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COUNTY COUNCIL UNDECIDED

AS TO THE TAX RATE TO LEVY THIS YEAR.

Passes By-law to Expend \$8,000 on the Suburban Road Area—The City to Pay Half This Amount. Warden McKnight, who has been ill, was present at Thursday afternoon's meeting of the County Council, but did not preside, as he was not "feeling keen enough," as he described it. Councillor Kennedy continued to handle the gavel.

S. A. Truscott, county school inspector, asked for an increase in his allowance for travelling expenses. At present he receives \$300, which is not nearly enough.

The property committee recommended that these contracts be awarded to the Kingston Sand and Gravel Company. For sand, \$1.40 a cubic yard; for cement, \$1.50 a cubic yard. No tenders were received for wood or coal, and the matter of purchase was left with Councillors Reed and Halliday. The committee also recommended that a telephone be placed in the residence of the county constable, Peter Ritchie. The recommendations were adopted.

The good roads committee recommended that \$25,000 be provided for road construction and \$10,000 for road repairs. The rate for good roads was fixed at 3 mills. The salary of Superintendent R. H. Fair was fixed at \$1,200, he to provide his own conveyance and pay his own expenses.

A by-law was passed for the expenditure of \$8,000 on the suburban road area. Of this amount the City Council pays one-half.

There was a discussion on the proposed tax rate of nine mills. Several of the councillors wanted to have it made less by carrying over some patriotic fund debentures. The matter was left over till Friday afternoon for settlement.

VETERAN RETURNS HOME

WILLIAM BENSON WAS NINETEEN MONTHS IN TRENCHES

Saw Great Artillery Preparation That Preceded Vimy Ridge—Says America Will Turn the Tide. Waterbury, N. Y. Times.

William Benson, aged fifty-six years, of 318 High street, Canadian overseas veteran, who returned from nineteen months' active service in France Monday night, to-day advocated the establishment of a patriotic fund for the support of the families of the American soldiers who leave for the front.

"While I was at the front my wife received \$45 a month," he said. "I can't see how the families of the American soldiers or sailors can live on the salaries paid by the government, with the price of food and necessities of life high. I have heard of one member of the local division of the Naval Militia, who receives \$17 a month and has a wife and child to support. How can they live? And how can a man fight when he knows that his family is starving? With the provisions of the Canadian government, it is possible for any soldier's family to exist in comfort.

"When I arrived at Cape Vincent Monday night on my way home from Kingston I was called upon to pay a head tax of \$8. I have been a resident of Watertown for 15 years and have been fighting during the past two years, the fight of the American people and her Allies, as a member of a Canadian battalion, and here I have to pay \$8 to return home. I'm not naturalized, of course. But even if I was, I would have to take out papers again because of losing citizenship by entering the Canadian army. I have a son in the Naval Militia, and I wish I had a dozen to send, but it does seem unjust for a man who has fought as I have to pay an entrance fee to return home. It isn't the paltry \$8; it is the spirit of the thing.

"I was discharged, being medically unfit for further service. I was not wounded, but I am 56 years old and I had to say that I was 45 when I enlisted. Of course, the officers knew that I was over 46. I was a member of the 21st Battalion, A Company, and served two years, three months and 18 days, 19 months of which was in active service in France. I enlisted at Kingston, Ont.

"I have lived in this city 15 years, and was employed as night watchman by the New York Air Brake Company. I enlisted at Kingston, Ont. I am a native of Woolwich, England, and lived for twelve years in Kingston before coming to this city.

"In September, 1915, I went to France. I was at Ypres, St. Eloi, the Bluff, Ypres salient, and then the Somme. I was at the Somme one month during the British offensive. Then we went into winter quarters in France at Bullygrena.

"The credit to the Canadians in the recent success at Vimy Ridge must not be exaggerated. It was the artillery preparation that won Vimy Ridge for us, although the Canadians are to be commended. The French did not have the artillery and it was nothing but flesh and blood against the German guns. Now the condition is reserved, for for every ten shells Fritz throws into our lines, we throw 40 back. We've got the most wonderful, magnificent guns. There are hundreds and hundreds and no scarcity of any kind of ammunition. The artillery fire from the German lines has greatly slackened since we went to France and ours has increased over a hundredfold. The war cannot last two years more.

Salaries of Teachers. The Whig has been asked to publish the following from the Toronto World:

Sir: In answer to article written by E. D. Dunlop in Sunday World of May 27th re school teachers not receiving proper salaries to buy their clothing, etc., and finding one in an attic sewing her clothing on a Saturday, would say it is gross exaggeration.

The article states the teacher receives \$650 per year, and we will not dispute that, although, some may get less or some more, which is \$12-50 per week for one year of fifty-two weeks. How many young women receive as much?

Some will say the teacher had to have months of training, but other young women did, too.



SIR ARTHUR CURRIE. Major-General Sir Arthur W. Currie, K.C., M.G., C.B., who has succeeded Sir Julian Byng as commander of the Canadian forces in France. He is 42 years old, and was born in Napier, Middlesex County. He entered on his military career in 1897 as a private. In 1901 Gen. Currie married Miss Chastworth-Masters of Victoria. Lady Currie is now in England. Gen. Currie is a Liberal and an Anglican and a member of the Masonic order.

Letters to the Editor

One Farmer's Idea of Conscription.

Adolphustown, June 16.—To the Editor: Conscription is on I notice. This is my idea of what should be done on the first draft: Empty all the penitentiaries and prisons in Canada and put them to the firing line under heavy guard, and keep them in the front ranks till the last man of them had been shot. Then it would give heart to the prime young manhood of our country to fall in voluntarily.

The young men brought up on farms must not be taken—too many have already gone. I know of large farmers advertising for stock to eat up their meadows, no help to make hay for them.

Take all eligibles out of cities and towns that are lying round in wait to grab some man they had seen with money on him by the throat in some lane or alley they had lured him to for the purpose; shove them right through to the firing line without drill or ceremony.

Then come at these college dandies playing pool and poker—and they exist in our country by the thousands. This is what is needed in all countries to purify the atmosphere we breathe among those villains of crime and idlers.

If you want democracy instead of autocracy, stamp out autocracy and it leaves democracy pure and simple. What kind of a country will we have after the war, with our best young manhood shot and the villains and laggards left for us to keep and breed from?

Let the Government commandeer cheese, pork, and meats at a living price for all, and other things—wheat, peas, beans, etc., and stop the slaughter of calves, for hay to-day is the most miserable price of all products of the farm. There are hundreds of tons around me; No. 1 hay that there is no market for at \$8.00 per ton. It cannot be raised for that price. Then why not the Government take over the raising of calves, by compulsion to feed up this surplus of hay accumulating.

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Keep them in mind

Chew it after every meal—see how much better you will feel.

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SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS

They Are Needed on Allied Fronts and in Britain.

Chicago, June 21.—A statement calling attention to a shortage of medical men on all the Allied fronts, as well as in England itself, was issued here by Colonel T. G. Goodwin, medical officer, with the British mis-

sion to the United States, who is touring the country to inspire the volunteering of medical men for service abroad. Colonel Goodwin seeks medical men in addition to the 29,000 required by the new American army.

"It is not so much that Allied medical officers have disappeared that causes the shortage, but the great increase in the demand for them to take care of 5,000,000 men on five fronts," Colonel Goodwin said. "More than 299,000 hospital beds are being maintained in the British Isles alone there are 27,000 beds in Malta, and many thousands more in Saloniki, Egypt, Mesopotamia, India, and of course, in France."