

THE Charlottetown Guardian

President A. A. Bartlett
Managing Editor J. R. Burnett

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1ST, BEING NEW YEAR'S DAY, AND A STATUTORY PUBLIC HOLIDAY, THE MORNING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON MONDAY. THE EVENING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON SATURDAY, BUT WILL BE PUBLISHED AS USUAL ON MONDAY. ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1915.

LOW DOWN TACTICS

Yesterday's Patriot, innocently but quite clearly, explains why the Philip Arsenault affidavit and the comments thereon were sprung upon the people at the present juncture. In the Patriot's report of the St. Margaret's meeting, held in connection with the forthcoming by-election in the First District of Kings, we are told in glaring capital headlines that Mr. J. J. Johnston "sprung a sensation." The "sensation" was the reading of the affidavit of Mr. Philip Arsenault, "which was published in yesterday's Patriot."

When it is remembered that "yesterday's Patriot" did not get to St. Margaret's until the next morning it will be seen that Mr. J. J. Johnston carried the precious document in his pocket. He was armed for a "sensation"; prepared beforehand to defame a leading representative of the Catholic Church in the Government in the hope of securing a vote for his Liberal confrere.

This was why the affidavit was prepared by the law partner of Mr. Bell, the Leader of the Liberal party. This was why the "sensation" was held up—to be sprung in the First District of King's so late, it was hoped, that the lie would get a good start before the election and before being overtaken by the truth.

The Guardian containing the refutation of this scandalous story and the announcement that criminal proceedings were to be instituted against one of the perpetrators, did not, of course, overtake the lie, as it was not published until the next morning. So the scheme was well conceived and well brought forth: "Conceived in sin and shapen in iniquity," so to speak.

The Patriot, commenting editorially on the supposed sensation lugubriously explains that it was "the duty of the Liberal party and the Patriot to take this matter up and to make it known in the interests of good government." How disgusting! How hypocritical! How like the Patriot! A vile slander, the falsity of which could have been ascertained by the Patriot in five minutes by enquiry at the office of the Department of Public Works, simultaneously fired at a meeting at St. Margaret's and from the Patriot office! And all this in the interests of good government! Hypocrisy has seldom gone farther than this.

And Mr. Johnston and the Patriot both ask that the election be postponed until the matter is investigated! Investigated? Certainly it will be investigated, but in the criminal courts, and the new Leader of the Liberal party and his advisers will have to answer for the infamous charge they have brought against the only Catholic portfolio holder in the Government.

Why should the Liberals go to Souris to spring a sensation at the expense of the representative of the Catholic Church in the Government? They know the charge is baseless. They know further that they dare not face an investigation. It is a dastardly attempt to drive one of the most honourable men in the province out of public life and out of the province.

Will the people of the First District of King's tolerate such conduct on the part of Mr. Bell and the Patriot? Why should the Liberals of Summerside attempt to defame the Minister of Public Works and go all the way to Souris for the purpose? Let the good people of First Kings put this question to Mr. Bell and his satellites.

The Patriot speaks of the "mildness and fairness" with which it launched its boomerang. If it believed there was any foundation in fact for the charge, why should it be mild? It could easily have been fair without being mild if it believed for a moment that Hon. James A. McNeill was guilty of the grave charge levelled against him. But the Patriot knows the charge is groundless and that the affidavit was concocted purely and simply for political purposes. It would seek to blast the reputation of an honourable man and drive him from public life and then speak of "mildness"! No decent Liberal can have any use or respect for an organ that would descend to such depths to further its cause. Honest Liberals have already expressed their disgust at the low-down tactics the new Liberal Leader and his organ have resorted to.

GERMAN DESPERATION

Since Germany was driven back from the gates of Paris her fate has been decided. Since those critical days when the whole world wondered at her terrific drive, the Allies have held her bound. In the most powerful attempts she could make she has consistently failed. The most coveted victories at times, have seemed almost within her grasp, but she has never quite got them. Italian co-operation in the early months of the war, Paris, Calais, destruction of the Allies commerce, raids on England, destruction of the Russian army.

In each, what has been the result to Germany? Only enormous waste in money and materials, and

literally millions of the flower of her manhood dead and rotting. Her colonial possessions, even, have mostly been taken by the Allies, and soon they will all be in our hands.

Since the early days of the war, when she was halted and driven back from Paris, her efforts have been desperate attempts to make a decisive stroke at some point, thus enabling her to offer peace with the hope that the neutral countries would consider her in a better light than the Allies.

Her drive through Serbia is another case of desperation. She has failed in every other direction, and Serbia seems to be her last untried field. Temporarily she has, on the surface, succeeded. She has swept through Serbia clear to the border of Greece and has successfully established communication with Turkey, and what will she gain? Already her battle lines are so great that she is straining every nerve to defend them. By this move she adds many hundreds of miles to them, but does not add a corresponding allied force for their defence. It is rumoured that she is preparing for a great drive against the Suez Canal, Egypt and India with a force of half-a-million men or more. It was also rumoured that she was to capture Calais and use it as a base against England. Where will she get her men for such a campaign? If she takes them from the eastern or western fronts that immediately opens the door to admit the Allies.

But, if we assume that she can get the men, then how about the Allied forces along the canal belt in Egypt and in India? We are prepared for any eventuality at any point, however wild and desperate.

We shall hold Germany and gradually tighten our grip until she is finally crushed. These desperate efforts in first one direction and then another are nothing short of the death throes of a once mighty and powerful nation, dying slowly and in agony, none the less surely.

AFTER THE WAR

Quite properly it is assumed that in the not distant future the war will be over and the millions of men who have taken part in it will return to their former callings and to take part in the world's machinery for providing food, clothing and recreation for themselves and their dependents. Quite properly also the different nations of the world are already looking towards this much to be desired era and are making what preparation they can to meet the new conditions that are sure to arise. Our sister provinces are looking forward to a period of greatly increased immigration and are considering ways and means whereby, with the assistance of the increased population, their undeveloped resources may be turned to best advantage. All our sister provinces have many large areas of unoccupied land and the hope is indulged that many of the immigrants will settle on these to their own advantage and to the advantage also of the province.

In the matter of unoccupied land our little province stands alone. We have practically none. According to the last census ninety per cent. of our land is classified as fit for agriculture and 86 per cent. of it occupied. It is interesting to note here that in the province of Quebec only ten per cent. of the land is fit for cultivation and only 3.53 per cent. is under cultivation. In Ontario 25 per cent. is classified as fit for cultivation and only 9.47 per cent. is so occupied. New Brunswick has 60 per cent. fit for cultivation and only 25 per cent. cultivated. Nova Scotia has 60 per cent. cultivable and only 38 per cent. occupied. The western provinces have almost unlimited areas of cultivable but still unoccupied lands.

It will be seen at a glance then that under present conditions we have few inducements to hold out to intending agricultural immigrants as compared with our sister provinces. We cannot hope to secure even a considerable proportion of the stream of immigrants who are sure to flock to America from Europe after the war.

While we have few inducements for immigrants we must not lose sight of the fact that by the time the war is over we shall have approximately 1,500 to 2,000 of our own men in military service and that of these the great majority will return—either to their native province or elsewhere. It remains with us to determine very largely whether they shall come here or go elsewhere. The majority of the recruits from our province have gone from the farms and, naturally, will return to the farms. Some of them doubtless will return to their own farms or the farms of their parents, but it must not be forgotten that an absence of a year or possibly two or more years will mean many changes and many adjustments. Some farms will be sold because the sons have gone to the front, others will be rented or otherwise disposed of and in such cases there will be no room or opportunity for the returned soldier. To meet these and similar conditions will be one of the big problems that must be faced and solved before the war is over if we are to get back the boys who have left us.

Of those who have left offices, stores, factories or other indoor employment it is probable that many of them, after a life in the open, will prefer to continue the outdoor life and will take to farming. If farms for these are not available here they will be elsewhere and here also a difficult problem presents itself. It has been suggested that returned soldiers be provided by the Dominion Government with farms in those provinces which have Crown lands and it is possible that this will be done. Having no Crown lands we cannot compete with this inducement.

The getting of our own soldiers back to their native province is of sufficient importance to engage the attention of a specially selected provincial committee and steps should be taken without unnecessary delay to form such. We stand to lose or retain probably a thousand of our best and bravest sons whom we can ill afford to lose, and their loss or their retention depends very largely upon ourselves.

EXPERIENCE OF A MEDICAL OFFICER CANADIAN SOLDIERS ARE O. K.

Some Ludicrous Experiences With Malingers Who Are After Soft Jobs—Plenty Rations And Pay But no Work.— But These Are Not From Canada. Far Less Prince Edward Island.

The sketches from England by Lieut. Alexander Ross, M.C., are greatly appreciated and keenly looked forward to by Guardian readers. The "Doc," as he is familiarly called by his many friends here, has a keen sense of the humorous and ludicrous, and it will be evident from the following sketch of an Army Medical Officer's experiences with malingers that he is in his element in a large military hospital "somewhere in England."

Sir,—In times like the present, when the armies of the nation include, or ought to, the whole manhood of the nation, one meets all sorts of conditions of men. It is true that the overwhelming majority of those who have joined the colors are warriors of the true type and breed. It is always a pleasure to meet these men, and much has been written of their bravery in danger, their fortitude in pain, and their child-like gratitude for the smallest thing done to relieve their lot.

When dire necessity drives them to the Hospital for alleviation of sickness or treatment of wounds, one feels it to be a great privilege to wait upon them and make them whole again if possible. Their constant elimination of self, and their desire to be of as little trouble as possible, act as a spur to the whole staff from the highest officer to the lowest orderly. It is for their benefit that all these hospitals have been built and it is part of the duty of the various hospital staffs to see to it that the beds are occupied only by the men for whom they were intended. And it is often no easy task for those who have joined our arms are not heroes.

Anyone who has to do with hospitals will see there out of all proportion to their numbers a class of parasites which may be called the "scrimshankers" and the "dead-beat." These have joined the army from no patriotic motive, but for the basest and most selfish ends. If they had their way the hospitals intended for the sick would be filled by these creatures who would occupy beds of ease, have nothing to do, be fed and cared for at the expense of the country. Every pains are taken to keep them out of the hospitals and to turn them out if they get in. The dodges and devices adopted by these skunks are often extremely ludicrous.

They join the army from various motives, but generally their usual motive is to get their country to look after them—feed, house, clothe and care for them—while they have nothing to do. They are sick heroes, who tell their friends that they have joined to do their bit for their country. They always have been parasites and this is their harvest. Sickness being their game, of course, we see a great deal of them. They usually have some slight chronic ailment which, as a rule, is of no importance, but which is magnified as being something terrible and, above everything, which refuses to get well. The M. O. (Medical Officer) must be careful that no injustice is done to them, while at the same time he must see that the institution of which he is the guardian is not exploited by them. This class may be called the "dead-beats."

There is another class the "scrimshanker" with whom there is nothing wrong. He is extremely anxious to get a certificate of medical unfitness so that he may not only evade his duty but be able to shout what he would have done if only he were well. He may have been forced by public opinion to join the army, or may have done so in a sort of a revival meeting fervor, and now finds that the military life is not exactly a bed of roses. At any rate, he is extremely desirous of getting out. Sickness being his device, he naturally comes to the hospital and so into the hands of the physician, blessed man.

It is the supreme desire of the staff to keep these creatures out of the hospital altogether, for once they get in miles of red tape must be invoked to get them out again. There are hundreds of reports and histories to be written up. Boards and commissions rule tell them their fate. All this takes time while his hateful presence must be endured and the poor M. O. must resist all the time the temptation of sending him to the lethal chamber.

The scoundrels are given the benefit of every doubt, and sometimes get away with the "zoozies" by not often. Nearly always they are caught. They invariably exaggerate their symptoms and do not group them after the manner of real disease. Intuitively one gets to know them. There is a sort of general woe-begone-look of the occasion about them, the same sort of put on look as one sees at home when the toper invades the doctor's office and asks for a prescription.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished
by W. S. Louson.

GOD'S LOVE.

Like a cradle rocking, rocking,
Silent, peaceful, to and fro;
Like a mother's sweet looks dropping
On the little face below,
Hangs the green earth, swinging, turning,
Jarless, noiseless, safe and slow;
Falls the light of God's face bending
Down and watching us below.

And as feeble babes that suffer,
Toss and cry with head and rest,
Are the ones the tender mother,
Holds the closest, loves the best;
So when we are weak and wretched,
By our sins weighed down distressed,
Then it is that God's great patience
Holds us closest, loves us best.

whiskey for a "bad cold," and starts to cough with medicine.

In civil practice one so seldom meets a case of malingering that the M. O. new to Military work, is liable to take a man's story at its face value and so be taken in. But he soon learns, and before long is onto his job. The M. O.'s, with a long army record, tell many amusing stories of the dodges of these shirkers and the heroic treatment adopted to cure them.

There is one thing that I am pleased to be in a position to allude to, and that is so in the experience of men here very few of these creatures are Canadians, let alone Prince Edward Islanders. When the Canadians come here they do so with one supreme desire, and that is to get at the d-d Germans.

Let me illustrate several experiences.

M. O. What ails you? Malingerer: Pains in my spine, Sir.

M. O. Where? Begins in back of head and shoots down.

M. O. Anything else? No Sir.

M. O. Quite sure? Yes Sir.

M. O. How is your stomach? Not Good, Sir. No appetite.

M. O. Show me your tongue. (Tongue clean.)

M. O. How do you sleep? I do not sleep well, bad dreams.

M. O. How are your bowels? They did not move for three days.

M. O. (to orderly) Give him No. 9 Malingerer: Oh, Sir! My bowels moved this morning (He was evidently acquainted with the virtuoso of No. 9.)

M. O. (to orderly) Give him No. 9, diabolik. (Dose given, malingerer does not trouble M. O. again.)

N. B. Your readers ought to become acquainted with this famous mixture which, though it has a German name, is a good British remedy. Warranted to cure all vague aches and pains as well as make hair grow on the baldest heads.

M. O. What ails you? Malingerer: Thumb can't hold a gun.

M. O. Let me see it? (Thumb is very stiff all right.)

M. O. How long since you joined? Three months.

M. O. How long have you been this way? Seven years.

M. O. Did you tell the examining officer? No, Sir.

M. O. Why? I wanted to do my bit for my country.

M. O. Strip (Patient obeys slowly and watches M. O.)

M. O. Is this the scar pointing to a small superficial scar over back of wrist. Malingerer, yes, Sir.

M. O. My friend you are all wrong: if your hand were cut there your thumb would fall down instead of sticking up. (Malingerer looks silly.)

M. O. Now open and close both hands as quickly as possible. BOTH THUMBS STICK UP.

M. O. That will do. His nerve reactions are tested and found to be normal. Patient is given the battery for five minutes several times a day.

Malingerer. I am well now Sir, I wish to go out.

M. O. No you don't. You tried to fool us. You will go when I am ready and you take a note to your C.O. that you are a Malingerer. He will punish you as you deserve.

His papers wherever he may go in future brand him as a fraud.

M. O. What ails you? Malingerer: Sciatica aches pains in my knees.

M. O. examines him. Patient over-does it. Suffers too much pain. He is suspected and watched. Reports are made of him to the M. O. when he does not suspect it. After a week of watching.

M. O. You are better now, can't you go out? No, Sir, my knees are stiff, next day, gramophone. Patient is seen dancing for benefit of ward when no nurses or officers are present. (They always want to pose as clever chaps before the fellows.)

M. O. (After giving him a good dose of the battery) Now, why don't you dance as you did when the gramophone was playing? Ward laughs at him and he is killed. He goes out cured.

M. O. What ails you? Haemorrhoids. M. O. examines and finds it a case for operation, and so advises the patient.

PATON & CO.

Wish Everybody A Happy New Year

Malingerer: I won't be operated on I don't believe in operations. I want to be cured with medicine.

M. O. How long were you this way? Fifteen years.

M. O. If you were so long that way, and since you refuse to be advised by me, you go at once to your duty. Malingerer: But I can't, Sir.

M. O. I won't argue with you, you must agree to any way of treatment or I'll send you to the front. It is in real need of treatment he submits, otherwise he goes out.

M. O. What ails you? V. D. H. (an old bird who knows that V. D. H. stands for valvular disease of the heart).

M. O. How long since you joined? Reenlisted three months ago.

M. O. Did you have a Board? Yes, Sir, six months ago, and I was discharged from the army.

M. O. Why did you reenlist? I felt better and wanted to do my bit for my country.

It takes two or three months to get him out again, during which time he is doing nothing, drawing his pay and living an easy life. He can do light work quite well. The second Board that deals with such as those sends them to jail.

From the above it may be seen that if the sorrows of the M. O. are many the lot of the "dead-beat" and the "scrimshanker" is not always an easy one. However, these diabolical skunks together with the skinker and the German, that quartette of all that is base, ought to be sent to where the Frenchman says the German Headquarters are, and give them an M. O. to apply the appropriate treatment.

I am, Sir, etc.,
A. ROSS, M.D.,
Lt. R.A.M.C.

POSTMASTERS' PATRIOTIC FUND

In writing to the Post Office Inspector a few weeks ago the Postmaster at Tignish made the suggestion of inaugurating a Postmaster's Fund for patriotic purposes. The idea was considered a good one and steps were at once taken to start the Fund, and a number of letters have since been received approving of the movement. One letter received from the Postmaster at Hunter River will suffice as a sample. He states: "I heartily

A Good, Timely Tip on Plumbing

The secret of making your bathroom beautiful is the installation of high-grade, modern plumbing fixtures.

If your fixtures are old and unsanitary, a new porcelain enamel bath or lavatory will work wonders in the appearance and sanitation of your bathroom.

Decide now to change from the old to the new and let us quote you prices on these fixtures. They cost much less than you imagine. We estimate at any time and guarantee all work to satisfy you.

Fred H. Trainor,
80 Grafton Street
Phone 393-J

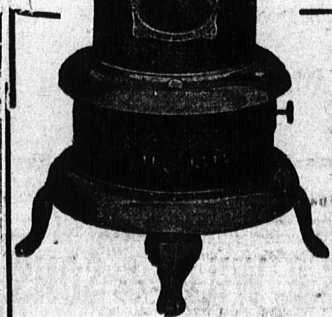
agree with your remarks, regretting that such a fund was not started sooner. I have already been making a monthly contribution to the Canadian Postmasters' Patriotic Fund with headquarters in Ontario. However, I am enclosing the sum of five dollars and trust the Fund will make a creditable showing and obtain the support it deserves from all the Postmasters. A number of Postmasters have already sent in their subscriptions, and it is hoped that in the near future every office will be heard from. The subscriptions to date are:—
John F. Wheeler, P.O. Inspector \$10.00
L. B. Hunt, Summerside 10.00
J. H. Vandierstine, Hunter River 5.00
Herbert Clark, Alberton 5.00
Wm. Callbeck, Central Bedouco 5.00
D. D. McLeod, Orwell Cove 3.00
F. P. Murphy, Emerald 2.00
D. Livingston, High Bank 2.00
J. A. Brennan, Tignish .50
Kathleen Brennan, Tignish .50
M. M. Stewart, Caledonia 2.00
K. Matheson, Clyde River 2.00
George Hume, Bristol 1.00
N. Boyce, Mermaid Farm 1.00
Margaret Burnett, Fort Augustus 1.00
P. J. D. Edmonds, Summerville 1.00
Adeline Matthews, Portage 1.00
Thos. Corcoran, Baldwin Road 1.00
Mrs. J. McDonald, Belfast 1.00
Neil McLeod, French River 1.00
Michael McCabg, Johnstons River 1.00
John McPheeley, McCannell's Wharf 1.00
R. C. McDonald, McNeill's Mills 1.00
A. J. Williams, Mail Contractor, McNeill's Mills 1.00
P. J. Murphy, Mail Contractor, McNeill's Mills 1.00
Mrs. Hannah Durant, Margate .50

Total to date \$65.00

SHEEP'S CHEESE

Two Greeks in California have started a sheep-cheese factory—the first to be established in America. They will operate a plant consisting of 175 acres in alfalfa, 100 acres of dry feed, 1,250 selected ewes whose lambs will be marketed at three months and the ewes then milked for four months.

For That Cold Room



For that room you can't get warm, whether it be attic, bedroom, hall or any other cold corner of the house—you will need a Perfection Oil Heater.

The Perfection is a whole heating system in itself. It gives instant and satisfactory warmth, has no disagreeable odor and heats the coldest room in the shortest possible time.

This heater has fancy legs, heavy nickel mountings, cool spring handle, wick can be adjusted from outside.

You need one of these heaters. Our prices are so moderate you can't afford to be without one.

Fennell & Chandler
Victoria Row

Cold Weather Footwear at GOFF BROS.

This is the weather for warm footwear. We have everything to keep the feet comfortable. Men's, Women's and Children's overshoes, felt boots and slippers, oil tanned moccasins, felt and leather leggings, etc. PRICES RIGHT. See our goods before buying.

All sizes in Men's, Women's and Children's felt Slippers
GOFF BROS.
Richmond Street
Men's job Overshoes sizes 6, 7, 8 Cheap