

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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Head Office at Charlottetown, Branch Office at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montague. London Office, Marconi House, Strand, W. C.

President A. A. Bartlett, Managing Editor J. R. Burnett

MONDAY, MAY 24, VICTORIA DAY, BEING A STATUTORY PUBLIC HOLIDAY, THE MORNING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON TUESDAY. THE EVENING GUARDIAN WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON MONDAY BUT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON TUESDAY AS USUAL. ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES.

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1915.

BRITISH CABINET RE-ORGANIZED

As to what really happened in the British cabinet that led to the formation of a coalition government we shall not know definitely until the history of the war is written. One thing only we may rely upon, that is that both parties in parliament will sink their petty differences and unite in the one purpose now before the British nation—to emerge victorious from this the greatest war in which the Empire was ever engaged.

When Baron Fisher was induced to join the Admiralty, late in 1914, as First Sea Lord, his advent was hailed as greatly strengthening the naval administration. He was popularly regarded as the first of British sailors, as a professional genius whose relation in war time to the senior arm of the nation's defensive forces was as indispensable to any government as Lord Kitchener's relation to the army.

Reorganization of a British Cabinet is neither an unprecedented nor a hazardous step. English history records several coalition cabinets in the last 150 years. Two men more diametrically opposite in temperament, talents and politics, than Fox and North could scarcely be imagined; yet the issue of the American Revolutionary War threw them into a political embrace.

The proposed reorganization is meeting with unqualified approval so far as we can gather from our somewhat meagre telegraphic reports. The admission of former unionist Premier Balfour and other men of his party, selected for their fitness, the appointment of Labor-Leader Henderson, the retention of Premier Asquith and Sir Edward Grey, give promise of strength and unbounded popularity.

The salvation of the British Empire is the uppermost thought; political advantage in any other direction is, in the face of this paramount purpose, not worth considering for a moment. It is an inspiring example; and no matter what jeers or criticisms may be indulged in in Germany over this latest and extraordinary development of democracy as practiced in Great Britain, we may be sure the true worth of the movement will not be lost sight of.

The press attack upon Lord Kitchener, as reported in our yesterday's despatches, is a regrettable feature, but it also may have its explanation. It is quite possible that his duties were too onerous, that too much had been placed upon him and no doubt this will be remedied, now that it is discovered.

PATRIOT DECLINES CHALLENGE

The Patriot declines to accept our challenge respecting the Premier's salary. There cannot possibly be anything worse than an insincere advocate of any cause; for an insincere Patriot one may be permitted to preface the word with the strongest condemnatory adjective in one's vocabulary. The Patriot stands self-condemned of insincerity. For a fortnight it has held up to public odium the Government because it provided a salary of \$1,500 for the office of Premier and President of Council. Tirades of abuse issued from the Patriot's editorial columns daily because the Premier was provided with a salary equivalent to what the managing editor of the Patriot is, or should, be getting.

NOTES

Fifty Indians from a reservation in Nebraska recently went to Omaha in their own automobiles and celebrated a chief's birthday with a banquet at the best hotel. Poor Lo is evidently growing rich across the border.

Argentina is a unit in support of the United States note to Germany regarding that country's submarine piracy. The Diario de Buenos Ayres stating that in fact, the whole of South America approves the energetic attitude of President Wilson. It is not often that the republics of the Americas are in such accord on a great question. Germany's methods have indeed arrayed the world against her.

The Premier and Attorney-General should receive a joint salary of \$2,700, attempting to create the impression that that was the crux of the Government's offending. The Government has been accused—without any foundation in fact—of all-round extravagance—and we were told in the form of threats and insinuations that The Insincere Patriot was going to make our flesh creep by revealing "where the money goes."

It reminds one irresistibly of the "Fat Boy" in "Pickwick" with his "I am going to make yer flesh creep," and his "wusser" and "wusser" horrors piled one on the other.

The Patriot:—"What is the greatest extravagance of all?" "The Education Department, of course." The Patriot:—"No, wusser and wusser." "The Department of Public Works, then?" The Patriot:—"No, wusser and wusser."

The Administration of Justice, surely?" The Patriot:—"No, wusser and wusser, the greatest extravagance of all is the salary of THE PREMIER!" And the Patriot's readers thereat have something like a fainting fit. But the Guardian gave its insincere contemporary a cold-water douche which has chilled it to the bone. We asked it to state definitely whether the abolition of the Premier's salary was a plank in the Liberal programme, and if it would guarantee, in the unlikely event of the Liberals gaining power, that they would reduce the emolument of Premier and Attorney General to what it was in the decade of deficits, deception and decay.

Our insincere contemporary declines the challenge and then coolly turns round and informs us that it is not the salary of the Premier it is discussing! "The question at issue," it says "before the public today is a record of the Mathieson Government and that is a matter we are going to discuss."

Just fancy that now, and who would have thought it! But our readers will read and take note that The Patriot refuses to pledge its party to reduce the Premier's salary. The Patriot's reputation is doomed.

A CHANGE IN GERMAN-AMERICANS

Since the Lusitania horror a marked change has come over German-Americans, according to the New York Evening Post. On all sides, it says, Americans of German origin are expressing their unequivocal fidelity to American institutions and to the cause of that country, whether soever it may lead them. Previous to this massacre of innocents the German citizens of the United States were inclined to regard Germany as in the right, and her atrocious work in Belgium as lies disseminated by her enemies. They were encouraged in this course by a German publicity campaign characterized by mingled mendacity and insolence. Now they see that the majority of the people of the United States were right in regarding Kaiserism as a menace to the very fundamentals of civilization; they see what crimes against humanity are being committed by the German militarist caste. Our contemporary notes that with the opening of this new chapter men of German stock are expressing their abhorrence of that awful spirit of ruthless force which has submerged all that is best and highest in the history of Germany and her people.

It would appear that a similar revision of feeling is manifesting itself among people of German blood in Canada says a Montreal exchange. The members of the German Lutheran Church in Ottawa have passed a resolution characterizing the sinking of the Lusitania as "a deliberate and inhuman crime," and adding: "We pledge ourselves anew to further assist Canada and the Empire in the task of destroying the military autocracy which has so long menaced the peace of the world." Here is the same spirit which our contemporary has noted among the people of German blood in the States—namely, revival of the loyalty of these people to the country of their adoption. Expressions like those from the Ottawa Germans will be welcomed by all Canadians. Doubtless the German-Canadians will continue to feel a sentiment of attachment for the Germany of their memories. It is but natural. But the manner of its expression will be different from what it has been in the past. There will be a greater inclination, we do not doubt, to remind those not of German blood that Germany is not wholly represented by lust of power and contempt for the opinion of mankind. But as for defence of the policy which has resulted in the Belgian, Lusitania and other horrors committed in the name of "military necessity," never again, let us hope.

EARLY FROSTS

From many sections of Ontario there are reports of damaging frosts during the past few weeks, particularly in the fruit districts. In some districts, according to reports by private letters, the damage has been wholesale, many orchards being completely destroyed for this season. From an exchange we learn that thousands of oil burners were aglow in the vineyards and orchards of the fruit belt of Michigan the other night when frost threatened to do much damage, and it is asserted that by this artificial means the temperature was raised 10 degrees and the fruit saved. The modern cultivator spares no pains nor expense to protect his crops from the vagaries of the weather and has his reward when the harvest time comes. Fortunately in our own province early May frosts are not so damaging, as the coolness of the season—often complained of—retards vegetation so that the frost when it lingers finds nothing to injure. Our cold backward springs are among the mercies which we receive too thanklessly. When summer comes to us it comes, late sometimes, but all summer when it is here.

TROUBLED PORTUGAL

Portugal in the last decade has had more than its share of domestic trouble. The dissatisfaction with the monarchy culminated in the assassination by plotters of King Carlos and his heir in 1908, when the royal party was driving through the streets of the capital. Then King Manuel had a short and inglorious reign, being driven from power and the country by his political enemies, Manuel fled to England, later on going to Germany to marry a princess of that country. A short separation during the honeymoon created much scandal, since when the king without a throne had been little heard of. The republic that was established after Manuel's flight has had stormy existence and now the premier of a day has been shot by a senator. The people of Portugal after so much excitement should about be in the mood to welcome a change to peace.

TO-MORROW'S GREAT MEETING

PREPARATIONS FOR AN OVERFLOW

The promoters of the great Patriotic Demonstration in the Drill Sheds to-morrow night have been inundated with congratulations and offers of assistance. It seems everybody was waiting for some other body to take the lead in order to give this outward and visible sign of the patriotic spirit bubbling over in Charlottetown. Though the time for preparation has been brief, arrangements are all most advanced for a great and successful demonstration. Present indications point to the drill shed being too small to accommodate the great gathering, and arrangements have been made for an overflow meeting if necessary outside, for which a special platform will be erected.

NOTICE TO PROCESSIONISTS.

The Cadets, Home Guard and any Society taking part in the celebration on Tuesday night will please be on south side of Market Square at 7:30 o'clock sharp. They will then be taken charge of by Colonel Moore, who will marshal them to the Drill Hall. It is hoped that all will take an interest in this celebration by being present at the Drill Hall.

THE SPEAKERS.

The speakers for the great patriotic rally are the Premier, Hon. J. A. Mathieson, His Lordship Chief Justice Sir Wilfred Sullivan, His Lordship the Bishop of Charlottetown, Mr. A. A. McLean, M.P.; Mr. D. Nicholson, M.P.; ex-Governor D. McKinnon; Mr. A. B. Warburton, ex-M.P.

Men of Charlottetown, Do Your Bit in serving the Empire. If you are serving in a store, attending a machine, working at a desk, driving a team, and can pass the doctor, your duty is plain.

EUROPEAN WAR

ABOUT TO BEGIN

May Month Marks the Actual Beginning of European War According to High Authority

"I don't know when the war will end," replied Kitchener, "but I know that it will begin in May"—and with David Lord George, Chancellor of English Exchequer admitting in response to questioning before Parliament, that the British have three quarters of a million seasoned fighters now in France, the import of Kitchener's reply receives new emphasis.

England has landed without a single mishap on the continent the greatest expeditionary force and equipment in all her history, in spite of the submarine menace in the North Sea and even in the Irish Sea. Imagine, you can more than 750,000 veterans under the Union Jack alone, ready at the word "go" to really open the war upon Germany. Given a flag to every company more than ten thousand of Union Jacks now float proudly over the battle camps in northern France alone.

By the same token, more than a million Union Jacks should now be floating over the homes of the patriots of Canada. Loud praise from every side is enjoyed by The (Guardian) for its meritorious achievements in providing flags for every home as set forth in the announcement appearing on another page of this issue, whereby loyal citizens can secure one or more complete outfits; all ready for hanging from the housefront at practically no cost worth mentioning.

Canadian patriots should lose no time in availing themselves of this opportune and advantageous offer.

CANADIANS' LOSSES NOW TOTAL 5,181; 1,116 ARE MISSING.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 21.—The Canadian casualties up to noon today still fall almost one thousand short of the six thousand odd mentioned as the total losses in the battle of Langemarck. The total is now 5,181. Of these 714 have been killed, 3,351 wounded, and 1,116 missing.

Casualty lists received during the past 24 hours contain the names of over thirty Canadians still ill from the effects of poisonous German gases. As it is nearly a month since the battle was fought, it is apparent that the victims of gas suffer from its effects for a considerable period.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR READERS OF THE GUARDIAN. Furnished by W. S. Louson.

TALKING TREES.

The woods are all alive to one who walks through them with his mind in an excited state, and his eyes and ears wide open. The trees are always talking, not merely whispering with their leaves (for every tree talks to itself in that way, even when it stands alone in the middle of a pasture), but grating their boughs against each other, as old horn-handed farmers press their dry rustling palms together, dropping a nut or a leaf or a twig, clicking to the tap of a wood-pecker, or rustling as a squirrel flashes along a branch.

It is now the season of singing-birds, and the woods are haunted with mysterious, tender music. The voices of the birds which love the deeper shades of the forest are sadder than those of the open fields, these are the nuns who have taken the veil, the hermits that have hidden themselves away from the world—and tell their griefs to the infinite listening Silences of the wilderness—for the one deep inner silence that Nature breaks with her awful superficial sounds becomes multiplied as the image of a star in ruffled waters.

Enlist today! Is the country to be lost to the Huns? It must be if men do not follow the drum and fight for King and Empire. God Save the King. God Save the Empire. God Save us All.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Patriotic Rally at Mount Stewart on Thursday night, 27th. "Our Canadian heroes and their gallant stand." Speakers, Rev. Dr. Fullerton, Messrs A. A. McLean, M.P.; K. J. Martin, Stipendiary Magistrate; and Captain McNutt.

Meetings as set forth below have been arranged to take place during this week, and it is to be hoped that the people will turn out in large numbers to hear the various speakers. The people of this province must realize before it is too late that they are at war and that all who possibly can have a high and glorious duty to perform. Attend the meetings and then come forward in defence of King and Empire!

Montague, Tuesday night, W. K. Rogers, Charlottetown; Rev. Mr. Martin, Cardigan.

Georgetown, Tuesday night, R. H. Campbell, Superintendent of Education.

Cardigan, Wednesday night, R. H. Campbell, Rev. Father McMillan and Rev. Mr. Martin.

Morell, Wednesday night, Aeneas McDonald, M.L.A., Mr. Justice Stewart.

Mount Stewart, Thursday night, announced elsewhere.

In addition to above speakers local men have kindly offered to address the meetings. Everybody is welcome. Young men, What are YOU doing to guard the Homes of the Empire?

DEFENDER OR FEEDER

Sir—When I had looked over the communication of Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick which reached me this (Saturday) afternoon, announcing to-morrow as "patriotic Sunday" and the following days as "recruiting week," it occurred to me that in order to proceed intelligently I should know how many more men, if any, this province already sends from its farms to go to the front and still be able to sow now and later on reap in the interests of the Empire a crop larger by twenty per cent. than that of last year—an achievement to the attempting of which our farmers were so earnestly exhorted last fall by the same authorities who have issued the present call. The circular throws no light upon this important point. I therefore called up our provincial Commissioner of Agriculture and asked whether he had kept tabs on the situation from that standpoint. He informed me that he had not done so, but had some fear that the farmer's labor market might already be in a somewhat depleted condition. My next move was to get in touch by telephone with a prominent citizen who has taken a most active and helpful part in securing recruits from various parts of the island. He is a very positive person, and he lost no time in assuring me firstly that there are still numbers of men in this city who can well be spared from their activities, secondly that the same thing is true in many of our farming communities, and thirdly that the farmer who may find himself unable to get the help to which he has been accustomed, can meet the situation by doing himself twice as much work as he has been used to doing. The last statement staggered me enough to leave me a bit of doubt as to the value of the information which he gave me under his firstly and secondly. But this is neither here nor there. It is the facts of the case that matter and not this or that man's opinions as to what these facts really are. And calls to what Sir Robertson Nicoll calls our British way of just muddling through, we do not know whether the situation comprises say two thousand farms in imperative need of at least one harvest helper each and not more than fifteen hundred men left at this moment to meet this demand, or two thousand men for fifteen hundred places. We do know that there is a present promise of a more abundant harvest in the West than has ever yet been reaped in that great country and what that will mean for the farmer here if it is realized. There are two aspects to the situation—the Empire needs defenders and it needs feeders, and it needs the latter as much as it does the former, and the former as much as the latter. The feeder is as truly a patriot as the defender, and the defender as the feeder. It is also true that no such empire was ever before either defended or fed. To be an active, self-defending British citizen at this time is to hold a place of distinguished privilege and honor. Our people have been lifted high already, and through this awful conflict we shall be led to moral heights unreachably before. Each must do his best, and in the absence of precise information to guide him each must find for himself the place in which, whether as defender or as feeder, he can do that best.

My most intimate friend of to-day has a son who recently passed through bloody Ypres close enough to the front to find himself at the end of the battle a prisoner in the hands of the Ger-

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PITY THE STEEL MISSED

THE GERMAN EMPEROR

GENEVA, May 20.—The German emperor and his staff had a narrow escape on Sunday while watching the operations in a village near the river San in Galicia. According to a dispatch from Budapest, which reached here by indirect route, a heavy shell burst 500 yards away. It fell among some automobiles, destroying several machines, including the emperor's and killing the chauffeur. The emperor had left the car only fifteen minutes before. As more Russian shells were falling in the neighborhood, the emperor and his staff left hastily in machines which they commandeered.

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