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WALDRON'S

ASKS INVESTIGATION

INTO THE QUESTION OF WAR MUNITIONS.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley Said That the Country Would Not be Satisfied With Merely a Government Enquiry.

Ottawa, Jan. 20.—Parliament will be asked to appoint a special investigating committee to probe, "in the full light of day," the conduct and operations of the Government through its agents in relation to war munition contracts and the expenditure of public money voted for war purposes. Hon. Dr. William Pugsley gave notice of his intention at the conclusion of his serious speech in the House of Commons yesterday. He quoted from a large number of Conservative newspaper editorials calling for an investigation by the Government. "The country will not be satisfied with a Government investigation," commented Dr. Pugsley.

"The charges are made against agents of this Government, appointed by this Government, and for their conduct the Government stands responsible. The investigation should be properly conducted only by Parliament in the full light of day."

Hon. Dr. Pugsley submitted a series of direct and serious charges. He spoke quietly, without embellishment, and without the customary accompaniment of partisan plaudits. The House listened silently and seriously. At one point Hon. Arthur Meighen, the Solicitor-General, interrupted with a somewhat petulant exclamation that certain Liberals had shared in the war contracts. Dr. Pugsley replied that while his information was to the effect that Liberals who had secured contracts were bona fide contractors who had experience and capital and plants, at the same time the purpose of the investigation should be patriotic and not partisan, and that it should be conducted without fear or favor, with the determination of sternly disclosing the wrongdoing and placing the responsibility, no matter who suffered.

At the present time, Dr. Pugsley maintained, a special gravity must attach to the words of representatives of the Canadian people in Parliament. Pending the investigation and the production of the actual evidence it was not seeming to impute motives. "But," he added, "if the motive had been to bleed the British and the Canadian taxpayers for the profit of political favorites, this Government could not seem to have gone about it better." There was a hideous list of transactions destined to "make profits out of the nation's sacrifice and agonies."

Machine Guns Inadequate. Before concluding, Dr. Pugsley referred briefly to the question of the supply of machine guns to the Canadian troops at the front. There was no doubt, he said, that too few field guns had been supplied to the men of the first contingent, and many men had been lost in consequence. But no vigorous action had been taken to remedy conditions till public opinion was aroused by the stories of returned officers. The subscriptions from every part of Canada poured in, and were gratefully received by Hon. Senator Loughheed on behalf of the Government. Every subscription, said Dr. Pugsley, was a strong indictment against the Government's lack of foresight. The total amount of these subscriptions had been about \$2,000,000, and now no one knew how much was on hand or how the Government was going to spend it.

The responsibility for the actions of the Shell Committee, concluded Dr. Pugsley, must rest with the Government which created it and practically directed it. The blame does not rest with the manufacturers, who simply and naturally took the prices offered by the Government. There must be a full and free inquiry into all the orders placed, aggregating \$265,000,000, or more than \$265,000,000 in excess of the whole Government expenditure for domestic purposes.

RIGHT OF CRITICISING.

Government's War Methods Not to Be Abdicated.

(Special to the Whig.) Ottawa, Jan. 20.—The Liberals held a caucus this morning which lasted from eleven until about one o'clock. Questions as to the attitude of the party in connection with the estimates were debated. The question of extension of the life of Parliament was also considered, and it is understood that the matter was left in the hands of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The caucus, it is stated, was unanimous that in so far as Canada's participation in the war is concerned, the Opposition is at one with the Government, but that the right of criticising methods and modes of implementing the will of the people should not be abdicated.

How He Knew.

"Don't you want to be on the winning side?" said the soldier to a group of civilians whom he was suggesting should don khaki. "How do you know you will be the winning side?" asked a prospective recruit. "Well, my lad," said the sergeant, "you know the Germans have been trying for more than a year and a half to win and have failed, don't you?" "Yes," replied the questioner. "Well, then, we've been trying to lose during the same period and we couldn't."

China's Soft Wood Supply.

China draws its principal supplies of soft woods from the United States and Japan. In 1913, China imported from the United States, approximately 79,700,000 feet board measure, valued at \$1,500,000. These imports were more than twice the amount of the preceding year and 16,000,000 feet in excess of 1910.

"Do not suffer with Gripp," Gripp Cure Tablets at Gibson's. Reports are to the effect that Bulgarians and Turkish troops to the number of 100,000 are to be sent to the western front.

NEWS ABOUT THE TROOPS QUARTERED IN THE CITY

(Continued From Page 5.)

Lieut.-Col. C. A. Low and his officers, as part of their recruiting stampede, have decided that four platoons will be set aside to accommodate the recruits. The four platoons will be as follows: Sportsmen's, business men's, college men's and mechanics'. Captains for recruiting purposes will be appointed to each platoon.

A. J. Tupper, R. Parker, H. C. Thompson and R. White have been promoted to corporals in the 146th Battalion.

The following men have been accepted as recruits in the 146th Battalion: Wm. Hughes, William O. Clow, C. Knowlton, M. Swerbrick, C. S. Woodruff, E. J. Charlton, E. W. Redmond, E. Knowlton, E. D. Baine, H. W. Kelly, C. E. Gowdy, P. H. Keenan, W. E. Cooke, L. Gillett.

Owing to the fact that Major Bennett is not with the 21st Battalion, and Major McLean is still in England, the illness of Lieut.-Col. W. S. Hughes will throw even more responsibility upon Capt. A. K. Hemming, adjutant. Like his father, Col. T. D. R. Hemming, however, the popular adjutant of the 21st Battalion, is quite capable of meeting the emergency.

Recruiting reports for the 146th Battalion have been established at the C. P. R. Station, Randolph Hotel, Y. M. C. A., Dominion Express office, Crawford and Walsh, corner of Princess and Spadina streets, Covered Rink, Gibson's Drug Store, and in the Windsor Hotel.

The business houses of the city are being canvassed now for recruits to the 146th Battalion.

A very entertaining "At Home" for the soldiers was given by St. Paul's A. Y. P. A., on Wednesday evening. Miss Bergy was in charge of the arrangements. During the evening Q. M. S. Addison sang, "For King and Country," accompanied by C. V. Farmer. Refreshments were served.

Lieut.-Col. C. A. Low and Prof. L. W. Mulloy addressed a recruiting meeting at Cataragi on Wednesday evening, speaking to a large number.

The 146th Battalion band played at the corner of Bagot and Princess streets at noon on Thursday.

The soldiers attending the School of Signalling under Major D. E. Mundell are now using Grant Hall for their work. There are 150 men taking the course and during their work at the hall they use deck slippers to protect the floors. Major Mundell is highly pleased with the class of men he has in his class, and is of the opinion that they will qualify into first-class signallers in a very short time.

The re-inforcements for No. 5 Stationary Hospital (Queen's) are drilling every morning in the Armouries and are now well advanced in stretcher work. Their marching is also excellent.

Lieut. White has been detailed to look after the quartermaster's stores of the 146th Battalion, in the absence of Capt. James T. Sutherland, who will likely be on sick leave for a couple of weeks.

Capt. W. E. Steacy left on Thursday for Toronto on recruiting work.

The men for the 45th Battery have not yet been chosen but the battery will be formed immediately on Capt. Steacy's return.

Lieut. Patton took twenty-two men of the 146th Battalion to Etilton on Thursday morning.

Fifteen men have been taken on the strength of "C" Battery.

Major Massie is in Toronto.

Corpl. F. R. Bailey, A. M. C., has been detailed for duty at Fort Henry, vice Sergt. G. Hanley.

The barracks now occupied by the 9th Brigade Ammunition Column (34th Battery) will in future be known as the Rideau Barracks.

Raising of the Other 250,000.

If this additional 250,000 men are to be raised as well as authorized, the Government must address itself to the undertaking in ways it has not used so far in recruiting men. The work cannot be done by ordinary recruiting as carried on by local military officers and sergeants. It will be necessary for the Government to take the whole situation in hand, have a registration made of all available men in the Dominion, and a classification of skilled workers and essential industries.

It is not possible to withdraw 500,000 men from the country in the same haphazard way that answered well enough when only one-tenth of the number was being withdrawn. The forces of Canada can be raised to the half million mark, but it is a considerable undertaking, and the best ability of the nation is called for in organizing the doing of it, so that the men who go will be those most useful in war and those who stay behind will be those most essential in carrying on the necessary industries and business of the country.

Gen. Hughes in 1913 proposed to have prepared a muster roll of all the able-bodied men in Canada liable to be called out in case of emergency for militia service. Why does he not go on with it now, the need for such a registration or muster roll being now urgent?

A new Victor record by John McCormick, "Somewhere a Voice is Calling." Give us a call and let us play this record for you. C. W. Lindsay, Limited.

THEATRICAL NEWS

Seeing the "Quinneys."

There was a large audience to see the "Quinneys" at the Grand on Wednesday night. It was not a strong production, though finely staged and with a good cast. It was comedy with a slender plot. The audience laughed and laughed, but that was the sum total. There was no vivid living lesson to carry away. The story is that of a buyer of antiques and his domestic troubles arising from the fact that his only daughter, second only in his heart to his beloved "sticks and stones," as his wife indignantly terms his treasures, has set her heart upon marrying her father's foreman.

"Joseph Quinney" was well presented by Frederick Ross. His language, however, was not pleasing, swearing is an abomination in Canadian life.

The other seven characters fairly interpreted the comedy. Cecil Fletcher was an excellent "James," sturdy and upright. The orchestra played finely.

At the Strand.

The feature photoplay for the last three days of the week at this popular theatre is one of the wonders of the scientific world, being the first and only submarine motion pictures. They are known as the "Williamson Submarine Expedition," and show some remarkable pictures taken at the bottom of the Atlantic ocean, amongst which are a fight between a man and a shark, native boys diving for pearls, diver exploring an ancient wreck, and a thousand other exciting and intensely interesting scenes. This is one of the greatest educational films for children ever shown, and parents should make it a point to see that their children see these truly wonderful pictures. In New York alone ten thousand school teachers and one thousand pupils of the public schools crowded the theatre to see them. Other good reels will also be given at the Strand on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

OBITUARY

The Late J. D. McCrea.

Brockville, Jan. 20.—The death occurred on Wednesday of a well-known resident of the town of Brockville, when J. D. McCrea passed away at the age of fifty-seven years. The late Mr. McCrea was born at Alma, County of Wellington, and was in business at Guelph previous to coming to Brockville. Besides his widow, one brother and three sisters survive, James A. of Guelph; Mrs. Miller, St. Thomas; Mrs. McIntosh, Toronto, and Mrs. Fairweather, Drayton. His widow was formerly Miss Clark, of Guelph.

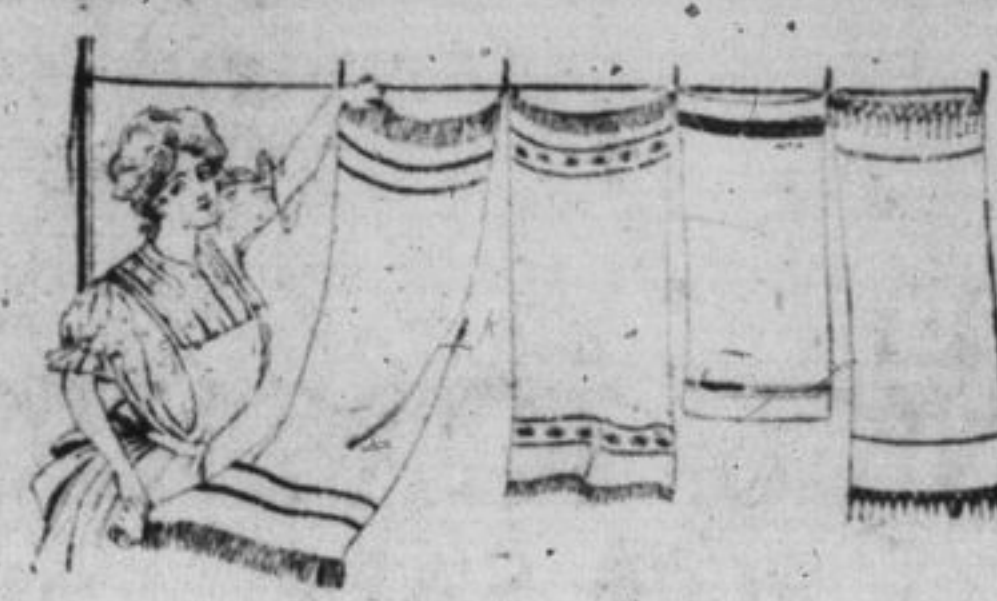
Late William Minshull.

William Minshull, a well-known resident of Balmby Beach district and a former Kingstonian, died Monday in his 73rd year at the home of his son, Frank Minshull, born at Sandbeach, England. Mr. Minshull emigrated to Canada about 25 years ago, and settled in Kingston. For twenty years he was foreman at the Kingston Locomotive Works. Fifteen years ago he removed to Toronto and was for some time employed as machinist at the Polson Iron Works. He was an Anglican. His wife and two sons, Frank and William, survive.

Late Mrs. Sands, Sunbury.

Mrs. Mary Jeanette Sands, widow of the late William Sands, passed away very suddenly Wednesday night from heart failure. The deceased was about eighty-four years of age, and had lived some time with her daughter, Mrs. Thomas McWaters, Sunbury. She was one of the oldest residents of Sunbury, having lived all her lifetime in Storrington township. She is survived by two sons, Robert, in the west and Thomas, Kingston, also four daughters, Mrs. John Lemmon and Mrs. John Hall, of the city; Mrs. George Ritchie and Mrs. Thomas McWaters, Sunbury.

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SHEETINGS at 27c yard
SHEETINGS at 33c yard
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