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LOCAL NEWS OF SOLDIERS

It was announced yesterday at the office of the New Brunswick commandant that another forestry company had been authorized. It is to be raised by Major Lionel Harrington of Montreal, a former officer in the 14th Battalion, and will be mobilized and recruited in northern New Brunswick. This makes three forestry companies now authorized for the maritime provinces. One is in Sussex under the command of Major H. S. Jones, another in Digby, under the command of Major Stetelin. It is reported that no more commissions are to be granted in the Canadian expeditionary force in Canada. Officers now qualified, if they elect to enlist, will be collected at convenient centres and sent over to England. Ten recruits were secured in the city yesterday. Ernest Dick, Moore's Mills, No. 16 Field Ambulance; Leon Melanson, Fred Richards, Isadore Arsenault, Rogersville; Roy Fortes, Fredericton; R. C. G. A.; Gordon R. Clarke, Fairville, No. 9 Siege Battery; William Barrett, St. John, N. C. V. R.; Beverly Long, St. John, Canadian Engineers; William Barrett, St. John, and Frederick Sayer, Campbellton, naval service. The new battalion that Hon. P. E. Blondin, postmaster-general, will raise and command will be the 28th, and its headquarters will be at Montreal and Three Rivers. The regiment will be recruited throughout Quebec. Lieutenant E. G. Weeks, son of Major Weeks, of the inland revenue department here, has been appointed signaller of the 1st Canadian heavy artillery brigade in France. He enlisted as a private and not long ago was given a commission. He has won a military medal and recently was awarded a bar to it.

BOY SCOUT NOTES

Having been officially thanked for assistance in recruiting, B. C. Waring, district scout master, found new work for local boy scouts yesterday in responding to a special appeal on behalf of the military. Mr. Waring decided to call out a troop in uniform to assist in the collection of material for the white elephant and rummage sale to be held here and as the list of donations is expected to include, besides the usual second-hand clothing, all kinds of household goods discarded in expectation of the May moving, such as old dishes, ornaments, pictures, etc., the boys will probably give two half days to the work. The letter of thanks to Mr. Waring, read at a meeting of the St. John council Tuesday evening, came from Lieut. A. R. Laing, who acknowledged assistance in recruiting for the army service corps.

THE BAPTIST MINISTERS

(Maritime Baptist)
We are sorry to learn that Rev. C. W. Walden, the devoted pastor of the churches on the Norton field, is laid aside from work for the present. All will hope that the threatened loss of voice may be but temporary. Sergeant S. M. Hilde, L.C., who enlisted with the 219th and is now in France, will have the sincere sympathy of many friends in the sad home news that will soon reach him. His father is seriously ill and, while in a critical condition, has the further misfortune to break his thigh-bone. While his father was so sick, his mother took seriously ill and in ten days passed away. We extend our hearty congratulations to Harold C. Robinson, B.A., who on March 12 was married to Miss Ruth M. Post, of Ivorytown, Conn. He is a son of Rev. W. H. Robinson, now of Southampton, N. S. After graduating at Acadia in 1910, he entered upon a post-graduate course at Yale and expects to receive his Ph.D. degree from that institution in June. He has already accepted a good position as bacteriologist in the Lederle Laboratory, Pearl River, N. Y. The church at Windsor, N. S., has extended a hearty call to Rev. H. G. Kennedy, of Houlton, Me. Before going to Houlton he held successful pastorates at the Glades, Sussex, and Woodstock.

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCATES

ADVERTISE FOR RECRUITS
Boston, March 28.—A local committee on public safety by means of first page advertisements in the papers here, appealed for recruits for the national guard. "We want," says the appeal, "men who believe in combining readiness to serve with willingness to serve, and we want them now."

SEVERAL KILLED IN

EXPLOSION IN BAPAUME
Paris, March 28.—An accidental explosion occurred yesterday in the city hall at Bapaume and several persons were hurt in the debris. Reoul Briquet and Albert Tallandier, deputies from the Arrondissement of Arras, who have been engaged in relief work, are reported to be among the victims.

LOCAL NEWS

BY-LAW MATTER
Charles Haley, Miss Gledhill, the police magistrate this morning on report for allowing his horse, attached to a slown, to wander about Mill street, Policeman Colwell said that he noticed the team coming along Mill street without a driver, who tied the horse to a nearby pole, and it remained there for half an hour. Mr. Haley said that he strapped his horse when he went into the C. F. H. freight shed and that someone had removed the foot-strap. The explanation was accepted and the penalty, although struck, was allowed to stand.

DAY-VANWART

On Monday, March 26, at the residence of Rev. H. A. Cody, 250 St. James street, Miss Gledhill, VanWart of this city was united in marriage to Edmund Day, also of St. John. The bride was attended by her sisters, Edna Dennis of 115 Britain street, and the groom supported by Christie Irons. The ceremony was performed in the presence of few immediate relatives and friends of the principals. Mr. and Mrs. Day will take up their residence in Montreal.

NEW POLICE UNIFORMS

The first sample of the policemen's new summer suits has reached headquarters and is in charge of Day Deakin Hopkins. It is distinctly military in appearance. Dark gray in color, well fitting but with room for action, it gives the wearer a smart, alert and military bearing. The caps are typically military and are dark gray in accord with the short coat and breeches. The uniform is neat and regarded as the latest in "police outfits." It is expected that the entire lot will be completed about the middle of next month.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATES

A first aid class lately held at the Girls' Club, under the careful instruction of Quartermaster Sergeant Silson, on examination by Major Skinner, has to record the success of eight young ladies, who are now the possessors of certificates received from Ottawa. Miss Florence M. Gilchrist and Miss Augusta M. Pitt led the class with ninety-five and ninety-four marks respectively. Miss Florence C. Garnett, Miss Kathleen M. Huxley, Miss Mary Christian, Miss Evelyn Bradshaw, Miss Mary Christiansen and Miss Leola D. Patchell also made very good marks.

RETURNING TO STATIONS

Rev. Stephen Connolly, C.S.S.R., who was in the city to attend the funeral of Rev. Martin Maloney, C.S.S.R., left last evening for Montreal. After Easter Father Connolly will give a series of missions in Cape Breton. Rev. Edward Holland, C.S.S.R., of St. Patrick's Church, Quebec, who was also in the city to attend the funeral, left this afternoon. This evening Rev. Sinon Grogan, C.S.S.R., who came to attend the funeral as a representative of the vice-provincial of the Redemptorist Congregation in Canada, will leave for Toronto via Boston and Buffalo. All three priests were formerly stationed at St. Peter's church.

A QUESTION AS TO USE OF INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL SERVICE CARDS

St. John Machinist Gets Letter From Grand Trunk Offering Position on Strength of Card Statements

Is the boasted national service scheme of the government at Ottawa to be utilized to assist one private corporation in robbing another of some of its employees? This question has been raised by a letter received by an employee of the Maritime Mail Works. The letter is from the labor agent of the Grand Trunk Railway and informs the machinist in question that the information on his national service card has been given to the Grand Trunk by the national service board, and informing him that they are open to offer him a position. Manager Elkin has enquired both of the government and the national service board why the information given on national service cards should be handed over to any private corporation, but he has not yet received a reply. As his orders they have quite as much need of their men, from a national standpoint, as has the Grand Trunk Railway. The most serious phase of the matter, however, is the suggested possibility that information given for national purposes may be exploited by government consent for private gain, and it is to get information on this point that Manager Elkin has written to Ottawa.

MOTOR PATROL SORELY NEEDED BY THE LOCAL POLICE, SAYS CHIEF

"There is nothing more sorely needed in connection with our police department at the present time than a police motor patrol," said Chief Simpson to a Times reporter this morning. The authority granted yesterday by the common council to the committee of public safety in reference to such a vehicle is a step in advance with the times and needs of a police force in a city the size of St. John," said the chief. "Few people," he continued, "are aware of the inconvenience of the present system. There are cases where word has been sent to the stable for the petrol and after a two hours wait it would reach its destination. Horses are too slow for this work and in many instances the driver would be waiting for a half an hour, an hour and sometimes more before the outfit would be available. "In the case of handling crazed criminals, especially in the busiest sections of the city where traffic is heavy and many people congregate, the police, in waiting for the arrival of the patrol, are often held up to ridicule and uncalled for and unnecessary trouble and disturbances are the outcome. With a motor patrol wagon this would naturally be avoided. Drunkenness is not a crime, it is only an offence," remarked the chief, "but in cases where such arrests are being made it often induces more serious charges which could be avoided if a quicker mode of conveyance were available. "The present day patrol wagon system in St. John is antiquated" was one of the remarks of the chief "in cases that arise in remote parts of the city the new motor patrol will be a decided improvement in dealing with them."

THE MATTER OF CHARGE FOR ELECTRIC LIGHT BY NEW COMPANY

A Letter From Householder and a Statement by General-Manager Hopper

The question as to whether or not the New Brunswick Power Company should charge a minimum rate to householders, in fairness to their customers, is the subject of considerable discussion in the city, since the new power schedule was announced. A letter to the Editor of the Times "Referring to the much mooted big reduction in electric rates and meter rent cut on by the New Brunswick Power Company, in effect April 1, the following table for 1915-16 will show how much benefit the new arrangement is going to be to the many small householders or economical users of electricity: 1915. January ... \$1.25 February ... \$1.70 March ... 1.02 April ... 1.02 May ... .82 June ... .62 July ... .62 August ... .75 September ... 1.10 October ... 1.10 November ... 1.46 December ... 1.56 Total ... \$12.83 Total ... \$11.42 "It can be seen that the writer in the months of May to August inclusive, 1915, would have to pay \$1.58 more, if he continued to use electricity economically; and in 1916, during the months of April to September inclusive, under the new system, would have to pay \$2.48 more for his lighting than under the old rate, for the new arrangements has the minimum monthly charge of \$1 against all users. "The no meter rent is therefore going to be saving and the many hundreds of small users of electricity will have to pay, as they generally do. "The benefits of the Housewives' League, perhaps some others will give a statement of comparison and in the meantime explanation of the reasons due from the board of public utilities. "HOUSEHOLDER." H. M. Hopper, general manager of the company, when interviewed on the subject, said that very few cities in Canada were without a minimum rate. He said that the initial cost of connecting with a small house was \$100. In addition to this it cost four cents each time a metre was read and four cents each time a bill was sent out. The inspection fee for each metre was seventy-five cents, which had to be made every four years, an extra expenditure per metre of about nineteen cents a year. "That any householder who used less than \$1 worth of light a month was supposed to be less by the company was another statement that the general manager made. Referring to Householder's table, he said that in 1916 there were practically eight months of the year in which the company lost money on this particular household. He said that in the month of August when his bill was but forty-eight cents, he used but twenty-seven cents worth of light, or burned one lamp thirty-five hours during the month, or about one hour each day. Another explanation in defence of the company's action, as put up by Mr. Hopper, was that when the company borrowed money to make its connections, for the benefit of small householders, the money cost an average of six per cent. All this has to be considered, he says, of the opinion that a minimum charge of one dollar a month was very reasonable indeed.

POLICE COURT

George Costigan, a returned soldier, was fined \$80 in the police court this morning for resisting the police in King street last evening and \$8 for drunkenness. Policeman Melnick said that his attention was drawn to the actions of Costigan in King street about 10 o'clock last night. He was drunk, had his hat and coat off and was looking for fight. He and Policeman Corner placed him under arrest. Costigan violently resisted and called out to the returned soldiers to help him. The police say that a large crowd which gathered about the scene to the soldier not to go with the police. Sheriff Wilson said that he was going down King street and noticed the defendant. He told him he had better go home. The sheriff said that after declaring his identity, he met with resistance. The magistrate fined the defendant as mentioned and said that he would have to pay to enter a plea. William Murray was remanded on charges of molesting pedestrians in the street and for being drunk. Harry Johnson, a returned soldier of the 128th Battalion, was before the court on a drunkenness charge and also breaking a pane of glass in Mrs. C. H. Horseman's house in Haymarket square, valued at \$4. The window will be paid for. An assault case aired in the police court this morning was said to have its origin in a dispute over who owned some soft beer that was in the workshop of Taylor & White, coopers, in Elm street. The defendant was Gerald Tracey and the complaint was laid by James E. Taylor. The latter said that Tracey called at his place of business last week and caused annoyance and trouble. Charles Dodd, an employe, said Tracey interfered with him while he was at work. As Tracey approached, Dodd said that he, Dodd, put up his foot for protection. A scuffle followed with the result that an anvil, which was on a half barrel, rolled off and fell on Dodd's foot, injuring it severely. The defendant said that he went into the shop to get some pay (seventy-five cents) that was due him. Dodd was in the shop. They got into an argument over who was the owner of some soft drinks. The defendant said that he was struck first and in the scuffle the anvil fell on Dodd's foot. He was warned to keep away from the shop. The magistrate found that Tracey was liable to \$28.88 for drunkenness and \$20 for assault on Dodd.

ACCIDENT

George Cady, a longshoreman, was painfully injured yesterday afternoon while working in one of the sheds at Sand Point. He was caught between a hatch and a door and was quite badly crushed, although no bones were broken. Dr. J. T. Dalton attended to his injuries and he was taken to his home at 456 Main street.

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