

QUESTION OF PENSIONS

DEALT WITH IN ADDRESS BY COL. BIGGAR.

Who Clearly Explained the Details at a Meeting of the G.W.V.A. on Monday Evening.

Lieut.-Col. Biggar, medical adviser to the Board of Pension Commissioners, addressed a meeting of the G.W.V.A. in their club rooms last evening.

The speaker pointed out that the whole question of pensions was a tremendously difficult business. It was a form of social insurance, of which only one other example was existent in Canada, namely, the Workmen's Compensation Act. Pensions for disability incurred on service was the state activity to which the board gave attention, and was willing to pay enough to allow any person suffering from such disability to live in comfort. The greatest difficulty was found to be in measuring the disability of individual cases. In order to do this a standard had to be taken for measurement, which had been made. The perfectly normal healthy human machine. The doctors who adjudge the extent of the disability are not interested in the money end of the matter. All they have to do is to measure according to the standard the percentage of disability which exists.

Col. Biggar stated further that the majority of pensioners did not even know what their disability was. Disability did not consist of having a stiff elbow, or having only one foot, but in not being able to make full use of the arm, or in not being able to walk properly. According to what extent normal activities are lost or lessened the man is pensionable.

An equitable estimate has been arrived at from different opinions of experts on individual disabilities, as compared with the normal

human machine. What any individual case was employed at before enlistment is not taken into consideration, neither is the employment which he follows after discharge to pension. Individuals are not asked to enlist as lawyers, clerks, bricklayers, stone masons, musicians, etc., but are judged on enlistment from the standpoint as to whether they are physically fit. Pensions should, therefore, be assessed on the same basis. He stated further that it was understood that many cases differed mentally very much, and many men with a little handicapped through a disability gave up the struggle for existence. An investigation had taken place in Cleveland, in which it was proved that in a community containing six thousand persons suffering from some disability eighty per cent. of such persons were earning a livelihood, the other nineteen per cent. spent their time looking for a "hand out." It was understood that there would always be a certain percentage who had not the necessary stamina, after disengagement, to continue the struggle.

Col. Biggar said that the general public often thought that if a doctor said a thing it was so, but on the other hand medical men realized that medicine was not an accurate mathematical science, but rather in the way of being an art. He believed, however, that on the whole a medical man's object was to do his best. Arrangements were in the course of being made whereby a man appearing for examination would be told under what disability he was placed.

W. F. Nickle, M.P., was then asked by the chairman to address the meeting. Mr. Nickle stated that he was very interested in the pension question, and had studied it as much as possible. He said that many people advocated a scheme of pensions based on what the man's previous employment had been. He illustrated how this would be impracticable in working, and endorsed the statements of Col. Biggar regarding pensions being based on the standard of comparison with the normal human machine, on the grounds that on enlistment the only necessary qualifications were physical fitness.

Mr. Nickle then spoke of the period during which the G.W.V.A. club rooms were handed over to the municipal authorities for use as a hospital during the influenza epidemic, and presented the association with a beautiful photograph of the assembly hall when used as a hospital, and asked that the same be hung in the club rooms.

The chairman in tendering a vote of thanks to Col. Biggar, expressed the appreciation of the association of his courtesy in addressing the meeting. He further tendered a vote of thanks to Mr. Nickle for his presentation to the association, and stated that anything the association had been able to do during the epidemic was a source of gratification to them.

Col. Biggar was heartily applauded after his address, and it was felt that everyone attending the meeting had learnt a great deal of the way this most important subject was being dealt with.



CHARLIE CHAPLIN IN "A DOGS LIFE" HIS FIRST MILLION DOLLAR PICTURE

At the Strand Theatre, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

A PARTY OF THIRTY SOLDIERS ARRIVED

Reached Kingston on Monday Evening—Pte. J. Goddard Was Among the Number.

A great throng of citizens gathered at the Grand Trunk Station on Monday evening to welcome a party of thirty soldiers returning from overseas. The Salvation Army band was in attendance and played "O Canada" and the "Maple Leaf Forever" as the train drew into the station. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Army and Navy Veterans had hot coffee and cake for the boys as they



PTE. KENNETH BABCOCK

A Wilton young man, who has returned from overseas.

Among the returned men were Driver C. A. McPherson and Pte. W. King, who went overseas with the 21st Battalion, and Pte. J. Goddard, who served in the employment company of the 4th division, and whose home is at 25. Another soldier who received the men and had them conveyed to the Barrfield barracks.

Pte. Kenneth Babcock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Torrance Babcock, Wilton, was one of the number who returned. He enlisted and trained with the 146th Battalion in Kingston, transferred to the 5th Battalion at Wood Sandling, Eng., and later to the C.O.R.S. He was very young when enlisting and has developed into a fine type of manhood.

Others in the party were: Lieut. V. A. Lamos, 111 Lower Union street; N. McMillan, H. W. Barnes, 340 Johnson street; J. Campbell, Kingston Junction; F. B. Jeffrey, E. Lingren, 76 Earl street; G. M. McCauley; A. Forsythe, Portsmouth; H. S. Hamilton, Godfrey; A. Hood, Cataract.

SIX OF THEIR SONS TOOK PART IN WAR

The Proud Record of Mr. and Mrs. George Phillips, Clarence Street.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. George Phillips, 37 Clarence street, has a military record of which they have good reason to be proud. They have six sons who have all taken part in the war, and have earned themselves with distinction. One son, Corporal R. Phillips, Canadian Field Artillery, was recently recommended in the army orders of the Fourth British Army under General Sir H. A. Rawlinson, and has been awarded the military medal for gallantry and devotion to duty in action. He is now with the C.F.A. in the army of occupation. Gunner Ernest Phillips was with the R.C.H.A. in France, and is now on his way home. Pte. Clarence Phillips is with the motor cycle corps, and Pte. George Phillips, who is also at present in France, is expected to return home shortly. Two other sons, Albert and Norris Phillips, have returned home after seeing service at the front and are now in Kingston. It will be hard to find a Kingston family with a finer war record than his one can show. Needless to relate the parents are mighty proud of these boys.

French Papers Sound Warning. Paris, Feb. 11.—La Gaulois sounds a warning note when it tells the Allies that—and the newspaper says it has irrefutable proof that its assertion is correct—"the German factories continue to turn out munitions and airplanes day and night."

At Owen Sound, Joseph Weber, Reeve of Neustadt, was Tuesday committed for trial at the assizes, on the 24th, by Magistrate Crescor, on serious charges, under the Military Service Act.

OBITUARY

The Late John Lee.

John Lee passed away at the General Hospital on Monday morning, after an illness extending over a year. The late Mr. Lee was a native of China and had been a resident of Kingston a number of years, being a handyman. He is survived by his wife and two children, who reside in China. The funeral is to take place at Cataract cemetery on Wednesday.

The Late Pte. Edward Connolly.

Pte. Edward Connolly, late of the C.P.A.S.C., occurred at the Mowat Hospital on Monday morning after an illness extending over several months. He was eighteen years of age, and was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Connolly, 43 Patrick street. Besides his parents he is survived by one sister, Rose, and one brother, Edmund. The funeral is to take place with military honors on Thursday morning to St. Mary's Cathedral.

The Late H. W. Donaldson.

Hugh W. Donaldson was born in Canada of Scotch-Irish descent, forty-two years ago, and died Friday morning, Jan. 17th, of pneumonia, at his home, 224 Bessford avenue. He exemplified in his life the best type of American citizenship and Christian faith. This was seen in his interests and his endeavors to help humanity in the various organizations to which he belonged. He was one of the founders of Grace Presbyterian church, on Herman avenue, and gave unselfishly of his time and energy to erect a church building, working with his own hands, early and late, to provide a place of worship for this fast growing community. The training of the little children in the Sunday school was the one thing that laid nearest to his heart.

He was one of the charter members of Grace church, was elected a member of the first board of trustees, and served as the first treasurer of the church. The love and appreciation of Mr. Donaldson and his work was expressed in a resolution of sympathy and condolence to his wife and family, which was voted with bowed heads by the congregation on the Sunday following his death.

Mr. Donaldson also was an officer in the Golden Rule, a beneficiary order founded on the principle, "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you." In this order he gave much time, calling upon the sick and assisting the needy. He was also a member of and master of the Orange Lodge No. 505. The confidence imposed in him by this order was seen in the fact that he had but recently been unanimously chosen to be the master of his lodge, the highest office in the gift of his fellows.

The funeral services were held at his home Monday afternoon, Jan. 20th, at two o'clock, in charge of the pastors with whom he was so intimately associated, Rev. Alexander J. D. McDonald of the Highland Park Presbyterian church. Both pastors in a heart-to-heart way expressed their appreciation of the loyalty of Mr. Donaldson, his capacity for friendship and fellowship and his usefulness as a citizen and Christian man in the community. Appropriate music at his service was rendered by William Waites, past worthy counselor of the Order of the Golden Rule, and Mrs. Peregian, a friend of the family. Not only were there large delegations from these fraternal orders, but the large number who could not gain admission to the service testified to the esteem in which Mr. Donaldson was held.

The services at the grave were conducted by the Orange Lodge, in charge of Past Master George McWade, who used the beautiful ritualistic service of that order. It was an impressive sight to see the broken link in their circle above the grave, and then to hear the solemn vow as they closed ranks to reform in the city of God. Mr. Donaldson was an employee of the Ford Motor Company, who were among the first to offer sympathy and help to the grief-stricken widow, with her little family of three small children has the sympathy of the entire community.

His mother still lives at Joyceville. Five brothers and six sisters survive him. One brother, Robert, lives at Joyceville, also two sisters, Mrs. Thomas Cummings, and Mrs. Fred Wilson, Joyceville. Mrs. R. E. Acton, Sand Hill, is also a sister.

Must Serve in Red Army. London, Feb. 11.—The Bolshevik Government has decided that all persons in Russia, irrespective of nationality, must serve in the Red army.

Armed Men Hold Up Bank. Minneapolis, Feb. 11.—Four armed men held up the Liberty State Bank on Franklin avenue on Monday morning and escaped with cash and securities. The first announcement of the bank estimated the robbers' haul as \$25,000.

A CHILD SADLY NEGLECTED

WILL BE MADE A WARD OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

Israel Cohen Fined \$20 and Costs For Allowing His Nine-year-old Girl to Wander Around at Her Own Free Will.

Most pitiable was the tale told in Police Court on Tuesday morning, about the way in which Israel Cohen neglected his little girl, aged nine years. Half a dozen witnesses were called, who told about the girl being allowed to wander around the streets and also make her way to Barrfield camp, at her own free will. Her older brother sells newspapers, and the girl also carried newspapers. A kind-hearted sergeant, attached to Barrfield camp, took a kindly interest in the child, and on reporting to his commanding officer, the girl was taken in charge, and the necessary machinery set in motion to get after the party responsible for the care of the girl. As a result the father was summoned, charged with neglecting his child.

The accused pleaded "not guilty" and then the police brought on the evidence which the magistrate considered ample to return a verdict of "guilty." Cohen was fined \$20 and costs, and the magistrate stated that he would issue an order making the girl a ward of the Children's Aid Society.

The case of Walter Stephen Wannamaker, charged with being a defaulter under the Military Service Act, was dismissed, after evidence was taken in the case. Wannamaker lives north of Eldorado; and told the magistrate he could not read nor write. On Oct. 18th, last, when the notice was sent out for him to report at Kingston, for military service, he was ill in bed, suffering from the flu. His father got the notice from the post office and read it, but both the father and the son did not know just what to do. The son left the matter to his father, and he did not report. They expected that another notice would follow this one if the young man did not report. The accused was ill for three weeks. Magistrate Farrell stated that under the circumstances, he did not care to make a conviction, and dismissed the charge. The young man's illness was just prior to the signing of the armistice.

BODY OF DEAD SAILOR FROZEN IN THE ICE

It Took Wolfe Islanders an Hour and a Half to Release It.

The body of the sailor found at the head of Wolfe Island on Monday was brought to James Reid's undertaking parlors on Tuesday by S. Hogan, who assisted George Todd to take it from the ice. The body was discovered by Mr. Todd about 10.30 a.m. on Monday among the drift ice on the shore at Bell's Point. It took Mr. Hogan and Mr. Todd an hour and a half to cut away the ice. The body is that of a man perhaps fifty-five years of age, though possibly younger, and wore a life preserver of the steamer Minola. He was of heavy build and dressed in black trousers, over which were corduroy trousers, a heavy striped coat and a blue striped shirt. On his left hand was a black enamel ring with a green stone. The clothing was frozen fast to the body and it will be some hours before it will be possible to discover anything that might establish the identity of the person. Eleven men perished when the steamer Minola foundered and this is the fourth body found. The others were found near the same place.

Grand Ball at Deseronto.

A Grand Assembly and Peace Ball, under the auspices of the Deseronto Board of Trade, will be held at Camp Summerside Club Rooms, Thomas street, Deseronto, Thursday, Feb. 27th. No effort will be spared to make this gathering the greatest ever held in the district. The celebrated Valentine Orchestra of Ottawa—an orchestra that fills numerous engagements at Government House—has been secured for the occasion. So this announcement should be of special interest as this is the first appearance of this famous orchestra in this section.



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