

PROGRESS.

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SPEECHES FROM THE BOYS.

The Lads in Khaki Talk and are Talked to Over the Festive Board.

Those who thought that St. John was satiated with "Soldiers' Welcome" and celebrations in honor of successful events in South Africa had reason to change their opinion: this week, when some of the brave fellows from St. John and other parts of the province arrived from the scene of conflict.

The greeting they received was enough to turn any man's head dizzy, but these volunteers have encountered so much that was extraordinary that the proceedings did not seem to affect them much.

There might be some complaint that St. John was not considered in the matter of the time of the arrival of the boys. It is much easier to meet a friend in daylight than at one, two or three o'clock in the morning and the authorities here were so long in doubt as to the actual time the soldiers would arrive that they almost made up their minds to camp at the railway station so as to be surely on hand.

Thursday morning at an early hour the first arrivals put in an appearance. There were only five or six of them but they received just as hearty a welcome from Mayor Daniel, Warden McGoldrick and other gentlemen of the committee to gether with Premier Tweedie and Attorney General Pugsley representing the government, as though there were a hundred of them. The boys were tired and the good cheer of the Dufferin Hotel, where they were driven at once, was very welcome to them. When they were quartered the mayor and citizens departed to get ready to meet the rest of the volunteers in the afternoon. But all of



J. HAWKINS,

Who it is said will re-enlist for service in South Africa.

them did not wait until the afternoon. The express which connects at Moncton in the morning brought a few more and they in their turn had to stand the pressure of a cordial greeting.

In the afternoon when the through express arrived from Halifax the crowd was large and the enthusiasm suggestive of the days when the lads went to South Africa. This must have been the case all along the line for at Moncton, where Corp. Ralph Markham and another Khaki boy jumped off the train to greet some friends, the crush was so great that they were unable to get on board again. So they had to wait for the next express.

All of the boys who do not belong to the city were quartered at the Dufferin hotel, and the manager, Mr. McCaffrey, spared no pains to make them comfortable. The scene in the office when they arrived in the afternoon can hardly be described. The crush was so great that it was almost impossible to move. Men, women and children thronged about the khaki clad volunteers and gave them the hand of welcome. The stalwart form of Major Good of Woodstock was surrounded by an admiring group of ladies who listened to his modest answers to the many questions poured in upon him. The major must be nearly, if not quite, six feet in height and yet he looks small compared with Gunner Smith from the same town, who is ten inches taller and weighs over 200 pounds. It is little wonder that the people admired their splendid physique and were eager to ob-

tain an introduction to them. Smith was the champion strong man on the steamer going to the Cape, and won laurels in the New Brunswick contingent by throwing in a wrestling match, the champion from Ottawa. He is a splendid athlete and must have been a wonderful acquisition to the battery.

About nine o'clock in the evening the preparations for the dinner to the returned soldiers were completed and the guests had about all arrived. The intention was to entertain only members of parliament, military men, the citizens committee, press and aldermen in addition to the boys in khaki and so far as was possible this idea was carried out.

Considering the short time that the hotel management had to prepare a banquet the affair reflected great credit upon the staff. The menu card was in the shape of a shield and was much admired.

About seventy persons sat down to the festive board and for a time enjoyed the good things provided. Then the toasts and speeches followed and until nearly three o'clock in the morning were listened to intently by nearly all who were present at first.

Mayor Daniel made an excellent chairman and his address to Major Good, which is printed elsewhere, was couched in most appropriate terms.

After dinner speeches are not always entertaining, but certainly the brief remarks made by many people at this dinner proved attentive and pleased listeners.

Major Good is not a speaker but he indicated what he would have liked to say in a very few words. He must have been flattered by the reception given to him and the men under his command. In response to the last of our guests he had willing assistance from Capt. F. C. Jones who is in a pleasant way told how the men had done their duty in South Africa. It was plain that he and Lieut. McLean were favorites with the boys from the enthusiastic way they greeted them. The speech of the lieutenant was brief but right to the point, pleasantly surprising those of his friends who have regarded him as a promising officer and had no opportunity to hear him after dinner. Among the other boys who responded were Corp. Markham and Privates Morrison, Fairweather and Morley. The latter asked those present to drink to their comrades the Gordon Highlanders who had stuck to them through thick and thin and after the cheering had died away, Private Donahue, who lost his leg during the campaign, was asked to respond. His rising was the signal for a burst of cheering such as any man might well be proud of.

The speech of the evening was made by Recorder Swinner who proposed the health



NORMAN McLEOD.

of the commander in chief, the army and the navy. The Recorder has no equal in this city as an after dinner speaker and his remarks were so eloquent and patriotic that he was frequently interrupted by prolonged applause. Colonels McLean and Jones responded and then Ald. Macrae proposed the legislature eliciting pleasant, sympathetic and loyal speeches from Hon. Messrs. Dunn and McKeown and Mr.

William Shaw.

A dinner without a speech from Warden McGoldrick would not be complete. He made two Thursday, one proposing the Dominion parliament to which Senator Ellis responded admirably and the other to the press. Both were replete with unique remarks which kept the guests in laughing humor. Those who listened to the warden must have been convinced that he had



BERT FINNIMORE.

the blarney stone with him for his faculty of saying pleasant things was greater than ever. Mr. R. O'Brien made a very appropriate reply for the press, and Messrs E. S. Carter, S. D. Scott, H. Ervin and H. McDonald followed him.

"The Mayor" brought forth a ringing speech from the chairman and the "militia" found Major Armstrong and Captain Pratt ready to reply.

Mr. Carvell of Woodstock made a happy speech in response to a toast to himself and Treasurer McLeod of the contingent fund responded to a similar compliment. The speech of Col. Armstrong in eulogizing the work of the Red Cross and the Soldiers Wives League and that of Ald. White in response were splendid efforts worthy of the subject.

A touching incident was the cheering for absent Beverly Armstrong who lost a leg in South Africa and for a long time was near to death's door. His father paid a glad tribute to the attention and care he had received from the nuns at Johannesburg.

A song by Mr. W. M. Wallace and the reading of a poem by the same gentleman, written, he explained, in honor of the soldier's return, God Save the Queen and Auld Lang Syne completed an evening which was voted by everybody one of the pleasantest spent in a long time.

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Obituary notices, special reports, etc., Duval, 17 Waterloo.

BIG PROJECTS AHEAD.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley Touches Briefly Upon Some Enterprises in Contemplation

There are five vacant seats in the legislature at Fredericton, and preparations to fill one of these at least have been begun by both parties. Sometime ago the opposition in Kings County selected Mr. Fred M. Sprout to oppose any government supporter who might be brought forward. It was only this week that the supporters of the local government gathered to gether and appointed delegates to select some gentleman to run in the interests of the present administration. The non residents, which number in the vicinity of 1000, met on Monday evening and elected a chairman and secretary namely, Mr. E. J. Armstrong and Mr. J. J. Sealey. PROGRESS understands that the work of organization is proceeding on the usual lines and after today, when a candidate will be selected at Hampton, no doubt will be proceeded with vigorously.

Considerable interest centered in the meeting owing to the presence before it closed, of the Hon. Attorney General, who in September was elected by such a handsome majority over the gentleman who now proposes to run in the opposition in the district. At the solicitation of Warden McGoldrick, a non resident voter, who took occasion in proposing that the Attorney General be heard from, to say some very nice and pleasant things about him and his government, Hon. Mr. Pugsley made an address which lasted fifteen or twenty minutes and outlined in a greater degree than has yet been done the probable policy of the government of which he is a member. He briefly reviewed what had been done in the interests of the people of the province, and spoke particularly of the prospects for the future. From what he says there does not appear to be any doubt that the government has had some proposal regarding the establishment of a ship building plant in the city of St. John, and had taken it into very serious consideration. The facts and figures which would support the idea seemed to come very readily to the tongue of Mr. Pugsley and indicated that considerable effort had been made at least to obtain information of what was possible in this direction in other cities on this continent. His reference to the town of Bath in Maine, which, as is well known, has a very large ship building plant employing some 12 000 hands, were made with a view to show that St. John was even in a better position to have such an enterprise than the city in our neighbor State. Mr. Pugsley pointed out that coal and iron were not to be had near Bath. St. John

of Warden McGoldrick while not speaking as honorably Mr. Blair said he was in a position to know something of Queens county coal beds and he gave the information that at a test in Moncton the coal from this section had proved to be equal if not superior as a steam producer, to that from different colliers in the Maritime provinces.

Another theme that he dwelt upon was the development of the Queens county coal beds which he said there was every reason to believe would be operated extensively. The proposal that the Intercolonial should purchase the Canada Eastern Railway if carried out would make it necessary that some coal supply should be had and the Attorney General implied that the government would be quite willing and ready to render any reasonable assistance looking to the development of such an important industry. His speech was certainly an encouraging one for the supporters of the local government and gave some idea of what might come before the legislature for consideration at the next session.

He was followed in a brief speech by Mr. A. G. Blair, jr., who pleasantly and humorously alluded to the remarks



ARTHUR HAYDEN.

of Warden McGoldrick. While not speaking as honorably Mr. Blair said he was in a position to know something of Queens county coal beds and he gave the information that at a test in Moncton the coal from this section had proved to be equal if not superior as a steam producer, to that from different colliers in the Maritime provinces.

At the meeting of the Board of Health held on Wednesday of this week among other business dealt with was the appointment of an Inspector to fill the place of Daniel O'Neill (deceased). PROGRESS pointed out some months ago that a certain city constable was after the position. It was thought at that time that he would have received immediate appointment. At this juncture another gentleman with influential workers behind him sought the position and for the time at least, postponed the appointment. Nothing was done until recently. The city has been without the services of an inspector, when it needed one very much. In this, as in everything else, persistency has won out and the constable is now installed in office.

The Missing Jewelry. It is said that the police are working up the disappearance of some jewelry, which vanished during the Harkin-Bonstelle engagement here recently. The facts are that some pieces of jewelry were left in the dressing rooms of the actresses and actors, while they were on the stage, and in some mysterious manner on their return they were missing. Suspicion has not been directed in any particular direction, and it would not be just for PROGRESS to touch upon some of the rumors in circulation.



HOWE, OF SUSSEX,

Who it is said intends to re-enlist for service in South Africa.

would stand in a better position than this city of Maine, because by the time the plant was ready for operation the Dominion Steel works at Cape Breton would be able to supply it with all the material necessary. Another reference that the Attorney general made was the prospect in the fu-