 prisoners, deserters and missing, and about 3,000,000 wounded, of whom about 1,000,000 are condemned to incurable mutilation. That is the sanguinary balance sheet of war for Germany to-day. Concerning those incapacitated we are silent. Their number eludes all computation, but it is certainly enormous."

The Telegraaf says it has been assured that 5,000 copies of the brochure are in circulation in Aix-la-Chapelle alone.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

"If I'd been asked for my advice, And thought the thing out, calm and sober, Sizin' the months all once or twice, I'd 'a' n'ch'd the year out with October. All nature then just washed and dressed. With weddin' garments, ornamented With ripe fruit-gems,—and kissin' jest new-invented." —James Whitcomb Riley.

The holiday weather was most disappointing, a disagreeable drizzly rain kept Thanksgiving crowds home, and those who left on Saturday for week-end visits had to spend the day crouching around the fire-side. The several church services in the city were well attended, while the Thanksgiving decorations spoke volumes for the prosperity of the island.

Mrs. Ernest Beer, one of the September brides, is being welcomed back to Charlottetown by her many friends.

Tea at the Golf Links, this afternoon in charge of Mrs. B. Rogers and Miss Rogers.

Mrs. (Col) Peake and young family, left this week, amid many good wishes for New York, from which port they intend sailing for England. There safe journey is the wish of all their friends as they go to join Col. Peake, who left recently with the 6th Siege Battery.

After a very pleasant summer Miss Julia D. Watson, who has been the guest of the American Consul and Mrs. Pierce, left this morning for her home in Lexington, Miss Watson was the centre of many bright gatherings this summer, making friends freely. It is hoped that her first visit is but one of many to follow.

Lady Dalton entertained at a delightful bridge and tea at her home on Tuesday afternoon. The rooms which were decorated with gladioli and sweet peas looked very attractive under the glow of the artificial lights. Lady Dalton gown in gray, chiffon taffeta, was assisted in receiving by her daughter, Miss Nora, who wore white net with a coat of rose taffeta. The other daughters in dainty gowns assisted in serving tea. Lady Dalton and two daughters, Miss Nora and Miss Zita left for Boston Wednesday morning, where they will be joined later on by the other members of the family.

Dr. and Mrs. Anderson have gone to Halifax, where they will spend the winter with their daughter, Mrs. Kaizer.

Deep interest is being manifested in the mission held this week in connection with St. Peter's Church. All the services are largely attended, the addresses by Rev. Mr. Hubbard and Rev. Mr. Little being exceptionally fine.

Among the visitors in Halifax this week was Dr. McLaughlin, of St. Peter's, who was visiting his daughter, Miss Beth, who is attending the Ladies' College.

The Boys' Conference brought a great many young people to the city for the week-end. They are being quite widely entertained in private homes, and it is hoped their visit will be not only a helpful one, but also very pleasant socially.

Social gatherings this week have been very informal, as many are interested in the mission being held, and out of respect to it have postponed their social activities.

This week quite a number of excursionists are enjoying a short visit to Boston and New York. Among those going were Mr. and Mrs. Weeks, and Miss Lorna Weeks, Mrs. P. Charles Longworth, Miss Rose Longworth, and Mrs. W. S. Stewart.

Announcements have been received by friends here of the marriage in Edmonton of Miss Nora M. Bliss, granddaughter of the late Canon Bliss of Halifax, to Lieut. Rowen P. Fitzgerald, of the 194th Highlanders Battalion, and a son of Mr. Justice and Mrs. Fitzgerald, of this city.

SETTING THE PACE

Sir,—I have collected the following amounts from parties who subscribed towards the Patriotic fund year ago. The amount collected then was handed to you to give to the Treasurer of the Fund, and this amount may be given to that fund or any other fund you may consider more urgent.

- John McLennan, Red Point \$2
- Wallace Stewart, Red Point \$2
- James McInnis, Red Point \$2
- Albert Garrett, Baltic \$2
- Mrs. A. Garrett, Baltic \$1
- Mrs. Annie Bruce, Baltic \$1
- Allan Campbell, Baltic \$1

I would ask all who have not paid to do so at once as it is urgently needed.

I am, Sir, etc.
A. W. BRUCE,
Red Point.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

MERRY AUTUMN DAYS.

I hail the merry Autumn days, When leaves are turning red; Because they're far more beautiful Than anyone has said. We hail the merry harvest time, The gayest of the year, The time of rich and bounteous crops, Rejoicing and good cheer. 'Tis pleasant on a fine spring morn, To see the birds expand, 'Tis pleasant in the summer time

Fashion Demands Serge



The latest authoritative fashion indicates serge. Ever the favorite of many, it is now to reign supreme with those who wish to be correctly costumed.

Smart to the last degree, practical and full of those qualities that go to make tailoring, it is welcomed by all as leader. It hangs well, presses well, holds its shape, wears well, and always looks well.

Probably no other fabric could be found so appropriate for the new silhouette—for the straight lines of the Moyen age models—for the new Russian military effects, or the long coats with their full skirts shirred on at the waistline—that elusive waistline that seems to rise or fall at the will of the designer to attain a pleasant effect.

To be sure no other fabric combines more beautifully with the trimmings of velvet or fur that seem absolutely essential if the garment is to be quite in the vogue. Individuality of line, soft rippling curves of drape and fold are most perfectly expressed in soft serge.

So the Fall fabric of fashion and economy is serge, and we are glad that we made early preparation for the demand, and now offer a complete assortment of the fine twill French Suiting Serges in which old dyes, not procurable today, have been used. They are absolutely dependable, all pure wool, soft finish, 42 to 58 inches wide, and priced according to width and weight, at \$1.50, 1.75, 2.10, 2.75, 2.95, and 3.50 the yd. We will be glad to show you this line.

PATONS, LIMITED

To see the fruitful land; 'Tis pleasant on a winter's night To sit around the blaze:— But what are joys like these my boys, To merry Autumn days? CHARLES DICKENS.

FITZGERALD-BLISS.

The Edmonton Bulletin says:—"In Chris. Church at 3.30 o'clock this afternoon, the marriage of Nora M., daughter of Mrs. J. Almon Bliss, and granddaughter of the late Canon Almon, of Halifax, to Lieut. Rowen P. Fitzgerald, of the 194th Highlanders Battalion, son of Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., was solemnized. Rev. C. W. McKim performed the ceremony in the presence of a few intimate friends of the family.

The bride was decorated with white ribbons, and the organist, Mr. Champet, played the wedding march as the bridal party entered the church.

The bride wore her travelling costume, a navy blue tailored suit, the coat opening over a blouse of chartreuse georgette crepe. Her hat was of black velvet with a chartreuse feather. SHE WAS GIVEN AWAY by her brother-in-law, Lieut. Mark Eager.

Mrs. Bury acted as matron of honor, wearing a navy blue suit and grey velvet hat. Lieut. P. E. Fitzgerald, of the 194th Highlanders, attended the bridegroom.

It was a military wedding. The guard of honor was composed of brother officers of the bridegroom, each of whom had a bag of confetti artfully concealed, a shower almost smothering the bridal couple as they left the church.

Afterwards there was a little reception held at 113th street, where the bride with her mother, had been staying. Mrs. Almon Bliss was costumed in a French blue toilette relieved with some old lace. Mrs. Eager, sister of the bride, was wearing a midnight blue costume—very becoming. Guests one and all tendered their best wishes and congratulations to the bride and bridegroom in sparkling, witty vein, as they "broke" the bridal cake with the happy couple.

The guests included Mrs. Hyndman

POTASH IN LAURENTIANS

Dr. Frank D. Adams, speaking at the recent annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation, said: "A question of great importance is whether we cannot find deposits of potash in Canada. It is practically impossible for us to find deposits of potash similar to the German ones, but locked up in the rocks on the northern Laurentian country, where we have these great granites, we possess enormous deposits of silicate of potash and feldspar. These are now awaiting the arrival of some one who will invent a method to get supplies from the old granite rocks. Whenever that can be done we will have in the northern country an enormous and inexhaustible supply of potash."—Westmount News.

Join the Greatest Co-operative Plan in Existence, to Save Money

It does not cost anything to join, you merely invest your money in large or small amounts, in the very best of security obtainable, viz. Life and Endowment Insurance. When you think of the numberless widows Life insurance is saving from poverty, from hunger and from despair, of the countless children to whom the Policy benefits are giving a chance in life, preventing them from being huddled together in the slums of large cities, breathing foul air and eating food both unsuitable and insufficient and best of all saving and preserving to them the mother's care, you will agree that it is the greatest beneficent institution in the world.

We would like to be of service to you and yours. Can we have an opportunity of submitting particulars of our plans free of charge?

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