

The Charlottetown Guardian

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PARTISAN PATRIOTISM

Patriotism has well been said to be the last resort of scoundrelism. Never in the history of Canada has the word patriotism been as freely bandied about as during the discussion, not yet ended, on Canada's duty in the war.

The other day in the House of Commons, the Hon. Frank Oliver in seconding Sir Wilfrid Laurier's amendment demanding a referendum declared himself a "strong supporter" of the principle of conscription but he objected to the bill before the House because of the provision for a selective draft.

Sir Robert Borden asked him if he had any suggestion to offer as to how the selection should be made.

Mr. Oliver replied that he objected to the appointment of trustees who had the power to say who should or should not go. "I don't believe in a bill that says Brown shall go and Smith shall stay at home, without suggesting why."

Sir Robert Borden repeated that he would be glad to consider any suggestion to improve the bill. "Can you make any suggestion in this connection?", he asked. "I don't appreciate that as my function," replied Mr. Oliver. "That is the Government's function. My function is to show where the bill falls short. Having done that, I have done my duty."

How many have done their "duty" since this unhappy war began, just as Mr. Oliver has done his! If all who have pointed out alleged failures in measures adopted to win the war can be credited with having done their duty, then truly a noble army of Canadians at home have done their duty—with their mouths and with their pens. Never before, in Canada's history, has there been so much of this kind of "duty" done.

Duty? Duty to what and to whom? To the party solely, not to the Empire, not to the country, not to the men who are battling day and night in the craters and shell holes, nor to the dead who lie in unnamed graves in France and Flanders.

"It is not my function to point out a better way," says the partisan patriot. "That's up to the government," "I know a better way," says the political trickster, "but I shan't tell you; it might help the government." Mr. Oliver professed to know a way by which conscription—which he approved of—could be made more effective but, lest it might help the government, he would damn the whole measure and second a motion for its defeat.

We do not suppose for a moment, nor will anyone else, that Mr. Oliver had any practical suggestion to make, that he had any desire to make the bill more effective, that he cared one iota whether the bill, the "principle" of which he professed to believe in, carried or not so long as its adoption or rejection furnished some pretext for blaming the government.

This kind of opposition and of criticism has been characteristic of the Liberal press and the Liberal platform since the war began. There has been endless opposition, endless criticism, endless faultfinding but not a word or a suggestion to aid the government in its conduct of the country's share in the war. In view of the need of oneness of purpose and oneness of aim in carrying the country through the one great crisis in its history surely this is a pitiful attitude to adopt.

CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH

The Ottawa Journal-Press in a recent issue replied to the Ottawa Citizen which, like many other Liberal papers, has of late been howling about the latest excuse

"Conscription of wealth." The Journal had stated that conscription of wealth, in the sense of conscription of man power, was an impossibility; that the only effective way in which wealth could be conscripted was by means of an increased income tax, a doctrine which the Citizen declared was exceedingly wicked. The Journal-Press in support of its contention asked the Citizen to be so good as to explain the process by which wealth could be conscripted. Proceeding it said:

"Let's have a definite explanation, not a mere sample of Citizen intoxication in the exuberance of its own verbosity which tells nobody anything worth while; let's have a plain statement how the Government ought to apply the idea of conscription of wealth to the Ottawa Citizen Printing Company, and inferentially to all other industries, otherwise than by application of an income tax. We cordially invite the Citizen to get down to brass tacks. And if there is anybody else who is cheering for 'conscription of wealth,' we suggest he should start to concentrate his ideas by asking himself how the Government ought to legislate to apply the idea to say the nearest grocery store. If that seems to be too small potatoes, let him take the nearest wholesale grocery, or a big dry-goods store, or a furniture factory. If he concludes upon study that he doesn't mean that sort of thing, but just the money of rich individuals, let him ask himself in what way he is going to get that better than by income tax."

Conscription of Wealth is a sonorous expression, it sounds good and there are few of us who do not think he knows of somebody's wealth that should be conscripted. The trouble is how to get at it. A certain sect of socialistic anarchists have offered solutions which in these law abiding countries of ours would not meet with much sympathy and would scarcely be offered at a public political meeting. Sir Thomas White has already intimated that he purposes introducing a measure of increased income taxation; the government has already conscripted profits in excess of a certain percentage; it has also pledged Canada, and the pledge has been applauded by both sides of the House, to stay in the war "to the last man and the last dollar," until victory is achieved. The wealth of Canada is already being conscripted to meet the needs of the situation. When the need increases there will be a further increase. In the meantime it is men, not money, that is needed and they cannot be got in any other way. That is why conscription of men is being demanded today by all loyal Canadians.

AUTOMOBILE DRIVING

While, doubtless, many of the reports circulating about unruly driving and over-speeding by automobiles are exaggerated it must in all fairness be admitted that there are some good and sufficient causes for complaint on this score and that all autoists are not as thoughtful of the convenience or even the safety of others as they ought to be. This is of course true of the drivers of horses as well. Up to the present there has been much more unruly driving with horses than with autos. This however does not excuse the autoist. It is well known that the prejudice against autos has not yet been entirely removed and the blame for this lies largely with the few reckless drivers who break loose occasionally, and for whom some people in the country are "laying" with such weapons as may be available when they next encounter each other. This is regrettable. The automobile is slowly winning a way for itself and if all its drivers were as careful and considerate as they ought to be the gulf between the pros and the antis would very soon be bridged. There is only one remedy for the trouble and the sooner it is applied the better it will be for all concerned; that remedy is prosecution for every offence. Every auto is numbered. Should one go out without a number its owner is liable. When the speed limit is exceeded; when the prescribed precautions on meeting horses are neglected let the offence be promptly reported to the nearest magistrate and we feel quite sure that the Automobile Association and every reputable auto owner will assist in prosecuting the offender. The roads that are open to autos are open also to teams and to pedestrians. All have their rights and these rights must be maintained. It may be necessary to invoke the aid of the courts to effect this and the sooner this is done, if it must be done, the better will it be for all concerned.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

WAR TIME VERSE FOR THE ISLAND HYMN.

Get save our island men: Bring them safe home again. Victors and free. O guard them as they fight To conquer might by right And keep them in Thy sight Where'er they be.

The above verse was composed by Mr. L. W. Watson of this city and makes a fitting close to Miss Montgomery's Island Hymn the beautiful music of which was composed by Mr. Watson and is widely sung in this Province.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary, the 20-year-old daughter of his majesty King George, is to be provided with a small official household immediately following the conclusion of peace. This will be on a very moderate scale, and will be chosen by Queen Mary. Up to the present her royal highness has not attended any official functions except with her mother, and ladies-in-waiting have not so far been necessary.

The interesting news is being circulated here this week that the Governor General accompanied by The Duchess of Devonshire and suite are to visit Charlottetown next month and are to be entertained at Government House.

Hon. A. E. Arsenault and Mrs. Arsenault of Summerside are receiving the congratulations of their many friends on Mr. Arsenault's appointment as Premier of this Province.

One of the prettiest At-Homes of the season was held yesterday afternoon at the Experimental Farm in aid of the Y. M. C. A. Autos were great in evidence, and in and out of jolly crowds of prettily dressed ladies and young people who had a delightful afternoon, as the Experimental Farm is very lovely just at present. One entering the door Mrs. A. W. Sterns ushered the guests to the drawing room where they were received by Mrs. Clark and the Y. M. C. A. Auxiliary President Mrs. Tait. The floral decorations here were artistically carried out in pink snap dragon and greenery, while the drawing room flowers were carnations and Lillies of the Valley which were exquisite. Mrs. T. G. Taylor and Mrs. Doull poured tea, and Mrs. S. C. Moore and Mrs. Smith cut the ices. Assisting in serving were Misses Blanch Nicholson, Alice Campbell and Miss Irene Longworth, all daintily gowned in light summer dresses and looking exceedingly nice. Music was furnished throughout the afternoon by Miss Frances Moore and Miss Jean Tait and altogether the event was most satisfactory socially and financially.

The lovely summer weather of the past week has been ideal for out-of-door exercises and sport. Nature is rejoicing on every hand and never did the trees and grass seem so vividly green as it does in the bright sunshine which is so pleasant after the weary weeks of rain and dull weather.

The tennis courts are in full swing. Victoria Park Club has a large membership this year and is quite prosperous, their courts being ideally located and in good order. Afternoon teas this year have been cancelled but the social side is not necessarily suffering therefrom, and a jolly season is anticipated.

The St. James Tennis Courts are also in good order having been thoroughly cleaned and rolled. This week has really opened the season there as the first tea is to be served this afternoon by Mrs. E. Saunders, Mrs. L. Unsworth and Miss Russ.

Mrs. Douglas Cameron and her children of Ottawa intend leaving shortly for Brackley Beach, where they will spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Richardson and little daughter of Summerside have gone on a motoring tour through New Brunswick and are having a delightful outing.

Women are at last invading and taking charge of canteen and camp kitchens all over England. They "live in" so as to be able to give the fullest amount of time to the work. The first

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

DETAILS OF PROVIDENCE

"The very hairs of your head are all numbered."—Matt. x. 24-31.

Providence goes into details. Sometimes, in our human intercourse we cannot see the trees for the wood. We cannot see the individual sheep for the flock. We cannot see the personal soul for the masses. We are blinded by the brightness of things; we cannot see the individual blades of grass because of the field.

Now God's vision is not general. It is particular. There are "masses" to the infinite. "He calleth His own sheep by name." The single one is seen as though he alone possessed the earth. When God looks at the wood, he sees every tree. When he looks at the race, he sees every man. And therefore, I need not fear that "my way is overlooked by my God." He knows every turning. He knows just where the strain begins at the hill. He knows the perils of every descent. He knows every happening along the road. He knows every letter that came to me by this morning's post. He knows every visitor who knocks at the door of my life, whether the visitor come at the high noon or at the midnight. There is nothing hid. "The very hairs of your head are all numbered."—John Henry Jowett.

lady supervisor has received a captain's rank and £150 a year and all found.

Miss Janette MacPhail of Orwell, returned this week from a short but pleasant trip to Montreal.

Many home friends will be interested to learn that Lieut. Clyde Auld, Halifax for the past two years is leaving at once for overseas. It is understood that Lieut. Auld has relinquished his commission that he may go overseas with the McGill Unit.

Miss Turner entertained at a picnic to beautiful Bonshaw yesterday, her guests having a most delightful outing.

Mrs. Fred Harris, of Bridgetown, N. S., who is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bentley is being welcomed here on a visit, by former friends.

The Francis Willard tea in aid of the P. E. I. Hospital, has been postponed for the present.

Friends of Mr. J. H. L. Johnson, formerly Assistant Professor of Physics at Dalhousie, are interested in the news this week of his being now at headquarters in France after his enlistment over a year ago with the Royal Engineers, London.

The marriage will take place this month of Miss Mabel Greenwood Andrews daughter of Dr. Wilbur William and Mrs. Andrews, of Regina, to Mr. Francis Garnet Hooper, Dr. Andrews was for years Dean of the Science Faculty at Mount Allison. Miss Andrews graduated there in 1911.

Captain H. C. Hodgson was among the Canadian visitors to the High Commissioners Office in London last week.

Because soap is becoming a scarcity in France, the Summer fashions are effected to a very considerable extent. The lingerie blouse, so beloved by generations of French women, and so perfectly dealt with in times of peace by the French laundress, has almost completely disappeared and materials are very sparingly shown by any of the great houses. Quite a new fabric is a calico printed so as to give a tweed effect, which wears excellently, especially for children's use.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Richardson of Ottawa are expected here this week to spend the summer months.

The tea hostesses at the Golf Links this afternoon will be Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Pope.

Mrs. Clarence B. Allan of St. John invited Mrs. W. D. Foster, Mrs. Homer and Mrs. D. P. Chisholm to afternoon tea and meet Mrs. J. E. B. McCready of Charlottetown at the Green Lantern on Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. and Mrs. Conroy returned this week from Montreal. While there Mrs. Conroy who was visiting her sister Madame Newberry, was the guest of honor at several social affairs given for her.

Letters just received bring news that Principal MacKinnon is still in England, and that his son, Ian, of the McGill Battery, who was in the great battle of Vimy Ridge, is now in a German dug-out captured in that historic battle.

Miss Hopkirk, made a delightful hostess at a small, but pleasantly arranged afternoon tea, on Tuesday.

At the close of the very successful convention of the Knights of Columbus held here this week, the lady visitors and their friends were entertained at a most enjoyable dance in the K. of C. Hall.

Miss Jack of St. John who is visiting in the City, delighted many this week, when she kindly consented to exhibit her art collection for Patriotic purposes. Quite a number took advantage of the rare treat afforded.

Sister Pope matron of the Station Hospital at Halifax who has been on a brief furlough which she has spent at Liverpool, arrived home this week and her many friends will be deeply gratified to know that she has been greatly benefitted by the rest and change.

Mrs. Gordon Grant and children are leaving Ottawa at the end of the month to spend the summer at Brackley Beach.

Miss Eva Hunter, Summerside, was the charming hostess at a very attractive chain tea held at her home on Central St., Friday June 1st, in aid of Red Cross work.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Cartwright and their family who are annual visitors here are leaving Ottawa about the 27th of the month to spend July and August in Prince Edward Island.

CONSOLING WORDS FROM AN ARMY CHAPLAIN

The following letter was received by Mrs. Charles McQuillan, 88 Charles Street, Halifax, in reference to the death at the front of her husband, Corporal Charles McQuillan, formerly of Charlottetown, who was a former prominent athlete of the Maritime Provinces: Dear Mrs. McQuillan:

Though it is now well over a month since your husband went to his reward, I could not get an opportunity of writing you. Charles was killed at the battle of Arras and was buried on the field where a cross has been erected to his memory. He was a good, brave soldier and is now enjoying the reward of his great sacrifice that in many respects is like that of his Divine Master, for he laid down his life for his friends. It will be a consolation for you to know that he was to the Sacraments two days before his death. May he rest in peace, and may God give you strength to bear your loss. With deepest sympathy,

FATHER MacGILLIVRAY, Capt. Chaplain



CANADIAN ON WAY TO RECEIVE PROUD DISTINCTION.

Col. McCuaig, Canadian officer, walking to Buckingham Place to an investiture at which he received from the King's hands the Distinguished Service Order for gallant and able work in battle. Col. McCuaig comes of one of the Dominion's most famous fighting families.

Canada's Foreign Trade for 5 years of War 1915 \$921,129,120

1916 \$1,333,464,143

1917 \$2,072,242,149

CANADA'S PROMINENCE IN WORLD OF TRADE GROWS BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.

These official statistics are in each case for the twelve months ending with April, and exclude coal and bullion shipments, leaving the totals for merchandise.

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