

BLIND CANADIANS ASK GOVT FOR HOMESTEADS

Sir Robert Borden Makes Sympathetic Reply and Promises Consideration—London is Overcrowded—Huntly R. Drummond Gives \$50,000 to Extend Maple Leaf Clubs' Work for Soldiers.

London, Dec. 17.—The Canadian Commission attended St. Dunstan's last night for the blind yesterday and met the blind Canadians, some thirty in all. A petition was presented to the Premier asking that the government give to each one of the blinded Canadian officers or men 100 acres of homestead land, without stipulation that it must be personally cultivated, and suggesting the method by which this land can be located for them by proxy.

Leutenant Hitchings, who spoke supporting the petition, pointed out also that in Australia each blinded soldier had been given five permanent transportation over government railways.

Sir Robert Borden made a sympathetic reply and promised careful consideration of the requests. It is estimated that there are only about 50 cases of total blindness in the Canadian army.

Sir Arthur Pearson, head of St. Dunstan's, goes to Ottawa next week. Provision of accommodation for the food of Canadian soldiers on leave in London for the holidays is a serious problem. The city is congested to a degree unknown in the war by the number of soldiers of all armies on leave, and the returning prisoners of war. The Ministry of War has agreed to extend their accommodation by 1,600 beds.

GENERAL SMUTS WILL REMAIN MEMBER OF THE WAR CABINET

Will Probably be a Delegate to the Peace Conference—Changes in Cabinet After Peace is Signed Forecasted by Daily Chronicle.

London, Dec. 17.—The Daily Chronicle's parliamentary correspondent says that Lieut. General Jan Christian Smuts, who was reported Monday as having resigned from the war cabinet on the ground that as the war had terminated his services were no longer required, probably will remain in office as long as the war cabinet continues.

The newspaper says that in the ordinary course of events the war cabinet will be superseded by a normal cabinet, of which General Smuts will not be a member. The newspaper adds that since his arrival in England General Smuts has been held aloof from party controversies, and it is obvious he could not possibly serve in a domestic cabinet.

General Smuts will have important duties to fulfil in connection with the Paris peace negotiations, the Daily Chronicle continues, "and either he or General Botha, the South African premier, will be a member of the peace conference."

LATER RETURNS INDICATE FULL VOTE IN THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS

In British Election Labor Claims to Have Polled Full Strength—Unionists May Capture Scotland—Hard Fight Against Ramsay Macdonald.

London, Dec. 17.—(Canadian Press dispatch from Reuters, Limited)—News from country constituencies rather shakes first impressions as to the apathy of the electorate, indications being that a good percentage of the vote was cast on Saturday. Labor candidates everywhere claim to have polled full support. Special interest attaches to the West Leicester election, where the Coalitionists and Liberals united to defeat Ramsay Macdonald, who was a rival member of the former supporters of the Liberal party in Leicester on account of his war attitude. His opponent, Green, runs as a national democrat, being the chairman of the British Workers' League.

In Scotland the success of Coalition would mean the capture of this historic Liberal stronghold by the Unionists who form a majority of the Scottish Liberal candidates. The national issue is being fought in the Govan division of Glasgow, where there is a straight party fight between Burns, who is a rival member of the war cabinet, and Maclean, who is frankly Bolshevik and deserves a term for seditious speeches, being only released on the eve of the election through the personal intervention of Burns.

From Ireland come reports of the overwhelming victory of Sinn Fein. It is predicted that the Nationalist party is reduced to eight or ten seats plus four in Ulster. Two Ulster Unionists claim a record poll and an unbroken balance in the new parliament.

On Saturday the British electorate embarked on the great experiment of one day polling, but were ill-prepared. The vast extension of the franchise and the hurried completion of the new register developed many grievances at the polls. Owing to the shortage of experienced clerical and printing staffs the lists bristled with errors, tens of thousands being disfranchised. Similarly, many unqualified persons were on the lists, a striking instance being that of a four-year-old boy, who was wheeled to the poll in a perambulator and whose vote was duly recorded.

No personal registration exists, the cause being placed on the authorities in the past which meant the election agents. The present election with its obligation of party lines has swept the professional agent out of existence thus aggravating the confusion of the lists.

In Canada such anomalies would be greeted with fierce partisan cries of corruption but in Britain they take the situation philosophically and see the party politics situation.

HELP IN WORK OF REPATRIATION

Have Appointed Special Committee to Co-operate With Government Officials in This Work.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—The Great War Veterans' Association has appointed R. H. Metcalf, Winnipeg, W. P. Tait, Halifax, and D. Loughnan, Ottawa, an advisory committee to co-operate with the repatriation and employment committees. This committee is now closely associated with the staff of the repatriation committee and will represent the activities of the Great War Veterans' Association as they touch the committee's work.

The significance of this intimate association of the Great War Veterans' Association with the repatriation committee is that there is likely to be uniformity and harmony between the work of the repatriation committee and the aims and objects of the veterans' association.

Canadian prisoners of war have returned to England by the number of 2,000, and are now arriving at the rate of 25 a day. They reach the country at Dover or Rippon, and are there under the charge of the Canadian army authorities. Each man is fully interrogated as to his treatment in Germany, and a statement is drawn up for his signature. While this information is not yet available for publication, it may be said that it more than confirms the stories of German brutality and the treatment of civilians in a specially bad light. This information will be an available part of Canada's case at the Peace Conference.

The death of Gunner Daniel Leonard of Charlottetown, P. E. I., occurred from pneumonia at the St. James street military hospital yesterday morning. Gunner Leonard was a member of the 4th artillery, and was twenty-four years of age. His mother, Mrs. William Leonard, accompanied her daughter, came from Charlottetown to be with her son during his illness.

AMERICANS IN COBLENZ

Over Forty Thousand Passed Through City—German Officers Turned Over War Material.

Coblentz, Sunday, Dec. 15.—(By the Associated Press)—Approximately thirty thousand American troops have arrived at Coblentz since the advance guard reached here a week ago. A large number of these troops have passed through the city, but considerable will remain here temporarily.

The people of Coblentz got their first glimpse of the American troops yesterday, several of the machines flying over the Rhine toward the bridgehead and then returning.

The officers and clerks of the third army arrived at Coblentz this morning, followed by trucks loaded with equipment and office supplies.

NOOSE TIGHTENING AROUND MILO PIPER

Chicago Man Says Miss Weichman Left His Home to Marry Insurance Man Accused of Murder.

Muskegon, Mich., Dec. 17.—That Milo H. Piper, accused of killing Frieda Weichman, a Chicago book-keeper, after an automobile honeymoon, courted the girl while she was living in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Whitney, of Chicago, was the statement that another man made in support of the troops within the bridgehead.

All the larger hotels here have been taken over by the Americans for billeting purposes, as well as many of the public buildings, which are being used as offices.

German officers who had remained in the city since the armistice were told to the Americans soon completed their task and proceeded across the Rhine in automobiles flying white flags to join the bridgehead lines.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS. Transfers of real estate have been recorded as follows: St. John County, Coldbrook Realty and Development Co. Ltd., to Ethel Grant, property in Simonds.

Kings County, G. H. Brown to Amland Bros., Ltd., property in Greenwick. Calla M. Graves to I. C. Mercer, property in Norton.

I. B. Marr to I. C. Mercer, property in Norton. Caroline Maynes to Lucy C. Magee, property in Rothsay.

Robert McFee to Chalmers Presbyterian church, property in Sussex. Susan Price to E. D. Price, property in Harlowe.

Brunswick Price to F. L. Greenlade, property in Springfield. United Baptist church to Andrew Forsythe (in trust), property in Sussex.

NEW FACES PROVIDED AND ONES REMODELLED TO ORDER

One Hundred Dentists from All Parts of Canada Attending a Special Course in Reconstruction Dental Work at Toronto Conducted by Royal College of Dental Surgeons.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 17.—In view of the return of the Canadian armies and the problem they will bring to the dental profession, the Royal College of Dental Surgeons this week is conducting, in conjunction with the Canadian Army Dental Corps, and the Preparedness League of American Dentists, a special course of instruction in reconstruction work, under the heads of war prosthesis, fractures, splints, oral surgery and anaesthesia.

The course, which is being attended by about one hundred professional men from all over the Dominion, is part of the Dominion reconstruction scheme. Already some striking operations have been performed in Toronto by members of the Canadian Army Dental Corps.

One outstanding case is that of a local man whose left eye, cheek and brow were completely shot away by shrapnel. As a result of the work done he is now able to go about without showing more than the faintest traces of his disfigurement.

Another case is that of a man whose upper lip and nose had been shot away, leaving insufficient bone and gum for the surgeons to work upon. These have been restored, so that photographs of the man show no traces of the work.

WHENEVER YOU SENSE A SICK HEADACHE, OR FEEL A BILIOUS ATTACK COMING ON, WARD IT OFF BY THE TIMELY USE OF BEECHAM'S PILLS

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North New England, fair Wednesday and probably Thursday. No change in temperature. Fresh north and northeast winds.

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WAR FARMERS TO AVOID TALKING

President of Co-operative Farmers' Association is Afraid of Report—A Poor Year Reported.

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The account of the United Farmers' Co-operative Company, Limited, was presented to the shareholders by President Barnaby this afternoon. Total sales of 1918 were reported, and profits of \$4,102 with \$2,657 to the reserve account. The report for the year included the following statement:

A LIVELY SCENE

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Advertisement for Polarine motor oil, featuring an illustration of a car and text describing its benefits for engines.

Advertisement for Imperial Oil Limited, listing various oil products and their uses.

Large advertisement for OVIDO cigars, featuring an illustration of a cigar box and text describing the quality and taste.

Advertisement for Keep the Bowels Regular and You Won't Be Sick, featuring an illustration of a person and text describing the benefits of the medicine.

Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, partially cut off.