

# The Union Advocate

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## The Union Advocate Wishes Its Patrons and Friends

# MERRY CHRISTMAS.



### Denies Rumor of Being In Employ of Germany

Mr. Linus G. Read Publishes Letter in Which He  
Emphatically Denies Being a German  
Spy.

Some number of weeks ago there came quietly into our town a stranger, who with his wife took up residence here, and in his own quiet way took up his duties, the result of which brings to him the necessities of life in the same manner as in the case with the man of labor or the accountant.

His business did not call for publicity, or advertising in any other way. He did not even deem it wise or necessary to explain to his next door neighbor just what his particular line of business was, but had he known the amount of free advertising he was to receive in consequence, which has not only proved detrimental to his own interests, but has cast a dark shadow on the name of our fair town and people for the ungenerous way in which the matter was allowed to go, no doubt the gentleman in question would have saved all this by satisfying the curiosity of a number of people by explaining why he chose to take up his abode here and what his business was.

Because for reasons of his own his mode of living was not along the same lines as those of our own people, and because he chose to make his home for a period in our peaceful Miramichi woods, where game and fish are so plentiful, he aroused a curiosity, the result of which was coming to this province as he did after the outbreak of war, and as no other reason could be thought out by minds so small, he was dubbed a German spy, and the gentleman of whom we write is Mr. L. G. Read.

After his first intimation of this fact, Mr. Read treated the matter as a joke, but on being convinced that he was being put down as a man in the employ of Germany, he took the matter up a little more seriously, and after thoughtful consideration, and a desire to put at rest any grave fears our citizens may have entertained for their safety and welfare, he called at the Advocate office on Saturday afternoon and handed us the following letter, after explaining the position he was put in, and asked that it be given space in our columns, which we are pleased to do. Following is the letter:

Newcastle, N. B.  
Dec. 19th, 1914.

To the Editor,  
I have heard a good many things, since coming to this province, about myself that I did not know. Now I hear that I am a German spy.

It is too absurd to take any serious notice of, but as I enjoy good standing elsewhere, perhaps you will be good enough to publish this:

There are a lot of low-bred, sordid minded, underfed mongrels in this world, whose principle aim in life is to stick their dirty noses into the affairs of other people; slander their neighbors and scandalize the stranger.

To the dense and unwholesome minds of this savaged ilk, the stranger who comes, with no visible means of support, is, perforce, a suspicious character.

Not to make a proper declaration of one's private affairs, is, to them, the unpardonable sin.

That I send out and receive large quantities of mail is surely proof, prima facie, that something must be wrong.

But that all this letter-writing might be productive of business for the province—in lumber, shagbark, ties, laths, smelts, salmon, herring, etc., and the opportunities here for the hunter and angler does not occur to the sound hypocrite, who, by nature, seeks always to attach an evil motive to the acts of others.

To him, the stranger is not welcome, for his dwarfed and hardened soul is so soaked in suspicion that

no new-comer can be other than a menace to his well-being.

I am a native of the U. S. A.; am a naturalized citizen of Canada; have resided in Canada for nine years (when not residing in England); am not trying to borrow any money; am looking into the natural resources of the province (and promise that I won't run away with any of them); am perfectly happy—though married; am kind, gentle and will stand without hitching and am ready to wager that I have done a hundred times more for the cause of the Empire than the long-haired ass who, with malicious intent, started such a ridiculous rumor.

I hand you, herewith, certificate from the Circuit Court of Montreal, covering my naturalization as a British subject and will add that I am a member of

The Manhattan Club of New York City.

The Canadian Camp Club of New York City.

The Angler's Club of America, New York City.

The Burgesses Corps, of Albany, N. Y., and of which King George is a member.

The Montreal Club, of Montreal.

The Montreal Citizens' Association.

The Canadian Society of Civil Engineers.

The St. Maurice Fish and Game Club of Montreal, and several Charity Societies.

As against these, I will venture the assertion that the many scoundrels who are the object of these remarks, is the Past Grand Master of the Ancient Order of United Slander-Mongers, the only society in existence which thrives with neither fees nor dues; whose ramifications are worldwide and whose members infest the earth—even unto the fair Miramichi.

Very sincerely yours,  
L. G. READ.

In giving space to the above letter, while its terms may seem rather strong, the Advocate feels it a bounden duty to do so, and to do all in its power to help remove this robe of dishonor which has been so unscrupulously thrown over the shoulders of Mr. Read.

On coming to our office and introducing himself, he asked us if we had heard the report and if we considered his appearance that of a spy. We were frank to admit hearing the report, but after looking into a pair of eyes which showed only kindness and integrity, we were convinced that this dishonorable appellation had been given to the wrong man.

Mr. Read, in giving the details of his life, from the cradle to this present day, withheld nothing, in fact giving many details which were not altogether necessary to convince one of his integrity as a British subject to his King and to our Dominion of Canada.

Mr. Read had with him his certificate from the Circuit Court of Montreal, showing him to be a naturalized British subject. For nine years he has resided in Montreal, and is well and favorably known all over the Dominion of Canada by the leading business and commercial men. His business calls for this. His vocation keeps him constantly in communication and touch with the large industrial centres of Canada, which thereby makes him a competitor to many of the industries, both large and small, not only in the upper provinces of Canada, but in the Province of New Brunswick and the County of Northumberland, even, as well.

Mr. Read's naturalization papers showed him to be an American born citizen, but the Advocate, wishing to have firmer ground to stand upon, made bold enough to ask Mr. Read if he was of German descent. The



Old Santa, the Children's Friend

### BIBLE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Mrs. Osborne Nicholson Elected President for Ensuing Year.

The annual meeting of the Newcastle Branch of the Bible Society was held in the Baptist vestry Wed-

nesday night, Rev. M. S. Richardson presiding and Rev. Dr. Harrison assisting in the devotional exercises. Stirring addresses were given by the chairman and Rev. S. J. MacArthur. Rev. Mr. Richardson welcomed the Bible Society and declared he would co-operate with its work to the fullest extent possible. He took as his text "The Lost Bible Found," and declared it to be his belief that the British nation was founded upon the Bible, that the present war was a righteous struggle. He was glad to learn that Bible readers were accompanying the British soldiers in the trenches. The Bible should be the foundation of the life of each individual.

Rev. Mr. MacArthur said that as the days go by the work of the Bible Society becomes all the more necessary. As India got more freedom as the result of Indian heroism in this war, the Bible would have an increasing influence upon India. Among the things that have made the British Empire what it is, the Bible is the foremost. Even in this war which causes so much pain and horror, there is much to cause uplift of soul and make us believe it will be overruled for good.

Mrs. O. Nicholson, treasurer, reported following collections for 1914, since May last, when year was changed to end in December. Collected at public meeting \$ 6.00 Collected by Miss McAllister 27.95 Mrs. T. A. Scribner 22.00 Miss O'Donnell 20.75 Mrs. J. Robinson Allison 13.25 Mrs. H. H. Stuart 11.50 Miss Niven 9.85 Miss Marjorie Davidson 6.70 Total \$175.00

The previous year's collections were \$114.70, and those of 1912, \$89.90.

The following officers were elected President—Mrs. O. Nicholson. Vice-Presidents—Revs. W. J. Bate, S. J. MacArthur, Wm. Harrison, D. D., and M. S. Richardson. Secretary—Mrs. H. H. Stuart. Treasurer—Mrs. T. A. Scribner.

Additional members of Executive—Mrs. J. W. Davidson, Mrs. M. S. Richardson, Mrs. J. Robinson Allison, and Miss H. M. McLeod. The retiring president and secretary, Mrs. Wm. Harrison and Miss McLeod, were warmly thanked for their faithful services.

### EGYPT PASSES FROM TURKEY

Khedive Deposed and British Administrators Drawing Up New Constitution

London, Dec. 17.—Egypt has been declared a British protectorate. This announcement was made officially tonight.

The official press bureau tonight issued the following statement: "His Britannic Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs gives notice that in view of a state of war arising out of the action of Turkey, Egypt is placed under the protection of his majesty and will henceforth constitute a British protectorate. "The suzerainty of Turkey over Egypt is thus terminated and his majesty's government will adopt all measures necessary for the defence of Egypt and the protection of its inhabitants and interests. "The king has been pleased to approve the appointment of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Arthur Henry McMahon to be his majesty's high commissioner for Egypt."

### PERSONALS

Miss Ida Gillis of Renous is spending the Xmas vacation at her home. Miss May Murphy, teacher at Tide Head, is home for the Xmas holidays. Pvt. Gordon R. Leslie with the 26th Battalion, St. John, is spending the Xmas season at his home here.

Miss Marion Rundle who is attending the University at Fredericton, is spending the Xmas holidays at her home here. Mr. Albert Whitney of Centerville, Carleton Co., is home spending the Xmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Whitney, Whitney, N. B.

The Misses Greta Rundle and Kathleen Armstrong, who are attending McDonald College, are spending the Xmas holiday at their homes here.

Mr. J. Harvey Ramsay, Civil Engineer for the Department of Lands and Mines, Fredericton, is spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. W. F. Copp.

Miss Dorothy Nicholson who is attending Dalhousie College, and Miss Nan Nicholson of Halifax Ladies' College, are spending the Xmas vacation with their parents Mr. and R. Nicholson.

### Town Council Meeting Held Thursday Evening

Motion Moved to Transfer Amount Voted for Sidewalks to Contingency Account to Offset Amounts Voted for Patriotic and Belgian Funds

Town Council met in regular monthly session on the 17th, Mayor Morrissey in the chair. Aldermen present: Doyle, McCabe, McGrath, Miller and Stothart.

Following accounts were passed: Finance—D. & J. Ritchie, lumber, \$103.99.

Public Works—Stothart Merc. Co., \$20.78; Johr Clark, \$8.40.

Light & Water—Inverness Railway & Coal Co., \$34.96; ditto, \$35.48; Maritime Foundry \$73.40, ditto, \$135.06—most of this for overhauling and repairing electric machine and pump—Stothart Merc. Co., \$36.96; Crandall, Harrison & Co., 194.00; T. McAvity & Sons, \$57.84; ditto, \$22.50; Eastern Electric Co., \$39.07.

Following report was read: Newcastle, Nov. 30, 1914.

To His Worship the Mayor and Town Council,

Dear Sirs,

I beg to submit to you the following report of the work done by me for the month of November 1914:

Scott Act violations—five fines, paid \$250; one search, magistrate's costs \$18.00; constable's fees \$22.00.

Police Court—twelve cases; 1 for assault, 1 for vagrancy, 10 for drunkenness. Amount of fines collected \$68.00. Magistrate's costs \$36.00; constables fees, \$2.00. Balance \$30.

(Sgd.) W. O. CHAMBERLAIN, Chief Police.

It was moved by Ald. Stothart and seconded by Ald. Doyle and carried.

That the Town Treasurer be authorized to transfer the amount as voted for permanent sidewalks \$500, to contingency account to offset the amounts voted to Patriotic and Belgian Relief funds.

Ald. Stothart moved, seconded by Ald. Doyle:

That an amount equal to 5 per cent. of the default taxes prior to this year be written off and charged to account of discounts and allowances.

Ald. Stothart explained that each year, in making out the tax bills, 10 per cent. is added to the assessment to defray costs of collection, depreciation of default accounts, etc. There had each year been a gain from this extra 10 per cent. but it had never been applied to offset depreciation of value of default list but had been included in current revenue. The old default list up to last Dec. 31st was \$9000 to \$10,000, and it was wrongly reckoned an asset of the town. But everybody knew it was not worth its face. In order to rectify the mistake, he wanted the default tax list rated as an asset at 5 per cent. less than its face value.

Ald. Miller thought this would be merely taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another.

His Worship said that the town machinery was still rated at par, but the pump we had had for years was not worth par now.

Ald. Miller replied that after the overhauling the pump had got lately he thought it was worth as much as ever.

Ald. McGrath thought it better to leave the accounts as they were.

Ald. Miller said that the Town Report was read very closely. This 5 per cent. reduction would tend to make a bad showing and create a lot of talk and he could not see any use it would be.

Ald. Stothart said he did not consider the whole of the default list as actually collectible. It was not, therefore, all an asset.

Ald. McGrath wanted to know if it were any harm to consider the default taxes as assets. Hadn't the Council cut off so many default accounts each year for last three or four years?

His Worship said that \$1700 had been struck off last year but he did not think any had been struck off the year before.

Ald. McGrath spoke about the old engines, pumps, etc., down at the Town Barn. Ald. Kethro had spoken about going to bring the matter up at this meeting but he was not here now.

Ald. Doyle said that the only thing that could be done was to leave them there. The town might some day be able to use them. There was a stone crusher among them.

On motion of Ald. Miller and McCabe, Ald. Stothart's motion was laid over until next meeting, in the hope of a fuller attendance.

Ald. Doyle moved, seconded by Ald. Miller. That the matter of applying for authority to change the representation to Council be laid over. Carried.

Ald. Miller gave notice that at next meeting he would move an amendment to By-Law 20, section 6 re water installation.

Ald. Miller said he had expected to have the address to Hon. Mr. Morrissey ready for this meeting, but it was delayed. It was the intention of the committee to have the presentation made at a public meeting in the Town Hall some night next week.

The Mayor reported from the annual Convention of the Union of N. B. Municipalities which he and Ald. Stothart and McCabe had attended. The meeting was very good. The papers were fine. Some were applicable to Newcastle, for example, that favoring the building of a main highway across the province—a permanent highway for general traffic as well as for automobiles. There were good papers on hygiene and sanitation, good for any town—he while listening had thought of the sewer wanted for McCullam street.

Commissioner McLehlan had shown the delegates all round St. John and vicinity. He had been much impressed with the Simms Brush Factory, employing 320 hands. He intended to call, early in the New Year, the Council and business men together to form committees to see whether one or more such industries could not be started here. If it could it would be a great help to Newcastle. A good thing spoken of in the Convention was that a cheap audit was a poor audit. It was merely an endorsement of the secretary's statement.

To be worth while an auditor should personally and thoroughly investigate the accounts and for doing this he has to be well paid. It was most valuable to attend such meetings.

Ald. Doyle spoke of an auditor who was doing work in Chatham.

The matter of engaging an auditor was left to the Finance Committee.

On account of the absence of the chairman Park & Fire and Police bills were not considered.

Ald. Kethro being absent, his plan of remapping the town preparatory to assessment change was not discussed.

Adjourned.

Triplets Born to Bathurst Couple

Everybody is extending congratulations to Mr. Wm. W. Watson on the arrival at his home last Friday night of three strong, healthy babies—two boys and a girl. The children and their mother are all doing very well, according to the attending physician, Dr. Coffey, and there is every reason to expect that, if the war continues long enough, Mr. and Mrs. Watson will have two soldiers and a nurse to give to their country's service.—Northern Light.

Messrs. E. A. McCurdy, J. D. Creighton, Rev. S. J. MacArthur, J. Under, R. G. Hood and J. H. Brown attended the Forward Movement convention at Amherst on Thursday last.

Messrs. W. B. Snowball, Geo. Watt and J. L. Stewart of Chatham, were delegates to the Forward Movement convention at Amherst last Thursday.