

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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Friday, January 1st, New Year's Day being a statutory public holiday, The Morning Guardian will not be issued on Saturday, January 2nd.

The Evening Guardian will not be issued on Friday, but will be published on Saturday as usual. Advertisers will please note these changes.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1915.

THE YEAR THAT'S AWA'

Most of us will regard the year that's awa' with mixed feelings. Both from the Imperial and the domestic point of view, it has had its successes as well as its disappointments.

As a record for future reference we may on this, the opening day of the new year, throw a backward glance at the outstanding happenings as they more directly affect ourselves.

The year 1914 opened with the brightest prospects in the history of the province. The harvest of the previous year had been bountiful; the fox industry had attained a popularity and prosperity unequalled by any other commercial enterprise in Canada.

Municipally, a new Mayor and City Council were elected in January, Mr. R. H. Sterns, succeeding His Worship Mr. Charles Lyons.

It will be remembered that during the Boer War canned food supplied by one contractor was rejected as bad, yet was afterwards purchased by another who made a fortune out of the transaction.

The embalmers scandal in the United States during the war with Spain and the astounding corruption brought to light on both sides in the war between Japan and Russia are other instances of this species of human greed which defies loyalty as well as law and right.

Army contracts are, after all, only contracts, and while thousands are entered into yearly, involving many millions of dollars and many contractors, the amount of dishonesty on the whole is small.

This is a war of trenches says the Manchester Guardian. So much so that we speak not of our soldiers in the field, but of our soldiers in the trenches.

The effect of the war on the prosperity of this province generally, has hardly been felt. The fox industry received a check so far as the taking up of options and the purchase of new options on next year's stock were concerned.

So far as social and domestic affairs are concerned, it may be recorded that great progress has been made in the erection and fitting up of the Dalton Sanitarium at Wiltshire.

A new departure for the province was the institution of a social census at the instance of Rev. Dr. Myers, Toronto. Various committees are now at work investigating the progress or otherwise of our educational, religious, and reformatory systems.

St. Dunstan's Cathedral, which was destroyed by a disastrous fire in February, 1913, has been so far restored as to permit of services being held in the basement.

The harvest for the year was the best in the Island's history, and the prices obtained were correspondingly satisfactory. The consequence has been that notwithstanding

the war, which has caused untold disaster to communities where manufactures are the mainstay has had little appreciable effect on the circulation of money in this province.

And now we are entering upon a New Year. What it holds for us we do not know. Judging by the prices ruling for our principal produce, there should be a continuance of the present prosperity.

We have not touched upon the political progress during the year as we hope to review this in our next issue.

ARMY CONTRACTS

There are the usual reports of corruption in connection with the contracts given by the Militia Department. Charges of this kind are common and have been heard in connection with contracts large and small in every department.

In connection with the equipment of the two contingents now ready for the front, there were, necessarily, very many and very large contracts. It stands to the credit of Canadians and of the heads of the Militia Department particularly that, so far, only one conviction has been secured.

Yet reports are being circulated that there has been corruption in the letting of other contracts. These may be well or ill-founded, but one thing may be relied upon, they will be probed to the bottom and if guilt is found it will be punished.

It is not always an easy matter to determine whether one accused of grafting is intentionally dishonest or is merely incompetent. There is in army contracts as in every other undertaking the possibility of an error in judgment.

It will be remembered that during the Boer War canned food supplied by one contractor was rejected as bad, yet was afterwards purchased by another who made a fortune out of the transaction.

The British Committee investigating the scandals connected with that war found that the British taxpayers had been defrauded of vast sums, yet only one guilty person was discovered and brought to justice.

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DIGGING IN

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HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Christmas passed off very quietly in Charlottetown. Family parties were quite general and during the week several enjoyable informal gatherings have taken place.

Christmas services were held in several of the city Churches, special music being rendered by the respective choirs. The interior church decorations were most artistically arranged leaving a pleasing effect.

The Free Masons fittingly celebrated St. Johns Day this week by attending service in St. James Church on Sunday. Rev. Dr. Fullerton, Past Grand Master giving them a hearty welcome and delivering a powerful address.

Mrs. (Dr.) Reddy of Montreal is spending the holidays with her mother Mrs. L. M. Poole.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Cossman of Halifax spent the Christmas week with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. S. Bayer, Brighton.

Quite the nicest dance of the season was delightfully arranged for last Monday evening by Mr. C. Simpson and Mr. C. Tidmarsh. Being a programme dance the young people had a specially delightful time.

Judge and Mrs. Stewart returned yesterday from a holiday trip to Mont-cton, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

Mr. Philip A. (Tip) Musgrave of the Halifax Naval College is visiting Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Watson, Esplanade, and will be their guest for about six weeks.

Miss Mary Lavie of Edgemoor College is having a pleasant visit with friends in this city and was the guest of honor at a very nicely arranged bridge on Wednesday evening.

The illness of Mr. Artemas Lord, Brighton, is deeply regretted by his friends.

Hon. Charles Dalton spent a few days here this week before leaving on a visit to Boston.

Mr. Claude Murphy, who is with the second contingent at St. John, spent a few days this week with his father Mr. Murphy at a very bright and witty chapeau and decidedly popular in his company.

The Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Borden are to receive as usual at Government House this afternoon.

"The Soldier Boys" gave their relatives and friends a delightful surprise when they arrived home on special furlough for Christmas and were very heartily welcomed back.

The continued illness of Mr. S. W. Crabbe is much regretted by his very wide circle of friends.

A cable received from London on Wednesday, December 23rd, announced the marriage of Ethel Marion Farquhar, daughter of Captain J. A. and Mrs. Farquhar, to Lieutenant Merik Martin, of H. M. S. Hemeion, will be of interest to her friends in Charlottetown.

SOLDIERS HEARING IMPAIRED BY REPORTS OF THEIR OWN GUNS.

LONDON, December 29.—The announcement that the British government intend to appoint an emergency committee to consider measures for the prevention of gun deafness among soldiers and sailors, calls attention to an added terror of war which has been much discussed recently in military and medical circles.

"The enemy may not deprive you of life or limb," says a medical correspondent, "but it is fairly certain that your own artillery will slowly but surely make you deaf."

Both the French and American navies have made special provision for the prevention of gun deafness. The French have several ingenious artificial contrivances, while the Americans are said to use a blinker-like bandage of vulcanite rubber, with celluloid stoppers for the ear holes.

BARKENTINE IN DISTRESS. HONOLULU, December 29.—A wireless message was received here yesterday from the liner Sonoma, saying that the barkentine Irmgard was in distress south of the island of Oahu.

SOLDIERS THANK LADIES

Sir,—On behalf of the non-commissioned officers and men of the 82nd Regiment, Composite Battalion, I desire to express to the ladies of Prince Edward Island my appreciation and thanks for the kindness you have shown, and the trouble you have taken, at this glad season of the year in remembering us so graciously by forwarding to us such appetizing eatables and delicacies as puddings, cake, chocolates, creams, candy of various kinds, etc.

Our Christmas dinner was one which we shall not easily forget although we were a good many miles from home in the services of our King and country, and a sense of loneliness could not help pervading us, when we heard the names of various ladies of Charlottetown whom we knew called out as contributors we felt as if we were back on Dear Old Prince Edward Isle, the place we love the best.

Again thanking the ladies and extending to them the compliments of this glad season, I am etc., Yours Sincerely, H. PORRIOR.

Wellington Barracks, Halifax, N. S. Dec. 30/14. on behalf of the non-commissioned officers and men of the 82nd Regiment, Composite Battalion.

EVERY BRITISH SOLDIER WAS REMEMBERED

LONDON, December 31.—In northern France Christmas morning followed a cloudy night, clear and crisp, but not too cold. That cloudy Christmas eve was just what the Santas of the Army Service Corps wanted, and they worked forward even to the extreme points of the trenches of British soldiers. Some of these trenches had only been captured a few hours previously.

At only one place, just south of Bethune, was there any serious attack by the enemy, and with visions of turkey and plum pudding awaiting their return, two British regiments met the advance more than half way, and used the bayonet in fine style, driving the attackers back with but insignificant loss to themselves, and got back to their own trenches just as the Christmas fare was arriving.

There must have been some units who were missed, but up to Saturday morning not a single complaint had come into my old major, who so adequately played the part of Santa Claus, piled upon the platform of the big station here are still tons of Christmas stores, crates of turkeys and hamper and big cases of biscuits, chocolates, mufflers, socks and caps. In the estimate of one army service officer, there is enough left to supply a great part of the army for a week, so splendid has been Britain's gift in kind to the brave troops at the front, and reasonable supplies are still piling into this base.

Christmas morning opened quietly with the carillon bells from the quaint old cathedral tower almost joyous in their peals. Then about seven o'clock came the usual rumble of the enemy's big guns, which meant that Christmas was to be as other days had been, no celebration to the Prince of Peace, but a forced tribute to the god of strife. It did not phase our troops. They expected it and took it as part of the Christmas menu.

Today I have been endeavoring to trace the Canadians, who are supposed to be close to the firing line. French officers still declare that overseas troops have arrived at the first reserve base, but British officers who have travelled most of the line from Ypres to Arras, will not confirm, and mildly deny, that the Canadians have any immediate chance of going into action.

Some of my friends among the correspondents who have come along the British lines of communication, too, doubt the report, and they have had every opportunity of coming across them. Perhaps they are part of the new scheme which the allies are preparing an offensive scheme which friendly officers tell us will surprise friends as well as foes, and will perhaps set the seal of complete failure on the Kaiser's costly attempt to reach Calais.

"Try our Black and White 5c cigar—it is recognized by critical smokers as the best on the market, for the price. Try one, you will like it. MacKinnon Drug Co., Cor. Great George and Kent Streets. M.T.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of shareholders and patrons of Cornwall Creamery Company will be held in the Hall, Cornwall, Wednesday, January 13th at 2.30 p. m. D. H. MURCHISON, Secretary.

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"CALANDARS FOR 1915.—We are clearing out the balance of our beautiful stock of Calendars at half price. Come quick and secure one. Prices range from 5c. up.—CARTER & CO. LTD. 8079-12-30-M21.

Advertisement for Hyndman & Co. Ltd. featuring an illustration of a child with a sign that says 'BEST WISHES'. Text: --To Our-- Soldiers and Sailors Customers and Friends Hyndman & Co. Ltd. General Insurance Agency. 61 Queen Street, Charlottetown

Advertisement for Horace Haszard Wholesale Grocer. Text: HORACE HASZARD WHOLESALE GROCER Offers for sale the following stock:-- Barrels & bags, CAWTHORP'S IMPERIAL FLOUR. Barrels and bags, McCAHILL'S PLANET FLOUR. Barrels, ROYAL LOAF, all Manitoba wheat Flour. Barrels, GILT EDGE & VICTORIA, second grade Flour. Bags, Kiln dried CORNMEAL. Bags, CRACKED CORN. Bags, WHEAT BRAN. Chests and caddies, HASZARD'S BRAHMIN and cheaper TEAS. Barrels and bags XXX GRANULATED SUGAR. Barrels and bags, No. 1 REFINED YELLOW SUGAR. Bags BRIGHT DEMERARA CRYSTAL SUGAR. Barrels and bags, Barbados MUSCOVADO SUGAR. Puncheons, Tierces and barrels, EXTRA FANCY BARBADOS MOLASSES. English Tinned Meats, Ivelcon Cubes, Sauces, etc., etc. French Peas, Mushrooms, etc. Peter's Chocolates in Cartons or cases. All goods guaranteed and lowest prices quoted upon application. Horace Haszard Charlottetown, P.E.I. December, 1914 7076-12-19Mstuth2wks.

Advertisement for Fennell & Chandler featuring an illustration of a Perfection Oil Heater. Text: A Comfort in Cold Weather The Perfection Oil Heater is the neatest, most economical and satisfactory for heating any room—large or small. It will heat quickly and thoroughly, is smokeless, odorless and safe. The Perfection uses less fuel, gives more heat, and can be used for many more purposes than others. Call in and see the lire we are showing. Fennell & Chandler Victoria Row

Advertisement for Goff Bros featuring an illustration of a hockey boot. Text: Hockey Boots We have on hand a complete line of hockey boots for you to select from. Made from the proper materials and will fit to insure you the greatest comfort. All heels are securely riveted and seams strongly sewn. McPhersons Lighting Hitch in Myle Hide & Box Kids with half and spring heel—made of strong leather—giving you a firm ankle and making skating much easier. Men's, Women's, Boy's, Children's in several leathers at moderate prices. GOFF BROS 128 Richmond Street