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## Legion Notes

### BRANCH TAKES OVER KIDS' HOCKEY FOR THIS WINTER

THE REGULAR monthly meeting was held last Thursday night at the Legion Hall. The president, Les Clark, was in the chair with the Secretary Wallace Thompson and Treasurer Bill Roney both in their respective chairs. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 with the usual minute's silence for those Comrades who have passed away. Special mention was made of Comrade Thomas Allen who passed away two weeks ago.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed as were those of the executive meetings held during the summer months. The treasurer gave an excellent report as to the financial position (which at the moment is best described as "solid"). His report embodied the months from June 15th to September 15th.

The heads of the various committees all gave their reports. These were: Sick, Mrs. T. F. Grieve, Entertainment, Alex Taylor, Property, Jim Blair. A number of smaller committees were dealt with by the president, including that of sending cigarettes to the boys in Korea. There are seven district men serving there, all of whom are receiving cigarettes monthly from Branch 120. Under correspondence a number of Thank You notes were read from those on the Sick List. One new application for membership was received and accepted. (Incidentally the number of new applications that have been flocking in this summer has been amazing). There were no Sick reported.

Under General Business mention was made of the plan to again take part in the Hallowe'en Party to be run for the kiddies again this year. Last year, the Branch took part and looked after one group of children. Mrs. T. F. Grieve brought up the subject of Poppy Day and was again elected to make the arrangements for it. (This, incidentally, is the 24th year she has taken on this extremely difficult job.) Mrs. Grieve asked that the members offer their services to help her committee on that day. The subject of the annual Remembrance Day service was also brought up, along with the Supper always held for members the Friday night before. This was left in the hands of the executive. Poppy Day, incidentally, this year falls on a Sunday, so that would put the Remembrance Supper on Friday the 9th, with the tag day on Saturday, the 10th.

Next business was a motion put forward by Dennis Wright, and seconded by Herb Arnold. This was a motion, as one wag put it to the writer afterwards, "to give the Legion back to the members." The motion was that Friday night Socials be restricted to members only and the Auxiliary. This gave rise to a lot of discussions as to the

various pros and cons of the situation, but the motion with a slight rider attached was carried almost unanimously. So starting next Friday the Friday night socials will be strictly restricted to Branch 120.

The big item of business was the subject of sponsoring a hockey team by the Branch. This was introduced by the president, who said that in view of the fact that a number of the hockey fans of the Branch had mentioned the desirability of having the Branch sponsor the Intermediate team, he felt that this matter should be cleared up at the meeting. A number of members then spoke, all agreeing that the idea was out of the question. However, a number of the Comrades then broached Com. Alf Syke's pet project. (Alf being in Cleveland he regretted not being present to speak on the subject himself). However, the idea is that the Branch should sponsor midget hockey in Georgetown, (ages 8 to 16). This found almost immediate favour among the members, many of whom expressed their liking for the idea. It was pointed out by various ones that the Branch had more than enough volunteers to handle this project nicely, supply coaching, referees, team managers, etc. The initial expenditure was estimated at about five hundred dollars. The motion was put to the meeting and passed almost unanimously.

Com. Gordon Brown then asked what had been done about the projected park for kiddies, and said he sincerely believed in the great need for this, and hoped that it would not be forgotten. He was assured that while no one location had yet been set on, that the spring would see the projected park a reality. A location that might be utilized was mentioned by Com. Ralph Hawes, of the old wading pool behind Mackenzie's lumber mill. This too, is a very central spot.

Com. Gord King asked if permission could be given to allow members to use the Hall to see the World Series televised, as a Sunday would probably be the only day that most members could see it. A rider was added that due to the number of members who would wish to see it, and the limited seating capacity of the Television room, that we would have to restrict it to members only. This motion was carried and a notice will appear on the board as to the date and time.

Before the meeting adjourned at approximately nine thirty the president thanked the members for turning out in such large numbers and expressed the hope that now that so many of them had seen fit to attend, they would make it a regular habit. The meeting ended with God Save The King. Cheese and biscuits were served afterwards.

THE WRITER'S personal opinion of the scheme to sponsor kids' hockey is that it is a wonderful one. Any money spent in running this scheme is indeed money well spent for it is invested in the future happiness, security and physical well-being of our country, for after all those same boys who will be playing hockey this winter, some day will take their places in adult life. And it may well be that the existence of supervised competitive sport may mold their lives and ways of thinking to a great extent. In this case Branch 120 is fortunate in having as its director Alf Sykes, who many readers will recall, did such a marvelous job of organizing the hockey a few years ago under the original GRC. Able help on the executive end by Marsh Timbers, and with the wealth of members in the Branch who have distinguished themselves in sports, and have already offered their services, we predict a great season for the boys of Georgetown from age 8 to 16.

WE WERE happy to hear one of the speakers remind the Branch, too, that the more projects like this one that we sponsored, the more public support our fellow citizens would lend to the Legion. By support we do not mean in a financial way, but rather in the mental attitude of the rest of the community to a veterans' organization that sells alcoholic beverages. This is an extremely good point, and Dutch put it very well. It is not to be denied that any licensed premises must receive a certain amount of criticism, in most cases we venture to say, wholly unmerited and unwarranted. In Branch 120 we have been singularly fortunate in running our business, because after all, as well as being a club, we may as well face the fact it is a business. But the Liquor Control Board, who after all are pretty stern judges of how a beverage room should be run, rate our Branch as among the 'tops' for the way it is run. So all that the Branch asks is that the general public do not make hasty judgments about situations that are invariably non-existent and that at any rate the general public would not be aware of anyway. After all, the last war was fought (supposedly) to guarantee the four freedoms. Our interpretation of that is that it should apply to majorities as well as minorities. Therefore, if a man wishes to use the beverage room of

our Branch, he should be entitled to do so without any comment. On the other hand there are many who use the rooms who do not drink. If these two groups can meet quite amicably in our organization, it is our suggestion that any one who does not approve of beer being sold in a veterans' club, keep their opinion to themselves and allow the LCB to administer the liquor laws. We believe there has been a vast improvement in public opinion on this point, but this item is just by way of a friendly reminder.

CHIEF TOPIC of conversation at present around the Branch is "Wonder what the chances are of getting a hunting licence in the township?" Maybe it's just as well the number of licences are limited, because judging from the number of prospective "nimrods" around the Legion, the woods are likely to be flowing over with hunters.

AMONG THOSE attending the Zone meeting at Port Credit on Sunday from Georgetown were the following: zone representative Fred McCartney, Les Clark, Henry Shepherd, James Murphy and Perc Chaplin. The main business of the meeting was the discussion of the pension set-up and the general dissatisfaction with the actions of the government in the handling of Veterans' Affairs in the last session at Ottawa. The two federal members from Halton and Peel had been invited to attend. The Secretary opened the business by reading the minutes of the last meeting and then introduced Comrade Gordon Graydon, M.P. for Peel. He then asked if Mr. Cleaver, M.P. for Halton, was in the audience, to approach the platform. However, Mr. Cleaver was not present. After the minutes and correspondence a letter was read from Arthur Padbury, zone commander, attacking the Pensions legislation and asking for a resolution to go to Ottawa demanding what the Legion consider their basic rights. The presiding officer then asked Com. Graydon to speak on the situation. Mr. Graydon said that he had been in entire agreement with the Legion's brief at the last Session, and hoped that this next session would possibly see it enacted. He said that regardless of politics he felt that M.P. were trying to do the best possible for veterans. However, he felt that enough pressure was being brought on government members to change their stand, and possibly at the next session the legislation asked for in the Legion brief, would be enacted. He said that he and a number of his own group had for a long time advocated a standing committee to handle veterans affairs. He felt many matters of much less importance had standing committees and he hoped that the veterans would get one in the near future. In closing he said he felt that all present knew that anything he could do for the Legion would certainly be done, and anytime he could help the Zone in anyway, to just ask him and he would be glad to do so. He congratulated those past zone commanders, Fred McCartney, of Branch 120, Doctor C. Adams of Branch 101 and Teddy Drew of Port Credit on receiving their past zone commander's medals.

Com. Ray Mann then spoke on the Pension problem, explaining the various aspects of the situation, and warning that this might very well be "the thin edge of the wedge." He spoke at length on the housing situation, which he said was having a marked effect on young Canadian veterans and their families. At present levels, less than 50 per cent of our fellow-Canadians are able to afford to pay for a home. He then attacked the existing immigration scheme or rather the lack of proper screening in bring the would-be Canadians to our shores. He asked for more tolerance and help and guidance from the Legion members to these people but called for the federal government to use a certain amount of intelligence in screening these people to see if they have the basic requirements to become good Canadians. He finished his remarks by asking for a resolution asking the House of Commons members at Ottawa to grant a raise in pensions. This motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. The chairman then made note that the next Zone meeting should be held in Georgetown, which had not held one for a couple of years and asked if the Georgetown delegation were willing. The reply being that they would be delighted to have the zone delegates, the date was left to be settled between the Zone Commander and Branch 120, in the convenience of the Branch. The meeting closed with sandwiches being served and coffee.

### Midget Hockey Players

Watch next week's paper for date to register for midget hockey... 8-18.

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