

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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FULFILLING PROMISES

The failure to fulfill New Year Resolutions and Pre-Election Promises counted among the deadly sins. These, cynics say, are good to be broken.

It is not our intention or desire to discuss the merits of the question, but to refer to the remarkable exception in the case of the Pre-Election Promises of our present Dominion Government.

Take the car ferry. No sooner was the present Government in office than the order for the car ferry steamer was given. The vessel has been launched, and will be ready for service by midsummer.

It ever there was a time in the history of this country when a Government might have been excused for going back on its pledged word it is the present, when Canada and the Empire is in the throes of a war which calls for economy on almost every hand and in every department to provide the sinews of war.

Yet the Government keeps faith "with the little sister of the Confederation. Is this not marvellous? May be asked from our past experience.

No, it is only what might have been expected from a Government living up to the best traditions of British administration. What has been characteristic of British statesmanship, what has built up and maintained our Empire, what has cemented diverse peoples in one great united whole and formed its coping stone in this remarkable unanimity in the face of a treacherous foe, has just been the British statesman's respect for his word and promise.

The smallest and most insignificant colony or protectorate in the Empire knows that a promise by a British statesman is something sacred, something to be relied upon even though "the heavens should fall."

Mr. Robert Borden is of this school of statesmen, and Prince Edward Island has reason to know it and appreciate it. After many years of disappointed hopes, we have a man at the helm in Ottawa who honors his promises and fulfils his obligations to the letter without equivocation or distinction.

In addition to the grant of nearly \$2,000,000 for the car ferry other \$196,000 will be voted for public works in this Province, and altogether this coming year the Island will be as busy and as prosperous as it has been during the past two years.

This altogether apart from what the local administration has done and will do to build on the sound foundations laid within the past three years.

OUR DRUG STORES

Yesterday we referred to the value of a store as a news centre and the expectancy with which every household waits the announcements of the regular advertiser.

A good drug store fills a niche of wide-reaching usefulness in a community.

It is a service store in a hundred particulars. The natural outgrowth and upgrowth of the primitive apothecary's shop, the modern drug store is a sort of specialized department store.

What a far cry from the little "den" of the starved apothecary pictured in "Romeo and Juliet" to the up-to-date drug store of NOW!

Time was, too, when every family physician carried his own line of drugs and remedies.

But, with the advance of knowledge in medical treatment came the greatest advance in store service with the apothecary.

For, no matter what countless things of beauty and utility the drug store of today sells, the proprietor prides himself most upon the efficiency of his PRESCRIPTION DEPARTMENT. For in the scientific compounding of prescriptions KNOWLEDGE and CARE and SKILL are necessary.

It is the quite-natural thing to do, with most people, to "drop in to the druggist's" for almost anything they want—either in the way of information or of personal needs. And it is a fact, reflecting much credit upon the modern business men, that the man or woman who wants to buy a postage stamp, or to consult a dictionary, or to use the telephone finds the same courtesy accorded to a customer on a buying errand.

In order to emphasize the PUBLIC SERVICE which the drug stores perform for the people of this province and to concentrate attention on the wonderful variety of things they have to sell, we shall give a series of "Talks," to our readers about drugs, druggists and drug stores. And the druggists will, themselves, add special interest to these talks by telling, in the same issues, about their stores and their store offerings.

DOWN AND OUT

There is a class for which the world has little sympathy; it is the "down and out," so called. That they are "down" is generally indisputable; whether they are "out" depends very largely upon circumstances. History, past and present, is not wanting in proof that many who were classed as both down and out were really members of that class in

definitely, and often erroneously, known as the "salt of the earth."

Circumstances, sometimes of their own choosing, often unavoidable and thrust upon them by others, are to blame for possibly nine out of every ten who are down and out and who, as they are, are cumberers of the ground. With changed circumstances, a lift out of their environment, a helping hand instead of the contemptuous treatment and distrust usually meted out to them, who knows how many of these, now worse than useless, would be converted to lives of usefulness?

An automobile manufacturer in the United States, in giving evidence recently before a Commission of Enquiry on unemployment, made the statement that he employed quite a number of released criminals in his business, sometimes as many as 100 to 150. Interviewed later as to his experiences with these, he said he had met with practically no trouble. He had trusted them and given them employment, they were grateful and in not a single case had his confidence been betrayed.

This, we admit, is a pretty large claim. It is possible that out of a hundred criminals there might be some who were unworthy of trust and whom it would not be safe to trust; the point is that they are not all hopeless, though criminals, not all to be given up as beyond redemption because they had fallen once or more than once.

There are on the streets of every city a class, great or little, known as down and out. Society has ostracized them, the church does not reach them, they are given up. There is not one of them so low as to be beyond hope of redemption; in each heart there is a spot that can be touched and enlarged into usefulness and manliness or womanliness. What are we, what are the churches, the schools, the courts, the good men and women doing for them?

There are in the trenches in Northern France today men who left the slums of Canadian and British cities to join the army because it offered them food and clothing, and who became faithful and brave and trustworthy soldiers because they were trusted; and when the story of the war is written, when the veterans return to peaceful scenes, there will be Victoria Crosses on many breasts that had worn the garb of the down and out, perhaps the convict's stripes. We may know those who are "down," we have no right to say who are "out" until we have seen that they have had their chance.

In these days of "forward movements," of "patriotism and production," of "made in Canada," of "conservation," these should be remembered. One human being redeemed from a life of uselessness, of vice, of criminality and made self-sustaining, would glorify all the beneficent movements that had their origin in the darkness of the war year, and there are many who could be so redeemed. We spend much in improving our cattle and horses and sheep and swine and even our dogs. They are our own and the profit is ours, but we are none the less responsible for the human down and out because, although they are ours, there shall be no monetary profit to us in redeeming them.

THE UNEMPLOYED

The problem of unemployment is one of which, fortunately we in this province, know little or nothing. We have no unemployed, except, possibly, the few in the cities who are unemployed by their own choice. We have, however, an almost unlimited demand for labor and if our province is to retain its name as the Garden of the Gulf the demand must be supplied. At present we do not appreciate this need of labor. Our farmers have got along so far, quite comfortably and quite successfully by hard work and with little help.

How to procure this additional help is a problem, but with the cities of our Western Canada struggling with the unemployment problem, charitably feeding thousands of unemployed the problem should be capable of solution.

While it is true that the great majority of the unemployed in the cities are of a class that would be of little use on the farm there are doubtless among them many who, if assured of steady employment, would eagerly accept the living that the farm has to offer.

One of the needs of the province in an employment agency or bureau of some kind to which application could be made for help and which would get into communication with the unemployed wherever they might be. Definite knowledge concerning the kind of labor required, the amount of wages, the housing &c., intelligently placed before the unemployed and some good judgment exercised in selection would unquestionably supply all our necessities in this direction.

Scarcely of labor in this province and the continued ability to "rub along" without it has created a sort of an idea among many farmers that the "doing without" is economy, whereas it is the worst form of extravagance. A farm representing from two to four thousand dollars of invested capital, lying half worked because of insufficient help is surely not a profitable business. Properly worked such a farm should make a very respectable profit in addition to the wages of one or two or more hired hands each of whom, if worth anything and with an intelligent head to guide them, should earn more than his wages. Our most successful farmers are those who engage the most help and who know how to direct the labors of others, not by any means those who "economize" by not employing help.

One of the barriers in the way of securing efficient farm help in this country is the practice of employing men only during the specially busy season such as seeding, haying, harvesting, threshing &c., and discharging them to face the winter with no employment. These men, usually, find their way to the cities at home or abroad and help to swell the multitude that many cities are obliged to feed in soup kitchens or in the bread line. Practically every farm in the province should be able to find steady and profitable employment the year around for efficient help and those farmers who do this have usually little trouble in finding all the help they require.

NOTES

Hon. W. T. White, Canadian Minister of Finance: "That we have been able to stand the shock of this world-shaking catastrophe and recover so quickly is to me nothing short of marvellous, a conclusive proof of the fundamental soundness of our country and its institutions, an unqualified tribute to the prudence and energy of our people and an unmistakable earnest and augury of our future progress and greatness."

The ladies are not to have it all their own way in matters of dress if the National Merchant Tailors of the United States can help it. This organization, in convention at Chicago the other day, in formulating the fashions for next summer decreed that silk is to be the "nifty" costume for men. Not silk underwear, or pyjamas or anything like that, be it remembered, but silk trousers, silk cutaways, silk business suits, silk evening dress! "Solomon in all his glory," will no longer be the extreme of fashion. What a swish of silks there will be when our streets are swarming, say, on market days with silken swells. And in church, with what holy reverence the silk clad men will hold up their side of the hymn book. Would that summer were here!

NARVIK MAP PROVE TO BE RUSSIA'S OPEN DOOR

LONDON, February 10.—Narvik, on the Norwegian Sea, promises to loom large in shipping calculations for goods destined to the Russian empire. Attention to this port has been repeatedly suggested since the beginning of the European war, and now that Archangel is reported to have defied the efforts of ice breakers to keep open that port, Narvik is about to be restored to as furnishing the most direct means of communication with Russia.

The Norwegian port of Narvik lies sheltered behind the Lopoden Islands, which are at the eastern side of the Norwegian Sea. The port itself is in approximately 68 degrees 20 minutes north and in longitude 19 degrees 30 minutes east. This position, it will be noted, is to the north of the Arctic circle, but owing to the presence and influence of the Gulf Stream Narvik remains an open port the year around.

The location of Narvik places it outside and above the blockading line of the British fleet, which line stretches from off the Naeco, at the southern extremity of Norway, to the northward of the Scottish coast, and wholly shuts out the North Sea to traffic.

A line of railway connects Narvik with Stockholm by way of Boden, and from Boden a second line extends eastward along the head of the Gulf of Bothnia to Haparanda which is on the Tornea River. This

GERMAN ARRESTED ON REACHING ST. JOHN.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Feb. 8.—A Scheller, formerly of the staff of the Union Bank of Winnipeg, was placed under arrest on his arrival in St. John yesterday and is now held by the police pending further instructions. The information received by the police was that Scheller is believed to be a relative of the German ambassador to Vienna, and the added fact that he left the bank in Winnipeg, without permission, and had booked passage for a trans-Atlantic steamer, was sufficient to make the authorities regard him with suspicion as an alien enemy. The arrest was made by a C. P. R. detective as the man stepped off the train. He admitted his identity and was promptly turned over to the local police.

CANADIAN WINS THE D. S. O. MEDAL.

OTTAWA, Feb. 10.—An official list received at Ottawa of those who have gained the D. S. O. for gallantry in action during the war, includes the name of Corporal R. G. Sheale, who is described as belonging to the First Signal Company, Royal Canadian Engineers. He won this honor during the retreat of the British from Mons. The official statement declares he won the D. S. O. for "Conspicuous Gallantry" on Sept. 13 in continuing to transmit messages from a building which was being severely shelled and remained at his post, notwithstanding that a shell had burst in the room in which he was working.

MORE ABOUT THE GERMAN SPY SYSTEM.

An Attleboro, Mass., paper says:—An extract from a letter received by Dr. Frank Holmes from his brother Frank Holman in Paris, follows: "I want to say a word before finishing my letter about the naturalized Germans in England and France. Either because pleased with their new environment or from motives of material interest, or a rid remorse from the tyranny of Prussian militarism, they become naturalized citizens and enter into the life of the country, their children profit by the educational advantages freely offered them.

End Came Suddenly

"In one casement only one man was left alive. Two men continued to serve their gun and fired it as the ship listed, adapting the elevation to the new situation, yet through it all some never despaired, others from the beginning gave themselves up as lost. "The end came so suddenly that few had time to anticipate their plight or realize it when it came. "The Bluecher had run her course and was lagging lame, with her steering-gear gone by and terrible air being slowly to circle. It was seen that she was doomed. "The bell that rang the men to prayers on Sunday was tolled. Those able assembled on deck, helping their wounded comrades. Some had to creep through shot holes. They gathered in groups on deck, awaiting the end. "The Bluecher settled down," then suddenly turned over and disappeared in a swirl of water.

"Get her chocolates here, she'll appreciate them more because she knows that ours are pure, clean, and fresh. We carry a complete line of the daintiest chocolates manufactured by Moirs, Nelsons, and Willards. The MacKinnon Drug Co., Corner Great George and Kent Streets. MET.

GENERAL GARIBALDI TO MEET LORD KITCHENER.

PARIS, Feb. 10.—General Ricciotti Garibaldi, son of the Italian patriot, who arrived recently in Paris to confer with Premier Poincare, paid a visit to General Joffre at headquarters today. Later he left for London, where he will meet Earl Kitchener, Secretary of State for War.

HORRORS OF THE SINKING OF BIG BATTLE CRUISER

LONDON, Feb. 8.—The following thrilling story of the destruction of the German battle-cruiser Bluecher by Admiral Beatty's squadron is gathered from narratives of the survivors now prisoners in Britain: "When the British warships had found the exact range, shells came thick and fast, with a horrible droning hum. They did terrible execution. * * * At first the shells came dropping from the sky, penetrated the decks and bored their way even to the stokehold. The coal in the bunkers was set on fire, and as the bunkers were half empty, the fire burned fiercely. "In the engine-room one shell licked up the oil and sprayed it around in flames of blue and green scarring the victims and blazing where it fell. At first the shells came dropping in compartments where some of the men had taken refuge, but the shells sought them out, and death had a rich harvest.

"The terrific air-pressure resulting from an explosion in a confined space had a deep impression on the minds of the men of the Bluecher. The air, expanding through every opening, forced its way through every weak spot, and all loose and insecure fittings were transformed into moving instruments of destruction.

Bodies Were Whirled About

"Open doors banged close, iron doors bent outward like tin plates, and through it all the bodies of men were whirled about like dead leaves in a winter blast, to be battered to death against the iron walls. "They were shuddering horrors intensified by the darkness of semi-gloom. As one poor stoker was passing through a trap-door, a shell burst near him. He was exactly half way through a trap-door, when it closed on him with a terrific snap. "In one engine room, where high velocity engines for ventilating and forced draught were at work, men were picked up by that terrible air pressure of the exploding shell like a whirling drift at a street corner and tossed to a horrible death amidst the machinery. There were other horrors too fearful to record.

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Doesn't the safety and satisfaction of having your prescriptions filled here, the skilled, careful intelligent service, and our unapproachable record, appeal to you—then bring your prescriptions here and enjoy the full extent of our courteous painstaking efficient service.

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PATON'S

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You'll play better hockey, and get more real enjoyment out of the game if you get your supplies here.
We have everything you need for the game of hockey, the quality of our goods is exceptionally high, and the prices very moderate.
Come in and look over our lines.
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The real thing for your boy this cold weather a pair of our Oil Tan Moc-casins
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