

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY OCTOBER 8th 1918

## PEACE PROSPECTS

The war news in yesterday morning's despatches was somewhat startling and gratifying. The events of the past few weeks, of the period since July 8th in fact, led to the inevitable conclusion that the collapse of the Central Powers was rapidly nearing but not immediate. Yesterday's news would seem to indicate that Germany has accepted the inevitable and is ready to quit. But Germany has from the beginning been tricky and treacherous and, although beaten, is not yet to be trusted.

The new German Chancellor, doubtless placed in office for that purpose, had sent out feelers which differed materially from the terms laid down by his predecessor. He would agree to "no annexations and no indemnities," in the west; he would even agree to restitution in Belgium. These were feelers only. According to yesterday's despatches he was prepared to discuss peace on the conditions laid down by President Wilson. These conditions were given in yesterday's Guardian.

President Wilson had adopted in effect all the war aims outlined by Lloyd George in his address to the labor conference in England some time previously. He even went a step further in certain directions, particularly with reference to Alsace-Lorraine for the President made somewhat clearer than had the British Prime Minister that the Allies, including the United States, were determined that the war could not be satisfactorily ended until the wrong done to France by Germany through the seizure of the two provinces had been righted. In his war aims address to the Congress, President Wilson adopted for the United States the principle for which France has contended ever since her provinces were lost to her.

The conditions laid down by President Wilson must not be misunderstood as embodying the terms upon which peace is to be concluded. They are merely conditions preliminary to negotiations for peace. The details of the peace terms, indemnities, restitutions etc., etc., will be worked out and agreed upon at the final peace conference.

As to what will occur in the immediate future everything depends upon Germany's attitude. We may presume that there shall be no cessation of hostilities unless and until Germany lays down her arms as Bulgaria did; she will not be given a rest merely to enable her to reorganize her broken armies. Cessation of hostilities, we take it, will mean absolute and complete surrender on the part of the Central Powers. If they are ripe for this we shall have peace within the next few weeks; if not, the war will go on with more vigour than ever until they are ready. The news of the next few days will be eagerly awaited.

## DAMASCUS

The story of the present war will be the outstanding chapter in the future history of the world and, whatever changes may be effected in the western theatre, with which we are best acquainted, the westernizing and modernizing of the eastern world will form no unimportant portion of it.

The capture of Damascus by the British is itself an event of such tremendous importance that its full significance cannot be grasped in the whirl of the other great events that are transpiring from day to day.

Damascus is the oldest city in the world; it was old when the forebears of those who captured it last week were painted savages in ancient Britain; old when the foundations of Christianity were laid; old when Abraham was tending his flocks in Canaan. Today it is in British hands; today the customs, the squalor, the incongruous things of an ancient, almost prehistoric, civilization are being handled by representatives of western civilization and being shaped into things intelligible to the Twentieth Century.

Besides being the oldest city in the world, Damascus is said to be one of the most beautiful—from a distance. Bright buildings, sparkling beneath a Syrian sun, rise out of a sea of various tinted foliage, while all around, except on the northwest-

ern side where the long bare snowwhite ridge of the Anti-Lebanon mountains stretch, are charming gardens, rich corn-fields and blooming orchards.

The river Barrada, the Abana of Scripture, with its branches wind through the region until they lose themselves in the lake Bahr-el Merj into which also flows the river Phega, the Pharpar of Scripture. Travellers tell us that the city and the surrounding country form a picture that is entrancingly beautiful as one approaches it.

Like all eastern cities the distant view alone contains the charm. Within, the city is squalid, dirty, unsightly and unsanitary. The streets of Damascus, most of them, are so narrow that a loaded donkey will almost block them. The principal street is "the street which is called Straight" mentioned by the Apostle Paul.

Amid this squalor and filth are two of the finest buildings in the world, the Great Mosque and the Great Khan. The former was built as a heathen temple, was later converted into a Christian church and later still into a Mohammedan mosque.

Josephus attributes the foundation of Damascus to Uz, the great grandson of Noah but whether it dates so far back it is certain that it was a place of considerable importance in the days of Abraham. During the time of the Hebrew monarchy it was the capital of Syria; it afterwards passed successively under the rule of the Assyrians, Persians, Macedonians, Romans and Saracens. In 1516 it was captured by the Turks in whose hands it has since remained with the exception of a short period, between 1852 and 1840 when it belonged to the Pascha of Egypt.

After this varied history it has passed into the hands of the British to be held by them until its final ownership is decided at the Council Board which is to adjust the boundaries disturbed and settle the questions raised by the war.

## THE DRAFTED MEN IN ACTION

A few lines in a recent despatch from Mr. J. P. B. Livesay, the Canadian Press correspondent with the Dominion's forces in France, are especially worthy of attention. Mr. Livesay describes the dashing success of the Canadians in taking Bourlon wood, and goes on to say: "A feature of the battle was the excellent account given of themselves by the new reinforcements. Many of them were one-year men but they gave a magnificent account of themselves. 'Good Canadians all,' commented a brigadier whose command had received a very large number of these recruits." The reference, of course, is to men who were drafted under the Military Service Act, and news of the splendid manner in which they are acquitting themselves in exceptionally desperate fighting will give Canada both satisfaction and new pride. But the news is just what was to be expected.

## INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

That there is an epidemic of grippe or influenza in this city and in different country sections of the province is undeniable. We understand there are about a hundred cases in the city at present, few of them serious, it is true, but none the less occasioning anxiety. The anxiety is no doubt due largely to the general feeling that there is an epidemic and to the fear that it may become as virulent here as in the Eastern States where quite a large proportion of deaths have occurred.

It is admitted by the doctors that the form of the disease here, although comparatively mild, is infectious. For this reason every precaution should be taken to prevent its further spread.

This feeling has been very generally expressed during the past few days and the action taken by the Board of Health on Saturday night and briefly reported yesterday in the Guardian, is practically unanimously approved. Similar action has been taken in other cities. Practically every city in Canada where the epidemic exists has closed its schools, churches and theatres and has prohibited public meetings.

We note that in the hospitals in Montreal even the nurses attending patients suffering from the disease are isolated and not permitted to leave the hospitals except for necessary exercise which they take in carriages or autos under escort.

While there is nothing to be alarmed over and while conditions in the city are no worse than in the country districts the weather at present is such as to necessitate all possible precautions. With better weather conditions the disease will no doubt disappear as it has done on previous occasions when similar epidemics occurred. In the meantime prudence dictates care, avoidance of unnecessary exposure to cold or wet and a general curbing of imagination which is liable to exaggerate things.

# SAVE FOR VICTORY

Consider what you would do, if you suddenly found your income reduced a certain amount. How would you save if you were compelled to save?

Do you shop when you do not need to?

When you go shopping do you carry home as much as possible?

This saves labor. Tell the salesman you want no extra wrapping. Save the money for Victory.

IN THE CLASSIFIED COLUMNS your application for a position is made IN A BUSINESS WAY—and this always appeals to a business man.

## Your Problems Solved

BY REV. T. LINCOLN, D. D.  
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Dr. Lincoln, in this column will help you solve your heart problems, religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious care 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.

**DOUBTFUL SUCCESS:** "Need a good and industrious man fear that he will not achieve the success in life that his ability merits?" Every good and faithful man may banish all fear concerning his success in life. Just as surely as water runs down the hill or any other absolutely certain event so surely will a good man accomplish his purpose in life, for which providence has intended him. Only those who are untrue to God and themselves become misfits, that is square pegs in round holes or round pegs in square holes.

**"ASKING GOD SPECIFIC QUESTIONS":** Have we any grounds to believe that God answers specific questions today, as he did David for example in 2 Sam. 2:17 "asks 'A Sunday School Teacher'." Surely the book which you teach, your scholars every Sunday answers your question in the affirmative. You have read there "If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God" Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would teach us all things. You have a perfect right to come to God with all your problems and if you will listen intently. He will answer your question.

## IN MEMORIAM

### MRS CHRISTIE McTAVISH GILLIS

Died at Orwell on Wednesday Sept. 26 1918, Mrs Christie McTavish in the 79th year of her age, relict of the late William Gillis and daughter of the late John McTavish and Catherine Martin, Newtown, Belfast. In the passing away of the late Mr. Gillis from the family on earth to join the loved ones gone on before the Presbyterian Church at Orwell has lost one of its most honored landmarks. She was

**Daily Selections For Guardian Readers**  
 Furnished by W. S. Lawson  
 AUTUMN

There is a time just when the frost begins to pave old winter's way. When autumn in a reverent lost. The mellow day time dreams away. When summer comes in musing mind To gaze once more, on hill and dell To mark how many sheaves they bind And see if all are ripened well.

With heavy breath she whispers low: The dying flowers look up and give Their sweetest incense ere they go For her who made their beauty live. She enters 'neath the woodland shade. Her zephyr's life the lingering leaf. And bear it gently when are laid The loved and lost ones of its grief.

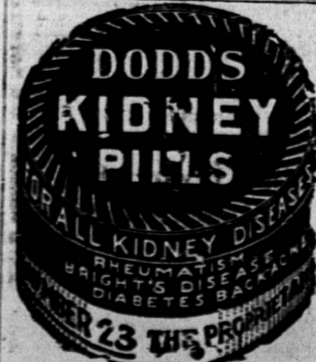
At last, old autumn rising, takes Again his scepter and his throne; With boisterous hand the tree he shakes. Intent on gathering all his own. Sweet summer sighing flies the plain And waiting winter gaunt and grim Sees miser autumn board his grain And smiles to think it's all for him.

Anonymous

born at Newtown Belfast, in the year 1839 and was married in the year 1860 and was the mother of 13 children all with the exception of two survive her. She lived at Orwell during her married life and made a host of friends and shed a halo of light over all around her. Du in her illness she loved to talk of God and Christ, heaven and eternity. While she loved her family and home and church with an ardent love, still she was perfectly reconciled to death and met it with joy. She was a faithful wife, loving mother and kind and neighbor and a true and tried exemplary Christian she will be greatly missed in all these positions and especially in the church. For the past years she was the leading spirit in the church always ready with prayer, counsel, money and work. She was the preacher's friend, counsellor and sympathizer. The present pastor feels a personal loss in her death. He will miss her good words of cheer, interest and helpfulness. Though dead she yet speaketh and will so bless the church at Orwell, N.S. Her funeral service was held at her late home by her pastor and her mortal remains were laid to rest in the beautiful shady Saint Johns Presbyterian Church Cemetery at Belfast where many of her friends and relatives are buried. She fought a good fight, she kept the faith, she finished her course and a crown of righteousness awaits her in the beautiful land where the flowers never fade and the leaves never fall, where the sun never sets and the people never grow old. She leaves to mourn her family—John Gillis Assistant Foreman, Mines at Milling Co. Minnesota, Alexander Gillis, deceased and before his death was Mining in Idaho, Mrs. A. S. McDonald Orwell Cove, Arigus Gillis farming and ranching in Vancouver. Katie Gillis Dames C. society, California, William Gillis book keeper, Portland Oregon Steel Works, Duncan Gillis Alaska, Travelling Agent, Murdoch Gillis Somewhere in France, before going overseas he was mining, Mrs. Murdoch McCleod Montague, Donald Gillis farming foreman Boston Mass. This young man upon finding that this employment not suitable embarked on a Brigantine as an able bodied seaman for South Africa and was never heard tell of, as it is the impression that he met a watery grave, and if any of the independent readers knows anything about this young man the information will be most welcome received by his relations. Mrs. C. E. York Alaska, Hugh Gillis living on the homestead Orwell, Jessie H. died at infancy. The pall bearers were D. F. Smith, Malcolm Smith, Hector A. McDonald, Frank McDonald (grandson) J. D. McLeod, Duncan McTavish, (nephew). These motherless sons and daughters will have the sympathy of the Church members and community in which she lived. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Yea saith the spirit that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them. She lived in the Lord she died in the Lord, she rests from her labors and her works do follow her. Although their be for her no carved shrine in fame's great temple and no wide reserved space in storied page, yet her manner being fraught with a fragrant charm will serve as a passport to the world's affections, and her unseen influence will continue to distill upon the hearts of those that come after like unto benedictions that follow after prayer.

## U.S. STEAMER SUNK BY MINE.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The American cargo steamer San Saba, of the Mallory line, was sunk yesterday 15 miles southeast of Barnegate, N.J. The navy department was informed today. It is supposed the ship struck a mine. How many of the crew were rescued is not yet known.



## Boots to Clear at a Bargain

We have on hand a lot of Men's Regal Boots, if bought today, would be worth from \$6.50 to \$8.00 selling at 4.50, 5.00, 5.50 and 6.00, Special Value at these Prices.

## GOFF BROS

# LIEUT. HAROLD MESSERVY HOME FROM OVERSEAS

Lieut. Harold Messervy, who left here with No. 5 Siege Battery, known afterwards as No. 8 arrived at his home in Charlottetown on Friday night from overseas and is being warmly welcomed by his friends. Lieut. Messervy proceeded with the Battery to France in March 1917 and just a few days after their arrival they had their first taste of active warfare.

The first notable engagement in which the Battery participated was the battle of Passchendaele in which the Canadians covered themselves with glory. The Battery sustained the loss of two men killed and a considerable number wounded in this fight. During Fritz's heavy drive in March and April last the Battery was in three sections occupying three different points and were not directly attacked. The Hun, knowing the Canadians to be occupying a particularly strong position and well wired in, did not care to tackle them. All positions along the front got their share of the heavy shelling and the island battery boys were by no means backward in returning with interest the compliment to Fritz. Fortunately only one casualty occurred in the whole battery during this period. Lieut. Messervy was not with the Battery at the time so many of the members were knocked out with gas at Armentieres. He got his dose of it about the last of May, this year, at Lievin. He was sent down the line and from the casualty hospital went to the Duchess of Westminster Hospital and later to Bramshott. He left England on Saturday Sept. 21, being invalided home as physically unfit. Lieut. Messervy speaking of the boys of the battery declares them to be "the finest bunch of boys God ever put on earth." The spirit of comradeship among them is magnificent and to help a chum in any way they think nothing of self or danger. It is regrettable to state that there are now only about twenty of the original boys left in the Battery, a large number having obtained commissions or been transferred to other units.

The boys of the Battery have always been greatly attached to their officers. Both Major Peake and Colonel Prowse (the latter O. C. of the 1st Heavy Artillery Brigade in which the battery was for a time) have been exceedingly popular, and there is nothing they would not do for either of them. They have taken their share of the dangers and have done everything possible to make life under the trying conditions of war as pleasant as possible for the boys. Major Peake is at present at Whitley, England, not having yet recovered the full use of his arm which was wounded.

The boys have been very grateful for the many welcome parcels sent to them by the P. E. L. Artillery Auxiliary. These parcels always arrived in good condition and caused much rejoicing among the recipients. Lieut. Messervy leaves shortly for Halifax where he has orders to report to hospital.

## FORTY VILLAGES EVACUATED.

General Switzerland, Oct. 6.—Forty villages in Alsace-Lorraine, from Basel to Colmar, have been evacuated by the civilian population, according to Democratic German authorities, the newspaper says, have now ordered the inhabitants of Mulhausen, Altkirch and other smaller towns to prepare to leave immediately.

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