

The Charlottetown Guardian

Office at Charlottetown, Branch Office at St. John's, Alberton, Souris and Montserrat.

SATURDAY JANUARY 12th 1918.

SIR WILFRID LEADER STILL

As the result of the conference he had with his leading supporters in Montreal, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has agreed to continue to hold the paid office of official Leader of the Opposition. It was Hobson's choice. There is no other member who could prevent the dissolution of the Opposition aggregation, and to attempt to open a constituency outside of Quebec would be to court almost certain defeat. Some of the few English-speaking Laurier members are said to be already anxious for an excuse to desert to the Union benches. It is almost as certain that Sir Robert Borden will not countenance them. He cannot, of course, and will not object to Laurierites speaking and voting in support of the Government, but he will not recognize them as bona fide Unionists and include them in the party whip or invite them to the party caucus. When Sir Robert's Government desires any advice from the constituencies it will consult the Unionist members and Unionist candidates, the men who fought for their principles even if they went down to defeat. The Opposition members having deliberately opposed Unionists must be considered hostile to the Union Government, and notwithstanding any attempt to run with the hare and hunt with the hound they will be placed exactly where they belong by Sir Robert Borden. The Union Government will keep faith with the standard-bearers who held the Union colors aloft in the most momentous election campaign in history, and will stand by those who stood by him.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

At the last meeting of the City School Board the teachers of the city petitioned for an all-round increase of salary. We note by our exchanges that in almost every city in Canada the salaries of the teachers have been increased from fifteen to twenty per cent. In St. John the other day, whether in response to a petition or unsolicited, the School Board increased the salaries of all male and female principals by \$200 a year and those of all other male and female teachers by \$100 a year.

It has long been a stigma on the educational system of this province that our teachers have been more poorly paid than those of any other province in Canada. This has not only been a stigma but a serious loss to the province for it has cost us very many of our best teachers, men and women who have been educated at the expense of the province and who have gone to build up the schools of other provinces. We have furnished at very considerable expense teachers for many of our sister provinces, especially in the West, where there is a standing invitation to our young men and young women to take up teaching at much higher salaries than are available to them here. We cannot afford this; we cannot afford to train teachers for other places and leave our schools in the hands of beginners who will teach only long enough to earn enough money to take them to where they will be paid living salaries.

The cost of living has increased within the past few years to such an extent that the teacher's present salary represents less than half what it did four or five years ago. This is not fair to the province, not fair to our children, not fair to our teachers. Our schools are one of our greatest assets; our whole future depends upon them and they in turn depend upon our teachers. Without good teachers we cannot have good schools, and the teacher, like the other laborer, is worthy of his or her hire.

We trust the City-School Board will favorably consider the teachers' petition. It is merely a matter of common justice. Conditions have reduced the value of the teacher's salary. In practically every other calling salaries have been advanced proportionately to the increased cost of living, and it is only fair that the teachers should receive similar consideration. At best they are but poorly paid and we feel sure that the citizens without exception will stand behind the School Board in any reasonable increase they will make to the salaries now being paid.

Similar consideration should also be shown by the country school boards. The cost of living has increased in the country also, although not to the same extent as in the cities, and we hope that in common justice to those who are preparing the boys and girls of the province for future citizenship, their salaries will be increased, at least proportionately to the increased cost of living.

PEAT FUEL

Referring to the letter of Mr. James Duncan, Cardigan, on the subject of peat fuel, published in Thursday's Guardian, it will be remembered that an exhaustive survey was made in 1913-14 under direction of the Department of Mines, Ottawa. A full report of this survey, Bulletin 11, Mines Branch, can be seen in the Public Library, Charlottetown, or may no doubt be procured from the Mines Branch, Ottawa. Another report, entitled, "Peat, Lignite and Coal," showing their value as fuels for the production of gas, power, etc. with elaborate illustrations of machinery used, also to be seen in the Public Library or available on application to the Mines Branch, makes a good companion to the report on the survey of peat bogs.

The survey above referred to covered practically the whole of Canada. An expert of the Department spent the summer of 1913 and 1914 in this province when he made a minute and complete survey of six peat areas, namely, Black Marsh, Portage Miscoche, Muddy Creek, the Black Bank and Mermaid. The approximate total acreage of these six areas is 5,356 acres and the approximate quantity of peat 24,917,900 cubic yards. The bogs are divided into two classes, namely fuel peat and litter peat both qualities being about evenly divided in the six bogs surveyed.

It will be noted that this survey covered only six of the bogs in this province. There are many hundreds of acres besides these and all no doubt of equally good quality so that, as far as quantity is concerned there is no limit to the possible production that will affect the present or the immediate future generations.

As to the fuel value of our Island peat that has also been demonstrated. In pursuance of a resolution adopted in the Provincial Legislature last year Mr. Duncan the correspondent above referred to, gave a demonstration in different parts of the province, showing the method of digging and preparing peat for fuel. Very satisfactory results followed these demonstrations, notably at Miscoche where large quantities are available and where many of the people are using peat fuel with very satisfactory results. It will be remembered also that Mr. Duncan exhibited a quantity of prepared peat at the Provincial Exhibition last fall, when a number of citizens were given an opportunity of seeing it in use in both cooking ranges and in open grates. The fuel value of the peat shown was declared to be practically equal to that of coal. This exhibit had been prepared simply by sun drying without the aid of any machinery whatever except a spade and Mr. Duncan has used it in this form in his own home for a number of years, using it exclusively and in preference to either wood or coal.

Now as to the matter of placing this fuel on the market. It is quite evident that the sun-drying process alone will not suffice to make it generally available. Those living near the peat areas can procure their year's fuel as is now being done in the case of firewood, but this method will not supply the market, although even such limited quantities as would be thus used would relieve the coal situation very materially, and every possible encouragement should be given to use it as extensively as possible for this reason alone.

The matter of organizing a company is one that should be taken up at once by some live promoter. The present price of coal with the prospect of going still higher and the more serious prospect of the supply becoming practically exhausted offers a promising field for the production of a cheaper fuel. The cost of the necessary machinery for converting the peat into a form in which it can be conveniently handled for distribution, is only relative and when figured out will be found small in comparison with the market it will open up. There are different makes of machinery, each of them proved and a selection of the most suitable will not be a difficult matter. There is a practically unlimited market for the finished product. That is the proposition. Where is the promoter?

NOTES

The Bolsheviks pronounce the German peace promises a "pack of unconscionable lies." What else did they expect?

The British Premier has put his Government's war aims at the irreducible minimum. There they ought to stick.

Private thrift and public economy practiced now will strengthen the country, not only for the prosecution of the war, but for the full enjoyment of the peace which this war will make secure.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Let me but live from year to year, With forward face and unreluctant soul; Not hastening to, nor turning from the goal; Not mourning for the things that disappear In the dim past nor holding back in fear From what the future veils; but with a whole And happy heart, that pays its toll To youth and age, and travels on with cheer. —Henry Van Dyke.

The week of prayer, which opened so auspiciously last Sunday, terminates tomorrow with the annual exchange of pulpits throughout the City. The services were all largely attended and proved a great source of comfort and helpfulness to those attending.

Mrs. Mary, Duchess of Hamilton, was "mentioned" recently for her devoted work in the Auxiliary Hospital, into which her Suffolk Home, Easton Park, Wickham Market, is transformed. The Duchess is the eldest daughter of the seventh Duke of Manchester by his marriage to the lady who afterwards became the Duchess of Devonshire, and her sisters are Lady Gosford and Lady Derby. She is a keen sportswoman, and is classed among the first-rate shots and riders.

Premier Arsenault leaves this morning for Ottawa to attend an important meeting of the Returned Soldiers' Commission of which he is a member and of which Sir James Loughheed is President. He will be absent about ten days and while in Ottawa will take up with the different departments matters of importance to the province.

Lieut. Weston Peake is being warmly welcomed home from England. It is hoped he will soon regain robust health after his thrilling experiences in France.

Mrs. A. A. Alley has gone on an extended and delightful visit to Washington.

Mr. J. A. Matheson left Wednesday morning to spend the winter months in Florida. He is accompanied by his niece Miss Gregor.

Jack Pickford has completed a screen version of Mark Twain's famous story "Tom Sawyer" and is working on a sequel to the same story, "Huck and Tom."

Mrs. R. Heartz entertained her friends at a small bridge this week.

Mrs. F. P. Taylor, who has been the guest of Rev. (D.) Heartz in Amherst for a few weeks has returned home.

Miss Nita Hensley of Summerside has had as her guest for a few days, Miss Alice Pickard of Sackville, N.B.

Among the wounded soldiers returning to St. John this week was Lieutenant Patrick O'Brien, an Irish-American. He has the distinction of having had audience with the King of England for a longer period than any officer under the rank of a general. He talked with the king for fifty-two minutes. Lieutenant O'Brien had reasons for his long interview as he tells a story of how he escaped from Germany, taking him seventy-two days. He is a native of San Francisco and at the outbreak of the war paid his way to London that he might get an opportunity of having a crack at the Hun. He was put into the air service. One morning he was sent up over the German lines to take pictures. He was attacked by two German machines and was shot through the throat and forced to surrender. After recovering from his wound he was transferred to a prison camp but just as the train was about to start he escaped.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louven.

TOO BUSY TO LOVE?

A father had a daughter about eleven years old. They were great friends and much in each other's company. About this time the father noticed a change in his daughter. He was not able to get her company as he had been. If he went for a walk, she excused herself from going. He grieved about it, but could not understand. When his birthday came, she presented him with a pair of exquisitely worked slippers, saying: "I have made them for you." Then he understood what had been the matter for the past three months, and he said, "My darling, I like these slippers very much, but next time buy the slippers and let me have you all the days. I would rather have my child than anything she can make for me." Some of us are so busy for the Lord that we cannot get much of us. To us he would say, "I know your work, your labor, your patience but I miss you the first love."

Say you've struck a heap of trouble— Lost your business, lost your wife; No one cares a bit about you, You don't care a bit for life; Hard luck has of hope bereft you, Health is failing, wish you'd die— Stop, you've still the sunshine left you, And the big blue sky.

These and none can take them from you; These, and none can weigh their worth. What! You're tired and broke and beaten? Why, You're Rich—You've Got the Earth.

Yes, if you're a tramp in tatters, While the blue sky bends above You've got nearly all that matters— You've Got God, and God is Love. —Robert W. Service.

to leave the station he made his escape and was seventy-two days getting into Holland. In Holland he was given clothing and sent to England, where he reported to the intelligence officer. When the king heard of his experience he sent for him and was in conversation with him for fifty-two minutes.

The engagement of Miss Stella Sherman, who lately removed to Toronto from Fredericton, to Mr. W. B. Howard, district passenger agent of the C. P. R. and late of St. John, was announced this week and came as pleasant news to his many friends in this city.

At the Rotary Club luncheon on Thursday, Rev. Dr. Fullerton gave an eloquent address on Civic Duties for which he was passed a hearty vote of thanks by the many Rotarians present.

Deepest sympathy is being extended to Dr. George Warburton and family on the death of his son Hugh, who was lost at sea on his way to Nigeria, West Africa.

Mr. Hector McInnes, K. C., M. P. P., arrived in Halifax Tuesday from England, where he has been for the past two months. Mr. McInnes reports an uneventful and pleasant crossing of the Atlantic.

Mr. W. K. Rogers has gone on a month's trip to New York, St. Louis and the leading American cities.

Mrs. Crook who is in Toronto, having accepted a position in the Haverhill College, is missed by her wide circle of friends here.

A magnificent collar, composed of 15 rows of the famous Vanderbilt pearls, connected by large diamonds and set in plaques, worth in all about \$25,000, is the Duchess of Marlborough's gift to the Children's Jewel fund, says a London exchange. Three diamond tiaras already have been sent to the Duchess for the fund, of which she is the treasurer. Every woman is asked to contribute one piece of jewelry to help establish child welfare and maternity centres, of which 5,000 more are needed in the United Kingdom.

Prof. Roy Leitch's Serbian lecture and concert, in which so many of the young folk took part, was widely patronized on Wednesday evening and passed off successfully.

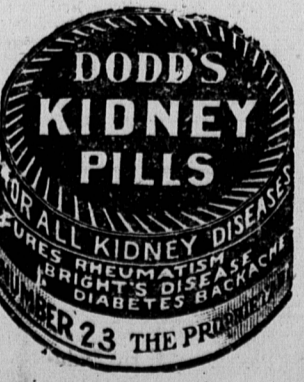
Mrs. J. B. Hogan had as her guests this week her sisters Miss Mary E. and Miss Florence Hunt of Summerside.

One of the most famous dressmakers in the Rue de la Paix, Paris, is introducing a startling novelty for home and evening use; that is, the picturesque bodice which seems to have no connection whatever with the skirt it accompanies. For example, a black charmeuse skirt with slight draperies at the sides, is accompanied by a japonica pink velvet bodice, the latter being lightly traced over with aluminum threads.

There is to be no more rice throwing at weddings, owing to the conservation of food products. The first formal notification of the abandonment of the old custom was made Wednesday at the Hotel Majestic, New York, where notices have been put in the room where marriages take place, reading: Don't Throw Rice—Save Food and Help Win the War. This notice was posted after six marriages in five consecutive days at the hotel, at which large quantities of rice were thrown at the newly weds.

CREW OF VASCO DE GAMA FIRE ON FORTS IN HARBOR AT LISBON

LISBON, January 9.—A lightning outbreak of the Portuguese battleship Vasco de Gama was checked by artillery fire from a fort in Lisbon harbor after the warship had fired a few shots at the land battery, according to a Government announcement today. The crew in part was landed and disarmed, surrendering to the army and the Republican guard, and Government forces later gained possession of the battleship. Measures taken to ensure the main-



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tenance of order are declared to have been effective. The statement issued by the Government reads: "The Vasco de Gama having left the Santos docks against the Government's formal orders and having taken a position in the middle Tagus before Fort St. George, a battery in the fort opened fire on the cruiser which replied with a few shots and then hoisted the flag. Parts of crews of other ships landed some men from the crew, who, after being disarmed surrendered to the Republican guard and the army on Commerce Square and at the naval arsenal. The Government took immediate measures to ensure the maintenance of order and the various authorities complied. The latter now consider the maintenance of order completely assured. The Vasco de Gama is already in the Government's hands."

Winter Goods--1-3 Off Retail Prices This Means a Great Saving to You

Ladies Cloth Coat \$21.00 for 14.00, 15.00 for 10.00, 13.50 for 9.00. Ladies Neck Furs and Fur Sets—Some real stylish sets left in Grey Wolf, Red Fox, Bk. Wolf, Marmot, White Tibet, etc. all above now offered less 20 p. c. We still have on sale Table Linen—White and Ubleahed Cotton Sheeting, Towling, etc. at special prices for a few days only. Ladies White Sweater Coats Guaranteed every thread pure wool the best money can buy, you will want them at the reduced price.

Men's and Boys' Clothing—Men's heavy all w. o. Pants \$4.50 for 3.90, 3.50 for 2.95. Boy's Overcoats \$9.25 for 6.95. Boy's Tweed Suits and Pants less 20 p. c. Sweaters—All shades and all kinds less 20 p. c. Wool Blankets—Worth \$8.00 to 10.00 our price 6.50. Wadded Quilts less 20 p. c. Men's Heavy Wool Underwear Selling fast at 1.25, we want to clear out the lot so here goes for 1.00. Our Store is well stocked with Men's Gloves in Leather, Wool and lined Mocha—The leather gloves were bought long ago when leather was cheap. Men's Leather Mitts 39c.

L. J. REDDIN Newson Block Opposite Post Office

Illustration of a woman in traditional dress holding a scale. Text: YOU CAN RELY ON OUR JEWELRY. THE PICTURE OF "PRINCE CHARMING" AND THE SCALES TELL OUR BUSINESS METHOD. WE GIVE YOU YOUR FULL MONEY'S WORTH. LONG EXPERIENCE IN THE JEWELRY BUSINESS HAS TAUGHT US WHAT AND WHERE TO BUY, SO WHEN YOU BUY ANY ARTICLE FROM US YOU CAN KNOW THAT THE QUALITY IS SUPERB AND THE DESIGN IS CORRECT. WE WILL DO YOUR REPAIRING RIGHT.

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