

The Athens Reporter

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4 cents a copy

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This is a month of opportunity for all who will need furniture this spring. Our entire top floor is filled with everything in this line and all offered at discounts from 10 per cent upwards. Take elevator up and have a look at the big display.

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TELEGRAPH FOR ATHENS

Persistent Efforts Result in the Opening of a G.N.W. Office in Charge of C.N.R. Agent

Reeve Holmes has kept after the District Superintendent of the Great North Western Telegraph Co. until that company has announced the opening of an office here under Mr. Watt, Canadian Northern station agent. Big corporations have a way of shoving aside communications from small towns, but in this case the G.N.W. were given little opportunity to forget about our needs. Athens without a telegraph office came in for a good share of ridicule; in fact everybody became grumpy about it. But now that our troubles are over in this regard, we can turn our attention to the mail service and the Hydro-Electric.

Defeated in Smith's Falls

By a score of 4-2, the Athens High School team was defeated at Smith's Falls by the Collegiate team of that place Friday night. The boys left here on the 3.40 C. N. R. train, arrived in Smith's Falls in time to play at 8 o'clock, fought a good fight and returned on the midnight, spending six hours at the junction. They speak highly of the ability of their opponents and are looking forward to the return game here on Saturday.

W. I. Meeting

At the regular meeting of the Women's Institute to be held Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Eaton will give a paper on "Business points concerning deeds, mortgages, wills, etc.," and Miss Gladys Johnston will discuss "The power and value of the ideal in our lives." A large attendance is hoped for.

Appointed Vice-President.

Mayor J. A. Derbyshire, of Brockville, has been appointed a district vice-president of the Hydro-Electric Railway and Municipal Association of Ontario.

Phillipsville Soldier Recovering.

Seth George, of Phillipsville, was informed on Saturday by the records office, Ottawa, that 639599, Pte. Edward George, was on February 11 reported no longer dangerously ill at the 10th General Hospital, Brighton, England.

Given Command of Hospital.

From England comes advices that Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. Bedell, M. D., who went overseas for the second time as officer in command of the 156th Battalion, has been appointed officer in command of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Red Cross Hospital at Bexhill, a Canadian training center. Lieut.-Col. Bedell, who is a Merrickville man, was first on active service with the 15th Battalion and returned to Canada to command the 156th. Recently he relinquished the command of a Canadian Casualty Center in England.

Attacked by Cat.

As Mrs. (Dr.) Addison, Henry street, was putting her pet cat in the cellar for the night, the animal, which is very large, attacked her with all the ferocity of a wild cat, throwing her to the floor, lacerating her hand and arm. Dr. Moore was hastily summoned, and did all he could, but owing to Mrs. Addison's advanced years, her condition is considered precarious.

Memorial Services

At the Baptist Church Sunday morning, an impressive memorial service was held for Pte. Gerald Botsford, who was recently killed in action. The church was becomingly decorated and was filled with a sympathetic audience who listened to a fine sermon by the pastor, Rev. G. Victor Collins. The preacher placed in its true light the sacrifice of Canada's young manhood and contrasted it with the attitude of the non-combatants who in many cases are taking advantage of the unusual conditions. One of the finest war sermons delivered in any of the village churches, it will long be remembered in connection with the passing of a boy who cheerfully died for his country.

MR. DONOVAN PROMINENT IN BUDGET DEBATE

Local Member's Speech Strikes Higher Tone than Mere Partisanship—His Efforts for Development of Peat Industry Successful.

Party polemics were at a discount in the budget debate in the Legislature. It was a love-feast. As A. E. Donovan, the Conservative Member for Brockville, put it, "all the speeches and criticisms had been as weak as the letter 'p' in 'pneumonia.'" William McDonald, the North Bruce Liberal, not inaptly phrased it when he said, "Everything is going like a big county council." Mr. Donovan's Pleasing Speech.

One of the most satisfying speeches was made by Mr. Donovan. His speech was pleasing, because, at a time when both parties in the House were endeavoring to reach an agreement for the extension of the life of this Legislature and avoid the distraction of a war-time election, the remarks he made were of a felicitous character, and, while he effectively parried certain attempts at criticism, he really addressed the members from higher ground than mere partisanship.

Mr. Donovan was the first speaker to observe the amenities of the occasion completely. He first congratulated Mr. Proudfoot on becoming leader of the Opposition. He remarked on the personal loss he had sustained on the death of Mr. S. T. Wood, who from his place in the press gallery used to animadvert upon the frailties of Conservative politicians, but in his private life, and especially in his nature studies, was a genial companion and warm friend. He congratulated the Sergeant-at-Arms on completing fifty years in that office, and startled the House by extending his good wishes to Mr. A. H. Sydere, Clerk of the House, who, unknown to most, had also run a half century in the service of the House.

Discussing the proposed extension of the term of the present House, Mr. Donovan admitted that he had been astounded when he found that large powers had been given under the British North America Act to the provincial legislatures. He contrasted the position of the Legislature in Ontario with that of the Congress of the United States, which could not amend the constitution without a three-fourths vote of all the states. In Australia, which was a closer comparison to Canada, an amendment could not be made to the constitution without a referendum.

Criticism of Professor Mavor.

Proceeding, the member from Brockville criticised adversely a recent pamphlet by Professor Mavor, the University of Toronto, condemning the Hydro-Electric public ownership enterprise in Ontario, because the full benefit of that policy of the Conservative Government went to the mass of the people. He produced interesting figures to show what the latent water power resources of the country amounted to. The Hydro engineers estimated that there are sufficient water powers in Ontario south of the French River to generate 2,201,100 horse power. There is as much more latent energy in the rivers of Northern Ontario. Considering the possible hydro horse power at Niagara as 3,000,000 he showed that the potential energy of hydro when a full development had taken place at about 7,200,000 horse power. It took about twenty tons of coal annually to produce one horse power, so that if Ontario only developed a total of 3,000,000 horse power, the saving would be about 60,000,000 tons annually or about \$180,000,000.

Directing his remarks to the war Mr. Donovan paid a well deserved tribute to the British navy. "It is the breath of life to the British Empire," he said, amid applause. Sailing and commanding the seven seas, since the war broke out, the navy had transported over 13,000,000 men, 2,000,000 horses, 53 million tons of coal and oil; 26 million tons of munitions and supplies; and had maintained a complete blockade of all ocean-going German commerce. The Government was responsible to the people for what it did, said Mr. Donovan, and he was within the mark in stating that no Government in the history of the Province had given such wise and progressive leg-

Continued on page 5

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The Merchants' Bank OF CANADA.

ATHENS BRANCH

F. A. ROBERTSON, Manager

MAIL SERVICE DEMORALIZED

cancelling of Trains on the C.N.R. Will Cripple the Present Poor Connections.

Much concern is felt over the cancelling of two trains a day on the C.N.R. and while the conservation of coal is recognized as a necessity, the residents of the village and vicinity believe that some arrangement should be made to get western mail from Brockville as soon as it arrives there. To this end, the post office department has been importuned, and the following communications are no doubt steps toward a solution of the problem:

Athens, Ont.,

February 18, 1918

Henry Merrick, Esq.
Post Office Inspector,
Kingston, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly permit me to call your attention to "notice" of the Canadian Northern Railway Co. announcing change of Train Service on the Brockville and Westport division of their R. R. System and also to call your attention to the fact that said change in train service will almost completely demoralize the mail service for Athens and vicinity.

In view of this peculiar disturbance of the mail service and the difficulties in all business circles in consequence, we hope that, in the conduct of your department, you will immediately take action in the direction of having the mail from Brockville to Athens taken by the Daily Stage Route now under management of R. C. Latimer, or perhaps, happily some better plan may be wisely evolved, under your most excellent management, for the relief of the embarrassing situation.

Thanking you in anticipation I have the honor to be Sir Your obedient servant,
M. B. HOLMES, Reeve.

Kingston, Ont.,

February 19, 1918.

Mr. M. B. Holmes, Reeve,
Athens, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th inst., re proposed change in the running of trains on the Brockville and Westport Division of the Canadian Northern Railway, and have to inform you that the matter will receive prompt attention.

Yours truly,
H. MERRICK, P. O. Inspector.

Fuel Controller Was Born in This District.

Mr. Charles A. McGrath, who has adopted the American idea of "heatless Mondays" to solve the coal situation, was born in North Augusta in 1860, and went to the West as a land surveyor, as a very young man, finally taking up his residence at Lethbridge, Alta., where he became prominent in politics as a Conservative. He sat in the House of Commons from 1908 until 1911 as a member for the constituency of Medicine Hat, since redistributed. A few years ago, the Borden Government appointed him to the International Waterways Commission, and a few months ago, he also became Fuel Controller.

AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Mobilize Labor for Spring Seeding

A official statement issued reads: "The Canada Food Board is preparing plans for the mobilization of labor for the spring seeding operations. On the number of men available for seeding the production of crops in Canada will largely depend. Men familiar with handling horses will be specially needed, and it is essential that they be secured to work on the land. For this reason, employers of such labor in urban centers, especially merchants, will be well advised at once to consider the adoption of co-operative methods of delivery of driving horses, and especially all those with farm experience."

From the Official Records.

The Kingston Whig publishes the records of all discharged soldiers in this district. The following is of interest:

639447, Private Gardiner, joined the 156th Battalion at Elgin on Jan. 22nd, 1916. After training at Barriefield, he went overseas in the following October. In England he was quartered at Witley, and transferred later to the 120th Battalion at Bramshott. While there, he was drafted to the 3rd Labor Battalion in the North Camp, but did not accompany the unit to France, being drafted to Mytchett Musketry Camp, Aldershot, where he remained until leaving for Canada last November. His home is in Addison.

NOTICE

Owing to E. Taylor going out of the auctioneer business, I hold a license for the Counties of Leeds and Grenville, and will conduct all sales that I may be favored with. Phone 94, Smith's Falls, or Athens Reporter for dates and particulars.
D. C. HEALEY,
Auctioneer

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