

# The Charlottetown Guardian

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## WEEDS

The season has been favorable, and the weeds have flourished; but particularly has the sow thistle, above all others, made inroads upon fields that hitherto were quite clean. The Canada thistle, couch grass, nettles, daisies and others have a firm grip upon many farms in the province. While many are badly infested, others partially so, occasionally there will come under notice a clean farm, and immediately the question as to how this is possible naturally arises.

The weeds have struggled against adverse circumstances for generations, have grown and produced seed in the most barren of places, have withstood the efforts of man and of seasons, and have grown hardy and difficult of eradication. The weeds of the present represent the "survival of the fittest." The farmer in his fight against weeds and in his efforts to raise crops has to combat nature's methods of feeding the soil through the growth, death and decay of weeds. It is slow but undoubtedly sure. How true this is today can be proved many times in a day's drive. Any field that man has abandoned is taken possession of by weeds and in the days to come will again produce crops. Man steps in and interrupts nature's method by cultivating and fertilizing and then reaps the crops, but immediately his efforts are slackened nature uses the opportunity, and we see the weeds in abundance.

Is it possible to maintain a clean farm? Yes. Careful, thorough, intelligent cultivation, rotation and fertilization in order that a good crop can be grown every year, coupled with care in the purchase of all seeds grown, are the only methods whereby the more persistent weeds can be crowded out. In such cases nature's method is unnecessary to restore fertility.

Weeds are spread by the wind, water, machinery, seed grain, birds, roots and in many other ways which demand constant alertness on the part of every farmer. Many means of distribution of weed seeds can be controlled partly by legislation, but the greatest factor in their eradication is the individual farmer. All provinces have noxious weed acts that are of but little or no avail because their enforcement is impossible in the majority of cases. It is, and always will be, an individual question first and foremost and collective afterwards. If a few men in P. E. Island can raise crops practically clear of weeds in spite of the large numbers surrounding their farms, then there is no reason why all cannot do so. If some are practically clean then all sections might be.

The loss from weeds in plant food and moisture, to say nothing of the inconveniences, is sufficient to induce a man to keep them under control. The roads are infested and always will be, until that is taken up by each and every farmer in order to keep his share of the road clean. If one farmer in every settlement would keep the noxious weeds along his road cut every season, hundreds of others would follow the example and soon entire neighborhoods would have clean roadsides; in a few years the cutting of these weeds would be little more than a small chore.

The combatting of weeds in every country is a farmer's question and hinges on cultivation, rotation, and fertilization and unless thought is applied to the farm operations the weeds will gain the ascendancy for a time.

Probably nothing is more pleasing or satisfying than to see fields of ripening grain free from weeds. What would it mean to P. E. I. if the majority of the fields were as clean as the cleanest are today?

## REGRETTABLE

The New York Tribune commenting editorially on the proposed measures of reprisal to be directed by the United States against Great Britain and her Allies, says: "We sincerely regret the course of congress in accepting measures of reprisal directed at the Entente Powers. The Tribune regrets the action, because it believes that American interests, American principles, and American ideas, are being served by the nations who are fighting Germany, and it believes that German defeat is as essential to the United States as to Europe. But, having said this, the Tribune cannot express any surprise at the action in Washington. It has been inevitable from the start, unless British and French statesmen were sufficiently wise to avoid unnecessary dispute and forego unessential activities."

The Tribune's saving clause and its saving phrases, "unnecessary dispute," and "unessential activities" are also to be regretted, and savour somewhat of the pro-German influences which undoubtedly inspired the United States Congress to accept the amendments to the Revenue Bill which are calculated to cause friction between the United States and Great Britain and her Allies.

One amendment authorizes the national executive

to withhold clearance papers from vessels which discriminate against American shippers; to withhold privileges from ships of nations that deny to United States ships privileges given to other nations; and to use the army and navy, if necessary, to prevent departure of offending vessels from United States ports. Another amendment authorized the President to deny the use of United States mails, express, telegraph, wireless or cable facilities to nations that do not accord to the United States all facilities of commerce, including unhampered traffic in the mails. The President is also authorized to restrict or prohibit importation of commodities from nations forbidding the importation of United States commodities not injurious to health or morals.

The dispute regarding the mails and commerce with neutral countries contiguous to Germany is still unsettled and the viewpoints of the United States and the Allies respectively are necessarily unreconcilable. The United States' attitude is dictated by business interests; that of the Allies by considerations of self-defence. The United States has been making money out of the war, and it is as well known in the United States as in Great Britain and France that a very large proportion of the goods sold to Sweden, Norway and Holland is intended to reach and does reach Germany. Under the disguise of neutral trade large quantities of supplies reach Germany indirectly.

As belligerents, the Allies have certain rights over neutral trade, even United States trade, and will not hesitate to exercise these rights in clear conformity with international law. Yet one of the accepted amendments provides for reprisals if the Allies do not give United States ships "all facilities of commerce." Moreover, every belligerent country has a right to prohibit the import of luxuries wasteful of national financial power. Britain practically prohibited the importation of United States motor cars. Another amendment provides for retaliation in instances where such orders of prohibition are enforced. Another amendment is aimed at denying access to United States ports to ships that refuse to United States goods—that is, goods pro-German firms on the British and French blacklist desire to ship abroad. The Allies assuredly have full legal and moral right, under their peculiar circumstances, to extend special privileges to each other's commerce and shipping, helping each other even at the price of excluding neutral ships from enjoyment of the same privileges. Yet the President is authorized to retaliate in case United States ships do not have the same privileges as French ships in British ports, or vice versa.

Undoubtedly German sympathisers in the United States had a finger in these amendments while it is equally certain that the various commercial interests which stand to reap a rich harvest from this neutral (?) trade gave them their support. It will be interesting to watch the President's attitude on the new legislation. He has hitherto been cautious and, moreover, has been friendly with the Allies. Whether his hand will be forced by the influences which inspired those amendments remains to be seen. The Allies are pretty busy at present but retaliatory measures on the part of the United States could easily become the occasion for similar measures on the part of the Allies, all of which would be exceedingly regrettable, and it is hoped the good sense of the White House will be so exercised as to prevent occurrences which could only lead to regrets.

## AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION

The allotments to the different provinces under The Agricultural Instruction Act, passed by the Dominion Parliament in 1913, have been made for the year ending March 31st, 1917. It will be remembered that by the terms of this Act ten million dollars spread over a period of ten years was to be divided between the nine provinces of the Dominion, according to population, for the encouragement of education in agriculture and domestic science. In the initiatory year, 1913-14, \$700,000 was to be divided. Each year the amount was to be increased by \$160,000, until 1917-18, when the grants under this arrangement will have reached a total of \$1,100,000, at which they are to remain until 1923, when the ten million dollars will have been exhausted. The sums received by the different provinces for the year ending March 31st next will be as follows:

Prince Edward Island . . . . .	\$ 30,443.75
Nova Scotia . . . . .	74,859.28
New Brunswick . . . . .	59,209.60
Quebec . . . . .	243,212.23
Ontario . . . . .	301,158.45
Manitoba . . . . .	70,767.21
Saskatchewan . . . . .	74,869.76
Alberta . . . . .	61,747.22
British Columbia . . . . .	63,732.50

By the aid of these grants agricultural education and domestic science knowledge has been greatly benefited and extended all over the country. School buildings have been erected, college buildings have been erected and increased in number, experienced teachers of a high class have been engaged, District Representative and county agents' expenses have been met, demonstrations in all branches of agricultural and short courses have been liberally arranged, agricultural instruction in both public and high schools has been extensively promoted, much useful literature has been circulated, veterinary science has been benefited, knowledge and practice of domestic science extended, manual training received an impetus, competitions of many varieties helped and initiated and school and home gardening greatly developed. In short the beneficial influence of the Act is making itself felt in every direction that agriculture and home-making take.

## MR. MARTIN'S DISCLAIMER

Sir.—My attention has been called to an error in your account of the Conservative Convention, on the 25th of August. You reported that I seconded a motion to make the nomination of Messrs Nicholson and McLean unanimous. That is a mistake. I did not do so because of unfairness in balloting, and because the constitution had been changed to throw me down I would not stultify myself by placing myself in a false position. I am, Sir, etc.

ALEXANDER MARTIN, Valleyfield, Sept. 8. (Mr. Martin does not go himself to the meeting and it was he who suggested the alterations in the constitution and explained their effect; if he thought they were to prove prejudicial to his interests, or were to work unfairly, he should have said so before the ballot, and not wait until this late date to make his disclaimer. Ed. G.)

## UNIVERSITY HEROES

About the Hon. William Alastair Damer Parnell, of Arts '17, and Science '18, of McGill, who served with the Grenadier Guards in France, has been awarded the Military Cross for distinguished conduct in making a raid on the trenches of the enemy. Lieut. Parnell came to McGill from Rugby in the fall of 1913, and entered the class of Arts '17, at the commencement of the session of 1914-15 he became a member of the class of Science '18. On the death in action of his brother, Sir Henry Blight Porteus Parnell, he returned to England and took out a commission in his brother's regiment. He was born in 1894, and is the son of the late fourth Baron Glaston, major-general in the army, who served in the Crimea after the fall of Sebastopol, and during the campaign against the Zulus. Lieut. Parnell was the fourth McGill man to be awarded the Military Cross, the other three recipients being Capt. Human Lightstone, of Med. '10; Capt. D. M. Mathieson, of Science '07; and Lieut. Evan B. Hugh-Jones, of Science '12.



This steel helmet, worn by German sharpshooters on sniping duty, is formed of metal bent so that it will deflect bullets. It is out away on the right side to allow sighting the rifle.

## DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

### A MORNING PRAYER.

O God, my Father, at the beginning of another day I desire to open my heart to Thy Spiritual Incoming. Grant that throughout the busy hours of today, while mind and hand are engaged in the affairs of earth, I may be kept by Thy Holy Spirit's Presence from all evil in thought, desire, word and deed. Help me to look upon this day as an opportunity of service. May I serve Thee in pureness of living, in holiness of mind and in maintaining an attitude of dependence on Thy Loving Mercies. In my service of Thee may I strive also to serve my fellowmen. Help me to count each day lost in which I have failed to lift some burden that oppresses those about me or neglected to remove some barrier that keeps mankind from accomplishing Thy Purposes save me from selfishness and from too great love of earthly gain. And when night comes, with its rest from labor, grant to me such satisfaction of mind and heart that I may rejoice in having passed the day in Thy Companionship and in having faithfully tried to do Thy Will. Opening my heart to Thy Influence and living in an attitude of willingness to do Thy Will, may I, day by day, "go out with joy and be led forth with peace." And may my entire life

## PORTUGAL

As far back as 1386 Portugal, which has been a Republic since October 8th, 1910, entered into its first treaty with Great Britain. Under the present treaty Britain is pledged to defend Portugal in case of an attack in return for certain coaling and harbor facilities. When war broke out, Portugal offered Britain an expeditionary corps for Flanders.

Portugal has a population of close upon 6,000,000 and a peace army of 30,000 men. When fully mobilized, however, it should consist of a quarter of a million men of the first and second line. Military service in Portugal is compulsory. All men from the age of seventeen to forty-five are liable to be called out, but practically service only begins at the age of twenty.

Portugal's extensive colonial possessions have always aroused the envy of Germany. The Huns have cast very covetous eyes on Angola, with its stretch of 1,000 miles on the West African coast, and Mozambique, the Portuguese territories on the East coast of Africa, extending for a distance of 1,800 miles.



LIEUT.-COL. S. J. DONALDSON, M.P. Commander of the 188th Battalion, Prince Albert, Sask. Col. Donaldson was for many years with the R.N.W.M.P.

## GERMANY'S LIE BUREAU

Hun Paper Tells Truth For Once About Wolffs

"The Wolf bureau is hopelessly unable to do the work expected of it, but this is no reason why our world journals should feel themselves compelled to print the most idiotic telegrams of the bureau and inflict them in heavy type on their unfortunate readers," says the Munich (Bavaria) Post. "Several times every week we receive from Zurich and Bern telegrams from Wolff's agents there. These messages are carefully selected extracts from certain Swiss journals, which in Bern and Zurich do not enjoy any authority. The same applies to the Wolff despatches from Holland. The Swiss news comes with official authority, and in plain awe it is printed by the great German journals. As a rule the despatches are the most foolish and impudent lies which it is possible to conceive. And always, no matter whether it is a telegram that tells us of Italians being bribed with millions by John Bull or of the march of 100,000 Italian soldiers through Switzerland to France, or the invented dictum of some statesman of the Entente, Wolff adopts it and the 'great' German press prints it.

"It is quite certain that were Wolff to telegraph from London that Asquith and Grey had learned German secrets, and that they sang every morning at breakfast, 'Hell dir im Siegerkranz,' or that the news had come from Rome that the Freemasons had killed the Pope, the 'great' German press, the 'instructors of the nation,' would print it right honestly, with led type. What an unsurpassable nation of thinkers we are in regard to our press."

be one of zealous and enthusiastic loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, my Saviour. Amen.

### DESTROYED.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The Journal prints the following cable from London:

"The destruction of a large aeroplane factory at Idarhof, near Berlin, is reported in despatches received here from Copenhagen. "An explosion wrecked the structure which then burned. Ten military aeroplanes were destroyed. No one was killed."

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---FOR---

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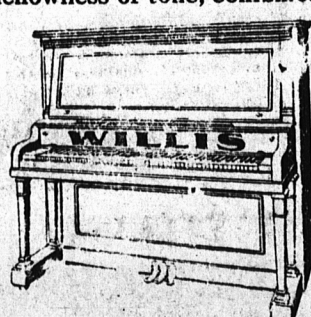
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VICTORIA ROW

# Fall Boots Clearing Sale

For September Only

Ladies' Tan Lace Boots [goodyear] good sole and good wearers—all sizes, 2 1-2 to 7

\$3.75 now \$2.50

Bring the girls along to

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Job lot of Girl's Strong Boots, Size 11 to 2, Price \$1.65.  
Boy's Strong Boots \$2.00.