

# THE Charlottetown Guardian

Advertising Phone . . . . .132-3  
Subscription Phone . . . . .132-2  
Printing and Edit., Day Phone . . . . .133  
Printing and Edit., Night Phone . . . . .132 & 133

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

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TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1915.

## DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Another important forward move, perhaps the most important in the history of our agricultural development, has been made by the Provincial Department of Agriculture in the appointment, mentioned elsewhere in this paper, of District Representatives for Prince and King's Counties. These representatives, who are trained and experienced agriculturists, will have offices exclusively devoted to the agricultural needs of their respective districts. Their offices will be supplied with such literature and information on agricultural matters as will be of interest and value to farmers; the counsel and assistance of the representatives will always be at the service of the farmers and the farmers themselves can meet and confer together with them when occasion requires. As previously announced, the Agricultural Buildings will shortly be fitted up with domestic science kitchens and apparatus and will be made the headquarters of the agricultural community generally.

With the organizations already in existence in the different counties this centralising of interests and aims of counsel will mean much in the development of agriculture and will place the province in line with advanced thought in the world's most advanced agricultural countries.

It may be interesting to know that the idea of district representation originated in Belgium many years ago and was largely responsible for the phenomenal development of agriculture in that country. Later it was adopted in France and Denmark and became the lever by which the agricultural products of those countries practically dominated the world's markets. In 1907 six districts were pointed in Ontario, merely as an experiment, and so marked was the success attained that now there are over twenty district offices fully equipped, the representatives each having an assistant besides a small office staff. Quebec and Manitoba have each followed suit and have already established a number of centres. All the agricultural states across the border are appointing practical men who have had a college training, and the system is becoming one of the greatest factors in the regeneration of southern agriculture. The great middle states, such as Illinois and Iowa, are demanding that their ablest young men be appointed to these positions. Recently many such appointments have been made in England, with remarkable success, especially where dairying and intensive farming are being followed.

The success of this new movement will depend very largely on the attitude towards it of the farmers themselves. The most expert and experienced agriculturists and organizers in the world would be powerless without the co-operation of those whom they essay to assist and benefit. We have unique advantages in this province in the development of agriculture; we are a small, compact district; our farmers are alive to their opportunities and their advantages; they are already pretty well organized into Farmers Institutes and they know on the experience of the past few years the value of expert, scientific knowledge. Our Egg Circles, our Outings, our co-operative dairying are witnesses to the success of what men can do when banded together for the common good. It remains for our people generally to throw themselves heartily into this new movement, to encourage the District Representatives by consulting with them, by encouraging others to do likewise, and, above all, to pull together. It is possible that in this, as in every other forward move, a knacker may occasionally bob up and find fault. We do not anticipate much of this. The knockers have not had much encouragement recently and fortunately they are now almost an "extinct species." The watchword now is "forward," and there never was a time in the history of the province when a forward move was more promising than at present.

We heartily congratulate Prince and King's Counties upon the character, the ability and the hope of the men who have been appointed as their representatives. From their record we have every confidence that they will make good and that the districts entrusted to them will receive a new impetus from their work.

## THE GENERAL GOOD

Perhaps the most difficult thing for the individual, in these go-ahead days of ours, when ability to make money is the standard of measurement, is to realize his responsibility to the community, and, as well, his dependence upon the community in carrying out his money-making.

Aside from the old truth that "no man liveth unto himself," he is essentially selfish who presses his own advantage to the disadvantage of the community of which he is a part and in the upkeep and prosperity of which he should take genuine pride. When men die and we write their obituaries one of the highest compliments paid them is that they were public spirited, leaders and pacemakers in their community. Many sections of this province are rich in such men and the communities in which they are found are distinguished from all others by progressiveness and general prosperity. Farms are well kept, roads are delightful to travel on, there are no complaints about violations of law. The whole community takes pride in following the lead if its one or more public spirited men, and whose community benefits; farms and farm products are increased in value, and even the chronic knacker finds the atmosphere unsuited to his falling and he becomes "as other men."

One of the great needs of this province today is more public spirit, the spirit that strives for the general good. We have many who are persistently and successfully looking after their own interests; this interest must become wider in its scope and the good of the whole community, the good of the whole province must be taken into account. A fine residence in the city, if surrounded by untidy and unkempt homes, is largely discounted in value. A well kept farm surrounded by weed grown and neglected farms and ill kept roads is worth much less than if its neighborhood and its roads were up to date. It requires a public spirit pervading the whole neighborhood to bring these surround-

ings up to what they ought to be. And this public spirit can be aroused by co-operation in the community. Our Farmers Institutes and Women's Institutes are doing much in this respect and can do very much more if they realize that the individual shares in the prosperity of the whole community.

This is Prince Edward Island's growing time. The revival now in progress in connection with agriculture is the beginning of a new era, an era of progress and expansion such as our province never before experienced. The progress already made has attracted the attention of our sister provinces and they are paying us the compliment of following our example. We have the lead now and it will be to our advantage to hold it. To hold it will mean that the province must work as one man for all that is most progressive, all that is best for the whole, as well as the individual. There should be no knocking, no slandering of a community or of the province. When improvements are needed methods for effecting them should be agreed upon and mutually carried out. There are no troubles, political, religious or moral that cannot be remedied by reasoning together, aiming at the general good and following the course mutually agreed upon.

## ITALY COMING IN

Our latest despatches concerning Italy's stand in the European situation indicate that she is gradually nearing the plunge, although the pressure from Germany has not yet been removed. The overtures made, presumably by Austria were in reality, as told by our despatches this morning, inspired and dictated by Germany.

With Italy undecided, Germany may be expected to exert such pressure on Austria-Hungary that Italy may have anything, from her former provinces to Turkey, if she will only promise to remain neutral. We may be sure that despite the apparent stand of Emperor Francis Joseph, Germany has him and his country where she wants them, or will have them there soon, as soon as she likes. Germany is the "big brother" of the enemy alliance.

The opinion most widely held is that Italy is merely temporizing at present. She can hope for nothing by joining Austria and Germany, as a contemporary points out. A victorious Triple Alliance would be certain to penalize her for her failure to stand by the other allies at the start of the war—a failure which reflects no discredit upon Italy, since she was a party to a defensive alliance only, but which would be used, we may be sure, to excuse Germany's failure to keep her promises to Italy at the expense of Austrian ambitions. Italy must join the Allies, the British side. She does not want a long war, and, in friendly counsel, she is assured of British and French support when the settlement of the European trouble is held. She has nothing in common with Germany, Austria and Turkey. She is the sworn enemy of the latter two nations.

What Italy is probably doing at the present time is trying to enter the cause against Germany as gracefully as possible. But she will join the alliance against Germany in due time. We may be sure, however, that she is anxious to have it established just what her percentage of the profits of victory will be. After the war we may learn that Italy had been ready to join us for months before this present time, but that negotiations went slowly in regard to the relative values of the demands of Italy, Russia and Serbia.

## THE POLITICAL LIFE

Dr. Hadley of Yale University is quoted as having said "It is wrong for a man who has a family dependent upon him to enter politics. To him there will inevitably, under the present system, come a time when he will have to choose between doing something right and staying out of office, and doing something wrong, and staying in. To have a family's comfort dependent on the decision is too great a trial."

With all due deference to Dr. Hadley such a sentiment is not only untrue but it is mischievous. There is not a calling into which a man can enter that does not present temptations. Moreover the temptations that beset the political life are no harder to withstand than those encountered in every other profession, and we believe we are safe in asserting that the proportion of those who have fallen in political life is no greater than in any other.

Much of the odium that unfortunately attaches to political life, and probably the basis upon which Dr. Hadley founded his preposterous advice, to keep out of politics is due to the too freely expressed opinions of political opponents, which when persisted in, as they usually are, particularly by the "outs," can scarcely fail to leave a smudge. The tendency of the defeated to heap opprobrium upon those who have succeeded is a human weakness and finds more scope in the political than in any other sphere. In politics there is rivalry with inevitable success for one party and failure for the other and the latter usually try to get even by accusing their more fortunate brethren of all kinds of wrong doing. These accusations, when groundless, do much harm. When well founded the erring politician is as surely punished as is his erring brother in any one of the other professions.

There is not only room but great need of strong, upright, dependable men in political life. There is no room for the man who cannot manfully face the "time when he will have to choose between doing something right and staying out of office, and doing something wrong and staying in." The country does not offer such an alternative but will stand by the man who has the backbone and the moral courage to "do something right," and will see to it that he "stays in."

There are little politicians as there are little lawyers, little doctors, little preachers, and little people in every walk of life who will try to feather their little nests at the expense of their country or of their party. This does not furnish any reason why good men should avoid these professions.

## UNITED STATES NAVY

Our United States cousins now claim to have the largest fighting ship in the world, the Pennsylvania, launched a few days ago. She is a super dreadnought and has a tonnage of 31,400 tons.

The largest ships in the British navy—and in the world, until the Pennsylvania came into being—are the Queen Elizabeth, the Warspite, the Valiant and Burnham, the two former now operating in the Dardanelles. Each of these ships has a displacement of 27,500 tons and is equipped with more powerful guns than their American sister. The main armament of the British ships consists of eight 15 inch guns and the secondary of sixteen 6-inch guns. The American ship will have twelve 14-inch guns in her main armament and twenty-two 6-inch guns in her secondary. The United States navy now consists of 12 dreadnoughts, 19 pre-dreadnoughts, 10 armored cruisers, 4 monitors, 15 protected cruisers, 42 destroyers, 20 torpedo boats and 39 submarines.

## NOTES

CERTAINLY—it frequently requires more than ONE publication of an "ad" to secure appreciable returns. But isn't the result desired worth it?

The "Nation" states that Lord Mersey refused to take a fee for his work in connection with the inquiry into the loss of the Empress of Ireland.

## LETTER FROM REV. DR PRINGLE

The following letter written by Rev. Dr. Pringle, will be interesting to his friends in Prince Edward Island: Jellalabad Barracks, Tidworth, England, Feb. 9th, 1915.

Dear People of St. Andrew's Church: It is a long time since I sent my last letter. The reason is that I have been sick. There are two doctors who are now doubtless listening to me speak through Mr. Matheson who knows how foolish I am, when what is, or should be at first, a slight indisposition, grips me. There are others, not doctors, who know it too. I seem to think I am as young as I used to be and that I can keep on with my work and get rid of the trouble without any care. Well, the old result followed that course—the result that some not only the doctors had to deal with not so long ago in Sydney. I took influenza about three weeks before Christmas, kept on and on, made a journey in a cold train, got home two days before Christmas and "crumpled up" in my sweet home in a bed surrounded by a sea of mud. I was in bed there until the Sunday after Christmas, when my big boy came in, became alarmed, went for the doctor of his battalion, who came and saw me, mounted his horse, brought an ambulance and had them "hit the trail" with me for the hospital.

Here I stayed until the next Wednesday, when I went off on sick leave to Edinburgh. I stayed there for about two weeks and got to my hut only to find that we were under orders to move to barracks at Tidworth, about four and a half miles away. Here I have been ever since. I know I am not rid of my cold yet. I know I hear a doctor on my left downstairs and another who sits a little to my left upstairs in the morning, saying under their breath "it serves him right." Well, perhaps it does. Because I ought to have learned my lesson long ago, and might have saved some of my friends a good deal of trouble and care of an old minister, if I had the sense to succumb to influenza as soon as it attacked, and hidden under the bedclothes.

I am getting better now, and soon will be my old self. My general health ever since I came has been first rate. I walked until we went out of tents, almost 15 or 20 miles a day, and while rarely with dry feet had not a symptom of cold. If I could have remained in a tent I think I should have been well right now.

The Christmas and New Year's greetings I got from scores of people from Sydney and elsewhere were much valued. They did my old heart good. It was so easy to see the little children who sent me cards or sweets or some other little reminder and the grown up people who filled boxes with nuts, raisins, cakes and comforts more than I could use and which I could share with others. I saw the wee brown boy on North George Street who sent with the contributions of his mother and father, a sugar lamb and rooster and one or two other animals. I saw the women of my church getting their boxes ready, amongst others one for the minister and one for his big boy. We and others enjoyed the good things sent. The gifts, great and small sent by men and women and little children, the messages in letters and cards all told me what you have in your hearts. The messages in the women's boxes of good things was "him that is with me will in no wise cast out." I shall, if God spares me, preach upon that text when I return. How on that rather sombre Christmas Day in bed I tramped the length and breadth of the congregation I need not tell you. City and country were visited. It took little time to begin at Norman Macdonald's on King's Road and dropped into every house on that side right to Kenneth Macdonald's at the head of Blackett's Lake, and then beginning with John Macdonald's on the other side, to visit all the MacKenzies, Fergusons, McLearns, Pattersons, McKillops, McAllys, Colliers, Murrys and others right down to the bridge again. Indeed I took a look in even amongst my Anglican friends and neighbors at Coxheath, as well. Then Dutch Brook, just a peep at the people there with a quiet word of comfort in my heart and on my lips for our sister and her children from whom God took husband and father away. Black Brook Westmount, Cowboy road and the city. Oh! if my feet, when I am with you, were only as fleet as my thought about you when I am away. The feet and hands are at best, slow instruments to carry out the behests of mind and spirit. I don't think there is a single home connected with St. An-

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

**TO KNOW, OR NOT TO KNOW.**  
To know Thy will that I Thy will might do!  
How oft the longing comes, and I—perplexed—  
And warring with doubt and fear oppressed—  
Almost for days of dreams and visions yearn;  
How can I know what Thou wouldst have me do,  
When nothing seems to guide, and I—distressed—  
Can find no answer to my soul's request—  
"Lord show me midst life's maze which way to turn?"  
Child of My Love, be patient—make not haste;  
"They also serve who only stand and wait."  
This is My Will for thee—thy way made "strait!"  
That thou awhile shouldst "come a-part and rest";  
The wisdom thou dost rightly seek is Mine;  
Nor dost thou ask in vain,—leave all to wait.  
And when thy prayer is answered, then shalt see,  
For thee to know that is, sometimes, the best.

draw's that I did not visit on Christmas day when I could be busy only at thinking.

## BRIGADE CHAPLAIN

My life here is very busy. I am now brigade chaplain at the Canadian training depot at present quartered in the British barracks at Tidworth. Had I not been sick I should have gone to the front this week, so I understand. But my work here is important and. But my work here is important and. The established church of Scotland has a church and chaplain here. We have the use of their very comfortable and commodious church for our Sunday services. We are likely to move in a few days to Lark Hill. The boys call it Mud-lark Hill. There we shall be accommodated by the Y. M. C. A. What we should have done without that association I do not know. The churches, as organizations did practically nothing. For reading room, writing letters, Sunday services we have been under obligation to the Y. M. C. A. Many a mother may bless the association's tents and the Christian people who provided them, for they stood in the way of thousands who otherwise might have gone down to the lowest depths.

Our boys, so far as I have been able to keep track of them, have come through all right. It has been a wet, sunless winter, a severe test to one's constitution, but I think the boys of Sydney have stood the test pretty well. They in the batteries have been miles away from me ever since the 6th of December, so that I have not been able to keep an eye on them. But they have had the prayers of their dear ones, and of me too, and He who never slumbers nor sleeps is caring for them continually. When I was in the artillery lines last they all looked fit. I believe they go to France ere long for further training before going into the firing line. It is an awful struggle, but it must have only one issue. The cost makes me shudder.

I did not get the cable from the session. I did the message from the annual meeting. It uplifted me, and went the round of the officers' mess.

I hear good accounts of the Sunday School. Seems as if my absence was good for them. I am glad to hear of the workers and their work, and I hear most from the children. They evidently think that if my heart is anywhere especially, it is in the Sunday School. The minister goes away and other workers—leaders—also, but God's work goes on, because it is God's. I appreciate the faithfulness and sacrifices of my people, rank and file and leaders. The way the work is going on and the burden being borne, is a blessing to my heart. I may never be your minister again, but you shall never cease ministering to me as long as I live. I had to go from Dawson to Sydney to find the solace which my heart needed—for it had been sorely hurt. Also to find the people and the work for which I seemed to be measurably fitted.

I was glad to see from the Record, given me by Lieut. Christie, of Truro, that my session went as a body to try to prevail upon the Council to do its duty. The duty of enforcing the Act is placed upon Council and Police Commission specifically. The representatives of the people are sworn to enforce the law, without regard to local or any other opinion, and yet they seem to want the people to do what they are clearly to do in the behalf of the people. I am afraid the session took action a little too near election day.

In closing, I wish the friends who have written me, especially the children, to be patient. I have not much time and you should see my table now. Stacks of unanswered letters, which, however, shall be answered, if only by a card.

Hold together and work together, people of St. Andrew's Church. The Lord will bless you and work with you, making you in the future as in the past a means of blessing to thousands.

Your minister,  
JOHN PRINGLE.

**BELGIAN TWINS THANK WOODROW WILSON FOR SAVING THE STARVING**  
WASHINGTON, March 26.—An exchange of letters between President Wilson and two little Belgians in Brussels, in which the children thanked the President for food sent by the Americans and the President expressed his appreciation of their gratitude, was made known today at the White House.

The children, twins, nine years old, wrote as follows:  
"Dear Mr. Wilson: Thank you very much for the good bread. The poor people in our villages were starving, for they have nothing to eat, but now that you have sent over to our dear little country a big provision of wheat both rich and poor can live—thanks to the Americans."  
"Best love and wishes from little 'Fussy Desjobergh'."  
Pussy's brother added the following note:  
"I join with my sister in thanking you, too, for it is jolly good bread; enough to satisfy any schoolboy's hunger."

In reply the President sent the following letter in his own handwriting: "My Dear Little Friends: Your letter touched me very deeply, and I thank you for it with all my heart. It makes me very happy to think that what generous Americans have done to relieve the hunger and distress in your country has brought you the help you needed and given you a little happiness in the midst of these terrible days of war. I hope that you will grow up to be strong to do the work that will have to be done in the days of peace that are coming. It would be a great pleasure to me if some day I might see you both when those happier times have come. Your Sincere Friend,  
"WOODROW WILSON"

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### New Easter Neckwear



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