

## ONE STEP TOWARDS MOTHERS' PENSIONS

Representatives of Many Organizations Approach Premier Hearst.

### A FEDERAL MATTER

New Zealand, France and Twenty-Seven States Are Quoted as Examples.

Representative of many provincial and local organizations and interests was the delegation that waited on Sir William Hearst at the parliament buildings yesterday morning for the purpose of pressing upon the government the need for the establishment of mothers' pensions.

The subject of allowance for the mother and children of a fatherless family has become familiar to the social welfare worker under the name of "pensions," and has for about eleven years been in the minds of various organizations in Toronto. The Local Council of Women having given the method a practical test by supplying funds for a certain number of families. The time is deemed opportune by advocates of the system to make mothers' pensions a state care, hence the delegation of yesterday.

Rev. Peter Bryce, in introducing the delegation, emphasized its representative character. They appeared, he said, on behalf of widows and their dependent children. How great the problem to maintain these has become to Toronto is only known to those interested in social and particularly in child welfare work. They had come to the conclusion that private enterprise could no longer meet the demands which the problems involve.

**Increasing Pauperism.** For over a year, said Mr. Bryce, a committee had been gathering information on the subject. The conclusion arrived at was that to do the work of caring for the widow and her dependent child inadequately was only increasing pauperism. The government alone could meet the needs of the fatherless child. The delegation asked that in order to preserve child life child labor be eliminated and that slums be destroyed, and that this be done by making it possible for the mother to remain at home with her children.

Gilbert Agar, secretary of the Social Service Council for Ontario, told of the question having been taken up and endorsed by councils in Brantford, Stratford, Galt, Ottawa, London and throughout the province generally, and that a definite resolution had been passed to wait upon the government. The speaker said that even if the matter of mothers' pensions is taken up by the government there will still be much to be done by social organizations and by the churches.

Representing organized labor, James Gunn reminded the premier that a delegation from the party he represented

had already brought the question before the federal government at Ottawa and that it had been brought up on other occasions. Mothers' allowances should be made, said Mr. Gunn, so that the mother would not be forced out into industry. The foundation of religion is in the home, the speaker pointed out, and the state suffers where this is neglected.

**Child Tied to Table.** On behalf of the Local Council of Women, Mrs. A. M. Huestis told of the incident that had awakened her organization to the need in Toronto for the legislation which the delegation was asking. Eleven years ago a social worker in trying to get admittance to a house found the door locked, and on looking thru the window saw a child of three years tied with ropes to the bed. A plate of food was near, but there was no other provision for the child. On investigation the mother said that she had to go out to work to support the child, and that as there was no one to care for it in her absence she tied it to the bed was the best means of which she knew to keep it from danger. The solution for such conditions, said Mrs. Huestis, is mothers' pensions.

Mrs. Huestis pointed out that 27 states in the union, besides New Zealand, France, Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, had mothers' pensions. She stated that in Chicago out of 1754 children who had come under the pension system only one had become delinquent. The practical interest of the women's council of Toronto had been proved when they took six women with their families, 23 children in all, and supported them for three years.

The number of organizations, which included almost all the social and other organized workers of the Dominion which supported the request for mothers' pensions, was then enumerated by Mr. Bryce, who also instanced a case of a widow dying, old and worn out at 25 in an attempt to do the impossible by keeping her home and family together. In his belief it would be a mockery to say that God would punish the death of that woman. Summing up, Mr. Bryce asked that funds be provided and law established to bring about mothers' pensions without unnecessary delay, and that the funds be adequate and the administration of the very best.

**Another Side.** An attentive hearing was given by the premier, who expressed himself as sympathetic with mothers of dependent children. He pointed out, however, that there were two sides, and that since the war especially the matter had been made more complicated because of patriotic funds, soldiers' widows' pensions and the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act. He thought a royal commission or other means would finally dispose of the question in the best way possible. The premier also pointed out that while the delegation was so representative it was public opinion that will stand by the law, councils that will work and ratepayers who will not grumble that are of real value to the government. Hospitals, houses of refuge and the feeble-minded through the province are all asking for assistance, said the premier, and while the provincial treasurer had not been without resourcefulness there is a limit. He thought the municipalities

should take the burden direct rather than that the province should increase taxation. The war, the premier said, had taught greater thought for all people, and the country would be a better place for people to live in, a statement which gave encouragement to the delegation to hope that mothers' pensions would be part of the better era.

## LIQUOR SHIPMENTS SENT AS CROCKERY

Magistrate Denison imposed a fine of \$300 and costs of three months on both D. Shaine and S. Blatt for having liquor in their possession. These are the two men who were arrested on Thursday evening in a University avenue house with the goods, by Plain-clothesmen Ward and Scott. The detectives secreted themselves in the house after discovering the stuff, and presently Shaine came in and was promptly arrested. A large diary was found on him, in which several entries had been made. Both the accused admitted shipping liquor to Malton, Ont., under the nom de plume of "crockery."

The price they paid for the goods was \$10 a gallon, and \$1.50 an hour auto hire for delivering it. C. Robinson, K.C., defended the men, and wanted to know why the railway could not be summoned for carrying the liquor from Montreal to Toronto. Crown Attorney Corley wanted to know how much of the ordinary dope those ten gallons would make. To which the witnesses said that it could be diluted down three or four to one and sold for \$5 per pint.

A former member of the Toronto police force, Charles Watson, appeared in yesterday's court on a charge of vagrancy. A remand was requested by Staff Sergeant McKinnery, stating that the serious charge of distributing Bolshevik propaganda would be laid shortly.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OPEN ARMY HOSTELS

Within the next few days the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Army Huts expect to open a hostel for returned soldiers, to be operated along lines similar to those that have been established by the Y. M. C. A. and Salvation Army in different centres.

It is the intention to open three hostels at every one of the 23 dispersal centres that are to form a chain across the continent. Col. Clarence Smith of the Red Cross, Montreal, has the entire work under his supervision, and there will be a man in charge in every province. The chief and permanent help, together with other expenses, will be financed by the Knights and Huts, but it is expected that voluntary assistance will be given in the matter of serving by different organizations of women. The site for Toronto will be decided upon almost immediately, and it is expected that the hostel will be in operation in about a week.

Horace Downes' discharge from military service will be applied for by the Toronto Board of Education. He is now overseas.

## Follies of the Passing Show—By Mitchell

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EMBARRASSING MOMENTS  
Stuck!

## KITCHENER GANG BROUGHT TO BOOK

Wholesale Liquor Agents Pay Four Thousand Dollars in Fines.

A total of \$4200 in fines was imposed on several members of what is known in official circles as the "Kitchener Gang," by the Ontario License Board. This organization has for a long time been operating on a very large scale, and it was only through the efforts of the detectives of the department that they have been brought to justice.

to a certain person in Toronto, who is incognito an agent of the board. The first lot of whiskey cost \$15 a gallon, sold in ten gallon kegs. Four kegs were later sold for \$560. The last shipment which was delivered from Kitchener, was seized in the possession of George Doer, and he was fined \$800 by Magistrate Denison. The total value of the shipment was \$771, as proven by a bill now in the possession of the board. Emil Ruff now faces three charges.

J. H. Meyer was another chief offender. He secreted his supply in a barn near Galt, where the agent was taken to secure it. A fine of \$1000 was imposed, which is the maximum. A general raid throughout the Town of Kitchener brought to light 150 gallons, and the result was that \$2400 was added to the treasury of the board. The solicitor for the defendants, when the prosecution was completed, complimented the officers of the board on securing such an excellent chain of evidence.

## PRICE FOR FISH TO BE INCREASED

Heavy Demand Will Result in Advancement in Price to Consumer.

As a result of the increased difficulty of securing fish in the winter time and particularly during the present season, when the northern lakes have remained open because of the unprecedented mild weather, the fisheries department of the provincial government will offer for sale government fish at a slightly higher rate than was charged during the summer months. This new scale will go into effect immediately, and the public will be required to pay 18 cents per pound and the dealers 14 cents, instead of the former 15 cents.

The unusually mild weather which has prevailed in the north country, where the lakes are still open, has rendered it impossible for fishermen to carry on operations in the usual manner during the winter season. As a result, with the increased demand for fish following the holiday season, when poultry was prominent on the bill-of-fare, the Ontario Fisheries Department is faced with the necessity of meeting the current demand directly out of its reserve stock of frozen fish. Yesterday the department received orders for twelve tons of trout and whitefish, which is more than 6 per cent of the total reserve.

S. L. Squires, director of distribution, stated yesterday that unless the lakes should freeze up right away, the reserve of fish would be exhausted by February 1. He hoped, however, that active fishing would be begun before very long. A letter received from the north stated that the Indians there could not remember a year in which the lakes remained open so long. The government has deemed it necessary to charge a higher price for fish now being sent out to government dealers.

Mr. Squires announced yesterday afternoon, following a conference with the Hon. F. G. Macdormid, minister of public works, that government trout and whitefish would be retailed to the public for the winter at 18 cents per pound, the dealers receiving the fish at 14 cents instead of 11 1/2 cents. Formerly dealers were allowed to charge an extra two cents per pound for delivery, but it is doubtful if they will be allowed to continue this during the winter, when the cost of handling fish is lower. The dealers are allowed an extra half-cent a pound profit.

"We are instructing our dealers," said Mr. Squires, "that they must not charge more than 18 cents per pound, and that, I think, should cover delivery as well."

### BUILDING PERMITS.

A permit for the erection of three attached two-story dwelling houses was granted by the city architect's department yesterday to Harrington and Bage, 82 Wheeler avenue. The houses are to be erected on Gerard street near Woodbine avenue, and will cost about \$6000. Several other smaller permits were also granted by the department.

## PLACE PALESTINE IN BRITISH HANDS

Canadian Jews Would Rather Britain Should Be Guardian of Race.

Canadian Jews are strongly in favor of a settlement of the question as to the future of Palestine that will leave the country under the protection of Great Britain rather than under a joint guardianship of a group of nations. This was how Clarence D. De Sola, who is the president of the Zionists of Canada, expressed himself when referring to the matter yesterday. Mr. De Sola is here to attend the convention of Zionists, which will open its meeting in the city on Sunday next. Mr. and Mrs. De Sola are staying at the Prince George, and will remain in Toronto during the convention, which is the 16th gathering of the Canadian Zionists, and of which Mr. De Sola is the chief promoter.

Mr. De Sola thinks that, while the Jewish people will not have any official representative at the peace congress, their claims will be presented to the statesmen who will be gathered there, and they will be heard as to their wishes with relation to the establishment of a homeland in Palestine for the race. The national aspirations of the Jewish peoples have been strongly pressed on the allied governments during the last few months, and when the time comes for the settlement of Palestine's future their wishes will doubtless be given consideration.

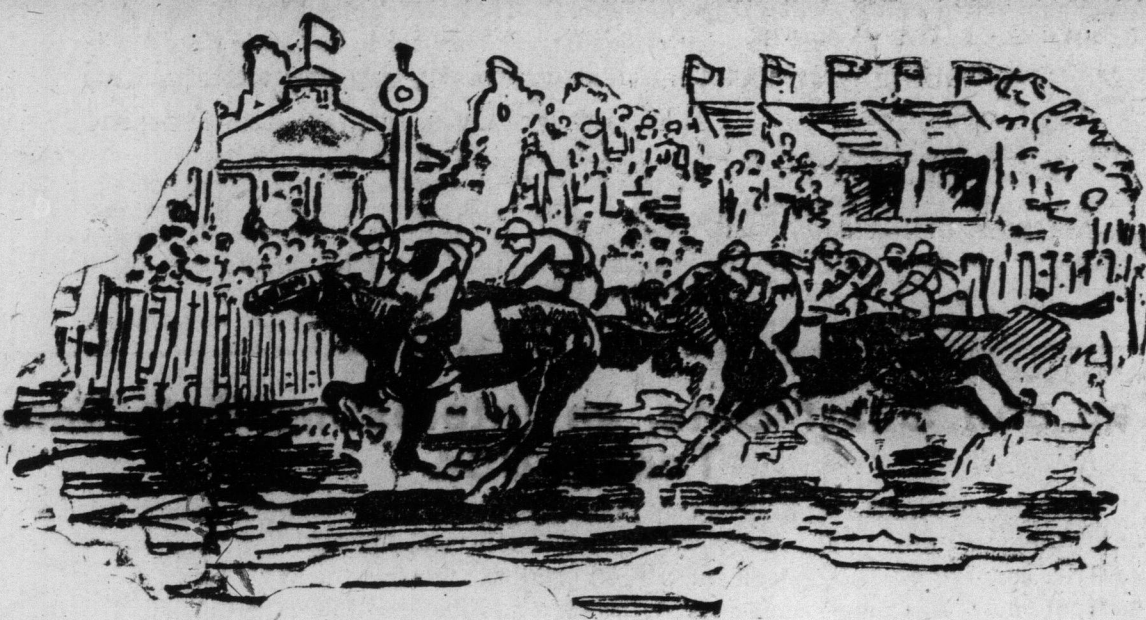
Mr. De Sola had a conference last year with the Hon. A. J. Balfour when he was in Montreal, and he had then the opportunity of presenting the views of Canadian Zionists to the British Government, and it was soon after that interview that Great Britain thru the foreign secretary announced her sympathy with the aims of the Jews to have a national state of their own established in Palestine.

Mr. De Sola has been the Belgian consul in Montreal for the last 15 years and has had many opportunities of urging his views and the ambitions of the Zionists, whom he represents, on the different government officials with whom he has been brought into contact. Mrs. De Sola is also an enthusiastic worker in the interests of her people, and is well-known in Montreal for her many charitable undertakings.

### MISS ROSE SIDGWICK'S DEATH.

Many in Toronto received with regret the news of the death of Miss Rose Sidgwick, who lately visited Toronto as a member of the British Educational Mission. While in Toronto she was a very popular and brilliant visitor, and a good deal of admiration and made many friends, and the untimely close of her career is keenly felt.

Miss Sidgwick was stricken in New York with influenza shortly before the time set for her return to the old land. The disease developed into pneumonia and she died on Dec. 28. She was buried in the chapel of Columbia University on New Year's Day.



## LOOK, THEY'RE OFF!

TIGER ROSE IS LEADING AT THE QUARTER, GALLANT LAD AND PUBLICO ARE RUNNING NECK AND NECK AT THE HALF--- BUT NOW MISS GYPSY IS LEADING THE CLOSELY BUNCHED FIELD! HERE THEY COME DOWN THE STRAIGHTWAY--- NEARER AND NEARER---BUT LOOK---SEE LADY LOVE COME UP---AH! SHE TAKES THE LEAD BY A NOSE---SHE LEADS BY A HEAD---THERE SHE BREEZES UNDER THE WIRE, WINNER BY HALF A LENGTH.

THIS IS ONLY ONE OF THE MANY EXCITING MOMENTS IN

MAURICE  
TOURNEUR'S

# "SPORTING LIFE"

THE GREATEST OF ENGLISH MELODRAMAS

SEE

THE THRILLING PRIZEFIGHT AT THE NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB, LONDON.  
DERBY DAY AT EPSOM DOWNS WITH THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS.  
THE SENSATIONAL KIDNAPPING IN THE LONDON FOG.

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ALLEN  
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AT  
THE

# ALLEN--ALL NEXT WEEK