

The Charlottetown Guardian

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WAR NEWS AS WAR REPORTS

The war news during the past week, although voluminous to the extent of excluding almost everything else, has been very meagre and, when belled down to its actual news content, means that one continuous battle has been raging day and night since last Thursday morning; that at the first impact with the newly reinforced German army our Allies retired slowly and orderly because in that manner they could inflict heavier punishment upon the enemy's massed formations, and at the same time subject themselves to fewer casualties. That there was strategy in the retirement is evident. That the fighting was fierce and our losses severe is also evident, but we have no reason to doubt the official reports of our Commander-in-Chief, Sir Douglas Haig, who reported each day's proceedings with its reverses and retirements as well as with its successes. The gist of these reports is that the period of retirement is over, that the whole allied army is now standing firmly along an unbroken front, the reserves called up and the driving back of the Germans over the whole blood-soaked territory has begun. We are assured by our official reports that the situation is satisfactory and that the Germans cannot break through our lines at any of the vital points. Arras and Amiens are evidently the objectives of the Germans. They have concentrated immense armies before these two points, but up to the events reported upon yesterday all attempts to break through have been repulsed. We have good reason to believe that the whole line will not only hold but will again begin to roll the German army back.

Yesterday rumors were in circulation that the Allied line had been broken at several points, that the British had been driven back, etc., etc. These rumors were unfounded, and should not be repeated. That the situation is critical it would be useless to deny, but it is not going to add either to our comfort or to our effectiveness to heed all the unfounded rumors in circulation.

There is no doubt that the Germans have staked all on this drive. German newspapers that find their way into neutral countries and the contents of which are cabled to England, give the impression that the German people have been saved from actual despair, if not revolt, by the promise that this is the last battle and that peace is at hand. It is clear that Germany has come to a point where she must have peace whether through victory or defeat. If she fails in this drive, and she is going to, she will be ready to ask for peace and to accept such terms as the Allies will give her. This appears to be the situation, and we may rely on the reports of our own generals. We know the Berlin reports are issued with a view to deceiving their own people from whom they are systematically concealing everything except their successes. Even the German wounded are not being sent back to Germany, but are taken into Belgium by night and over roads closed to every other traffic and to the public.

THE FOX BUSINESS

Mr. F. E. Muzzy of Springfield, Mass., who has frequently contributed articles to The Guardian on the fox business, has an excellent article in the last issue of The Black Fox Magazine on "Fox Conditions as I see them today." After emphasizing the necessity of maintaining fur quality by proper breeding and weeding measures, he goes on to deal with the general conditions of the industry and points out what, in his opinion, is essential to the development and the stabilizing of the industry. In this connection he says:

"The rancher of Prince Edward Island does not realize that he is 'killing the goose that laid the golden egg' by not co-operating. Co-operation means more profit for the rancher and though he may have 50 pelts that are worth \$500 each, it does not pay him, and reacts on the industry, to peddle this lot of 50 around among a dozen furriers and thus create the impression that 600 pelts are on the market instead of 50 and lower prices for everybody, for if 500 pelts from the island were offered in this way, it would mean an impression that 6,000 pelts were for sale and the buyers would be mighty cautious about placing orders. But if P. E. Island pelts were all marketed through some central agency it would steady the market and mean a general higher price for pelts."

This is in line with what the Guardian

has been endeavouring to impress upon our fox ranchers since the industry began. There is no gainsaying the fact that co-operation is the key note and the solution of the whole situation; that while indiscriminate peddling is going on, no matter whether the individual peddler makes or loses, the whole industry suffers and, through the whole, each individual must eventually suffer and the industry can never rise higher than it is today.

We have a central agency in the Fox Breeders' Association, an agency in which every rancher who is a member has a say. There is nothing underhanded about it; it is an organization in which every individual rancher has a voice, in which he can suggest better methods if he knows or thinks he knows of such; he can dispose of his pelts through the Fur Sales Board at least as advantageously as if he were to visit every furrier personally and at the same time enable the Board to keep a rein on the market, avoiding a glut or the appearance of glut and preventing a demoralization of the market. A half a dozen peddlers visiting the different furriers within a short time, each with his bundle of furs, cannot but leave the impression that there is a large supply of furs available and this impression will naturally be reflected in the prices offered.

It is to be regretted that some of our ranchers still persist in peddling their furs. They may have their reasons no doubt; some of them may have inferior furs, the inferiority of which they may not wish to divulge, but their secret is absolutely safe with the sales manager; they may be persuaded by a silver-tongued dealer that he can do better for them than the Sales Board and it is possible that, in order to secure their trade and to prevent the centralization of the fur business and his own ousting from the circle, he may offer equally attractive prices. The point is that the scattering of the business tends to demoralize the market, while concentration and judicious feeding of the market through one central agency will keep it in a healthy condition, the supply never exceeding the demand and prices kept continuously at the highest level.

Prince Edward Island now owns seventy-five per cent. of all foxes in captivity. By pulling together and working through an intelligent central organization over which they themselves have complete control, our ranchers should be in a position to control the market and to keep prices at the highest level. This pulling together cannot be accomplished by a few men while the others hold aloof and criticize. Co-operation to be effective means all working together and if criticism or suggestion is to be offered, to offer it before the whole Board and agree unitedly on the method of procedure, then go ahead.

PRE-WAR BULLYING

The bullying and strife-engendering attitude of Germany towards the powers of Europe prior to the war, and which made the times of peace days of uncertainty, is well illustrated by the German demand, recently disclosed by Foreign Minister Pichon of France and now admitted by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, that France, as a guarantee of neutrality in the event of war between Germany and Austria, should hand over to Germany till after the war, the fortresses of Toul and Verdun.

The demand was insulting and deliberately provocative. Von Bethmann-Hollweg knew that it could not be complied with. France could not properly have entertained such a demand for a moment. But the former Imperial Chancellor professes to have considered the reasonable reply of France that she would act as her interests warranted as menacing Germany. Abject conformance with Germany's dictatorial demands alone would have been accepted by the German Government as evidence of good faith on the part of the Entente powers!

The costly efforts Germany made to break through the French defences at Verdun, and the noble and successful resistance there shows to what extent France would have betrayed her interests to Germany had she complied with the bullying order from Berlin.

NOTES

—The Orthodox Jews of Poland who have never favored the Zionist movement, are starting a drive to collect funds to rebuild the destroyed temple at Jerusalem.

—The Emperor of Austria has appointed a Jew to be Minister of Justice in Hungary. This is the first time in the history of this aristocratic country that a Jew has occupied a high position in her Councils.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent)

OTTAWA, March 27.—Things are moving rapidly in the House these days. Although Parliament has been only a little over a week in session a great deal has been accomplished. The debate on the Address is over, an interim supply bill has been passed and other important legislation adopted. Just now the Commons is engaged with the Foster Daylight Savings Bill. Considerable objection to the measure has developed, principally from rural sections, and it looks to me as if it would be defeated if it is allowed to go to a vote. A large number of questions have been asked and answered during the last few days. Colonel Sam Hughes, who apparently does not think much of the way the war is being managed by the overseas authorities, was putting a number of questions on this point to the Premier a day or two ago when the Speaker, in the bland way which is all his own, suggested that the questions be put in writing as the matter was not of such urgency that they could not stand over for a few days. Dr. Edwards, the leading Conservative Unionist, had a shot at his old antagonist, the Minister of Public Works, the other day, when in the course of a discussion on increased production he suggested that the Government have its experts furnish certain information.

In the Commons the other day, Sir Robert Borden, speaking on the second reading of his bill to grant the franchise to women explained that in five of the provinces women already had the right to vote in provincial elections. A bill was shortly to be introduced in Nova Scotia, giving them this right and then six provinces will have done so. The Government felt that a measure should be enacted to enfranchise women generally throughout the Dominion. It did not base the bill on the wonderful sacrifice which women had made in connection with the war. The bill was being introduced because the Government felt that women were entitled to the franchise on their merits. They would exercise a beneficial influence in this way. Wherever the franchise had been granted women the results had been highly satisfactory. The naturalization clauses of the bill, the Premier pointed out provide that a woman who is a British subject by birth and married to an alien would be enfranchised in the event of her not having sworn allegiance to any foreign power. An exception was made, however, in the case of the wife of an alien enemy.

The Government has given notice of a number of resolutions covering proposed bills to be introduced. One will provide for the appointment of a Secretary of State for External Affairs, a Minister of Immigration and Colonization, and a Minister of Soldiers' Re-establishment, all having salaries of seven thousand dollars per annum. The appointment of a Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs means the creation of a new portfolio. The other Departments have already been created by Order-in-Council. The bill also makes provision for the appointment of a Parliamentary Secretary of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment at a salary of five thousand dollars per annum. Provision is also to be made for the amalgamation of the Departments of Inland Revenue and Customs, as foreshadowed in this correspondence some time ago. Arrangements are also being made for the appointment of a superintendent of Penitentiaries at a salary of four thousand dollars per annum as well as three additional inspectors of penitentiaries.

The general opinion in Ottawa is that there will be a new Canadian Finance Minister before the end of the session. This impression is, rightly or wrongly, drawn from the carefully phrased announcement made by Sir Robert Borden the other day in connection with the absence from the House through ill-health of Sir Thomas White. It is understood that because of the condition of his health Sir Thomas is anxious to be relieved of his portfolio. His colleagues, however are loath to accept the resignation of the man who has so ably administered the finances of Canada since 1911. The names of Hon. A. K. McLean, who is now acting as Finance Minister, and Hon. Arthur Meighen, are prominently mentioned as likely men for the post should a vacancy be declared. It may go to a rank outsider, however, and in this connection the names of more than one Toronto financier are in circulation.

It is thought here that there will be no definite announcement as to the restriction of imports into Canada until the resolution and bill under which the Government will take the authority to restrict such imports has been passed by Parliament. The proposal will likely provoke considerable discussion, and business interests will be given an opportunity to state their views should they desire this privilege. While Parliament is dealing with the measure the War Trade Board

will give consideration to the question of regulations and the list of articles the importation of which could be restricted with least inconvenience to the public. Restriction of imports will quite naturally mean a reduction of customs collections, and in view of the financial needs of the Dominion arising out of the war this phase of the matter will need careful consideration, for the power of restriction is to cover a period of three years after the declaration of peace.

Rumors of cabinet reorganization are still in the air, and it is a poor day when some appointment is not made—in the public mind it is felt, however, that it will not be long before an official announcement along this line is made, although it would not surprise me if such announcement were delayed until the end of the session is in sight. It may be recalled, however, that the names of several Ontario men are mentioned as likely to be promoted, prominent among these being Colonel Sam Sharp, who is expected back from the front any day now. The report that French-Canadian representation is to come from the Opposition side of the House is not being favorably received by some Ontario Conservatives, and the order paper has several questions on this point.

There is opposition to the appointment as Deputy Speaker of Hon. George H. Boulton. Colonel Currie in the House the other day declared that the appointment was a "slap in the face for the soldiers." Deputy Speaker Boulton is a Liberal and an opponent of conscription.

It was understood that the Deputy Speakership was to go to Hon. Charles Macell, in fact he was offered and accepted the position. But at the eleventh hour Sir Wilfrid changed his mind and "wished" Mr. Boulton for Sir Robert.

Sir Collingwood Schreiber died in Ottawa last week, mourned by a wide circle of friends. If I mistake not Sir Collingwood was a member of the firm of contractors which built the Prince Edward Island Railway.

The debate on the Address in reply to the speech from the Throne only lasted one day. There's a suggestion here for some provincial parliaments.

The Senate stands adjourned until after Easter. If the whole outfit were abolished there would be little mourning outside of the red chamber.

Sir Sam Hughes doesn't take much stock in the German mystery gun. He says he wouldn't be afraid to stand before it at ten cents a shot!

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

LETTER FROM OVERSEAS

Copy letter from No. 3422 Corporal White, Gordon Highlanders to his wife.

Dear Lizzie and Wee Lizzie:—Just a note to let you know I am well, hoping this finds you both in good health. I am still in the trenches yet. I wish to goodness we were out for we are getting very heavy shell fire both day and night.

You will be pleased to hear Lizzie that I have started to lead a new life. I have asked the Lord to forgive all my sins, and if anything happens to me I am quite sure he will take me to the place he has prepared for us in Heaven. I pray for that lassie and you continually that God may look after you both should anything go wrong with me out here.

I did pray to God that I may be spared to be home and see you both on this earth, if not, I hope to see you both in Heaven.

Should anything go wrong with me Lizzie keep this letter till the lassie is able to read it and understand it. If the Lord spares her, that she may fully understand what I would wish her to do, should I not be there to see her, and I pray that the Lord may guide and take care of you both.

I am not writing this letter Lizzie, expecting to be killed, but when one looks about him and sees such sights as are here, it makes one think of what is to happen to him, if he is called away into the great eternally without any preparation for his soul and also for the souls he has left at home.

I feel very anxious about both you at home now, more than ever I did, that is why I am writing a letter like this to you so that you may all know that I am prepared.

Tho' I walk through the shadow of the valley of death I will not fear for Christ shall be with me.

From your loving son,
NOTE—White was delivered from all fear. He went into action after writing this letter, singing "In the holy day of his hand."
White was killed at Zonnebeker, 24th September, 1918.

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED BY REV. T. SLINSCOTT, D. D. (All rights reserved)

HELEN—You want to know why so many people are in poverty. Doubtless our economic system, the war, and human greed have made life very, very hard, but it should be, not the chief cause of poverty is and ever will be lack of clear, deep and fruitful thinking and right action.

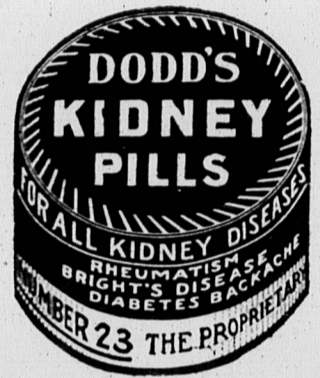
ORTHODOXY—You write in an unreasonable way. You say your pastor is a good man, but that he preaches a doctrine contrary to the standards of your church. If he is a good man, that is a true Christian, his doctrine cannot be essentially correct. Like begets like, and Jesus said "by their fruits ye shall know them." The new philosophy of pragmatism measures every doctrine with the question, "Does it work?" Is it aim benevolent, and does it accomplish its purpose? If the question is answered in the affirmative all other tests of its truth are abandoned. I doubt if there are any educated Christian ministers who preach all the doctrines of their demoralization. Theology has proved to be an evolution. Listen to your pastor prayerfully, follow his example, and you cannot help being a true Christian. You will then be in an unprejudiced state of mind to judge of his doctrine.

CANADIAN KILLED. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, Mar. 30.—F. J. Worth and J. Scott Rowan, both members of the Royal Flying Corps, were killed in aviation accidents today. Rowan came here from Scotland, Worth's nearest of kin lives in Montreal. His name is E. O. Bowen.

He Built His House With His Own Hands And the Help He Got From Dodd's Kidney Pills

Mr. Neil C. McCallum, of Brackley Point, P. E. I., Tells a Story of Interest to All Sufferers From Kidney Pills.

Brackley Point, Queen's County, P. E. I., April 1st.—(Special)—Mr. Neil C. McCallum, an old resident of this popular little summer resort, never tires of showing visitors over his beautiful home, which is the work of his own hands. And he always finishes with the declaration: "I never could have done this but for the benefit I received from Dodd's Kidney Pills." "It was brought up on a farm," Mr. McCallum continues, "but about ten years ago I took a very sore back. I tried plasters and pills without getting any real benefit. "Then I thought I would try Dodd's Kidney Pills. Two boxes of them made me all right again. A year later I felt it coming on again, but another box of Dodd's Kidney Pills drove it away. Now I just take one or two boxes as a spring medicine, and you can see how healthy I am. I built this house from basement to chimney myself." Dodd's Kidney Pills are purely a kidney remedy.



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