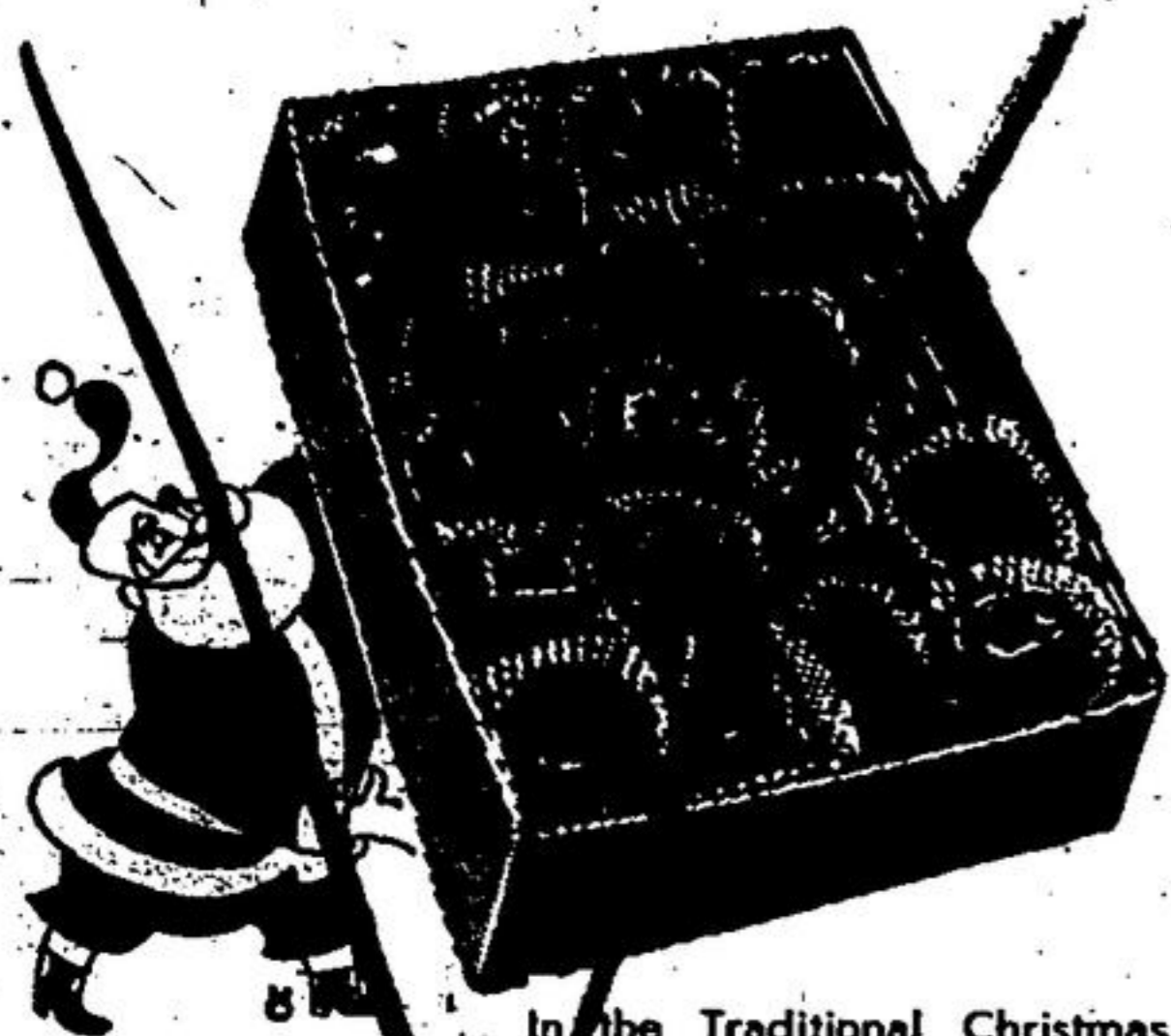


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LEGION NOTES

By Leslie M. Clark

This Friday night will be the big party that so many members have been asking for. Entertainment chairman assures a big time for all. Quite a large number of members have stated from time to time that they would like to see more strictly branch parties . . . They can prove their interest in these by being present. Remember this Friday night, in the auditorium.

The Christmas tree is to be in the auditorium next Thursday, December 18th, for all kiddies 10 and under. Gob Collier has been in charge of this and has done an excellent job. All arrangements have been made with Santa Claus and it promises a real big evening for the kiddies.

The time is 7.00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Legion Hall. Gob Collier asks us to remind everyone to get their tickets in for the draw. It will be made that evening at the Xmas tree for a number of very valuable prizes.

In the last few months there have been quite a number of enquiries to this department about pensions, welfare, special funds, etc. We should like to straighten out a number of things about this. While we are more than happy to help, we are not just as conversant with present-day regulations as we were four years ago when president, and therefore not quite as helpful as we should be. However the Branch has a service officer, a man who has taken a special course in service bureau work, and who has all the necessary forms, etc., to get whatever is available. Our service bureau officer is Wallace Thompson.

There is too, a man who comes from the Legion bureau on request to give advice to any problem you may have. All you have to do is get in touch with the executive or steward, and it will be arranged. The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has a trained man who is available once a month for interviews in town. And although at times there are not enough calls to warrant his coming to town, it can always be arranged to have him here. Direct help can be given in all rehabilitation problems, such as pension entitlement, assessment of disabilities, appeals against rulings of district authorities of the War Veterans Allowance Board, entitlement to medical treatment and hospitalization, etc.

Dominion Command Service Bureau is in Ottawa where it works closely with DVA, the Pensions Commission and other administrative federal government offices. There are more than half a million files collected there in the past few years, each representing some material assistance to a veteran or his dependents obtained by the Legion through representation to the government.

One important fact remains, however, and that is that immediately you or anyone you know of needs, or thinks they need help, they are well advised to institute proceedings immediately. Pension and aid are usually applicable from the day application is made, so it is obvious that the sooner application is made, the better. Another thing, when you have any reason to think you have a claim, no matter how small, get it in. The Dept. is and always has been most cooperative. Do not wait until your economic conditions and health conditions become very grave, there is no reason to do so. After all, you as a veteran are entitled to many services, a department with a billion dollar budget was set up to help you, take advantage of it. If you are not entitled to it, they (the Dept.) will tell you . . . but certainly, in plain English if you think there's a faint shadow of a claim, there's no harm in trying! For instance, statistics for the past four years show that over a million dollars (\$500,000.00) in successful adjustments were obtained in about 2,000 pension cases, which had been previously denied, through our service bureau's representations.

A trained legal staff specializing in the legal aspects of pension work are available to you. Don't be afraid to use them. That's what you pay dues for.

For direct help or information from the Department of Veterans Affairs, write or phone "DVA," 35 York Street, Ontario, and they will be happy to put you on to the right authority. In the case of war vets allowance (burnt out) it is the War Veterans Allowance, District Authority, 55 York St.

It's not too early to think about the New Year's party which is always the highlight of activities for the year. This year we understand (we weren't present at the meeting) that the price has been raised to \$1.00 per person. This will still by no means subsidize the party and is very reasonable compared to other parties of this sort. There has always been a capacity crowd and we should judge there will again be one this year.

There are also many funds, particularly from the first war, but a number from the second, that are available for veterans in need. These are available, usually through the administration of a board under government supervision. To name a few there are many Canadian funds, army, navy and RCMP benevolent funds, and various old country funds, all of which can be applied to in various cases. Addresses can be obtained from DVA.

We recently were reading some of the poems of Canon Scott, who became famous as a padre in wartime. One of his selections appear on the back of a Legion pamphlet, and we think it's worthy of reprint:

We who have trod the borderlands of death,
Where courage high walks hand in hand with fear,
Shall we not hearken what the Spirit sayeth:
"All ye were brothers there, be

brothers here?"
Let us draw closer in these narrower years,
Before us still the eternal visions spread,
We who outmastered death and all its fears,
Are one great army still, living and dead.
—Canon Scott.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE AT AFTERNOON AUXILIARY

Mrs. O. M. Houston, brought a most appropriate Christmas message to the December meeting of the Afternoon auxiliary of St. John's United Church WMS.

"Christmas day is the gladdest day of all the year to those whose hearts are prepared to receive its true message" Mrs. Houston stated and went on to give three great examples of faith. Mary with unquestioning faith accepted God's plan for her life with great joy and expectation. The Shepherds in faith accepted God's message, they did not question how or why

but immediately set out to find the Babe.

Simeon had faith in God's message telling him he would not die till he had seen the Saviour's face afterwards saying "Now let thy servant depart in peace." The degree of faith we have will determine how much good we get out of Christmas. Mrs. Houston closed with the story of the little Chinese girl who had faith in God that He would provide her with two hundred and eighty eight Christmas gifts for her friends and how her faith was truly rewarded.

Mrs. Robert Jones led in the devotional period which contained several well loved Christmas carols. Mrs. Gordon Padfield then sang a lovely solo "Oh Holy Night." The Love Gift offering was taken up and dedicated by Mrs. Walter Brownridge who closed the meeting with the Benediction.

A delicious cup of tea was served by Mrs. Victor McDonald and Mrs. A. M. Nielsen and a social time was enjoyed together.

Notice to Creditors

IN THE Estate of the Late Sidney F. Fone, Deceased.

ALL PERSONS having claims against the estate of Sidney Fone, late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, Designer Draftsman, who died on or about the sixteenth day of September, 1958 are hereby notified to send in to the undersigned Administratrix of the said estate on or before the 16th of January, 1959, full particulars of their claims, after which date the estate will be distributed, having regard only to the claims of which the Administratrix shall then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, Ontario, the 4th day of December, 1958.

Barbara Gertrude Fone, Administratrix, by her Solicitor, M. E. Manderson, 61 Mill St., Georgetown, Ont. TR. 7-224

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