

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1916.

## ROUMANIA

The situation in Roumania is beginning to look very serious. Our despatches yesterday morning indicated that the Hun invaders were in practical possession of a line clean through from the Transylvanian Alps in the north to the Danube in the south. The reader who has not a map at his command will be better understood the situation when he remembers that Roumania is shaped like a shoe, the toe pointing westward, the back of the shoe bordering on the Black Sea, and the River Danube forming the sole and separating the heel—Dobruja—from the rest of the shoe. According to our yesterday's despatches the whole toe of the shoe is now in the hands of the Teutons while Von Mackensen is gnawing at the sole while another army is attacking the instep through the mountain passes leading into Wallachia. The achievement of the Germans in this, from a military point of view, is admittedly a brilliant one. It will be remembered that what is going on now is not a successful operation of the original plan but the carrying through of a hastily devised alternative plan. When Roumania gave signs of entering the war the Teutons quickly began preparations for a counter stroke. Realizing that Roumania would first attempt the invasion of Transylvania it was first decided to abandon a large part of that province and attempt an attack on Bucharest, the capital of Roumania. Accordingly an army made up of Germans, Austrians, Bulgarians and Turks was assembled in Bulgaria, which lies south of the Danube, and placed under command of Von Mackensen, who planned an invasion of Roumania from the south, after taking the bridge at Cernavoda which crosses the Danube a little above the heel of the shoe. Von Mackensen took Turtukai and Silistria on the Danube but he was turned back before he reached the Constanza railroad which runs from the Black Sea across the Danube and through Bucharest. This check was administered by the Roumanians with forces withdrawn from Transylvania which produced the original Falkenhayn plan. Falkenhayn, using troops that had been gathered for a counter offensive against Russia in Galicia and Bukovina, first attempted the invasion of Wallachia. He failed at first but created a diversion which enabled Mackensen to conquer southern Dobruja and reach the Constanza-Cernavoda railroad. Finding continued stiff resistance in the mountain passes Falkenhayn finally concentrated his efforts further west where, according to our despatches of a few days ago he succeeded in breaking through. Now his forces and those of Mackensen are approaching Bucharest from the north and south. Mackensen is reported to have crossed the Danube at several points and as his lines are protected by the forest marching eastward from Craiova, captured the other day, he can cross the Danube almost anywhere he pleases. Thus the two barriers heretofore protecting Bucharest, the Danube and the Transylvanian Carpathians, are pierced, and nothing but such a miracle as occurred at the Marne can save the Roumanian capital. The next few days will probably tell the tale.

## LIBERAL ARGUMENTS

When the Liberals of Ontario talked recently of flagrant failure to put aside party ambitions for the good of the State they were only making the public their Father Confessor (says the News) and crying their own sins to the people. Nickel is one of the weapons employed by eager politicians for their own selfish purposes. They are bent upon getting back into office, no matter what price they pay or what methods they have to use. No sane Canadian believes that Cabinet Ministers are handing the enemy material with which to slaughter their own sons or the 370,000 other Canadians who have enlisted for service at the front. It may be added that some of the conspirators look rather cheap in the light of Mr. Meighen's revelations.

Almost while Mr. Rowell was talking of weakness and inefficiency at Ottawa, Hon. E. S. Montague, British Minister of Munitions, was extolling Canada's part in the war in the highest terms before a London audience. According to a special cable despatch published in a Liberal newspaper Mr. Montague said that when victory is achieved the full story of Canada's work will be elaborated to her everlasting credit. The British Minister spoke especially of the great "Dominion shell production." He pointed out that under Mr. Flavelle the Imperial Munitions Board had created "a new industry of wonderful capacity for output." If defuncted Liberal leaders in Canada wish to libel the Borden Government out of office they should secure silence from Liberals in the Mother Country.

As for coalition, what have the Liberals to offer? Dr. Michael Clark and other Liberal members of Parliament condemn the Opposition for seeking party advantage over the shell industry, the Parliament Buildings and the general war record of the Government. Western Liberals came East some time ago to propose coalition without Sir Wilfrid Laurier. They have long been weary of his leadership. They voted against him in the House of Commons last winter on the Ontario language issue. Leading Opposition newspapers had openly condemned him for his course on this question. The great body of English-speaking Liberals everywhere are restless under his authority.

He has disrupted a once powerful political organization and now coalition is urged on behalf of a mere rump. It is suggested that Sir Robert should take business men, "men of affairs," into his Cabinet. In reply it may be said that the new Minister of Militia is a man who has built up a great industry which supports a considerable proportion of the population of Toronto. As chairman of the War Purchasing Commission Mr. Kemp has devoted his capacity for organization and his long and intimate knowledge of markets to the effective service of the State. In Sir George Perley, Overseas Minister of Militia, the Dominion has a man of similarly long experience and executive ability. Mr. Cochrane has proved his powers as an administrator by rescuing the Intercolonial Railway from the down grade and in the successful operation of the National Transcontinental Railway after the private corporation for which Sir Wilfrid Laurier built it refused to take it over.

Sir Thomas White brought to the Department of Finance a familiarity with large financial problems and an authority in the world's money and credit markets which have been of enormous value to the Dominion. Largely through his outstanding fitness for the post the country has stood the strain of the last two and a quarter years. Sir Robert Borden himself has been the greatest commercial agent Canada ever possessed. It is through his immense industry and capacity and through his insistent pressure upon the British and Allied Governments that war orders aggregating nearly \$1,000,000,000 have been placed here, that adequate shipping facilities have been provided to take our munitions and farm produce across the ocean, and that the Dominion to-day enjoys a high degree of prosperity. Under his leadership a country which is only partly English-speaking has placed a first class army at the service of civilization. As British Ministers have indicated, when the full story is written the world will stand amazed at Canada's splendid role in the war.

## ON THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The Toronto News pays the following deserving tribute to the sacrifice of the sons of Liberal members of Parliament:

Now Hon. Frank Oliver's son has laid down his life for Canada and the Empire. Only a few days ago the son of Mr. J. G. Turriff, of Strathcona, was struck down. Mr. Oliver and Mr. Turriff are Liberal members of Parliament. The quality of their devotion to British institutions is attested by the sacrifice of those they held dearer than life itself. It may be that we do not send our sons into battle. They go out of their own gallantry and courage. They die that the institutions we love may live. But to the households of which they are taken the old zest in life never can return. Even when the bells ring for peace they will not come back. One can only think of what they were and be glad that they were brave and enduring. Nor may we forget that patriotism is not measured by rank or condition, by class or party. "Killed in action" strikes as cruelly into the humble homes as into the imposing mansion. Mr. Oliver and Mr. Turriff have fought many a strenuous political battle. The courage they have displayed in the hard contests of civil life their sons emulated in the red fields on which they fell. Sympathy unaffected by old quarrels and contentions, unbroken by political or personal division, goes out in overflowing measure to the households from which the sons have gone forever. We think only of those who mourn, of those whom "it pleased Almighty God to take out of this transient world into His mercy."

## READING MATTER

Charlottetown is generally speaking a reading, thinking, studious city. A glance at the magazine and newspaper counters in our bookstores will indicate that the trade in this class of goods is very large. What becomes of the old magazines? In hundreds of cases they are buried or thrown aside as rubbish. A much better use could be found for them by handing them around to others to read, by mailing them to the soldiers either in England or at the front, by handing them to the soldiers now quartered here. The latter have a nice reading room in their quarters at the Armouries and would feel assured very gratefully receive any magazines or newspapers that the kind hearted among us might hand in. Many of the ladies are now disposing of their magazines in this way. Only this week a number of the ladies of St. Paul's Church made a collection of magazines and sent them to the Armouries where they were greatly appreciated. Others could do and are no doubt doing similar good work and it is all appreciated by the recipients. The point is that many magazines are being destroyed which should be handed around for the benefit of those who need them.

There are also scores of books lying on the shelves of many of our homes and which will never be used except in housecleaning time and then only to be dusted. Many of these books also would find thankful readers among the soldiers at home or abroad. They need them, most of them are not needed where they are. Give them to the soldiers.

## NOTES

According to a cable despatch, "British admiralty officials are delighted with the marvellous work that has been done in British dockyards in the building of new dreadnoughts." There must be something wrong here. Six months after the war started Liberal newspapers in Canada declared that no new dreadnoughts were required. The only need was for light cruisers, like the Bristol that Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not build—Toronto News.

# TO THE FUR FARMERS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

In our first announcement we endeavored to supply information for those who anticipated marketing fox pelts during the coming season of 1917. We also explained the whole raw fur situation to the best of our ability.

With the knowledge we have gained concerning the world's fur markets, we are in a position to make valuable observations.

The conclusions we have arrived at are not haphazard, but have been gained through concentrated study of the various markets, men with whom we must deal, methods of marketing that are not merely convenient, but absolutely essential, in the best interests of the fox industry.

To put the matter briefly and yet plainly, the future of the fur market and our industry depends entirely upon the methods of marketing pelts adopted by the various fur farmers.

It is of the utmost importance to direct your attention to the fact that if we are going to offer our furs promiscuously and anxiously to all classes of dealers, that it will be to our disadvantage, and the decided detriment of the interests of every fur farmer.

There is no reason to evade the issue. We must sooner or later face it fairly and squarely. We have no reason to be pessimistic, but, on the contrary we have every reason to be optimistic; if we are willing to adapt ourselves to businesslike methods, and prepare and market our pelts in the proper conditions and through the proper channel.

Fur buyers want the marketing done through one source, so that they can select and match the furs. This is an advantage to the fur farmer, even more than to the raw fur buyer, as the ranch marketing its pelts through the Fur Sales Board has the opportunity of having them matched, and it is a well known fact that properly matched pelts bring sometimes 50 per cent. more than pelts marketed singly.

Co-operation is even more essential in marketing furs and developing the fur industry than Farmer's Institutes, Egg Circles, Co-operative Dairying, and co-operation as applied to their departments, is necessary to success in Agricultural pursuits. It must be admitted that these things have been successful, at least to a limited extent.

There would be no diamond industry now, if the marketing had not been done through one source, and supply regulated to suit the demand. The same contention could be made regarding a dozen or more industries.

The fur farming industry has reached proportions that compel the application of up-to-date principles of marketing. Appreciating this fact, the Fur Sales Board was organized, and this organization is backed by the majority of the most successful ranchers in Prince Edward Island. Also by public men, politicians and professional men of every calling.

But we WANT the unanimous co-operation of every fur farmer in Prince Edward Island. We WANT to know that we have your SUPPORT, active or moral. If you are really interested in the future of the fur farming industry, you should market your pelts through the Fur Sales Board, and by so doing give the whole industry the necessary prestige and support.

The fact that the Fur Sales Board realized prices which were in many instances almost double of that secured for the same quality of pelts peddled around in the ordinary way, should be sufficient demonstration of the advantageous position we are in to market raw furs.

The raw fur dealers have a wholesome contempt for the hawk. They claim that he does injury both to his business and to theirs.

Write the Fur Sales Board for any information you should require. We would like to hear from every company and rancher. Advise us of what disposition you intend making of this year's prime pelts. Give us an idea of how many pelts you are going to market through the Fur Sales Board, so that we can make the necessary arrangements. Let us hear from you so that we may know that we have your co-operation and support.

Will you write us by return mail, or phone us?

Yours very truly,

FUR SALES BOARD,

Per Chester McClure, Manager.

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## AND HER FAVORITE "ROBIN ADAIR"

The indisputable queen of song in her day was Annie Louise Cary. She was one of the world's famous contraltos which she retired from the operatic stage in opera. She retained the sweet, wholesome characteristics of the American girl all during her musical triumphs. She made her debut in Copenhagen, although she studied in Milan. For three years she delighted European audiences before making her appearance in America. For over twelve years, with the exception of a brief European tour, she delighted American audiences with the charms of her voice and personality. But to hear her sing "Robin Adair," that simple old song, and that masterpiece of Arthur Sullivan's "The Lost Chord," and Longfellow's "The Day is Done," with the rich tones of the happy, good-natured personality that always charmed, she always left the audience breathless and spellbound. "Robin Adair," "The Lost Chord," and many other favorites of Cary, are to be found in "Heart Songs," now being distributed to the readers of this paper. See Gannon elsewhere in this issue for terms.

## SOLDIER HEARD FROM

Private George Miller Henderson, of North Wilshire, now with the 105th Battalion at Witley, writes a cheering letter to his mother in which he says most of the boys are well. He encloses the following fine poem:

## REMEMBRANCE OF MOTHER

Mother o' mine have no fear  
Now that the time is drawing near  
For us to go to the firing line  
To help the Boys to cross the Rhine.

Mother o' mine, keep up your heart,  
God will not keep us long apart.  
Mem'ries of home locked in my breast,  
Thoughts that will make me fight my best.

Mother o' mine, I shall soon return,  
And ever for thee my heart shall yearn.  
Safe in your prayers I'll always be,  
God gives us quickly, Peace and Victory.

Mother o' mine, I can say no more,  
But to bid you a tender adieu,  
God keep you free from this parting's pain,  
And hope that we soon shall meet again.

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