

News From Eastern Ontario

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

CLIPPED FROM THE WHIG'S MANY BRIGHT EXCHANGES.

In Brief Form the Events in The Country About Kingston Are Told—Full of Interest to Many.

The curfew law, whereby children under sixteen years of age shall not be allowed to loiter in any public place after nine o'clock at night, is to be enforced in Perth.

The death took place last Thursday after a long illness of Mrs. William Ewart, Carleton Place, aged 65 years. She had been a sufferer from heart trouble for many years.

Mrs. John Ferguson, aged sixty-three, who resided four miles from Clayton, N.Y., on the Alexandria Bay road, died Sunday while out riding with her family in their automobile.

She was stricken with heart failure. Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Matthews, Stirling, announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Greta Annabelle, to Clifford N. Baker, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baker, the marriage to take place early in September.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomas, Ottawa, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Saturday when their younger daughter, Jean Edna, became the bride of Stanley W. Canniff, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Canniff, Peterboro.

A reception was tendered by the citizens of Almonte to Private P. James upon his return from the front. A certificate of honor was presented by Councillor McDonald, and a gold signet ring presented by Rev. Mr. Saddington.

GANANOQUE

(From Our Own Correspondent) Aug. 22.—The steamer Thousand Islander's excursion to Alexandria Bay last evening received a small patronage.

Justice Britton, of Toronto, is spending a short time in town with relatives.

Mrs. Charles Root, South street, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Clark McCalpin at South Lake. Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Weinstock, of Kingston, are in town in Kingston.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kelday, of Buffalo, are visiting friends in town. Mrs. Vance, of Seattle, Wash., is the guest of Mrs. Hugh Wilson, Pine street. Miss Rose, of Ottawa, is visiting friends in Gananoque and vicinity.

Miss Hilda Dewolfe, of Lansdowne, has been spending a short time with friends in Lansdowne. Miss Agnes Young has returned to Montreal after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Donevan. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brown and family, of Ottawa, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Parmenter. Mr. and Mrs. Ford McCorney have returned to their home in Ogdensburg, N.Y.

A pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Armstrong, Ironopolis, on Aug. 21st, when their youngest daughter, Alice Marieth, was married to Charles Allen, Lombardy.

William McKnight, Cadillac district, Sask., formerly of Thomasburg was killed when in a runaway the plough share tore open his body from chin to stomach.

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POSED AS RETURNED SOLDIER

A Cripple Arrested in Brockville—Confessed to Fraud.

Brockville, Aug. 22.—A daring fraud was stopped here yesterday with the arrest of Percy Tompkins, aged 18, who claims to be a returned soldier of the First World War. He is alleged to be an attaché of a travelling show exhibiting here. During the past few days Tompkins worked several of the manufacturing plants soliciting aid as a returned soldier on the strength of being minus one arm at the shoulder and the other at the wrist. On the strength of his apparent affliction, he collected large sums of money, besides having no less than \$150 promised him at one munition plant if he would call on some suspicion. This story created some suspicion and he was arrested here yesterday. He is alleged to have presented a veteran's button and also an overseas discharge issued to Pte. Joseph Percy Brent, 52nd Battalion. Under cross examination at police headquarters, he confessed that both the button and the papers were fakes and that his proper name was Tompkins. He accounted for his crippled condition by meeting with an accident while attempting to jump a train in South Carolina. He stated that he met Pte. Brent in Montreal, and he suggested his taking the papers and button in order to victimize the public, which would fall for the returned soldier game. The police think Tompkins was working Tompkins for a share of the receipts. Both have been sent to jail on remand.

"IN THE MIDST OF LIFE"

Chaplain's Words at Graveside Interrupted by Shell.

One of the strangest stories of the war is that told by Pte. J. W. Walter, who recently returned to his home on furlough from the front. For nearly a year and a half Pte. Walter was working in the Ypres salient and on one occasion was camped in an old house with quite a body of soldiers. As the men were talking a shell struck the building, completely tearing it to pieces, and burying all the inmates in the ruins. Two were killed outright and others injured, but Pte. Walter was unhurt. That night the burial of the two men was to take place and the bodies had to be taken over the shell hole. Pte. Walter, a young chaplain, and two or three other men in a car with the Canadian soldier driving, ventured out. A shallow grave was dug when they reached their destination, several rods away from the ruins of the old building.

Reverently the bodies were lowered, beside the grave, while supposedly safe in the distance the shelling of the enemy went on. In the silence the words of the service sounded distinctly from the chaplain's lips. He had just repeated the words: "In the midst of life we are in death," when with terrible suddenness the German shells burst down upon them. Some of the men, turned one going into the open grave, those who were unhurt ran fast for cover. Pte. Walter seized the chaplain's arm and pushed him into the car, and with a comrade or two raced through the rain of fire till safety was reached.

Pte. Walter was himself wounded and a few weeks afterward was in an English hospital ward. One day two ladies stopped at his bedside and began telling of her son, "Chaplain in France," who had been standing near an open grave and had just reached the words, "In the midst of life we are in death," when the German shells began falling about them. She ended her story with the words, "The driver of their car saved my son's life."

"I said, 'I'm the man that drove,'" was Pte. Walter's remark, and he added: "After that they seemed not to be able to do enough for me."

The term "Dominion" The following account of the origin of the term "Dominion," as applied to Canada, is given in a letter written by Leonard P. D. Tilley, M.P.P., St. John, N.B., to Geo. S. Holmsted, K.C., Senior Registrar, High Court Division, Toronto. Mr. Tilley is a son of Sir Leonard Tilley, one of the Fathers of Confederation.

"I have your letter of a recent date asking me if I can give you any information in regard to the question as to who suggested the name 'Dominion' for the Dominion of Canada at the time of the drawing up of the British North America Act. You state that you have heard and read that my father, the late Sir S. L. Tilley, was the one who suggested this name. You are correct in this statement as far as my knowledge goes. I have heard my father state how he came to suggest it at the B.N.A. Conference. When the Fathers of Confederation were assembled discussing the terms and conditions of Confederation and the drafting of the British North America Act (this is the story as I have personally heard him tell it), there had been considerable discussion the day before and many suggestions as to what the new United Canada should be called, and no conclusion had been reached. The discussion on the name stood over until the next day. The next morning, as was Sir Leonard's custom, he read a chapter from the Bible, and that particular morning he read Psalm 72, verse 8. 'He shall have dominion also from sea to sea.' When reading verse 8 of the said Psalm, the thought occurred to him, what a splendid name to give Canada, the word 'Dominion' of Canada. When he went back to the sitting of the convention that morning he suggested the word 'Dominion,' which was agreed to, and Canada was called the 'Dominion of Canada.' This is the version of the matter as I understand it."

CAPTURING AUSTRIANS. The Sweeping Advances of Italians Had Good Results. Rome, Aug. 22.—Italian forces have captured 14,359 Austrians in their sweeping advance, the official statement announced to-day. Of these 350 were officers. The War Office announced: "New successes on the south wing. Donso Falls, with strong positions, was carried."

Labor Conditions Following The War

ONE of the most serious problems which Canada must face at the close of the war is the re-arrangement of our affairs upon the basis of normal civil life, with the incidental question of labor unemployment.

Labor conditions in Canada to-day are, in many respects, very similar to those which prevailed in the United States during their Civil War and the reconstruction period. Our labor conditions immediately previous to the war had the same chaotic aspect. The start of the war first brought depression in industry, followed by a rapid return in the demand for labor as a manufacture of munitions and other war supplies extended, and to-day in Canada there is little if any unemployment and skilled labor is in strong demand.

At the close of the Civil War, the United States had a population of about 39,000,000. The Union Army at the time of Lee's surrender numbered slightly more than 1,000,000. It was estimated that another million men and women were employed in the Northern States in the manufacture of munitions. During the four year period of the Civil War, immigration had fallen off, and recruiting had depleted the workers on the farms, and drawn largely from the laboring classes in the cities. The call for munition workers was supplied with the result that ordinary enterprises were compelled to run short-handed or pay a high premium for labor.

Compared with this situation, we find Canada's army of about 400,000 drawn from a population of about 5,000,000. It is estimated that some 200,000 men and women are now engaged in munition work. Only 12% of our army, however, has been enlisted from the farms and more than half of the total has been recruited from among the skilled and manual laborers. The comparison shows the same situation regarding the scarcity of labor for ordinary enterprises, because of the drain through the army for overseas forces and munition workers.

During the Civil War period, wages gradually increased. Prices of commodities also advanced. The laborer, however, skilled or unskilled, was placed at a disadvantage because his wages did not advance in proportion to the prices of necessities. Even with this situation, conditions were better among the mechanics and trades than among the clerks and salaried people, whose incomes did not advance in proportion to the increased price of living.

When the Union Army started to muster out in 1865 at the rate of about 300,000 per month for the three months, there was for a time a glut of the labor market. This was but temporary, however, as 1866 witnessed an active industrial and agricultural revival. The returning soldiers, a large percentage of whom had volunteered for production of the war, went back to producing on the newly opened Mississippi Valley States. This wholesale homesteading brought demands for new railways, more than 15,000 miles of rails were laid in the west during the five years directly following the war. This railway work took up quantities of labor from the eastern centres and assisted to a marked degree the settlers who had gone into the new country without sufficient funds to tide them through the breaking and growing seasons of the first years.

The first annual report of the United States Commissioner of Labor published in 1886, summarizes the reconstruction period, as follows: "The year 1867 can hardly be called one of financial panics or industrial depressions, although hard times, apparently prevailed. The stimulation to all industries resulting from the war, the speculative enterprises undertaken, the extension of credits, and the slackening of production, necessarily caused a reaction, and a consequent stagnation of business; but the period was hardly spoken of by business men as one of any particular hardship. People for a while began to be conservative; but the impetus gained during the war could not be overcome, and it was not until the crash of 1873 that the effects of undue excitement in all branches of trade and business were thoroughly noticed."

The five years following the Civil War saw the organization of the first labor unions. These had been started in a best way during the last two years of the war. In 1866 the first

National Congress of Labor met at Baltimore. The slogan of the labor organizers of the period was the necessity for organization so as to protect American labor against invading foreigners, who were immigrating in large numbers during the five years following the war.

The plants established for the manufacture of munitions for the Northern Army during the war marked the beginning of the factory system, and the centralization of industry in the larger cities. A continuation of this system after the war had a further influence in bringing about labor organizations.

Canada has since the opening of the war, increased her manufacture of staples and reduced her imports. Industry has been given an impetus that should mark a great era of development. We have demonstrated that many new lines can be profitably manufactured in Canada. We face the same dangers, however, that culminated in the crash of 1873 in the United States—the danger of speculation and over-production, without properly developed markets.

A general survey of the labor situation in Canada indicates that about 150,000 more men will be required after the war than are now employed in Canada. This would take the care of the proportion of returning soldiers which will require employment after the war. The problem then arises as to what we will do with our munition workers—an estimated detail of about 300,000 being employed in this work at present, 75% of which number will be called upon to find other employment when the war is over.

We will also have the problem of finding employment for those immigrants seeking work, because it will be difficult to restrict immigration to those who wish to engage in agriculture. Our greatest need today is more farmers and greater agricultural production, as will readily be recognized from the fact that our population is half urban and we consume more than we produce. There will be great opportunity and a crying need for farmers and farm laborers through Canada after the war, but unless proper governmental plan is worked out to direct our immigration into that channel, we face the danger of a flood of unemployed in our cities and towns, while our farms remain undeveloped.

Next in importance to the problem of increased agricultural production is that of the development of our vast natural resources through the extension of existing and promotion of new industries. We must replace the munition plants by utilizing them in extending our present lines of manufacture and promoting the introduction of new lines. Canada should prepare for increased participation in export trade after the war and should grasp the opportunity to extend to the fullest her industrial development to enable the opportunity to be taken advantage of.

The problem of capital is always closely related to that of labor. Statistics show that Canada has always been able to absorb immigration in direct proportion to the amount of foreign capital it has been able to secure. It is estimated that during the six years preceding the war, Great Britain invested \$1,500,000 in Canada. After the war, the Mother Country will have her own financial problems to solve and we will be compelled to look elsewhere for our capital. So far we have been able to obtain large sums from the United States and they will probably be willing to be our bankers after the war. They have the money—and it should be only necessary to induce them as to our resources and opportunities when we will be able to obtain the capital we require.

Available information shows that more than one-half of our overseas forces were recruited from among skilled workers. Some plan must be put into operation for returning these men to civil life gradually so that they will not glut the labor market; otherwise we can count upon serious labor congestion at many points. If, on the other hand, we begin to grapple with these future conditions, to employ every effort of our governmental, financial and commercial organizations to handle the problems of re-organizing our industrial life, Canada will be able to grow by great strides and occupy a prominent place among the nations of the world.

(Signed) J. S. DENNIS.

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