

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917.

DEBATE ON THE BUDGET

The Budget debate was continued in the Legislature Tuesday and yesterday when some interesting speeches were delivered, but, of course, covering much of the old ground. Subjects debated and discussed at almost interminable length on the Address were resurrected by the Opposition and made no duty for the Budget as well. The Commissioner of Agriculture made short work of the critics of his department, and drew the admission from Mr. Lea that he was really clever in handling criticism from the Opposition. The explanation is that Mr. McKinnon is thoroughly conversant with the work of his department, and the Opposition critics are not. They do not take the trouble to inform themselves. Any complaint, any little-tattle or street corner gossip that may reach them is made to do duty for an attack on the Government, and when the Government members reply they are in a position to place the full facts before the House to the discredit of the critics. Apart from some grievance about the purchase of feed and a piece of bad road in his district, Mr. Lea was fairly generous in his criticism of the Government. He is the leading agricultural representative on the Opposition side of the House, and he did not fail to do justice to the Government for what it has accomplished for farmers. He spoke very highly of the present conditions and assured the House that farmers during the past five years were better off than ever they had been before. Every unprejudiced person must admit this. Since the Conservatives came into power at Ottawa and Charlottetown, the lot of the farmer, and every other one in the Province has improved immensely.

WAR AND POLITICS

"Canada will be proud that the taking of the coveted Vimy Ridge has fallen to the lot of her troops," said His Majesty King George in his congratulatory message to General Sir Douglas Haig on the magnificent work of the British troops last Monday. Yes, Canada is proud of what her gallant sons have done in this, one of the greatest achievements of the war. And while not concealing her pride she is nevertheless anxiously awaiting the story that must inevitably follow such an achievement, the story of the price she paid. Yet even this story Canadians will read with pride though mingled with sorrow.

While awaiting this story that all Canadians are today looking forward to with fear for what it may mean to them as parents or brothers or sisters or wives, does it not seem miserably, pitifully incongruous that office-seeking politicians should be moving heaven and earth to bring on an election?

Even in our own City we find a campaign towards this end in full swing. Is it any wonder that the two political candidates are meeting with the "stony stare" from prospective electors, any wonder that the extent of their canvas is, not infrequently, confined to the leaving of their card bearing the modest legend "With the compliments of A. B. Warburton and John E. Sinclair, Liberal Candidates for Queen's County, requesting your vote and assistance at next Dominion Election?"

Incongruous, surely, and pitiful, but in line with Liberal activity throughout Canada! And yet, regrettable and out of place as an election would be under present circumstances, it might not be the worst thing that could happen. Commenting on the fact that certain Liberal leaders are outspoken on this point and the fact that Mr. George Graham and Mr. E. M. MacDonald have been on a party organizing expedition to the west, the Ottawa Journal, which is not unfriendly to the Borden administration, declares that a general election now, even in war-time, might not be such an objectionable thing; indeed, it says, there are circumstances under which a general election now, in the immediate future is greatly to be desired. "The Government of the day, whether Liberal or Conservative," the Journal points out, "is bound by public opinion, or what it believes to be public opinion. A majority of the cabinet may be in favor of adopting a certain policy, but if evidence is produced to show that this policy is contrary to the bulk of public opinion it must of necessity be modified until a campaign of education has changed this opinion. It may be safely said, therefore, that but for the restraint placed on it by large sections of public opinion the Borden Government would have done many things which it is blamed for not doing. The party opponents of Governments are subject to no such restraining influences, providing they are led by specious politicians as distinct from statesmen. They have no responsibilities. They can pursue a guerilla warfare. They can be all things to all men. They can oppose a policy in a section of the country where that policy is viewed with disfavor, while they can support the same policy in sections where it is favored. In short, they have no international limitations." The incongruity of bringing on an election in the

near future is not confined to the disturbing effect it would have on Canada's participation in the war. The Canadian elector will ask, why an election? Why attempt a change from the present order of things? During the war Canada has grown into a nation, has elicited superlative praise not only from the Imperial government but from the United States and from our sister dominions for her splendid recruiting effort and her even more splendid financing of the war. Why change, and to what? To Laurierism? What would Laurier do that has not been done? Would our recruiting be more effective? Would he apply compulsion? Would he improve Canada's financial position? What is the Liberal policy on any or all of the undertakings connected with Canada's share of the war? The electors, before committing themselves to a change will want an answer to these questions? This answer has not yet been attempted by the Liberals who are so busy trying to force an election.

BOOSTING

With the war in progress and other absorbing topics filling the air and the columns of the newspapers there is little room for boosting and less for knocking. We note however that our neighbors across the Strait are busy boosting and we note also that the knocker finds little space—none in fact—in which to give expression to his wailing.

Our Halifax exchanges are this week running a boosting campaign with a view to securing more than their ordinary share of the tourist trade. And, strangely, the principal means by which this is expected to be brought about is the automobile. Through this, elsewhere much maligned instrument, the hope is expressed that, owing to the facilities it affords for sightseeing, the tourist trade will be very greatly extended, the roads greatly improved and the whole country greatly benefited. "The advent of the motor car," says the Morning Chronicle, "has greatly increased the number of tourists who come to Nova Scotia in the summer months. Those who desire sport can find the finest fishing on the North American Continent. The lordly salmon may be taken in practically ever river which runs into the Atlantic Ocean. Of deep sea fishing there is abundance for all who desire it," etc., etc.

While in this province we have not the "lordly salmon" yet trained to take the fly we have the lordly trout in sufficient abundance to be an irresistible attraction to the tourist if he had some means, other than by carriage or on foot, to get to the streams in which they are to be found.

"The advent of the automobile," says the Chronicle, "has had more to do with the rising tide of public sentiment for better roads for Nova Scotia than any other single factor. It has arrayed the residents of the cities and towns with the rural dwellers who clamor for improvement in our roads. The problem of better roads is a great deal nearer solution by reason of the efforts of the automobilists than it possibly could have been without them. It is possible for a united people to obtain legislative action in any way they may desire. The automobile has united the people of the cities and towns with the residents of the rural districts in their demand for better roads and the indications are that the politicians now propose to heed the demand."

That the automobile is growing in favour in Nova Scotia is indicated by the fact that during the fiscal year ended September 30th, 1916, there were 1713 cars purchased making the total number in the province at that date over 5,000. During the present year it is expected that 2,000 more cars will be purchased. This will mean a car for every 72 persons—men, women and children—in the province and yet, in the face of all this and notwithstanding all that our automobilists say about the ruin that would follow the introduction of cars here, Nova Scotia is increasingly prosperous and confidently looking forward to greater prosperity, much of it due to the motor car and the facilities it affords for doing work more quickly and more effectively.

In this province we are doing nothing to attract tourists, although other countries with less favourable conditions than ours find the tourist trade a very lucrative one. In order to impress upon our people the imaginary folly of allowing automobiles to use our roads we have men howling on the platform and through the press, about our bad roads, and long tedious winters, our short and disagreeable summers, and other rubbish. Knocking, knocking everlastingly through a selfish fear that some one else may enjoy the pleasure of driving or owning an auto. If progress is to wait upon those, if on account of those we must bar out all modern improvements, then we must be content to see our sister provinces forge ahead while we lag painfully behind. We have one of the finest countries in the world, a little compact province every part of which could be brought to within an hour's travel of any one of our urban centres, which could in fact be made a suburb of our towns and city by the introduction of the auto—and "we would not."

NOTES

Leaders have failed other peoples of the world in the present crisis; and yet the people have not failed themselves. The English and the French have had unguided to cut through the fog and the night; even the great dumb, enslaved Russian people have staggered to the daylight. Wherever there has been democracy there has been a realization of what Germanism means in this world for democracy and the people, and there the millions have marched to battle. The Russians have broken their chains to serve the cause of liberty and defeat the armies of tyranny.

AN ATTRACTIVE PROPOSITION

Much has been said and is being said about the desirability of starting new industries in this province. And this is as it ought to be; the gospel of new industries and more of them should be constantly preached and should also be more extensively practised than it is. But there is another gospel, also, perhaps an even more important one that should be both preached and practised, namely, the building up and enlarging of the industries we already have. This latter is all the more important in the case of those industries that have proved themselves conspicuously successful, that have proved safe and lucrative for the investor as well as for the proprietors.

One outstanding industry in this city that has proved its stability and its right to the patronage of investors is that of the Messers Bruce Stewart & Co. Limited. Since its inception this concern has been a success; it has more than once outgrown its accommodation and demonstrated its ability to increase its output and its payroll. It has grown from a comparatively small machine shop to a plant that has few equals in the Maritime Provinces. It has been enlarged several times to meet the increasing demands of the trade it created and it again finds it necessary to further extend its accommodation in order to keep up with the increasing demand. To effect this further extension \$50,000 stock is offered to the public, as fully explained in their advertisement in this issue. This is no experiment, no uncertain speculation; it is an opportunity for safe investment, that every one with a little capital to invest should take hold of. This stock is not going a-begging. It will no doubt, be snapped up in a few days, and intending investors should lose no time in getting in their advertisement, explains the purpose of the issue of this stock. Read it.

GOOD FOR THE R. WAY

Sir.—Thanking you very much for printing my last letter I have noticed several written since by others. I think that of Mr. Tuplin's gave a very plain idea of what is done by autos and trucks, and I cannot see why the people are so much against them on Prince Edward Island. The whole cry is of the horses, and the roads not adapted for them. That is all nonsense. It was the same in Bar Harbor, Maine, up until a few years ago. The natives, as they are called, would not allow an auto in or near the place. They soon found out that they were in the wrong. It is one of the largest summer resorts on the New England coast. The matter was taken up at an election and as it is divided into three townships two of these townships voted to allow the autos in. Two years later the third township voted the same way, so you see the people soon saw that they were behind the times. These roads were not near so good as those of Prince Edward Island before the autos were allowed there, but today they are second to none.

I also noticed a letter about a motor bus service being started. It would be a grand idea if they could be run the whole length of the island. I think it would wake up the worst means of transportation on the island last summer I ever saw. When it comes to pack people in stock cars who have purchased a ticket to ride in comfort it is time to wake up and find other ways of getting around.

I only wish some of those who are against the auto were up here at the present time and see what good work they are doing, being driven by young women. There are scores of them going out through the country and coming back with men for the army and navy.

I also noticed an item where some one wrote about a tacket not having autos, I wonder if the writer knew of a mail carrier has one. He went up against the same thing, but won out; he even went as far as to hitch a pair of horses to it, and deliver his mail that way until he won out. There is no doubt but the auto being allowed to run on Prince Edward Island would in a very few years make it one of the best summer places this side of the Atlantic.

I am, sir, etc.

A. M. H. Brookline, Mass., April 4, 1917.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson,

LIGHTNING CHANGES.

(By Walt Mason.)

The morn was fair, the balmy air, suggested May or June; I took my self a prune. My wife exclaimed, "The climate's famed for sudden shifts and tricks; you'd better don your ulster, John!" I sternly answered, "Nix! The skies are blue, the winter's through in a spring has come to stay. The joyous wrens and setting hens send up their roundelay." In spring attire I took my lyre, and paced the village street, and chirped and smiled like wayward child, and danced on buoyant feet. Then from the north a blast came forth that smote me high and hip, and since that morn my fame's been torn by fourteen kinds of grip. So many twists, so many grists of climate here are sprung, I wonder why all men don't die while they are fresh and young. No man can say, at break of day, just what that day will bring; soft winds may blow, there may be snow, we may have Fall or Spring. And so we strive to keep alive by taking pills and dope, and strain our gaze for better days, for while there's life there's hope.

Pure honey in 1/2 lb and 3 lb bottles, also in the combs at Beer & Goff's.

Eastertide and New Spring Goods

You will want something for Easter. For the Ladies we have new Easter Neckwear, New Gloves, Easter Waists, Easter Hose, Easter Handkerchiefs, Easter Veils, Easter Ornaments, Easter Hand Bags, Easter White Lingerie, Easter Millinery, Easter Hats and Bonnets for the Kiddies, Easter Coats for Mother or Miss, also for the small Children, Easter Suits and Sport Coats, Easter Silk Coats.

Prepare for a Rainy Day

Don't get caught without one of Paton's Slicker Coats and Sport Hat to Match, they are dressy and in order for April showers.

For Husband or other Friend

Classy Ties, the very latest as worn in New York, in all the different styles 35c to \$1.00; also Easter Gloves in Suede and Dogskin, extra special bought before the big advance. Easter Shirts, Easter Umbrellas, Special showing of Men's High Class Ready-to-Wear Tailored Suits at \$10.00, \$14.50, \$18.00, and \$20.00. Buy your Spring Overcoat and have it for Easter. We have fine black Cheviot Overcoats with or without silk facings, \$10.00, \$13.50 and \$15.00.



"In Spite of Everything"

Also dressy Oxford Grey Spring Coats and Slip-on and Balmacaans in the latest Tweeds. Also probably the best showing of Men's Guaranteed Raincoats east of Montreal in Paramatta and Tweeds. And by express this morning a choice collection of fifty of the latest shapes in Men's Sport Hats and Caps. See our Western Window for samples.

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RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT SHOT IN BALTIMORE.

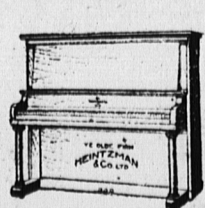
BALTIMORE, April 5.—Michael Porzakovsky, secret commercial agent of the Russian government probably will die from a bullet wound

received at the exclusive Baltimore Country Club. While the mystery of the bullet wound is increased by the absolute silence of the police, friends of the Russian diplomat maintain that the shooting was accidental, he being shot while removing a service revolver from his pocket.

WHAT MADE HIM MAD

Reporter—"That fellow who wanted his name kept out of the paper called in today. Oh, he was mad!" Editor—"What about?" Reporter—"It seems we kept it out."

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Will your child's Playing be a joy to listen to—full of beauty and feeling! Or will it be poor and indifferent



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