

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1916.

## TOMORROW'S CEREMONIES

Appropriate arrangements have been made for the celebration tomorrow of the Second Anniversary of Great Britain's entry into the war. It is fitting that the celebration should begin with religious services. The Empire has passed through a grave crisis, the gravest in its long and glorious history. Plunged unprepared into war with a nation that had been stealthily and treacherously preparing for forty years, Great Britain and her Allies have at a fearful cost in blood and treasure been able to hold off the enemy until they were ready to give blow for blow. Now they are ready and a righteous war waged for the cause of liberty and humanity, a war waged to uphold the rights of the weaker nations, is nearing a triumphant conclusion. There is hard work still ahead, there are sacrifices still to be made and it is fitting that while we look backward with gratitude over a way safely traversed, though beset with infinite danger, we should look forward humbly acknowledging divine guidance and with unwavering belief that "God is in His Heaven and all is well with the World."

In the afternoon a special session of the Provincial Legislature will be opened by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor to make provision for the special needs resulting from the war. As is already known the war's demands have assumed proportions that had not and could not have been anticipated. Instead of the one or two hundreds of men whom we, at the beginning of the war had purposed sending, we have sent over three thousand. The wives and dependents of many of these—in some cases the widows and orphans—have to be provided for. The provincial revenues depleted by the war must be restored and the extraordinary expenditures occasioned in various ways, either directly or indirectly by the war, must be provided for.

The arrangements recently made whereby the Dalton Sanatorium is to be used for returned tuberculous soldiers in addition to those of the civil population who have contracted tuberculosis, will necessitate an expenditure which the province is entitled to bear. We understand it is the intention of the government to make such provision for these necessities as will distribute the burden equitably among the people. Heretofore the various burdens have been voluntarily borne by many of our people, but not by all. The idea is, we take it, to levy a tax, or rather to add a surtax to the present taxation to bring the revenue up to the requirements.

In common with the rest of the Empire we have been plunged into a calamitous war. The burden, onerous as it no doubt will be, it is our right to bear. Hitherto it has fallen upon us but lightly. In Great Britain the taxes, previously much greater than ours, have been so increased by the war that they now amount to twenty-five per cent. of income. In all our sister provinces taxes have been levied for the various war purposes and it is only fair that we too should have the war burden so adjusted that it shall equitably fall upon all.

In the matter of caring for our sick it is but fair that this burden also should be equitably borne. Our sister province of Nova Scotia has erected a sanatorium, the cost of the plant, equipment and maintenance being borne by the people. We have, through the munificence of the Hon. Charles Dalton, been

saved the expense of building a sanatorium. We are now about to be asked by the government to bear a share of the expense of caring for and nursing back to health those who have contracted tuberculosis and are unable to bear the expense of skilled nursing and proper medical attention. We do not anticipate that in a Christian community like ours, in a country that has so long enjoyed unbroken prosperity, there shall be any opposition to assuming the slight expense involved in so commendable an undertaking.

In the evening a general public meeting will be held under the direction of the Prince Edward Island Development Commission. At this meeting addresses will be given by leading citizens and visitors and a resolution will be adopted recording our inflexible determination to continue to a victorious end the righteous war for the maintenance of those ideals of liberty and justice which are the common and sacred cause of Great Britain and her Allies.

## TWO YEARS OF WAR

Two years ago yesterday, August 2, 1914, German troops appeared on the Belgian frontier and demanded, in the name of the German Government, an unobstructed passage through Belgium for the invasion of France, offering compensation if unopposed. Belgium appealed to the neutrality treaty to which Germany was a party, and refused her demands, blew up the bridges across the Meuse, and prepared to resist the violation of her neutrality, at the same time calling upon England, another party to her neutrality treaty. Sir Edward Grey immediately took up the matter with the German Chancellor, Von Bethman Hollweg, demanding that Belgian rights be respected, and intimating that in case of non-compliance Great Britain would stand by Belgium. The demand brought forth the German Chancellor's famous remark that Britain was going to war for a "mere scrap of paper" and an intimation that German troops had already invaded Belgium. Two years ago tomorrow, August 4th, Great Britain declared war on Germany.

This was the beginning of the war, as far as Great Britain is concerned. The incidents leading up to the actual outbreak of war, the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria in Serbia, the impossible demands made by Austria upon Serbia, the Austrian declaration of war on Serbia, Russia's determination to stand by her ally, Serbia, her mobilization, ostensibly for that stand, Germany's demand that Russia cease mobilization within twelve hours and her demand of France for a pledge of neutrality in the event of war with Russia, Germany's declaration of war upon Russia and France's entry into the game, all occurred between July 23rd and August 4th, dates which will be forever memorable, as the beginning of the greatest war in the history of the world.

The end of the second year of this colossal strife finds the Allies looking forward with definite and assured hope of victory. A year ago the outlook, while tinged with faith in the inexhaustible resources and the hitherto unconquered might of Great Britain, was anything but bright. The German offensive in the east was driving the Russians back with considerable losses. In the West the contending armies were practically in a deadlock. A review of the year's operations was by no means cheering. The Germans were still on the offensive, Britain and her Allies still unprepared.

Today the whole situation is changed. The Allies' fully and abundantly prepared, are on the offensive. The Russians are "coming back" also fully prepared, and the Austro-German armies are retreating before them. Our despatches of the past four or five weeks tell of continued progress on all fronts, of growing despondency and increasing want in Germany.

The two years upon which we now look back are eventful to the verge of the miraculous. The

Battle of the Marne, on September 5th, 1914, probably the decisive battle, will forever stand out on the page of history as one of the most gallantly fought actions in the annals of war. It was here that General Joffre gave his now historic order, "The hour has come to advance at all costs and to die where you stand rather than give way." There were more than two million men engaged in this battle which lasted seven days when finally the Germans were forced back beyond the Aisne where they had prepared lines of entrenchments. It was here that the Germans were forced to give up the offensive and surrender the direction of the war in this region to the French Army. It was here, too, that the deadlock began, with the German Army firmly entrenched from the Oise to the Vosges. As neither side was sufficiently strong to penetrate the lines of the other the flanking movement to the westward began which brought the lines of entrenchment to Neuport on the shores of the North Sea. This line beginning at the Swiss frontier extends for nearly 350 miles to the northward of Verdun, Rheims, Soissons, through Noyon, nearly north through Arras, Ypres, and Diemont. The line, with the exception of the changes made during the past few weeks, in which it has been broken by the Allied offensive from Albert to the vicinity of Bapaume and Peronne, still remains as it was a year ago. Since the Allied offensive began Longueval, Mammetz, Contalmaison, Montauban and the two Bazentins have fallen into the hands of the British and French troops, and this is the beginning of the war. Heretofore the Allies were holding their own until they were ready to push the offensive.

And with this preparation and this beginning we are entering upon the third year of the world's greatest war. Canada has equipped an army of nearly 350,000 men, 3000 of whom are Prince Edward Islanders. Many of these have fallen and many Canadian homes are in mourning, but the end is already in sight. The enemy is already defeated and knows it. It has been a fierce and bitter struggle, a struggle for liberty and civilization, a struggle of right against might and the right will triumph. We may well observe with hope and confidence the second anniversary of our entry into the war. We are at the beginning of the end.

"And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
 And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong  
 Alleluia!"

## SANITY ABOUT NICKEL

The strain of the war has set the people's nerves on edge and it may seem easy to stampede them politically. Because of this condition patriotic citizens and newspapers will weigh their words carefully and abstain from reckless statements likely to make mischief and work injury to the State. From half a dozen sources have been coming streams of manufactured rubbish about nickel. Canada could not have stopped the flow of nickel matte to the American refinery without checking the production of vast quantities of munitions in American factories for the British and Allied armies. The shipments of Canadian nickel to the only considerable refinery on the continent could not have been prohibited without shortening the supply of the metal for the British and Allied navies.

We have the assurance of the British Government and the Admiralty that a complete check is kept by British inspectors at the American refinery upon every pound of nickel handled at the plant, and that not an ounce goes to the enemy. If any did get into hostile hands, it could not pierce the British blockade of Germany. Even the Deutschland will find it a long way to go. This country has blundered for years in not having nickel refined at home, or the whole industry nationalized for the benefit of the British Empire. Steps are now well advanced to produce the finished nickel in Canada, but it is idle to abuse Governments for not being more loyal than the British Admiralty or the King.—Ex.

# Patons Specials for this Week

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## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. G. Lousen.

### A HORSE'S PRAYER.

Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work done provide me with shelter, a clean, dry bed and a stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort. Talk to me. Your voice often means as much to me as the reins. Pat me sometimes that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk the reins and do not whip me when going up hill. Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not understand what you want, but give me a chance to understand you. Watch me and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet. Examine my teeth when I do not eat. I may have an ulcerated tooth and that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie my head in an unnatural position, or take away my best defence against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail. And, finally, my master, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured and starved to death; but do thou, my master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter. You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a stable. Amen.

## Jewelry

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