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THE E.T.D. AND THE ELECTIONS.

During the General Elections held in December last, reports were circulated that the soldiers vote was to be used by the government to defeat the will of the electors. It was stated that in certain constituencies, these votes were to be improperly allocated, although anything like this was impossible, under the law.

Nevertheless these reports were widely accepted.

When the soldiers vote came to be counted, the foolishness of the statement in question was exposed. Ballots not marked properly with the constituency in which the soldier resided, were simply thrown out. In the counting of the soldiers ballots the duty was performed with the same fairness that characterized the counting of civilian votes.

Charges have been recently made that there was a conspiracy in certain constituencies, to fraudulently manipulate soldier votes, in favor of certain Union candidates; that military officers shared in this improper business; that soldier voters were deceived or coerced.

So far as the voting at the E.T.D. is concerned we refuse to believe that any irregularities were attempted, either by officers or others attached to the Depot. We think that those who know the officers and those in authority at the St. Johns Depot, will also refuse to believe that fraudulent voting, or fraudulent returns of any kind were permitted.

Almost to a man, the Canadian Engineers were in favor of Union Government. What is more, for months prior to the elections, they had been strong advocates of the principles for which Union Government stood.

So far as the soldier was concerned the issue was clear. That issue was, "How Best To Beat The Hun".

The soldier at the front,—Our Comrade,—Our Brother,—Our kith and kin, were risking their lives for us. There were fighting organized militarism, combined with brutal murder of innocent and helpless women and children. He was fighting against the possibility of a world ruled by tyranny and by ruthlessness.

So far as the soldier was concerned policies did not becloud the issue. Was it to be war or no war? Union or Disruption? Freedom or Slavery? Valor or Cowardice? These were the questions to be decided. They do not savor of politics.

As regards any statements that may have appeared in the Depot Newspaper, "Knots and Lashings", we offer no apology. In accord with nine tenths of the newspapers in Canada, we reprinted official messages from General Sir Arthur Currie, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., Lieut. General Sir Richard Turner, V.C.; Major Gen. Burstal, Major General David Watson, and Major Gen. L. J. Lipsett.

Our comment on these messages was restrained and conservative.

LAMB!
"Knots and Lashings" where it stood on December 17th, 1917, namely, behind the trench, are giving up their lives.

We observe that one of the opponents of the Union Government, proposes to arrest those soldiers upon whom "dark suspicion" rests. We would therefore respectfully nominate this honorable member, as a suitable person to serve the necessary papers. He will find most of the men against whom his charges have been levelled in or near the front line. As, however, just at present, these men are standing between him and the disciples of German Kultur, we would suggest that it might be well for a time, to defer the action which he advocates.

GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK.

One by one or in groups, the Civilian-Engineer-Officers drop off the incoming trains at St. Johns, P.Q. They spend a few weeks or a few months at the E. T. D., and acquire the maximum amount of military training in the minimum of time.

And presently, without any fuss and almost unnoticed, they slip away, bound for "an Atlantic port". Then someone else merely takes their chairs and the ranks close up again.

During the past week, five more of the Officers attached for training to the E. T. D., packed their grips and started off on another lap of the Great Crusade. They were typical of the class of officers now passing through the Depot. Mr. A. H. Legge, Assoc. M. Can. Soc. C.E. is an old Varsity man who has had charge of important Railway construction work for the C.P.R. and C.N.R. for quite ten years. Mr. L. H. Watt, is an R.M.C. graduate of the Vintage '09 who has held responsible positions with the Schewinigan Co., the Penn. Water & Power Co., the Mexican Northern Power Co., and more recently with large petroleum interests in Mexico. Messrs. E. V. Robinson, W. S. Lawrence and D. McNicoll are younger men but all are graduates of recognized universities with one or more years practical experience. To one and all "Knots and Lashings" wishes a safe voyage and the best of luck.

THOSE ENGINEERS.

On Wednesday morning, near the busy hour of noon, a team attached to a heavy truck belonging to Stewart, Denault & Co., got out of hand and dashed madly down Champlain St. Women, children and stray dogs, hit the high spots in a mad race for safety. Near the Market Square was a group of Engineers. As the runaway rushed by, two of the boys made a record 50 yard sprint, and swung up onto the wagon from behind.

Two minutes later the team was under control, and serious lost to life and property probably averted.

Yes, you've got to hand it to the Engineers.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION.

On Saturday last, our collaborators from the Band were "on the job" as usual, and by their efforts, very materially assisted in the sale of "Knots and Lashings". The following men acted as "Selling Agents":—

- Bandsman Cox
- " Eberle
- " Erickson
- " McDonald
- " J. J. Orr
- " Wesley.

OBEY THAT IMPULSE!

Get a copy of "Knots and Lashings" to send to the folks back home. You may be sure they will be glad to get it. The postage is one cent.



Joys of a Corporal.

College Barracks