

FRIDAY
The following is the correspondence which has passed between Premier Arsenault and Mayor Wright with reference to the distribution of poor relief and admission to the P. E. Island Infirmary.
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
May 22nd 1918

Dear Sir—
In the past a great deal of money had been paid towards pauper relief in the City of Charlottetown, including the support of persons sent to the Infirmary and to Falconwood Hospital for the insane, for the relief of indigent persons within the town and also for coal.
Some mutual arrangement will have to be made between the Government and the City Council for the care of these persons. The town has certain obligations to fulfil towards these people and hereafter no person will be admitted to the Infirmary or Falconwood Hospital except on application of the Mayor of the Town, nor will grants be given to indigent persons within the Town in the way it has heretofore been done. The grants voted to the different benevolent societies in connection with the churches in the Town will be continued, but some arrangements must be made as to payments out of the Executive grant.
I therefore ask you to take this matter up with your Council and have a Committee wait on me for the purpose of arriving at some satisfactory solution of this problem. I conferred with the Stipendiary Magistrate some time ago in this matter. I do not know whether he brought the matter to the attention of the Council or not.
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. ARSENAULT
G. D. Wright, Esq.,
Mayor of the City of Charlottetown, Charlottetown.

June 12, 1918
Mr. G. D. Wright,
Mayor of Charlottetown, Charlottetown.
My Dear Mr. Mayor—
In this morning's Guardian I notice that after reading my letter to the Council you characterize "this action on the part of the Premier as a high-handed piece of business." It seems to me that your words require explanation. I do not see anything in my letter that calls for words like these on your part.
After I heard some days ago that there was some misunderstanding as to my letter, I had an interview with you in which, I think, I made it very plain that what was required was that some co-operation should be had between the City and the Government in the distribution of sums of money from the Executive Grant. I explained to you that many applications were being made to me that I was not in a position to investigate the bona fides of the applications, and that I desired that either a committee of the City Council should be appointed, to act as a charitable committee to whom these moneys might be paid, or that the amount now distributed should be handed to charitable societies in the City for distribution by them. You quite agreed with me in this and promised your co-operation.
As to parties to be placed in the Infirmary I asked that the applications be signed by the Mayor, who could certify as to the necessity of placing such persons in this institution. In this you also agreed with me, as you said you had an officer who could make investigations as to the necessity of persons receiving aid, or as to the advisability of their being placed in the Infirmary.
I notice further that you told the Council you knew of a poor but very worthy woman, who was being kept by the Free Dispensary, that she was a very fit person for the Infirmary, but all efforts to have her placed there have proved unavailing. You have made no application to me to place any such person in the Infirmary. The only application I received was for a person who was in the Hospital. This application was made by Dr. McMillan and permission to have this person placed in the Provincial Infirmary was granted.
If you know of any other case, then I should say that, as Mayor you have a right to come in to me and tell me of such case.
On the whole I consider that your remarks in reference to my letter, in view of our conversation, were quite uncalled for and were made for no other purpose than to try and prejudice the public mind in the matter.
Yours truly
(Signed) A. E. ARSENAULT
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
June 18, 1918

Hon. A. E. Arsenault,
Premier of P. E. Island
Dear Sir—
Yours of the 12th instant received and contents noted. If you had complied with my request when I interviewed you, and made necessary arrangements for those two cases of deserving poor, as you promised to do before going West, enjoying a holiday, and leaving those poor creatures to the exposure of cold and hunger, things would have been different.
You informed me on that occasion, that if I secured the signatures of Rev. Father Maurice and Dr. McMillan, you would admit those two into the Infirmary, awaiting the Conference with a Committee of the City Council. This was not done, the reason why, I presume you know.
That man Campbell in the City Hospital could have remained where he was until you returned.
I am of opinion that we are right in assuming that the Hospital for the insane and the Infirmary are Public Institutions, maintained out of the Public Treasury, and it is not the prerogative of our Premier or any Public Official to close its doors from any deserving poor or insane when the standard regulations are complied with.
After my interview with you and previous to the meeting of the City Council, I received a personal letter from Mr. McCarey, President of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society and was waited upon twice by Miss DeBlouis relative to those cases, besides these poor creatures coming to my office frequently, pleading for admission to the Infirmary. Something had to be done and that at once, resulting in the placing of these two in the Infirmary in your absence.
As for trying to prejudice the public, it never entered my mind. It is un-

reasonable to assume that I would use such tactics with the party whom I assisted in power, and your accusation is too small for further comment.
Yours truly
(Unsigned) MAYOR
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
June 19, 1918

Dear Sir—
Your unsigned letter of the 18th instant to hand.
In the first place, permit me to say that I did not go west to enjoy a holiday, but to attend the session of the Supreme Court where there was a criminal case to be prosecuted.
I certainly remember your speaking to me about the Campbell case. I asked you to make application to have this case admitted to the Infirmary. You promised to do so, but so far as I am aware, you did not fulfil your promise. The matter was brought to my attention by Dr. McMillan a day or two afterwards and at his request, the case was admitted to the Infirmary, so that if any delay occurred it was owing to your not making the application as you promised to do so. This covers the only point raised by your letter, otherwise you do not seem to offer an excuse for the unwarranted attack made on myself at the Council Board.
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. ARSENAULT
G. D. Wright, Esq.,
Mayor of Charlottetown, Charlottetown.

WILL THE WAR PRODUCE SOME GREAT INVENTION.
Every great war, declares Beriah Brown in "Munsey's," "calls forth a host of new ideas. But," he points out, "the record shows that however good they may be their chance of prompt acceptance is small."
For the record of the United States Army in dealing with inventions, it is sufficient to point out that the Civil War was fought with muzzle-loading muskets, mostly smoothbore, although the breech-loading rifle had been perfected before the war broke out. The Henry magazine gun, which is, with but slight improvements, the modern Winchester rifle, was in the hands of hundreds of sportsmen before the close of the Civil War, but not in the hands of the soldiers. Army authorities were against the adoption of the magazine gun of any type for troops for a full generation after such guns were in common, everyday use as sporting weapons.
"The present war may—indeed, it is almost certain that it will—produce some great new invention. Whether that invention will be recognized and utilized promptly remains to be seen. If it is brought out by an unknown, dreaming mechanic, living in obscurity, lacking the means, lacking also in push and aggressiveness, it will probably receive only the cursory attention of some busy young engineer, who has seen nothing like it in the books, and who will reject it, together with the hundreds of others that he has been detailed to inspect, as a mere freak of no practical military value. Thus history will continue to repeat itself."

(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, June 20.—The great offensive of the Austrians in Venetia has broken down. After five days of bitter fighting, in which every effort has been made by the enemy on the Alpine heights and along the Piave, he finds himself practically where he was when the battle began on the Montello range and the sector of the Piave near the mouth of the river. The deepest penetration of the Austrians is west of Meoto on the lower Piave sector. The enemy, advancing along the railway leading to Venice, is about seven and a half miles west of the river. Dealing with the conditions on the lower Piave, the Austrian official reports say:
"The Fossalta canal has been crossed at some points. The Italians are staking everything in order to stop the advance. In narrow stretches prisoners have been taken from the numerous units which have been thrown together."

AUSTRIAN LOSSES HORRIBLE
Describing this same battle along the Fossalta canal the Italian report says that "every yard of ground was the theatre of epic struggles in which our own and Allied airplanes took part, bombarding with 15,000 kilograms of bombs and firing tens of thousands of machine gun rounds into the vulnerable targets offered by the enemy troops forced into narrow space on the right bank of the river. The battle is continuing bitterly. The enemy in order to preserve some of the initial advantages gained by him, takes no heed of the losses which our fire and the guns of our airman have been inflicting in the past five days."
From these official reports it is apparent that one of the great attacks of the war is being fought out on a narrow strip of low-lying land, part of it very little above sea level, near the Adriatic coast, some seven miles from Venice. That city will go to the victor. The Italians fight so that the "Queen of the Adriatic," rescued over half a century ago from Austrian tyranny, shall not again pass under the heel of the conqueror. The Austrians, confronted with one of their great failures of war along the Alpine battle line, struggle with desperation to reach and occupy the Venetian coast, that the disaffected population at home may not be able to point to a complete failure as a reason for overturning the government, and perhaps even the Hapsburg dynasty.
On the greater part of the front there has been no more than local activity. In the region south of Montello the Austrians tried to break a way through to the plain near Savilla and say they occupied several lines of Italian trenches there, but the Italians still firmly hold the river bank immediately to the south of the Montello and the enemy makes no real progress, although employing on a narrow front four divisions of storm troops.

9,011 AUSTRIAN PRISONERS
The tenacity of the Allied defence all along the front is indicated by the fact that 9,011 prisoners, many guns and hundreds of Austrian machine guns have been captured since the battle began. Fifty Austrian airplanes have also been brought down. Aerial supremacy is a most important element in the success of the defence.
RAVINES FILLED WITH AUSTRIAN CORPSES
LONDON, June 20.—According to the Milan correspondent of the Daily Mail the Austrian losses have been very heavy. Ravines on the Asolo Plateau and Monte Grappa are filled with heaps of the dead. On the Piave the carnage is horrifying, the current carrying thousands of bodies together with broken up barges and pontoons.

AUSTRIAN EMPEROR JEALOUS OF GERMANS
LONDON, June 20.—Reuter's Rome correspondent says that according to reports the Austrian Emperor, who is at the front, is disappointed at the results obtained in the present offensive and jealous of the excessive credit the Germans took for their share in last year's offensive, is determined to make another desperate attempt to overwhelm the Italians unaided before asking for German assistance.
(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, June 20.—News reached London this afternoon that the Italians have captured Sile, the town of the Lagon to the west of the Piave River near its mouth which was captured by the Austrians and Hungarians. It is also stated that the Italians have retaken all the territory between Seana and Posetta canals. The Austro-Hungarians, it is stated, have been confined to the ground between the Posetta canal and the Sile canal on the west bank of the Piave river.

AUSTRIANS MET WITH SERIOUS DISASTER
(Special to The Guardian)
ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS (army) June 20.—(From the Associated Press.)—The Piave river overflowing its banks has destroyed several pontoons and bridges constructed by the Austrians at Intestadura and also at Sandonja. This has increased the difficulty of the Austrians in this area, communications affecting the transportation of artillery ammunition, food and fresh troops having been cut off. It is stated that the Austrians fighting south of the Piave implored help and also that two of the tired divisions sent met with great loss.
The American Red Cross supplies are piling up along the lines, both for refugees on the trains and also for wounded soldiers. In many cases gauze bandages are being sent to the hospitals.

AUSTRIANS USING EXPLOSIVE BULLETS
(Special to The Guardian)
WITH THE ITALIAN ARMY, June 20.—A number of the wounded Italians display ghastly wounds, in support of the claim that the enemy is using explosive bullets.
On the lower Piave, Austrian detachments wearing Italian uniforms, sought to advance but the subterfuge was discovered and they were dispersed. Several spies disguised as Italian peasants have been shot.
ITALIANS CONTROL THE AIR
(Special to The Guardian)
ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, June 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Italians have won complete control of the air along the Piave line, where the most determined fighting of the present Austrian offensive is in progress. This afternoon not a single Austrian machine was aloft on this front. In general, the situation of the Austrians along the Piave appears far from satisfactory to them. Prisoners taken by the Italians all declare the Austrian army has little food. Some of the prisoners have not eaten for forty-eight hours.



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EARTH STILL SAFE FROM NEW STAR
LONDON, June 20.—Even with the German offensive in full progress the first magnitude may be travelling with incalculable velocity towards this planet must excite human interest. Such an offensive, impossible to check, would mean the utter destruction of the earth and everything on it.
The Astronomer Royal, Sir Frank Watson gives a comforting assurance. The star is now a hundred million miles farther away from the earth than the sun, and he does not expect it will exercise any great influence on our planet. It is a star of unusual brilliance and "at the moment this star is giving out light many thousand times greater than the sun. One expects it to follow the course of other such stars and fade away in the course of a few weeks." The spectroscopic scope will show whether it is approaching or travelling parallel with the earth.
"Suppose for instance," says another authority on astronomy, "that the star is coming towards us, what would happen in the mad race to follow such a vast body as any star of the first magnitude must be, the oceans would seethe and foam over the earth in floods mountain high and obliterate in a few hours man and all his handiwork. In this new star going from us, passing by us, or is it—appalling thought—coming towards us? Upon the answer astronomers can give to these questions it is the simple scientific fact that the fate of all mankind depends."

OPERATIONS IN EASTERN THEATRE
PARIS, June 20.—Wednesday's war office report referring to operations in the eastern theatre said:
"West of Lake Doiran and on the right bank of the Vardar there were artillery duels. North of Monastir our troops repulsed an enemy surprise attack. Our patrols penetrated several points of the enemy's lines, and brought back Bulgarian and Austrian prisoners. Allied airplanes carried out numerous bombardments. British aviators brought down three enemy machines."
FRENCH ENTER GERMAN LINES
(Special to The Guardian)
PARIS, June 20.—French troops entered the German lines between Montdidier and the Oise River last night and captured twenty prisoners, says the official statement issued today. There was nothing of importance on the rest of the front.
GERMANS ADMITS U-BOAT FAILURE
(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, June 20.—That the German U-boats are unequal to the warfare against them is the virtual admission of Capt. Persius, the Naval critic of the Berliner Tagblatt says a Rotterdam despatch to the Daily Telegraph. Capt. Persius writes every layman knows that U-boat losses are unavoidable owing to the continually increasing sharpness and effectiveness of the defense measures of the enemy which, perhaps will further increase as the war progresses.
"It is scarcely to be denied that our enemies are both carrying on the war and living, and that it will be possible for them to defend themselves against tonnage needs, for a long time at any rate. From the beginning of the war it was a mistake, often committed amongst us, to under estimate the resources of our enemies."
(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, June 20.—Heavily censored news from Stockholm says that peace demonstrations were held in Berlin, Hamburg, and in Cologne, and that several workmen were killed, many seriously hurt and many arrests were made. The police and military dispersed the demonstrators, says a despatch from Stockholm to the Morning Post.

BERLIN REPORT BROUGHT DOWN
(Special to The Guardian)
ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, June 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—As thousands of Italian and Austrian soldiers looked on today, an Italian airplane brought about the surrender of the crew of an Austrian machine gun float, after the Italian infantry and artillery had failed to subjugate it.
A PRAYER FOR THE AVERSION OF FAMINE.
Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we Thy children come to Thee in this our time of need. We thank Thee that for so many years Thou hast preserved us from anxiety about our food, and we pray that Thou wilt, in Thy mercy, help us at this time of scarcity. Make us unselfish and considerate of the needs of others, and careful and prudent in our own use of food. Guard and protect, we humbly pray Thee, our merchant ships and those of our allies, and of the neutral nations; save them from their secret enemies and from every peril of the seas. Bless, we pray Thee, the labours of all who are sowing and planting for the common good, and we beseech Thee grant such weather as may bring forth the fruits of the earth in due season, for Thou alone canst give the increase. We ask it for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

ONE BRAVE AUSTRIAN
ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS, June 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Deserted by his staff on the Monto Plateau, Major General Von Kronstadt of the Austrian army, fought single handed against the Italians and was wounded seriously, and captured. He is now in a hospital.
At a special meeting of the City Council held last evening the By-law respecting the inspection of meat, poultry, fish and food products received its second and third reading and was passed, after considerable discussion. There were present at the meeting His Worship, His Honor the Recorder, and Councillors, Riley, Webster, Yeo, Smith and Rattray. The by-law to regulate traffic in the public streets was read a second time.
It was agreed that the valuation on Bruce Stewart & Co. Ltd., foundry and plant, exclusive of wharf property and garage be fixed at \$25,000 for this and the next two years in accordance with the statute in that behalf.

(Special to The Guardian.)
MELBOURNE, June 20.—It is announced that the government has caused the arrest of seven ring leaders in the Irish Republican Brotherhood. It is said the organization planned to enroll volunteers and send them to Ireland to aid in an armed revolt, with the object of establishing an Irish republic.
(Special to The Guardian.)
SASKATOON, June 20.—One of the worst hailstorms in the recorded history of Saskatoon broke over the major portion of the city yesterday morning, shattering window glass and street lights and stripping vegetation, but fortunately doing very slight damage to persons who were so unfortunate as to be caught in the midst of it.



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