

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY JANUARY 25th, 1918.

THE ONE GREAT NEED

The one great need today is food production. This point has been so elaborated, so many proofs have been submitted, that it is now patent to everybody who wants to think, that every effort must be put forth by everybody to save our armies and our allies from actual starvation and defeat and ourselves from all the consequences that such a calamity would involve.

In this agricultural province of ours we have so far made no extra efforts of any special importance. Our farmers are, with few exceptions, producing to the limit of their strength and of their farms. From the great majority of our best farmers little, if any more can be expected than what they have done in the past few years, so that if we are to produce more than we are now doing it can only be by adding to producing areas and by bringing in help that is not now engaged in farming.

Through the Military Service Act our man power has been combed down to what is perhaps the limit of necessary farm help. The Act made generous allowance for the exemption of every man of military age who was employed in the production of food. While this applied mainly to farmers' sons and to employees on farms it has not simplified the labour problem. Farm labour will in all probability be more difficult to procure during the coming season than before—unless extraordinary measures are adopted. The towns and villages must now do their part and if they could only be made to realize the situation as it is they would do their part.

There are two ways in which dwellers in the towns and cities can help: one by hiring out on farms and working under the direction of some one who knows what work to give them, or by taking up farming themselves. The former way is open to labourers and to those whose present occupation can be temporarily dispensed with. Under the Military Service Act such men can be conscripted to farm labour. We doubt if such conscription will be practicable as few farmers would care to employ men who took to farming against their will. We feel sure, however, that an appeal will be made to the honour and the patriotism of all and we trust that when it is there will be a generous response.

The second way, going directly into farming is probably open only to those who have the means to equip themselves with the necessary farm implements, stock, seed, fertilizer, etc. We have many such and if they undertake it they will find it profitable as well as patriotic.

In a time like the present with prices as they are, and as they are likely to be for several years, farming even by the amateur and the inexperienced would prove profitable. There is also the back yard and vacant lot farming. Many of our citizens in Charlottetown made this a profitable venture last year and are preparing to take it up more extensively this year. Others made mistakes and are determined to profit by them this year. This kind of farming can be carried on more extensively than last year by renting vacant lots and vacant farms within easy reach of the City or the towns and villages throughout the province.

With actual want staring the world in the face there should be no hesitation on the part of any one who can help grow vegetables or feed of any kind to seize the first opportunity of doing so.

OUR SOLDIERS

There are now in the City a goodly number of young soldiers of the new reinforcements just recruited. They are drilling daily and we are informed by the officers in charge that they are doing excellent work and it is hoped that within the next few days our streets will again be enlivened by the tramp and the marching song of our new army.

The different units that have so far made a short stay in the City on their way to more active scenes have received many kind attentions from our citizens and we feel sure that the short sojourn among us of these young men will be made equally pleasant. The majority of the present unit are strangers in the City and the City owes it to itself and to them to make it as pleasant for them as possible. The transfer from the comforts of home and of friends to barrack life and to association with strangers is not always an agreeable one but its inconveniences and even its comparative

discomforts can be made less onerous by a little attention from the good people who in the past made it their business to be good to the soldier. Our soldiers are today our most honored citizens; the uniform of the King is an open sesame to our homes and to our hearts. Let the short stay of our new little army be made pleasant, for them in receiving, pleasant for us in giving of our hospitality and our thoughtfulness. The length of their stay in Charlottetown is not known; in any case they will not be here very long and they go from here to help their brothers in arms across the sea. We hope to see in the near future the daily parade, to hear again the familiar "Tipperary" and to see again soldiers and citizens mingle in friendly fellowship and mutual helpfulness.

One advantage the present contingent has over its predecessors is the Soldiers' Club Room opened by the Army and Navy Veterans, which we understood is open to them as to returned soldiers. Here they will have an opportunity of meeting with other soldiers and with citizens and get acquainted. It is expected that a number of entertainments will be arranged for shortly and we base our hopes for the soldier's raw recruits and veterans, the heartiest kindness on the part of all citizens.

THE U. S. AND THE WAR

The United States is beginning to learn that war is a stern reality and that it is not going to be won on paper or on the platform. Those who have been up to the neck in war and war effort for over three and a half years had become accustomed to delays, and even to mismanagement; they had already learned that often the cogs of the little war machine, no matter how carefully and elaborately fashioned, failed to "mesh" with those of the big machine. Our American cousins are now learning these things, and they appear to be surprised, even annoyed. They blame the government, and in truth, the government appears to deserve it. The eagle-eyed Providence Journal, which through an almost uncanny prevision, succeeded in exposing German devilment in the United States, which succeeded even in precipitating the breach of diplomatic relations with Germany sprang this on the people the other day:

"Additional evidence of shocking incompetence in the purchase of supplies for the War Department has just come to light. Over 200,000 gas masks manufactured in this country for the use of our troops abroad have been sent back to the United States by American army officers in France as being absolutely worthless for the purpose for which they were intended. Every gas mask now being used by our troops on the Western front has been borrowed from either the British or French War Department. It is understood that the masks which have been sent back are being used in various cantonments in this country for training purposes. The masks were ordered by the War Department with the full knowledge of the latest developments in German, French, and British masks, samples of which were in the hands of the department when the order was accepted and the finished product passed as satisfactory."

This looks as if some of our American cousins were grafting. With the British and French masks, which have reached almost the perfect stage, to copy from there appears to be no reason why this terrible waste should have been permitted.

The fuel situation which has thrown the country into a panic and is causing losses that aggregate millions is also charged to incompetence. The New York Times in a recent editorial sizes the situation up as follows:

"President Wilson is by no means uniformly happy in his choice of men for places of power and responsibility. The public has confidence in him, it admires him. In the great work of state craft during the war it feels that he has had no equal. But they feel that somehow he is too much disinclined to have big men about him, that either through errors of judgment or some strange predilection he has too often called to his aid men not equal to their tasks, men not of sufficient amplitude to be the advisers and coadjutors of the head of the nation in time of war. The peril of reliance upon mediocrity is evident; its deplorable consequences have become known to the people and they are disturbed in mind about it."

NOTES

Food Controller Hanna advises the hoarders of potatoes to get rid of their stocks before the slump comes.

THE FUR SALES BOARD

Sir:—Mr. Sheffield's letter in The Guardian of January 5th, is in line with what I have contended for some time in regard to the marketing of P. E. I. fox pelts. To obtain the best results some co-operative plan should have the unanimous support of the island ranchers and as the Fur Sales Board, as I understand it, is organized for the purpose of marketing island furs and working for the good of the rancher and not for private gain, it seems to me it should have the support of every fox rancher on P. E. I. and if the directors and managers do not do their work competently, elect directors who can and will do the work properly, bearing in mind that no board can satisfy everybody.

I think the Sales Board made a grave mistake in making the commission of one per cent, entirely too low, as it will not cover the cost of doing the work, and at least three per cent should be charged and possibly five per cent, and then arrange to advance the rancher, say five per cent, of the appraised value of the pelt, at the time it was turned over to the Sales Board.

On the other hand, the expense of the Sales Board should be kept down to a minimum, especially in its early days, and high salaries not be permitted until the Sales Board have proven its ability to be of service to the rancher and make itself self-supporting. Personally, I have every confidence in the Sales Board, and in its officers, but at long range do not know enough of its working to pass judgment thereon but my experience with them has been most satisfactory, and as stated before to get the best results out of P. E. I. pelts, they must be marketed through one central selling board, and the people have it in their hands to elect a competent honest board.

The peddling of pelts has proven disastrous, not only for the one trying to sell a few pelts but for all on P. E. I., and should this year be discontinued entirely.

As I have cited in former articles, co-operative marketing of citrus fruits on the Pacific Coast and even eggs and dairy products on the island have proven this.

A few dollars spent in snappy, up-to-date advertising in fashion magazines in the States would stimulate the demand for higher grade Silver Black pelts and mean dividends of several hundred per cent, on the outlay and though no one could point out just which sale was the result of the advertisement, the whole industry would be benefited thereby and as 75 per cent of the foxes in captivity are on P. E. I., the ranchers of the island would be getting 75 per cent, of the benefit of the advertising and the Hawaiian Pineapple planter and the Orange rancher of California as well as the grape fruit farmer of Florida have all found this general advertising to pay and pay big.

I am, sir, etc., F. E. MUZZY, Springfield, Mass., Jan. 18, 1918.

WAR MENUS

How to Save Wheat, Beef and Bacon for the Men at the Front. Issued from the Office of the Food Controller for Canada

MENU FOR FRIDAY

Breakfast: Cornmeal Porridge, Marmalade, Tea or Coffee. Dinner: Walnut Loaf, Carrots, Apple Pie, Stewed Figs. The recipe for Walnut Loaf, mentioned above, is as follows: Walnut Loaf—1 1/2 cups of milk, 1/2 cup of dried bread crumbs, 1/2 cup cream or top milk, 1 cup chopped walnuts, 1 teaspoon salt, Paprika. (Wheat and meat saving recipes by a Domestic Science Expert on the staff of the Food Controller's Office)

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUON,

DO IT

There are some folks who are forever on the verge of "doing something." They make elaborate preparations, warn their friends, brace themselves for the effort, and end with some flabby act of hopeless mediocrity that disgraces everybody. They mean well, but their mouths are larger than their heads, and their ideas than their capacity for carrying them out. This trait would be amusing if it were not so annoying; but the man with great expectations has the knack of getting everybody and everything about him in a state of restlessness and worriment that is most exasperating at times. A man who fusses will never do anything truly great. The man of genius is a man of depth, and there is no depth where there is noise and foam. Greatness is almost invariably associated with unconsciousness. An ounce of doing is worth a ton of talk about what you expect to do. If some men would quit talking about what they are going to do and get down to putting into each day some finished task or some effort laid upon a solid foundation of purposeful thought, we would be nearer the business as well as the religious millennium. It makes one sick to see a man roll up his sleeves, spit on his hands, take up the shovel, and after two or three feeble thrusts sit down beside it. Do not be eternally hunting up some big job to simply walk around it. Put an effort in the task that lies before you. Do what you have found to do with your might not with your mouth. STRAY SHOTS.

THE WRONG DONE TO FRANCE IN 1871

In view of the eighth condition of President Wilson's terms of peace as outlined in his speech before Congress on January 8, which reads: Eighth. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored, and the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly fifty years, should be righted in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interests of all.

It is not amiss to look back on 1871 and see just what happened. When President Wilson refers to "the wrong done," he must surely have had in mind the fiery protest of those two provinces against being torn from their mother country. This protest was made at Bordeaux by chosen representatives of Alsace-Lorraine and addressed to the peoples of the world. It has been brought forth with great prominence in France today, and Constance Drexel has translated it as follows in the Philadelphia Public Ledger:

An Historic Declaration.

Declaration, made February 17, 1871, at the Assembly of Bordeaux, by representatives from Alsace and Lorraine.

We, the undersigned French citizens, chosen and elected by the Departments of High and Low Rhine of the Moselle and the Meurthe, to bring to the National Assembly of France the expression of the unanimous desire of the populations of Alsace and Lorraine, after having deliberated, we have resolved to expose in a solemn declaration their sacred and alienable rights in order that the National Assembly, France and Europe, having under their eyes the votes and resolutions of our constituents, shall not be able to complete, nor allow to be completed, any act of such nature as to bring injury to the rights which a mandate has committed to our care and defence.

And here are the resolutions sent forth in 1871 which expose the "wrong done in 1871":

Alsace and Lorraine One.

First. Alsace and Lorraine do not wish to be separated.

Associated for more than two centuries to France, in good as well as in bad fortune, these two provinces, unceasingly exposed to the blows of the enemy, have constantly sacrificed themselves to the national grandeur; they have sealed with their blood the indissoluble contract which binds them to union with France. Placed in doubt to-day by foreign claims, they affirm, through all obstacles and all dangers, even under the yoke of the invader, their unshakable fidelity.

All unanimous, the citizens left behind in their homes, like the soldiers who rushed to the colors, the former in voting, the latter in fighting, hereby notify Germany and the world the unchangeable will of Alsace and Lorraine to remain French.

Second. France can neither consent to nor sign the surrender of Lorraine and Alsace. She cannot, without imperiling the continuity of her national existence, herself aim a mortal blow to her own union in abandoning those who have won, by 200 years of patriotic devotion, the right to be defended by the whole country against the attempts of victorious force.

An Assembly, even one resulting from universal suffrage, could not invoke its sovereignty to include nor ratify demands destructive to the national integrity. It would usurp a right which does not even belong to people when assembled in their town meetings. Such an excess of power, which would have the result of nullifying the common mother, would denounce to the just severities of history those making themselves thus guilty. France may bear the blows of force, she cannot sanction its decrees.

Must Not be Abandoned.

Third. Europe can neither permit nor ratify the abandonment of Alsace and Lorraine.

Guardians of the laws of justice and the rights of peoples, civilized nations should not remain longer indifferent to the fate of their neighbors, under penalty of being in their turn victims of outrages they have thus tolerated.

And as for us, Alsations and Lorrainers, we would be ready to recommence the war to-day, to-morrow, at any hour, at any instant.

German Are Usurpers.

In resume: Alsace and Lorraine protest against all surrender, France cannot consent to it, nor Europe sanction it.

In view of which, fellow-citizens of France, we take the Governments of peoples of the whole world as witnesses, that we hold as null and non-effective all acts as treaties, votes of plebiscites, which would consent to the abandonment in favor of a foreigner of all or part of Alsace or Lorraine.

We announce herewith as forever inviolable the right of Alsations and Lorrainers to remain members of the French nation, and we swear, for ourselves as well as for our constituents, our children and their descendants, to reclaim that right for ever, in all ways, toward and against all usurpers.

(Signed) L. Chaufour, E. Teutsch, Pr. Andre, Ostermann, Scheegans, E. Keller, Kable, Messheim, Boell, Titot, Albrecht, Alfred Koehlin, V.

Until Further Notice Clearance Sale

Ladies and Gentlemen's Ready-made Departments. We offer far below cost. 10 Ladies' Serge Suits to clear at... \$4.75 14 Ladies' Coats, to clear at... \$5.00 7 Ladies' Coats, to clear at... \$7.75 20 Ladies' Serge and Silk Suits to clear at... \$12.00 to \$19.00 12 Children's Coats, odd sizes, at Clearance Prices.

14 Dark Navy, Brown, and Purple Coats, worth up to \$30.00. Good styles to clear at... \$12.00 to \$18.00 10 Sample Suits, latest styles, worth up to \$42.00. Sale price... \$30.00 14 Black Fox and Wolf Muffs, worth up to 37.00, at clearance prices.

18 Black Stoles, to match Muffs. 1 Red Fox Set, also 2 extra Neck Pieces, greatly reduced.

1 Russian Fitch Set, large pillow Muff and small Neck Pieces, regular \$28.00 for... \$20.00 1 Natural Lynx Set, very beautiful, regular \$49.50 for... \$39.50 14 Fancy Sport Skirts, latest styles, regular \$10.00 to \$12.00 for... \$7.95 10 Coats left, 1917 styles, regular price up to \$35.00 at less than maker's price.

1 Hudson Seal Coat, \$225, sale price 185.00 1 Hudson Seal Coat, \$190, sale price 150.00 1 Hudson Seal Coat, \$179, sale price 149.00 1 Marmot Coat \$80.00, sale price 55.00 1 Plush Coat, \$30.00, sale price 22.50 1 Plush Coat, (Misses') \$25, sale price 18.50 2 Pony Coats, reg. \$55, sale price 42.00 15 Ladies' Sweaters to clear at... \$4.75 25 Children's Sweaters to clear at... \$1.50

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1 Hudson Seal Coat, \$190, sale price 150.00

1 Hudson Seal Coat, \$179, sale price 149.00

1 Marmot Coat \$80.00, sale price 55.00

1 Plush Coat, \$30.00, sale price 22.50

1 Plush Coat, (Misses') \$25, sale price 18.50

2 Pony Coats, reg. \$55, sale price 42.00

15 Ladies' Sweaters to clear at... \$4.75

25 Children's Sweaters to clear at... \$1.50

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Rehm, A. Scheurer, Kesner, Alp, Suggin, Humbert, Kueser, Roncker, Deschauge, Boerch, A. Tachard, Th. Noblet, Dornes, Ed. Bambrugger, Barde, Leon Gambetta, Frederic Hartmann, Jules Grosjean.

Island Soldier Recovering From Wounds

The many friends of Wallace Sutherland, Cardigan, will be pleased to learn that under skillful treatment in an English hospital, he is recovering from wounds received in action. Wallace went overseas with the 105th, and in August crossed to France, where he was wounded on Nov. 6th.

The following letter was received by his mother, Mrs. Angus Sutherland: Can. Red Cross Society, 14-16, Cockspur St., London, S.W.1., 13-12-17.

Dear Madam.—I beg to inform you that Pte. W. Sutherland, No. 712909, 29th (N.B.) Canadian, is now at the 5th Southern General Hospital, Fawcett Road, Southsea, England. After having been pretty badly wounded by shrapnel in the thigh and wrist, our Red Cross visitor has been to see him a number of times. When he first came to England from France, he was feeling rather badly, but he has been getting on well. He will have the use of his hand, and be able to walk about quite all right when his wounds are healed. He is always cheery and bright, and though from one visit to another the change is not marked, the improvement goes on steadily. I have asked while I am working here to be permitted to write letters to P. E. I., as I am always much interested in all our island soldiers, particularly when I see by their number that they came over with Col. Ings. When they are near I go to see them; when far away as in this case, I write them. I hope he will get on splendidly and soon be convalescent. Yours truly, C. INGS.

GENERAL STRIKE MAY STOP SUGAR PLANTS

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Jan. 24.—The sugar industry at a time when the supply in this commodity is at a low ebb, is threatened by a general strike here of between 50,000 and 60,000 laborers in the sugar plants. Angered by the refusal of the sugar producers to consider their request for a conference on wage increases, an eight-hour day and other modifications, the workmen have forwarded an appeal for assistance to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and to Secretary of Labor Wilson.

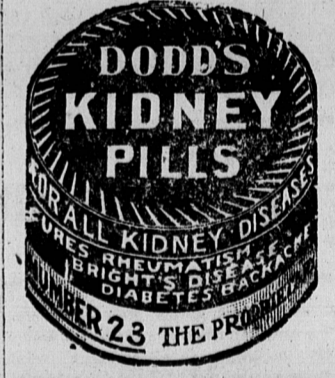
The laborers want an increase of 60 cents a day over the rate paid last year. Santiago Iglesias, president of

the Free Federation of Labor in Porto Rico, suggests that unless the producers show a willingness to meet with labor representatives, a federal commission be sent here to make a complete investigation of wages and recent profits in the sugar industry.

FROM BETHLEHEM. British Troops Message to American Comrades.

From General Allenby to General Pershing (U. S. Commander-in-Chief in France):

The British troops in Bethlehem on Christmas Eve send to their American comrades a message of greeting and of hope that, through the achievement of their common purpose, the law of force may yield to the force of law, and peace and good will reign as length on earth.



Carry a Good Pen

We have the best assortment of Waterman's Ideal fountain pens. Price \$2.50 and up.

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GIRL'S BOOTS AT \$1.85

Girls' Gun Metal and Patent Button Boots. These Boots are Extra Good Value at \$1.85. Call and See Them.

GOFF BROS.