

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1917

## DR. GOODWILL EXPLAINS

Dr. V. L. Goodwill has sent to the Patriot a copy of the statement which he sent to the government in connection with his resignation as Medical Superintendent of Falconwood. On the face of it it is an exparte statement and if Dr. Goodwill and the Patriot desire to be fair they would have sought and given the other side as well. It is evident from the editorial in the Patriot that that paper has not the interest of Dr. Goodwill or the institution as much at heart as the desire to make some cheap party politics out of what is a regrettable decision on the part of Dr. Goodwill. No doubt, now that Dr. Goodwill has published his side of the story, the government will see its way out to do likewise. All we need say meanwhile is that in several, if not the majority, of his statements as reasons, Dr. Goodwill is in error. He may have been thoughtlessly misled regarding conditions in his absence, or he may have come to a rash conclusion immediately on returning to the province but that does not alter the fact that the grounds which he gives for his resignation are untenable and in every instance were traversed in the interviews he had with the government before his final decision.

## THE WAR

The war news of the past few days has been brighter than for some time past. The Canadians have again covered themselves with glory, at what cost we do not yet know, but the character of the fighting has been such as to prepare us for more casualties. After the fighting at Lens, reported a week or more ago, in which the Canadians won considerable territory, General Haig's troops struck another tremendous blow about thirty miles to the north on a wide front east and north of Ypres. During the past week the British troops smashed through the German lines at Langemarck, occupying that important position and taking upwards of 1,800 prisoners and a number of guns. Other sectors of the eleven-mile front under attack were penetrated by the British. This great battle is still proceeding, with the enemy giving way almost everywhere before the furious assaults of the British troops.

The fighting about Lens is of the very fiercest description. The Germans have made numerous counter-attacks in an endeavor to regain possession of Hill 70, but although they have sacrificed their best troops by the thousands, every effort has proven fruitless. The capture of Hill 70 has been described by military authorities as the most scientific piece of military work ever accomplished. For two years the Germans had been fortifying this position, and when attacked by the Canadians it was regarded as practically impregnable. But the impossible has again been made possible. Judging by the many and varied reports the position was simply made untenable, the bombardment which continued at ten-minute intervals followed by ten-minute silences, became so nerve-racking that the defenders were simply incapable of action. We may try to, but cannot, realize the effect upon human nerves of this alternation of earth shaking and heaven splitting noises, followed by a deathly silence, as if earth and heaven were frozen with the horror of it all, and we cannot wonder that the dazed defenders had little nerve left to meet the infantry attack when it crept up on them with bomb and bayonet behind a barrage of fire that crept along before them like a wall. We are told the Canadians found little to do when they climbed the crest of the hill. They succeeded in consolidating it so that no counter-attacks since made against it has been able to shake their hold upon it.

The conquest of Hill 70, which is the last bit of important high ground in Artois, which the Germans still hold, shakes the whole enemy line, south to Queant and north to La Bassée. Hindenburg's secondary line of defence, known as the Wotan line, has its northern junction with the old line at Annay just northeast of Hill 70, which was the outer bulwark for the rest

of the protective system. Experts are wondering if the storming of Hill 70 means that General Haig plans a general assault against La Bassée sector by which the German lines between Lens and Arras might be crushed in. Of this we shall probably know in a few days. Meanwhile in Flanders, where the French have made new progress along the Dixmude road, the artillery battle continues with unabated intensity from the channel coast to the French frontier. The German official statement declares that Prince Rupprecht's accurate cannonade forced the Allies to relax their fire during the day, that great quantities of munitions were used to relieve the infantry. On the Chemin-des-Dames and along the Meuse river also the German bombardment is said to have paralyzed the activity of the French batteries.

On the eastern front where the reorganized Russian army is fighting desultory battles the situation is somewhat obscure. There appears to be but one conclusion to arrive at in this connection, namely, that for the present Russia's help is little more than negligible. That she will yet prove a factor, however, is certain, as indicated by General Korniloff's message to Sir Douglas Haig as reported in our despatches yesterday. Meanwhile the Russians are putting up a fairly successful defence and have succeeded in checking the Teuton advance.

## CONSERVATION OF FOOD

Something has been done and is being done and much yet remains to be done in the matter of reducing the cost of living and preventing unnecessary waste. It has been said, and with truth, that Americans—meaning both Canada and the United States—waste more than they use. Those who have had opportunity of comparing conditions in the old countries of Europe with those on this side of the Atlantic will appreciate the truth of the charge. On this side we began by wasting land because there was more of it than our people could utilize. They spread themselves over acres of soil whose virgin fertility ensured a harvest with the least effort on the part of the farmer and the habit has clung to us even when land has become scarce and valuable. We began to be extravagant in the matter of food when we produced more food than the limited market of the time could absorb, and this habit has clung to us. The hungry markets of the past year or two which are ready to take everything we can produce at prices hitherto undreamed of, have effected a modification in our wastes in this respect. When potatoes are worth a dollar a bushel we use the destructive shovel more sparingly upon them than we did when they were worth only sixteen cents, and it mattered little how many we destroyed. The same is true of our other products; we are wasting a little less than in the days of our abundant and prosperous poverty, but we still have a long way to go before we are rid of our wasteful and extravagant habits. The prudent housewife who knows how to save, how to avoid waste, how to feed her household plentifully and yet economically, is doing much to feed our soldiers, to help feed our allies and the non-producing populations in our cities, and to win the war. This fact should not be lost sight of. Every family, by avoiding waste and by conserving the food of the nation, is helping to win the war.

Legislation has done something to prevent waste and this also is a factor in winning the war. We note with satisfaction that our hotels have been ordered to observe meatless days, to substitute fish for meat because the former is cheaper and less wasteful; we note with equal satisfaction that at the request of the Food Controller, a more economic service is being observed in the dining cars on our railways, but we note, with some surprise, that while the quantity and quality of the food served have been reduced, the hotel and diner rates to the poor traveller have not been reduced; he still pays the full fare, although the menu has been cut almost in two. This may be an oversight on the part of the Controller, and probably his attention has not been drawn to it by the hotel-keepers or the railway authorities. The traveller sees it, however, and in his helplessness complains that while the food is doubtless being conserved, while he receives less elaborate meals than usual he is paying just as much for them as when permitted to browse at will over a lengthy and elaborate menu card. Doubtless this anomalous condition will be remedied as the idea of food conservation evolves. In the meantime prudent thrift and economy should be watchwords in every home as without these legislation will not have accomplished its full purpose.

# CANADA'S EFFORT THE DOMINION IN THE GREAT WAR

*"What stronger breast-plate than a heart untainted?  
 Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just,  
 And he but naked though locked up in steel,  
 Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted."*

Reviewing all that has been accomplished during the last thirty months, it is no vain national boast that the Canadian people have far exceeded the expectations laid down at the outset—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

## IX.

### ECONOMIC FACTS OF THE WAR FINANCIAL CHAOS AVERTED

When in August, 1914, half the world sprang to arms, there were grave misgivings, as to how this young country would stand the shock and the strain. The hope was, that if the conflict proved short, the Dominion would weather the storm, shorn of much of its wealth. In a few years, British capital had loaned us between two and three billion dollars for the construction of railways, for public works and for municipal undertakings. This great fertilizing stream of money was suddenly cut off. The world's stock markets had to close down and the highly complicated system of world finance and credit ceased to operate. The situation was aggravated by the partial failure of the wheat crop in 1914 in the Western Provinces and by the fact that all over the Dominion people were experiencing the collapse of a long orgy of stock gambling and real estate exploitation. There was much unemployment in large centres of population.

The disturbance of credit which came with the war caused a universal demand for gold at all great centres, and specie payments were discontinued on the continent of Europe. The Canadian banks were at normal strength, but the danger was that under pressure of international conditions they would restrict commercial credits. They might also experience difficulty in meeting abnormal demands upon them for gold or legal tender. Such a condition could only result in grave and perhaps lasting injury to all the great interests of the Dominion. There was imperative need for protecting the Canadian gold supply against foreign demands. In this crisis the Government took action with a view to increasing the liquid resources of the banks, so that they might maintain the volume of credits available to their customers. The Finance Department secured authority to issue Dominion notes to the banks against the pledge of approved securities and the banks themselves were authorized to make payment in bank notes or Dominion notes instead of gold. Bank notes thus became legal tender.

These steps were taken by Order-in-Council early in August, and they were ratified by Parliament two weeks later. As a result of these wise and prudent measures, no disturbance in currency conditions occurred in Canada upon or after the outbreak of the war; nor has there since been any hindrance or check to the flow of business from a lack of currency; nor has there been any suggestion of gold going to a premium. During a period of world-wide financial panic our banks were enabled to meet the treasury bills of governments, municipalities, and corporations maturing in London, to make advances to governments, municipalities, corporations and other customers and to finance the crop movement. The Finance Department also took authority to enlarge the issue of Dominion notes unprotected by gold holdings. An act of Parliament, passed on August 22nd, provided \$15,000,000 additional currency within the first two or three months after the war began. The experience of over two years under unusually trying financial conditions has shown this action to have been amply justified.

Never before were the courage and capacity of those responsible for Canada's finances put to so severe a test. The manner in which the Dominion stood the stress astonished the world. Even at the outset we suffered little economic discomfort, aside from the industrial communities where war-time conditions for a while paralyzed some classes of manufactures. Except in towns and villages with few if any factories and in townships where agriculture is the only pursuit, no untoward effects whatever developed. On the contrary, the resourcefulness of the people turned to good advantage every opportunity of strengthening the country's position. There were few commercial failures and, at the worst, a small and temporary contraction in the volume of business.

## OUR CREDIT MAINTAINED

By the middle of February, 1915, when the Finance Minister disclosed his first War Budget, it began to be realized that the Commonwealth had travelled a great distance toward the recovery of its old commercial and financial confidence. Already the slackening of trade in some directions had been appreciably offset by war orders. Besides stimulating native industries and relieving the hardships of the unemployed, these contracts were exerting a favorable influence upon international exchange. The tendency of large exports of war materials was to maintain the national gold supply at a proper level. It was seen that increased agricultural production and good prices for foodstuffs would contribute enormously to the stability of Canadian credit. Three Provincial Governments and several municipalities had already succeeded in placing considerable loans in New York, and there was evidence that that market would be open to us for further credits.

## PATRIOTIC FARMERS

In the early spring of 1915, the Federal Minister of Agriculture issued the first Agricultural War Book, which constituted a direct appeal to the farmers of Canada—an element of the population which has never been lacking in either national or Imperial sentiment. It was pointed out in this publication that a great many of the 20,000,000 men mobilized in Europe had been withdrawn from the land in neutral as in belligerent countries. Not only had these men ceased to be producers, they had in a large measure become destroyers of food. The result would be a shortage of several hundred millions of bushels in the year's field crops and a tremendous reduction in meat and dairy production. The demand for foodstuffs would be extremely great. Prices for grain and livestock would rule high, and in putting forth extraordinary efforts to help meet the shortage, Canadian farmers would greatly increase their own incomes.

More important still, from a higher viewpoint, by rising to the emergency, Canadian agriculturists would uphold the hands of the British people, who, for generations, by their own exertions, almost unaided, had maintained the Imperial Navy as the chief guarantee and defender of our freedom and security. Profound material and supreme ethical considerations demanded that the farmers should expand their production. The response to that appeal and to further widespread appeals that were made through the press and on the platform was such that, with specially favorable weather conditions, Canadian farm returns reached truly enormous proportions and yielded hundreds of millions of dollars of additional revenue.

## FINANCIAL IMPROVEMENT

By June, 1915, many encouraging factors had appeared in the Canadian business situation. The early fears that insuperable difficulty would be experienced in national financing had not been realized. Satisfactory arrangements had been made with the London authorities,

while the tariff changes and special war taxes were keeping the Government's revenues well up to and even beyond expectations. That Canadian credit was unimpaired had been proved by the successful sale within the previous six months of \$130,000,000 of Provincial, municipal and other bonds. Of this aggregate \$19,000,000 had been placed in Canada, over \$85,000,000 in the United States and \$25,000,000 in the United Kingdom. The fact that the United States had absorbed the bulk of these securities showed that our financial standing was highly regarded by a people who, because of their proximity and like conditions in their own country, were able to place a sound estimate upon our material future.

In a report to his own Government, the United States Consul in Toronto indicated a continued tendency on the part of American capitalists to establish new industries or branches of American industries on this side of the line. So well did they think of the Canadian market for manufactured goods. Largely because of existing war prices the comparatively small Canadian crop of 1914 had brought the farmers an unexpectedly good return in cash. The agricultural population, excepting for dwellers in drought stricken districts in the West, was probably more prosperous than ever before. Outside of a few large centres, there was little unemployment.

Despite the destruction of capital in the war, money was accumulating rapidly in Canadian, American and British banks. Canadian bank deposits had climbed to a new high record. The increase in the savings of the people was especially marked. By reason of general economy the process of accumulation was now well under way. In a single year a heavily unfavorable trade balance had been changed into a favorable trade balance of \$6,071,000. Instead of importing vastly more than we exported, we were exporting a few millions more than we imported. This was of course due in a large measure to war conditions and restrictions, but the Dominion had revealed a remarkable capacity for adjusting itself to a new and searching crisis. Already it began to be said that, "Canada will emerge, after the war, a strong young nation, having had some excellent experience, being better able to pay its way and worthy of high confidence."

## AN APPRECIATION

Sir, Would you allow me space in your valuable columns to thank the Ministers, Revs. Hubley, Donville, Armstrong and Wright of Montague, for their hearty cooperation in the recent evangelistic meetings held in that town. Capt. Rev. Martin who returned to Montague just as the meetings closed entered into the spirit, as did Rev. Stewart (Retired). Never in my evangelistic experience have I enjoyed a more beautiful spirit and surely God directed it. Bless the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
 I am, Sir etc.,  
 FRED M. CLAY.  
 Bridgetown, Aug. 17, 1917.

**DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS**  
 Furnished by W. S. LOUSON.

A LITTLE MORE PATIENT WITH MOTHER.

Oh maybe she seems to grow queer as the days  
 Glow gliding away into years;  
 And maybe you tire of her strange little ways  
 And don't understand her tears.  
 And maybe the things that are down in her heart  
 Are things that you know nothing of—  
 Old mother, still striving to keep up her part,  
 So tireless and tender her love!

## IMPROVE THE SCORE CARDS

Sir, If the secretaries of tracks would reflect a moment we are confident they would be more particular in their printed programmes and score cards. They, however, seem to give this important matter little or no attention. It might have been well enough in the days of Lady Suffolk or Flora Temple to print a program of the contestants, but in these times of widespread knowledge of the different families of trotters, such back woods methods won't do. With the majority of track patrons the race is robbed of half its interest by a failure to give the breeding of the contestants. If there be a secretary who doubts this let him take a seat in the grand stand on an afternoon when he has issued a card omitting the horses



Let us furnish your house thru and thru with our stylish, strong Furniture.

Dear Mary:—  
 Did you ever go to visit anyone who had a nicely furnished parlor but who neglected the dining room, bed rooms and all the rest of the house?  
 Many take care of their homes in this slipshod way. They can afford to fix up their homes, but they just don't think, or else their husbands are too stingy.  
 If my home were not fixed up right thru and thru I would complain to my husband. Wouldn't you?

Sincerely—HELEN  
 P.S. I saw such pretty new things today at

**Beer & Weeks**  
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