

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

News of Georgetown, Norval, Glen Williams, Linchopps, Stewarttown, Ballinacraig and Terra Cotta.

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The Editor's Corner

TEACHING DEMOCRACY

Recently we have been receiving resolutions asking us to teach democracy to children, and urging that, even if we do, to teach them more about it.

But democracy is more a way of living than a form of government; it is a difficult thing to teach, but we are teaching them the things that grow and develop under democracy, and we are teaching them these things in literature and in every way we can.

Dr. Simpson conveys a world of truth in these remarks. Democracy embraces the whole field of living. It comprises the sum total of the way we go about our daily tasks—going to church, buying groceries, voting, choosing a profession, criticizing our government, educating our children.

SPRING IS HERE!

Credit goes to Miss H. J. Lawson for reporting the first 1940 robin seen in Georgetown.

A PREACHING MISSION

Need we ask you to lend support to the preaching mission being conducted by the Baptist and United Churches in Georgetown. While these meetings are being held in only two of our churches, their intent is a non-denominational expression of faith, and members of other churches are urged to come and hear Dr. McLeod's message.

We think it would be a fine idea if various organizations in town should plan on attending one of the meetings in a body. In this modern world, with so many "isms" striving to overcome the Church, it is increasingly important that we support the Church.

POLITICS

Our political questions settled for the time being, we can now watch the birth of a new election campaign in our neighbour to the South. The big question, of course, is whether Roosevelt will decide to defy tradition and seek a third term. So far he has led the political commentators a merry chase, never giving any direct public statement on his intentions.

HERE'S ONE ON THE GRITS!

With the Liberal Party victorious in the elections, perhaps they will pardon a joke at their expense.

The law allows a man to change his name if he can show sufficient reason for the change. A man made application for a hearing for such a change; and was duly brought before the judge. Questioning him the judge learned that he bore the name William Lyon Mackenzie Steinh.

"Well, my good man," sympathized the Judge, "I don't blame you for wanting a change. What would you like to be called?"

"If I please your Honour," replied the applicant, "I should like it changed to John Henry Steinh!"

A GOOD LOSER

You can't help but admire a chap like George Atkins, defeated National Government candidate in Hallow County. In a few gracious words in his newspaper last week, Mr. Atkins accepted the decision of the voters and pledged his whole-hearted support to the new government during the war period.

The world abounds with good winners, but a good loser is something of a rarity. Our hat is off to such a one—George Atkins.

POETRY

THERE'S GOLD IN EVERY SOUL

There's gold in every soul, could we but see— The rough exterior may blind our eyes, But deep down in the heart there's sure to be Some hidden virtue that the world will prize.

DO THE RIGHT THING

You'll find this world's a fine old place If you'll but make a fight, And meet dull care with laughing eyes, And do the thing that's right.

NOTICE

The mailing list of the Georgetown Herald has been corrected to date. Would all subscribers notice the date marked on this week's issue?

If this is incorrect, please get in touch with us, and we will rectify the error.

The Canadian Legion Speaks — Part II

This week we continue our summary of extracts from the Canadian Legion memorandum submitted to the leaders of the four Dominion political parties.

Problems of the Present War The Canadian Legion, while it can never be unmindful of the needs of the men and women who served from 1914 till 1918, is by its Constitution charged with caring for the interests of the men now serving. Therefore we desire to make certain observations with regard to the new problems which now arise, and particularly in regard to pensions and rehabilitation. These problems resolve themselves into two classes, immediate and future.

Immediate Problems

(1) Dependents' Allowances

The Government apparently determined and we approve of determinations that the matter of allowances to dependents of men who enlist in the Armed Forces should be the responsibility of the Government. We approve of the principle but regret that the Regulations, originally drawn up, appear to have been unduly restrictive, so much so that the policy initiated was to a large degree thwarted. Hundreds of cases were brought to our attention as a result of which we were able, by reason of our extensive experience in dealing with similar problems, to appreciate the cause of the difficulties. We approached the Minister of National Defence on December 19th, 1939, and submitted to him a comprehensive memorandum. While we do not claim that the action subsequently taken was as a result of our representations, we are glad to note that steps were taken to improve the situation, and to be able to state that conditions are now definitely improved.

(2) Assigned Pay

The existence of a little nest egg on demobilization would be a great help. As service pay goes, the pay of our men is generous and they should be encouraged to save, and they could easily do so. Some system of savings should be provided, offering interest higher than current as an inducement.

(3) Discharge

Close ally to the foregoing is the man who is accepted, gives up his job and then after two, three or more months is discharged medically unfit. To turn a young man who has indicated his willingness to serve and to give his life, if need be, in belief, in duty, and while we entirely approve of elimination of the unfit, yet we cannot believe that the country is being fair in turning such a man adrift until some provision is made for his employment or at least for his subsistence until such time as he can become re-established.

(4) Marriages

We admit that it would be very difficult for the Government to regulate marriages by men in the Service. We need not discuss the question of widows' pensions, for if the Government is willing to assume that liability we have nothing to say. But we are not so much concerned about the widows. They will be automatically provided for. What we are concerned about is the rehabilitation of these men and the post-war care of their wives and children. If they are not pensioners, is the Government prepared to ensure their care and maintenance? If our experience over the last twenty years is any guide the answer is certainly not.

(5) Proposals to aid pension and treatment administration

Shortly after the outbreak of this War we took occasion to submit to the Government certain observations as to matters which, in the light of our experience, should not be overlooked. We presume that Officers of the Government were equally well informed on these matters and therefore claim no special credit for the fact that medical examination has been much more thorough than in the last War, and particularly in the steps

taken to detect incipient tuberculosis. As a result we believe that many hundreds of such cases have been detected, and many lives saved, and incidentally many millions of dollars in pensions. But so far as we know, other recommendations equally valuable, and based on experience, have not been implemented, and which if implemented would make the pension problem infinitely less difficult than it was after the last War, and incidentally save the Country a great deal of money.

(6) Enlistment Problems

So far as we can judge the policy of the Government is orderly enlistment according to needs and without undue interference with the economic life of the Country. But there are a great many young men who are keenly desirous of enlisting and when enlistment is opened at any depot they throng there to offer their services. Frequently they go long distances; generally they are without very much in the way of financial resources. The medical examination routine... takes time and by the time the final decision is given the men are frequently "broken."

(7) Venerals

It should be made compulsory that all recruits be given adequate instruction in the consequences of venereal disease and effective steps taken to ensure its prevention. In making this suggestion we do not desire to suggest that men in His Majesty's Forces are more immoral than men in civilian life. They are not. But in time of War and when men are concentrated in restricted areas the sources of infection are perhaps likely to affect a greater number. Let every effort be made to eliminate this evil.

(8) Documentation of Complaints on Service

Documentation of complaints on Service Allied to the foregoing and of great importance subsequently is documentation of complaints on service. We have hundreds of cases in which the man complains that he reported sick on Service and received medicine and duty or medicine and light duty, of which no record is available. The M.O. of a Unit should have an Orderly whose duty it is to record every complaint made — the decision of the M.O. and the treatment indicated.

(9) Co-ordination of Services on Discharge

There should be co-ordination of the Military Medical Services and the Pension Services on discharge. While operations are in progress it is naturally the duty of the Military Medical Services to retain the services of every man who can be made available for military duty. But when a man can no longer be profitably used on military duty he then becomes the responsibility of the civilian Department whose duty it is to fit him for some place in civilian life. When a man enters the Service he is medically examined to ensure that he is physically fit, and that in taking him on the Country is not thereby assuming a large potential liability. During his period of service if our recommendations are adopted, everything that happens to him will be carefully recorded. But on discharge it is essential that everything that medical science can suggest should be utilized to determine his medical category. He was x-rayed on going in, he should be x-rayed on going out. If there is any change it will be recorded and its implications will be obvious. If therefore the man, ten, fifteen or twenty years later breaks down with tuberculosis or a heart condition, it will be a fairly simple matter to determine whether such condition has any relation to service.

(10) Widows

It would also be desirable if a declaration were made, at the earliest possible date, as to the Government's policy in regard to widows. It seems to be the idea that the widow of a man who served is entitled, as of right, to a pension upon his death. Today the law is that if the parties were married prior to January 1st, 1930, or if mar-

ried thereafter, prior to an award of pension, and the man dies of his pensionable disability, or if being a pensioner to the extent of 50% or over, he dies from any cause, his widow is entitled to pension. But in all other cases no pension is payable. We suggest that while entitlement is now in its early stages the Government should make a definite statement of policy so that men enlisting and women marrying them may have no doubt as to their position.

(11) Venerals

It should be made compulsory that all recruits be given adequate instruction in the consequences of venereal disease and effective steps taken to ensure its prevention. In making this suggestion we do not desire to suggest that men in His Majesty's Forces are more immoral than men in civilian life. They are not. But in time of War and when men are concentrated in restricted areas the sources of infection are perhaps likely to affect a greater number. Let every effort be made to eliminate this evil.

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DIGEST Tuesday to Tuesday in the News

FRANCO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

Serious — diplomatic — tension — left French and Russian relations strained. Last week, Russia recalled Jacob Suritz, Soviet Ambassador to France. Rumours were that Paul Reynaud's new French government had demanded this. Paul Naggar, French Ambassador to Russia, has been home for some time, ostensibly on "sick leave."

WANTED: A LEADER!

Day after the disastrous defeat of National Government, Dr. R. J. Manning announced his retirement as leader of the Conservative Party. Col. George Drew, Denton Massey, Joseph Harris were among those in line as possible successors.

A FIRST-HAND REPORT

Home from a tour of European capitals, as the personal representative of the President, Under-Secretary of State Summer Welles hurried to the White House to confer with President Roosevelt.

ALBERTA ELECTIONS

With 5 ridings still doubtful, the score in the Alberta elections stood: Social Credit 33, other parties 19.

MANITOBA

Close on the heels of the Dominion election comes news that the Manitoba government is considering going to the people.

MEN FOR THE AIR FORCE

The Department of Labour's Aircraft School at Galt graduated its first class—183, strong—from the 6-month intensive course. These young men, trained in wireless telegraphy, construction, machine shop, aero engineering will boost the growing ranks of Canada's air force.

OBITUARY

Wellington, New Zealand—Rt. Hon. Michael J. Savage, 88, since 1935 Labour Minister of New Zealand. St. John's, Nfld.—Sir Richard Squires, 60, twice Prime Minister of Newfoundland, 1919-23, 1928-32.

SOLDIERS DON'T PAY

No Radio License Collected From Troops in Camp. Soldiers who take their radio receiving sets into camp will be freed from paying the annual \$2.50 license fee, transport department officials have announced.

Ministerial sources declared also that an early announcement was expected to be made of the abolition of multiple licensing homes with more than one set. This step will mean a saving to householders of approximately \$3,000 a year.

No attempt has been made or will be made to collect license fees from members of Canada's fighting forces in the different training centres across Canada who bring their privately owned radios to camp, transport officials said.

DIRECTORY

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MONUMENTS Oakville Monument Works Designs submitted, cemetery lettering, corner and markers.

C.N.R. TIME TABLE Going East Passenger 6:57 a.m. Passenger and Mail 10:03 a.m. Passenger and Mail 6:46 p.m. Passenger for Toronto 9:41 p.m. Passenger, Sunday only 8:31 p.m.

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TIME TABLE LEAVE GEORGETOWN To Toronto a 7:08 a.m., 9:28 a.m., 11:18 p.m. o 2:23 p.m., 4:38 p.m. 6:48 p.m., 9:03 p.m.

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