

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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## THE WAR

Apart from the meagre reports of a new offensive against the Balkans by the Italians, the usual bombardments on the Western front and the onward sweep of the Russians in the east, there is little that is new or startling in the war situation.

The experience of the past two years has shown us that great movements are not precipitated hurriedly and that news of intended movements often precedes the movement by months.

The new Balkan movement has been expected for some time. The presence in Saloniki of a force of some seven or eight hundred thousand Allied soldiers has kept expectation at fever heat for many months, but until now—if now—no such movement has taken place and the official heads are silent as to what the purpose is. Fragmentary reports, generally unofficial, have announced at different times that there has been fighting between the Serbians and the Bulgarians, but if there has been such it has resulted in nothing important. That the Italians have made great gains and that they are probably ready to join hands with the Allies in Greece may be inferred from reports of recent operations and a glance at the map. Should this union take place the first move will no doubt be to settle with Bulgaria and the Turks and then carry the offensive into Austria-Hungary from the south while the Russians are pressing in from the east and north. As the situation stands at present Austria is seriously threatened by the Russians and the Italians on the east and west while, on the southern side it is protected by Serbia which the Germans are holding and by Roumania which still adheres to its policy of neutrality.

On the western front according to our despatches of the past few days there is little doing, but that little is unvaryingly favourable to the Entente Allies. The French have made gains at Verdun at which point the Germans are still hammering, not with any hope of victory but because they cannot give it up. Retirement by the Germans would mean the breaking of their Western line and that would mean disaster. Farther west and north in the sector between Arras and Peronne the British and French have made distinct gains which they are consolidating and which, according to reports, they are in no danger of losing.

## GIST OF THE CONFERENCE

Before the Summer School for Teachers closed, Professor McCready who for the past year has directed the rural education department in Prince of Wales College, asked the teachers to write a brief statement giving their views as to the "gist" of the Rural Life Conference recently held and also as to what the Conference had done for themselves individually. Quite a number of such statements were received. They are all interesting, especially so in their unanimity as to the general purport of the Conference, the importance of the forward movement in education now so happily inaugurated and in the part they as teachers are expected to take in the movement.

Cooperation in its widest meaning was the keynote of the replies, as it was the keynote of the addresses during the session. Heretofore co-operation has been a little thing in this province, a sort of partnership of individuals or communities who pooled their capital to carry out some enterprise for which individual capital was insufficient. It was intended to promote the particular object in view regardless of other objects perhaps equally worthy. The aim of the present forward movement is to give cooperation a wider scope, to include all our interests, to promote and to boost along all lines, to carry along all the industries and all the activities together in a manner that will benefit all our people socially, industrially and commercially. The papers submitted by the teachers clearly indicated that they had grasped this view of it and appreciated the responsibility devolving upon themselves as factors in the movement.

Our schools, after all, must continue to be the foundation of all progress and reform not only in fitting boys and girls for the battle of life in which they are to engage later on, but in moulding public opinion in their own immediate neighborhoods. Co-operation between the school and the parents of the pupils, a

working together to improve all the conditions, social, and industrial, as well as educational, is one of the prime requisites. In effecting this the teacher can do much. With the help, generally available, of some of the leaders in the school district this co-operation can be brought about and much good will be done. The idea that the school is a sort of necessary and costly evil in the community will gradually give place to the fact that the money expended on schools and school improvement is the most profitable investment the people can make. All the people in the province co-operating in bringing about this condition, working with one aim and one object, unselfishly working for the benefit of all and inspiring others to do likewise, will in a few years effect a revolution in our rural life that will make our province much more than the "Garden of the Gulf" that we now fondly call it; it will make it a home that we and our children will love to live in and a place in which we and they can live as comfortably and as usefully as in any place in the world.

Another idea which appealed to the teachers was the presence at the Conference of, and the interest taken in it by, so many of the clergy. Unfortunately there were not as many of the clergy present as there should have been, and unfortunately also many of our clergy, in their devotion, no doubt, to their spiritual duties, are not as prominently identified with the secular affairs of their congregations as they might be. Our clergy are leaders in their communities and a great many of them have done much to improve conditions both industrially and socially among their people. It is very gratifying to find that they are increasingly interesting themselves in the schools and in the farm life of their people. They, too, as well as the teachers, will, we feel assured, take a prominent part in the forward movement now in progress.

The aims of the Conference, so ably presented by the different speakers must be perpetuated, constantly preached and practiced by the teachers if good results are to be expected and we feel assured that this will be done by those at least who attended the Summer School and the Rural Life Conference.

## MOVING ON

Our sister province, Nova Scotia, is also bestirring itself in anticipation of after-war conditions. Recently expert advisers from Boston and Ottawa, officials of the Canadian Pacific and the Dominion Atlantic railways and of Ottawa Banks, have been looking over the province, holding joint meetings with provincial officials, and local boards of trade with a view to improvement in traffic facilities. Plans have been made for the erection and maintenance of finer terminals and docks at seaport towns and to make the province count for more in the trade of the Empire and of the Dominion than ever before. "This they expect to do," says an exchange, "by application of latest wisdom and knowledge to basic industries and social agencies, all supplementing natural assets of a province extraordinarily fitted to become again a maritime centre."

The great need of the day, and our sister provinces recognize it and are preparing for it, is a linking up of the agricultural sections with the industrial centres of the interior by first class transportation lines. We in Prince Edward Island have long suffered from the want of this linking up. We have been isolated and the cost of transportation has all but kept us out of the markets. This condition fortunately ends with the inauguration of the Car Ferry. Henceforth we shall be linked up with the railways of the continent. We have still much to do to make this linking up complete. It is not sufficient that the P. E. Island Railway is part of the continental railway system. Our railway must be made easily accessible from every part of the province. Our roads must be kept in good condition. Our prejudices against the automobile must be so far diluted as to permit at least the use of autotrucks on roads leading from such fishing and farming centres as Rustico, New London, Malpeque, West Cape and other points at which shipping facilities are absent or inadequate. We must get ready to take advantage of our linking up and get ready also for increased production in order that we may get the full benefit of our improved facilities for reaching the markets.

It is significant that all our sister provinces have awakened to the coming changes. We too must awake. Our Development Commission is leading the way and we must co-operate with it, forget our little sectional differences and work harmoniously for the common good of all. It is only by such co-operation that even our selfish aspirations can be fulfilled. "No man liveth unto himself." The world's progress will be in proportion to the number who follow the leaders.

## CANADIAN ARMY HORSES

Sir:—I should esteem it a great favor if you would draw the attention of the readers of your influential journal to the following facts:

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, founded in 1824, is the mother Society of all animal protection societies in the world. It has consistently advocated the claims of the dumb creation both in times of peace and in times of war. The heroes of the Canadian Army now in France are benefitting to a very considerable extent by the activities of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Fund for Sick and Wounded Horses and we are at the present time holding a Veterinary Hospital in Northern France to accommodate 750 sick and wounded horses of the Canadian regiments now so nobly doing their duty for the mother country. This Hospital is costing approximately \$45,000 to build, and in addition we are sending out horse ambulances and other things necessary to mitigate, as far as possible, the sufferings of these animals.

The R. S. P. C. A. Fund, which was started at the request of the War Office in November, 1914, is the only one authorized and approved by the Army Council to do this work.

On the 6th April, 1916, in answer to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Tennant, then Under-Secretary for War, made the following statement:—

"I am aware that funds are being collected in this country by more than one society, but I do not know by how many. It is desirable that it should be known that the only Society authorized by the War Office to collect funds and co-ordinate offers of assistance for horses of the British Army is the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to which all contributions, gifts, and offers of assistance should be addressed. I may add that this Society is working in close connection with the Army Veterinary Department. I agree with my hon. Friend that the collection of funds by more than one Society involves waste of effort. The remedy is, I think, for the public to appreciate fully the fact that the authorized Society for this purpose is the one I have mentioned."

As we have, as well as this work in hand for the Canadian Army horses, a large development of work for horses of other regiments of the British Army, we are desirous of obtaining all the support we can get, and therefore I appeal to your readers to support us in any way they can by sending all contributions to our Fund, it should be only too pleased to receive a letter from any of your readers to send them our latest report and reading matter on the subject of the Fund to show the vast amount of work we have already accomplished.

Cheques, postal orders, or any money sent should be addressed to the Treasurer of the Society, C. A. Phillips, Esq., The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 105, Jermyn street, London, S. W. England.

I am, Sir, etc.,  
Portland,  
Chairman of the Fund.  
Montague Fowler,  
Hon. Secretary

## BIG MONEY FOR FARMERS IN CRATE FATTENING POULTRY

Mr. William Kerr, poultry expert of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, has returned from an extended trip to the upper provinces where he had gone in the interests of co-operative markets. The trip was made mainly to study conditions relating to the crate fattening of poultry. This is a matter of the utmost importance to poultry raisers as the trade is making urgent demands for milk-fed poultry. The trouble is that this great demand is not being satisfied and Mr. Kerr is going to do everything in his power to bring to the notice of Prince Edward Island farmers the means by which they may receive double the present price they are getting for poultry. He thinks there is a splendid opening here for crate fattening poultry.

During his trip Mr. Kerr visited the big poultry plants at London, Guelph, Toronto and Montreal and comes back with an aroused conception of the great possibilities in store for the Prince Edward Island farmers if they but do their part in the great campaign about to be inaugurated for better poultry and bigger prices.

## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

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## BIRTHDAYS.

A birthday is a solemn thing; a few low realizes then, how speedily the days take wing, the days that do not come again. A little grayer than last year, a little slower in my gait, I feel the dump is drawing near, and still I keep my smile on straight. A little failure of my sight; a bit more deafness in my ears; a few more aches—but that's all right! I would not stop the scudding years. My bald spot is a bit more wide, my muscles grow a trifle slack; I have more stitches in my side, a few more cricks are in my back. But yonder vault of azure bends above no gladder heart than mine, for all about me there are friends, who keep an old gent feeling fine. Their kind words make my bosom swell, and fill my pibald eyes with tears; they tell me I am looking well, and hope I'll live a hundred years. A few more symptoms of the gout have vainly tried to kill my joy, a few more teeth have fallen out, but I'm as happy as a boy.

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## POISONOUS GASES OF THREE KINDS

Most Deadly Variety Was Personally Investigated by U. S. Attache.

SPEAKS IN WHISPER.  
Liquid Flames and Tear-Producers Called Legitimate Form of Warfare.

PARIS, August 9.—Col. Spencer Cosby, United States military attache at Paris, has been speaking in a hoarse whisper of late. His friends have noted it and have expressed their regrets at his very bad cold. Col. Cosby's voice has not permitted him to reply, and he has let it go at that—a cold. But it was not a cold.

The use which the German army has made of poison gas in the present war has brought a new and terrible element of destruction into military science. Just what this terrible new agency is, what part it plays in the offensive and defensive tactics, and to what extent if any it must be reckoned with as a permanent element in future warfare—these are problems which the military experts throughout the world are trying to determine. Here in France, where the poison gas has been used with most deadly effects in Champagne, Argonne and all along the fighting line, its ravage has been particularly apparent, and the military attaches of many countries have been active in securing data for their Governments on this new agency.

Col. Cosby shared the keen interest of his brother military investigators and in one respect he went far beyond them. There was ample data from the battlefields and the hospitals where ghastly patients were a living evidence of the effects of the new warfare. But Col. Cosby determined on a direct personal investigation of the element itself—the poison gas in all its forms—just as a medical scientist has at times put some new serum to the supreme test on himself.

"But you should be warned of the extreme risk," said the chief chemist. "It is very dangerous—a matter of life and death."

Yet against the warning was the feeling that a mysterious agency of warfare needed to be explored to its very end. And so the work was given to go ahead and the official wheels turned swiftly in bringing together all sorts of gas, fresh and powerful, from the nearby fighting fronts.

The facilities for such a test of the gases was not easily obtained. But these were at last secured and the American military attache was the first and only one to be granted these exceptional facilities. With these preparations arranged, Colonel Cosby found himself in the presence of long lines of bottles, ranged on shelves, such as in a chemist's shop. Surgeons and white-garbed attendants and chemical experts were about with pestle and mortar, vacuum pumps and air-tight jars, making experiments and tests of gases and antidotes. Nearby hung a line of gas masks with gasping eye holes used to counteract the poisonous fumes.

## THE LESS DEADLY VARIETIES.

The large bottles contained the various forms of liquid gas, direct from the front, and in varying degrees of strength. Most of them showed a volatile, yellowish liquid, which on being exposed to the air gave off the deadly gases which have wrought such havoc. There were three distinct groups of these gases, first, those bursting into flames and commonly known as liquid flames; second the tear-producing gases, which do not kill or permanently maim, but which so blind a column of rushing troops that they become helpless and are brought to a halt, and third the actual poison gas, which suffocates and kills with 10 times the horror of a bullet or shell. This last, it is the belief of military experts, is a barbaric form of warfare which must be ultimately banned by the universal sentiment of civilization. But they are equally of the belief that the lesser forms of gas—which do not kill, but merely interrupt the forward progress of an attack—are a permanent element of defensive military strategy which must be taken into consideration in future warfare.

"This is the least deadly," explained the chief chemist, as he presented one of the bottles containing the inflammatory gas. He drew the glass stopper very cautiously, and Colonel Cosby took a slight whiff of the gas. It was not overpowering or violent in its affect—only a pungent odor of ether. Now the second class of gases was reached—the tear-producing gases—and these, too, were tested in the same way. These also were the sharp odor of ether and perceptible effect on the eyes. Colonel Cosby was beginning to think the gases were not so very bad after all.

They had now reached the pigeon gas—the deadly gas which clutches and kills. The chemist paused. "You will not try this," he said appealingly. "Yes! all of them," said the Colonel positively, recalling the rather agreeable pungent odor of the other gases. Then we must be very cautious," said the chemist. "Place yourself a-bout a foot away from the bottles. I will raise the glass stopper the slightest possible fraction of an inch, so that only an insignificant portion of gas can escape—but it will be enough. Now ready."

He drew the stopper the slightest particle, and oily for an instant, with Colonel Cosby a foot away. But in that instant the Colonel felt he had been hurled back 20 feet. Tongues of fire were flitting at his throat, and ten thousand needles were darting around his neck. It seemed as though live vitriol had been emptied in his mouth and was coursing through his veins. His whole vocal system was paralyzed. This infinitesimal portion of the deadly gas had, in an instant, overpowered him.

## A "LARYNGITIS" THAT KILLS.

It was some little time before Colonel Cosby was in a position to disperse his testees. The chief chemist said the effect won't continue some

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hours and probably some days. It would be most observable, he said, in eating or drinking. Colonel Cosby took an auto home, his throat still on fire, but not, thank God, wise physically affected. That night every mouthful of dinner had the unmistakable taste of the poison gas; each draught of water had the same taste of the deadly gas; and even the puffs of a cigar had the taste of so many puffs of this death-dealing gas—always the fiery needles and so many draughts of vitriol. Colonel Cosby could speak to his family only in inarticulate whispers. They were naturally much concerned over the possible after-effects.

## Hun Airmen Bomb Hospital Filled With Non-Combatants

(Canadian Press Despatch.) PARIS, Aug. 15.—A German aeroplane dropped bombs on Rheims, while German batteries shelled various quarters of that city, destroying the civil hospital and killing six persons.

The text of the official statement follows: "Bad weather hampered operations on the greater part of the front. There was a somewhat lively artillery duel on various sectors south of the Somme and also on the right bank of the Meuse. An intermittent cannonade took place everywhere else.

"Yesterday evening an enemy aeroplane threw bombs, including several of an incendiary type, on Rheims, while the German batteries fired on different quarters of the town. The civil hospital, adjoining the Church of St. Romi, and a dispensary were destroyed. Six civilians were killed."

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**WOUNDED ISLANDER IN CONVALESCENT HOME**

Mrs. Ernest Griffin, Albion Bay, has received the following letter from the Record Office, Ottawa, regarding her son, 1787 L. Cpl. William Brenton Davey, of the C.E.F., whose interesting letters have appeared from time to time in The Guardian:

"Madam,—I have the honor to state that information has been received by mail from England to the effect that your son, who had been suffering from a severe gunshot wound in the jaw, was transferred from County of London Weir Hospital to the Canadian Divisional Convalescent Hospital, Woodcote Park, Epsom, England, on July 16th, 1916. Any other information will be communicated to you without delay."

L. Cpl. Davey writes his mother also as follows:

July 26, 1916.

Dear Mother,—Just a line to let you

know I am not at the same hospital. I am at a convalescent home. It is a nice place, and I've had more freedom than in hospital. I had a Board the other day, and they marked me for hospital again, but I asked not to go. So don't know what they are going to do with me. My neck is affected. Will see no more fighting at any rate whether I get my ticket or not. Glad to know you are all well. The weather here is awfully hot. It is worse on me than the cold weather. We are unites, so my letter will be short. Best regards to the children. Will write tomorrow.

Your loving son,  
L. Cpl. W. B. DAVEY.

I fell from a building and received what the doctor called a very bad sprained ankle, and told me I must not walk for three weeks. I got MINARD'S ENLIVENMENT and in six days I was out to work again. I think it the best Liniment made.

ARCHIE E. LAUNDRY,  
Edmonton.

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