

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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THE PATRIOT'S PATRIOTISM

Our esteemed contemporary, the Patriot, has an unfortunate propensity for rushing in where angels fear to tread. It is impetuous, it says things which make its readers rub their eyes in bewilderment, and then next day, when the "excitement is over," sits down and attempts to "calmly review the situation," which is its equivalent for withdrawing all its insinuations, allegations and charges of the previous day.

Probably when we take up today's Patriot, we shall learn that "condemnation of the Government" is a political subject; although in its yesterday's issue it introduced an insidious political article on the administration of the Prohibition Act by the intimation that this "is not the time for political controversy."

Neither is it the time for blatant hypocrisy.

At this the most critical juncture in the history of the Empire, the Patriot and its half a dozen or so disgruntled party politicians consider it seemly and patriotic to wrangle about the alleged lax administration of the Prohibition law. Not a tittle of evidence in support of the charge is forthcoming, but we are told that "Last night in Grace Church, the pastor, Rev. Mr. Littlejohns, preaching from the text, "Strong drink is raging," referred specifically to the non-enforcement of our prohibitory law. In this connection he read the record of the past two years showing the number of convictions, drunkenness and its gradual increase, the number of convictions under the Prohibition Act, the number of violators in jail and the number of those released, together with the length of time they served their sentence, terms upon which they had been released and the names of the parties in authority by whose orders such releases had been granted. In all probability this document will be published in the press so that the people may see for themselves the exact condition of affairs, and who are those who are standing in the way of a proper enforcement of the act.

The statement was made that the press had refused to publish this detailed statement. So far as the Patriot is concerned the reverend gentleman has been misinformed, because the Patriot has never yet been asked to publish it; indeed the existence of such a paper had never come to our knowledge.

Need our readers be surprised to learn that neither the Guardian nor any other newspaper refused to publish this precious document? The statement is on a par with nineteenth of those emanating from the clique which is at present endeavouring to run the Temperance Alliance with Kaiser-like methods.

The Guardian took the trouble to enquire at the Rev. Mr. Littlejohns' for his authority for this statement, and were courteously told that he had been misinformed, that the document had not been offered to the press, THAT IT COULD NOT BE SUPPLIED TO THE PRESS as it was part of another report which was under preparation.

These are the Kaiser-like tactics being adopted by the two or three political fanatics who are running the Temperance Alliance on the rocks. All over the country they are going with the same slanderous and misleading statements.

There are honorable members of the Presbytery who would scorn, knowingly and willingly, to countenance such tactics, just as there are members who candidly admit that never before in the history of Prince Edward Island has a Government done more for prohibition than has the present. There are members of the Presbytery who frankly acknowledge that until the present Government came into power it was absolutely impossible to get violations of the liquor law in their respective districts paid the slightest attention to; that no sooner had they brought the facts to the attention of the present Attorney-General than he promptly took action which put the law-breakers out of business. But unless people do bring formal complaints to the attention of the Attorney-General he cannot act, and here is just where the Presbytery and Temperance Alliance can be of immense assistance. Instead of contenting themselves with carping criticisms, of the nature beloved of the Patriot, were all the members to do what many are doing, mould public opinion, raise the standard of public opinion, and bring public opinion to bear upon the question, then there would be an end of the illegal drink trade and all its consequences. But so long as disgruntled politicians and political parsons attempt to make political capital out of the Temperance question by using it as a convenient stick with which to belabor the Government, little progress may be expected. The best of the temperance reformers believe in the efficacy of moral suasion and Christian ethics in preference to the German methods of brute force so beloved of a very small but very noisy and uncharitable section of the Temperance Alliance. Of course we are aware that the action of this section was very drastically criticised by certain members of the Presbytery and others, at the time of the last annual convention, for "leading men into temptation and then hailing them before the courts of justice after they had yielded to the temptation." The act was held to be un-British, unjust and un-Christian-like; and evidently this has rankled in the minds and consciences of the chief conspirator and his colleagues, with the result that a successful attempt has been made to inveigle the fountain-head of the Presbyterian Church in the Island into a formal endorsement and approval of these efforts—notwithstanding that individual members had previously expressed their conviction that these same methods could not be entirely commended.

The political schemers may hope to make some capital by these tactics but we think they will find their mistake. The country has something more serious to think about in the present crisis than the petty bickerings and disgruntled fault-finding of a few characteristic junkers.

COMMISSION OF CONSERVATION

That the conservation movement has made distinct progress during the past year is clearly indicated in the "Fifth Annual Report" of the Commission of Conservation, which has just been issued. In his annual address, the chairman of the Commission,

Hon. Clifford Sifton, covered the Commission's activities with respect to waters and water powers, minerals, public health, agriculture, fisheries and fur-bearing animals and forests, indicating clearly and succinctly a number of the problems that had been grappled with and the advances that had been made in their solution.

Several aspects of the problems of public health are dealt with in the report by well known authorities. Dr. Hodgetts' in a brief address, summarizes the work of the Committee on Public Health presents reports on such vital problems as "Infant Mortality," "First Aid to the Injured" and the work of the City Planning Conference held in Chicago and Boston in 1913. Mr. G. Frank Beer, formerly of this province, president of the Toronto Housing Co., develops at some length the housing and city-planning question in Canada with especial reference to the work of the Toronto Housing Co., and Col. J. H. Burland outlines legislative requirements for town-planning.

Mr. J. Walter Jones follows in detail the progress in fur-farming in Canada during the past year. The work of the Committee on Fisheries was confined, during 1913, chiefly to the development of the oyster industry. Hon. A. E. Arsenault describes the new method of leasing oyster beds in Prince Edward Island. This method was advocated by the Commission two years ago and will do much to regenerate the oyster industry in the Maritime Provinces.

The report contains a number of splendid illustrations and gives in concise form much information that is of value to all Canadians interested in the conservation of our natural resources.

MUTUAL HELP

One of our English exchanges, commenting on some notable changes brought about by the war, mentions the "County spirit awakened by the fact that each County has its own regiment and the esprit-de-corps is sustained by the fact that the non-commissioned and commissioned officers and men all come from the same part. Local traditions, local effort, have been heavily discounted in the past, their renaissance is among the good things war has brought."

The change in the military system of Great Britain, at about the time that changes in our Canadian system merged Prince Edward Island in the New Brunswick district, is what is referred to as having "heavily discounted local traditions and local effort." We have no doubt suffered similarly, and it is quite possible that the esprit-de-corps, which accompanies local effort and friendly rivalry, may be wanting. When we are asked to merge our best effort as a Province with what is being done in another province it deprives us of much of the incentive which makes for efficiency.

But this is no time for hair splitting. We are now facing the stern realities of war, facing a problem to which modern Britons are strangers, that of saving the life of the Empire, and our duty lies in obeying the one clear call, "Duty." It is not a matter of rivalry with our sister provinces, not a matter of spectacular drill; it is a matter of life and death, a matter in which the call comes to all and in which the duty is to do and to risk and to sacrifice.

What are we doing about it? What are we going to do about it? The call is not alone to those who had previously been in military service; it is to all, to those who are in a position to make the extreme sacrifice of giving themselves, or their husbands or their sons, and, as well to those whose age or physical unfitness or unavoidable duty prevents making the extreme sacrifice. And we should carefully weigh the difference between these two classes. They who go to the front are risking all, sacrificing all, life, home, loved ones; those who remain at home are asked—not to make a sacrifice, but to give reasonably, decently, in proportion to their means. And in this we still lack the esprit-de-corps that in every undertaking makes for efficiency. Hitherto, very largely, the burdens have been assumed by the comparatively poor; we have had no large gifts; our subscription lists, when read abroad, while perhaps evidencing the general comfort and prosperity of which we so frequently boast, give no indication yet of outstanding liberality on the part of those who can afford to be generous. Still our giving is not over, the time for sacrifice—except in the supreme sacrifice of going or sending to the front—has not yet come, and we may yet redeem ourselves.

In the meantime the word, Duty, should be kept in view, the duty that lies at our own hand, not that of others. It is a time for mutual help, for mutual encouragement, for mutual burden bearing.

CANADIAN BORN CONTINGENT

Much has been said, says the Mail and Empire, both privately and publicly, about the fact that a large proportion of those who enlisted in the Canadian contingent now in England, were English, Scotch or Irish born. The implication of this was that the native Canadian young men were slow to enlist. It is, perhaps, true that the men from Britain realized more quickly than Canadians what the war really meant, and the early environment of many of them gave them a familiarity with military duties and needs absent in the case of Canadian youths. A considerable proportion of the militia regiments consists of "British-born." Moreover, as single men were always given the preference in the selection for the contingent, and a much larger percentage of the "British-born" volunteers were single than in the case of the Canadians, more of them were accepted for that reason. But in the forming of the second contingent, the Canadian-born should be so well represented that unfavorable comparison will be impossible. The circumstances of the raising of the first contingent do not at all justify criticism of the youth of this country. Whole regiments of Canadians offered themselves almost en bloc. It would be well, at the same time, to have appearances more to Canada's credit. There will be plenty of opportunity for all to go who want to go before the war is over. The French-Canadian unit about to be raised in Quebec, 5,000 strong, or perhaps larger, shows the worth of criticisms of French-Canadians. As much will be proven in the case of British-speaking Canada.

NOTES

The power of the British navy is reflected in the fact that September exports from the United States to Germany declined from \$35,000,000 in 1913, to \$2,378 in 1914, while American exports to the United Kingdom fell off only 27 per cent.

Members of German singing societies to the number of 500,000 are to invade Canada is the report from the United States. Well, if the invasion comes we will have to stand it, but in the name of humanity it is to be hoped the invaders will not sing. That would be too much.

On one point we can be sure. That is as to Egypt. If there is a man who knows Egypt its importance, and who has studied every phase of its problems, that man is Kitchener; and it is a safe bet that he has looked after every detail in that most important line of the Empire's communication.

LET US BE FAIR

Sir: Are we fair to our Volunteer Militia, especially the officers? Never having worn the Kings Uniform yet I am willing to live and let live. Lately there is much comment in public and private most of which is overdrawn and unfair in the opinion of the writer. It is easy to criticize.

Our volunteer Militia is really only kindergarten work and all it calls for is a training of twelve days in each year for three years or in all thirty-six days, unless there is a re-enlistment. The remuneration for this time for the privates is about one dollar per day and our workmen, even on the streets, get one dollar and a half a day, so our rank and file are certainly handsomely paid for their time!

But what of the officers who are, so proud to appear out on parade with their gold braid? Judging from remarks heard on every side they must have bled the Federal treasury white and just think, they are not all off to the front, after having accounted for much of the Canada weal!

How much of the latter is true? When a man gets his lieutenant's promotion, he has the privilege of providing himself at his own expense, with an outfit that costs him one hundred and forty dollars and proof as to cost, the men in the overseas contingent were allowed that amount in remuneration for theirs when at Valcartier, but our men on home defence duty at Halifax, Canso and Sydney Mines I believe so far have the proud distinction of having themselves paid for their officers' outfits and carry when on duty protecting the homes of even those who are talking so glibly about their commanders. Next step, they must attend a military college for a term, sufficiently long to qualify, for which they receive the handsome sum sufficient to cover their actual and necessary travelling and board expenses—Nothing for their time except what they learn. Now against the lieutenant's one hundred and forty dollars and time he gets less than two and a half dollars a day for twelve days each year which, counting interest, would take him about six years to pay for his outfit providing he has no other expenses. What of the time he has spent and the many times he has to dip down into his own pocket?

Why have training and camp at all if my statements are correct? When war was declared this Kindergarten as a speaker at the Patriotic Meeting said, in less than twenty-four hours one hundred and twenty men fully equipped with guns similar to the ones that relieved Ladysmith had sailed away to protect our homes with their lives if necessary, perhaps a record mobilization. Later seventy-four men gathered direct from this Island at Valcartier and probably three hundred more boys brought up in P. E. Island joined that contingent the second of the two most patriotic and never to be forgotten happenings in Canadian History. Could a record be had of the brave three hundred I would be surprised if, like the South African Contingents and the noble seventy-four there would only be a small number who had not begun their military training in our Kindergarten.

Many of our officers and men who have given largely of their time and money in this movement are under offer to the proper authorities and it might be best for us to wait and let them decide where our men are most needed.

Our headquarters have been placed out of the province. Were such not the case and men were mustering here for drill and guard duty no doubt there would be much more enthusiasm in our midst.

Since writing the above the authorities have made a further selection. I am Sir, etc., J. S. BAGNALL.

Sir—It is a pity that, in this time of difficulty and danger, any man should think to himself or regard it as his privilege to vilify and hold up to public scorn a body of men to whom this province already owes much and to whom, before this war is over, it is certain to owe still more. It is doubly a pity that any man, no matter how high his position, should so far forget himself as to seize the opportunity of a great patriotic gathering, at which were assembled the mothers, wives and sisters of men who have gone to the front or otherwise freely offered their services to their country, to misrepresent and slander the force to which these men are proud to belong. While it may be admitted that, for reasons very clearly stated at the meeting, volunteering for service at the front is not so active in this province as might be desired, and it is advisable to stir up all able-bodied young men to the ranks of the Active Militia or not, to a deeper sense of the duties which as citizens they owe to their country in the present crisis, it is unfortunate to say the least that the chief part of this important work should have been left in the hands of a man whose prejudices so evidently incapacitated him from dealing with it in a fair-minded manner. Instead of a rousing appeal to all young men to devote themselves to the service of their country, the audience was treated to a bitter and malicious attack upon an organization consisting of less than one per cent. of our population. Upon the shoulders of these few was placed the whole weight of responsibility for service at the front, while all others were, amid great applause, confirmed in their right to continue to shirk their duty.

When a man joins the Active Militia he takes upon himself certain clearly defined responsibilities and is liable to severe penalties if he seeks to evade them. In respect to these responsibilities, however, he is never asked to volunteer; he gets his orders and he has to obey them. But this matter of volunteering for service in Europe is outside and beyond the ordinary responsibilities of the militia.

If your grocer tries to substitute another tea for "SALADA" you may be sure his object is to obtain larger profit than "SALADA" shows him, and you can be just as sure that the other tea will be inferior in flavour and strength, and remember that "SALADA" Teas are free of dust. All Pure Virgin Tea Leaves.

men. Except perhaps for their higher sense of duty and their greater capacity for service, the 1000 militiamen in this province stand on exactly the same footing in this respect as the remaining 15,000 men between the ages of 18 and 45 who have never taken the time or trouble to undergo military training. To both alike the appeal of patriotism and both alike have to answer it. It cannot be answered by giving a few paltry dollars and abusing those who are offering their lives.

The slanderous statement was made at the great patriotic meeting that militiamen have been receiving money under false pretences. Let us see how the account stands. There are two young men, each earning, let us say, two dollars a day as wages. One of them goes to training camp, where he is worked hard for twelve days and paid one dollar a day. The other remains at home and continues to earn his two dollars. How does the account stand between these two young men? Isn't it plain that the man who went to camp has paid twelve dollars for his own training, and the man who remained at home is twelve dollars richer than he would have been had he been willing to do his duty to the State? Which of the two has pocketed money that in justice does not belong to him? The above illustration indicates only very inadequately how the account stands between Sir Wilfred Sullivan and any one of the score of officers who listened in silence to his abuse. I am, sir, etc., R. H. CAMPBELL.

Sir—Certainly war plays havoc with civilization and makes even the individual forget to "do unto others as you would that they should do to you." There can be no better illustration of this than the unjust and unwarranted attack made on the militia of this Province in the Market Hall on Friday night by a speaker who had been asked to address a so-called patriotic meeting, convened for the purpose of securing subscriptions to a fund designed for the relief of the dependents of the militiamen who are on service.

To add to the irony of the thing, the militia had been specially requested to attend. Those responsible for the management should have at least seen to it that they were not insulted as they were.

That the speaker was entirely ignorant of the facts in the case should be little excuse for one in his position. His judicial capacity should have taught him not to judge without having the evidence and the facts. Now what are the facts in the case?

There are about one thousand men of Prince Edward Island who have signed the service roll. This renders them liable to turn out at any time for the defence of Canada, but lays no more obligation on them for foreign service than rests upon any physically fit male citizen who has reached his eighteenth birthday and who is under forty-five. Don't forget this, you unmarried men between eighteen and forty-five who so heartily applauded the attack on the militia at Friday night's meeting. Now this thousand men are divided up into Infantry, Artillery, Light Horse, Field Ambulance and Signallers. Upon the outbreak of the war practically every officer at once volunteered for service and their services have been accepted, so far as the militia department have required them. Those who have been called on for service have willingly gone where they were ordered to go. The others will go just as willingly when they receive their orders. I cannot see how they could serve their country better.

The infantry are of course the largest body of the militia. They are practically all recruited from the country districts. It is true that the number of men from the infantry ranks responding to the call for overseas service was small when compared to the number responding from other places; but again you must fully understand the conditions before passing judgment. During the first four or five weeks after the war broke out I drove some six or seven hundred miles with the different officers of our militia, and what did we find? House after house only one son home, immense crops to be saved, a fine farm to be prepared for next year's crop and no hired help available. The highest military authorities have been since the outbreak of the war, taking steps to see that every foot of land is properly cultivated next year, and I am sure these authorities would rather have the farms properly tilled than these only sons in the trenches. Of course, if there was a scarcity of men it would be different, but at the present time there is a large army of unemployed in every part of Canada except in Prince Edward Island; good men, but temporarily out of employment, and they are anxious to enlist, men of course, are wanted, but we want equipment more. Men cannot go to the front without rifles and proper clothing.

Next to the infantry in point of numbers comes the artillery and we find that these only sons in the trenches, a telegram received one evening at six o'clock, an entire company, with their big guns, horses and other equipment embarked on a specially chartered steamer and on their way by three o'clock the next day. When these men turned out many of them supposed they were going to the front, and they were all keen to go. They are still serving their country where their superior officers have seen fit to place them and will go where they are ordered to go. The Light Horse officers and many men have volunteered, but the Militia Department have not as yet had a place for them, but their turn is coming and they are ready to go. No. 9 Field Ambulance was called out in practically full strength to take charge of the hospital and sanitary arrangements there during the mobilisation of the first contingent. They were all away within twenty-four hours of receiving their marching orders, and they have a big lot of equipment to look after. Many of the Field Ambulance are professional men with a large practice and they made immense sacrifices by taking up this service.

Then the signallers, the smallest branch of the militia service here; a company of eight men and an officer. Six of the men are with the first contingent in England or France or Egypt or wherever that contingent may be today. Six of the finest boys to be found in the city; they were the first to go and they did not receive even a cheer the morning they left the station for the front. A few of us were there to clasp their hands and wish them God speed as well as our choked voices would permit. (Continued on Page Eight.)

The "Lure" of New Things in Footwear
In the great "world of shoe making"—the world in which no other occupation of mankind seems so important—the struggle is going on, always, for BETTER PRODUCTS.
A new idea in a "shoe effect," a new contribution to both comfort and style in shoe designing, is an EVENT.
Manufacturers compete with each other in this struggle to perfect the shoe—to lessen the cost of making without impairing the value of the product—to find ways in which to make footwear still more attractive.
Thus, when a local merchant receives a shipment of new shoes he brings home to you, makes available to you, that amazingly interesting thing, "the LATEST."
And in shoe making "the latest" is the BEST.
In the new stock now arriving here the merchants are able to show you new models, each with a new line of prettiness—each with a little more COMFORT POSSIBILITIES for the wearer.
Some of these new shoe models, especially those intended for "dress occasions," are distinctive and aristocratic. They are a delight to the eye. They appeal to the person who has a lot of healthy self respect—as all good dressers have.
To see these new models is a real privilege. To read of them is a foretaste of an interesting shopping hour.
The merchants have something to say to you about their new stocks in today's paper.

Recruits Wanted for Artillery Unit for Oversea Service
It is proposed to offer a composite battery of Heavy Artillery from Prince Edward Island for service in Europe—the Battery to be composed of members of the P.E. Island Heavy Brigade, Charlottetown, and the Thirty-seventh Field Battery of Montague and Souris. A number of officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners have already volunteered, but to bring the batteries up to war strength and to also form an ammunition column it will be necessary to secure upwards of one hundred recruits in addition to those who have already volunteered. Applications will be taken from recruits with or without military experience, as it is the expectation that sufficient drill will be given the Battery before proceeding to the front to make each member efficient. As soon as sufficient volunteers have handed in their names the proposed Battery will be submitted to headquarters for approval. It is hoped that the required number of men will come forward quickly.
Volunteers will please hand in their names to any of the following officers:—
Lieut.-Col. A. G. PEAKE, Charlottetown.
Major C. LEIGH, Charlottetown.
Major C. L. McKAY, Charlottetown.
Major A. T. McKAY, Montague.
Captain A. F. McQUAID, Souris.
Captain D. A. MacKINNON, Charlottetown.
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