

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, MAY 23rd, 1918.

FRIDAY, MAY 24th, BEING EMPIRE DAY AND A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE MORNING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON SATURDAY, THE EVENING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON FRIDAY BUT WILL BE PUBLISHED AS USUAL ON SATURDAY. ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES.

THE POTATO BUSINESS

The potato business of the province, so far as export is concerned is now about over, the shippers having practically ceased buying. The starch factories are paying fifty cents per bushel for unsorted potatoes and the margin between this price and that obtainable in the outside markets is not sufficient to induce them to take the risk of purchasing.

The railway Superintendent informs us that there are now about 50 cars being loaded along the railway and that when these are shipped the business will be practically over for the season as there are no further applications for cars.

The quantity of potatoes shipped from the province this spring makes a record in potato export, and also a record for the P. E. Island railway.

Potato shipment began on March 15. During the remainder of the month, a period seriously interrupted by storms, 76 cars of potatoes were shipped. In April 212 cars and during the first 18 days of May 428 cars of potatoes were shipped via the carferry, a total of 716 cars, or approximately half a million bushels.

This is certainly a magnificent record not only for the province but for the railway and the Carferry.

RATIONING CANADA

Mr. H. B. Thomson, Chairman of the Canada Food Board, stated recently that "the question of rationing the homes has been given a great deal of thought." The regulations governing eating houses, it is now known, has resulted in making available a very considerable increase in exports over former years. According to statistics recently published about 40 per cent. more wheat and flour will have been shipped to Europe by July 1st than the average total of shipments in the last three years. Of the 1917 wheat crop, 62 per cent. more than the average of the last three years has already been sent to Europe. Shipments of pork have increased by 122,000,000 pounds, of beef by 72,000,000, of cheese by 30,000,000, of butter by 12,000,000 and of eggs by 15,000,000 dozen. These increases were due largely to the restrictions placed upon public eating houses, aided no doubt by general retrenchment in private homes. The latter, however, which was purely voluntary, has not materially affected the food situation and the question is becoming acute whether it shall be necessary to apply compulsion in the rationing of private homes. If in the war effort of Canada, there could be aroused a unanimity of purpose and of determination to do all within human possibility to aid in winning the war there would be no need of compulsion in anything. There would have been no conscription; there would be no rationing. This unanimity has not been in evidence; the willing have made and are making the sacrifices, have borne and are bearing the burden.

The Canada Food Board has appealed to all the people to put forth every effort to save certain articles of food, particularly flour, sugar, bacon and beef leaving it to their honour and their patriotism to practice such economy as they could in view of the urgent need of these foods in Europe. In the case of public eating houses stringent regulations were enacted.

We note by our exchanges that the regulations are being strictly enforced in the case of eating houses. The few who have violated the regulations have been severely punished. Our news columns yesterday related the case of a man who was given two and a half years in jail for hoarding flour and pork. In our province our public eating houses are small but the same rule applies and those who violate it are liable to punishment.

RESULTS OF UNIONISM

Our despatches this morning make reference to the extraordinary change in sentiment in the province of Quebec in the matter of military service. The antagonism evinced in that province to military service during the earlier stages of the war has given place to an enthusiasm for ser-

vice that has not been exceeded, probably not equalled, in any of the other provinces. The despatch says that in the City of Quebec, where only a few weeks ago, opposition to military service assumed a rebellious attitude, sixty men who were called to report on Friday responded to a man and were all in khaki before night.

This change of attitude does not mean that there has been an evolution from disloyalty to loyalty, from hostility to patriotism. It means only that the latent loyalty of the people, which had become estranged by unwise leadership, has reasserted itself. At heart the people of Quebec were as loyal as those of the rest of Canada but they had been led astray by demagogue leaders and blind political partisans. Much credit for the change is unquestionably due to the general union effected in Canada through the union of its political parties. The Halifax Chronicle, one of the leading Liberal organs and one of the staunchest supporters of the Union Government, pays this worthy tribute to the Union Government:

"The giving of credit to whom credit is due is a leading principle of Liberalism. We feel convinced, therefore, that all true Liberals, whether they were supporters or opponents of the present Union Government when it appealed to the country, will acknowledge that it has made an excellent beginning with reference to the mandate which it received from the people. Individual Liberals can have little rational ground of complaint when their representatives in Parliament have found scarcely any. The forebodings of the most hostile have proved foundationless. The expectations of the most sanguine have been measurably fulfilled.

"In the first place, the Union Government has proved a real instrument of Union. The voice of hostile opposition has been stilled in Parliament. There has been little of adverse criticism. All the major propositions of the Administration have been approved; most of them, almost unanimously. Seldom, if ever, has there been a more harmonious session.

"In the second place, and possibly the more important, the Quebec situation has been so well handled that a most gratifying state of affairs has been re-established in that Province. It is signalized by the cheerful coming forward of unprecedented numbers of the young men of Quebec to uphold the Allied cause. Their latent patriotism has been aroused. They have been brought to see that where the fate of France, as well as Britain, is at stake, it is their privilege, as well as their duty, to spring to the rescue. This they are doing in the most gratifying manner, as all who knew them aright knew they would when freed from the fetters of blind partizanism. There has been nothing more gratifying in recent Canadian history than the new spirit which has been aroused and is rapidly spreading in Quebec."

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR PEAT

"Treatment of the peat from the large peat fields near Ottawa has not yet succeeded in producing a fuel able to compete with coal but apparently a new chance for the peat is offering, says an Ottawa exchange. Peat is claimed to be an excellent fertilizer. A writer in a Washington paper, The Nation's Business, says that an Illinois man has established a factory to make peat into fertilizer, and is turning out 30 tons of fertilizer a day, which finds a ready sale. The raw peat is thoroughly dried, and then ground into fine powder.

"The fact that peat has useful quality as an enricher of soil has been long known in a limited way, but what started the Illinois experiment was a discovery made by a man who was trying to make fuel. He had been taking up peat to compress it into fuel briquettes when this happened:

"On some of the cleared land, however, the superintendent of the factory started a small garden and the results were so amazing that he could hardly believe his eyes. Everything that was planted came up so quickly and in such abundance that the spot became the wonder of all the neighboring farmers. A half acre planted to onions, for instance, produced 400 bushels or at the rate of 800 bushels per acre. Celery, potatoes, beans, and corn were planted with similar results."

"The fertilizer factory followed, and is making money where the fuel factory didn't. Perhaps a similar possibility exists in this neighborhood."

The value of peat, or as it has been called here, swamp mud, has long been known in this province, many farmers using it freely in compost with barnyard manure.

CHRISTIAN PATIENCE EXHAUSTED

Sir—Permit me space in your paper to call attention to the wretched train service we endure in West Prince. During winter we endured patiently, hoping for something better with the coming of spring, but so far we are disappointed. It takes four days to go to Moncton and return. Formerly we did it in one day. It takes three days to go to Charlottetown, do an hour's business, and return, formerly we did it in one day. Some of our soldier boys in Halifax, getting a five days' furlough, spend four on the road, and one at home.

This assine service makes us the laughing stock of all, who from abroad pass over the road. It wastes much time and money, while we are urgently called upon to recognize both. The railway service as we have it, would be a disgrace to Turkey, in the days of Abdul the damned.

No mere man could have devised a service so senseless, without inspiration from below, but apparently these officials have no more idea of the value of time than a cow; perhaps they value other people's time by the value, or want of value, of their own. This absolute drivell of mismanagement in the P.E.I.R. makes us ashamed of the province where we live. Give us a change.

I am, sir, etc.,
 ROBERT MURRAY,
 O'Leary, May 20, 1918.

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSOTT, D. D.

(All rights reserved)

Dr. Linscott in this column will help you solve your heart problems religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious care that perplexes you. If a personal answer is required enclose a five cent stamp. No names will be published; if you prefer, sign your initials only; or use a pseudonym.

CAPITAL AND LABOR:—"A Builder's" problem is: "Should an employer of labor hire employees as cheaply as he can?" It is human nature for a builder, or any other employer of labor, to get as much as he can for what he produces, to hire workmen for as low a sum as he can, and purchase his material in the cheapest market, and perhaps this is also good business. A true Christian however, or any thoughtful humanitarian, will place a limit upon these selfish principles. He will pay his employees a living wage and in fact pay them all he can afford after having made a proper profit himself.

SHALL WE LIVE FOREVER?—"Theolog" sends me the problem. "What is the proof of immortality?" There is no absolute proof unless indeed the Bible is absolutely believed or the chief doctrine of modern spiritualism is true, namely that the spirits of the dead do actually talk to the living. There is however, a lot of strong presumptive evidence. All men everywhere have believed in immortality and the hearts of all normal men crave it. Immortality is an instinct more than a science.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

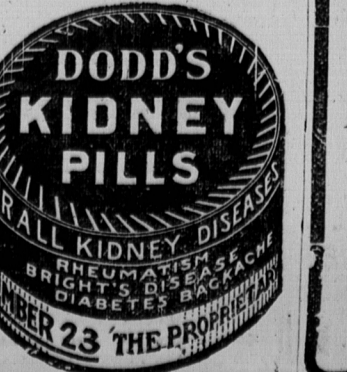
Furnished by W. S. Louson

'REJOICING IN HOPE'

How many things there are in life's experience
 Which finite reason cannot understand;
 But hope can sing through all with bright insistence,
 And though it cannot trace their need or sequence,
 Faith sees in each, and trusts God's loving guidance,
 And feels the pressure of a Father's hand.

GOD'S PURPOSE

What does it mean—the dear lives lost,
 The sacrifice, the awful cost,
 The broken hearts, the homes laid bare,
 The stricken wife, the vacant chair?
 What can it mean—the mother's cry,
 The widow's moan, the soldier's sigh,
 The harmless harmed, the guiltless slain
 My God! when wilt Thou make it plain?
 Who understands God's purpose here?
 Ah! He alone can make things clear;
 And though at times His children doubt,
 Yet He will work His purpose out.



GET YOUR NEW PERFECTION OIL COOK STOVE NOW

IT is still New Perfection Week. Don't delay longer. Buy your New Perfection Oil Cook Stove now. There's a size for every household and a style for every need.

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The Long Blue Chimney makes oil the ideal fuel—gives a clean, intense heat—because its long draft burns up all the fuel. Saves time, worry—saves coal and money.

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War Garden Bulletin

PRACTICAL DAILY GUIDE FOR VACANT LOT AND BACKYARD GARDENERS ENLISTED IN GREATER PRODUCTION CAMPAIGN.

Issued by the Canada Food Board in collaboration with experts on the staff of the Dominion Experimental Farm.

DEPTH FOR PLANTING.

It is of the utmost importance to know the most economical depth to

plant potatoes, as there is no doubt that different depths of planting will give different results. While shallow planting has given the best yields at Ottawa in loose, sandy loam soil, the most economical depth is from four to five inches for rich, loamy soils. Sets should be planted deeper in soils likely to dry out than in others more retentive of moisture. Where early potatoes are wanted, the sets should be planted shallow in the warm soil near the surface. Unless the soil is kept loose and free from weeds, the potato crop will not be large.

In planting potatoes, hilling is advisable, as a larger surface of soil is exposed to the warmth of the sun, the soil is kept loose, and rain is absorbed easily. If it rains too hard the available plant food exists in the first few inches of top soil it is natural to assume that if hilled the potatoes will grow more quickly than they otherwise would.

GERMANY'S RATIONS TODAY

When we see the quantities allotted to the German soldiers and civilian populations by the Food Controllers of the Central Powers, we can appreciate more fully how well off Canada and Canadians are.

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