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THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1916.

THE POOR PATRIOT

The Patriot has evidently thrown to the winds all ideas of honest and truthful controversy, if indeed it ever possessed such. In its issue of yesterday it refreshes, with as much assurance as if it did not know it was deliberately misrepresenting facts, a batch of the charges brought up recently in the Legislature and in the House of Commons, all of which had been proved to the hilt to be without a shadow of foundation. Among these, and doubtless to be repeated by the Patriot until some new slander is invented to take their place, is the so called "falsifying of accounts," by which \$15,000 paid to the Patriotic Fund at the beginning of last year was charged in the Public Accounts of the previous year. This was one of the mare's nests found by Mr. Bell and over which he wasted many hours of the time of the legislature stultified himself and disgusted his best friends. No one in the province cared a continental whether this amount was paid at the last of the year or the first of the next year. What they did care about was whether the amount was paid and properly charged up and Premier Mathieson had satisfied them on both these points in a full and explicit explanation at the time, an explanation that was perfectly satisfactory to every person in the province including the then Leader of the Opposition. The Patriot and Mr. Bell and everybody else knows there was no "falsifying of the accounts," but it suits the Patriot to roll this slander as a sweet morsel under its political tongue and, we presume, it thinks its readers are sufficiently ignorant to believe it.

Another slander which it is perpetuating is the alleged "lending without authority of \$10,000 to the trustees of the Dalton Sanatorium" a matter which was fully and satisfactorily explained in the legislature and which everybody, including the Patriot and Mr. Bell knows to be nothing but an unfounded and contemptible attack upon Mr. Dalton in the foolish hope that it might detract from the popularity which his magnanimous gift of a Sanatorium to the province had brought him from all classes and all creeds. There is not a man in the province—except a few smallsouled jealous partisans of the Bell and Patriot stripe who ever raised or would raise any objection to the little that the government did during the absence of Mr. Dalton from the Province, namely, to advance money to the contractors until Mr. Dalton's return. And yet the Patriot is dishing this old decoction out to its readers as if it were a really illegal act on the part of the government. The remission of a fine to Sheriff Horne acting in his official capacity, and on the advice of counsel, is of the same type of slander and it too is to be handed out *ad infinitum* and *ad nauseam* by the Patriot.

Another fruitful theme for the little critics of the Patriot type is the Shell Committee investigation now in progress at Ottawa. It is well known that each one of the four specific charges made by Mr. Kyte has

already been disproved, that there was not a cent of proof for any one of them. The Patriot knows that Mr. Kyte is to be put on the stand in his own defence and to be asked to state, under oath, where he procured the information on which he founded his charges. The Patriot knows this but has not sufficient honesty to say so.

Another of the mare's nest paraded through the Patriot and other Liberal organs of late is one found by E. M. McDonald, of Pictou. A sample from this nest, prepared by the Liberal Press bureau and sent "canned" throughout the country appears in yesterday's Patriot also in which it is charged that the Militia Department had sold condemned ammunition to a firm in England. The inference intended to be drawn from this is that the Militia Department acted dishonestly. The whole matter was explained in the House of Commons on May 1st, when, in reply to a question by Mr. E. M. McDonald, Premier Borden, Acting Minister of Militia stated that 300,000,000 rounds of "suspected" ammunition were sold to the Vickers Company—as "suspected" for \$20 per thousand and to be used for testing purposes. It was sold for just what it was and bought by men who knew what it was, at a price which they were satisfied to pay, the regular price of good ammunition being \$50. That was all there was to it, but it was enough to give the Patriot and papers of that ilk something to circulate a slander on.

These are only a few samples to show to what depths the Patriot can descend and persists in remaining at the bottom of. It is a pitiful exhibition of littleness and the Patriot would be serving its own interests best, to say nothing of the interests of the province, if it should rise to a higher level in its discussion of public affairs.

DAIRY INDUSTRY

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a letter from Mr. R. E. Spillet on the dairy business of the province. Mr. Spillet admits that, while much of our dairy product is of excellent quality and compares very favourably with that of any of our sister provinces, things are not just as they ought to be and he lays the blame for this on recent innovations in manufacturing. Whatever the cause may be it must be faced and removed and we have no doubt that the Dairymen's Association see to it that any prestige we may have lost will be speedily restored. A correct diagnosis is the first step towards improvement, and a thorough examination of the methods, the plant, the milk and the qualifications in connection with the different factories will supply the necessary information to work upon to produce better results.

We have no doubt that any trouble that may exist in this connection arises, as in too many other cases, in the carelessness of the few. The great majority of our farmers are careful as well as solicitous for the good name of the province, but there are others who are not so. One faulty can of milk pooled with a thousand gallons of good milk will spoil the whole output of a factory. Some of our factories are growing old, some milk cans may be in use that should be in the scrap heap. With the appointment of a government inspector, independent of all the factories and their interests all these adverse causes can be removed and our output of butter and cheese raised to the highest possible standard. Our climate, pasturage, temperature and the common sense of our people are factors which should place the dairy products of the province on a level with the best in the world. We trust the campaign towards this end will meet with the hearty co-operation of all our farmers for our dairying business is the bed rock of our prosperity.



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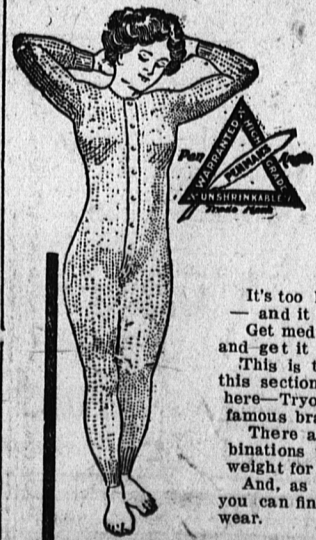
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P.S.S. SCRAP BOOK EAGERLY LOOKED FOR BY BOYS IN TRENCHES

One of the young lady pupils of Prince Street School has received the following acknowledgement for a parcel sent by her:

France March 22, 1916
 Just a line to say I happen to be one of the lucky fellows who received good share of your little comforts as you term them, and I desire to thank you very much for your kindness. They are a little late in coming but I think it is just as well that they were as we all had more or less some Christmas parcel at Christmas time. Those who were not lucky to have them, got a share of the ones that did. You call them little comforts well in most cases out here we look upon them in a larger scale than that can't really describe how we appreciate them at times. Very often I have read the Scrap Books through and through in the trenches, to pass the time away and it takes up one's attention a great deal to get a little news from Canada. It will be fourteen months on the 15th of April since I came out here. I enlisted on the 8th of August, 1914 in the Royal Highlanders. I happened to be a member of the same regiment at the outbreak of war. Having been in them for five years I thought it was my duty to step forward and use my military training to advantage. I happen to be one of the few who left Canada with the 13th Battalion from Montreal. When we left there we were 1200 strong, 200 being left in England as a base Company. After April 22nd, 1915 when roll was called we had present 75 out of 1000 men. The others were casualties. I was blown in the air twice but never hurt except a few

bruises. I never expected I would come out of it alive. On May 22nd, 1915, we went into action again after we had got 600 reinforcements and this time I wasn't so lucky. After we made the charge on the Orchard at Festubert, or rather got up into it. (No Germans) in it, we dug ourselves in, and on May 25th I put a cigarette in my mouth very early in the morning just at day break, as we were not allowed to smoke at night. I wanted to forget about taking a drink of water, I was so thirsty so smoked a cigarette I just turned round in the trench to ask my chum for a match when a bullet went right through my left ear. But it wasn't serious. I had four weeks rest with it and came back in time for another battle at Givenchy and got through that all right. The position we are in just now, we have held it for eight months. We are leaving it tomorrow and going back to Ypres, the whole of the 1st Contingent very probably, to have revenge on them for April 1915. I hear that the place where we are going to hold is only twenty-five yards apart so if we get much closer than that they better give us boxing gloves. I hope I am lucky enough to come through our next fight which will be soon probably before you get this letter. We have got them beat now and have lots of artillery and ammunition, but the Germans seem to us to have lots too. The best of it is now, if the Huns send over a shell our boys send back four. I often think our boys make a mistake purposely and count too many for Mr. Hun. However he is getting a very rough time of it from the Canadians now, and he might get a rougher time before he is finished. I have still got to get even with the fellow who shot me so he better look out if I meet him, but any other German will do just the same. Well it is very late and I have little chance to sleep but would like to hear from you again

Thanking you once more for your kindness I have the honor to be yours sincerely
 No. 24276 Pte. J. McNaught,
 No. 3 Coy, 13th Canadian Batt.
 3rd Brigade
 1st Canadian Contingent
 B. E. F.

GERMANS CLAIM BIG SUCCESSES

BERLIN, May 9—A German official statement says that at Hill 204, south of Huacourt, several trenches were taken by storm. The enemy attempted to recapture them but failed and their losses were heavy.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

LET THIS BE SAID

Let this be said of me
 When I am gone
 I loved each growing tree
 I looked upon;
 No matter where
 I chanced to stray
 Some joy was there
 To light my way.

When I have flown
 From earthly strife,
 Think this: I've known
 The sweets of life,
 Found friendship true
 And kindness here,
 And laughter, too.

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