

The Herald

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C. M. B. A. Matters.

Following are some of the important matters that came under review at the C. M. B. A. Convention held at Quebec on the 29th, 30th, 31st, of August last. The reports of the Grand Officers showed that the membership of the Association on June 1st, 1916 was 11,906, carrying insurance amounting to \$1,298,744. The deaths during the three years were 887, representing insurance amounting to \$1,236,882.52. From the Convention of 1913 to the first of June 1916 the Association lost, by death, expulsion and resignation 15,948 members and 130 branches were dissolved. In consequence of this reduction in membership the amount of insurance liability has been lessened by the sum of \$16,941,516.

On June 1st, 1916 the financial position of the Association, according to the reports of the Grand Officers, was as follows: Reserve Fund investments \$507,853.28 to which should be added interest \$10,699.49; likewise Beneficiary Fund investments of \$29,083.23, upon which there is interest amounting to \$572.27; there is likewise an investment in the Sick Benefit Fund of \$10,043.75 with interest \$144.17, making a total of investments \$568,395.19; there is to our credit in bank in the different funds \$63,940.95; there is in the Grand Secretary's hands \$500. This with interest and other assets amount to \$705,452.27; there are claims unpaid \$25,030.61 which leaves a balance of \$639,932.16.

Mr. W. F. Barnard consulting actuary of Syracuse N. Y. who had been employed by the Grand Officers to investigate the financial condition of the Association, presented an excellent and interesting report. He unhesitatingly stated that the Association was at present actuarially solvent; in first class financial condition. This declaration was confirmed by a note from the Government Superintendent of Insurance at Ottawa, read to the Convention by the Grand Secretary, to the effect that the C. M. B. A. was now on a sound financial basis.

The Special Committee appointed by the Convention, to which reference has already been made, presented their report on Thursday Aug. 31st afternoon. In this report the following considerations are embodied: That just valuation of policies at date of Jan 1st 1913, rendered an increase of rates absolutely necessary and any refusal or delay on our part would have resulted in drastic action by the Insurance Department of the Dominion Government under existing law governing fraternal association. While it is generally believed that no relief was afforded or given the older members, we find that the sum of \$400,000 was applied by the actuary to the accumulated deficiency due by men of sixty-five years of age and over, and had this not been done their rates would have been actually higher than at present fixed. We recommend the reinstatement of all members expelled or resigned since July 1st 1915, on condition of paying arrears due from said date or allowing said arrears to stand as lien against their policies and upon furnishing a certificate of good health. In conclusion we are of the unanimous opinion that the C. M. B. A. is now actuarially solvent and that present established rates are in-

evitable and are just and equitable to meet any contract they are under.

The committee also recommended a revaluation of the existing policies, in the light of the now much reduced membership, and if then any surplus be found to exist it shall be applied to re-issuing assessments to those whose rates had been increased. This report was adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Mr. Frank J. Curran, Barrister of Montreal, unanimously elected Grand President; Mr. P. J. Veniot, of Bathurst, N. B., First Vice; Mr. W. J. Sutherland, of Smith's Falls, Ontario, Second Vice; Mr. J. J. Bechan, unanimously re-elected Grand Secretary, and Mr. W. J. McKie re-elected Grand Treasurer. The new Trustees are James I. Brady, Montreal; John A. McDougall, Brockton; C. B.; B. A. Bourgeois, Moncton, N. B.; W. P. Farrell, Fredericton, N. B., and H. E. R. Stock, Toronto. The new Grand President had been Chairman of the Committee on laws and his place there was filled by the election of R. F. Phalen, Sydney, C. B., the other two old members remaining. The old Marshall and the old Guard were re-elected.

A great many members of the C. M. B. A. had anticipated the deliberations of this Convention in a spirit of uncertainty and suspense. The evidence presented at the Convention, by those best capable of judging, shows that the institution is new on a sound financial basis, and with the new Grand Officers, willing and anxious to exert their energies for the advancement of the Grand Old Society, the future should be faced with buoyant hope. All that is needed now to inspire renewed confidence in the Association would appear to be a united and sympathetic effort on the part of members in all the branches.

A new regulation has been issued by the Dominion Government to give authority to make deductions from the pay and allowances of deserters from the overseas forces sufficient to cover expenses incurred in apprehending, prosecuting and returning these deserters to duty.

King George, on the 17th, sent the following message to General Haig, British Commander in France: "I congratulate you and your brave troops on the brilliant success just achieved. I have never doubted that complete victory would crown our efforts and the splendid victory of to-day confirms our faith."

The Provincial general election held in British Columbia on Thursday last 14th inst. resulted in the defeat of the Bowser Government by a large majority. Out of a total of 47 members the Government party seemed to have elected only 10. Premier Bowser and all his colleagues in the Executive have been defeated, with one possible exception, Hon. Mr. Ross. It would appear that the elections were fought not altogether on party lines. Almost half the Conservative party headed by Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper offered uncompromising opposition to the Bowser Government. The soldiers voted have yet to be counted. This count will not take place till October the 12th, and the official returns for the whole election will be made about October 15th.

The lightning change tactics of the Liberal press regarding the Quebec Bridge is a fair sample of the readiness with which our Liberal friends can assume contradictory attitudes every twenty-four hours when there is hope of making political capital against the Borden Government. While the Quebec Bridge looked like an assured success, while engineers, senators, members of parliament and the dominion generally were

being invited to see the triumph of engineering crowned, the Liberal press claimed the credit for the achievement for the Laurier Government. The Ottawa Citizen, referring to the Toronto Globe's claim of Monday morning that the Laurier Government was entirely responsible for all designs, plans and contracts in connection with the bridge says this claim is quite correct. The facts in connection with the matter are set forth in another column in this day's Herald. But when the span went to the bottom of the St. Lawrence the tune of the Liberal papers changed with a suddenness as marvelous as the collapse of the bridge itself. The Liberal papers would now like to blame the Borden Government for everything in connection with the undertaking. But the facts published by themselves are against them. For an exhibition of practical hypocrisy, the conduct of the Liberal papers in this connection would be hard to beat.

Progress of the War.

Paris, Sept. 12.—The French infantry started a vigorous offensive today along a front of six kilometres north of the Somme, from the Combes region to the river, and in half an hour took an entire first line of German trenches, says the official communication issued tonight. Another portion of the French forces carried a system of trenches along the road from Bethune to Peronne. Prisoners to the number of 1,500 had been taken when the report was filed. Elsewhere on the front there was only artillery activity. The text of the statement follows: "The battle continued today north of the Somme. Our infantry delivered a vigorous offensive on a six kilometre front between the district south of Combes and the river. The attack started at 12.30 in the afternoon and developed rapidly, thanks to the spirit of our troops, who in less than half an hour captured the whole of the first line German trenches. Subsequently pushing eastward with the same vigor, we took successively Hill 145, Marriees Wood and the whole system of trenches as far as the Bethune-Peronne road, which we now touch from the southern outskirts of Bancourt to the district south of Bouchavesnes. Further south we pushed our lines on to Slope 76, west of Feuilleaucourts. "Up to the present the total number of prisoners reaches 1,500. These include numerous officers. "South of the Somme the artillery fighting was violent in various sectors, without infantry action. There was an intermittent cannonade on the remainder of the front."

Paris, Sept. 14.—Beset by the British on the west and the French on the east, the village of Combes in the Somme region of France apparently is on the verge of capture by the Entente forces. With the British firmly established in the Leuze Wood, less than a mile from the western outskirts of the village, the French a mile to the east of it have driven their wedge in farther and captured Lepriez Farm, through which runs the road to Bancourt. The farm, which had been held by the Germans as a point of support against French encroachments upon Combes, was taken by assault. Along the Peronne-Bethune road to the north and south of Bouchavesnes the Germans, according to Paris, have vainly attacked the newly won French positions in the hope of regarding their transport lines along the Bethune-Peronne northward through Bapaume and Arras to Bethune, placing a serious impediment in the way of the Germans for the movement of their transport from the north to Peronne, and making the French position north of Peronne seemingly a menacing one. On the British end of the front and on the remainder of the line held by the French only mutual bombardments took place.

Paris, Sept. 13.—The French troops to the north of Peronne are holding tenaciously to the salient they have driven into the German line eastward of the Bethune-Peronne road near Bouchavesnes. They also hold intact the town of Bouchavesnes

and other points along the line captured in the offensive which they started Tuesday. In addition a powerfully organized German trench system south of the Lepriez Farm, near the road running west from Bancourt to Combes, has been captured, placing Combes in further jeopardy. The fighting in the region of Bouchavesnes has been of sanguinary character. Finding that the French had cut their line of communication from Peronne northward, the Germans threw violent attacks against L'Abbe Wood and Hill 76, south of Bouchavesnes, and succeeded in recapturing both places. The French, however, returned victoriously to the attack, and after hard fighting, some of it hand-to-hand, finally drove out the Germans and kept the ground they had won. In the two day's fighting more than 2,300 German were taken prisoner, and a large number of guns and machine guns captured. On that part of the Somme front held by the British the situation remains unchanged. South of the Somme, heavy artillery duels between the French and the Germans continue in the region of Vermandovillers and Chauleux. A repulse of a German attack near Fleury, in the Verdun sector, is reported by Paris. All along the Macedonian front heavy fighting continues, but no important changes in positions have been reported. The Italians have joined in the fray west of the Vardar river. Near Lake Butkovo they are declared by Rome to have driven Bulgarian detachments beyond the Demir-Hissar-Doiran area. A Bulgarian official report, however, says the Italians were dispersed in this region with a loss of thirty men made prisoner. The British, who are across the Struma river, south of Lake Takino, have made no further efforts to advance and that in that region there have been no new developments. In the Dobruja region of Roumania the operations by the forces of the Central Powers are going on methodically according to Berlin. In Transylvania the Germans have joined the Austrians near Hermannstadt and southeast of Hotzing in the fighting against the Yugoslav Roumanians. Up in the Carpathians Russian attacks along the entire front have been repulsed, according to statements of both Vienna and Berlin. Petrograd says the Russians are holding all the ground they have won in this region. German aeroplanes have sunk a Russian torpedo boat destroyed in the Gulf of Riga and attacked Russian naval forces in the Black Sea off Constanza, Roumania. In the Carpathians a destroyer sunk, several hits were observed in both of the attacks, the Berlin statement says.

London, Sept. 15.—The despatch, dated at the British front in France, says: "Today our troops, in a great assault have broken through the enemy's third line of defense. It is reported that Fliers is in our hands, and that our infantry is advancing further in the direction of Morval (about two miles east of Ginchy). "On our left we are at the outskirts of Martinpuich, and to the right we have moved forward along the whole line, encircling High Wood and occupying the main part of Boudoux Wood. "Our men are filled with the spirit of victory, and in several parts of the line the enemy is fleeing back to the next line of defenses. "Prisoners are coming in fast. About 500 are already in cages, and others are being brought down from the battlefield." Smashing the German line on a front of six miles north of the Somme in France, the British forces have made probably the most noticeable advance since the Anglo-French offensive began July 1. Three towns, two woods and the possession of nearly all the high ground between Combes and the Pozieres-Bapaume road fell to the British. Not only did the Germans lose these positions, but the British drive imperils the Combes and Thiepval positions, at either end of the high ground north of the Combes gives the British command of the approaches to Bapaume.

The advance on the northern end of the front was for a distance of two miles. Courcolette, east of Thiepval and north of the Pozieres-Opaume road, and Martinpuich, south of the road, fell into the hands of General Haig's men. Further south they took Floors and the High Wood, making secure their possession of Ginchy. The Bouleaux Wood, north of Combes, also was lost to the Germans. The Germans, under Crown Prince Rupprecht, of Bavaria, fought stubbornly to hold their ground, London says, and the fighting was severe all along the line. More than 2,300 prisoners were taken by the British. Aiding the British in the encirclement of Combes, the French troops have taken additional trenches north of Lepriez Farm. South of the river three German trenches near Berry-on-Santerre were taken by the French, who also captured 200 prisoners.

British Front in France, Sept. 14, via London—Army officers universally are speaking of Friday as the best day for the British arms since the offensive began on the Somme front. With the exception of July 1, the attack begun yesterday morning was the most extensive of any in the ten weeks of the battle. For the first time new armored motor cars, of ingenious pattern, suitable for crossing trenches and shell holes, competed with the infantry as the British swept down from the ridges to the lower ground toward Bapaume. At the writing the British are beyond the village of Fliers, which they took early in the morning, and are established in Martinpuich and Courcolette. The slow plodding work of recent weeks, which included the taking of Ginchy and Guillemont, had for its object control of all the high ground from the region of Thiepval to the junction with the French on the right. The Germans fought hard for every foot of it. Delville, or Devils Wood, (Continued on page three)

tral Powers at Smotroc, Ludova and Kapul, storming positions after heavy preparatory bombardments. Their efforts to drive forward however, were stopped with sanguinary losses, according to Vienna. On the Macedonian front considerable heavy fighting has taken place, but with the results belocuded owing to variant reports by the different war chancelleries. The Serbs in the Lake Ostrova region are declared by Paris to have made appreciable progress against the Bulgarians, while both Berlin and Sofia report bombardments in this vicinity, but mention gains for neither side. In the Doiran region the British have taken a Tautonic position north of the town of Muekskovo. Several Germans were made prisoner, and a number of machine guns were captured.

London, Sept. 17.—Additional gains along a front of more than a mile and a half were made by the British last night in their offensive north of the Somme, the war office announced this afternoon. The "Dobruja Trench," about a mile long, taken, and additional trenches on a thousand yards front near Courcolette, was captured. The text of the statement follows: "South of the Ancre troops achieved further success. Last evening in the vicinity of Courcolette we extended gains on a front of about thousand yards. In the neighborhood of Thiepval we obtained a considerable success yesterday evening by capturing the fortifications known as the "Danube Trench" on a front about a mile. Here, the abandoned considerable quantities of rifles and equipment. We also captured the strong defended work of Moquet. Possession of which had been hotly contested for some weeks past. "The number of prisoners is increasing. A number of successful minor enterprises also carried out by us last night on other parts of the British front." British forces south of the Ancre have made additional progress, according to the official statement from general headquarters issued last night. Advance since Friday along a front of six miles is estimated from one to two miles. Seventeen hundred additional prisoners captured in the last two days is more than 4,000. The text of the statement reads:

Paris, Sept. 17.—The French have captured all the ground between Vermandovillers and Bapaume which had remained in possession of the Germans. 700 wounded prisoners were captured. The communication says: "North of the Somme our artillery actively bombarded German organizations throughout the front. "South of the Somme we attacked, at 2.30 o'clock p. m. at several points, and gained important successes. The villages of Vermandovillers and Berry, which we held only a part, were conquered in a brilliant assault. Some isolated points are still being held out. "All the ground between Vermandovillers and Denicourt, on the one side, and between Denicourt and Bapaume on the other, which was defended by several strongly organized systems of trenches, has fallen into our hands after a desperate fight. The struggle still continues around Denicourt. Between Berry and Barleux captured a number of trenches. All counter-attacks attempted by the enemy during the evening broke down under our artillery fire with heavy German losses. "Up to the present 700 wounded prisoners, 15 of whom officers, have been captured. "There has been the usual cannonade on the remainder of the front."

Petrograd, Sept. 17, via London—Russian troops have

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We specially invite all visitors to Charlottetown, and to Prince Edward Island, to inspect the lovely things that are shown in such splendid assortment in the 'daylight linen store'. We have just been fortunate in getting an enormous shipment of new things that we thought would be out of the market till after the war. We're so pleased over these that we want you to see them—needn't buy unless you feel like it—see them anyway.

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Mail Contract SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon on Friday, the 22nd Sept. 1916, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mail, on a proposed Contract for four years six times per week Over Rural Mail Route No. 1 from Tignish, P. E. Island, from the 1st of January next. Printed notice containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Tignish and at the office of the Post Office Inspectors. JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector Office, Ch. Town, Aug 7th 1916, Aug. 9th 1916-31. D. C. McLEOD & BENTLEY

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(Continued from page 1) High Wood and the ridge which the windmill crosses beyond Pozieres have been with blood of men fallen in their long stand up heaviest orgy of shell fire history of war, as experienced German wrestled with not for a piece of farm for military and human. The British push was down hill. They put them the high ground slopes give them shelter and whose crest gives observation for their fire. Evidently the Germans not expect the attack, and that the British would down for the winter new and advantageous. "Never before, probably more guns been playing same length of front than the six miles where they made their advance on and where they have their offensive with philosophy and dogged persistence. Germans kept on bringing guns until now they have in this short sector. Theated Press correspondent, over the region of the dotted villages and shell towns interested by new roads, Thursday how enormous British had increased the artillery."

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