

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1920.

THE REASON WHY.

Scotland has for many generations held a reputation for efficiency enjoyed by few other countries. This efficiency is not confined to the more highly educated classes. It pervades the ranks of industry, of commerce, of seamanship, of soldiery. And the reason is not far to seek.

The Glasgow Herald of recent date gives an account of the new scale of salaries adopted by the Glasgow Educational Authority and now operative and in force. Last year, when the scale was revised, the headmasters of elementary schools were awarded a maximum of £550 (\$2,750.) This was deemed insufficient and now they are given £760 (\$3,800), and this rate was made retroactive. At retirement, a lump sum of £1,140 (\$5,700) will be paid and a pension of £525 (\$2,625) will be given and continue for life. The heads of high schools and high grade schools will at once go on a maximum of £1,050 (\$5,250) and varying amounts of arrears. On their retirement they receive a lump sum of £1,575 (\$5,875), and a pension of £525 (\$2,625). Assistants and grade teachers benefit accordingly.

Such an educational record as this is sufficient to account for any greatness, national or individual. Men and women worthy of such salaries as these, it may be assumed, are men and women of character, of educational fitness and of such influence as is necessary to train boys and girls into worthy men and women.

The cost of education to a country can be measured only by its fruits. The starvation wage that attracts only starved labor is wasted; the wage that attracts skilled and efficient labor is a profitable investment. When we realize the part to be played in after life by the training given to the children, no trouble and no reasonable expense should be spared. The men and the women worthy of being entrusted with the future of the children should be worthy of a wage commensurate with the responsibility placed upon them. Evidently Scotland realizes this and measures its teachers' salaries accordingly.

MORE REFORM.

This is emphatically an age of reform and we have it dished out to us in all manner of ways, from all manner of sources and for all manner of reasons. Perhaps this is because of the general perverseness of the age and the general liability to excess. The latest reform is that instituted by certain women's organizations both in the United States and Canada for the standardization of women's dress. One idea is that "business women" should wear a uniform style of dress and the style suggested is a black dress with white collar and cuffs. The "reason annexed" to this suggestion is that it will do away with the present extravagant following of each other into all kinds of excesses in dress.

The reasons are sound but, like many other reasons, insufficient. When a young lady of the present day undertakes to earn her living, and many of them do, she is not going to wear a uniform that will proclaim to the world that she belongs to the working class. The young lady of today, when she appears on the street, whether she be a domestic or the "right hand man" in a store or office is "monarch of all she surveys" and is not supposed to be distinguishable from a duchess or a millionaire in her own right, and no mere man can classify her either.

The suggestion for this reform, fortunately comes from women and it is no doubt well meant, but we predict for it that it will never go further than the suggestion.

Another suggestion comes from a clergyman for reform in women's dress. He is protesting against what he calls the "growing excess of nudity." This of course is serious and also, no doubt, well meant, but if the fashions call for still further excesses in this direction we have no doubt they will continue—perhaps until the law intervenes. No one has yet intimated where the fashions originate but, no matter what their source, the women will follow them unflinchingly and at any cost and the mere men will admire them only as they conform to the latest. We have little faith in the success of either reform.

THE MAN THAT WAS MEANT

In the controversy over the Falconwood affair the Patriot likened the Guardian's search for the Commission's report to the hero in one of Captain Marryatt's novels "Japhet in Search of a Father," spelling the word "Japheth." In its yesterday's issue it declares this spelling correct, according to the scriptures. Japheth, it will be remembered, was one of the two sons who discovered the nakedness of a certain individual (Gen. 9:23), as the Guardian discovered the nakedness of the Patriot and the Bell government in the Falconwood affair. The Patriot has evidently not searched the scriptures in vain. We trust repentance and reform will follow its confession.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The last thaw has given citizens have more snowstorms yet and another opportunity to get their sidewalks in shape for compliance with the city bye laws. We shall

CURRENT COMMENT

This is the third of March and no intimation as to when the provincial legislature will meet. Liberals were always lively in complaint and bitterly attacked the late government for delaying this into the spring farming season. Was it only their customary discharge of election wind, or do they in this one instance intend to practice as they preach?

An exchange says, "A 34-mill tax rate in Toronto will drive people from the city. There is a limit to which public extravagances can go in the matter of taxation." This might be suggestive. The Bell Government in preparing their increased tax measures for the coming session.

Sancho of the Patriot is again practising with his little boomerang. The sage advice that children should not play with dangerous weapons has not impressed him, although his escapades usually result in a black eye. And how he squirms to get out of the tangles, and how every twist he makes binds him more hopelessly in the coils! They commenced with excuses in defence of the Bell Government for its criminal neglect of Falconwood for the last six months. It now likens the Guardian's position to the "Hindenburg Line," an accepted synonym for strength, and hopes that with "patience and perseverance" it can be finally smashed. It further admits "greater efficiency than ever" in the Guardian's rejoinders. They have felt this like the crushing force of an Alpine avalanche.

The Patriot asks what right had a defeated government to buy \$2,000 worth of goods a month after it had lost the confidence of the people. Who says that it did? Will the Patriot dare say so, with the records of the Public Works office in full view. The election Declaration was not made till early August. Were goods delivered in JULY PURCHASED A MONTH AFTER THE GOVERNMENT WERE DEFEATED? Could they tell the straight truth, just by way of change, in one single instance?

And when it whines out its lame excuse again for the Bell Government's six months of shameful inexcusable neglect. When "The Premier entered his office he discovered a desk without even a single scrap of paper on it." Well, what a national calamity! What else could he expect to follow a clean record, but a clean desk? Did he expect it to be loaded up with debris? Surely there were a few sheets in some of the offices which he could have got. And "an absolutely empty treasury." If an empty treasury is a sufficient excuse for the Bell Government, wouldn't it be an equally good one for the

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

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OPPORTUNITY

Opportunity never comes in silks and satins, and seldom is it heralded with the blowing of horns, or led by a brass band. It usually sneaks up to us when we are not expecting it.

Opportunity stands at our side from morning to night. Everytime there is work to be done which no one else wants to do, opportunity beckons us to step up and embrace her, because it is here that the first step toward leadership is taken. The poet who wrote in his verse that opportunity knocks but once, did the world a tremendous damage!

Every time a person does you an injustice, you are face to face with opportunity—glorious opportunity to prove to yourself and to the world how big you are by applying the Golden Rule, forgiving and forgetting.

Every time you have the chance to get the better of your fellowmen in a business deal you are face to face with opportunity—opportunity to increase your own self-respect and gain the confidence of your fellowmen by doing the usual thing by not taking advantage of that chance.

It makes no difference what may be your calling in life, or how lowly the work you are doing at present, you have a glorious opportunity to raise yourself into more important and more profitable work by the simple process of performing more service and better service than you are actually paid to perform.

You know where your neighbor keeps his family skeleton. You could drag it out and humiliate him. What a wonderful opportunity stands at your side every moment and bids you be big and great enough to let that skeleton remain undisturbed.

The world says mean things about you. What a wonderful opportunity you have to prove the world is a liar by your good conduct, your kindness toward your neighbors, your fair dealings in business, your splendid example of forgiving and forgetting.

What greater opportunity than this could one want?

Others View Point

Arsonaut industry! But it is not even an apology or a defense for either. The work was required. It was decided upon. The material was purchased by the late Government and was on the ground, and parliament, with Mr. Bell sitting in the house voted the money to do the work. The Patriot may squirm and twist and whine, but it cannot get away from this damning fact. True indeed "the dark deeds of history had their champions," and in this day of modern enlightenment and civilization, we find papers like the Patriot, in the old days of Hon. David Laird about such pettifoggery, now descending to these grovelling tactics.

Where was the redoubtable Hon. George E. Hughes during all these long months? The Asylum was one of his pet hobby horses in parliament. Bold as a lion he would jump into the arena to make all kinds of charges, and then, when investigation proved the charges to be totally unfounded, apologize to the house and sit down as meek as a lamb. Has he too been a party to this six months neglect of intolerable conditions, which those unfortunate words of the government have been subjected to?

We heard much on transportation from Premier Bell, on the floor of the house on the election stump, and in his voluminous manifesto. It is said that this weighty document was the matured outcome of a solemn convale of the whole party. It is even whispered that he reported to political friends at Ottawa, that it was useless to attack the Arsonaut Government on its record, and their only chance of success was to fight them on Dominion issues. And transportation was a leading plank. What has he or his party done for this service if it were not for our Board of Trade and Mr. Donald Nicholson, M. P., what redress would we have had in recent instances where these interests were imperiled? It is the old familiar story of Liberalism. Abundant in promises when in opposition. Lethargy, carelessness, incompetence and stupidity when in place and in power.

Others View Point

TWENTIETH CENTURY INQUISITION

(St. Louis Post Dispatch) A gentleman in East St. Louis blames the lazy woman for the high cost of living in that city—the woman who does her marketing by telephone instead of personally attending to that important domestic duty. It is possible that the telephone is still a swift and convenient utility in East St. Louis. On the occidental side of the great river, however, the telephone has become an uncertainty, an anguish, and a black despair. Under direct compulsion strong men still attempt to telephone. Fairness requires the admission that they sometimes succeed. Such instances, though rare. Ordinarily the effort ends in babbling incoherence. Heroes who went through the horrors of the Argonne without batting an eye have been known to throw up their hands before the telephone and brokenly mumble, kame-rad. The telephone has long since ceased to be the easiest way for the indolent. But it still has an important function to serve. There is a school cult of some kind that recommends doing one thing every day that you don't like to do, as a mental developer. That is where the modern telephone comes in. As a means of communication it has passed out, but as an instrument of cultivating patience under an avalanche of provocation the telephone is unrivalled, matchless, supreme. It may be that there are women who still do their marketing by telephone, but they are few and the high cost of living cannot be charged to them. Neither may such women be called slackers or weak sisters. The woman who can stand up under the tortures of the post-bellum telephone is a Spartan dame.

LONG SERMONS

(Manchester Guardian) On the subject of long sermons Mark Twain once told a story to illustrate how he was affected by one. He was present, he said, at a charity service conducted by a most eloquent preacher. The appeal for funds went to everyone's heart, and Mark Twain himself was so touched that he simply itched for the plate to come round in order that he might give the four hundred dollars he had in his pocket, and borrow more to put it to. But the preacher went on and on, and the air grew hotter, he grew sleepier and his enthusiasm went down a hundred dollars at a time till at last, when the plate reached him, he stole tea cents out of it. But of all long sermons surely the pair must go to that which Lockwood heard in his nightmare at Wüther.

The Spirit That Never Knew Defeat

Under the title, "The Spirit That Never Knew Defeat," the Nineteenth Century Magazine for January publishes a most interesting article. Its basis is the two volumes of Sir Douglas Haig's Despatches, which cover the war period, December, 1915, to April 1919. There are many things in these despatches to give satisfaction to British readers, but perhaps none that will do more to establish Sir Douglas Haig's true greatness than the fact set out in the Introduction by Marshal Foch as follows: "Was it not the insight of an experienced and enlightened commander which led him (Sir Douglas Haig) to intervene as he did with his own Government on the 24th of March, 1918, and with the Allied Governments assembled in Doullens on the 25th to the end that the French and British armies might at once be placed under single command, even though his personal position should thereby suffer?" To appreciate this act of wonderful magnanimity one needs to remember that, as the despatches show, the 1917 campaign went astray apparently through French influence, when Nivelle succeeded Joffre.

Ludendorff's Admission

One can easily suppose that Haig's plan for 1917 gone forward the Germans would have been at least driven back to the Meuse, or even out of France and Belgium in the fall of that year. This supposition is not unreasonable and Ludendorff's remarks on the final stages of the 1917 campaign are interesting. He writes: "The fifth act of the Great Advance in Flanders opened on the 22nd of October (1917). The horror of the shell hole area of Verdun was surpassed. It was no longer life at all, it was unspeakable suffering. . . . It must be admitted that certain units (German) no longer triumphed over the demoralizing effects of the defensive battle as they had done formerly. He denied it (the line) in many places, and it seemed as if he must knock it down. But it held, although a faint tremor ran through the foundation. . . . We knew that the enemy suffered heavily, we also knew that he was amazingly strong, and, what was equally important, had an extraordinary stubborn will. Lloyd George wanted Victory. He held England in the hollow of his hand. Only one thing we did not know: how long the battle would continue. The enemy must tire some time."

Haig's Plan

This admission by Ludendorff is of especial interest to Canadians because the culmination of this attack was the capture of Passchendaele by the Canadian Corps. Haig's plan would have let loose this attack early in the year, and it had proved as successful then as it did later in less favorable circumstances, it would have gone much further and very likely utterly broken the German morale, if not the enemy's power of resistance. At Doullens, therefore, he could have criticized French strategy, but he did not do so. He realized the need of unified command. He was big enough and good enough to sink personal ambitions in the interest of united and undiminished Heights. It was entitled "Seventy Times Seven, and the First of the Seventy-First," and proved to be a sermon of seventy times seven heads, each equal in length to an ordinary sermon. One wonders if this nightmare had a background of fact in the sermons preached in Haworth Church. Such a dream would hardly be possible now when we begin to talk about "hydra-headed discourses" if the parson gets beyond "fourthly."

A Soldier's Suggestion

The following letter appeared recently in the Montreal Star: "Sir—The members of the Dominion House, are out for more money. Last spring when the returned soldiers asked for \$2,000, we were told that we had not the interests of Canada, at heart, and Canada could not stand the money pressure. Here is a sound business proposition, fair to all. The strength of the Dominion House is about the same as a bat-

CO-OPERATIVE SHIPBUILDING

(Regina Leader) The Vancouver World tells of an interesting experiment in a co-operative shipbuilding enterprise which the Dominion Government is said to have guaranteed to the amount of \$700,000. Four wooden schooners are to be built at a cost of a million dollars, and the employees, 600 of them, take from one to four shares each, valued at \$50. The balance of \$228,000 is to be subscribed by Victoria investors. The wage scale is from \$9.44 a day for a foreman caulker to \$4.29 a day for a laborer. Sixty per cent of the men employed must be returned soldiers, and the others engaged through the employment bureau. At present, the World says, negotiations are proceeding between the directors of the company and returned men. If the market for the schooners is assured, the venture will assist considerably in helping Vancouver and Victoria through a season when there is considerable unemployment.

ished effort. We may venture to predict that when the records of the failures and successes of the Generals, Field Marshals and others, have had important positions in connection with the Great War, have been analyzed it will be found that none did more to wear down the enemy, destroy his morale and bring about his utter defeat than the Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in France and Belgium.

A Difficult Problem

Sir Douglas in his despatches explains the plans to meet the March, 1918, German offensive in which the fifth army was so terribly mauled. The necessity of maintaining the northern end of our line, which ran dangerously close to the sea and protected the channel ports, is set out. Extracts from Ludendorff's book showing that the Germans appreciated the vital nature of this northern section are quoted. Haig's duties became very onerous. The channel ports had to be protected, a breach of the line from Arras to the north could not be permitted, and hence, reserves must be maintained in that section, while at the other end of the line, the British were called upon to take over a section from the French, and it appears that that section was not in as good condition for defence as was necessary.

The Lines Held

Despite German initial successes, which drew from the British Commander-in-Chief his thrilling "back to the wall" message, Ludendorff confesses that on March 25th he had to charge his plans: "By April 5th," he says, "it was an established fact that the enemy's resistance was beyond our strength. G. H. Q. had to take the extremely difficult decision to abandon the attack on Amiens." Other sections of the British front were successively attacked and slight gains made such as between La Bassée and Armentières, against the Ypres salient and the capture of Mount Kemmel. Haig's reserves, however, were able to hold their up at short distance advances, and the last German offensive against the British died out. To Canadian readers the despatches covering the British offensive east of Amiens on August 8th and following days are of great interest. The object of this attack was to free Amiens from further danger, and if successful, "to strike directly at the vital lateral communications running through Maubeuge to Hirson Mezieres by which alone the German forces on the Champagne front could be supplied and maintained." It was here that the Canadian Corps, moved secretly down from near Arras for the purpose, formed the spear head of the army that started the Germans back to ultimate and crushing defeat August 8th, 1918, is called by Ludendorff "the black day of the German Army in the history of the war." August 8th, 1918, was one of the brightest, if not the brightest day in the annals of the Canadian Corps. It was the beginning of the 100 days. Sir Douglas Haig's despatch says of this period: "The sweeping character of this success opened a clear field for the measures of exploitation determined upon to meet such an event."

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Sir Henry Drayton Minister of Finance

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allion of the C. E. F., why not pay the members soldiers' pay, viz., gratified." We could not reject our Prime Minister, colonel's pay. Leader Opposition, major's, Cabinet, to meet the H. C. L. The French draw for the remainder of the officers' ranks; Speaker to rank as adjutant, with captain's pay; whips, sgt.-majors, 25 per cent of the Government, 25 per cent Opposition to draw for the N. C. O.'s ranks, but any member A. W. L. to forfeit one day's pay for each 24 hours or part while absent. At end of their services each member to receive \$35 for clothing. At the end of five years services let them come out for \$2,000 and I will be the first to say yes. As my motto is "be just and fear naught," I think this letter lives up to it. I am Sir etc., HY' GAR. Members could accept or reject this suggestion. Those that reject Late No. 25835, 14th Batt., C.E.F. Montreal, Feb. 16, 1920.

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