

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THE SITUATION

As the situation develops in Ottawa and in Quebec one finds that there is very little behind the anti-conscription cry. It is only the hesitancy of Sir Wilfrid to declare himself that is causing any doubt or uncertainty at all.

One thing is fairly certain, there is going to be no referendum on the question. The two parties seem agreed on that point.

A re-arrangement of the Government has evidently been decided upon. The nature of the changes has not been disclosed, but there is apparently a desire in some quarters to recognise the services of the patriotic Liberals who from the beginning of the war have placed the interests of country before the claims of party.

PROTECT THE BIRDS

The little birds that flit about our groves and lawns, that twitter in our trees and make our summer rambles a delight, do not exist merely for our delectation, they are our bulwark of defence against innumerable hosts of pests that, but for the birds, would make life impossible for us.

We can form but a vague idea of the fecundity of insect pests. Scientists who have carefully estimated the rate of in-

crease of many insect pests give astounding figures in this connection. The green leaved louse, for instance, so destructive to fruit and vegetables, and which is to be found in practically every garden, produce at the rate of ten sextillion in one season.

Experiments have demonstrated that many birds consume more than their own weight of insect food daily and that it is not unusual for a pair of birds and their young to dispose of from 200 to 1,000 insects a day.

This, then, is one good and valid reason why we should care for the birds, why we should treat them as friends; why we should go to some expense in protecting them.

NOTES

Straw hats fitted with ear-muffs, to be folded inside about noon, would meet a huge demand.

The Kaiser threatens to proceed against certain German radicals on charges of treason, but it is not clear that they really deserve the honor.

The British armies are within a couple of miles of the Drocourt-Queant line, the taking of which will force the evacuation of Lens and the loss to Germany of the French coal areas.

In view of the food shortage, in Germany Prof. Weldner, an agricultural expert at Passau, Bavaria, advises the people to follow the example of Nebuchadnezzar, and eat grass.

The many friends of Mr. Donald Nicholson, M.P., will regret to learn that he has been indisposed and was obliged to undergo a minor operation but will be pleased to hear that he is now on the highway to recovery.

PRO PATRI AMORI

There is a quiet little corner behind the farthing battle line where the dead of the great war lie at peace. It is only a few rows of simple crosses alongside the village cemetery, where plain stones and wrought-iron crucifixes mark the last resting-place of the Peard peasantry—yet the peace the dignity of it all!

These are the graves of our brave Allies—along the hedge, with a faded, tattered kopie, with a wooden cross here and there, or a grey-blue helmet resting at the grave head. Sometimes a simple little cross or gravestone modelled in chalk replaces the simple black wooden cross.

From time to time—not often I'm glad—a couple of men appear in the morning with pick and shovel, and turn about dig deep into the hard chalk. In the afternoon a small group stand by the open grave—a padre and officer or two, and a few comrades of that stiff figure swathed in a blanket lying on the stretcher.

Somehow I like to think of them lying there in their narrow dugouts, looking on at the life they so long partook in themselves, hearing the roar of the guns in the valley, the hum of aeroplanes overhead, and bullets that set the echoes of the woods a rollicking.

The French will be grouped together studying the British means and methods of war with keenly critical eyes, comparing everything against their own, while their British comrades look on wistfully at the happy gatherings in the dugouts by the road and the naked bathers braving the swart water in the river below.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUSON,

LOVE AND LIFT

Kind hearts are the gardens Kind thoughts are the roots Kind words are the blossoms Kind deeds are the fruits.

They sleep soundly there do our dead comrades. They are beyond the sudden call of night alarm and all the terrors that come with the dark. Their friends are round them.

But God in his goodness will send a time when our fight shall triumph and peace come once more upon the earth. They will know it, and will rejoice with us, glad that their sacrifice has not been vain, but they will miss us when we march away.

\$1.00 WINTER EGG.

Sir.—Owing to the cold wet spring I would urge every Poultryman and farmer to hatch out the chickens he can in June and July. I believe eggs will sell next winter from 75c to \$1.00 per doz.

I am Sir, etc. W. J. PICKARD, Secretary of P.E.L., Poultry, Association.

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION TO DR. SIMPSON AND FAMILY

On the eve of their departure from Stanley Bridge for their new abode at Bridgewater, N. S., Dr. and Mrs. Simpson's many friends of Stanley and adjoining districts assembled at their home to present them with an address and purse of gold.

The youthful friends of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson's daughter, Ruth, gave her a special party on Friday, May 18th.—K.

A SOLDIER'S MOTHER EULOGIZES THE LATE LT. J. R. McDONALD

CALGARY.—Letters of sympathy have been coming in continually to the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. A. D. McDonald, formerly of P. E. Island, at the death of their son Lieut. J. R. McDonald in the fighting at Vimy Ridge. These have been greatly appreciated by the bereaved parents.

Probably the most touching one was written by a mother who had never met any member of the family but who had two sons taken from her since the beginning of the war. One was in Lieut. McDonald's battalion and the tribute his mother pays to him is one that is to appreciate it truly one must read the letter.

The letter commences with: "It was with feelings of deep regret that we read the name of your beloved son, in the casualty list, as having paid the supreme sacrifice for his country. Though not known to me personally, Lieut. McDonald's name was almost a household word to us, as our eldest boy trained under him at Sarcee camp. He left with the same draft on September 6, 1913. 'Little Mac' as he was familiarly called, was beloved by them all. John called him a prince of a fellow and sorry indeed he was, when Lieut. McDonald was transferred when they reached England. Our dear boy fell at Ypres on June 6, of last year and our other lad was wounded at the same time. He is back in France again so our hearts went out

to you in your sorrow and I took the liberty to write you a few lines of sympathy from my husband and myself, although at a time like this words avail little. The heart is too full of sorrow, but you have lots to be proud of in your boy who has left behind him the memory of a brave soldier who died doing his duty and who lived the white flower of a blameless life. Now God has called him home, and you, his parents, are left to mourn the loss of a beloved son. Ah, but one but God knows the anguish of bereaved hearts but He edifies to us in our grief and His tender voice tells us not to sorrow. We will meet them again when war and bloodshed are unknown.



WE KEEP THINGS MOVING IN OUR BUSINESS BY SELLING ONLY RELIABLE JEWELRY, SILVERWARE AND PRECIOUS STONES, BY A POLITE SING AND TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OUR GOODS AND BY ASKING ONLY A FAIR PRICE FOR OUR GOOD JEWELRY.

C. W. PATTERSON THE RELIABLE JEWELERS

Seed Wheat Arrived By Express today (25th) 200 Bushels Ontario Red Fife. We will sell this lot at actual cost—\$3.90 per bushel (bag included) this is positively the last we will have this season.

An Open Letter Many of our readers have planned for a number of years to purchase a Piano or Organ for their home, but have been putting off the purchase from time to time thinking that the price might possibly become cheaper.