The Charlottetown Guardian

Head Office at Charlottetown, Branch Offices at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montague.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1916.

IS THIS PATRIOTISM

In a vain attempt to prove connection between Bourassa and Sir Robert Borden, the Patriot on Saturday quoted from an article by the former in his paper Le Devoir, in 1913. Mr. Bourassa claimed that in 1910-11 "two leaders of the Conservative party" approached him with a view to a working arrangement at the next general election. Mr. Bourassa said: "Mine was a decisive answer, THE TORIES AND NATIONALISTS CAN HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON." Yet he proceeded to say that he (Mr. Bourassa) "had no doubt that Mr. Borden accepted the situation since the fight was carried on according to our terms." Our contemporary is not so innocent or lacking in logic as to believe anything of the kind. In the same article from which the Patriot quotes, Bourassa states definitely that Sir Wilfrid offered him an unopposed return if he cared to re-enter parliament and did his best to lead back Lavergue to Ottawa. Why does not our contemporary give this interesting tit-bit? Seeing our contemporary is bent upon resurrecting last election episodes, why does it not pay some attention to the pro-German tactics of its party even after the emergency vote in the Senate?

A sample of the base racial appeal the Liberals resorted to is shown in the following letter which was sent to all the German farmers in the constituency of South Bruce, Ontario:

"Walkerton, Oct. 24, 1913.—Dear Sir: Accompanying this letter you will find an exact copy in part of a speech delivered in Vancouver on August 7, 1912, by Hon. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia and Defence in the Borden Government. Premier Borden has never repudiated this speech or any part of it, so we must conclude that Hon. Mr. Hughes spoke officially on behalf of the whole Borden Government.

"Read the speech carefully, note particularly the part in large type referring to Germany and also remember that shortly after this speech was made the Borden Government tried to force a vote of $35,000,000 through Parliament to send to England.

"Hon. Mr. Hughes said: 'The peril is from Germany,' and that 'Germany must be taught a lesson.'

"Was this vote of $35,000,000 for the purpose of teaching Germany a lesson?

"Mr. Cargill is the candidate for the Borden Government, and therefore a supporter of its naval policy. If you think the Fatherland is a peril to Canada and must be taught a lesson, vote for Mr. Cargill. If, however, you would prefer to continue the present relations existing between the Fatherland and Canada and to have national and industrial peace and the spending of Canadian money in Canada, give me your vote on October 30. Faithfully yours truly,

"R. E. Truax."

It would be difficult to properly characterize such an appeal to electors of foreign origin in a British constituency, but it is illuminating to a degree in view of what has since transpired.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

It may now be pretty safely assumed that President Woodrow Wilson has carried the election although the vote is sufficiently close to leave room for anything to happen in the event of a recount, which some of the politicians are demanding.

As our readers already know, the first returns indicated the election of Hughes and forthwith the press of both sides proceeded to explain the triumph of Hughes and the defeat of Wilson. The New York Tribune declared the defeat of Wilson was "America's answer" to the man who had stood idly by and without a protest had seen Belgian and Serbian and Armenian women and children massacred and American citizens "murdered" on the high seas. Twenty four hours afterwards the same paper had to admit that "America" did not "answer" with one voice. And so the comment ran while one was down and the other up. But when the one was up and the other down the explanations had to be re-adjusted accordingly.

Probably the fairest analysis of the vote is that given by the New York Times which declares that the German-American vote, that cut such a large figure in the campaign, disappeared on election day. The centres of German-American population with the exception of Cincinnati, says The Times, cast their votes against Hughes, who was almost the unanimous vote of the German language press.

Hughes lost Milwaukee, he lost St. Louis. He carried Cincinnati but by far less than its normal Republican plurality. There was evidence that Wilson had been knifed by German-American Democrats in some of the districts of Hoboken, but this was hardly perceptible in the state returns. The Democratic vote slumped in all parts of New York city, but the slump was but little more pronounced in Queen's and in districts in Manhattan where men of German birth or ancestry are numerous.

A close analysis of the vote, precinct by precinct, in German-American districts may make it appear that ballots were cast now and then to punish Wilson for not favoring an embargo on munitions, but a survey of the returns by states fails to disclose where the hyphenate vote threw a single electoral vote to Hughes. Either there was no hyphen vote or was cancelled or more than cancelled in its own territory by anti-hyphen votes. Wilson had less than the normal Democratic plurality, but he ran well ahead of Hughes in all but two of the Manhattan congressional districts where an active campaign was made by German-Americans. Generally speaking, the president did about as well in the district where the German influence was strong as in the other districts.

Different explanations of this were offered by German-American leaders but the leading one was that Hughes in the latter part of his campaign had failed to measure up to German-American expectations in his own speeches and had been much injured with that element by the association of Col. Roosevelt with his campaign.

George Sylvester Viereck, editor of the Fatherland, said that a careful analysis of the results showed him that both candidates had been rebuked and disowned by the German-Americans. Viereck, who opposed Wilson bitterly, did not support Hughes through the campaign. He and his followers took the position that the Republican candidate's indorsement of Col. Roosevelt and some of his utterances as to foreign policy, showed him to be as unsympathetic to German-American sensibilities as President Wilson.

GERMAN EGOTISM

If it were not for what has happened in Europe during the past two and a half years, of what the whole civilized world knows of German brutality, of what has made the very word German stink in the nostrils of civilization, one might perhaps read without nausea the disgustingly self-opinionated and conceited effusions on German superiority that are now—heaven only knows why—being sent out broadcast into the world. When it is remembered that these are not the opinions of the unlearned and the ignorant but of college professors and other supposedly educated men one gets an idea of what German egotism has grown to be. The latest dose of this dope has been handed out by Dr. Eugene Wolff, Professor of modern history at the University of Kiel. Of course he assumes at the outset that Germany will emerge victorious from the present war, but he tacitly admits that there will still be other nations in the world who will persist in refusing the blessings of German Kultur, who will still be barbarians.

With regard to these barbarians the motto of the nation shall be: "Germans, remember your enemies!" Never, Dr. Wolff, insists, must Germans forget "that hell has let loose all its deadly sins, in order to destroy them—envy, greed, violence, treachery, lust and cruelty, arrogance and hypocrisy, falsehood, and calumny." Since these evil forces cannot be destroyed altogether, the true German must shield himself from their influence; and to this end it may be expedient for him to stay at home and by all means to avoid foreign contamination. "It is an anarchronism of the worst kind," Dr. Wolff argues, "when the nation possessing the highest civilization in the world borrows the manners and customs of peoples who have long since been surpassed in every great quality." Therefore, "let us," he adjures his fellow contrymen, "have no more English misses and French mademoiselles in our homes," and if it be necessary for German children to learn a foreign tongue "let the German school do the work."

Travelling abroad he condemns as a "pernicious" habit, and no less pernicious is the habit of imitating strangers in art, dress and other matters of the kind. In these Germany must in future be more independent and individual. Dress is so important an expression of national feeling that Dr. Wolff dwells upon it with some particularity:

"Let our women who look to Paris for their fashions, our men who look to London, remember that clothes are an expression of kultur and that they are worn to suit physical form, climate and taste. Our physical form is not that of the English and French; neither is our taste. Away from Paris, away from London! German clothes after the war must be modelled on some particular national costume noted for its ease and beauty, . . . but all, must be German, they must speak of German history and tradition and be permeated with German artistic feeling."

This, by the way, is no new doctrine. Immediately after the Franco-German War there were many university professors no less determined to evolve a Germany independent of exterior influences. One learned man of less advanced tendencies wrote at that time to Herbert Spencer in condemnation of the new spirit, complaining that "the finest German characteristics are disappearing in an exaggerated Teutomania." He was particularly distressed at the appearance of this extravagant sort of patriotism among intellectual men. "A friend of mine," he told Spencer, "was present at a discussion, in the course of which a professor in philosophy of the University of ——— was very eloqnent, and with perfect seriousness, contending that only one thing is now wanted to complete our German institutions—a national costume."

WELL BARRED OUT

Exclusion of the Hearst yellow journals from the Canadian mails is a step on which the Dominion Government ought to be congratulated, not so much because these newspapers are "yellow" as because they are liars. The mischief that sort of newspaper does is often serious, because when one of them distorts the truth, it successfully deceives a certain proportion of people for the reason that no other kind of newspaper wants to advertise yellow journals by arguing with them to show that they are in the wrong. The Hearst Newspapers from the beginning of the war have been venomously antagonistic to Britain. They have sneered at British motives, belittled British effort, misrepresented British aims, lied about British fighting and lost no opportunity of trying to stir up trouble for Britain in the United States. And this campaign of malice went largely unquestioned both in the United States and this country because as already said, decent newspapers don't want to advertise Hearst journals by giving them free publicity, even in the line of exposing their dishonesty.

It is mostly an unthinking constituency in the United States which reads the Hearst papers, and which has been reading them to some little extent in Canada. All the more reason, so far as Canada is concerned, why these newspapers should not get in here at all. They are desirable here neither for their alleged facts nor for any idea they can furnish as to what decent people in the United States may be thinking.—Ottawa Journal.

Compulsory Education

Sir;—In regard to "compulsory attendance," I must say that I do not agree with "Teacher," in the plea that our province should adopt it. First;—I do not believe that it would be practicable. Secondly:—We do not need it. Our school act as it stands demands twelve weeks attendance in the year, but how often is it enforced? "Teacher" asks. "What teacher wishes to go to law with the ratepayers?" I ask "what government, or trustees would drag the rate-payers into court, on account of school attendance?" Before we ask for "a proper compulsory law," as "Teacher" names it, let us enforce the one we have. I maintain that if a child is compelled to attend school for three months, he can be kept there by a wise and tactful teacher. Compulsion is a very good thing where we have policemen, and military escorts, but as regards rural school attendance, it does not fit. How many months, more than the three already demanded, by law, could EVERY child, of school age, be compelled to atend? The law would need conditions innumerable, as to weather, distance from school, health, etc. ,etc., Who would decide whether a child was exempted by these conditions or not? I again repeat that it would not be practicable. If it were practicable, our present government would have passed it before now.

When I say, "We do not need it," you may think I am making a questionable statement. Nevertheless I am satisfied I can prove it to be a fact. I have taught in graded, and ungraded schools, both in P. E. Island, and the Canadian West, and I have always found, that, in most cases, the attendance is in the teacher's hands. "Teacher," admits that lack of co-operation is the chief cause of low attendance. To have co-operation between teacher, and ratepayers, we must have a friendly interest, one in the other. Would compulsory attendance give us that? Certainly not. In all the districts I have taught, I can truthfully say that I never met a ratepayer, who had not some interest in the education of his children. If there are parents of that class, I do not believe they are sufficiently numerous "to have the teacher at their mercy." This interest, however small, is the seed from which we teachers can raise a good attendance, but it must be fertilized and cultivated by tact, and common sense. It can be made fruitful by confidential talks with parent and pupil. Let the teacher show an individual interest in his pupils. Make the school interesting and attractive by gardens, physical exercise, or military drill. Give each pupil a garden plot to cultivate. Organize baseball, and football teams, and play against neighboring schools. Introduce new games. Connect the home and school with home projects, fairs, and picnics. These means of increasing our atendance, with many more are what our rural schools need. Let the teachers prove that "progress" is their goal instead of "salaries" and compulsion will be forgotten. I am not saying that we teachers are hirelings, but I maintain, that oftentimes we leave that impression. A little cordiality, after school hours will increase the attendance better than any system of compulsion. If we cannot interest the district enough to obtain 50 per cent of an average, then teaching is not our vocation. Now Sir I put it to you. Do we need compulsory attendance and is it practicable? If this is not logic I am willing to stand corrected. Not forgetting that "much can be said on both sides."

I am, Sir etc.
"Country Pedagogue."

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

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A COMMON CHRISTIANITY.

There is an admirable movement going on in the United States, in which some of the churches of Canada are taking part to find a common standing ground for all demonstrations, so that the clergy of each may be recognized by all and the members of each may as Christians be at home in all. There is no doubt that things are everywhere moving this way. Indeed in so far as the various churches are Christian they are in spiritual fellow-ship with each other whether they know it or not. For a Christian to excommunicate — that word is not too strong— another whom he acknowledges to be a Christian can never be a Christian attitude, and as Christians of various name mix more and more in the beneficient interests that they have in common, which, on account of "our unhappy divisions," they are forced to do outside of their churches, they will more and more feel that any keeping of each other at armslength because of this or that shibboleth or ceremonial is making of the non-essential a weapon with which to wound "the body of Christ."

SELECTED.

German Submarines In English Channel

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

LONDON, November 10.—German submarines have been opearting extensively in the English channel and off the southern coast of France. They broke through the British blockade and ring of defensive vessels under cover of the recent raid by German warships.

This information came today from reliable sources. The raid carried out by enemy warships in the shipping route between the Thames and Holland on November 1st, this report says, was a blind to get half a dozen or more U boats through the channel. That it succeeded is evidenced by the universal activity of submarines in these waters during the last few days. Their roll of victims this week has been exceptionally high.

The British naval authorities have learned of this fact and are making strenuous efforts to trap some of the raiders, it is said. The channel patrol has been augmented and a watch is being kept night and day for any sign of the submarines reported to be operating off the coast. The few critics who share knowledge of the presence of the enemy submersibles express the opinion that by this time most of them must have escaped and returned to their bases. The continued sinking of vessels in this region, however, suggests that a few raiders are still operating in the channel or slightly to the north.

WILSON'S LEAD IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

CONCORD, N. H., Nov. 9.— With two precincts missing, the count in New Hampshire at noon gave Wilson a lead of 121. This was based on certified returns to the secretary of returns from 36.

The vote was Wilson 43,842; Hughes 43,721. Secretary of State Bean corrected his earlier statement in which he said that the state was complete. Two towns unreported cast a very small vote.

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CHICAGO MARKETS

(Special to the Guardian.)

CHICAGO, Nov. 10.—Wheat, No. 2 Red, Nominal; No. 3 Red, $1.86; No. 2 Hard, $1.93¾ to $1.93¼; No. 3 Hard, $1.85¾ to $1.90¾. Corn, No. 2 Yellow, New, $1.05 to $1.07; Old, $1.08 to $1.12; No. 4 Yellow, New, 94c to 97½c; No. 4 White, Nominal. Oats, No. 3 White, 55½c to 56¼c; Satndard 56¼ to 56¾.

Rye, No. 2 $1.48.

Barley, 80c to $1.25.

Timothy, $3.25 to $5.25.

Clover, $11.00 to $15.00.

Pork, $29.00.

Lard, $17.45.

Ribs, $14.50 to $15.12.

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