

The Union Advocate
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
Established 1887

Published Wednesday Afternoon
Subscription Price, \$1.00 Per Year
United States, \$1.50 in Advance
Copy for changes of advt. must be
in this office by 10 o'clock Tuesday
morning.

J. H. BROWN, Man. Ed.

WEDNESDAY MAY 10th, 1916

DR. MICHAEL CLARK'S EXAMPLE

From a public standpoint, it is much to be regretted that more members of Parliament have not seen fit to sink party sentiments for the time being, and concentrate their efforts upon the supreme issue of the times, the effective carrying on of the war. Dr. Clark has been such a thick and thin supporter of the Liberal party, that his criticisms of the attitude that party has latterly taken up with regard to Canada's participation in the war and of the trouble-making tactics they have pursued, has not unnaturally caused considerable comment. Dr. Clark does not cease to be just as good a Liberal as ever he was; but unlike the great majority of his fellows, he is able to take a little broader view of affairs than they are able, or willing, to take, and he is willing to put patriotism before, instead of after, party considerations.

There can be little doubt that much benefit both to Parliament and to the country generally should follow the stern rebuke administered by the member for Red Deer to those of his fellow politicians who are spending valuable time in airing petty party grievances. No one will deny him the right to play the role of critic of the small politicians. His party standing is not in question, and his political convictions are as well known as those of any man in public life. He has besides two sons at the front. Because of these considerations, he can speak with authority at a time like the present and on such a subject as the proper party attitude towards the war crisis.

To quote a contemporary: "Criticism of a war Government that is not constructive but based on a continuation of such deep political prejudices as existed before the war began is altogether contemptible. There is always a place for constructive criticism. Such direction as constructive criticism gives cannot be put forward with desirable effect if it comes as part of a chorus of pique, childish objections."

The test of patriotic support is in the kind of criticism that is made. Dr. Clark meets it with distinction. His appreciation of Premier Borden's clear-eyed direction of Canada's war effort is not the generous praise of a politician; it is the just appreciation of a patriot. He measures up to a standard of political conduct that is unfortunately none too common in Canada just now, and has not been conspicuously favoured in this country since the war began. It is much to be regretted that there are not more members of Parliament like him.

GERMANY'S REPLY

From first to last the note just received from the German Government by President Wilson in reply to his specific demand that submarine warfare on merchant shipping should cease, is an insult to the United States Government and people. The President is dragged by Germany before the court of public opinion, tried and convicted by the Kaiser of grave offences, including the murder of those American citizens whom Germany has slaughtered, and the furnishing of aid to Germany's enemies in defiance of neutrality. Bryan himself might have written this part of it; possibly he furnished von Bernstorff with the inspiration. In spite of the President's former assertions that the submarine issue with Germany must be considered apart from the trade issue with Great Britain or other belligerents, the Kaiser impudently connects the two, and tells Mr. Wilson that if he would save American citizens from continued murder, he must go out and get Great Britain to stop her blockade of German ports that the Kaiser may be satisfied with the situation, and need not go on killing Americans in order to feel that the German position is all that "kultur" demands.

What the Kaiser has done by this last note is to put the patriotism of the American people to the test. He has insulted their Government, and

attempted to humiliate it by throwing its weakness as a democratic instrument, impudently in its face. Berlin knows very well that under normal conditions the Washington Government would naturally reject this absurd and insulting reply, and sever diplomatic relations. Therefore, Berlin attempts to weaken the American Government and throw the issue back to the American people with a seductive appeal. Prompt severance of diplomatic relations is what ought to follow from Washington if the Stars and Stripes still flies there. Whether it will follow is another thing, and it must be regretfully admitted—by those who have American honour nearest at heart—that appearances are that it will not.

THE LEGISLATURE

During the Session of the Legislature which came to an end last Saturday week, some ninety measures were considered and have now become law, the most important of these being, as usual, left untouched until prorogation was well within sight. Foremost of course among the new laws is that prohibiting the sale and trafficking in intoxicating liquors, a measure which will commend itself to the full among all those who have the real interest of the community at heart. The evils which the illicit traffic in intoxicating liquors have caused, are so well known and recognized, that the new law when it comes into force cannot fail to receive the whole-hearted support and co-operation of every right thinking person in an effort to make its operation a success.

Another bill of considerable importance which is now law is that intended to provide facilities for the settlement of returned soldiers and others upon the land after the war. The Government is authorized to acquire those of any man in public life. He has besides two sons at the front. Because of these considerations, he can speak with authority at a time like the present and on such a subject as the proper party attitude towards the war crisis.

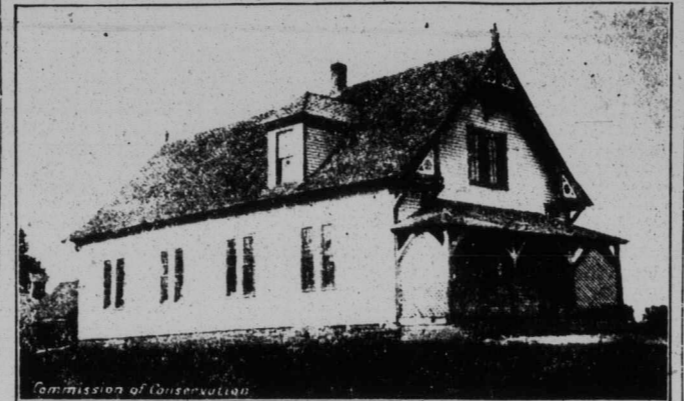
The St. John Valley Railway is a matter which does not interest the people of the northern part of the province to any extent, except in so far as they are interested in the financial burden which it is going to place on the province. So much money has however already been invested in the undertaking, that the work is bound to be finished, if only so that the line may be brought into operation, and so earn a part at least of the interest on the capital laid out. Another Act authorizes city, town and municipal councils to raise by taxation such sums as are needed to make up the amounts necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Patriotic Fund. This will be done by a graduated tax according to the valuation upon which each individual citizen is assessed. Persons whose assessment is upon a valuation of less than \$10,000 will probably have to pay a poll tax only; those whose assessment is more than that amount will have from five to ten per cent. of their valuation added to it, and then be assessed on the new total. It is a somewhat curious scheme, but it is said by those responsible for it, to be workable, and moreover, fair.

The Act under which the incorporation of Rural Telephone Companies is made much simpler has been referred to in these columns before. Any five persons desiring incorporation may do so by signing a memorandum to the effect before any justice of the peace and their forwarding the document, with \$20 fees to the Provincial Secretary, who will issue a charter at once, on the Attorney General, certifying that the papers are in order. Other measures of more or less importance have also been passed which will doubtless help towards stimulating the welfare of the people and the progress of the province.

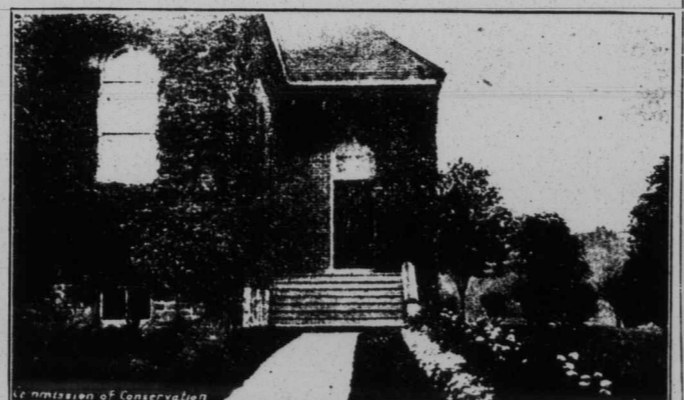
Khaki Wedding Yesterday
The Reformed Baptist Church, Fredericton, was the scene of a khaki wedding yesterday afternoon at 5.30 o'clock, when Miss Annie Porter, of Blackville, and Guerner Alexander Meyers, of Guysboro, N. S., were united in marriage by Rev. S. A. Baker. The bride is a member of the Women's Volunteer Reserve of Fredericton, and wore the uniform of the corps at the wedding, while the groom is a member of the 58th Howitzer Battery having formerly been with the 38th Battery.

ARBOUR DAY, MAY 12th

The educational authorities in nearly every province of Canada proclaim an Arbour Day, for which special exercises are prescribed. Interesting programmes, including tree-planting, are carried out. The planting of trees and shrubs and their protection and care is a feature of nature study well worth the attention of all school principals and teachers. Too many of our schools have a neglected and deserted appearance, an index of the character of those responsible for them. Nothing will



A good school, but bare and uninviting. Shows lack of interest in surroundings.



A home-like school, one with an air of welcome and which the pupil will always remember with pleasure. The flowers and foliage make the difference.

overcome this drawback more easily or with less expense than the improvement of the school grounds. Trees, flower beds, borders and climbing vines add to the school a home-like and attractive appearance, causing it and its teachers to be remembered with pleasure by the pupils in after years. It is not too late to prepare for this year's observance of Arbour Day in our schools. Educational authorities, school principals and teachers should commence at once on a programme, secure the necessary supplies of trees and shrubs, and interest their scholars in the work, so that when the day arrives they will enter with enthusiasm upon the task of beautifying their surroundings.—Conservation.

PERSONALS

Miss Clare Bernard is visiting relatives in Moncton.
Miss Bell of Taymouth, is visiting her niece, Mrs. Everett Vye.
Miss Ida Dutcher of Chatham, spent Sunday at her home here.
Mrs. Chas. Dalton of Nelson is convalescing from her recent illness.
Mrs. Julius T. Garden of St. John, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. G. P. Burchill, Nelson.
Mrs. M. S. Richardson attended the N. B. Bible Society meeting at Gagetown last week.
William J. Flett of Boston, is visiting his brothers, Thomas W. and John A. Flett of Nelson.
Miss Bertha Ferguson accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. Ferguson of Moncton, is spending a holiday in New York.
Train Despatcher and Mrs. T. V. Tozer of Campbellton, were in town Saturday, guests of latter's sister, Mrs. J. H. Troy.

Notice to Ratepayers

The valuation List of the Town of Newcastle for Assessment purposes for the year 1916 is posted at the Town Office and will remain open for inspection until Friday, May 12. GEO. F. McWILLIAM, J. H. PHINNEY, S. A. RUSSELL. May 1, 1916

Notice of Assignment

Notice is hereby given that Joseph A. Cormier of River des Caches, in the County of Northumberland, in the Province of New Brunswick, Merchant pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 141 of the Consolidated Statutes of New Brunswick 1903, respecting assignments and preferences by insolvent persons, did, on Friday the 5th day of May 1916, make a general assignment for the benefit of his creditors, to the undersigned John O'Brien, of Nelson, in the county of Northumberland, High Sheriff of said county; also that a meeting of the creditors of the said Joseph A. Cormier will be held at the office of the undersigned at the Court House, Newcastle, on Wednesday the 17th day of May 1916, at the hour of 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the appointment of inspectors and of giving directions with reference to the disposal of the said estate, and transaction of such other business as shall lawfully come before the meeting. Notice is further given that all persons are required to file their claims, duly proven, with the said assignee, within three months from the date of this notice, unless further time be allowed by a Judge of the Supreme or County Court; and that all claims not filed within the time limited or such further time as may be allowed by any such Judge shall be wholly barred of any right to share in the proceeds of the said estate, as if any claim not filed as aforesaid did not exist, but without prejudice to the liability of the debtor therefor. Dated at Nelson, N. B., this 5th day of May, A. D. 1916. JOHN O'BRIEN, High Sheriff of Northumberland County, 20-2 ASSIGNEE.

GIRL WANTED

Good general girl, to go to city with family of two. No Washing. Good wages to right girl. Enquire at Advocate office. 20-1

GIRL WANTED

Capable girl for general housework. Apply to MRS. ALLAN J. RITCHIE. 20-0

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There is one good feature about this new method—if we make a die for any class of work and it does not please you, we can alter it, or make you another, and without extra cost to you, so you run no risk. We will make a die to please you.

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