

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Friday, March 29th, being Good Friday, and a Statutory Holiday, the Morning Guardian will not be issued on Saturday. The Evening Guardian will not be issued on Friday but will be published as usual on Saturday. Advertisers please note these changes.

THURSDAY MARCH 28th, 1918.

CRITICISM

Whatever may be the outcome of the war, and we have no reason to doubt what it shall be, Canada's part in it will be one of the brightest pages in its history, a page that for all time to come will reflect the glorious traditions of the British Empire. When we remember what Canada has done, in the light of what is being done elsewhere, in the light of the unreasoning and unreasonable criticisms of little politicians, we simply stand astounded and amazed. The call to arms came like a bolt out of the blue, came to a peace loving people who had never known war nor dreamed of nor hoped for the possibility of war. Parliament was in vacation; the cabinet was summoned; a contingent of 20,000 men was offered the Imperial Government and was accepted, a contingent so large at that time—as to quicken the breath of our peace loving little nation. The call went forth for 20,000 volunteers and within two months we had sent an army of 33,000 men, a complete Canadian Division, the greatest body of troops that ever crossed the Atlantic, comprising cavalry, artillery, infantry, engineers, signallers, supply and ammunition columns, field ambulances and hospital staffs; it carried its own complement of rifles, machine guns, field guns, heavy artillery and a store of ammunition. As an example of administration in an emergency the effort has not been surpassed in the military history of the world. And this was no parade army; a few months later it saved Calais. Since then this little army has grown to over 400,000 gathered from every province in the Dominion, an army that has acquitted itself gloriously wherever engaged.

There has been criticism of our effort, criticism among ourselves, criticism that has not been creditable to us. Mistakes, doubtless there have been but compared with what has been done by ourselves and by others, they have been infinitesimal. Our American Allies have been in the war for nearly a year; they have done much and are preparing to do much more but their people rightly regard the official effort hitherto as incomparable to ours. They are becoming impatient at the delays, the disappointments, the set backs that are holding back their effort. The American press is particularly severe in its criticism at present.

In February the United States Secretary of State for War announced that the first American-built battleplanes were en route to France, five months ahead of schedule. The plans were described as the last word in efficiency and speed and there was general rejoicing over the achievement. Investigation however proved there was something wrong and, commenting on the situation, the Boston Transcript in a recent issue says:

"Just when we should be at 'the peak of production' we are getting to the bottom of the truth. Instead of being 'five months ahead of the original schedule' the Acting Secretary of War has confessed to the Senate and House Committee on Military Affairs that the aircraft programme is 74 per cent. behind and that only a little more than one-quarter of the programme of production set for this time has been carried out. Meantime, the Secretary of War has gone to France and is temporarily beyond the reach of any embarrassing cross-examination to which a committee of Congress might be tempted to subject him, in view of the disconcerting developments since his departure."

Further criticism is also indulged in by the Boston Transcript, which perhaps voices the impatience of the people rather than dilatoriness on the part of Washington. In any case Canada's effort stands out unique in military history to date and the achievement of her sons on the battlefields has justified the splendid original effort. What is now needed is commendation and co-operation rather than criticism.

TO PREVENT WASTE

Two important orders-in-Council have recently been passed under the War Measures Act. One forbids the feeding in

stockyards of any kind of animals within eight hours immediately preceding slaughter, and the feeding of wheat and of barley above grade three to any stock. The only exception to this rule is that when wheat has been grown with other grain and separation would be difficult the mixture may be fed provided the quantity of wheat does not exceed twenty-five per cent.

The other is of a more stringent character and for its enforcement power has been vested in Municipal Councils. This order empowers the municipal authorities to order the owner of any goods in danger of spoiling to sell the same and if he does not do so the Council is authorized to sell it at auction. This applies to cold storage houses, stores, warehouses, ships and even to private residences in any of which it is suspected that any product is in danger of becoming unfit for human food.

There has been considerable talk about meats, eggs etc., being held in cold storage and allowed to spoil for the sake of keeping prices up. It is known that quantities of food have spoiled at different times probably through carelessness or neglect and this order is intended to prevent such by making it the duty of municipal authorities to investigate. This will do away with all wild and often unfounded rumours about cold storage and other wastes. Wherever there is suspicion action can be taken and the truth or falsity of the rumours established.

AN ANXIOUS TIME

Naturally the war news is creating much uneasiness and worry. This is indicated by the numerous enquiries by telephone that reach the Guardian from different parts of the province from those whose anxiety will not permit them to wait for the morning issue which, in some sections, does not reach our subscribers till the afternoon or evening. That the situation is serious it would be useless to attempt to conceal. The ultimate issue, be it in the immediate or the remote future, can be reached only at great cost and practically every family in the province is either directly or indirectly interested in the cost.

The gravity of the situation lies in the nearness of the fighting front to the City of Amiens which is one of the chief distributing points of the railway feeders of Northern France and Belgium. The loss of Amiens would be a serious one but even that loss would not be a decisive factor. We are assured by Lloyd-George that there are in France or on the way there both men and guns to take the place of all that have been put out of action and we may depend upon our generals and our men to do their part. The onset both in its suddenness and in its weight has been terrific and the retirement of our armies until they had gathered themselves together after the first impact had been anticipated.

We have no reason to doubt the ultimate issue. Germany has committed an unpardonable sin against the nations and against humanity, and the voice and the arms of humanity have been raised against her. Her ultimate triumph is unthinkable, contrary to everything that Christian civilization has been built upon. Patience will be required to await the outcome, patience and closer living to the ideals we profess to be fighting for, patriotism which, if real, will enable us or ours to die, if need be, for our country; a self-sacrificing spirit which, if real, will enable us to recognize the rights of others not in words but in deeds. If we practice what we profess to believe, we shall win the war; if we are holding back part of the price we are no more worthy to win than Germany.

NOTES

The executive of the Red Cross Society of Regina has asked that the advice of the Food Controller be carefully observed at any gatherings in the interest of the Red Cross and that if the hostess at any gathering really wishes to serve food, she should at least be careful not to use the commodities most needed overseas. In order to prevent unnecessary waste, the Regina Red Cross Society has consistently declined to serve refreshments at afternoon or weekly meetings.

Less humanitarianism on the part of Britain hitherto might have resulted in fewer affronts by Germany to humanitarian principles. A humanitarianism that allows the slaughter of civilians and the wounded on hospital ships to continue rather than strike the offender does not seem to be fair to humanity, especially when by the success of her offences Germany is encouraged to continue her onslaught against humanity.

SLEEPING SENTRIES SENTENCED TO DEATH

If any Canadian soldier has been sentenced to death for sleeping on duty or if any British soldier has been executed for any disgraceful offence the fact has not received wide publicity, so that this feature of war's stern reality is first brought to our attention in the American army. It was announced some time ago that an American soldier had been found guilty of rape and murder and had been executed. A few days ago the announcement was made that four American soldiers had been court-martialed and condemned to death for sleeping on sentry duty. The civilian at first sight does not appreciate the heinousness of this offence, for to go to sleep in the middle of the night seems an extremely natural thing to do. On the other hand, to be drunk when on sentry duty seems disgraceful. Military law, however, makes no distinction between being drunk when on sentry duty and being asleep. In either case it is held that the neglect of duty may expose hundreds, perhaps thousands, of men to death, and that one man's failure to be on the alert might result in a great military disaster.

Likely to Be Reprieved

Gen. Pershing has sent the records of the court-martial to Washington, although he had the power to order the man to be shot, and from this it is inferred that the unfortunate men will not be called upon to face a firing party. However vital it is that sentries shall keep awake when on duty, it is plain that to fall asleep is a less grievous offence than to surrender to the enemy, to foment mutiny or to do any other deliberate act which tends to betray the cause for which the soldier has enlisted. It is not likely that President Wilson will be less kindly in this matter than was President Lincoln, when he refused to approve the death sentence of a country boy who was found asleep at his post. Indeed Lincoln would permit no sentence of death to be carried out by his generals before he had personally examined the evidence. The War Department of the United States issued a similar order a short time ago at the suggestion of the President, but it referred only to soldiers who might be sentenced to death while in the United States. Abroad Gen. Pershing has absolute authority, and does not require in any case to receive sanction from Washington.

Soldiers Must Sleep

The New York Times tells a story concerning a rather riotous New York company at Camp Upton last Summer. They were a raw draft and were sent to spend the first night in camp in an isolated barracks. They were feeling jolly and meant to make a night of it despite the orders of the young second lieutenant who was in charge of them. They disregarded his command for silence, and created a considerable disturbance. Finally the young officer ordered them to dress and fall in. Then he marched them out amid the mud and stumps and kept them tramping for three hours. At the end of that time they were ready and willing to go to bed. Next day the captain called the men together and explained to them why he

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

WHERE ARE YOU SLEEPING TONIGHT, MY LAD!

Where are you sleeping tonight, My Lad,
Above-ground—or below?
The last we heard you were up at the front,
Holding a trench and bearing the brunt;
But—that was a week ago,
Ay!—that was a week ago, Dear Lad,
And a week is a long, long time,
When a second's enough, in the thick of the strife,
To sever the thread of the bravest life,
And end it in its prime.
Oh, a week is long when so little's enough
To send a man below.
The bullet sped and the quick end came—
And the rest we shall never know.
But this we know, Dear Lad—all's well
With the man who has done his best,
And whether he live, or whether he die,
He is sacred high in our memory;
And to God we can leave the rest.

tween nine o'clock at night and reveille, soldiers must sleep and permit others to sleep. He told them that if there were 150 men in barracks and 149 of them wanted to talk, they must remain silent, so that the one man might sleep. "The reason is very simple," he concluded, "for if a soldier misses sleep he's got to do without it, and if he becomes sleepy and tries to make it up on sentry duty he is shot."

Eleven Capital Offences

In times of peace there are only three offences which are ever punished by death, and only on for which the death penalty is commonly invoked. In time of war there are at least eleven. In only one of these is the death penalty compulsory. If a soldier is found to have played the spy for the enemy he must die. Usually he is hanged, for hanging is considered the more ignominious form of death. For murder or rape the criminal must be either executed or sentenced to life imprisonment. He may be hanged or shot. Hanging is usually imposed upon those found guilty of murder in connection with mutiny, or sometimes for desertion in the face of the enemy. To shoot a comrade sleeping, as in the classic instance of Danny Deever, is also to be hanged after having the buttons of the uniform cut off.

The Hard Way of the Army

Other military crimes punishable with death are cowardice in any one of a variety of ways, desertion or incitement to desertion, being asleep or drunk when on sentry duty, attack upon a superior officer or insubordination, mutiny or sedition, making known the countersign, forcing safeguard, relieving the enemy with ammunition "or any other thing," or giving intelligence to the enemy. The death sentence is not compulsory in any of these cases. As for cowardice the practice usually is to give a man who refuses to "go over" another chance to prove that his nervous system or his stomach, and not his heart, is to blame. A private soldier is not condemned if he strikes a superior officer in "justifiable self defence," and a commissioned officer who strikes a private is drummed out of the army. The way of the army is a hard way, but experience has proved that it is the only possible way to maintain discipline. What happens to an army when discipline is relaxed has been shown in the case of Russia. Had the rigid army rules governing the death penalty been maintained, we should never have heard of the Bolsheviks except as soapbox orators.

THE WINNING HEAD ROUND VERSUS LONG

According to Dr. William Sadler, the present war is merely a renewal of a struggle that began thousands of years before the dawn of written history. It is a final war to determine which of two types of man is destined to survive and govern the world. These types are called the Longhead and the Roundhead, the former represented by the Allies, the latter by Germany. The Longhead, as the name implies, has a skull structure long in proportion to its width; the other has a wide head in proportion to its length. The Roundhead has a skull more than four-fifths as wide as it is high. The Longhead has a skull less than four-fifths as wide as it is high. Some thing of the sort must have been in the mind of the genius who coined the words "highbrow" and "lowbrow." Another philosopher remarks that mankind is divided into two classes—those who can draw their buttoned shirts on over their heads; and those who can draw their buttoned cuffs above their elbows. As Longheads we fall into the latter, more artistic compartment, and we cannot take any particular delight in the test from a military point of view. Anyway, we have the class.

Roundheads Are Thicker

The difference between the Longheads and the Roundheads is so fundamental as almost to amount to an evolutionary divergence, and if it is a fact that apes instead of being our forefathers are in fact our descendants, it is plain enough that they sprang from a Roundhead source. What lowbrow son of Adam begot the first Roundhead is as great a mystery as the origin of the ancient inhabitants of Nod, but it is supposed that the Longhead, or Cro-Magnon, was developed in Europe, and the Roundhead, or Neanderthal, in Asia, and after invading Europe settled about and in the Alpine districts. The Longheads were distinguishable from the Roundheads by their greater artistic ability. The prehistoric Longhead has left thousands of paintings of contemporary animals in canvas which has been discovered tens of thousands of years after he made his first scratches on the rock. The Roundhead did not leave any paintings. His artistic yearnings, if any, were satisfied by stealing the Old Masters of the Longheads.

Old Struggle Renewed

It is a significant fact that the first great struggles between the two types

were fought in the Somme Valley, and for a long time the superior intelligence or footwork of the Longhead maintained his supremacy. Then about 15,000 B. C. (or it may have been 15,000,000—scientists differ as to the exact year) the Roundhead by resorting to what was considered a poison-gas attack in those days, established himself. He did not massacre all the Longheads then living, for he realized that he required their superior brain power; but he did establish the fact that as a warrior he was more powerful than the Longhead, probably because he was more numerous. The two types intermarried, but true to the Mendelian law, there was no real blending, and the two distinct types have come down to us today. Later on an invasion of the Teutonic Longheads put an end to the domination of the Alpine Roundheads.

Germany Goes Roundhead

One feature about the modern Germans is that they cannot be classified correctly as wholly Longhead or wholly Roundhead. The professor says that those who speak Low Dutch were originally Longheads while those speaking high German are almost wholly Teutonized Roundheads. The latter greatly predominate. It was dif-

(Continued on page Five.)

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSKOTT, D. D.

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SCHOOL TEACHER.—You undoubtedly have the right and it is your duty to punish an unruly boy, but you are expected to administer punishment in a reasonable way. If his neck and shoulders are black and blue, and lumps are raised on his head, through the severity of your chastisement, that would seem to indicate that you lost your temper and became cruel. You cannot therefore, blame the parents for being angry, and if they were to have you arrested for common assault, and battery, you in turn, would likely

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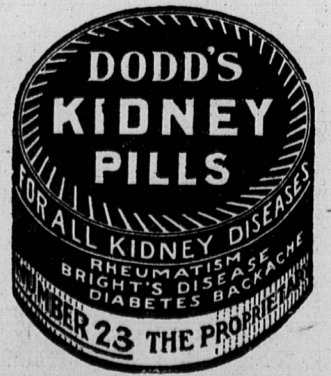
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Our Team Will Call

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receive your punishment for your cruelty.

BUSINESS MAN—A bankrupt is not necessarily a dishonorable man. I think the average man who fails in business is as honorable as the average man who succeeds. Environment is the cause of most business failures. Many a man who has failed would have been in like environment to the man who has succeeded. Lack of capital, of ability, of industry and of downright bull-dog courage to hang on a little longer, and try a little harder, are frequent causes of business failure.



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