

The Charlottetown Guardian

Head Office at Charlottetown, Branch Office at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montague.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1917.

AN INSPIRING VISIT

The reception tendered Sir Robert Borden and Hon. F. B. Carvell yesterday left nothing to be desired. It was general, non-political, hearty. While the shadow of the terrible disaster at Halifax, no doubt, hung over the proceedings and tempered the effusiveness with which the Ministers were received, it also added to the serious earnestness with which men and women listened to the momentous appeal for unity in this time of national crisis and danger.

The Ministers after a most strenuous day, having spoken at Port Borden and at Summerside, were in good form and their speeches were clear, manly and convincing, appealing to the highest instincts of true Canadians, pleading for a united Canada and showing convincingly that at this crisis in the history of Canada the only salvation is in being united.

Sir Robert Borden is not a stranger to Prince Edward Islanders. He has been heard on different occasions, and never before was he listened to with greater interest than last night as he held the large audience spell-bound with his irresistible logic, the logic of facts as they are. That many who formerly differed with him politically have subordinated their differences to the graver issues before Canadians today, was evident in the applause with which his periods were punctuated, and there is no doubt that on the 17th of December the electors who heard him will give their full support to those candidates who stand behind his policy.

HON. F. B. CARVELL

Hon. F. B. Carvell, who accompanied the Prime Minister, although we believe he had not previously spoken here, needs no introduction to our readers. He was without doubt the keenest and most inveterate critic on the front benches of the Opposition; a fearless fighter, he never hesitated to face fearful odds on the off-chance of scoring a point against his opponents. No one who has followed the career of Mr. Carvell in Parliament will doubt the genuineness of his Liberalism. Yet he has parted with his late leader and thrown in his lot and his vast influence with the Union Government. Why did he do this? Why did he sacrifice his party and sacrifice the almost immediate prospect of becoming its leader, for we know that at a meeting of the heads of the party at Ottawa it was unanimously agreed to allow Sir Wilfrid Laurier to retire and to offer his mantle to Mr. Carvell. Let Mr. Carvell explain why he made this sacrifice. He says:

"No man ever loved or revered a leader as I did Sir Wilfrid Laurier for thirty years. I loved him. Undoubtedly he is one of the greatest Canadians ever produced. It was no easy question to separate from a leader with whom I had been associated for fourteen years. There was the alternative of a referendum. It looks the proper thing to trust the people. On ordinary questions there is no better policy. I thought a lot, but I always came back to the one point—supposing a referendum failed? After reviewing all these things there was only one course left for me—to vote against a referendum and for conscription. In doing so I was breaking away from a man I revered.

"The question which twenty-five other Liberals and myself faced on that occasion is the self-same question which you electors must face on Dec. 17. Are you going to stand by the men who have gone over there? Are you going to stand up for civilization and freedom, or are you going to be where Russia is tonight? But I have confidence that when the people look at this matter squarely in the face the great majority of them will do the same as twenty-five other Liberals and myself. They will stand by the boys."

THE DISASTER AT HALIFAX

The appalling catastrophe at Halifax yesterday, the full details of which are not yet available, has moved this province as nothing else has done since the war began. It has brought the war with its terrors to our own doors. Our neighbors, many of those whom we know personally and whom we have done business with, have been struck down without a moment's warning, a large section of the city has been laid waste, many have been rendered homeless at the beginning of winter. Food supplies have been largely cut off and there is danger that the terror of want will be added to the appalling calamity.

And the cause? God knows. There have been many such, although none, so far in Canada, so terrible. It may have been an accident but the rigid discipline and the extreme care taken on board munition ships almost precludes the possibility of accident. The ship caught fire. How? That is the question and until definite information is available the general opinion will persist that "an enemy hath done this." We know that the enemy is within our gates and this is not the first mystery in Canada.

It has been suggested that perhaps a German submarine has been at work. Some time ago a warning was issued to shipping on the Atlantic seaboard that a German submarine had been seen in the vicinity of Boston, but as nothing eventuated it was presumed to be a false alarm. It is possible that a submarine may have been the instrument of destruction, but it is more probable that a German spy did the deed.

The importance of Halifax in the war can not be overestimated, and need not be particularized. To destroy the usefulness of that port would be of supreme advantage to the enemy's cause.

We have not received, and cannot possibly receive, any details of the catastrophe but we may assume, though the destruction is great and the loss of life serious, the work of the port in the war will not be greatly interfered with. The sympathy of all will go out to the many saddened homes in Nova Scotia's capital today and we are proud to say that at almost the same instant the news of the disaster was published the municipalities throughout Nova Scotia, met to consider and devise ways and means for alleviating the distress in the devastated city.

The Hun is at our gates. No one need now claim that Canada is not in danger. But for the providence of God it might just as well have been Charlottetown as Halifax. Think it over.

A WORLD ISSUE

Canada today is confronted with the same issue that faces the rest of the civilized world. It is the simple question whether we shall submit to the autocracy of Germany or whether we shall continue to fight on and on until we have overthrown the power which now menaces us. To every nation and among all peoples does this issue present itself and the only reason it is more insistent in Canada than elsewhere is that we have in this country a political party whose demand is in effect that we shall withdraw from this war.

The party to which we refer has its leadership in Quebec. Whether it is Sir Wilfrid or Mr. Bourassa does not for the moment matter. Outside of Quebec Bourassa has no influence, but in the province of his birth he is a mighty force. So keen is the influence he exerts that he has succeeded in bringing Sir Wilfrid Laurier to his way of thinking and the two men now have the same immediate proposal to make—the cancellation of the Military Service Act. Bourassa presents this cause in Quebec. Laurier carries it outside of that province and to every English-speaking province in the Dominion of Canada.

Outside of Quebec Bourassa's leadership is dangerous only when its teachings are carried by another leader and Sir Wilfrid Laurier has shown a willingness to be that leader. Under the pretence of wanting to help in the winning of the war, Sir Wilfrid is spreading the gospel of Bourassa from one coast to the other and in order to combat the influence of such teachings it is necessary that the people should unite to overthrow it. This is the explanation of the presence upon public platforms in every English-speaking province of men who have hitherto been political opponents but who have been drawn together by the sense of a common danger.

IN RUSSIA AND IN CANADA

The Bolsheviks of Russia insist they do not want a separate peace with Germany. All they want is an armistice to enable them to talk for three months without the interruption of the guns, while the invaders stand on Russian soil amid the ruins of Russian homes and upon the graves of Russian dead.

The Bolsheviks of Canada likewise declare they want no peace with Germany, only political power so they may talk, while the thinning ranks of Canada's soldiers hold the line for stricken France and wait for the reinforcements that would never come.

NOTES

The Canadian soldiers in England are said to be voting almost as a unit for the Union Government and conscription. They know how Laurier would "win the war."

ON RATS AND WHEAT

Sir.—Last Thursday the 29th, Nov. Messrs. Capt. Joseph Reid and A. A. Lefurgey, held a joint meeting in the Hall at Coleman. At that meeting, Mr. A. J. Matheson stated that at a previous meeting held at O'Leary, Mr. A. A. Lefurgey had compared the action of the Liberals who had joined the Union Government to the proverbial act of rats leaving a sinking ship, or a ship doomed to destruction. Mr. A. J. Matheson at the Coleman meeting tried to prejudice the electors against Mr. Lefurgey by saying that Mr. Lefurgey had called the Liberals rats. Now, ever since Mr. Lefurgey made use of this comparison or simile, it was only a figure of speech. One would expect something better from a man of Mr. Matheson's pretensions. This kind of talk is pretty small politics, especially at the present time. Rats! Rats!

The consequence is suffering at the present time on account of not being represented in the Provincial government and the harm would be increased by returning Capt. Reid to the Federal parliament as the return of the Union Government is assured. Mr. A. J. Matheson also related an old story about a boy being sent to the mill with a bag of wheat. When the Miller took his toll he thought the boy was stealing some of his wheat, but when the Miller emptied the bag of wheat into the hopper, the boy clinched the bag and ran home to his father and told him that the Miller had stolen all the wheat.

In this little story, the Miller represents the late Conservative government, the boy represents Mr. A. J. Matheson and others of his class, who can only see wrong doing in their opponents. The father would represent the matured thought of the people, or rather the Union Government. Now this parable of Mr. Matheson's is against himself, as the boy was wrong when he thought the Miller was stealing, when he was only taking his honest toll for grinding the wheat.

So Mr. Matheson would try to make the electors believe that the government were stealing, when they were only collecting the cost of carrying on the Government. No doubt, the father explained to the boy the reason for the acts of the Miller in taking toll for grinding the wheat, and then the boy would realize that he was wrong and that he had charged the Miller wrongfully of stealing, and the boy would realize that the cause of his doing so was his own ignorance and no doubt would be sorry for his fault. So Mr. Matheson stands in the place of the "ignorant boy." Is it too much to hope, like the boy, that he will be sorry for his fault?

The electors are too intelligent for Mr. Matheson and men of his stamp to get off that kind of stuff on them. It savours of a time in the distant past, little on this side of the stone age. I will leave the reader to his imagination to supply the place of his imagination. But if Mr. Matheson was sincere in his zeal for good government, he would embrace the opportunity of civil service reform and doing away with the patronage system and join the Union Government, as it is only by a Union Government it can be done, and this is one of the planks of their platform; but as "The Times" (London) says: "It is not given to all men to see with clear vision that that single issue (Union Government) dwarfs all other loyalties, however deeply they may be rooted." Formation of a Union Government has strengthened Canada's financial position at home and abroad. The announcement that the strong men of the Conservative party and the Liberal party had decided to burn their differences

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson,

HOW DO YOUR FEET POINT.

In a city some time ago a very effective advertisement was exploited by a local concern. The citizens awoke one morning to find upon the sidewalk the stencilled outlines of a pair of feet of unusual proportions that gave the impression that the feet had been visited during the night by a legion of ants. The ants all led towards the centre of the city and converged at a certain store. Unconsciously one was led to follow or at least speculate upon the direction of the foot prints, and so the words of Solomon, "Remove thy foot from evil," suggest the question at the end of this paragraph. When you find a man's feet pointing in the direction of evil it needs not the foresight of a seer to say that he will wind up on the street or in the penitentiary. There is no such thing as chance. Everything depends upon the direction in which a man's boots point as to the goal he attains. If he sits down and twists his legs about the rungs of an arm chair day after day his goal will be a corner in the almshouse. If his toes point in the direction of the saloon and gambling hell his fortune will be that of the seedy individual looking for odd jobs, the bleary-eyed, red-nosed soak or the discrowned toiler who labors under the disability of a ball and chain. Young man, have your feet pointing to point in the direction of that vestibule of hell where sits the scarlet woman? Are you herding with the ziddy fools who follow the siren of the devil's hand-wagon. You have spent in the last two or three months much more than you have earned, and your feet are already pointing in the direction of debt. You have had thoughts lately that have fairly staggered your conscience. Do you expect to stand this siege of the "principalities and power of darkness"? Fool! "Remove thy foot." If you have to leave your boots in the mud, pull on! If you have to cut off the right foot and the left, too, and crawl out, delay not to make the sacrifice. There is less hope for you in your present position than there was for Cronje and his command, when surrounded by the flower of the British army. "Remove thy foot."

and unite their efforts for the period of the war, has had an immensely improving effect upon the standing of Canadian credit in New York, which has become the great money centre, and throughout Canada the effect has been the same.

There are indications that the Victory Loan will have many times the number of subscribers that took bonds in the two domestic war loans. The return of the Union Government in the coming election will still further strengthen the financial standing of Canada. The defeat of Union Government in the coming election would unquestionably have a depressing effect upon the financial standing of the country. At the present time there is as great a need for dollars as there is for men. It is as much the duty of the good Canadian to vote for the return of Union Government as it is his duty to subscribe to the extent of his financial ability to the next domestic war loan. The New York financier will think less of the security of Canadian investments if the people of Canada vote to elect the elements that are opposing the Union Government in the coming contest. The man that has a stake in the land, should apply the principle of unionism and co-operation to his political pledges, before he casts his next vote.

There is now no reasonable doubt in any one's mind about the result of the general election. The Union Government will be returned by a large majority. Even should Quebec will make a break in favor of Union to the extent of ten or twelve, Ontario and the West will go almost wholly Unionist, while New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will return a majority in favor of the government. Prince Edward Island is not calculated in the prognostications, but we may safely assume that this Province will be a unit in favour of the Government. The principles at stake, demand it, but placing the obligation on an altogether lower platform exigency also requires it. This province has been better treated than any other province by the late government. Wherever Laurier through the fifteen years of his regime fed us on promises, Borden provided us with the substance itself. He has given us the "Car Ferry," improved telegraph facilities, improved public works, he has given us an additional subsidy of \$100,000 per year and he has fixed our representation at four instead of the one that would have been under the operation of the B.N.A. Act. Common gratitude makes it imperative that we should not bite the hand that fed us, if we do, what is likely to be the result? The Union Government will say: "What is the use of doing anything for that province? You do it for the more support you will get from it." On the other hand, in the unlikely event of the Laurierites being returned to power, Sir Wilfrid would say: "The best way to deal with Prince Edward Island is to make promises only. The people do not appreciate fulfilling pledges. Unless therefore we return to power members who will show our appreciation of what has been done for us during the past five years we run the risk of being completely ostracized at Ottawa."

I am, Sir, etc., J. L. Beaton Rd., Lot 9, Dec. 4. (Phone and Summerside Journal, please copy.)

SHELL SACRED TOMB

LONDON, Dec. 5.—All along the front in Palestine, from northwest of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean coast, the Turks are showing activity. The text of the communication follows: "General Allenby reports that the enemy last Tuesday and on succeeding days made demonstrations virtually all along his front, extending from some five miles north-west of Jerusalem to the sea, without affecting our positions. No serious attack developed except against our positions on Nebi Samwil (the prophet Samuel), where the enemy's local effort yesterday was easily repulsed by us.

"Turko-German artillery again made its objective the mosque erected on the traditional site of the tomb of the prophet Samuel. This site is held in equal reverence by Christian Mohammedan and Jew. The minaret has been destroyed by this bombardment. A detachment of forty men from an eastern county regiment attacked a Turkish post on the Nahr-el-Aujel held by a garrison of about one hundred men. Fifty Turks were killed and our detachment brought in prisoners and a machine gun.

"In air encounter five hostile aeroplanes attacked three of our machines. One Turkish machine was driven down out of control and one was damaged.

A LITTLE MANTENGA SOLD FOR \$250,000. NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—"Judith with the Head of Holofernes," by Andrea Mantegna, long in the possession of the Pembroke family and known as the Pembroke Mantegna, has been sold, according to a rumor in art circles, to a man with a growing reputation as a collector, Carl W. Hamilton of New York City and Great Neck, L. I. Mr. Hamilton, it is said, paid some where in the neighborhood of \$250,000 for the panel.

Mantegas are rare in the market, and this small one, seven inches by twelve, is said to be the most valuable picture for its size in the world. No more than thirty examples of the work of the artist are known to be in existence. The painting was purchased by Duveen Bros. of this city last summer, when they cabled an offer of their representative in London, which was accepted. Mr. Hamilton has a collection of the Italian masters.

The Record of the Union Government

They abolished patronage in appointments to Government positions, in the purchase of supplies, and in awarding of Government contracts.

Patronage was the Worst Evil in Politics.

They controlled the packing houses by ordering that they must not charge a profit of more than two per cent of their sales—that is to say only two cents profit on a dollar.

They passed an order providing that the flour millers can make a profit of only 25c on each barrel of flour. They stopped the use of grain in the manufacture of liquor.

They stopped expenditures on almost all Public works with the object of conserving our finances for the war.

They greatly extended the powers of the Food Controller, giving him practically unlimited authority. They increased the separation allowance to wives and other dependents of soldiers under the rank of Sergeant from \$20 to \$25 a month.

They are standing no nonsense from the Quebec Exemption Tribunals who tried to make a farce of the thing. Thousands of appeals from these Tribunals have been taken by the Government representatives and will be tried promptly. The Government are seeing to it that Quebec does not escape its duty.

They have been in office only eight weeks and have been hampered through having to run an election forced upon the Country by Laurier.

MARSHALL HAIG PREVENTED A BIG DISASTER

LONDON, Dec. 6.—(Via Reuter's Agency)—Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters in France reports the latest German attack in the Cambrai region as one of the greatest the Germans have yet launched on the western front. The only battle comparable with it was the second battle of Ypres. It is estimated that twenty German divisions were thrown in against two British divisions which even at the diminished strength of the German divisions now would mean at least two hundred thousand infantry.

Prevented Disaster

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE.—Dec. 6.—(By the Associated Press)—That Field Marshal Haig prevented the Germans from breaking through his lines on the Cambrai front, discloses the small gains which the enemy hosts achieved yesterday at a terrible cost of life. It means that yesterday's political period has been successful passed and that for the second time in four days Field Marshal Haig thwarted what is believed to have been a German attempt to duplicate the German-Austro-Hungarian performance in Italy.

Germans were collected from the eastern theatre and various parts of the German lines in the west. At La Vacquerie the enemy fought his way through the town and one party penetrated for some hundred yards into British territory. This was the extreme again. The attacking forces secured a very narrow strip of ground a little north and south of La Vacquerie, but the British still clung grimly to the high ground north of this place.

Fell Back Voluntarily

The British commander voluntarily pulled back his line to the west and southwest of Masnières to make it a little work. This was the British line near the western part of Maroing Cope, but included Maroing; a small triangular piece of territory therefore has been sacrificed by the British. Since eight o'clock last night the line had remained unchanged.

A heavy concentration of German guns east of Gonnelleu suffered greatly by the excellent British counter-battery work. This was apparent much brighter in the British sky this morning. The battle probably has not yet run its course, but hedeed frayed run its course, but the defenders from now on will be in much better shape to handle the situation.

IMPERIAL TOBACCO CO. OF CANADA

MONTREAL, Dec. 6.—The net profits of Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada, of which Sir Mortimer Davis is president amounted to \$2,455,224 for the year ended September 30 last, an amount somewhat smaller than the preceding record breaking period. After the preferred and ordinary dividends the surplus for the year was \$343,274, which brings the total surplus up to \$1,328,704, or close to \$100,000 above that of last year.

YOUNG BRIDE IN MOTOR CAR SHOT

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 6.—Mrs. Raymond C. Burbank, a young bride of Parsonfield, was mistaken for a deer by a party of hunters near her home and seriously shot. Three hunters fired at the same time while the young woman was riding in her automobile.

MADE SUPREME SACRIFICE

Mr. and Mrs. Alexis Doiron of Cymbria have received the sad telegram telling them that their son No. 1000705 Pte. Joseph Doiron had died from wounds on Nov. 27.

Pte. Doiron left home about six years ago from the west where he was employed in farming and in February 1917 he enlisted with the 226th Battalion, Winnipeg, Man. He went over to England on the 15th of December and crossed over to France on May the 1st where he was transferred to the 43rd Canadian Battalion. He leaves to mourn besides his sorrowing father and mother two brothers and two sisters, Anthony in Vonda, Sask. Peter at home; Mrs. Napoleon Gallant, Oyster Bed Bridge and Mrs. Jerome Gallant of New Acadia, P. E. Island.

MURDER CASE OF HARRIET VARNEY

DEDHAM, MASS., Dec. 6.—The case of Miss Harriet A. Varney, charged with the murder of Mrs. Pauline A. Keyes, who became on trial in the superior court here today, presented several angles which have attracted public attention.

Mrs. Keyes was found dead in her room in Brooklyn on June 19th last, ten months after her marriage to Geo. H. Keyes, a real estate dealer, by whom she had been employed as a stenographer. A revolver and a note on the table near the body led the medical examiner to express the opinion that she had committed suicide. Keyes insisted that his wife had been murdered, and after a further investigation Miss Varney, who is a nurse, was arrested. Relatives and friends at West Upton, where she was visiting, said that she had been known there as Keyes' wife. At the preliminary hearing counsel for Miss Varney attempted to show that she took luncheon with Keyes in Boston on the day of the murder and did not go to Brookline.

Radiolite Watches

now on display in our west window. Ingeroll's, the watch that shows the time in the lark.

What nicer gift than a guaranteed watch?

Regul \$1.50 up
Radio \$2.50 up

G.H. Taylor
Jeweler and Engraver.

Foot Comfort for Cold Weather

Men's Overshoes 1, 2 and 4 buckle, Cloth Rubbers, Men's gaiters, colors, black, grey and fawn. Lumberman's Rubbers. Women's Overshoes 2 buckle and buttoned Gaiters 10 buttons, grey, brown, and black also leggings in black and fawn 12 and 16 button. Children's leggings in cloth and corduroy. All the fashionable styles.

G OFF BROS.