

The Charlottetown Guardian

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MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1917.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS' VISIT

The visit of the Railway Officials to the province, a report of which appeared in Saturday's Guardian, is one of the first fruits of the recent delegation to Ottawa and we have good reason to hope that the real harvest is not far off. The visit also is another proof, if proof were needed, that the authorities at Ottawa are prepared to go as far as the extraordinary conditions of the time will permit in providing necessary transportation and other facilities. They heard at first hand from the delegates the urgency of the Island's need for improved transportation and the officials at Moncton were no doubt instructed to make a personal inspection of the whole situation. Knowledge being power and the officials and the authorities being fully posted we have good ground for hoping that work on the standardization of the P. E. Island Railway will be commenced at an early date.

All are well aware that the standardization of the road will not be the work of a day or even of a summer, but this only emphasises the necessity of an early beginning. At best, even if all the help required were available, the importation of the gravel for ballasting the road will take the carrying capacity of the Car ferry and of the railway for a considerable time. The provision of sleepers and rails also will require tremendous carrying capacity so that if we are to have the benefit of railway connection reasonably soon it will be necessary to begin at once. We have no doubt that this will be done. General Manager Hayes is fully conversant with the needs of the province, and, with his fellow officials, had a personal demonstration of the necessity of immediately improving the railway road bed. His report on the situation will, we have no doubt, be a favourable one and his recommendation will go a long way with the authorities. While he could make no definite promises he was able at least to promise recommendations to the authorities.

At the conference with the Charlottetown Board of Trade, Mr. Hayes asked for an expression of opinion as to the probability of a continuance of the present "abnormal" movement of freight. To this he received an unequivocal reply from the business men present. The present movement of freight is really not abnormal, it is possible that in some lines of export, notably in potatoes, there has been an increase but on the whole the shipments have not been greatly in excess of average years. At present and since the inauguration of the Car ferry the shipments heretofore flowing through many channels have been diverted to one channel and the channel is not big enough to accommodate it, and it will not be big enough until the whole Island railway is standardized so that the streams of export and import will be continuous and uninterrupted by the transfer delays at Borden. We have not by any means reached our normal production or our normal export but, as our facilities for export are extended, we shall gradually climb to our normal and it will be many times our present volume. The railway management need have no fear of a falling off in business after the war. It will increase with increasing facilities and when these facilities are sufficient to handle our products the deficits heretofore charged to the Island Railway will have disappeared.

We hope much from the visit of these officials and from the presentation of the case at Ottawa by our delegation. Both have done much to clear the air and to place matters in their proper light.

STRENGTH OF ARMIES

Many are asking: "Where are the British and French Reserves, where is the Army of Manoeuvre?" Mr. P. W. Wilson, who is frequently quoted as a military authority, undertakes at considerable length to answer these questions and the following summary of his idea is interesting.

He assumes in the first place that 7,000,000 men have enlisted in the British Empire. Of these 2,000,000 have become casualties one third of whom, or about 700,000 are dead or missing. This leaves 1,300,000 wounded of whom 800,000 have been discharged from hospitals and 75 per cent. of them returned to the army. This means that 200,000 are back in civil life, the balance 500,000 wounded are still under treatment which means that the loss of

effectives through wounds would be 700,000 in all. These added to 700,000 dead or missing would leave a loss through casualties of 1,400,000.

He estimates that 200,000 men have been returned to essential industries. Adding these to the 1,400,000 casualties above, we have 1,600,000 to be subtracted from 7,000,000, leaving 5,400,000 men to be accounted for. Allowing five per cent., or 270,000 for sickness we have according to his figuring 5,130,000 effectives in the army. The divisions in Mesopotamia, Palestine, Africa, Salonica and Italy with reserves he places at 1,130,000 bringing the army on the western front to 4,000,000, making an allowance of 300,000 men for training, etc., the effective available army on the Western front would be about 3,700,000 men.

Britain holds more than 100 miles of Western front. Two years ago an average 5,000 men per mile might have been sufficient for the purpose. Today Germany concentrates her entire available force against the British line. An average defensive provision of 10,000 men per mile must be secured, or 1,000,000 men, to hold the trenches. Take 1,000,000 from 3,700,000 and 2,700,000 men remain.

This, if the figures be correct, explains why the call for men has been sounded over the whole British Empire, why it is being sounded today in Canada and in Prince Edward Island.

WHY?

Why was conscription necessary? Because only a small proportion of our people did their duty when the call first came or men to defend our Empire, our homes and all that good men and women hold dear on earth.

Why has it become necessary to cancel exemptions regularly granted only a few months ago? Because those called all over Canada came up in hundreds of thousands demanding, begging, pleading for exemption; because those to whom exemptions had been refused came to the appeal tribunals, demanding, begging, pleading to have their exemptions allowed; because of the delay resulting from these interminable appeals there was no possibility of securing the necessary number of men in time to avert disaster.

Because of all these many who are needed where they are, on the farms, in the factories in the workshops and who can be spared, must now don the khaki; because of these much hardship will fall upon those who least deserve it; because of these the innocent must suffer through no fault of their own, and this brings us back to first principles—the innocent carrying the burden which must be borne if civilization and Christianity are to be saved, the burden which others refused to carry. And this too brings us back to the original Why?

THE LION AND CUBS AT BAY

The Lion and cubs are at bay. The fowl beasts of the jungle have gathered together to tear them to pieces. But the Lion mows how to fight and the cubs as well. Millions of the fowl beasts have thrown themselves upon them only to be slaughtered. Slowly have the Lion and the cubs come back till they have found the place to stand at bay, and there they will put forth all their great and magnificent power and endurance. It is only when the Lion is old, decrepit and unable to defend itself that it can be conquered. This is no old Lion that faces the fowl beasts, but one that is in the zenith of its prime, one that has been trained through many a hard fight, and one that has never been conquered yet. By its side stand its cubs. They are young and full of vigor, and they, too, have never known defeat. With great and mighty blows, regardless of wounds, they are killing thousands upon thousands of the fowl beasts, and holding them in check. The fight is still going on; but all the fowl beasts in the world will not conquer the Lion and its cubs.—The Kingston Standard.

NOTES

Some people borrow trouble for the purpose of troubling some one else with it.

Talkative people seldom say much, but as long as they think they do they are happy.

When it was announced the other day that Premier Orlando of Italy had made the statement that Italians are soon to be fighting with the Allies in France, it was supposed that the number of Italian troops sent would be small, but now it is reported that Italy is ready to spare 500,000 men for the support of the Allies.

BEEES

War has transformed the old command "Be fruitful and multiply" into the sterner dictum, "Produce and economize", or starve. It will not be sufficient to merely stimulate the ordinary sources of increase. We should bring into life our latest resources, and gather fruits which in the past we have neglected to reap. While taxing our own muscles to the task we should exercise brain power in enlisting what appears to us as trivial, as it is in the unit, but which in the collective is most vigorous in its sphere of production.

The Honey Bee is an able and the most willing of all workers. He will stick to his job while the human and animal world are wrapt in slumber, only leaving it to pass out of life. And its labor is as profitable as its intentions is marvelous. Single hives of bees have, in a season, stored as much as eight hundred pounds of honey. Two hundred of this used for their own maintenance, and six hundred pounds of surplus for their owner. Even in our own province, with more or less adverse conditions, my own eight hives gave a surplus of over eight hundred pounds of honey, besides increasing up to twenty five hives in one season (in 1911.)

There are fourteen thousand farms on the Island. If there was one hive of bees on every second farm it would total seven thousand hives. Now bees do not every year return a profit. Occasionally they will net to the keeper or twenty dollars per colony. In other or off years they will return nothing. But place the average income at one third of this and the seven thousand hives would produce a revenue of not less than fifty thousand dollars direct income each year. And this province could easily sustain ten times the number given an annual profit of about half a million dollars.

But this is not all; it is only the direct profit. There is another, and indirect profit, of far greater value than the honey product. In every form of life, "Male and female created he them", and without fertilization there can be absolutely no fruit. Unless the pollen is transferred from the stamens of the male blossom to the pistil of the fruit bearing flower there will be neither growth nor harvest. The honey bee is the most efficient medium for making this transfer that exists today. Flitting from blossom to blossom, from clover head to clover head, taking in asters and peas and golden rod and every form of bloom in its quest for nectar and bee-bread, yet never changing in a single trip from one species of bloom to another, it is the most accurate as well as the most perfect of plant fertilizing mediums. I do not think that I exceed a reasonable estimate when making this claim, that several hundred thousands of dollars can be added to the crops in this province by a sufficiency of bees. In the great fruit growing centres of the continent many thousands of hives are kept, principally because of their inestimable value in fruit production.

This was demonstrated in 1912-13 by that unfortunate blunder which wiped out not only almost all the tame bees in the province, but also wild bees, apparently the humming birds, and nearly every species of pollen carrying insects. The falling off in our fruit in 1914-16 was most pronounced. It is true there was some fruit. Nature

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

CHEERING SOMEONE ON

(Harold Wilkinson, Boston, Mass.)

Don't you mind about the triumphs
Don't you worry after fame,
Don't you grieve about succeeding,
Let the future guard your name.
All the best in life's the simplest
Love will last when wealth is gone
Just be glad that you are living
And keep cheering someone on.

Let your neighbors have the blossoms
Let your comrades wear the crown
Never mind the little setbacks
Nor the blows that knock you down.
You'll be there when they're forgotten
You'll be glad with youth and dawn,
If you just forget your troubles
And keep cheering someone on.

There's a lot of sorrow round you,
Lots of lonesomeness and tears,
Lots of heartaches and of worry
Through the shadows of the years,
And the world needs more than trifles
More than all the swords we've drawn,
And its hungering for the fellow,
Who keeps cheering others on.

Let the wind around you whistle,
And the storms around you play,
You'll be there with brawn and gristle,
When the conquerors decay.
You'll be here in memories sweetened,
And the souls you've saved from pain
If you put aside the victories,
And keep cheering someone on.

HONEY

is a valuable and important sweet. It can be used very variably as a substitute for sugar. For baking and in preserving it excels the best substitute for sugar. For baking and in preserving it excels the best cane sugar. It is a whole food, like milk, and supplies every tissue blood and bone building need of the body. It is said to be the only food product in which disease cultures can not exist. And thousands of tons are allowed to go to waste in the farm fields of our garden home. By gathering this product and preventing this enormous annual waste we can save thousands of tons of sugar now so much needed in these days of universal scarcity.

DIFFICULTIES

not always serious have of course to be met. What Josh Billings once described as the "Business end of the bee", brings a tremor to a good many, but modern methods of handling dispenses with this as a ground for fear. An expert can now handle them like flies, and women and children all over the continent are most successful bee keepers. The biggest difficulty is to get the stock. Like everything else demand and high prices are much in evidence, but they are wonderfully re-productive and from a small beginning a large stock, by natural increase can soon be procured.

IGNORANCE

of their nature and methods of handling is conjured up as the greatest drawback. There are many excellent and complete text books published giving every information and detail. These costing from \$1 up to \$3 a copy can be supplied by any bookseller and bee supply house. For those who do not wish to incur expense, some very concise pamphlets and information can be procured free of charge by simply writing the Aplary Department, Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The same Department will also cheerfully supply any information and advice to becomes an enthusiast and realizes those who wish to embark in this enterprise.

In conclusion I may add that there is a pleasure in the study and a delight in the work of bee culture so enticing so pleasant and delightful that almost every one who enters the field an employment in his occupation excelling even the best profits which the business returns.

L. P. TANTON

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSKOTT, D. D.

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Dr. Linscott in this column will help you solve your heart problems, religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious case 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.

A REFORMER:—A man deeply interested in social reform wants to know the chief cause of poverty. Some attribute it to our economic system, some to monopoly, some to selfishness, some to mistake in choosing an occupation, some to the rush of people to city life. In our view the chief cause of poverty is lack of self-fulfillment and of good sterling common sense. Men are poor (as a rule) in pocket because they are poor in thought, but back of all other causes is in being out of harmony with God.

MRS. Y.:—You need not fear that you have committed the unpardonable sin; those only who have finally resisted the strivings of the Holy Spirit are in this calamitous condition. These are they who have no concern about their souls. That you are in such distress about eternal life is proof that you are one of the vast number whom Jesus wants to save. Read the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) and of the woman who had been a great sinner (Luke 7:36-50) and of the dying thief (Luke 23:39-43) and then accept of Jesus' tender invitation "Come unto me and I will give you rest."

REPLY TO SOLDIER'S MOTHER

Sir,—In your issue of April 15th, I notice a letter signed "Soldier's Mother," which goes on to question certain farmers' patriotism. In reply I may say that words fail to express my sympathy for any soldier's mother who has her son fighting in this terrible war, also my gratitude for those brave boys who have forsaken homes and loved ones to defend our homes and Empire, and maintain our freedom. But in this case, I do not for one moment entertain the thought that any soldier's mother would be so narrow-minded as to question any farmer's patriotism, at a crisis like the present time, when famine is staring our Empire in the face, and the winning of the war (to a large extent) depending on the man behind the plough, and as the author of Soldier's Mother's letter savors of ill-breeding, it is quite evident that he is one of those "parasites" who lives on the flesh and blood of his fellow being, who neither fills in the kiosk, dons the khaki, nor assists in any other way to win the war, is too much of the coward to come out with his signature, and is therefore obliged to take refuge behind "Soldier's Mother's" skirts.

I think everyone should know that the farmer is the backbone of the nation, and the true soldier of the soil. He has produced in the past and will produce in the future, greater than ever, not entirely for the dollars and cents he receives, "as he is accustomed" but steered with the thoughts that he is helping win the war by providing the food for our brave boys who are shedding their blood on our behalf, also with the knowledge that he is saving millions of people from starvation, as well as those worthless beings who are ever on the alert for an imaginary opportunity to criticize the farmers' loyalty. He says: "Why ask for remuneration?" May I ask, can any person exist without remuneration? And just be a burden on some other person's shoulders?

When farm machinery has advanced 100 per cent, why look for remuneration? When fence wire has advanced from \$2.75 to \$6 or \$7 per hundred lbs., why ask for remuneration? When fertilizers, binder twine and lime has advanced 100 per cent and over, why talk of remuneration? When it cost in the vicinity of five million dollars to float the Victory Loan, and when we are informed that there is an average of two thousand dollars war liabilities against every farm on P. E. Island, why think of remuneration? Now I think it is time for farmers to resent such insinuations as are cast at them from time to time concerning their loyalty, when everyone knows that the farmer has little say regarding prices of what he has to buy or sell.

Now, Mr. Soldier's Mother, I would like to call on you some fine day and see how you look in skirts, and hope you will be in a position to tell me how that orphan boy you mentioned in your letter, bid farewell to his father and mother.

But further correspondence will be entirely ignored when writing under a non de plume.

I am, sir, etc.

J. D. LIVINGSTON.

King's County.

SAYS ARMENIANS WILL SEND TEN MILLIONS

BOSTON, April 20.—Speaking at a Liberty loan rally here, Secretary of the Navy Daniels said the Allies would hold the line until the United States could send ten million men to France and that this country would build ships until we had the greatest navy in the world. There are now 40,000 naval men in foreign service, he said, and there are thousands more waiting at home for ships upon which to get into action.

"The only embarrassment we are having with the navy," he said, "is that 90 per cent of the men are clamoring to go on destroyers so they can see quick action and lots of it." He said that so long as the British, French and American fleets controlled the seas Germany could not win.

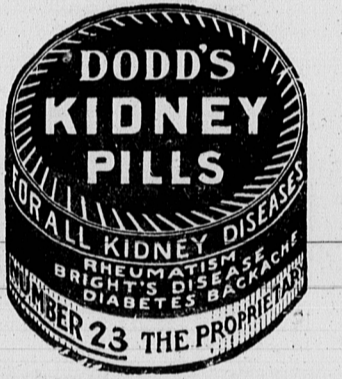
Referring to the German drive on the western front, he said: "Now, thank God, the Allied armies on the west front are under one command, that of the great Frenchman, Foch. The acid test for us at home is whether we shall subscribe or over-subscribe the Liberty loan."

DISLOYALTY

Sir,—No doubt you have received innumerable letters from persons wishing to air their views on loyalty, food production, hogs, potatoes, etc. Permit me to trespass on your valuable time and space with a few lines in regard to a phase of disloyalty which your past correspondents have not mentioned. We have in our midst persons who argue that the farmer cannot be expected to make any sacrifice in order to increase food production, because of the fact that England is using foodstuffs for the manufacture of beer and whiskey, and until the manufacture of intoxicating liquor is prohibited the farmer has no right to increase his production. Now, I admit there is too much truth in the statement that food is being wasted in that way, and I regret as much as anyone that conditions are as they are in the mother country. But does it not make the call for food even more imperative? We cannot help the conditions—at least not now, whatever we might have done in the past—and I think it is up to us as Canadian farmers to produce all we possibly can even if we don't make any profit. Some of the persons using this argument are quite sincere, and do so because of a mistaken temperance sentiment which they hold, but just the same they exert an influence over some people. Others, I fear, are using it only as an excuse to evade any extra effort, which they are called upon to make. I would not advise interrupting these talkers, but would suggest that the press advise them to stop it. Every right-thinking person knows that our nation at this time of peril needs only loyal citizens, and the sentiments of persons who discourage food production in any way seem to me to be decidedly disloyal. I, with many others, thought at one time that our Government acted unwisely in suppressing "The Fiddlers." The reason given by the Government for doing so was that the information in that book would militate against recruiting and food production, and if contained the sentiments held by the persons I have mentioned I consider it would have done so, even though the statements were correct. Another matter of which it might not be out of place to say a word, the enforcement of the M. S. A. Some farmers have three sons at home, all apparently physically fit, while others are left alone to put in the crop, it is solely for the sake of increased production these young men are exempted?

I am, sir, etc.

FARMER.



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