

The Charlottetown Guardian

Head Office at Charlottetown, Branch Offices at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montague.
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Monday, December 25th being Christmas Day and a statutory holiday, the Morning Guardian will not be issued on Tuesday. The Evening Guardian will not be issued on Monday, but will be published as usual on Tuesday. Advertisers please note these changes.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1916.

CONSISTENCY

Not many years ago our fathers deplored the growing commercialism of their day. It was invading the literary world; it was tainting the moral and spiritual atmosphere; it was threatening to deteriorate into a materialism antagonistic to religion, to refinement, to morality to true culture.

Today we pride ourselves on our commercialism, upon our material prosperity. Our literateurs write as so much per line; books are produced by the million—to sell. We acquire an education not that we may be educated but that we make money, and we classify ourselves as successful or otherwise according as we accumulate or do not accumulate cash or its equivalent.

It is possible that we are placing too much emphasis on our prosperity, on the desirability of achieving it; possible that in the quest for it we are losing sight of those things that are of greater real value. We are a Christian people, professedly so, at least, yet in our practice we have wandered quite afield from the path trodden by our fathers, far afield even from what we profess to believe. One of our clergymen in a recent sermon deplored the decline of the prayer meeting habit and emphasized his contention by comparing the empty pews with the wellfilled theatre seats. And this, while the nation is engaged in a life and death war, a war that we in common with other Christian portions of the nation, profess to believe will be decided by the God of Battles, who hears and answers prayer. It will not be denied that in view of the tremendous issues at stake, issues admitted by the whole nation, Christian and non-Christian, the power of prayer is being strangely overlooked by the multitudes who profess to believe in it.

In a recent issue of The Guardian and in many other papers as well, it was announced on the authority of a London cable that the British Government had issued an appeal to the nation for prayer. The cable read "Londoners were surprised this morning to observe walls all over the city covered with huge official posters exhorting Englishmen to pray daily for their country, for their soldiers and sailors." Admiral Beatty was quoted in these posters as stating that "until a religious revival takes place at home, so long will the war continue." General Sir William Robertson is quoted as saying: "A serious determination on the part of the nation to seek Divine help would undoubtedly furnish valuable help to our soldiers and sailors."

What a surprise the citizens of Charlottetown would receive if some morning they found, in place of the posters now adorning our fences and walls proclaiming the virtues of some brand of cigars or the healing qualities of some patent nostrums, government posters calling them to prayer! And yet probably nine tenths of them, if asked, would unqualifiedly say they believed in prayer. Would it be too much to say that the great majority of us do not believe what we profess to believe?

England is nearer the war than we are. There they see its horrors, its sacrifices, its sorrows. Is it because they realize its awfulness and the need of Divine help that they are now practicing what they, in common with us, professed to believe and did not until the day of trial came? Is it because we do not realize its awfulness, because we are so engrossed in our material prosperity, so satisfied with our own achievements, that we have so generally forgotten that we believe in God and in prayer?

An exquisite war poem, one of the most thoughtful perhaps that the war has produced, "Christ in Flanders," recently published in The Guardian puts this thought in a light that cannot be misunderstood. Here are some extracts:

We had forgotten You, or very nearly—
You did not seem to touch us very nearly—
Of course we thought about You now and then;
Especially in any kind of trouble—
We knew that You were good in time of trouble—
But we are very ordinary men.

And so we only thought of You on Sunday—
Sometimes, perhaps not even on a Sunday—
Because there's always lots to fill one's life.

Now we remember; over here in Flanders—
(It isn't strange to think of You in Flanders)—
We never thought about You much in England;
But now that we are far away from England
We have no doubts, we know that You are here.

Shall we too have to get far away from our prosperous "England," get into our "Flanders" before we remember, before things become clear? In a few days, as is customary, we shall have an interdenominational "Week of Prayer." Will the hideous warfare, through which we in this province are passing prosperously, bring any revelation to us or shall we go on thinking of Him on Sunday, sometimes, perhaps, not even on a Sunday?

A CHRISTMAS APPEAL

In addition to the appeal made in The Guardian yesterday on behalf of the P. E. I. Protestant Hospital, similar appeals are being made on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage and Falconwood Hospital.

It is at this season especially that the heart of the Christian world turns instinctively to the humble and the lowly, commemorative of God's greatest Gift to humanity, a Gift which grew from humility and lowliness until it has become a mantle of Christian charity overspreading the earth. It is well that this instinctive longing should have an outlet, should find objects upon which to expend itself. And what more appropriate objects could be found than the inmates of our charitable institutions, our orphanages and our hospitals? It is a far cry from the homes in which comfort and luxury and the love of parents and children are the commonplace, to the homes in which orphans and broken manhood and womanhood are being cared for, yet over the intervening gulf there is a place for a golden bridge which can carry immeasurable blessings to both.

We trust our Christian community from one end of the province to the other will respond liberally to the appeals for the wards of these two institutions. It is the Christmas season, the season of giving and of blessing. Let us one and all do our little bit in bringing a ray of sunshine into the hearts of those whose lot in life is less fortunate than our own, remembering always that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

CANADIAN TRADE

Canada's trade is increasing at the present time at a most prodigious rate and this year will see all records shattered and the high water mark of Canadian commercial achievement. The figures for the twelve months ending September recently issued show a total of over two billion dollars. This includes shipments of coin and bullion, but even after subtracting these the total is \$1,738,204,256 against \$935,254,443 for the same twelve months of 1915 and \$1,000,063,499 for 1914, the largest previous figure.

The growth in business since the year 1911 is astonishing. In 1911 the total trade was \$769,443,905. The total trade only a decade ago was less than a third of Canada's foreign business this year, being \$550,872,645 in 1906.

The most encouraging feature of the trade figures for this is that for the first time since 1901 the trade balance is favorable to Canada. During the ten years prior to 1911 Canada kept steadily year by year purchasing more abroad than was sold to foreign countries, creating an unfavorable trade balance which in 1911 was actually three hundred million dollars.

This year Canada will have a balance on the right side of the ledger in the trade account of nearly three hundred and fifty million dollars. The total imports for the twelve months ending September amounted to \$85,278,605 against exports of \$1,052,925,651. The greatest increase in exports for the twelve months were in shipments of agricultural produce and manufactured articles. Shipment of agricultural products for the twelve months was \$396,455,537 and of manufactured articles \$361,381,419, in both cases an increase for the year of nearly three hundred per cent.

BRYAN, PACIFIST

Probably no one will accuse William Jennings Bryan of being a paid agent of the German government but his attitude with reference to the war would seem to indicate that he is at least an "unconscious" ally. His extreme pacifism, a peace at any price pacifism, has blinded him to the issues at stake in the present war. He recently wrote Mr. Lloyd George a letter imploring him to enter into negotiations for peace. That his following in the United States—outside of the hyphenated—is not large and that his views find little support is indicated by the following somewhat sarcastic reference to the matter in the Brooklyn Eagle:

If Viscount Grey, the retired Secretary of Foreign Affairs in Great Britain, were to mail an appeal to President Wilson for an ignoring of the German suggestion of a peace conference, that appeal would have little effect on the President, but it would be read with interest, and nobody would say that Grey had gone beyond his rights as a private subject of the King of England.

William Jennings Bryan, our former Secretary of State, has chosen to address an appeal to Lloyd-George, Premier of Great Britain. It is an appeal which no loyal Briton would feel free to make, but consistent with Mr. Bryan's past and present attitude. He says: "As a friend of the nations at war, as a Christian and a lover of humanity, I respectfully but most earnestly appeal to you to use your great influence to secure your government's consent to negotiations. * * * Every guarantee that can possibly be secured by war can be stated as a precedent to peace. * * * Your decision may mean life or death to millions."

It is fair to assume that Lloyd-George knows pretty much what Mr. Bryan's position in America is. He will not be swayed by what the Nebraskan writes. He will not resent the communication. He will do what he believes to be his duty, with due regard to the perils of trusting the Germans even bearing gifts. And if distrust prevails there will be no surprise in the rest of the civilized world.

NOTES

When the Englishman of today exclaims "By George!" it is a toss up whether he means the King, the Saint, or Lloyd.

IF IT'S A GIFT FROM PATON'S IT'S SURE TO PLEASE

The Anxious Christmas Shoppers Are Invited To Call And Inspect Paton's Superior Stock Full of Gift Suggestions at Right Prices

CHRISTMAS GIFTS AMONG THE LADIES READY-TO-WEAR AT PATON'S LARGE MANTLE DEPARTMENT—Lovely wool Bath Robes, Eastern designed, at \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$7.50 in Blue, Mauve, Rose and Fawn, also Red and Blue quilted Silk Kimonas at \$8.00. Special showing of Silk Sweaters in Maize, Heather, Mauve and all other leading colors. Silk Poplin and Taffeta Underskirts in Black and Colored, also Black Moire, Sateen and Italian cloth. A large assortment of Ladies Dress Skirts, in Serges, Gaberdeens, Velveteens, Moire, Voile, and Poplin in all latest styles.

Heavy Wool Sweaters in Maroon, Rose, Paddy, Copen and Brown and a large assortment of White Pull Overs suitable for Skating and Tobogganing. About 100 Ladies Raincoats in Tweeds, Paramattas, and dull Black Slickers.

We have also some nice Black Plush Coats for Misses and Ladies up to size 40 at \$20.00, \$25.00, \$32.00 and \$35.00.

50 Tailored Suits for Ladies from \$13.75 to \$30.00. Childrens and Misses Tweed Coats sizes from 26 to 34, also Plaids, Curl Cloth and Chinichilla.

A lot of Last Years Coats clearing at less than price of Material also some Ladies and Maids Skirts from \$2.25 up.

Ladies Corduroy Suits, fur trimmed, clearing at \$19.50.

10 Fur Coats in Rat, Marmot, Hudson Seal and Poney from \$50.00 to \$150.00.

Choice showing of Ladies Neck Furs, in sets and separate pieces, in Fox, Mink, Civet Cat, Black Dog, Persian Lamb in Black and Grey, Alaska Sable etc., also White Thibet for Misses and Children.

3 Only Black Beaver Cloth Coats with Fur Collars \$12.00, \$13.50 and \$14.00.

Childrens Pocket Sleigh Robes in Bear cloth and Grey \$2.95 up.

A VISIT TO THE FURNITURE DEPARTMENT MAY GIVE A HINT OF SOME DESIRABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS, we have left Childrens Sleighs, Chairs, Rockers and Childrens Toy Sets also Iron Beds, Bureaus, Mattresses including the famous Dixie-no-Tuft, Writing Desks, Music Cabinets, Parlor Cabinets, Hall Seats, Mirrors, 2 Large Morris Chairs, Ladies Dressing Table, Wardrobes and 100 Cut Oak China Cabinet.

ALL MILLINERY AT HALF-PRICE DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK. SEE THE CHARMING DISPLAY OF WAISTS IN OUR WHITEWEAR DEPARTMENT, all the latest styles and colors including Crepe de Chene, Georgette Crepe, Wash Silk, Voiles, Pongee Nets and other sheer Goods we have about 150 to choose from in all different sizes.

"Bobby Burns" Scottish Caps in Angora with Scarf to Match just the thing for the day.

SPECIAL SHOWING IN OUR SMALLWEAR DEPARTMENT, about 1000 pairs of Gloves in Suede, Kid, Chamois, Washable Kid all the Celebrated Perrin's French Make also Silk and Wool Gloves. Colored Silk Hose all sizes and prices also Budoir Caps, Hand Bags and a Splendid showing of Ladies Collars in Crepe de Chene, Georgette Crepe, Embroidered Voile, Lace and Broadcloth.

Budoir Sets including Cap and Kimona in Silk, just the thing for a Christmas present.

IN THE DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT, 44 inch Chiffon finish Velveteen in Nigger Brown, Green Saxe and Navy at \$3.00 a yd. also Black Plush at \$4.25, \$5.50 and \$6.75. All shades and prices in Velveteens and Corduroys also a complete line of Dress Goods including Serges, Daigonals, Poplin, Gaberdeens, tweeds, Plaids, etc. 100 yds Special English Tweed in about 10 different shades to clear at 98c worth today \$1.50.

Special Showing of Crepe de Chene in Maize, Pink, Brown, White and Rose.

All kinds of Silks including Black the always acceptable Xmas Gift. Feather Boas different styles and prices.

IN OUR GENTS FURNISHING DEPARTMENT you will find Mens Dress Shirts soft and hard Bosom, Pique, Flannel, Khaki etc., 12 dozen Mens Silk Ties latest styles 35c each; 20 dozen at 60c and a Choice Heavy Silk Tie 75c boxed just the thing for Christmas presents. Mens Mufflers, Silk Handkerchiefs, Flannelette and Silk Pyjamas, White Flannelette Night Shirts, Cardigans, Pull-Over Sweaters and All Wool underwear.

THE CARPET DEPARTMENT MAY SOLVE THE CHRISTMAS PROBLEM Immense showing of Carpet Squares, Door Mats, Curtains, Vacuum Sweepers, Carpet Sweepers, Bachelor Quilts etc.

GENTS CLOTHING DEPARTMENT, Over 100 Mens Overcoats, Col-lege and Chesterfield Ulsters with shawl collars \$9.00, \$12.00, \$15.00 up to \$25.00, probably one of the best showings East of Montreal.

50 Mens Worsteds Suits in Black and Blue and about 300 Mens Suits from \$12.00 to \$25.00.

About 75 Boys Ulsters to fit lads from 6 to 7 years clearing at \$6.75. Another lot better quality Cloth \$6.75 and \$7.50 all Mens Suits and Overcoats at clearance prices. Mens Winter Caps, fur lined, also a large assortment of Mens Rat Fur Caps and 1 Persian Lamb size 7, \$18.00. 50 Sheep skin Coats just the thing for the Winter. Also Trunks in all sizes and prices.

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"190 Silk Waists at PATON'S. 3551. "Christmas Ribbons at PATON'S. 4561.
"Ladies Rat Coats at PATON'S. 3551. 4561.

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Make sure your friend will have a

MERRY XMAS

by giving a bright Standard Song

It is a simple gift, and yet one which expresses the very spirit of Xmas. Here are a few suggestions.

- Somewhere a Voice is Calling
- Sing Me To Sleep
- A Little Bit of Heaven, etc.
- Goodbye (Tosti)
- Can't Yo' Hear Me Callin'
- Thinking of Thee
- Mother Machree
- Thora
- There's a Long, Long Trail
- Oh Dry Those Tears
- I Hear You Calling Me
- Mavis
- Mother O'Mine
- A Farewell
- Tired Hands
- Rose of My Heart
- The Birds' Lullaby
- The Light of the Sunset Glow

Call and let us help you select.

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We Pay YOUR Price

If you put your own value on your furs, we will pay you both ways.

Xmas Gifts that will be Appreciated For Men and Boys

Hockey Boots, Overshoes, Gaiters, Snowshoe Moccasians, Felt and Kid Slippers, Ankle supports, FOR WOMEN—Hockey Boots, Overshoes, Snowshoe Moccasians, Sattens in colors, White, Grey, Sand, Black, Nigger Brown, Pretty evening slippers, felt and suede, also Bedroom slippers in colors Rose, Purple, Navy and light, Blue, Grey, Brown Tan, Red, etc. FOR MISSES and CHILDREN—Hockey boots, Overshoes, Rubbers, Felt and Patent Slippers, Gaiters Black, Brown, Fawn, Red, and Blue FOR the LITTLE TOTS—Pretty Patent Boots, (Blue, Grey, and White Tops) Moccasians, Choc. Tan White and Red, Felt Slippers.

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GIFT SHOP

XMAS WEEK SPECIALS

Walking Sticks 25c to \$10.00

Delectable Chocolates

of the most excellent makes in exquisite pack, ages—

WHITE IVORY

Still a good supply of useful and ornamental gifts priced right.

DON'T FORGET WE LEAD IN

Pipes, Leather Goods, Perfumes, Etc., Etc., Etc.

Come in; we are at home to customers and friends until 12 p. m. Christmas Eve.

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Opposite Post Office

Christmas Goods For Men

Give a man something to wear and your gift is sure to be acceptable.

Select your gift from our stock, and you can be sure that it is right in quality, style and price.

Our showing of Men's Goods for the Christmas trade is complete. Run down the list below and then come in and see the goods.

- Paris Garters in pretty boxes 25c pr.
- Silk Armlets 25c and 50c pr.
- Lawn Handkerchiefs \$1.00 doz.
- Linen Handkerchiefs, plain and initial \$2.00 to \$4.00 doz.
- Cashmere Sox, plain and ribbed 40c, 50c, 75c pr.
- Unlined Kid Gloves \$1.25 \$1.50 ea.
- Woolen Gloves, black, grey, tan \$1.25 pr.
- Lined Gloves, Kid and Mocha \$1.35 up
- Silk Mufflers, every style \$1.25, \$1.50 ea.
- Fur Lined Gloves \$5.00 pr.
- Men's Shirts, every style \$1.00 up
- Night Shirts, warm flannelette \$1.25 ea.
- Pyjamas, an ideal present \$2.15, \$2.25 pr.
- Umbrellas \$1.25 to \$5.00 ea.
- Coat Sweaters, all styles \$2.75 to \$5.00 ea.

Shop early while the assortment of goods is best. We will put aside until Christmas any goods selected now. Pretty Boxes and Greeting Cards Free.

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