

The Canadian Legion in Timmins

News and Views of Legionnaires

BY THE HON. SECRETARY-TREASURER

WHAT PRICE GLORY?—If by some miracle of prevision the contestants of previous wars (and there are some in this post) could have seen the scientific slaughter that attended the last great war, then would there have been no war, with its dreadful aftermath of poverty and poignant suffering among the survivors. Even in the last few months' there have been two cases in Timmins of veterans who have through mental trouble to be admitted to hospital for treatment. It is generally recognized by the medical profession that the unprecedented mental and physical strain of the last war will be felt more as age advances. Even the trustees of the Canteen fund for the province of Ontario insert in their proposed methods of extending relief the following paragraph, in part: "The desire to conserve the capital is inspired by the belief that as the years pass by, men who took their discharge from the service and returned to private

life without asking for pension or consideration, will be breaking down in increasing numbers and through the lapse of time will be unable to secure a pension recognition. This condition will undoubtedly increase until the generation which served in the war has been replaced by another." Mark the ending of that paragraph—"this condition, etc."—and not only mark it, but read, learn and inwardly digest it. And the lesson to be learned? There is only one organization in Canada and throughout the British Empire that is strong enough to help secure from the Governments concerned all that we ask for—justice for ex-service men and their dependents. You, Mr. Veteran Reader, may be so fortunately placed financially that whatever happens no distress (in the way of hunger or want) will affect your loved ones or yourself. But this does not excuse you from giving a hand to your less fortunately placed former comrades, by joining the le-

gion, where you may be assured that even the addition of one member makes it that much more effective in dealing with the "powers that be" on behalf of distressed veterans. In a hot climate, on a hot day, could you walk inside a canteen—and leave a pal outside—for want of the price? No, not if you were a soldier. And you, living in the Porcupine, are you not of the North Land? And imbued with the spirit and generosity of the North Land? Assuredly, yes. And the lesson to be learned—Join the legion, if outside.

Paradoxically, I will end this thesis by reverting to the commencing sentence—"What Price Glory." This was the title of a film shown at the Goldfields theatre last week, and one was impressed by the number of legionnaires and ex-service men present. By the packed audiences present on Friday and Saturday in the commodious and comfortable Goldfields theatre, one concludes that war pictures are still in popular favour—but one hopes, not war!

Medals, and yet more medals! No, Comrades D.C.C., Francis, Richard, Bill, W.F.M., Drs. Jim and Alf, J.J.R. H.E.G., etc., etc., you have more than enough. This refers to two medals who have lost the chest they should occasionally appear on. On one is the inscription "Presented to for gallant service in the Great War, 1914-1918" and I should be glad if the rightful owner would please fetch it away. The other medal belongs to No. 4277, Sergeant—, R.F.A., again I would be glad if the rightful owner would please call for it—dash it all, I only have a narrow chest!

The card of thanks that appeared last week in the Porcupine Advance addressed to the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion is silent but convincing witness to the good work being done by this useful auxiliary, and one hopes that all members will loyally support our 1st vice-president, Mr. Austin E. Neame, in enlarging numerically the Ladies' Auxiliary in this camp, and so proportionately enlarge their capacity to carry on their good work. All ladies are eligible, as witness the following extract from the Constitution:—"(e) Women Members. The formation of women's auxiliaries is permissible, under the control of branches of the legion, and charters may be granted to such auxiliaries. Local women's auxiliary by-laws govern their activities, but these by-laws shall not be deemed effective unless conforming to the policy and aims and objects of the legion, and subject to the approval of the branch and Provincial councils concerned."

A truly remarkable piece of work in the cause of charity has been accomplished through the kindly efforts of Mr. F. J. Hornby, the popular secretary-treasurer of the Timmins Citizens' Band; unfortunately I am at present not allowed to disclose the facts, but hope to be able to do so next week. The Provincial Council of Quebec have requested me not to publish this until the cheque is received. But I would say that Mr. F. J. Hornby handled this matter in praiseworthy manner, as will be clearly seen next week.

By now the notices of the legion's April events should be in the hands of all members, and I earnestly appeal to all legionnaires to attend all the meetings, etc., for in so doing they will naturally help the legion. With the notices there was enclosed an application form—enough said!

From W. A. Devine, the tireless secretary of the entertainment committee, comes the following communication re the Vimy Banquet: "The principal speaker for the Vimy Banquet to be held on April 9th, in the I.O.O.F. Hall, Timmins, at 8 p.m., will be Capt. C. P. Gilman, M.C., (seven years' Service Bureau Work in connection with pensions, etc). Capt. Gilman won his commission in the field, and was severely wounded during the war and was in the Vimy battle. He will give us a straight talk on what the legion is doing for the ex-service man. No legionnaire or returned soldier or those interested in the problems of soldier settlement should miss the Vimy Banquet. A splendid programme of artists has been arranged, and in case it may cause more to come the Entertainment Committee wishes it to be known that there will only be the one address on the programme and the chairman's remarks. In other words, a fine menu, a good address, a programme of merit, and no dry speeches or toasts, except to honour our new Patron-in-Chief, His Majesty the King. Only a limited number of tickets, so get them early from the committee or at the hall.—W.A.D."

We regret to record the departure of Comrade T. H. Langley, bound for Toronto. Armed with a travelling letter, we hope he will be successful in finding suitable employment.

Mr. J. Bodell sends a welcome letter "Dear Comrade Fellows: I enclose another enrolment or recruit. You will notice a seconder is required. I trust you will meet all requirements. . . . I might add I've been slugging at two more this week, but no success yet. At the same time, I think I will succeed in one. However, "nil desperandum." Yours sincerely, J. Bodell." Atta-boy, John.

One of our honorary members (who shall be nameless) generously bought a ticket for the Vimy Banquet and handed it to me for disposal to a needy veteran. Remembering the good work of "Freddie" referred to previously, I passed the buck, or

rather the ticket, to him for disposal. The legion in Timmins have received many favours from the aforesaid honorary member, so much so in fact that I am trying to find out how to tack on "Mac" to my name—but MacTom doesn't sound right, somehow.

I am pleased to report that two of our honorary members, namely Mr. G. A. Macdonald and Mr. Robert E. Dye, will be with us on April 9th, at the Vimy Banquet. Am hoping and expecting a favourable reply from our mayor and other honorary members.

So often do my duties as secretary carry my limping feet to the office of the president, Dr. S. R. Harrison, that almost am I afraid to venture in his presence. Were it not for the unfailing courtesy ever shown to me, and for the beneficial advice and guidance always willingly given me for the conduct of the legion's affairs, one would hesitate to take up so much of his valuable time. More than ever am I convinced that much of the success of this post is due to the personality and popularity of our president—and for his work for the betterment of the North Land veterans and their dependents I, in common with all legionnaires who are in the legion for this specific purpose, am indeed truly grateful.

No, no birthdays or anniversaries this week. If you don't believe me, ask the vendor. —T.F.

SEES JAMES BAY SHORE AS BIG SUMMER RESORT

Lecturer on Horticulture Has Great Visions of the Great Future of the North Country.

In a very interesting report of an address at Haileybury by Mr. Henry J. Moore, lecturer on horticulture, The Haileyburian last week says:—

"Only about twenty people were present in the United Church basement last night to hear the lecture on horticulture given by Henry J. Moore, of the Department of Agriculture, when he visited Haileybury between stops at Cochrane, Englehart and New Liskeard on his tour of the North. His talk was devoted to the culture of annuals, and was very interesting to all those who grow flowers.

"Mr. Moore has great visions for the future of the North. He ventured the forecast that within fifteen years there would be a vast playground on the shores of James Bay, which would prove the favorite summer resort of the province. Both the railway and the highway would be continued through, he said, and the tourists from the south would come in millions. There was a danger that this might fall into the hands of outsiders, he said, and the people of Ontario should get busy and see that it was held for the province.

"Mr. Moore devoted the greater part of his address to the culture of flowers suitable to this section of the country, giving lists of many favorites, both old and new, and explaining how they should be attended to. The majority of them, he said, should be started indoors and later transplanted on account of the shorter season here, as compared with Southern Ontario. By this means the season of bloom can be extended by several weeks and it pays well for the extra trouble. Perhaps more time was devoted to the care and culture of dahlias than to any other variety, and the speaker answered many questions by the audience and gave a fund of very valuable information.

"The lecture was illustrated by many beautiful lantern slides which showed gardens in various parts of the country in all their beauty. Every phase of the culture of flowers was covered and the members of the Horticultural Society who were present gained a more thorough knowledge of plants and their habits than many of them ever had before.

"Mr. Moore recommended that an effort be made to have the government establish a research bureau in the North Country, by which more varieties of flowers could be experimented with and in time many which are now too tender for the rigorous climate should be found blooming here in as great profusion as in the older parts of the province. In this he was backed up by Mr. R. Whorley, who has had a long experience and who felt confident that the proposition could be put through if all the Horticultural Societies would get together."

Toronto Globe:—Miss Agnes Macphail caught the bridal bouquet after an Ottawa wedding, and now the superstitious aver that she is destined to change her state. Others point out that in order to become married one must catch something a good deal more cagey than a bunch of flowers.

"Oh, what a strange looking cow!" exclaimed a sweet young thing from Detroit. "But why hasn't it any horns?"

"Well, you see," explained the farmer, "some cows is born without horns and never has any, and others shed theirs, and some we dehorn, and some breeds ain't supposed to have horns at all. There's lots of reasons why some cows ain't got horns, but the big reason why that cow ain't got horns is because she ain't a cow—she's a horse."

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Betsy: . . . Which all goes to show that a woman is foolish to give up a good position when she marries.

Mrs. Harris: Ah, no, it doesn't, my dear. One job at a time is all that any woman can handle, and Helen was an excellent home-maker.

Betsy: That's all very well, Mrs. Harris, but look at her now. Tom's death leaves her with almost nothing. Her stenography is rusty, and to make matters worse, she has the children to educate.

Mrs. Harris: True, but Tom refused to insure his life. You can't excuse Tom, Betsy. He could easily have left her a guaranteed income for life and he didn't. He bought insurance on his car and denied the same protection to his wife.

"A Cheque in the Mail" is the title of an illustrated pamphlet which tells how you can provide a guaranteed income for life, for your wife or other beneficiary. It will be freely sent on request.

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