

NATIONAL SERVICE ADDRESS GIVEN

By R. B. Bennett, M.P., at Knights of the Grip Banquet.

CARDS MUST BE SIGNED

ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS OF WAR MEASURES ACT.

Mr. Bennett Appeals for the Support of the People to Those Who Are Doing Their Level Best in the Country's Interest.

"For this great struggle in our national life we are trying to put the round peg in the round hole, or in other words, to make the man of twenty-five do, not work that can be done by a man of fifty, but what he is best able to do."

This is a paragraph that best tells what R. B. Bennett, K.C., M.P., Director-General of National Service, wished to convey to those who sat around him at the seventh and eighth banquet of the Knights of the Grip. The banquet was held in the Hotel Frontenac on Friday night.

There were few speakers, but each was well versed and to the point in what he said.

Mr. Bennett spoke for one hour and twenty minutes. When he started his audience imagined that they would have probably twenty

minutes of ordinary topics, but for eighty minutes he held his listeners spell-bound. No such important speech has been heard here for a long time. It completely relieved man of a misapprehension concerning National Service. Mr. Bennett was able at that one meeting to secure the travellers' most earnest cooperation, and it was given because of his ability to show the facts in their true light.

How Banquet Was Possibility.

In opening his talk the speaker referred to the pleasure of a second visit to Kingston and how especially pleased at being a guest with such a royal bunch of fellows. He showed the audience the true significance of the statement that Canada is at war and how by being-part of the British Empire the banquet was a possibility. Believing in the right of every man and every country to work out their own destinies so that the state may become a greater one, he mentioned the unanimous vote by Canada's Parliament that had brought Canada in. To-day we are confronted with peace talk. Nothing could be so fatal to our cause unless it was based on the absolute surrender of contentions for which we stand.

We must maintain our struggle until we can make a satisfactory peace. The end must come some time, and it means either defeat or victory. "Don't imagine that some doctrine called the Monroe Doctrine will save Canada if defeat should come—two Germany Army Corps will settle that." Victory will bring no new ground. It will bring however the permanence of our institutions and the absolute consolidation of our Empire, it will bring fruits for our already tremendous sacrifices.

Key to National Service. To bring about this end we must

have organized effort, and that is the key to National Service. National Service does not, however, mean military service. Mr. Bennett divided the manhood of this country into three parts: viz., fighting, working and paying. It has been found that men between the ages of 19 and 25 years are best fitted for infantry work in the trenches. Between 25 and 35 years the wastage through physical ailments is fifty per cent, and between the ages of thirty-five and forty years is 100 per cent. Then there is the case of those who are to keep our fighters in food, munitions, etc. "If I were at liberty to tell you, the proportion of munitions that Canada is now making for the Allies, it would stagger you," said the Director of National Service. Then he referred to the basic industries and finally the paying men who would have to pay eventually.

To best organize this force cards and envelopes have been sent to every man between the ages of sixteen and sixty-five years in Canada. That part of the system was evolved by Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, who as Postmaster-General became known as one of the finest men in Ottawa. It is obligatory to sign these cards by power conferred on the National Service Board through the War Measures Act. "We have not, however, thought of working out a scale of punishment for those who refuse to fill them in. This is still the highest form of democracy." The atmosphere to encourage the filling out of these forms is being created by the sending out of 150,000 letters to heads of institutions such as Boards of Trade and to doctors, ministers, lawyers, etc. In Quebec one person out of every hundred has received this letter. This Dominion has sixty per cent. of its population of British descent, but in Australia the percentage is ninety-five and in New Zealand is ninety-eight. There are 60,000 Germans and Austrians in Canada's western provinces. We are going to give every person one last opportunity to prove whether this is to be a free democracy.

Equality of Service Impossible.

Mr. Bennett referred at length to the impossibility of equality of service—no sacrifice is greater than that of a man's life in the trenches—and now universal conscription is aimed at. The work of this Dominion as part of the British Empire is now so vast that we must have organized effort. Every individual in this state must do to the best of his ability that which he is most capable of doing.

Before closing, Mr. Bennett touched on a subject that is little discussed just now. He said from a strictly non-political standpoint, "the people should give more honest and whole-hearted support to, and refrain from destructive criticism of those who are doing their level best in the country's interests." He mentioned the enormity of the work that fell on the shoulders of a country such as Canada. Another realization that is needed is that for thrift, luxury was the cause of the fall of Rome and the reverse was the reason for the building up of the Scottish race. The pensions that will come to this country will mean one hundred millions a year. That cannot be paid unless new wealth is brought into existence. Our duty is to save in very possible way. "I do not worry over returned soldiers getting employment. They will find the positions now occupied by those who will not go overseas. This democracy is bringing up many questions. Help the men who are worrying over them and help your country to a realization of her ideals by doing everything you can."

The Toasts. The toast to "The City" was responded to by Ald. J. M. Hughes and Mayor A. W. Richardson. Mr. Hughes referred to his experience as a commercial traveller, and the pleasure that it has always given him to attend these functions. He was proud of the subject of his toast, and honored to be able to respond to it before such a group of men.

In opening his address, Mayor Richardson referred to his experience as a traveller to Prescott. Changing from that he mentioned that he was down on the programme as a speaker, and yet he thought he had overcome that trouble by getting his invitation to be present not as a complimentary but in the usual manner. "If you don't believe that I cannot make a speech," said the mayor, "read the Standard. I hope, however, that you have too much good sense to read that paper."

Before closing the mayor referred to his retrenchment policy that has been practiced for the last year, and he was glad to see such a prominent man as Mr. Bennett coming out with a suggestion that was already in force in this city. The message that the Director of National Service may take back to Ottawa was that every citizen of Kingston was ready to do his part.

Canon W. F. FitzGerald and F. S. S. Johnson responded to the toast to "Our Guests." The former dealt with the splendid reception that Mr. Bennett's letter had been given by the Canadian branch of the Church of England. He referred to the new prayers that have been ordered for the Governor-General, Premier, cabinet ministers and members of parliament. Those prayers were being brought into existence because of the fact that the Empire is dead in earnest.

Tribute to Consul Johnson. The American Consul referred to his privilege as a neutral to forward packages to the Canadians who are prisoners of war in Germany. Between 3,000 and 4,000 have already been sent, and already several thousand acknowledgements proved that they were being received in good condition.

When he sat down R. B. Bennett rose to his feet and said: "From my knowledge I would like to say that when the history of this country is written the outstanding name of the neutral who gave the most help will be that of Kingston's American Consul." (Applause.) Knights March and Wright moved and seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Bennett and to the other speakers, and particularly to Mr. Bennett, who had been put to great inconvenience

in coming. This motion was passed with great enthusiasm.

W. F. Nickle, M.P., responded to the toast to the "Ladies" and after referring to the trouble he had experienced in securing Mr. Bennett after the trip the Director-General made with the Premier to the Pacific coast, he mentioned the heroic work being done by the women of this Empire. A trip through England to the front thoroughly convinced him of their sacrifice, and he was glad to say that Canadian women were capable of the same thing.

G. Smith, High Chief Gripan, presided at the banquet, and was presented during the evening with a valuable meerschaum pipe by M. Woodcock on behalf of the Knights of the Grip. He made a most able toastmaster. During the evening songs were given by Messrs. Tompkins, Maunder, Saunders and Nelson.

Letters to the Editor

Kingston, Dec. 30.—(To the Editor): I am what you would call a neutral, so far as politics in a civic election are concerned, as I have voted for Tory mayors and Grit Mayors, picking the man I consider the best for Kingston. In this coming election I am voting for Dr. Richardson because I think he is a safer man to have at the head of the civic government here than Ald. Hughes. This is proven by experience. I am afraid that if Ald. Hughes and a few others of the enthusiastic sort got control of things at the City Hall, dear know how high our taxes would be, and they would be liable to push the road paving business just a little too far. Road paving is all right, but Kingston cannot stand a continuance of it till war is over. We require a man of Dr. Richardson's calibre to put on the brakes when the expensive road-paving enthusiasts get too prominent. Our taxes are going to be higher next year, and the greatest care will be required on the part of the finance committee, of which the mayor is chairman. In my view Dr. Richardson is the man whom the citizens, irrespective of political belief, should choose to be their mayor for 1917, both at the City Hall and on the Utilities Commission.

As to Ald. Hughes' business ability, I do not think he stands just so high as some of his enthusiastic friends declare, else he would have solved that coal difficulty for the city property committee of which he is chairman this year. Surely such a clever business man would not have allowed the city to have been stuck for over \$300 more than the coal contract. He would have found some means of having the coal unloaded. In a case of that kind the business ability of a man is shown. I would wager that Ald. Fair is being pushed out of aldermanic office would have found a way and saved the money which was sufficient to build a block of good macadam road. —ELECTOR.

A Live Wire Here.

Kingston, Dec. 29.—(To the Editor):—While some wards may complain of getting no service from their alderman, I would like to say that the people know he is in some of the men they select. Fortunately, in Catarqui Ward we have had one live wire at least, Ald. N. C. Polson. Last summer my cellar was flooded, and my landlord could do nothing for me. I went to see Mr. Polson, and in an hour the Board of Health inspector was at my door. Same afternoon the City Engineer's Department was at work and my troubles were over. Ald. Polson fights for his ward and knows how to get service when it is most needed. He is going to get a vote in every home in my neighborhood, because the work-ing people know he is only in the council for the good he can do for his ward and his city. —"ONE WHO KNOWS."

Lilacs and Roses Bloom.

The building that was occupied as the home of the famous Thousand Island outlaw, "Bill" Johnston, still stands. Mr. Johnston was a passionate lover of the gifts of nature, and now, every season, lilacs and two or three kinds of roses bloom forth, the roots of which were planted by his hand in 1840.

Surprised.

In conversation with the candidate for Catarqui Ward, the reporter was surprised to learn that Mr. Simmons' daughter was a nursing sister, and his only son was in the "Trenches in France." This is one of the old young men who is seeking aldermanic honors.

Miss Julia Barlowe, Sydenham street, has returned after spending her Christmas holidays with friends in Gananoque.

A great many soldiers left for their homes on Friday and to-day. Their leave extends to Wednesday.

Miss Mae Powell has returned after spending her holidays with friends in Gananoque.

Maple Butter, 25c lb. at Pickering's.

If you have nothing else to give you can give good advice.

On Monday write on 1917.

THE WHOLE BODY NEEDS PURE BLOOD

The bones, the muscles, and all the organs of the body depend for their strength and tone and healthy action on pure blood. If the blood is very impure, the bones become diseased; the muscles become enfeebled, the step loses its elasticity, and there is inability to perform the usual amount of labor. The skin loses its clearness, and pimples, blotches and other eruptions appear. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes pure blood. It is positively unequalled in the treatment of scrofula and other humors, calarrh, rheumatism, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, that tired feeling. Be sure to get Hood's and get it today. All druggists.

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For the sick room. All prices from 85c to \$3.00.

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During the month of January we endeavor to clear out all odd chairs, tables and dishes at sufficiently attractive prices to make it worth while from the customer's point of view. We have hundreds of pieces of furniture at old prices, due to wise buying months ago.

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SNOWSHOES, HOCKEY BOOTS, MOCCASINS and CURLERS' BOOTS

Something Good for Every Kind of Sport.

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WISHING ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR

and hoping that the sunshine which follows the dark nights of war may come bountifully to you during 1917.

Campbell Bros.,
Kingston's Oldest Fur Store.

Dr. Hall's Cough Balsam

CURES COUGHS AND COLDS
25c a Bottle, at

Prouse's Drug Store
Phone 82.
Opposite St. Andrew's Church

BRIGHT and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL.

M. F. Patton,
119 Sydenham St.

A FORMER POLICE CHIEF

Geo. C. Gonyou Killed at Sault Ste. Marie.

Mrs. George Saunders, Bagot Street, has been advised of the death of her father, George C. Gonyou at Sault Ste Marie. He was a watchman in the Algoma Steel plant and was knocked down by a yard engine. For twenty-two years he had been chief of Police at Deseronto, Ont. He leaves a widow, two sons, William, Sturgeon Falls, and Herbert, Whitby, and two daughters, Mrs. George Saunders, Kingston, and Miss Lena Gonyou, at home.

Peanut Butter, 25c lb., at Pickering's.

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Next to Grand Opera House.
Telephone 640.

GREETINGS!

We wish to extend to our patrons and many friends
A HAPPY NEW YEAR and a PROSPEROUS 1917.

Thanking you for past favors and continuance of same,
We remain, yours,

James Reid

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