

The Charlottetown Guardian

Evening Daily (founded 1907) \$2.00 (delivered or by mail in Canada, and \$2.50 for U. S. A.)

Morning Daily (founded 1891), \$3.50 per year. (Delivered in advance; \$2.50 per year (mailed in advance, in Canada, and \$3.00 for U. S. A.)

Saturday Weekly (founded 1887) \$1.50 per annum by mail in Canada or U. S. A.

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1917.

THE HAGGLING AT OTTAWA

The haggling of the Liberals at Ottawa and of a section of the Liberal press throughout the country over the question of conscription, indicate clearly that, notwithstanding the protestations of loyalty and of patriotism, the salvation of the Liberal party is of vastly greater importance in their opinion than the salvation of the Empire. As foreshadowed in our Ottawa despatches yesterday morning the Liberals are preparing an amendment to the Government Conscription Bill upon which Liberal Conscriptionists and anti-conscriptionists can agree. It is safe to assume beforehand that any amendment upon which these two diametrically divergent wings can agree will be a spineless compromise which will mean nothing but blind adherence to party. There can be no common standing ground for conscriptionists and anti-conscriptionists; there may be a patchwork platform on which partisans can huddle together but such a platform will go to pieces before the real conscription storm now sweeping over Canada.

The Halifax Chronicle which assumes to set the pace for Liberalism in the Maritime Provinces gives in its Tuesday's issue, a sample of the haggling opposition on which the Liberal amendment to the Conscription Bill is going to be founded. It says:

"What the Opposition want to know is what are the actual requirements for reinforcements from now until the end of the year upon which depend the urgency for immediate conscription and a departure from the voluntary system without a mandate from the people, or before adequate action has been taken to ascertain, in proper perspective, all the needs of the situation and all the available resources. Liberals believe compulsion must come but they want to be sure that its scope is broad enough, its operation feasible and its time is opportune."

"What are the actual requirements for reinforcements?" Sir Robert Borden in introducing his conscription bill gave an incontrovertible answer to this question when he told the House that during April and May we enlisted 11,790 men and that during these same two months our casualties were 23,939 men. In the face of this statement "what the Opposition want to know is what are the actual requirements for reinforcements from now until the end of the year upon which depend the urgency for immediate conscription and a departure from the voluntary system!" Could absurdity and inconsistency go further?

"Without a mandate from the people? What people? Who would vote against conscription?"

Every jaundiced, anti-British racist in Quebec would vote against it. Every crank tainted with pro-Germanism would vote against it. Every man of alien origin in the West would vote against it. Every one of the precious heap in Quebec who think we have "done enough for England," would vote against it. Every miser in the country who has refused to contribute to the Patriotic or Red Cross funds would vote against it. Every genteel young slacker of the "silk stocking brigade," hiding behind some woman's petticoats, would vote against it. Every poltroon and shirker hiding in the funk-holes of the country, would vote against it.

Is Canada's part in this world crisis to be left in the hands of this motley collection of racists, poltroons, misers, slackers and pro-Germans?

"A mandate from the people" while over 12,000 of our boys have fallen in two months without a man offering to take their places!

"What are the actual requirements?" Twelve thousand men a month till the war is over would only fill the places of those who are falling. Can we do less than fill their places? Sir Robert Borden stated that to keep five divisions in the field we will need 84,000 men during the next seven months and every red blooded man in Canada is determined that we shall get them and more too; every man in the trenches, every man

in the hospitals, every home that has given a son or a father, says we should have them, and when the question is asked of the people of Canada, if it must be asked, the answer will be overwhelmingly that we must have them.

It is high time that this petty, partisan haggling had ceased. The Toronto Globe, the spokesman for Canadian Liberalism, said in a recent issue that Sir Robert Borden was "incapable of uniting the nation," that "There is no one in Parliament who, in this imperative task of welding the country together, can take the place of Sir Wilfrid Laurier." That is what ails the Globe and the Chronicle and the little fry that are dancing to their piping. Only let Laurier get back to power and all will be forgiven and forgotten! It is the cry of the blinded partisans who are stirring up the present opposition to conscription, the attempt of agitators to convert the "hosannas" with which Sir Robert Borden was hailed, when he announced that conscription would be enacted, into the "crucify him" of the unthinking, gullible crowd. But loyal, stalwart patriotic Canadians are not a "crowd" to be so stamped. They will stand by the men in the trenches, by the graves of those who have fallen and they will see to it that Canada stays in the war till the last shot is fired for freedom and humanity.

PATRIOTIC WORK

No more patriotic work than farm work could be done this season. Hundreds, if not thousands, of men have offered their services to the recruiting sergeant and have been refused because of physical or other conditions which the applicants have claimed were of small consequence. If, now, their offer to serve their country was really born of that patriotic sentiment which is so much to be commended, and not of a mere desire to wear a uniform and go on an adventure with the crowd—natural or right enough as that may be—here is an opportunity knocking at the door. No more patriotic service could be performed than to raise food. The man in the trench is no possible use without the man on the farm. One of the surest ways of losing a battle is to let the soldiers go hungry. Every man who is not supporting himself at home no matter how rich he may be, is taking food out of the mouth of the soldier. By supporting himself is not necessarily meant through farming or any other stated work—if he is working at some necessary employment, whatever it may be, that is sufficient. But if he is seeking means of expressing his patriotism, he cannot do better than to employ his spare hours in increasing the production of food. Although many do not find the work pleasant, most will find it health giving and even profitable. Isolated effort will in most instances be found wearying and perhaps monotonous. Consequently, the effort should be made to undertake this work in association with others. Carried out in this way, there is little doubt that the work will be found interesting, and it will undoubtedly be of great practical value in winning the war.—Ex.

NOTES

The man who wants a referendum on conscription is opposed to conscription.

Some German army officers were killed by a bomb near the spot where K. Wm. and Hindenburg were talking the other day. Now that bomb might have—but no, that's too kindly a thought.

In 1859, when more than one power seemed prepared to take the field against Britain, Tennyson's "Riflemen Form!" appeared. Three days later was issued an order from the War Office approving the formation of a volunteer rifle corps. To one of the promoters of the movement the poet wrote a congratulatory letter in which he said: "I hope you will not cease from your labors until it is the law of the land that every male child in it shall be trained to the use of arms."

With reference to the telegram re the recent visit of Judge Stewart to Ottawa we have only to say that it was received from our correspondent and published in good faith along with references to other Islanders who were visiting the Capital. If Judge Stewart has read into it an interpretation which the correspondent probably never intended and has chosen to take the public into his confidence that is his own business, not the Guardian's. The Guardian published his disclaimer yesterday morning omitting an impertinent sentence at the close, which sentence Judge Stewart was informed at the time would not be published. This, the learned Judge has seen fit to characterize in a letter to the Patriot as "mutilation."

BORDEN'S BURNING APPEAL TO CANADA

OTTAWA.—The Prime Minister's conclusion in introducing the Military bill, was upon the highest plane of patriotic eloquence. His words may here be quoted in full as follows:—

"I have endeavored to give to the House, as clearly and as succinctly as possible, the main features of this bill. There are one or two words that I should like to add before I sit down.

"The measure is not intended as provocation or punitive but is put forward in good faith as the only means of insuring NATIONAL SAFETY IN A GREAT PERIL. It has been stated in the press that Canadians should not be called upon to fight beyond the limits of our own territory. But ever since 1868 the law has recognized the obligation of Canadians to the BEYOND the limits of our territory and it recognizes that obligation today. According to the Militia act, two conditions are necessary to the placing of the militia, or any part thereof, on active service in or beyond Canada.

First, the men must be sent by reason of an emergency; secondly, they must be sent to the defence of Canada for the defence thereof. Let us consider whether or not those conditions are fulfilled by the present circumstances.

Will any honorable gentleman present deny that there is an emergency today? In the midst of the most terrific struggle ever known to history by one will seriously doubt the answer. The greatest of our nation's and we are neutral—that great nation to the south of us—has at last been obliged to take up arms to defend its rights, to prevent the domination of militarism, the destruction of liberty and the enslavement of the world. Therefore, I take it for granted that there is no argument open to any man in this house, or in this country, as to the existence of an emergency. Not only is it an emergency, it is the greatest emergency ever known, and I believe the greatest emergency that ever will be known in the history of this Dominion.

If it is conceded that there is an emergency, are we fighting in France and Flanders for the defence of Canada? The men who are few members of the house who are speaking of the war have not affirmed that truth. Let us look for a moment at Great Britain. We do not know what forces she has in France at the present moment but we do know, from the returns already made public, that her armies have sustained very nearly a million casualties on the soil of France and Belgium.

Is Great Britain fighting in France and Belgium for the defence of her own territory? She is fighting to free the soil of France and Belgium from the footsteps of the enemy, but she is not less truly fighting in defence of her own territory.

I do not suppose that any man in this country, looking at the circumstances as they have developed since the 4th day of August, 1914, could doubt that for one in a hundred.

What about Canada? When the Canadians on the 22nd day of April, 1915, barred the path of the German to Calais, I say that they barred his path to Halifax, Quebec, St. John and Montreal.

From the North Sea to the borders of Switzerland there is a line nearly 500 miles in length. It is being pressed back towards the German frontier. Along that 500 miles line there is a strip of territory of varying width over which this devastating struggle has swayed to and fro. It was once a glorious country, with smiling fields, happy villages and prosperous towns. Today, it is the abomination of desolation, a mass of shell-churned mud.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUSEN,

SPRING

In Spring, when the green gets back in the trees,

And the sun comes out and stays,

And yer boots pulls on with a good tight squeeze,

And yer think of yer bare-foot days; When you ort to work and you want to not,

And you and yer wife agrees Its time to spade up the garden lot

When the green gets back in the trees—

Well! work is the least of my ideas

When the green, you know, gets back in the trees!

When the green gets back in the trees, and bees

Is a-buzzin' aroun' ag'in In that kind of a lazy go-as-you-please

Old gait they bum rou'n' in; When the groun's all bald where the hay-rick stood,

And the birds, and the breeze Conces the bloom in the old dogwood,

And the green gets back in the trees— I like, as I say, in such scenes as these,

The time when the green gets back in the trees!

When the whole tall-fethers o' Win-terlin' Is all pulled out and gone!

And the sap it thaws and begins to climb, And the sweet it starts out on a feller's forehead, a-gittin' down

At the old spring on his knees— I kin'do' like jest a-loaferin' rou'n' When the green gets back in the trees—

Jest a-loaferin' rou'n' as I-durn-please— When the green, you know, gets back in the trees!

James Whitcomb Riley

sequences of this measure are to be dreaded. Why they should be dreaded I cannot understand, for it introduces no new principle. I should rather be concerned as to what may ensue if this bill is not passed. The legislation of 1868 and 1904 was not mere stage play, it was a serious measure with a serious purpose. The conditions which it calls for have surely been fulfilled. God speed the day when the gallant men who are protecting and defending us will return to the land they love so well.

If we do not pass this measure, if we do not provide reinforcements, if we do not keep our slightest faith with what countenance shall we meet them? They have seen their friends and comrades gasping in torture from poisoned gas. They have known the meaning of decimated regiments. They have seen comrades and brothers struck down. They have held on grimly in the trenches, in the Ypres salient and elsewhere against overwhelming odds and under the devastating power of the enemy's artillery when we lacked guns and munitions.

They have climbed the heights of Vimy Ridge and driven the Prussians beyond it. They have answered the call of service and duty. They have fought and died that Canada might live and that the horrors and desolation of war might never be known within our borders. They went forth splendid in their youth and confidence. They will come back silent, grim, determined men, who, once, nor twice, but fifty times have gone over the parapet to seek their rendezvous with death.

If there are left of 400,000 such men come back to Canada with fierce resentment and even rage in their hearts, conscious that they have been deserted and betrayed, how shall we face them when they ask the reason?

I am not so much concerned for the day when the bill becomes law as for the day when these men return if it is denied. It is easy to sow the wind of clamor against the imposition of equal duty and obligation upon all Canadians for the preservation of their country, but those who make that sowing may reap such a whirlwind as they do not dream of today.

I hope that this measure will be received by the house and by the country in the spirit in which it is offered. It is presented from a sense of duty with no desire or intention of interfering with the legitimate rights of any citizen of this country. It is inspired by the sincere belief that in truth we are fighting a battle which involves the destiny of Canada and of the whole world by the strong conviction that the protection of our country, its citizens, their liberties and their heritage depend upon the success of our efforts.

I trust that the debate will be characterized by a sense of the grave responsibilities which thus devolve upon

this parliament and upon the people. I hope that it will be conducted with fairness and moderation, with no anger, word or taunt, so that those who may come after may know that the men of this generation, representing the Canadian people in their parliament, were animated by idealism and inspired by motives far above the paltry and insignificant considerations of lesser days.

I hope that this measure will be so received that those who are holding the trenches beyond the seas, fighting for our security and our liberty, may realize that their trust in us is not in vain. This afternoon there are 125,000 Canadians pressing back the invaders in France and Belgium.

Let us prove ourselves worthy to call them comrades. Some may have made the supreme sacrifice for Canada even as we speak. Let us summon in thought these brave comrades, firm of heart and strong of purpose, those who have fought, you and those who shall fight no more—let us summon them in spirit to our deliberations, let us speak and determine as if they were in our midst.

POSSIBLE CHANGE IN CANADIAN COMMAND

OTTAWA.—The Militia Department knows nothing of the retirement of General Byng. Commander of the Canadians, but it is surmised that he is going to a higher command. It is considered probable he may be succeeded by a Canadian, General Curry or General Turner.

Silverware For The Bride

The enduring gift, the useful gift, the one that pleases most. We have sterling silver and best silverplate that make exquisite wedding gifts in a variety of forms.

G. H. TAYLOR

Jeweler Optician Engraver

Tomlins' The High Cost of Flour

Pure Bread

has not affected our policy of using only the very best grade. It costs us a lot of money, but our motto is

"We Keep The Quality Up"

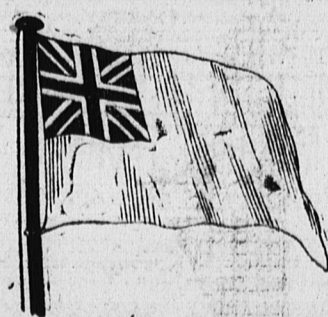
Ask your grocer or Phone 366-L. For daily delivery

WE PRESENT YOU

the patriotic opportunity of securing a

\$5 FLAG OUTFIT

Stout, fast-colored, full-sized (3x5) Union Jacks, brass-ferrule jointed pole, ball and haliard, and rustless window socket, on a basis which so nearly eliminates cost.



Through the efforts of leading Canadian newspapers, co-operating with the

Charlottetown Guardian

loyal and patriotic citizens can secure the Empire's emblem at this time when EVERY HOME must have a flag, and never has such an opportunity presented to get a \$5.00 outfit on terms which are far below the manufacturer's prices.

\$2.25 For the \$5. Outfit \$2.25

PATRIOTIC CANADA

This Flag Coupon

(Accompanied by the amount mentioned in the announcement covering the cost of the distribution.)

WILL, WHEN PRESENTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE

Charlottetown Guardian

Entitle the reader of this paper presenting same to

The Complete \$5 Flag and Outfit

MAIL ORDERS.— Send the \$2.25 and 7c additional for postage in 20 mile zone (or 15c. in other zones or Provinces); for greater distances ask your postmaster amount to include for 3 lbs.

PATRIOTIC CANADA