

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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THE KAISER AND MOTHER EVE

Many of us have vivid recollection of the storm of indignation that spread throughout the Empire six years ago when it leaked out that the German Emperor had been in personal communication with the First Lord of the Admiralty over the Naval Estimates. People could hardly believe it possible that the German Emperor would dare attempt such flagrant interference with British domestic affairs, or that a highly placed responsible Minister of the Crown would submit to such dictation. But alas, it is the undreamt of that usually materializes into hard fact, and this diplomatic scandal was no exception. In 1907 there had been a keen political controversy over the strengthening of the Navy. The influence of Sir John—now Lord—Fisher was beginning to be felt as First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, to which he had succeeded three years before. He had made it his business to undo as far as possible the evil wrought by the Little Navies which had reached its culminating point in the reduction of the Naval Estimates under Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's premiership in 1906—the first real advantage Germany got in her race for the command of the sea. Sir John had tremendous opposition to face, as the peace-at-any-price party had the upper hand in the cabinet, and Lord Tweedmouth, brother of Lady Aberdeen, was First Lord of the Admiralty, and one of the foremost of the pacifists. Sir John submitted his draft estimate to the Naval Committee of the Cabinet, in 1905 and was met with opposition from Lord Tweedmouth, who gave the committee his personal assurance that Sir John's fears of German aggression were groundless.

Later it began to be whispered in high places, that Lord Tweedmouth's assurance had been grounded on a letter he had received from Kaiser Wilhelm. The rumors spread, and at length got into the press. Then a question was put in the House of Commons, but the questioner was put off with a non-committal answer. Next Lord Lansdowne put the question to Lord Tweedmouth in the House of Lords, and the First Lord reluctantly admitted that he had received such a letter but declined to disclose its tenor. Official announcement regarding the letter was made by the Chancellor Von Buelow in the Reichstag to the effect that the Emperor's letter "had made a deep impression" regarding the defensive character of the German navy.

These admissions came as a thunderbolt in Great Britain, for up till then, the general public were inclined to look upon the rumors as political machinations. As the result of the storm, Lord Tweedmouth's health broke down, and he ultimately died "under a cloud." The terms of the letter were never disclosed, but we now find the enterprising Morning Post has secured a copy which it published in its issue of Friday last.

The Emperor's letter began by referring to the British agitation about an alleged German naval menace to England and said: "It is absolutely nonsensical and untrue that the German naval bill is to provide a navy meant as a challenge to British naval supremacy. The German fleet is built against nobody at all. It is solely built for Germany's needs in relation with that country's rapidly growing trade."

The Emperor proceeds at length to explain that there is nothing secret or underhand in the naval bill, which simply sought to bring the navy up to modern requirements by replacing obsolete by new ships, and so forth, thus being only an exchange of old material for new and not an addition to the number of units laid down a decade.

The Emperor then argues that all nations have a right to build navies in accordance with their needs and protests warmly against the idea that Germany was building against England, and also against the British people always singling out Germany as a power with which to make a standard of comparison in naval affairs.

"In my humble opinion," the letter goes on, "this perpetual quoting of the 'German danger' is utterly unworthy of the great British nation, with its world-wide empire and its mighty navy. There is something nearly ludicrous about it."

"These lines are written by one who is an ardent admirer of your splendid navy, who wishes it all success and who hopes that its ensign may ever wave on the same side as the German navy, and by one who is proud to wear the uniform of a British admiral, conferred by the late great Queen of blessed memory."

The Emperor concludes by referring to Admiral Fisher's warning in a recent speech, not to get scared and says that "if Eve had not always kept her eye on the apple she would not have eaten it, and we should not now be bothered with clothing."

It is clearly evident from this letter that the Kaiser was not a disciple of Machiavelli for nothing. To tamper direct with the fountain-head of the British Navy with a view to bringing the Admiralty's defensive plans to naught was worthy of his crafty master in statecraft and diplomacy.

CHANGED CONDITIONS

While the eyes of the world are fixed on the bloodstained fields of Europe and the mind is staggering at the inhuman and unceasing slaughter and wondering where and when it will all end, it is probably little use to suggest radical changes for betterment here or elsewhere.

And yet we, in common with the rest of Canada, have adopted the motto, "Business as Usual," as the only sane policy and it behoves us to live up to our motto.

Business as usual may be a difficult policy to follow when finances are not as usual, when the markets have been turned upside down and refuse to absorb our produce on the usual terms. Yet all the avenues of business should, as far as possible, be kept open, all hindrances to business removed and all new sources exploited.

There is no part of Canada, and probably no part of any of the countries engaged in the war, that has been as lightly touched as Prince Edward Island, and there is no other country in a better position to adjust itself to the

conditions created by the war. But it will mean adjustment. Things are not as they were before the war. The markets are not the same. The demand has changed. There is just as much money as there was before the war, indeed there is more, in circulation, but it is flowing in different channels. The thing is to get after it.

In a recent issue we referred to the change in the nearby markets in which we are interested, to the fact that the demand for the better class of goods, especially food-stuffs, is practically the same as before the war. Our farmers, who are most directly interested, can do much for themselves by making provision for the markets. Everything offered for sale should be the best of its kind and put up in the most attractive form. And now, if ever, comes the need of a Prince Edward Island trade mark, a guarantee that everything grown or put up in Prince Edward Island is the best of its kind and may be depended upon.

It will be remembered that Denmark, by paying special attention to quality, and stamping everything that was placed in the market with the Danish trade mark, built up for itself a market that practically shut out the whole world from competition.

This course is open to us, and a reputation once established, we can command the trade against all competitors. At present there is a slump in the market for some lines of produce, but we have a larger crop than ordinary and if prices in some lines are lower the quantity is larger and the aggregate return will be fully equal to if not greater than for many years past. If we look well to quality and to the securing of a reputation for honestly put up goods we shall not only reap the reward this year but will lay a foundation for future business that cannot fail to be profitable.

THE NAVY CHANGE

British papers generally express regret at the retirement of Prince Louis of Battenburg, and satisfaction at the appointment of Sir John Fisher as his successor, says an exchange. Without exception the leading journals unite in appreciation of the work done by Prince Louis and there is in all a note of tender sympathy for a popular officer, who has given his life to the service of the Empire, and is forced in the hour of national danger to stand aside, a victim of race prejudice and malicious slander. At the same time all notices of the change voice expression of a feeling that a stronger grip is wanted at the present time, and that in Sir John Fisher the nation has a navy head who will be a fit mate for Kitchener in the War office. This does not imply dissatisfaction with or distrust of Prince Louis, who retains the confidence of the King and his advisors, but simply means that war time needs call for sterner methods than the able but good-natured and genial Prince considered necessary. Lord Fisher was the father of the policy of concentration that centered Britain's fleet in home waters, and of many of the modern reforms of administration. Under his management, the navy is expected to be even more active and aggressive.

"SERBIA" NOT SERVIA.

The authorities of the country we have been calling Serbia ask that the press of the British Empire shall hereafter call it Serbia and its people Serbians or Serbs, because the word "servy" or "serf," in their language, means "slave." "Serbia" is the practice elsewhere than in English-speaking countries, and it also is correct. The London Times has declared its intention of complying with this request, and no doubt the British press generally will do so. Serbia is not asking much, and although the change may come a little awkward at first, we will soon get used to it, as we do to Petrograd. The people who dwell in the country have always been called Serbs. The Serbs are a branch of the great Slav family, which is represented by about 90,000,000 people in Europe, but they have been regarded as a separate people for quite 2,000 years. Their name is thought to signify "the people," and it is one of the oldest of all national names.

ARMY CHAPLAIN'S EXPERIENCES

In a letter from an army chaplain at the front which has been published in the Morning Post, he says: "I have been able to do a fair amount of spiritual work. It is remarkable how at such times men look for it. If ever human nature showed that at bottom the consciousness of God is in it, it is at times like this, when men cannot tell what the day will bring. I have been able to hold communion, and wish you could see the officers and men in big circles, not such ones as one sees in time of peace, but hundreds. And round the camp fire where they can be lighted, we hold evening service and sing hymns, 'Abide with me,' 'Lead, Kindly Light,' and 'Holy Father in Thy Mercy,' which goes well to 'Art thou Weary?'—the real tune they do not know. Well, a great deal of good is done, and the desire and response of all shows that the work done has been good. Our men are wonderful, but the Germans—well, if the way they carry on here is any criterion of how they would carry on if they got to England God help us, for no one else could. England is waking up, I see, but the full extent of the need cannot be driven home too deeply."

NOTES

General Eulalio Gutierrez has been chosen provisional president of Mexico, but for a period of twenty days only. Even with a people accustomed to quick changes in their political chiefs, it may be that Gutierrez will be able to hold his office for his full term.

The intimation that Turkey was to enter the war is reported to have been received at Petrograd with some satisfaction. The Russians have long desired to administer on the estate of the Sick Man of Europe. They evidently anticipate that his decease will be hastened by his latest act of international folly.

Lord Roberts has again been praising the character of Canadian expeditionary force now in England and commending the administrative machinery which organized, equipped and despatched it over the Atlantic. And others agree with Lord Roberts. That visit to Great Britain of Major-General Sam Hughes may mean the turning of the flank of his critics in Canada in a way that will demoralize them.

John Galworthy, the English writer, contributes to the current issue of Scribner's Magazine, "some thoughts on this war." In the course of which he expresses a hope for the breaking down of despotism and ventures to think that the principle of universal service by men not professionally soldiers and the principle that no man shall be called under any circumstances to fight one step outside his native land will in the future still the gnawings of anxiety and gradually guarantee the peace of the West. This is a new version of the old claim that, were their subjects wise, war is a game kings would not play at. Some day the idea may have its triumphs. Before that day, however, the democracy itself will have to be taught much. Perhaps the devastated towns, the ruined country side, the slaughtered men, the homeless mothers, the perishing little children, that are everywhere in the war region, will help on the educational process.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. J. E. B. MCCREADY

Mr. McCready, who left this city on Wednesday last for Montreal, was interviewed by the staff of the Guardian. They reached the Canadian metropolis on Friday morning and were guests at the Ritz Carlton during their stay. They returned to this city on Tuesday night. On Friday evening a large meeting of persons interested in the P. E. Island fox industry assembled in Stanley Hall where Mr. McCready delivered an address on Prince Edward Island and its industries and opportunities. Attention was called to the fact that the Island is by far the most productive in proportion to its area of any part of Eastern Canada, producing two-thirds as many bushels of wheat, oats, potatoes and roots as the two large provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia taken together. The annual production per farm, the value of ordinary farm live stock, and the value of farm implements per farm was proportionally greater than in the adjoining provinces. The Island was also a great producer of fish. Farm joined to farm from one end of the Island to the other and the people thus engaged formed the wealthiest farming community in Canada in proportion to its size. The Island province also had valuable fisheries, which produced about \$1,250,000 in value this year. He also referred to the lobster industry, which called for the operation of 187 canning establishments, and also to the fame of the Malpeque oyster, whose home is in the Island, and to the laudable efforts being made by the Provincial Government to develop the cultivation of this luscious bivalve, the market for which is practically unlimited. To these great resources of soil and sea had been added the interesting and lucrative fur-farming industry, in which a great deal of money had been made in recent years. He gave the history and development of this industry in outline, as familiar to Guardian readers. The fox ranch, he said, is an addition to the ordinary livestock industry of the country and down to last year four-fifths of the money put into it had been the money of the people of P. E. Island. Since then a good deal of capital had been attracted to it from other provinces, from the United States and the British Isles. In accordance with the inevitable law of supply and demand the price of living foxes of the best grades had gone up to a very high figure—to high, as the speaker thought—and now had begun to decline, which was perhaps a good thing for the industry. Most of the year's crop had been sold on options, some before their birth, or shortly after as in previous years, but in a good many cases the purchasers, when the war broke out had been unable to complete their purchases. In such cases an extension of time had been given, or the foxes had been retained in the ranches. The cost of maintenance and operation being very light in proportion to the value, the young foxes would thus be kept and would have young ones next year. This production would go on precisely as if there were no war. The present demoralization of the fur market would be temporary and the end of the war, when the market for furs would be better than ever. It did not appreciably affect the industry in the Island as there are no pelts for sale. Some day the industry would come to a halt, but for a long time, but the best stock would always have a selling value for live foxes largely in excess of the pelt value. In any case it is to be remembered that the pioneers of the industry had made a fortune in the sale of silver fox pelts before the sale of living foxes for breeding purposes had been thought of, and when prices for the best furs were much lower than now. Furs are a staple article for which the demand is always high and the value of young foxes added to the respective ranches, which would have the effect of greatly reducing the capitalization per pair, and would in this way prepare for producing furs at a good profit for the many years to come. He expressed his belief that fur-farming is yet but in its infancy and is destined to become a great world industry that will last while time endures. Prince Edward Island was proud of the position it occupies as being the pioneer and now the headquarters of this important and growing enterprise. Incidentally he mentioned that the Government census showed the value of the young foxes produced on the Island this year to be \$6,500,000. In past years the valuation thus made for purposes of taxation was considerably under the current selling price, but this year the reverse might prove true, as the valuation was made just before the war, and prices had since declined. But these fluctuations could not affect materially for any considerable length of time the status of so important an industry for whose products there is a great and growing demand when peace is again restored. The speaker also dealt with the objection that silver foxes would be soon produced in such quantities as to glut the fur market. He pointed out that the rate of production is comparatively slow, and all the foxes produced in all the ranches would not make good the yearly diminution of the supply from the wilds. The silver fox is a native of Canada and Siberia. Our North-west, once the home of millions of beaver and other fur-bearing animals, is now wholly occupied for tillage and stock-raising. The same is

true of an equal extent of Siberia, into which more millions of settlers had gone in twenty years past than had located in the Canadian west. Siberia had also become a great grain-growing country. Thus the native homes of the silver fox in the new world and the old had been turned to other uses, and the fur of the silver fox, which had stood high in value from the days of Charlemagne down to the present must be produced in captivity.

At the conclusion of his address a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered the speaker. Others who spoke briefly were Mr. Horace Davis, who presided, and Dr. J. B. Champion, of Tyne Valley, P. E. Island. The audience was most closely attentive throughout and applauded the several speakers liberally.

During his stay in Montreal, especially after the public meeting above referred to, Mr. McCready received many visitors who had inquiries to make respecting the fox industry. A number of these expressed regret that they had been unable to attend the meeting. On the train while going and returning and at Moncton there were many requests for the latest information, so the "journey," which was most enjoyable, was also a busy one.

GERMANS DISHEARTENED AND DEMORALISED

BATTLEFRONT, France, Nov. 3.—"Disheartened and demoralized! This is the condition of the German troops engaged in the terrific struggle for possession of the road to Calais." This comes from an eye witness to the fighting around Slype and Ghiselles yesterday. He had seen the German army, flushed with triumph entering Brussels and Ghent. The country yesterday when he talked with the dejected wounded soldiers and sullen officers, impressed him more than his glimpses of the battle which had raged so many days along the coast.

It is impossible to give an adequate connected account of the operations extending over the area between Ostend, Ypres, Bruges and Courtrai road. More significant than any narrative of the fighting are two facts which came to my knowledge today. All the roads leading to Holland are now guarded by cyclist and cavalry patrols in order to prevent the desertion of soldiers into neutral territory. The cavalry is detached for military police work in occupied towns.

This military police force is a new organization, formed hastily in consequence of the increasing unrest in the ranks. The constant fighting, the heavy losses, the bombardments by sea as well as by land, the scant food and the abuse of infuriated officers have combined to weaken the morale.

Within the last few days new terrorists suddenly have come into their lives—the Indian troops of Great Britain. Opponents who have arrived at Bruges speak with horror of the encounter which sent them into the hospital. They call them "black devils of the East."

The latest reports of the fighting bring it to this morning, when the German line at Couckelare had been pressed back again toward Bruges. After a night of bombardment of the enemy's trenches the Allies drove them out with a bayonet charge after daybreak, then chased them with cavalry.

Twenty thousand fresh German troops, all reserves, and Prussian footguard regiments took part in this action, having arrived at the front on last Tuesday direct from Cologne. All the trains carrying wounded to Ghent and Brussels were held up to facilitate their passage. They arrived in the firing line fatigued and hungry after many hours in the crowded cars, and the task before them was too much. They had to fall back this morning.

A long line of wagons and carts filled with wounded left Châtelliers for Bruges this morning. It is impossible to convey more than half the wounded by rail, because there are not enough trains. The villages of Valsloot, Boest, Key-tem and Eesen, all in the vicinity of Dixmude, have been completely destroyed. German bodies in great numbers are found among the ruins and had no time to bury their dead. Entrenchments are being dug along the Zeebrugge Canal and also around Bruges and Eecloo, apparently for the purpose of covering a retirement eastward. Bruges is a city of dead and wounded. Many of the German hospital nurses have arrived and are working in temporary hospitals, still there are not enough to care for the wounded. This morning I saw a hospital train from Ostend, and was one of the longest trains—forty-eight cars—I have ever seen. The wounded had been hastily loaded into the train at Ostend before their wounds were properly dressed.

FRENCH VISITED WOUNDED ALLY

Field Marshal Complied with Request of Injured French Soldiers.

FRENCH VISITED WOUNDED ALLY

PARIS, Nov. 4.—Field Marshal French is very popular with both the French and the British soldiers, despite the fact that he is the strictest of disciplinarians. A French soldier who had just been brought to the base hospital on hearing that the British commander was on his way, requested his nurse to ask Field-Marshal French to come and shake hands with a humble ally who did not know whether he would survive an operation. Sir John immediately complied. The soldier kissed the commander's hands, saying: "I am ready to die after meeting this famous general."

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What Relation Do Good Shoes Bear to Good Health

Not many people are so hardy that they can wear poor shoes—outworn shoes, or shoes that are not water proof and chill proof without contracting "colds," and other ills.

And the "train of ills" that a "bad cold" pulls along in its wake is something unpleasant to contemplate. About all cases of pneumonia, pleurisy, "lung affections," "la grippe," etc., BEGIN with BAD COLDS. And about all cases of bad colds begin with wet, or chilled feet.

Shoes made of too cheap materials, or shoes poorly made, are unsafe to wear, even when they are new—and become actually a menace to health before they are worn out.

GOOD shoes are often sold cheaply—but "cheap" shoes are EXPENSIVE at ANY price.

The housewife who buys shoes for the children should know about shoes. If she does not, she should know something about shoe dealers and patronize only those who are RESPONSIBLE.

She is usually safe in buying widely advertised "makes" and "brands" of shoes, even if she buys the less expensive grades of such shoes. For poor shoes could not be advertised profitably. The shoe manufacturer who is proud of his trade name is not likely to render it worse than worthless by making dishonest shoes.

We think it is safe to assert that, of the many shoe offerings made by local merchants in this newspaper today, not one is a "doubtful bargain."

Reputable dealers—and no others advertise in these columns—offer price concessions on shoes; but these only apply to GOOD SHOES, safe to wear, safe for the children to wear—dependable and honest products.

Recruits Wanted for Artillery Unit for Oversea Service

It is proposed to offer a composite battery of Heavy Artillery from Prince Edward Island for service in Europe—the Battery to be composed of members of the P. E. Island Heavy Brigade, Charlottetown, and the Thirty-seventh Field Battery of Montague and Souris. A number of officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners have already volunteered, but to bring the batteries up to war strength and to also form an ammunition column it will be necessary to secure upwards of one hundred recruits in addition to those who have already volunteered. Applications will be taken from recruits with or without military experience, as it is the expectation that sufficient drill will be given the Battery before proceeding to the front to make each member efficient. As soon as sufficient volunteers have handed in their names the proposed Battery will be submitted to headquarters for approval. It is hoped that the required number of men will come forward quickly.

Volunteers will please hand in their names to any of the following officers:—

Lieut.-Col. A. G. PEAKE, Charlottetown.
Major C. LEIGH, Charlottetown.
Major C. L. McKAY, Charlottetown.
Major A. T. McKAY, Montague.
Captain A. F. McQUAID, Souris.
Captain D. A. MacKINNON, Charlottetown.
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