

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 1919

GRAIN VERSUS POTATOES

Advices from the Aroostook County, Maine, indicate that the farmers of that great potato growing section have about wearied of growing potatoes and have made up their minds to go in for grain growing instead. Should this alleged intention be carried out it will make a tremendous difference to the potato growers of the Maritime provinces and particularly of this province. Aroostook County produces between seventeen and twenty-two million bushels of potatoes yearly. Should there be any considerable falling off in this yearly crop it would certainly have the effect of raising the price of potatoes here, to what extent it would be idle to guess. Aroostook County supplies practically the whole of the eastern states and many of the southern and middle states, and, although these are not our markets to any great extent, nevertheless the supply and demand there exert their influence on our direct markets.

The reasons assigned by the Aroostook farmers for the contemplated change from potatoes to grain are the uncertainties of the potato market and the increasing cost of fertilizer. They use commercial fertilizer almost exclusively as their potato areas are far beyond the limits of barnyard manure. Suppose the Aroostook farmers carry out their present idea and thereby some eight to ten million bushels are thus withdrawn from the markets; suppose also that by this change the price of potatoes here in Prince Edward Island increased to an assured average of say a dollar a bushel, would it pay our farmers to double their present potato output? At present we are not growing potatoes extensively, not even commercially. Potato growing is little more than a side line, the average farm growing not more than three to eight

acres. We believe our best farmers will agree with us when we say that potato growing in this province, even at a dollar a bushel, will pay only when the area under cultivation can be fertilized from the barnyard alone or from the barnyard supplemented by seaweed, which is possible only around the coast.

The policy of feeding on the farm all that is grown on the farm will always be the most advantageous policy in this country. This should be the rule but it can only be followed out in its entirety when our live stock has become sufficiently numerous to consume all our produce. Whenever the market price of potatoes may be there is always a market for them in the dairy or beef herd and in the herd of hogs and while we receive a good return from our milk, butter, cheese and pork, we return to the land all that has been taken from it in feeding the stock. It was long ago discovered that the old method of selling potatoes and oats was impoverishing the land, selling the soil. From this discovery our splendid system of dairy farming has grown and although we still ship much of our soil away in surplus potatoes and grain our live stock is sufficiently large to maintain, relatively at least, the fertility of the soil and on many farms to increase the fertile area.

Whatever inducements are held out in the potato market by the shortening of the Aroostook crop or otherwise, our farmers will find it the most profitable method to fertilize their farms from the barnyard alone when possible. When this is not possible it should be made the goal to be aimed at. When this is the goal the market price abroad of potatoes and oats will cut a smaller figure than that of live stock products.

RETURNED SOLDIERS

Repatriation has become a stereotyped expression. It is used passively as far as the soldier is concerned, actively as far as the civilian is concerned, that is the civilians are to do the repatriating, the soldiers to be repatriated. This is an erroneous view of the situation. The work of repatriation is a mutual one to be mutually carried out by both soldiers and civilians working in harmony. The duty devolves on both. The soldiers are not chattels to be disposed of by commissions or committees or by governments; they have the same interest in their country and in themselves that they had before they became soldiers, the same incentive to do for themselves that all other men have. By co-operation with the organizations formed to assist them the work of repatriation, that is, absorption into the industrial, commercial, professional and social life will be a comparatively easy matter. Co-operation is the keynote of the process.

hearty co-operation and a determination on both sides to carry the work of reconstruction to a mutually satisfactory status.

A Toronto exchange remarks, and the remark is equally applicable elsewhere, "There is no good reason why manufacturers should not come into direct touch with the soldiers' interests and work out with them a solution of the problems affecting both. If the operators of factories were to stand aloof and persist in not giving the men who sacrificed so much to fight for them a square deal, they could not justly complain if they were subjected to considerable trouble by returned men smarting under a sense of injustice. It is to be hoped that, even in the midst of a trying period of transition, the manufacturers will understand completely the value to them of harmony and good feeling with and by the Soldiers' councils.

OPEN REVOLT IS REPORTED.

BERLIN, Feb. 3.—An order issued by Colonel Reinhardt, Prussian Minister of war, has aroused open revolt on the part of soldiers' councils in the German armies. The council of the Ninth Army has declared that it will not obey the order, and has been informed that the Government will find means to enforce it. The order of Colonel Reinhardt is concerning the lessening of the soldiers' councils. Up to this time the councils of many or most of the armies have been exercising virtually complete control, even in matters of command and the order was received generally with dissatisfaction, it being declared by some that the Government was playing squarely into the hands of the Bolsheviks. The first open revolt came from the soldiers' council of the Ninth Army Corps, which sent delegates to Gustav Noske, the military commander of Berlin, with the demand that the order be rescinded. Herr Noske refused whereupon the delegation informed him that the order would not be obeyed in their army. Noske replied that the Government would find means to enforce it.

The Government, it is believed, however, will have a busy time if it attempts to enforce the order. The councils of many army corps, as well as a great number of local councils already have given notice that the order will not be obeyed.

Canada's Claims Against Germany

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—Canadian claims for damages from the enemy arising from "illegal warfare," including the sinking of merchant vessels, the destruction of Canadian owned property etc., so far forwarded to the Canadian ministers now overseas, for presentation in the Allied bill against Germany and Austria now total some sixteen million dollars. The itemized claims have been forwarded by the Enemy Debts Committee of the State Department. The State Department is also considering the present legal status of some fourteen and one-half million dollars worth of C. P. R. stock for value held in Germany at the outbreak of the war, in which some seven million dollars of unpaid dividends with accrued interest is now due. What rights the German owners will have to this will probably not be finally determined until the peace and indemnity details are settled at Paris.

Allied Ships For Guard in Hamburg

BERLIN, Feb. 6.—Four British and American cruisers have entered the Elbe, enroute to Hamburg, to protect steamers loading foodstuffs. It was reported here today, Several large steamers have left Koenigsberg bound for London.

London Bells Chime Once More

Perhaps in no instance was the great release brought about by the signing of the armistice, more immediately signaled in London than in the quick removal of the ban on the striking of the bells in its many towers, steeples and public buildings, says the Christian Science Monitor. For four long years and more the bells had been silent, and although London needed nothing in armistice week, and indeed, had needed nothing since, to remind it that the fighting was over, yet it is to be imagined that, during the last few weeks, many thousands of citizens have hailed the sound of some well-known clock striking again with a special warmth and gratitude.

The Day of the Wrist Watch.

Not that, in these past years, London has been at a loss to know the time. Never, indeed, in the course of its long history has it been so well supplied in this respect as in these days of wrist watches; but London has an obstinate attachment for its institutions, and one of London's institutions is its bells. Its church clocks, picking up the hour from one another, now near and now far away, with, maybe, the boom of Big Ben as a kind of hum note in the distance. It is an attachment stretching a long way back into history, for, indeed, there was a time when London, like most other cities, was largely dependent upon its church bells to inform it as to the hour of the day or night. As far back as the days of Alfred the Great the two ideas of a bell and a clock were so closely connected that Alfred, in making a translation of a passage in which the Venerable Bede speaks of campana, renders the word cluggan, or clock.

The Curfew.

The clock, however, which recorded the hours by striking a bell was a comparatively late invention dating in England at any rate, from about the Fourteenth Century; whilst for centuries before that time the ringing of the church bells had recorded certain hours of the day. Wherever there was an abbey, for instance, the bell rang out every three hours and in many towns and villages special bells were rung at certain times of the year or on certain days of the week. Thus there was the famous "Washerwomen's bell" at Nottingham, rung at 1 o'clock in the morning to rouse the washerwomen to work; the seeding bell, and so on, rung in many different places. But the best-known bell in London, as elsewhere, was, of course, the curfew. The formal act of William the Conqueror was repealed by his son, Henry I; but, for centuries, the curfew was rung, as a matter of course, in London as in other towns and villages, and is still rung in many places. The usual time was 8 o'clock, but in

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

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IT IS WELL

(By Thomas R. Robinson in the "S. S. Times.")

"All will be well," we say, and seek to gather Light for the sad hour from tomorrow's ray; Oh, that we might this truth lay hold on rather— Our Lord is here, and all is well—to-day!

Dwells He apart from any trusting servant When clouds prevail, and adverse winds arise? Doth He not hear, or grows His love less fervent Because of raging seas and stormy sides?

To-day the Life Abundant in us liveth; Today the Truth Eternal is our guide; To-day the Love Unmeasured freely giveth Himself—and can we lack for aught beside?

To-day His mercy and His power enfold us; To-day His blessed footprints mark our way; To-day His Father's hand is strong to hold us; All things are ours, and all is well—to-day.

EMPLOYMENT FOR SOLDIERS

Let the question of the returned men be considered in a sane manner. This does not imply the meeting of every hero with a fannel bag and a round of sentimental gushings upon the state of his heroic soul, etc., nor the assumption that such a man is of no use for civilian life. The work of Repatriation, if taken aright, cannot fail to prove the biggest event in the history of the country, but the fact must not be overlooked that three-fourths of the opportunity to carry on the movement to complete success rests with the employers of Canada.

Every employer of labor, whether on a large or small scale, owes a duty to the returned men. The very life of the commerce by which he lives and has been enabled to maintain his business stability has been preserved and guarded by the life blood and self denial of our fighting men.

There are thousands to whom the duty can never be repaid in person, but towards those other comrades who have been spared to return this credit due must never be allowed to assume the form of a bad debt.

Is it to be considered an act of grace, charity or extreme heroism upon the part of employers to take back these men even after repeated pledges given to this effect? Rather let it be widely understood that the employer who would stop merely at this point and consider that his whole duty has been performed when he undertakes to replace one or two men is falling far short of what Canada expects from every man who stayed at home.

Co-operation for many months hereafter must be the motto of all who have to do with the placing of the returned men. The Government is doing its part by the provision of pensions, medical care, advice and oversight, the rebuilding up of the home life of the men with the return of their dependents, establishing of employment bureaus, and in the thousand and one after care departments, employing the best of advice in energy and enthusiasm to cope with the problems which may arise, but to the employer is committed the task, the duty, of seeing that the man who returns to civilian life after months spent amid nerve-wrecking scenes will be given a fair trial and has a helping hand wherever necessary.

London and other large towns it was often rung at 9. And Bow Church rang the curfew for the City, whilst St. Bride's and St. Giles' also were authorities as to the hour for closing in their districts.

The Tenor of Bow Bells.

Then, as time went on, the custom of having a certain bell rung in a certain district to mark the time for beginning or ending the day's work became a recognized practice. There was, for instance, a certain Mr. Doune, a mercer and citizen of London, who bequeathed two tenements in Bow Lane that their rents might pay for the daily ringing of "the tenor of Bow bells" as a signal of this kind to the apprentices of London. The bell was rung at 6 in the morning and 8 in the evening, and the story goes, according to one authority, that the London practices, having good cause to complain of the clerk's carelessness in the performance of his duty, sent to him the following warning:

Clerk of Bow bell, With thy yellow locks, For thy late ringing Thy head shall have knocks.

The Clerk Apologizes.

To which the offending clerk hastened to reply in the words of the utmost conciliation:

Children of Cheap, Hold you all still, For you shall hear the Bow bell Rung at your will.

As, however, public clocks became more common, the ringing of special bells fell more and more into disuse, and then, as "grandfather" clocks and watches became more plentiful, people, especially in the great cities, became less dependant on the public clocks. In London, however, as elsewhere, the striking of the clocks in tower and steeple was ever a welcome and convenient sound, and London today counts it amongst the greatest of her smaller blessings that they are striking again.

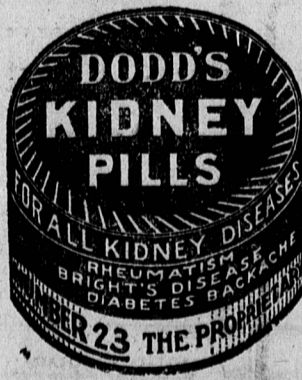
Letter From Germany

Major A. A. Bartlett received a letter a few days ago from Captain J. Parker Hooper, dated January 12th at Koln, Germany, of which extracts are here given. Enclosed with the letter was the menu card of the 2nd Canadian Siege Battery's Christmas Dinner, in itself a historic souvenir of the first Christmas dinner in Germany after the war. The card is an artistic one and gives the names of the battle in which the Canadians participated the places occupied by the Battery from Charlottetown to Neliem, Germany, the points at which the enemy was engaged by the Battery being indicated. The card makes the cheerful announcement that "an intense bombardment will be kept up for one hour on Grub Alley" and "gas mask will not be worn." Following is an extract:

Dear Major Bartlett: Just a short note from Germany, our objective since 1914, reached after a very long time but sooner than it looked to be six months ago. Col. Prowse and I are up here for three days visiting C. C. H. and the old Battery. It is a wonderful country and very beautiful. We are living in this hotel (Domplatz Hotel, Koln), pay nothing for our rooms, only our food. The city of Cologne pays for the former. To us it seems rather a joke. The Boche seem very polite but we carry our guns and the soldiers their side arms. The policemen salute us and if we ask a civilian a question he takes his hat off and holds it in his hand until we leave him, also very funny. Went to the opera "Don Juan" and it was wonderful. Am enclosing a menu card of the old 2nd Battery Christmas dinner. The boys were waited on by German waiters, etc. The Battery is right on the Rhine, most of the boys living in hotels or private houses. The officers are in a hotel right on the Rhine and it is simply wonderful scenery. The rooms in this hotel in pre-war days cost 40 marks a day. Am sending another lot of pictures in a few days. Hoping you enjoy the best of health, I am (signed) J. Parker Hooper.

Australia is Not Satisfied with Terms

LONDON, Feb. 5.—Australia is by no means satisfied with the scheme to dispose of the Pacific Islands by a mandatory system under the League of Nations. A campaign for complete possession has been reopened by Premier Hughes. In a scathing item in the Paris matin obviously directed against the United States, he intimates that nation's offers and sacrifice in the war in comparison with Australia and other Dominions. There seems to be a feeling that President Wilson is playing a too leading part and that the other powers are giving too much ground on questions involving far reaching principles. The Canadian delegates are watching the Australian struggle closely, as though they might create precedents that will surely affect the Dominions. It must not be forgotten that Canada's long Pacific coast line makes the future of the Islands of vital interest.



Cabinet Will Take Action In Labour Difficulties

(Special to the Guardian)

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Chronicle understands that a further meeting of the Cabinet was held last night to consider the labor situation, and that as a result the Government contemplates taking immediate action the nature of which is not yet specified.

WILLIE JUNIOR WANTS DIVORCE

ZURICH, Feb. 5.—Frederick William Hohenzollern, eldest son of the former German emperor, according to a Berlin despatch to the Munich Zeitung, has instituted proceedings for a divorce.

Frederick William is now an exile from Germany on the Dutch Island of Weeringer, having fled to Holland soon after his father sought an asylum there. The family of the former Crown Prince, according to reports has remained at Potsdam.

Frederick William was married in June, 1905, to the Grand Duchess Cecile of Mecklenburg, a sister of the Queen of Denmark. They have five children, the youngest, Princess Alexandra, having been born in 1915.

A Zurich despatch Sunday quoted the Tageblatt of Prague as authority for the statement that former Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary intended to apply for a divorce from his wife who was Princess Zita of Bourbon and Parma.



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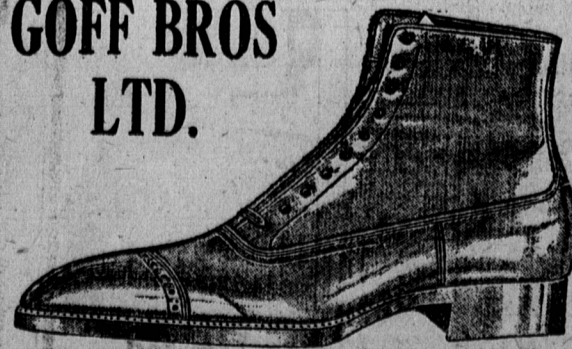
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February 28th

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