

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1915.

QUEEN'S COUNTY MEMBERS

The two members for Queen's gave an account of their stewardship at Bonshaw on Wednesday night, and, as will be seen from the speeches reported elsewhere in this issue, were able to prove that whatever criticisms may be levelled at them otherwise, the interests of the Province have not suffered in any way at their hands.

In the matter of agricultural grant, the Island had, as the result of the representation of the Dominion representatives and Premier Mathieson, obtained \$16,000 per annum more than it would have got had the allocation been per caput of the population.

The Liberals realize this difference in the treatment of the Island better than they relish it; hence it is they are moving heaven and earth in order to postpone as long as possible the day when an appeal will be made to the country; for they recognize that after next election the Province will send four representatives instead of two to support the Government which is as good as its word and which has as much respect for the rights and claims of the baby Province as it has for those of Quebec or Ontario.

Whoever be the Liberal-Conservative standard-bearers in Queen's County at next election they are assured of return by an overwhelming majority, for no Government, Liberal-Conservative or Grit, would have any respect hereafter for a Province that would be such an ingrate as to refuse to show its appreciation by returning supporters of the first ministry since Confederation to endeavour successfully to carry out the terms and conditions of our Confederation agreement.

SIR RODMOND ROBLIN'S RESIGNATION

The resignation of Sir Rodmond Roblin's administration in Manitoba was not unexpected, though the procedure adopted is new to Dominion politics. It will be recalled that the Manitoba provincial elections were held in June when the Government was returned with a majority of seven, 28 Conservatives to 21 Liberals. It was an open secret at the time that Sir Rodmond, owing to considerations of health, desired to hand over the Premiership to one of his colleagues, but there was no one in the ministry upon whom the Conservative majority could agree as his successor.

As the Conservatives were in a majority of seven, it can easily be seen that the mere resignation of Sir Rodmond's ministry would not have helped the Opposition much; indeed it would have been less than an empty compliment, it would have been an embarrassment to have called upon them to take office. In order to facilitate matters, not only did the Roblin Ministry resign office, but they arranged that ten of their party should resign their seats in the House and permit Liberals to be elected in their place by acclamation. Thus another general election in the Province was avoided, and the Liberals will receive the support of the new Opposition until such time as it may be deemed necessary to make another appeal to the electorate.

Contrast this magnanimity with the action of the Liberal Government in Quebec, when its supporters were convicted of wholesale corruption and bribery. Instead of prosecuting these highly placed members of the party the Liberal Government and the Liberal press did everything possible to screen them, and to-day the men whom a Legislative Committee of enquiry condemned as grafters of the worst type are free and unmolested.

It should not be forgotten that no province, not even Saskatchewan with its vaster opportunities, has made greater progress than has Manitoba in the fourteen years of Sir Rodmond's administration. Too much cannot be said of the progressive public spirit of Sir Rodmond. He is a farmer, on an immense scale it is true, and his interests have always been allied with those of the tillers of the soil. His worst enemy has never accused him of

making public life serve his private ends, and the ministries he gathered round him were all men of high standing and unswerving reputations. No finger can be pointed to one of them as having been in any way connected with a dishonourable public act reflecting upon his private personal character—notwithstanding the attempts made by the Opposition Press to besmirch them.

The Conservative Party will be all the stronger in the Dominion and in the Provinces because of the example which Sir Robert Borden at Ottawa and Sir Rodmond Roblin at Winnipeg have set in disentangling themselves and their party from all suspicions of even the toleration of graft among their supporters or officials.

"GLAD HAND" TOWN

A unique society has recently been organized in a little town in New Jersey, known as "The Glad Hand Society." The motto of the society is No-frown-in-our-town and its purpose is to do its best to make every stranger within its gates feel at home and so much pleased with his welcome that he will desire to remain permanently, if in search of a residence or a position, or to return if a casual visitor. The membership includes all citizens and each will wear a button with the words "Ask Me." The members promise to serve as intelligence bureaus to all visitors. The only people excluded from membership are the known knockers, and these are to be discouraged in every way from residence in the town. Everyone is to be a booster heartily and all the time.

The aim is a good one and the means probably as effective as could be employed in the interests of any town or any city. While in Charlottetown we already have perhaps, a surfeit of societies, all of which perhaps do not live up to their obligations, we should like—if there is room for another—to have such a society as this organized here and religiously maintained.

A button with the words, "Ask Me," would be an open invitation to the stranger to ask for any desired information and an assurance that he or she would receive it to the extent of the wearer's ability. Of course such information could as easily be given without the outward and visible assurance implied in a button, but the button and the badge accompanying it would make assurance doubly sure. Besides, it would cultivate and encourage the habit of being obliging and courteous not only to strangers who appreciate such, but to our fellow citizens who would also appreciate it.

Then there is the promise to boost the town and to make it so attractive that strangers would desire to return. This also would be a simple matter, if we only attempted to systematically carry it out. True it, too, is a virtue that could be exercised without the button; as a matter of fact it is being carried out by many who wear no extra buttons, who are by nature and practice gentlemen and ladies—not by wealth measurement or by ancestral pedigrees,—but who have been defined as "God Almighty's gentlemen." It may be argued that such gentlemen are not made by badges or pledges, but there is much in habit and the habit persisted in would unquestionably prove beneficial.

And the knockers? They are to be found in every town and every city—perhaps even in Charlottetown. They are of many varieties and of many degrees of objectionableness. The button "Ask Me" would be a direct challenge. Who, if asked, would deliberately "knock" his town, his country his country's institutions?

The knocker is about the meanest kind of vermin that infests any community and unfortunately he is to be found in every community. He seeks his own advantage at the expense of others; he would defame his country if by doing so he would bring harm to others; he is disgruntled and sour and repulsive. He should be ostracized. Anyone suspected of being a knocker should be given a button with the words "Ask Me." If his replies indicated that he was a knocker the button should be substituted with one bearing the words "Kick Me," and the invitation should be accepted.

SENATE RULE OBNOXIOUS

At the last national convention of the Liberal party (says a contemporary) that was held at Ottawa in June, 1893, the following resolution concerning the Senate was adopted:

"The present constitution of the Senate is inconsistent with the Federal principle in our system of government, and is in other respects defective, as it makes the Senate independent of the people and uncontrolled by the public opinion of the country; and should be so amended as to bring it into harmony with the principles of popular government."

Yet popular government is now sacrificed by these same Liberals to the extent of letting it be overridden by the Senate.

The Chronicle says that "Mr. Rogers has no right to find fault with the composition of the Senate, which dates from Confederation." If it dated from the tower of Babel that would not sanctify it. If it was a scandal in 1892 it is a greater scandal now when its majority is preventing the Ministry of the day from carrying out its legislative programme and really governing in the interest, not of the people, but of the minority in the House of Commons. Mr. Rogers asks no more than that this preposterous condition of things should be done away with. How can any honest Liberal object? What excuse can be put forward for the failure of his party in its 15 years of office to reform the Senate, except that it was a comfortable place of shelter for Liberals who had grown grey in fighting for the cause or who for various reasons could not get elected to the other chamber?

The St. John Telegraph does not defend the Senate but warns the Government against holding a general election now because "it would surely be beaten." If the Telegraph believed that, it would, we might be sure, clamor lustily for an election to-morrow. The Government has nothing to fear. It is in no way smirched by the revelations regarding boots, binoculars or horses, for it threw open every avenue of enquiry and is now conducting a more complete investigation by the machinery of the Department of Justice; and every wrongdoer, Tory or Liberal, will be brought to account. The biggest scandal of all, however, is that the Senate should be ruling this free country in behalf of a party defeated by the popular vote. It takes us back to the old times when, as Joe Howe said, "we had better be ruled by a single tyrant, for he would be apt to be a man of ability, than by a few old fellows without brains who invariably do the 'wrong thing at the wrong time' although they have no authority from the people to do anything at all." In their hearts the Liberal editors know that Mr. Rogers is endeavoring to correct a wholly indefensible abuse, which some day, with a Conservative majority in the Senate, might impede the work of a Liberal Ministry. Yet for the sake of a temporary party advantage they are willing that it should prevail, and dread the prospect of a general election because they are aware that the electors would give the Borden Administration a fresh lease of office and a free hand to reform the Senate in the public interest.

ROOSEVELT'S BITTER OPPONENT WANTS HIM IN WHITE HOUSE FOR DAY TO AVENGE VICTIMS

"And Now the Reckoning" is Concluding Words of New York Herald's Panegyric on Lusitania Victims—German American Sympathizers with Kaiser "Traitors to the United States."

What a pity Theodore Roosevelt is not President of the United States today.

That is the succinct paragraph that in a dozen places in large type is printed all over the editorial page in Monday's issue of the New York Herald. Its significance lies perhaps more in the fact that the Herald bitterly opposed the candidature of ex-President Roosevelt. But even that is not the most striking feature of the Herald. On every one of its twenty-four pages the "rules are turned" in printer's phrase—that is, every column bears the newspaper form of mourning, and across the top of every page run the words: "In Memoriam: To the American Men, Women and Children Lost on Board the Lusitania."

The full list of the American citizens is given in large type. It is a striking issue and one which will cut into the quick of a sensitive people.

Outspoken in the extreme are the editorials that are printed in the number. President uttered his "Too proud to fight" policy. Under the caption, "In Memoriam," the Herald says: "The country has counted its dead and calculated its loss. The roll of the slain is completed; every bell should toll to-day and every flag be at half-mast for the innocent victims of German savagery. Those who have tears to shed should shed them now."

The known victims of German blood madness and lust for slaughter number 764. Of these 129 are men, mostly in the prime of life, the very flower of American manhood. There are 113 women, cultivated, refined, happy wives, mothers and sisters. And there are 22 children, perhaps two score of these babes, and even with all of that the full story is not told, perhaps never will be told, because of the impossibility of identifying the nationality of many of the passenger passengers. Many of them were citizens of the United States.

"Oh, the pity of it! These neutral voyagers were on peaceful errands, enjoying the rights secured them by the Declaration of Independence—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Mothers were crossing to join husbands and fathers on the other side of the water. Families were on board the Lusitania; merchants going abroad in the ordinary line of business; professional men following their callings; artisans and financiers, the wealthy, the well to do by this country in the great ship's company represented nearly every useful walk of life. It was typical of the best citizenship in all its varied phases. They were assured that they were safe; that they had a right to go; the high seas are free and no nation could say them nay. They all lie in the morgues on the Irish coast or at the bottom of the sea.

"Oh, the shame of it! To no country had they done any wrong. By no possibility could it be urged that it was to the interest of the nation of submarine piracy that they were enemies. By destroying them no military advantage could be gained. They were as much entitled to a safe conduct through the war zone by Germany as by Great Britain. They received it from neither, but from the former they received their death stroke.

"Oh, the cold villainy of it! Nothing in the code of law between nations justified the dastard blow. Their country had served notice on the world that American lives must be respected. But the nation that only invokes law when its suits its purpose could say them nay. They all lie down to death.

"And now the reckoning."

UNDER WHICH FLAG. And having exhorted the President with the reiterated query, "What is President Wilson going to do about it?" the Herald goes on editorially, under the heading, "Under Which Flag?"

"The hyphen was submarined with

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR READERS OF THE GUARDIAN

Furnished by W. B. Louson.

SPRING SICKNESS.

By Walt Mason.

This is the season when the blood, according to the learned physicians, is thick and flows as slow as mud, which puts a man in bad condition. Spring sickness, is a fall disease, according to our time-worn notions, and, having it, the victim flees, to blow himself for dopes and potions. "I have to thin the sluggish stream," he says, "which clogs my system; it's thicker now than cheap ice cream, and flows like New Orleans molasses." From all spring ills he'd have release, if he would tramp his potions under, and get a jar of Elbow Gessre, the medicine that's cheap as thunder. To get our doors where breezes blow, and tinker round to beat the dickens, would make a lot of ailments go, and thin the blood that winter thickens. Instead of taking pale pink pills which are designed for purple parties, go, plant the spuds in shallow hills, and you'll be feeling fine, my heartiest! We say to fond of taking dope, while in our easy chairs reclining, when we should shed our coats and slope our yonder where the sun is shining.

the Lusitania. Henceforth there can be but one class of Americans—AMERICAN-Americans.

The Herald believes that a very large percentage of naturalized citizens of German birth or descent refuse to sympathise with the crime against the country of their adoption. It believes that a comparatively small number are making the ribald and heartless noise of acclaim over the slaughter of men, women and children on the Lusitania. The citizen of German descent who repudiates that crime of the century is not a GERMAN-American at all. He is an American. The citizen of German descent who glories in the exploit is not an American—he is a GERMAN, and GERMAN he will remain. No person who condones the horror of a crime can claim the slightest connection with true American thought.

"So it is well, right now, to ask the question—'Under which flag?' This affair may well take us into war. There can be no divided allegiance. The naturalized citizen of German birth or parentage who sympathizes with the Kaiser is a traitor to the United States.

"Under which flag?" DERNBURG BLACK, SOULLESS, INHUMAN.

As to the canker of pro-German policy that everyone outside the United States knows has been eating into their vitals for a long time, the Herald says:

"If Dr Bernhard Dernberg had one single human instinct he would put a padlock on his ever active mouth and retire to seclusion while the United States mourns over and burys its murdered dead.

"Behold the man who spends most of his time defending the annihilation of maritime and international law when it benefits Germany now in the face of the event invoking some other phase of international and maritime law as an excuse for colossal murder most foul! Behold him as the leader of those who utter cheers and give toasts for the crews of the submarine which deliberately and premeditatedly committed a crime which has no parallel in history! And then say whether he is not black, soulless, inhuman as the manufactured man of Frankenstein, only built to destroy. Count von Bernstorff stands mute, with blanched face, but Dernberg goes on for ever.

"The time has come to end this shameful international scandal and send this representative of the Kaiser out of the country as either a rabid lunatic or an offence to all humanity."

GULF FLIGHT FLYING AMERICAN FLAG WHEN TORPEDOED.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The State Department late today made public a sworn statement by Ralph E. Smith, Chief Officer of the American steamer Gulfflight, describing the torpedoing of that vessel May 1, off the Scilly Islands. When torpedoed, the officer says, the Gulfflight was flying a large American ensign six or ten feet in size. He said he saw the submarine but "could not distinguish or see any flag flying on her."

Chief Officer Smith further says that shortly before the submarine was sighted two British patrol boats the Iago and Fley, took positions on either side of the Gulfflight and ordered her to follow them to the Bishop Lighthouse.

"I personally observed our flag was standing out well to the breeze," the officer stated.

ANOTHER BOXER KILLED.

NEW ORLEANS, La., May 11.—Natalie Lafauci, a local bantamweight boxer, collapsed between the third and fourth rounds of a bout here last night with Edward Kern, and died in a hospital a half hour afterwards. Spectators said that Kern knocked his opponent down twice, and that the boxer also fell twice during the bout. The police ordered the arrest of Kern. Action in the case of Tommy Burns, former heavyweight champion of the world, promoter, and Walter Griffin, referee, was deferred.

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