

The Charlottetown Guardian

Morning Daily (founded 1891), \$3.50 per year, (Delivered) in advance; \$2.50 per year (mailed) in advance, in Canada, and \$3.00 for U.S.A.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1918.

THE CALL FOR FOOD

In yesterday's issue of The Guardian, we published a report of the address delivered by Dr. J. W. Robertson on the food situation and the dire necessity for increased production.

As frequently said in these columns, it is difficult for us, in the midst of our abundance, to realize that starvation threatens our Allies, but this is the bare, unvarnished fact, and as starvation threatens them, just as surely defeat and ruin threaten us.

The situation in a nut shell is this: unless production is very greatly increased, unless we increase our cultivated acreage to an average extent of five additional acres per farm, we are going to fall short.

So serious is the situation that the Legislature, as stated in yesterday's report of the meeting addressed by Dr. Robertson, is going to adjourn for a week—the week of April 15 to 20th, to enable the members to place the situation before their constituents, to confer with them, to offer assistance where necessary, and to devise ways and means by which this average increase of five acres per farm may be secured.

There are many farmers who will require assistance; where there is any reasonable promise of assistance being judiciously used, such assistance will be given; where advice is necessary, it will be given; a supreme effort will be made to impress upon the people the urgent need of everybody doing much more than usual.

We feel sure that the only thing necessary is to enable our farmers to realize that this is a matter of life and death; so far this has not been realized. This once understood, the farmers will do their part as they have done who have sacrificed every comfort and every hope on the battlefield.

THE WAR

Has the second great drive for Amiens materialized? This is the question an answer to which is now eagerly awaited. We know the troops of both belligerents are on the ground; that the Germans have drawn up over seventy divisions for a final attempt to break through that line of steel that is guarding western France, that line that has bent without breaking and that, in its bending, inflicted frightful losses upon the enemy.

corpse-strewn battlefield and in the train loads of wounded returning to Germany, defeat, not victory. German prisoners who had been told of the great "victory" and who believed they had practically won the war were fearfully undeceived as they were marched over miles upon miles of ground literally carpeted with the grey-clad bodies of their comrades with the odour of death in every breeze.

General Foch, who knows the whole situation, who knows the strength of the enemy and of his Allies assures us we may "regard the future with tranquility."

What will be the next move? Will Germany make another strategic retreat to the former Hindenburg line? What will be the result of the second drive at the unbroken and unbreakable line of steel? Can she persuade her people longer that holding the Hindenburg line is a victory? Is there going to be another stalemate on the Western front? These are questions that the next few days must answer, and we can only wait.

LINKING UP AUSTRALIA

A thousand miles of waterless wilderness which cut Western Australia off from the eastern states has been bridged, and from Brisbane in Queensland to Perth in Western Australia, a distance of 3,200 miles, the capitals of all the mainland states are now linked by railways.

This task is considered to be without a parallel in the history of railway building. Longer lines have been built, presenting far greater engineering difficulties, but nowhere else in the world has a railway been built across a thousand miles of waterless country which for nearly eight hundred miles is absolutely uninhabited.

Like our own national Transcontinental the actual cost has far exceeded the original estimate. It had been proposed to build it for less than \$20,000,000, but the total cost before the line is finally completed and equipped will be nearly double that amount. Trains are now running over the railway.

However, many years are sure to pass before Australian railways realize their highest state of efficiency. Lack of wisdom in the early days allowed railways of different parts of the country to be laid down. The new transcontinental had to face this mammoth difficulty. There are many breaks of gauge from the 3 feet 6 inches of the West Australian line to the 4 feet 8 1/2 inches of the transcontinental at Kalgoorlie, then back to 3 feet 6 inches at Port Augusta, and still another change to 5 feet 3 inches on the Adelaide to Melbourne line.

NOTES

It seems to be the inevitable fate of British troops to fight against superior numbers. Perhaps they would be bewildered if ever they found the numerical odds in their favor.

Between 60,000 and 70,000 men drafted into the American army are illiterates or near-illiterates, and among those subject to draft in the next year or two are 700,000 who can neither read nor write.

Those Bolsheviks are very uncertain. They have now got an idea that it might be a good thing to fight the Germans, and so they have turned round and recaptured Odessa and other Russian cities from their conquerors. The joke seems to be on the Germans.

This German offensive reveals the awfulness of modern war organization. No matter how brave or resourceful they may be, small nations cannot hope to stand up against large ones organized on the German system. Sheer weight of blood and iron crushes through. The large nations have to be guarantors of the small.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Their Excellencies the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire were present on Tuesday in Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa at the special service of intercession on behalf of our armies engaged in the present great struggle.

Among the distinguished visitors here this week is Dr. J. W. Robertson who is visiting the Province in the interests of the Increased Production Campaign. His address in the Legislative Council Chamber on Thursday night was a most impressive one and did very much to emphasize the seriousness of the food situation.

The services at the different city churches Sunday were all largely attended, the musical features, sermons and decorations were appropriate to the Easter festival.

Sympathy for Mrs. Temple MacDonald and relatives is being generally expressed on the death of Major MacDonald, news of whose death from wounds reached the City yesterday.

Col. H. M. Davison and Mr. L. E. Prowse are being welcomed home from their extended trip overseas and are telling many interesting tales of the boys from home and of the brave deeds of the Canadians as a whole.

Mrs. (Dr.) Hunt who has been visiting her mother Mrs. Rogers of Fairholm is leaving this morning on return to Malton, Mass.

The "Great Drive" of the past week has caused the gravest anxiety in this Province and the eyes of all are now bent on the valiant army in its fight for Freedom and honor.

Major and Mrs. Goodwill's friends will be interested in their transference from Ottawa to Cobourg, where they are to reside.

Mrs. McLean of Souris has gone to Ottawa to spend the Session with Senator McLean.

Dr. and Mrs. Lunde who have made many friends during their sojourn in this city are leaving Monday for Montreal accompanied by their two bright young children.

Wide indeed is the circle in which will be received with gratification the news that Principal MacKinnon is expected in Halifax in time for the Convocation of the Presbyterian College, Pine Hill, Warrim will be his welcome home and pleasant will it be to see him in his accustomed place on the evening of Convocation day—April 15, Captain MacKinnon is also returning to Canada to give addresses throughout the Dominion on the Canadian Chaplain services.

The Union Services this week are being quite widely attended and are held preparatory to the evangelistic services to open shortly under the direction of Rev. Ritchie Bell.

A number of the younger social set were pleasantly entertained one evening this week by Miss Hopkirk, who is a delightful hostess. Games, guessing contests and music made up the delightful entertainment and were most agreeably discussed while partaking of dainty refreshments.

Camouflage teas are quite popular on the mainland and large sums are being realized for patriotic purposes while the novelty of arrangements causes delightful surprises.

After an enjoyable visit in St. John and Moncton Mrs. MacCreedy returned home on Thursday.

The members of the Legislature had a pleasant trip to Borden on Thursday and greatly enjoyed the outing.

That a tablet in honor of Miss Eleanor Robinson has been placed in the Public Library, St. John by friends and admirers of this talented lady who death was such a serious loss to the educational work of the city, is but a fitting tribute to her memory. Miss Robinson had quite a number of friends in this city and especially remembered by those who attended the Summer School at which she was in attendance.

Mrs. W. S. Stewart returned from Moncton Thursday after a delightful visit to her sister Mrs. Jones.

Major H. H. Sterns who has been home on a furlough is now on his way overseas.

Miss Ethel Gregor who recently returned from an extended visit to New York and Boston left Thursday on a visit to friends in Calgary.

Besides Her Majesty Queen Mary both Queen Alexandra and H. R. H. Princess Victoria contributed pearls to the Red Cross Pearl Necklace in England.

One of the nicest concerts for some time was given by the little folks of the First Methodist Sunday school on Monday evening showing careful training and much natural talent.

Word has been received that the King has appointed her Royal Highness Princess Patricia of Connaught to be honorary colonel in chief of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battalion, otherwise known as the "Princess Pats."

The sensation; and heroic death of Captain Vernon Castle was a blow to his charming little wife, Irene, famous on the dancing stage and screen. She was prostrated at the news, and the doctor ordered a rest, necessitating a postponement of work at the Pathe studio, where she had just completed "The Hillcrest Mystery" the day before Capt. Castle's aeroplane fall.

The Ladies Aid of St. James Church held a diligent winter's work held their annual tea and bazaar on Thursday afternoon with a record attendance and it is understood receipts upwards of \$400. The sale included the finest of fancy work dainty aprons, boudoir caps, bags of all descriptions, in fact everything useful, including the serviceable kitchen apron. The ladies of St. James Church are noted for their cooking and the refreshment and tea tables left little to be desired.

New York papers have a sensation in the Marchioness of Aberdeen leaving the Palace Theatre stage at the end of the afternoon performance of "My Lady's War Garden Party," at the conclusion of which she was supposed to speak on "Child saving in war time." The statement given out by the Palace management says: "The Marchioness of Aberdeen, who was in the wings, refused to appear on the ground that Miss Evelyn Nesbit had been billed over her as headliner and also because she had not been allotted the star dressing room. The situation arose from the fact that the Palace management, at the request of the Aberdeens, had not regarded her ladyship as a vaudeville performer, but as a great lady who kindly volunteered to speak in aid of charity, this being done in order that the Aberdeens might not appear in a light which would affect their social standing at the Court of King George.

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POTATOES AND HOGS.

Sir,—I notice in your issue of April 5 a letter signed J. D. Livingstone, Kings Co., which voices my sentiments re the farmers and production. I would like to ask what munition manufacturer would prepare or turn wheel in his plant for manufacturing shells, etc. without first signing contract and knowing what he was to receive for his output.

Now we hear the call this year for hog production and it has been suggested that we can make market for our potatoes by feeding them to hogs. Let us see what we can make out of our potatoes by feeding them that way. We find by experience that the average weight for a thrifty hog is 180 lbs. at six months which makes a gain of about one pound per day from birth. Now we find that ten bushels of potatoes and one hundred lbs. of middlings will produce twenty lbs. of pork and at the present price 1.12 c per pound this will amount to \$4.30. Deducting \$2.00 for which hundredweight of middlings (which hundredweight at present) leaves the net of \$2.30; thereby giving us 13c per bushel for our potatoes.

Now we ask that a price be guaranteed for our pork to enable the farmer to go into this line of production and not come out at a loss the same as he did on his potatoes this year. Also we learn by your editorial that the Food Control Board thoroughly canvassed the situation. We would like to know from what source they got their information.

We would like the Food Control Board to do something for the farmer and not to remain as a figure-head.

I am Sir, etc. ANGUS A. STEWART, Kings Co.

Mr. Stewart's point on the marketing of potatoes by feeding them to hogs is well taken. When potatoes are worth 75 cents a bushel, it will pay better to sell them than feed them to any stock. In conversation with a gentleman who has made a success both of growing potatoes and feeding hogs, the Guardian is informed that crushed mixed grain is in any case a more profitable food for fattening hogs and that he finds growing potatoes at 75 cents a bushel a very profitable business.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

FATHER AND SON

By Edgar A. Guest

Be more than his dad, Be a chum to the lad, Be a part of his life, Every hour of the day, Find time to talk with him, Take time to walk with him, Share in his studies, And share in his play, Take him to places, To ball games and races, Teach him the things, That you want him to know, Don't live apart from him, Don't keep your heart from him, Be his best comrade, He's needing you so!

Never neglect him, Though young, still respect him, Hear his opinions, With patience and pride, Show him his error, But be not a terror, Grim-visaged and fearful, When he's at your side, Know what his thoughts are, Know all his playmates, It's easy to learn to, Be such a father, That when trouble gather, You'll be the first one, For counsel, he'll turn to.

You can inspire him, With courage, and fire him, Hot with ambition, For deeds that are good; He'll not betray you, Nor illy repay you, If you have taught him, The things that you should, Father and son, Must in all things be one, Partners in trouble, And comrades in joy, More than a dad, Was the best pal you had, Be such a chum, As you knew, to your boy.

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

As member of the House of Commons of Canada, for my native County of King's, I deem it my duty to give public expression to my sense of appreciation of this signal honor, and to return my grateful thanks to the electors, ladies and gentlemen, who have chosen me, for their representative in the high court of Parliament.

I thank the good people of King's not only for their votes; but for the kindness shown me, and the hospitality extended to me while canvassing, and all through the election campaign. Unfavorable weather conditions and limitation of time prevented me from visiting all parts of the County, but sections that I was unable to reach gave me a generous support on election day, and have my sincere thanks herefor.

My special thanks are due to the overseas military voters from King's, as well as to the soldiers and sailors from that County, who polled their votes in North America. All these military and naval voters cast their ballots overwhelmingly in favor of the Government, and consequently in my favor as the Government candidate. As those most interested in the result of the election, we must assume that the soldiers at the front or elsewhere in active service, were excellent judges of what was best calculated to uphold and advance Canada's cause, so far as the war is concerned. The military vote in North America and overseas is a splendid vindication of the attitude assumed by the Government regarding Canada's participation in the Titanic struggle.

The analysis of the military and naval vote, so far as King's County is concerned, shows the following:—North American vote in full, 70, of which McIsaac received 56 and Hughes 14, exactly 80 per cent. in favor of the Government. European Continental vote in full, 155, McIsaac, 156, Hughes, 33, which shows a percentage of over 82 for the Government. The total military vote in Great Britain, 1622, and was thus divided: McIsaac, 148; Hughes, 14, a percentage of over 92 for the Government.

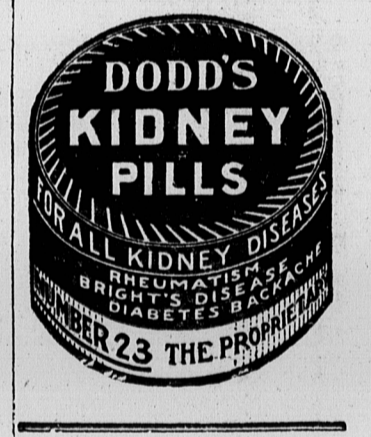
All these votes totalled 421, divided as follows: McIsaac 360, Hughes 61. The percentage in favor of the Government of the total 421 votes is something over 85.

In conclusion I reiterate my grateful thanks to all my friends for their votes and their kindness, and I sincerely trust that my conduct in Parliament will be such as to merit their full approbation.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES McISAAC

March 13, 1918. 4596



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