

The Charlottetown Guardian

Evening Daily (founded 1907) 5c.00 (delivered or by mail in Canada, and \$2.50 for U. S. A.)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1917.

SUPPORT THE PRIME MINISTER

Sir Robert Borden is the one outstanding national figure around whom the people can be expected to rally in the new national crisis which has come with the announcement of conscription. Outside of Quebec the Prime Minister has no rival in the confidence of the public. That is true whether we speak of Ontario, the Maritime Provinces or the West. Even in Quebec the minority which has done nobly in the Great War has had to look to the Premier for the leadership and the ideals which it has followed.

Party and politics should have little significance for Canadians in the face of the German menace. The politics of Liberals and Conservatives alike should consist of getting behind the official head of the nation and giving him all the support in their power in order that the Dominion may present a united front to the foe. The strifemaker of to-day is a public enemy—a traitor whose treason is none the less heinous and dangerous because it may be born of blindness and partisanship. Those individuals and writers who in presence of the gravest emergency are exercising an agile ingenuity against the Government might well use their talents to better ends.

Let all sane men in the Dominion consider one question. Around whom can the nation gather if not around Sir Robert Borden? Was it not he who, in 1912, warned the country of the national danger and of the coming war? Read his speeches in Hansard when he urged the people that the catastrophe would break in 1914 or 1915, and when he urged Parliament and the public to build Dreadnoughts for the Imperial navy against "The Day." The Prime Minister was right then, as he was right in August, 1914, when he committed Canada's manhood and treasure to the great cause without waiting for Parliament, and then called upon Parliament to ratify his action, which, under his leadership, it promptly did. It was Sir Robert Borden who had 33,000 troops ready for Europe in six weeks, and who of his own accord raised the authorized army, first to 100,000, and by successive stages to 500,000. Under his leadership voluntary enlistment has brought in nearly 420,000 men, and nearly 315,000 have gone overseas. Under his leadership the country has maintained its prosperity and raised its credit to a new high level, despite huge outlays on the war and a progressive reduction in the manpower of the country available for productive industries.

In the light of all these undeniable facts, patent to everyone, to whom can the Dominion turn with hope and confidence if not to the man who told us the war was coming, who tried in some measure to prepare for it, and under whom the Dominion has earned the gratitude of the Allies and the praise of an admiring world? Who else in Canada has the intimate knowledge of European conditions? Who else has had an opportunity to study them as he has? Who else knows the mind of the British and Allied Governments as he does? Who is there but Borden? If his defamers, if those who day in and day out libel him and seek to undermine his Government—if they could suggest an alternative they would surely have done so. The fact that they have nominated no one else shows that they are wholly destructive and in no way constructive in their criticism.

Is it not time that such tactics were abandoned? Is it not time that every agency in the country were united behind Sir Robert Borden? Cannot the dissidents bring themselves to this patriotic frame of mind? If they can, conscription can be carried and the brave men who are fighting Canada's battles at the front will be adequately reinforced.

THE RULING BUSINESS SPIRIT

Talk as we will about the duty of increasing production, of speeding up industries, and of doing other things with a view to winning the war, it must not be forgotten that there is no sentiment in business. The ruling spirit in business is to make the maximum profit. True, in many individual cases there are those who draw the line of profit short of the maximum, who refrain from exacting the last dollar of profit from a transaction, but this applies to the individual rather than to the system, the business machine as a whole. And even the individual cases are rare. It may be set down as a rule that in the ordinary affairs of business the aim is to sell for the

highest price the market will afford and to buy at the lowest figure that the whole range of the market will sell for. This is business and no fault can be found with it. Exceptions, even individual exceptions, to this are rare. It would be rare, for instance to have your grocer say to you: "Flour is selling at the mills today for \$16 but I bought this lot at nine dollars and will let you have it at the regular rate of profit \$9.50. It would be rare to hear the farmer expostulate with the potato buyer somewhat along this line: "I will not take \$2.50 for these potatoes. I planted a large acreage this year expecting that I would get, at the outside, seventy-five cents a bushel for them. That price will pay me well and I'll not accept any more." Neither the merchant nor the farmer who would adopt this course would be regarded as a business man and we have not heard of many of them doing it. As a rule the merchant sells his flour for the maximum market price, regardless of what he bought it for; the farmer sells his potatoes for the highest price the market will offer him—unless he expects the market to go higher, in which case he will hold for the higher price. Neither the merchant nor the farmer is inspired by the thought that the price he sets on his flour or on his potatoes, or the quantity he disposes of, is going to help feed the hungry or win the war. To the charitable and the patriotic these considerations may count incidentally but the governing, the predominating idea is to make the most out of the business transaction.

This factor is one of the great obstacles to government control of prices. Remove the incentive, profit, from production and production is curtailed. In the matter of foodstuffs government control may check to a large extent abnormal profits accruing from cornering and monopolizing and storing, but all attempts at securing lower prices will fail unless they are able to control the instinctive business desire for big profits. It is this instinctive business desire, this keenness for profits, that legislation must be invoked to control, especially in the necessities of life and in controlling it many difficulties will be encountered, and many dangers also, one of which may be the retarding of production itself. Increased production is the only means possible for the reduction of prices and the incentives to increased production must be handled very gingerly even by legislators.

TRUE PATRIOTISM

The United States may have been slow in coming into the war; that was their own business. They came in after all honourable attempts to avoid plunging the country into war had been exhausted. Having come in they are in it heart and soul and those of us Canadians who are still undecided as to whether it is our business or that of some one else to win the war may well follow their example at least in their whole hearted participation in it. When the United States Government declared war and committed the country to a fight to a finish a convention of Missouri farmers sent this telegram to Washington: "Nothing but the solid support of the country behind President Wilson's draft measure will protect the country." They also passed the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the time has arrived when the farmers of the United States must choose between supplying the Allies with food so they can keep an efficient army in the field and keep the war in Europe, or allow the Allies to starve and we ourselves take over the brunt of the great world war with millions of our men in the trenches and the war transferred to American soil; therefore, be it resolved,

"That we, the farmers of Consolidated District No. 2, in the County of Johnson, Missouri, do earnestly pledge our support, as individuals and as a group, to a country-wide organization which will help us to work together in producing and conserving an increased supply of food; and, be it further resolved,

"That we, as individuals, pledge ourselves to give a small portion of our time in helping any of our neighbors who give their time in furthering the proposed county organization, so that they may keep up this public service, knowing that their work at home will not suffer."

The last resolution—to help those who are giving of their time in organizing the country so that their work at home shall not suffer, may well be pondered by us in Prince Edward Island. On many of our farms there is a shortage of help because those who had previously done the work are now in the battle line at home or elsewhere. Are we doing what we can for these so that their work may not suffer? Think it over.

RT. HON. A. J. BALFOUR ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT

"We Have Staked our Last Dollar on Democracy, and if Democracy Fail us, we are Bankrupt Indeed"

II. Makes a Comparison

"Now, gentlemen, it seems to me to be interesting to compare the picture which I have this endeavored imperfectly to draw of the British democracies working freely together, each under its own institutions, each according to its own lights, toward a common and unselfish end, with what is happening and what has happened in the Central Powers of Europe. There you find also many communities, independent, or nominally independent of any alliance, all working together toward objects which they at all events conceive to be in their own interests. But how different is that bond which unites them, how different are the ideas which they pursue! At this moment, if all the stories which reach us from every source have the least grain of truth, you have Germany fighting for her own self-centred ends, encircled by a set of states whom she has brought under her control, who love her not, whose interests are really not identical with hers, but whom she has got into her grasp, and who doubtless, if they could, would carry out their own policies in their own fashion.

"The greatest of all these powers is Austria, and yet we all know, or all of us who have access to authentic information, that Austria is not working with Germany as we are working with France, or as the different units and elements of the British Empire are working with each other. Germany has so centred her diplomatic and has so arranged her material forces that Austria, perhaps, has not a will of her own, and if she has a will of her own she is quite incapable of carrying it out. What is true of Austria is true with qualifications and differences of all the Allies who are fighting on the side of Germany; it is true of Bulgaria and it is true of Turkey. All of these are animated not by a desire for legitimate self defence, not by a desire for freedom, not by determination to reach any common end or to carry on any great civilizing work, but they, one and all, are merely pawns in the German game, moved as the great German military party desires, not allowed to use their own resources for their own ends, not permitted to have ideals of their own or to pursue them for themselves. But all dragged into this great vortex of German ambition: all designed in the first place to supply the forces by which the war may be won, and if the war is won, as I presume there may be some in Germany who think it will be won by the Central Powers, then predestined to fall into their ordered places as satellites of the Central Prussian sun, as subordinate powers destined to minister to her greatness, to her economic wealth, to her economic control over all other nations, but always in subordination, to the dominant power.

Democratic World Finds It Out.

"That is the ideal of the Central Powers, and it is because the world has begun to discover that that is their ideal—because the world would not know that the war was fought, but arranged by the military party, that

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

OLD FASHIONED THINGS.

I am longing today for a whiff of perfume
From the old-fashioned roses and
posies in bloom;
For the lilacs and pinks and the posies
that grow in the garden of Memory, row upon
row—
For the hum of the bees and the wind
in the trees,
And the old-fashioned pleasures of life
if you please.

For the old-fashioned pleasures I knew
long ago,
E'er the catkins had grown on the
soul of me so.
And the bridge of my nose was a freckled
brown span
Reaching down to the wrinkles where
laughter began;
When my mirth was as true as the
sun on the dew—
Oh, I long for the old-fashioned pleasures,
ures, don't you?

And I long for the patter of old-fashioned
rain,
And the old-fashioned turn of an old-fashioned
lane;
For the lilt of a laugh that was mine,
long ago,
E'er the years had come over the
heart of me so.
And the shower and shine of the morn-
ing was mine
With the tangle ways, tangled with
bramble and vine.

And I sit in the haze of my dreaming
and long
For the old-fashioned smiles and the
old-fashioned songs
Of the old-fashioned mother who tend-
ed, you know,
To the old-fashioned posies that grew
long ago,
And my dreamings entwine like a
tangle of vine
With the love of that wee little moth-
er of mine!

—JAY B. DEN

the provocation which was its normal excuse, was deliberately contrived, that the moment was carefully chosen, and that the ends which the selfish ambition of this military class—it is because the world has discovered this, that wherever you find the spirit of liberty abroad, wherever you find the great spirit of self-development on national lines, there you will find friends of the Allies, there you will find enemies of the Central powers (Applause.)

"Ever more clearly as the months go on, it becomes evident that this is becoming a world war, between the powers of democracy on the one side, and the powers of autocracy on the other. We in this room, whatever shades of difference may separate us, can in such a contest take only one side. We can only be on the side of democracy (Applause.) We are convinced that for every human combination which has reached the degree of civilization and development that has been reached by all the great western communities, there is but one form of Government, and that is the Government in which the ultimate control lies with the people of the country.

Democracy Will Not Fail.

"We have staked our last dollar upon democracy, and if democracy fail us we are bankrupt indeed. But I know that democracy will not fail us. (Applause.) I do not pretend, I do not think anybody who has ever studied the history of the past or has looked with impartial eyes upon the present, which will soon be history, for a moment deceives himself with the idea that democracy is an easy form of Government. It is the only form of Government but it is not an easy form of Government. It has inherent difficulties; it has always had them. It always will have them; and I am not sure that every race is gifted enough to surmount those difficulties. That the great countries that represent western civilization not only can overcome them, but have largely overcome them already, I think is assured. But do not let us imagine that the task, however successfully it may have been accomplished up to the present time, is one which does not require our constant effort lest where failure is easy failure should occur.

Plea to Forego Division.

"After all, when German militarism laid it down, as it has always laid it down, that a democracy is not capable either of a farsighted policy or of vigorous co-ordinated effort, it made a great blunder—but it made a blunder for which there is some excuse. They have recognized how hard the task has always been found, not now particularly but always, the task of managing a great community of free men, and directing and concentrating all their efforts and all their sacrifices at any given moment upon one great object. That can be done no doubt simply and effectively by a military autocracy; it can be done more easily, it can in appearance, though I think only in appearance, be done much more effectively. But when democracy sets itself to work, when it really takes the business in hand, I hold the faith most firmly that it will beat all the autocracies in the world (applause); but it will not beat them easily, it will not beat them without effort; it will not beat them unless it is prepared to forego temporarily, it may be, those divisions which in a sense are the very life-blood of a free, vigorous, and rapidly developing community. That is the paradox and the difficulty which lies at the root of democracy. You cannot have a democracy without a collision of opinions, at least I think not. You cannot have a democracy without parties, because parties are after all, but the organization of differences of opinion, and the paradox and the difficult of democracy is how this normal and this healthy habit is to be got over, when, in moments of great national crisis, the efforts of every section and every party must be subordinated to one overmastering purpose.

"I am addressing a body of responsible statesmen, who know how institutions are practically worked. I suppose you have your difficulties, as undoubtedly the United States has had its difficulties, and as most assuredly, we in the motherland have had our difficulties. If those difficulties seem at any given moment to be hard to overcome, do not, for a moment let your faith fall; you are worthy representatives of those principles of constitutional freedom which in their modern development are the invention of the British race, and which, on the whole, have been practically won, at least as much success by the British race as by any other race in the world.

Carries Back the Message.

"That Canada is with the Allies through all difficulties to a final and triumphant end, is the message with you, Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons, and you, Mr. Späker, of

(Continued on page seven)

311571 511

HAY

To Arrive by Thursday's Boat

Several Carloads of

Good Pressed Hay

Which will be sold at lowest prices.

Grant & Kennedy

Charlottetown, P.E.I.,
85 Queen Street

WOOL

WE WILL PAY

Highest Cash Prices

For

Washed and Unwashed

We want all we can get
No lot too small No quantity too large
QUALITY COUNTS

Wool in good condition, dry and clean, free from tags and locks, will surely bring you the big price.

Mackie & Nelson

Opposite Davis & Fraser
Phone 441-J

Grafton St. East
691.5, 28 Mt. Charlottetown

Superphosphate

To arrive Saturday the 26th.

150 tons of Superphosphate also a quantity Nitrated soda which we offer at lowest prices.

Auld Bros Ltd.

Charlottetown

853-31 Mt.

Tiffany Wedding Rings

Just received a new lot of these Rings direct from Makers in 14 and 18k made to our special order. Quality Guaranteed. Prices Exceedingly low considering quality A pleasure to show them.

W. N. Tanton

Jeweler
Sunnyside

BOOTS BOOTS

Before buying your Summer shoes we would be pleased to have you call and see the value we are giving in Men's women's and childrens boots. Ladies kid High cut boots \$5.00. A lot of men's tan and black boots 4.98, also women's at 3.98 Children's \$1.50 sizes 6 to 10-1-2. Girls \$2.00 sizes 11 to 2. A big variety of better grades at reasonable prices in all the newest styles.

GOFF BROS