

The Charlottetown Guardian

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1917.

STREET CAR SERVICE.

As reported in yesterday morning's Guardian, the Charlottetown Street Car Company Limited has asked the City Council for exemption from taxation for a period of fifteen years, on their proposed plant and also that the Council recommend to the Provincial Legislature the incorporation of the Company.

Exemption from taxation for a service which many other cities have not only exempted but bonused heavily, is a very small price to pay for a privilege that cannot but be of incalculable benefit to the City, and while there may possibly be a few citizens who will shy at this or any other forward step, we have no doubt the great majority of our citizens will welcome the innovation with both hands and be ready to extend to it any reasonable privileges that may be asked for, including exemption.

It has long been admitted that without some such service as this any further growth of the City is impossible. The suburbs, in which alone any further building is now possible, are already too far from the business portion of the City, and without a car service there can be no further extension into the country. With such a service the outskirts can be built up where land is available at reasonable prices, the City's bounds will be extended, residences will be built on uncramped grounds and the City will grow.

In a recent issue The Guardian gave a brief description of the cars which the company propose to operate, one of which was given a try-out on the streets. The car was pronounced by those who had the privilege of driving in it, admirably suited for the purpose, comfortable in any kind of weather, with ample accommodation for eighteen or twenty people, electrically lighted and heated, and capable of developing sufficient speed for street car purposes. It is proposed to operate five or six of these cars to begin with and to give a regular scheduled service on such streets and to such points as may be agreed upon. What this would mean to the City, to visitors, to those who cannot afford the luxury of an automobile or even of a team for a drive around the City is simply incalculable. It would make daily shopping possible for those living in the outskirts, giving them all the privileges enjoyed by the City residents, it would centralize and at the same time enlarge the City. Later, points farther out in the country would be reached and suburban towns and villages would grow up where there are now the corner grocery or the blacksmith shop.

The City Council deferred decision on the Company's petition in order to give citizens an opportunity to express an opinion. We do not know how it is proposed to obtain this expression of opinion. Possibly a public meeting may be held. This means of gauging public opinion, while perhaps the most feasible, is not always the most reliable. There are kickers in every community, kickers by choice as well as by natural inborn perversity, and the public meeting is their paradise. Here they can spout and declaim and orate, inspired by the applause of those who are laughing at them and "egging" them on, and it has happened more than once that such orations have given a false color to public meetings. The committee entrusted with the task of ascertaining the opinion of the citizens, Councillors Wright, Jenkins and McNevin, will no doubt do so in a business-like manner and will take their cue from representative business men who have a stake in the City and who are interested in its development and progress.

Doubtless there will be some details to consider, the rights of the City as well as those of the Company must be protected but no difficulty is anticipated on this score. The Company is composed of local men who are risking their money in the venture. They are entitled to all the protection and all the privileges the City can give them, and we feel assured they will not demand any more. The venture is a new one, an experiment that, if successful, has much of promise to the City while to its promoters it means a heavy investment and risk. It is sincerely hoped that it will, at its inception, be given the hearty and cordial support of the citizens, that no nagging objections will be raised, either through natural antipathy to everything that is progressive or fear that some one is going to make a dollar out of it. It is the only kind of street car service possible for Charlottetown and will meet the requirements of the City practically as well as would a street railway service, the cost of which to a city of this size would be prohibitive.

BOMBHELL--AND "THE PIT"

The suggestion by the Guardian that Prohibition be taken out of politics has fallen like a bombshell on Mr. Schurman and the Patriot. That was the last thing they hoped for and they do not take at all kindly to the suggestion. And why should they? For four years they have used Prohibition as a weapon with which to attack the Government, and what benefit would accrue to them to have an independent commission responsible for the administration of the Prohibitory Law? The idea is absurd! Why it would be

the Commission and not the Government which would be responsible for alleged sins of omission or commission—and that would hardly suit the book of either the Patriot or Mr. Schurman. Hence the recent lack-rimosity and animosity.

Mr. Schurman, with that propensity for grovelling in the nastiness of life, gave in the Patriot an alleged instance of evidence adduced by the Alliance detectives of immorality and shebeening. We challenge Mr. Schurman to prove any such evidence was ever produced in Court.

It will be remembered Mr. Schurman wrote a letter along similar lines to the Guardian in January, 1914, which was reproduced in the Patriot. As a result Mr. Schurman was summoned before the Grand Jury, and according to his own confession escaped by alleging that the case had not occurred in Charlottetown. Yet with this alleged evidence in his possession and the witnesses present, Mr. Schurman failed to prosecute the alleged guilty party.

That incident occurred on January 15th, 1914. It was after the publication of his letter in its own columns that the Patriot repudiated the methods of Mr. Schurman and his detectives. In its issue of Feb. 2, 1914, in reply to a letter signed by the Alliance Executive, the Patriot said:

"We do not believe and never will stand for leading men into temptation and then hailing them before the courts of justice, after they have yielded to the temptation. This is not the way to uphold the morality of the community. It is not a proper lesson for the young. It is bad in theory and worse in practice. . . . The disgraceful ending to the matter and the flagrant miscarriage of justice are sufficient verification of the Scripture that 'Whosoever diggeth a pit shall fall therein.'"

If this be not justification of Premier Matheson and condemnation of Mr. Schurman from the mouth of The Patriot words have no meaning.

There is just one point under discussion, as raised by Mr. Schurman in his letter to the Patriot. We have quoted from the Premier's speech to show that Mr. Schurman misrepresented his attitude, and we now quote from the Patriot to show that the Editor of the Patriot likewise condemned and repudiated the methods pursued by Mr. Schurman's sleuths.

NEW BOOKS.

The Guardian has received from the publishers, the National Magazine Association, of Omaha, U. S. A., a new and revised edition of "Immortality established through Science," by Mr. John O. Yeiser, a leading lawyer of Nebraska. The author undertakes to prove that immortality is a culmination of evolution. He takes the view that man has evolved from a very low order of life, that his evolution was the result of mental push rather than of physical exertion, that it was directed by desire rather than by the mere circumstances of accident. The mind, he argues, is a compelling force which develops an intent to overcome resistance. Environment and man's desire to progress has brought him to his present state of development. If his desire to progress has brought him this far, the author asks, why may not his desire for a life after what we call death create such a state of future existence? The author sees no conflict between science and religion, indeed he argues that the one is a complement of the other. He takes the story of the creation of the world or the evolution of the solar universe as the starting point and by means of geology, biology, psychology and other branches of science ingeniously and very interestingly leads up to the evolution of immortality. The book is exceedingly interesting and informative bringing the reader into touch with the latest discoveries of science and the most modern views on evolution, being illustrated by many instructive plates. It is well worth reading.

TO SAVE THE REMAINDER.

To save the remainder of the interned ships in United States ports, if any remain to be saved, the United States Government has introduced a bill in Congress to make ship sabotage a felony. Referring to this belated precaution and what led up to it the Brooklyn Eagle says:

"We suppose many Americans have been inclined to treat as pure academicism that caution which has prevented the National Government of the United States from taking physical possession of German merchant vessels tied up in our harbors for the purpose of protecting them from injury at the orders of their owners. How much damage has been done no one knows. The view followed was one that aimed at the least possible irritation to the German Government. Technically it would have been easy enough to find a pretext for acting. The mere fact that in most of the owning companies some of the stock is held by American citizens, and that the right of a board of directors to destroy a minority's property is questionable, might have been made use of. But Germany would have treated this as a pretext, and the conservation would have been 'seizure' not distinguished in the German mind from what Portugal did about a year ago.

If war were declared, we might requisition these vessels, paying the private owners for their use. That would be technically correct under international law. Pending a declaration of war, we have chosen as a matter of discretion to hold that they are at the disposal of the owners, free to leave port when they like, and to be improved or dismantled as the owners may elect.

But the bill now introduced in Congress to make sabotage, the wilful disabling of an foreign ship in our harbors, a felony, may be made law without any offense to any reasoning mind. It ought to be a felony. There is no proper or laudable purpose for smashing machinery, no matter who orders the smashing to be done, and no one can say whether the vessel is British or German. The

YOUNG ISLAND HERO FALLEN

Comrades in arms and College Chums tells of the sterling qualities of Lance Corporal John Earle Lockerby who fell fighting for King and Country.

In response to enquiries instituted by the young man's father, Mr. Frederick J. Lockerby, of Hamilton, Prince Edward Island, the Adjutant-General of Canadian Militia writes, under date of December 14th, 1916, as follows:—"I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., and in reply I deeply regret to state that the only information which has been received at Militia Headquarters regarding the soldier, 22, Private John Earle Lockerby, Canadian Expeditionary Force, is that he has been reported missing, believed killed in action, September 16th, 1916."

Other enquiries instituted through the Canadian Red Cross Society of London and many personal, interested friends at the front, all tend to corroborate the filing of the Militia Dept., "believed killed in action." At the time of his enlistment, 1914, Mr. Lockerby was a student in theology at Dalhousie University. He and a number of his fellow students joined the cycle corps in which he remained until July, 1916, when he and a much valued comrade, a Mr. B. C. Salter, transferred to "C" Company, 42 Battalion, 2nd Canadian Division. They fought side by side and shared the strenuous life together in the trenches. At the beginning they had served in Flanders, but were now in France doing their share in the terrible struggle on the Somme. Such was their heroic conduct that both were promoted on the field. Mr. Salter has given a thrilling description of the tragic fate of Earle Lockerby, his "old mate" and comrade in arms, a part of his interesting but sad letter being as follows:—"On the 15th September our battalion was in an advance on the Somme. Gaps and went over the parapet together and reached the German trench side by side. The next afternoon we were ordered 'over again and being 'hort of N. C. O.'s we were not allowed to stay together. I was on the extreme left of the company while he was to the right of the centre. There was no artillery preparation for an attack, and the barrage which started shortly before we went over the top, was ineffective. There was supposed to be another battalion on the right of our two companies while our life was in the air. The air service later reported that we advanced just as the Huns were about to counter-attack in an effort to break the line. The Huns had captured on the previous day, and that they had troops massed in their front line. At any rate we were fairly mowed down with machine gun and rifle fire. We had four hundred yards or more to cover in order to reach the Huns and it is not surprising that we never reached our objective. All that I can remember at the time could not be proud of the courage and steadiness with which the boys advanced, but at last a few remained and was spread over so wide a front that all realized the folly of going further and we did the only thing possible, under the circumstances, to work cover in the shellholes and wait for darkness in order to retire. Till then I had not seen Earle since wishing him good-bye and good luck shortly before leaving our trench. Now, however, I thought of him again and he must have thought of me at the same time for I raised my head and looked to the right just as he was no longer there. I waived and smiled and he answered likewise. That was the last I saw of him and I've been able to find nobody who saw him afterwards. While living in the shell-holes we were showered with shrapnel and I have no doubt that some of this struck Earle. When darkness came on I started towards the trench. I had seen him but one of the bombers was a couple of shell-holes from me very badly wounded and so I had to get him back to our trench. I enquired for Earle but he had not returned. Before I could start back looking for him our company commander saw me and ordered me to get on my feet and carry out of the trench back to the dressing station, a couple of miles back. He promised that patrols would be sent out to look for the wounded and bring them in. This was done but Earle was not brought back. Earle Lockerby was a good boy and a good soldier. Had he known that death was waiting for him, would he have taken that parapet with his characteristic enthusiasm and determination. I miss him greatly."

This does his friend and faithful comrade tell of his last hours with John Earle Lockerby, who made the great sacrifice in the battle of Courcellette, September 16th, 1916. His promotion to the rank of sergeant on the field has already been referred to. Writing to his mother under date of August 15th, 1916, Earle says: "We are lance corporals now. It came as a surprise. We were ordered to 'fall in' and expected some sort of fatigue duty. Instead, we were marched before the officer commanding the company and notified of the appointments. Never did a braver and more patriotic heart face the enemy's guns. A college student, almost through his course, with the promise of a brilliant career. To some it will appear strange that he should, as it were, stop in his chosen life's work on the khaki and thus bid adieu to the professors of England and the perpetrators of every diabolical deed suggested by Satan, himself. But such was his hatred of German usurpation and 'rightfulness' that his very soul was stirred within him and he resolved that whatever others should do he would place his all upon the altar of country and be the consequence serious or otherwise, strike that iniquity, and strike it with all his might. His letters to his parents reveal the inner life of this young hero. Having resolved to offer his services he proceeded to qualify, while in Dalhousie for a commission, but before he was prepared to take his commission the second contingent was ready to start for England and in his enthusiasm he decided to go and complete his course later. Describing the strenuous life in the trenches he stops to say: "Wealth,

pleasure and comfort are desirable, but they are not all. It is marvellous how soldiers daily come in, cut and wounded, suffer without a murmur. Knowing conditions as they exist here I would be filled with remorse to wear civilian clothes." Again, while fighting in Belgium he says: "Some Canadian soldiers burying their comrades in a field in Belgium wrote on the rough slab this inscription:—"To Canada: Who pass this monument know That we died content."

Those who remain at home know that we are suffering for them are hardly worthy of such an epitaph. The New Glasgow, N. S., Chronicle, in speaking of Mr. Lockerby's death says: "At the time of his enlistment he was a student at Dalhousie University and gave fine promise of a very useful career. The Presbyterians of Trenton will remember him as having conducted the services for them, with much acceptance, for two Sundays during the vacancy in the pastorate. That he was a good soldier is shown by the fact that having enlisted as a private he was promoted on the field." Again The Presbyterian Witness of Sept. 6th, 1913, has the following: "What can be done to deepen the interest in missions is exemplified by the earnest labors of one of our students, Mr. Lockerby, during the short time he has had charge of Brockway Mission. The people were first impressed by an earnest sermon on Stewardship, God's ownership of our lives and all our possessions. . . . Organization followed instruction and all the young men promised three days' wages annually for missions. The mothers, who are farmers' wives, who rest from the Sunday school and the sum of \$165 was realized. Not only a contribution but there is manifested keen interest in the missionary operations of our church."

Time and space forbid quoting further reference to Mr. J. E. Lockerby's success as a worker in the Master's vineyard. The many letters received by his parents all testifying to his ability and excellence of character are a source of much comfort to them. The Boy Scouts organized at Bay of Islands, Nfld. will not soon forget their young friend whom they shall see no more on this side the eternal shore. "He heard the call of country clear; He weighed no circumstance; Afar from those who held him dear, He lies tonight—in France."

Some men live long and do but little to make the world better. This young hero has laid down his life whilst a young man, but he has done much. He rests from his labors but the seed sown will germinate into an abundant harvest. The teachings of the Gospel, under such circumstances must be the solace of his parents and brothers. To these teachings he bequeathed are commended.

Dr. James L. Hughes (a brother of Sir Sam) has enriched the poetry of today, from which one of the five verses is here quoted. Dr. Hughes had

(Continued on page seven.)

THE BEST FIDDLES

MADE FROM OLD INSTRUMENTS. The best fiddle-makers of modern times—instead of producing new instruments which can be turned out by ordinary workmen more cheaply and quickly—devote their time to the purchase, restoration and sale of old fiddles—which always find a ready sale among artists at good prices.

The violin is nearest to the human voice in its purity of tone and power of expression—and a violin obligato to a song is one of the highest forms of musical enjoyment. Many of the four hundred songs in "Heart Songs" lend themselves to this method of accompaniment. The very unusual opportunity offered by this paper to possess this unrivalled song treasury has been seized by many hundreds of its readers. The contract is drawing to a close, however, and our distribution cannot last much longer. We urge those who have not yet secured a copy of "Heart Songs" to do so at once. Our offer is almost a gift, being less than original cost of manufacture. The "Heart Songs" coupon in today's paper explains the terms.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

THE BRAVE AT HOME.

The maid who binds her warrior's sash, With smile that well her pain disguises, The while beneath her drooping lash One starry tear drop hangs and trembles. Though Heaven alone records the tear, And fame shall never know her story, Her heart has shed a drop as dear As e'er bedewed the field of glory! The wife who girds her husband's sword, And bravely speaks the cheering word What though her heart be rent as under, The mother who conceals her grief, While to her breast her son she presses, Then breathes a few brave words and brief, Kissing the patriot brow she blesses. With no one but her secret God To know the pain that weighs upon her, Sheds holy blood, as e'er the seed Received on Freedom's field of honor! —THOMAS BUCHANAN REED.

ALL ABOUT THE MILITIA

SIR THOMAS WHITE, MINISTER OF FINANCE TELLS AN INTERESTING STORY ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITIA DEPARTMENT UNDER SIR SAM HUGHES.

presentations to your most earnest consideration. Mr. MARCOLL: Will the minister read the answers to any of those letters? Sir THOMAS WHITE: There are no answers. I sent them to the Prime Minister, and no replies came to hand except, possibly, acknowledgments. It was perfectly clear to all of us—not only to me as Minister of Finance, but to the Prime Minister and to the Government as a whole—that the time had arrived when, on account of our great expenditures, of the enormous forces that we had in Great Britain and of the necessity for re-ordinating the services in Great Britain and on the Continent, a Minister of Overseas Services had to be appointed. No man, I care not who he is could administer from Ottawa military affairs three thousand miles away, and involving as much expenditure as the whole Parliament of Canada administered ten years ago. No minister could do it successfully and as it should be done, having regard to the necessity for safeguarding the public interest. I say, further that if I had been Minister of Militia, I should have insisted upon the appointment of an Overseas Minister of Militia; so that I have pretty clear views as to the necessity for taking that course.

Sir SAM HUGHES: Why not appoint an Overseas Minister of Finance? Sir THOMAS WHITE: Because the situation does not demand it. Mr. PUGSLEY: It is finance we are dealing with. Sir THOMAS WHITE: I beg my friend's pardon. So far as general finances are concerned, the work over there has not been very greatly increased; it is the expenditure in connection with the military situation that has increased.

My hon. friend has inadvertently to the appointment of an Overseas Minister; he has been disposed to criticize it. Well, if I read correctly the correspondence, he was willing that an Overseas Minister should be appointed. He wanted Sir Max Aitken to be appointed. Sir SAM HUGHES: Never. Sir THOMAS WHITE: The correspondence seems to indicate that. If the hon. gentleman, however, says that I am wrong, I shall be glad to withdraw my remark at once. Sir SAM HUGHES: The hon. gentleman can read the English language; that is all I have to say. There was nothing of the kind in the correspondence. Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Sir SAM HUGHES: The hon. gentleman made a reference to me; if he does not wish me to say anything, I shall have to sit down. Sir THOMAS WHITE: Go on. Sir SAM HUGHES: I have been using Sir Max Aitken as an intermediary—a gentleman who is capable of carrying out any job that is handed over to him, unlike the other gentleman who was put in there. My suggestion was not that Sir Max Aitken should be a Minister of the Crown, but that he should have rank or title to give him authority.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: As Minister of Finance I consider it my peculiar duty to the citizens and taxpayers of Canada to safeguard our expenditures here and in Great Britain to the utmost possible extent, and upon these letters that I have read to the House I may rest my case before this Parliament or before any body of citizens in Canada. At six o'clock, the House took recess.

(To be continued.)

ROADMASTER'S PATRIOTIC FUND

A Start Made—Who Follows in the Train?

- In response to several appeals, Mr. A. W. Bruce, Red Point, has opened a Roadmaster's Patriotic Fund, the idea being that every Roadmaster contribute \$2.50 to the Fund. The money may be sent to Mr. A. W. Bruce, to Mr. H. W. Binning, Bank of Nova Scotia, or to the Editor of the Guardian, and it will be acknowledged in the columns of the Guardian. Alex. A. McDonald, Little Pond, \$2.50. D. J. McDonald, Glenfinnan, \$5.00. E. S. Norton, Montague, 2.50. C. O. Rankin, Mt. Allison, \$3.00. Alfred F. Ross, North Lakeville, 2.00. E. B. McLaren, Georgetown, \$2.50. David T. Doyer, Saffolk, \$2.00. William Coady, Hazelbrook, 2.00. John O. Campbell, Long River, 2.00. Mr. Theo. Egan, Enmore Road, \$2.50. James J. McNeil, Miscouche, \$3.00. W. H. Wood, Mt. Mellick, 2.50. Frank Driscoll, Mt. Herbert, 2.50. Francis Hagan, Kelly's Cross, 2.00. Harry Webster, Cape Traverse, \$2.50. D. A. McTavish, Newton, Belfast, 2.00. Paul McDonald, East Point Road, 2.00. Geo. A. Leslie (per Mr. Grin-sell), Charwood, 2.50. Patrick Smith, Newton, E., 2.00. Dominique Doiron, Rustico, 2.00. Peter Morrison, Granville, \$2.50. NOTE:—By request it has been agreed to accept \$2 contributions as it is more convenient to mail this amount.

Rubbers and Overshoes

Hard-wearing and serviceable. The heavy harty kind that will stand a lot of rough usage and some of light material but just as good wear for the average man. Lumberman's rubbers, laced and buckled tan and black leather tops also high rubber tops.

Ladies holeproof Hosiery Silk Cashmere and Lustr First class repairing department in connection Goff Bros.