

# THE Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1915.

## ABSTINENCE RALLY TONIGHT

The Patriotic Abstinence Rally to be held in the Drill Shed this evening will be one of the most important meetings held in connection with the war, and it is hoped that every citizen who can possibly do so will be present. The movement is an Empire-wide one, beginning in Great Britain and spreading to the outermost points of the dominions beyond the seas. Prince Edward Island has the distinction of making the first definite move in the outlying dominions and it is gratifying to know that, like the other patriotic moves undertaken since the war began, the people everywhere are taking hold of it and enthusiastically supporting it. We understand that in all the churches last Sunday the pledge cards were very numerous signed and that the different organisations in the city are taking similar action.

The movement is an entirely voluntary one, adopted in sympathy with our fellow-soldiers and fellow-workmen who are fighting our battles. It was found necessary in England to restrict the drink habit, to close saloons in certain places in order that the work of preparing munitions of war might not be interfered with. Realising the power of example, the King set the pace by abolishing the use of all intoxicating liquors in his own palace. Lord Kitchener followed and the slogan, "Abstinence during the continuance of the war," became general. This is the purpose of the present movement—abstinence during the continuance of the war. There are thousands who for themselves require no such pledge, who, many of them, have been life-long abstainers, or who through habit or necessity—real or imaginary—have indulged moderately. But there are others who need the friendly hand of fellowship to help them abandon a habit that is a serious menace and a curse, not only to themselves, but to their families and to the community. At a time when the Empire is making the supreme sacrifice, when lives are being thrown into the mill of war, when the nations are being remodelled, it is fitting that everyone should do his part. The part asked for in this, abstinence during the war, is infinitely small compared with the sacrifices that are being made by those who have sent their sons, their husbands, their fathers, to die if need be, for their country. Yet it is an essential part of the foundation that is being laid for a cleaner civilisation; a part that will be a large factor in ridding the world of a curse that has hitherto resisted the efforts of the best men and women in all ages; a curse that is dying hard, but that must die before civilisation is what it should be. Abstinence during the war will in very many cases mean abstinence for all time, and those who can, by joining in the movement, encourage a weaker brother to abstain even temporarily will be doing a work for humanity that will be little, if any, short of what the Empire's sons are doing in the trenches in Europe.

Let the whole city, then, turn out this evening to show its sympathy with, and to join in, the movement. The addresses will be educative, the enthusiasm that numbers give will be helpful and the rally will be another incident in the great work that is being done for humanity in this year of grace 1915.

## THE PATRIOT APOLOGIC

In a laboured attempt to justify the maladministration of the Liberal Government in the twenty years preceding the advent of the present Government, the Patriot says that in 1914 the Matheson Administration collected \$71,000 more in taxation than did the Liberals in 1911. As there has been no increase in taxation, as the rate is exactly what it was in 1911, what does this imply? It means just this that the late Liberal Governments were unfaithful stewards that they did not account for the taxes which they should have collected, that they took from the poor and those who did not contribute to the party war chest or would not sell their independence as voters; and relieved, on the other hand, the scoundrels and leeches who responded to the party whip. That is what it means, and the Patriot does its party a disservice in resurrecting the fact.

By dealing fairly and honestly by all taxpayers, by collecting the taxes in a businesslike manner, and without recourse to wholesale lawsuits, in which 95 per cent. of the collectable taxes was squandered in law costs, the present Government has added, according to the Patriot's own showing, \$71,000 to the revenue of the province. This achievement is the greatest tribute the Patriot could pay the Government and, by the same token, it damns the rottenness of its own party's administration.

In the same article the Patriot tries to show that the Government has not adequately increased the teachers' salaries. That may be, but for a beginning an increase of \$70 per annum all round is not too bad, especially when, as the Patriot sorrowfully admits, under the late Government "the revenue was not sufficient to pay an additional salary," indeed, "they were even obliged to repeal the supplementary clause."

## THE WORST YET

The latest development in connection with the war, the maltreatment of British prisoners by the Germans, as told in our despatches yesterday morning, is one that will send a chill to every British heart, to every civilized heart of whatever nationality; and one too that will cry years of age.

aloud for vengeance. There are some things that are unpardonable, that neither Christian nor heathen can forgive and one of these is brutality towards the defenceless. Germany's cup of devilish malice had been more than filled by her piracies and murders on the high seas, by her treatment of women and children in Belgium and by the many other wrongs which have become familiar to every reader of the newspapers during the past nine months. But the story told by Lord Kitchener in the House of Lords, a story which he told reluctantly because it reflects upon humanity itself, is one that staggers belief.

There was a stage in the savagery of our North American Indians when they tortured their prisoners but even then it was in the nature of reprisals, for their enemies were doing the same thing, but it remained for Germany to introduce it into modern warfare between civilized nations.

And there is, for the present, no help for it. The prisoners are at the mercy of the Germans; unarmed and defenceless in the power of armed warriors and murderers. Their prisoners in England and in British detention camps elsewhere are being treated humanely, given every comfort and care that can be given a soldier. Reprisals are out of the question. Civilized British hearts would revolt at the thought of taking vengeance upon defenceless prisoners, and even if it were otherwise any such reprisals would be met with similar treatment of British prisoners.

The German officers, from the Kaiser down to the lowest corporal in his army should be held personally responsible for all these acts. Lord Charles Beresford's advice to hang at the yard arm every German captured in a submarine that attacks an unarmed ship should not only be carried out but should be extended to include every German officer that survives the war, the Kaiser included. Murder is murder whether perpetrated by an emperor, an officer, a soldier or a private citizen, and whether at the instigation of another or on one's own initiative. The prospect of a general hanging at the end of the war would appear to the ordinary layman the only remedy in sight at the present stage.

## A PERTINENT QUESTION

What would you think of a farmer (asks the Silver Black Fox) who had a fine season's crop, but had no money with which to harvest it, and who could get this money from a certain source by going after it, but was altogether too shortsighted to do so. Would you not say that he deserved to lose his crop? There are a number of people in the fox business in the same position as this farmer. They are fox poor. They have fine crops, and they need money very badly indeed to enable them to carry on their business. Through publicity, and letting the man with money know what they have, the needful funds could be obtained, but they are so short-sighted, that they are afraid to spend a dollar. They are waiting for some one to come along and put the money into their hands.

## THE WAR

Statistics relative to the present war, although only approximately correct, are somewhat startling, and upon them have already been based a number of speculative calculations as to the duration of the war.

In practically all the speculations on this head it is assumed that Germany will have reached the limit of her resources, both in men and munitions before any of her enemies. This would be a safe deduction if we were assured that the war is to be ended by sheer exhaustion. But this is by no means certain. Effectiveness will play, and this from the first played, a most important part. In this view of it, judging by past experience, we have little cause to fear. So far the effectiveness of the Allies has been superior to that of the Germans. The war began unequally; began with a thoroughly equipped and prepared army of immense strength against a small force, utterly unprepared. And the latter was able to hold the other in check. So much for efficiency.

But it must not be forgotten that German efficiency has very greatly increased since the war began. They have profited by their experiences. The mobility of their troops is simply amazing as is evidenced by the swiftness with which they can draw large bodies of troops from one sphere of operation to another. When sorely pressed in the west they hurl their eastern troops into the breach and the east does not appear to be weakened. When the Russians press too hard upon them they despatch large bodies of troops from the West, and the status quo in the west remains unaltered. This is one of the amazing evidences of German effectiveness. When it is remembered that the ground gained by the Allies, east or west, is measured only by yards or at most by a few miles the end of the struggle is by no means in sight.

And as to numbers. The war has been in progress nearly nine months. The Germans admitted casualties in killed, wounded or missing of 1,196,969 men a few weeks ago. It would be safe to place the number at one and a quarter millions. In the war of 1870, which lasted only about seven months, the whole German army numbered only 887,876 men. Of these 127,897 were killed wounded or missing at the close of the war. In the present war she has had at least five times as many men engaged as in the war of 1870, yet her losses already have been nine times as great.

In the nine months of the present war Germany so far, has had the advantage of fighting in the enemy's country. Her own soil and her homes are untouched while those of her enemies are being pillaged and ruined.

It is argued that the Allies have greater resources in men to draw from. Doubtless this is true but while Germany has a population of 65 millions to draw upon exhaustion in men seems very far off. Doubtless, in the end, Germany would be the first to reach the point of exhaustion, but at present both Germany and the Allies are equipped to the limit of their respective capacities. There are some thousands of French and British soldiers now ready to enter the battlefield but are awaiting equipment. The great consideration therefore is equipment, not men. All the belligerents have all the men they can place in the field and the race will depend upon how rapidly these men can be equipped. At present, so far as results attained are a criterion, there is little advantage to either side. The war must end before the point of exhaustion is reached and the result will depend upon efficiency. The side able to strike the heaviest blows wins.

## NOTES

A correspondent of the Patriot appears to be greatly concerned over the gazettement of Mr. Murphy to a second lieutenant in the Heavy Brigade. Mr. Murphy is at present with the Battery at Halifax and the Patriot's correspondent takes exception to his appointment on two grounds: first, his inexperience, and second, his age. He expresses a fear that so inexperienced and youthful an officer might prove himself incompetent in leading his platoon on the battlefield. Needless to say, his fears are entirely groundless, and for two reasons: first, Mr. Murphy will not go forward with the second contingent any more than any of the other recently gazetted lieutenants. He will proceed to the school at Quebec as soon as there is a vacancy for him and undergo his period of training with the other young fellows recently receiving commissions. In the second place, his age is no barrier for no fewer than one-third of the recently gazetted commissions in the British army have been granted to youths from 18 to 20

# P. E. I. ROBBED OF \$71,000 WHAT KILLING THE GOOD ROAD BILL BY LIBERALS REALLY DOES MEAN.

"The granting of substantial assistance toward the improvement of our public highways" was one of the most important planks in Sir Robert Borden's platform which was submitted to and endorsed by the electors on September 21st, 1911.

No question of such importance to the welfare of the agricultural and labouring classes was ever submitted to the people. Conscious of the importance of this question it was made a prominent feature of the Conservative campaign in 1911. Provincial legislature and municipal councils had been found incapable of coping, owing to the great development, with the problem of modern highways. Sir Robert Borden was the first Canadian statesman to recognize that cheap carriage from the farm to the market was as important to the farmer as cheap and adequate railway facilities. His proposition that the federal government assist in the solution of this problem by substantial aid, aggregating millions, it was recognized would in a large measure meet the immediate requirements.

## INTRODUCED AT THE FIRST SESSION.

With such a strong endorsement as was given this proposal by the people in 1911, the Conservative administration lost no time in putting it into effect. Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways and Canals, by whose department the new work was to be administered, introduced a bill within a few months after taking office to put into effect the mandate received from the electors.

The introduction of this important measure, one that the Government had received authority from the people to put into effect, was the signal for the most bitter opposition on the part of the Liberals. Hon. William Pugsley attacked it in the course of the debate on the Address in which notice was given of the Government's intention to introduce such legislation. Sir

## MAJOR McHARG WAS CHAMPION RIFLE SHOT.

OTTAWA, April 27.—The late Major W. Hart McHarg, of the Sixth D. C. O. R., Vancouver, was the champion rifle shot of the world, winning the title at the last international rifle matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, in 1913. He won the Governor General's prize on two occasions being one of the only two men who ever won the honor twice at the D. C. R. A meet here. His record at Betsy and the Canadian annual rifle matches has very few equals.

Captain Gerald O. Lees, of the Thirteenth Battalion, reported killed, was one of the best known athletes in Canada, being especially prominent as a golfer. He was on the reserve of the Fifth Royal Highlanders of Montreal, and when war broke out at once volunteered. He was a member of the Royal Ottawa Golf Club and in 1913 was runner up for the championship.

Mrs. Peter Whalen, of this city, received a private cable tonight from her son, Lieut. Earl G. Whalen, of the Second Battalion, stating "wounded in shoulder, quite safe."

## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR READERS OF THE GUARDIAN

Furnished by W. S. Louison.

## WHERE ARE OUR THOUGHTS

I hold it true that thoughts are things  
Endowed with bodies, breath, and  
wings;  
And that we send them forth to fill  
The world with good results—or  
ill.  
That which we call our secret thought  
Speaks to the earth's remotest spot,  
And leaves its blessings or its woes,  
Like tracks behind it, where it goes.  
It is God's law. Remember it  
In your still chamber as you sit  
With thoughts you would not dare  
have known,  
And yet make comrades when alone.  
These thoughts have life; and they  
will fly  
And leave their impress by and by  
Like some marsh breeze, whose po-  
isoned breath  
Breathes into homes its fevered  
death.  
And after you have quite forgot  
Or all outgrown some vanished  
thought,  
Back to your mind to make its  
home,  
A dove or raven it will come.  
Then let your secret thoughts be fair;  
They have a vital part and share  
In shaping worlds and moulding  
fate—  
God's system is so intricate.  
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Wilfrid Laurier applauded Mr. Pugsley's hostility to the scheme to give the farmers modern highways and the labourers more employment. Later Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved a resolution that the bill "be not now read," which meant its defeat if carried.

## EVERY LIBERAL OPPOSED THE MEASURE.

Every Liberal in the House of Commons opposed this scheme to aid farmers, and which had been endorsed by the people of Canada only three months before. Every Conservative supported the Good Roads measure. The bill passed the House of Commons in face of the most bitter opposition on the part of the Liberals. Defeated in the Commons, Sir Wilfrid had recourse to the Liberal Senators. Here he was all-powerful; they were his puppets, but among the people's representatives in the Commons he had failed. The Liberal Senators obeyed their "master's voice" and killed the bill.

When the session of 1912-13 came the Government introduced the Highways Improvement Bill again. It also inserted in the estimates the sum of \$1,500,000 for the purpose, divided among the provinces according to population.

## FOR THE SECOND TIME LIBERALS OPPOSED IT.

The bill was introduced on December 11, 1912, and the second reading was moved on April 21, 1913.

The Liberals at once attacked the bill. Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the second reading again moved "that the bill be not now read a second time," and fought it at every stage. When it came to the third reading all the Liberals voted directly against the bill; while all the Conservatives voted for it.

Again Sir Wilfrid appealed to his Senators and again they obeyed him

(Continued on page six)

## SOUTHERN TEACHERS MEET ON SATURDAY

The attention of the teachers of the Seventh Inspectorate is called to the announcement of the meeting to be held on Saturday, which will be a benefit to all the teachers who attend. This Association began in a very small way when a few representative teachers of the Inspectorate met in the latter part of last year and through their ability of organization and later with the co-operation of the other teachers and the educational entertainment furnished by the members and others at the meetings this Association has worked its way to the fighting line of educational problems and has gone as far as to forward resolutions to the Government to endeavour to cause further legislation which would be for the benefit of legislation generally.

The success of the convention held by this Association puts it on a par with any organization of its kind. The officers of this Association and especially Inspector Crockett have worked incessantly in trying to create an interest among the teachers and in the preparation of meetings that would more than repay the teachers attending. Each separate item of the programme of this convention was worth the attendance of the teachers and any reference as to the success generally is summed up by saying: "The time was too short to grasp so much."

Of special mention on the programme of this Convention, and which is conspicuous by its absence in the press, was the paper on School Gardening by Inspector Crockett. This was voted by persons of special education on the subject as the best treatise of School Garden work read before any educational body in the Province. The humor and logic, which the Inspector commanded in his paper, made the subject especially pleasing to the listener. The interest in this important subject has so grown that the number of School Gardens in the schools represented by this Association will be increased seventy-five per cent. over last year. The programme for the meeting on Saturday has tabled a talk on "Drawing" by Prof. Barlow, of Prince of Wales College; papers on the subjects, History, School Libraries. Such a programme should induce every teacher to be present.



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# PATONS

NEPHEW OF SIR EDWARD  
GREY HELD IN BERLIN.  
LONDON, April 26.—There was received here Saturday a list of the 39 British officers placed in detention barracks, 10 of them to solitary confinement, by the German Government in retaliation for the declaration of Great Britain to accord honors of war to the crews of the German submarines.

This list, which was supplied to Ambassador Gerard at Berlin by the German Government, consists of the names of Lord Garies Alexander Fraser, Master of Saltoun; Lieutenant Goschen, son of Sir Wm. Edward Goschen, former British Ambassador to Berlin; Robin Grey, a nephew of the British Foreign Minister, and many sons of peers. Nearly all the prisoners belong to crack regiments.

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