

The Charlottetown Patriot

NAZIS QUIET

GERMANS SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY

Final Triumph Over Germany War in Italy Made Officially Announced Today Military History

Canadians March Through German Streets Today

MESSAGE FROM KING'S MESSAGE PREMIER, KING TO CANADIANS ON VICTORY LOAN

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Early settlers face hardships

Early settlers on Prince Edward Island had more to contend with than the stupendous tasks of carving out homesteads and farm lands in the trackless forests, great as that task must have been. They also had to deal with leaseholders of land 20,000-acre lots and pay them an annual rental which never grew less.

A writer in the Royal Gazette of August 21, 1832, describes the problem something like this: "The emigrant on embarking in Europe for Prince Edward Island considers himself for the sake of his country and relative with the expectation of obtaining a comfortable subsistence in the new country. He is ultimately arriving at a state of independence.

On his arrival he finds no means of support, the country being destitute of all manufacturing establishments. Immense tracts of forest present themselves to his view in all directions, from which it would be vain for him to attempt to explore, or find one spot better adapted to his circumstances than another.

But there was no alternative for the new settler. The settler either had to take land and produce bread for his family, or let them starve in a strange land.

So he starts the rounds of the agents of the leaseholders and is told land will be let to settlers at one shilling per acre annually. He has no choice for the story everywhere is the same, so he finds a spot in the woods, builds a cabin and starts to clear away the trees on a small plot and prepare it for his first crop.

And to all of his difficulty is added the fact that the new settler is absolutely destitute of knowledge as to how the job should be done.

After tremendous effort the settler succeeds in obtaining from the soil barely enough for the demands of his family, but has nothing to spare to the landlord to liquidate his claims for rent. In spite of his greatest possible efforts he sees an accumulation of arrears growing year after year, threatening to involve him and his family in ruin.

But the problem is even worse than it would appear to those who did not live in that day. If the man was able to raise by selling some stock, an amount equal to what he owes the landlord in Island tender, the only currency he can procure, and offer it to the agent, it is rejected as not being "legal tender" or acceptable currency.

If the money is accepted at all the agent exacts a 20 percent levy on it to make it equal to British money. So, the Gazette writer reported, the settler, at last longed for help, ever arriving at independence and find that his hidden dreams of a home in the new land are never likely to be realized.

The man is naturally worried but he is not alone. Everyone else is in the same fix and that includes the settler, the squatter and even the purchaser. For everyone knows when a new claimant may appear and demand of the squatter a bond on his labor, of the lease holder a new obligation and a higher rent, and of the purchaser, the farm, with the improvements produced by many years of industry, or in case he comes to terms, he must pay the second time, perhaps five times the amount he

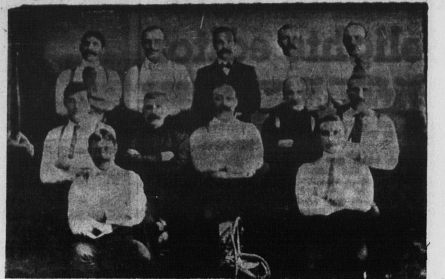
paid for it when it was in a wilderness state.

This was the sort of thing that was going on when a group of settlers decided to do something about it, and a meeting was held at "Rustico Ferry" of people from Cavendish, New Glasgow and Rustico. William Crosswell presided and they discussed the propriety of petitioning the Governor to cause a court to be established that would deal legally with such problems as faced the settlers.

Other matters were discussed and there was only one dissenting voice out of the 200 that attended.

Unfortunately the old article does not indicate whether or not the petitioners achieved any worthwhile result.

But it should be noted now, many years later, that the Gazette writer was either overly pessimistic or he was examining only the lot of the lower sections of the immigrants. Had all of them been as badly off as he attempted to describe, the attempt to colonize this province with sturdy settlers from the British Isles, as they were known at that time, would have been abandoned and of those who are here today would never have been born, certainly they would not have been born in this country.



WINNERS BY SEVERAL WHISKERS

Proud of their strength, the moustachioed heroes of another era strike a victory pose after winning the tug-of-war championship in 1897. This fine Charlottetown team was coached to its title by the late Col. "Waller" Proves.

CAR SALE

For Sale: One 1918 Buick 3-passenger touring car; one 1914 six-cylinder, 7-passenger Chalmers.

Such an advertisement appearing in the press today would immediately bring a flood of requests for information and a steady stream of would-be buyers interested in vintage cars.

However, they are probably not available today as the advertisement appeared in The Patriot just 46 years ago.

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--- the home is your most important possession.

EACH SATURDAY READ

The Home of the Week

feature

Congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of The Evening Patriot

HOMOGRAPH CO. LTD. TORONTO

THRONES HAD TOPPLED, BUT PEACE REIGNED

A tremendous burden was lifted from the hearts and minds of people of all the world when VE Day was proclaimed. Nazis were crushed and once again peace came to the battered nations of Europe. A battleground so vast it encompassed an entire continent was dotted with unmarked graves of millions. The story which brought joy and relief to so many was simply told in two words as The Patriot of Monday, May 7, 1945, came out with its classic headline.

Whistles blow at war's end

"There were sounds of rejoicing."

In just such an unmelodramatic way did The Patriot of November 11, 1918, tell of the release of long pent-up feelings when news was received of the real Armistice. A few days before an incorrect statement was sent racing round the world and there was a terrific letdown when the report of peace was proven false.

However, the people of Charlottetown warned again to the task of celebrating and The Patriot that afternoon said:

"The fire bell rang at 7 a.m. followed by church bells. Then the railway and factory whistles joined them. The din of the celebration began to increase as people learned the news and new sounds were heard. Stores were invaded by girls and boys looking for horns of every description."

How different the above, in its joyous and thankful celebration, from what happened in Halifax when word of the ending of the Second World War was received. There rioting broke out, stores were looted—particularly liquor stores—windows smashed and havoc reigned un-

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