

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Tuesday, January 1st, being New Year's Day, and a Statutory Holiday, the Morning Guardian will not be issued on Wednesday.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 29th, 1917.

OUR PEAT FUEL

We note that Mr. F. B. Hanna, Chief of the Division of Fuels and Fuel Testing, Department of Mines, Ottawa, in a paper on the "Utilization of Our Peat Resources," read before the Canada Club in Montreal the other day emphasized the fact that the supply of coal from the United States on which the provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec depend, does not come from an inexhaustible source, and urged the importance of preparing to substitute peat for coal.

Last autumn The Guardian told of experiments with peat conducted in this province with most satisfactory results. Samples of peat prepared by the "wet process" were shown at the Provincial Exhibition in September and their fuel qualities demonstrated both publicly and privately in Charlottetown.

Men who had been familiar with the use of peat in Ireland and Scotland declare the fuel properties of our Island peat fully equal, if not superior, to that in the Old Countries. We have millions of tons of it in this province and it is as easily prepared for fuel as firewood is.

FOOD SHORTAGE

The campaign for the elimination of waste of foodstuffs in Canada has been systematically conducted. Earnest speakers and writers have urged the necessity for such elimination and the danger of the opposite course; householders everywhere throughout the country have cheerfully signed the food pledge cards promising to avoid all waste, to use substitutes for those foods that can be shipped to Europe and to practice economy in every possible way.

This is one of our great human weaknesses; "Let the other fellow do it." We believe in economy, we believe in the sinfulness of waste, we believe that all extravagances, all indulgences in luxury and especially in the face of a threatened famine such as the world is confronted today, but the other fellow must do the saving and the cutting out, otherwise we shall not.

But the other fellow must do the saving and the cutting out, otherwise we shall not. Because of this human weakness we are generally relapsing into our former habits; waste, perhaps not to the same extent is being permitted, unnecessary luxuries are being indulged in, unnecessary extravagances are being permitted. And because "everybody's doing it" we do it.

This, in front of a wall of want that looms up before the world as surely and as plainly as any wall of brick and stone could possibly stand, a wall through which, or over which the world must pass within the next two years. That there shall be a serious shortage of food is certain because of the withdrawal of millions of men from production, because of the destruction of millions of tons of foodstuffs, because of the greater cost and the scarcity of transportation facilities.

In this province of ours where we produce more than sufficient food for our own requirements it is difficult to make ourselves believe that there can be any scarcity of food and it is possible that we shall be able to feed ourselves through the lean years that are to come. But this should not satisfy us. Our armies are to be fed, our Allies, upon whom we depend more than upon ourselves must be fed till peace is restored, till the war is won, if it is to be won, and the food problem is the most serious factor in the war today.

WHOLESALE LICENSES

According to an Order in Council passed on November 15th, 1918, no person shall deal wholesale in fresh fruits or fresh vegetables without first having obtained a license from the Food Controller. These licenses will expire on December 31, 1918.

This regulation applies to Growers' Associations whose chief business is marketing on a co-operative basis, members crops only; commission packers, buying packers, wholesale jobbers, wholesale dealers, wholesale commission merchants, wholesale peddlers, brokers and auctioneers. The license specifies the restrictions governing purchases and sales as to prices and profits which are to be kept within limits agreed to by the Food Controller.

A PARADOX

The separatist trend in the political map of the world is the apparent paradox of the war which is avowedly striving for the brotherhood of the peoples. Ireland and Finland want individual republics. China has one. Russia has already presented the world with five separate republics, and the end is not yet. We are threatened with a republic of the Caucasus, Lithuania, the Lettish provinces, and Bessarabia. Where will these all be, where will Russia be, when the process of self-development under a score of presidents has been completed?

BONE DRY

Bone dry will shortly be the jubilation or the wail. When the importation and manufacture of liquors are both shut off the price of the stocks on hand will go to a figure that will place liquor at a price level that cannot be touched by the great majority. Price alone will be an effective prohibitive, perhaps the most effective that could be applied.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

A song for the New Year! Exultant its hours. The dust of defeat hath not sullied its flowers. But fancy hath dipped them in roseal dew. And brought them, all blooming in beauty, to you!

A song for the New Year! A clarion achievement through service, refreshment through song! No mountain to mighty for faith to remove. No labor too lowly; transfigured by love!

A song for the New Year! A message of joy: May never a discord its music alloy! But, growing in sweetness and melody clear. May it ever inspire and strengthen and cheer!

The Duke of Connaught is suffering from bronchial asthma, and has been medically forbidden to fulfill any public engagement necessitating speaking or violent changes in the temperature.

Mrs. David MacLennan has had as her guest this week Miss Ross, Matron of the Prince County Hospital.

Christmas has come and gone with its joys and sorrows and the New Year is being quickly ushered in. The holiday week is all too quickly passing, filled with the usual family gatherings and short visits of relatives and friends.

The spirit of Christmas prevailed everywhere in the shops, streets, homes and churches, many of which were most artistically decorated for the festive occasion.

Christmas traffic was quite heavy and business extremely good while His Royal Highness Santa Claus paid his annual flying visit to the younger generation laden with gifts. In the whole it was the quietest Christmas in years, as the shadow of the war has touched very largely many homes in this province.

Rink having also opened this week the young people are finding plenty of amusement and healthful exercise.

Mr. Jack Hazard is spending the week with his parents Judge and Mrs. Hazard.

Consul Pierce, accompanied by his two little sons has gone South to join Mrs. Pierce and will be absent about two months.

Invitations were issued on Saturday for the Skating and Tobogganing parties to be held at Government House, Ottawa, by Their Excellencies the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, during the months of January and February.

Miss Edith Rogers spent Christmas with her mother in Kensington who also had as her guest her son Mr. Pierson Rogers from Alberta, who has been away for a number of years.

In all the city churches on Sunday Christmas services were conducted with special sermons, and appropriate music rendered by the choirs.

St. James Church had their annual Christmas treat last evening the children thoroughly enjoying themselves with the program and dainties provided, while the children of Zion Church had theirs on Thursday evening.

Dr. and Mrs. Travers and Mrs. P. P. Nichols of St. John were guests for Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. MacCreedy. Mrs. Nichols is remaining for a few weeks, the Dr. and Mrs. Travers having returned home.

The W. S. Harkins Company is the popular attraction for the week and many theatre parties have been in attendance. The plays, which are happily chosen, have been so well liked, that each performance receives a crowded house.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

THE OLD PRAYER

When the evening shadows fall, at long intervals I recall other evenings, far away when, awfully of my play, I would climb on granny's knee (long since gone to sleep has she), clasp my hands and bow my head, while the simple lines I said "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep." Journeyed long have I since then, in this sad, gray world of men; I have seen with aching heart, comrades to their rest depart; friends have left me, one by one, for the shores beyond the sun. Still the Youth enraptured sings, and the world with gladness rings, but I face I have known all are gone, and I'm alone. All alone, amid the throng, I, who've lived and journeyed long. Long illness, and sighs and tears are the wages of the years. Who would dread the journey's end, when he lives without a friend? Now the sun of life sinks low; in a little while I'll go where my friends and comrades wait for me by the Jasper gate. Though the way be cold and stark, I shall murmur, in the dark, "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep."

WALT MASON 1903-12-27 ME:stt

CANADA'S PART IN THE WAR

The Canadian people have refused to let the war be a mere passing fancy. They have accepted it as a permanent condition of life. They have accepted it as a permanent condition of life. They have accepted it as a permanent condition of life.

Money was needed. Millions of dollars beyond the expectation of any one were subscribed to Government war-loans. Millions more were raised for the Patriotic Fund and Red Cross purposes.

More ships were required. Shipyards on the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Great Lakes are today engaged in the construction of vessels. The conservation of food became necessary and the people of Canada are conserving food. It is difficult to change our habits but it is being done.

20,000 PEOPLE CAN GET INTO AIR RAID DUGOUT

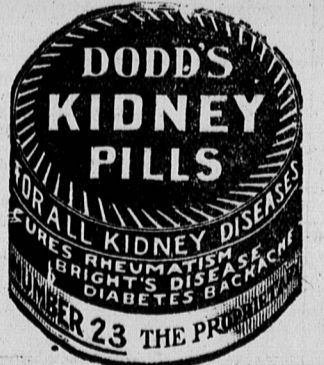
LONDON, Dec. 26.—The biggest air raid dugout in England has just been opened to the public for use during air raids. It will accommodate 20,000 persons. The dugout is really an unfinished railway tunnel, 100 feet under ground, on which work was discontinued at the beginning of the war. It is electric lighted and seats have been provided for 2,000 persons.

HAIG SENDS GOOD WISHES

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—The following message has been received by the Governor-General from Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, commanding the British troops in France: "General Headquarters, Dec. 26.—All ranks under my command join me in sending heartiest good wishes to the Dominion of Canada for Christmas and the coming year. (Signed) Douglas Haig."

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