

## WAS PULL USED TO GET PROMOTION?

Fire Chief Says Merit Alone is Policy of the Department.

### APPOINTS HIS SON

Controller McBride Charges That Other Firemen Were Side-Track.

As a result of the promotion of his son, Lieut. R. A. Smith, to a captaincy, vice Capt. Lynch, deceased, Fire Chief Smith was subjected to an attack upon his promotion system by Controller Sam McBride. It started while the board of control at their regular meeting yesterday morning were discussing the list of promotions which had been submitted to them by the chief for approval. Controller McBride declared he knew that promotions in the department were not made for merit, seniority, or any defined policy, but were simply made in a haphazard manner. The whole business, he declared, was simply a wire pulling proposition. Lieut. Smith, according to the controller, had been promoted over the heads of men who were his seniors by 14 years and this was causing ill feeling and upheaval in the department.

Chief Smith was sent for and upon his arrival he was asked by the mayor if there was any wire pulling going on in his department.

"Not with me," replied the chief. "Promotions are made purely on the basis of merit and for length of service."

"That is right," Cont. McBride wanted to know why so many young men were promoted over the heads of older men who were far their seniors in service and intelligence.

Chief Smith replied that these older men had not received promotions because they were not good fire fighters.

Cont. McBride: "Then be big enough to ask them for their resignations."

Cont. Maguire: "I have every confidence in Chief Smith, but I am going to hold him responsible for efficiency."

Cont. McBride: "Then I am forced to ask Chief Smith why he promoted his son to captain when he could not qualify as a fireman? He was made a driver."

Chief Gets Angry. This angered Chief Smith, who sprang to his feet to reply. Cont. McBride arose, too, and the two gentlemen glared at each other across the chamber.

Chief Smith, banging his hand on a desk, explained that every man on the strength of the department was a fireman, and that there was no distinction between firemen and drivers. There were two drivers killed at The Globe fire, and drivers did firemen's work when necessary.

Cont. McBride: "I am going to make a charge. Chief Smith has taken advantage of his position by making his son a captain."

Here the following list was produced, showing that it had been necessary to go down 19 men in order to give Smith, Jr., this position:

**Lieutenants and Date of Promotion.**  
1. G. Mason, October, 1910; 2. J. Conter, October, 1910; 3. W. A. Calhoun, June, 1911; 4. S. Price, November, 1911; 5. J. A. McQueen, September, 1912; 6. James Potts, September, 1912; 7. A. Sargent, November, 1912; 8. W. Weir, February, 1913; 9. W. J. Beech, January, 1914; 10. C. Fox, January, 1914; 11. C. Sweetman, January, 1914; 12. A. A. Steen, January, 1914; 13. George Henderson, January, 1914; 14. S. Ridout, June, 1914; 15. C. Stewart, June, 1914; 16. J. P. Walden, June, 1914; 17. A. F. Bezler, June, 1914; 18. E. Robinson, July, 1914; 19. A. Tomlin, January, 1916; 20. R. A. Smith, January, 1916.

Declaring that the whole discussion was out of order, Mayor Church vainly attempted to close the argument, but Cont. McBride would not be silenced. "I repeat," he declared, "that men, physically and mentally strong, have not been promoted on the basis of merit or seniority."

Chief Smith told the board that if they did not think him capable there was only one way out of the difficulty. The recommendations were finally passed and will come up before the council at the next meeting for ratification.

**DRAFT ESTIMATES READY.** The draft estimates submitted to the board of control yesterday—by Assessment Commissioner Forman, call for a total of \$128,360, plus war bonuses of \$2095, making a grand total of \$129,355.

**Don't Suffer From Piles**  
No Matter If You Believe an Operation Necessary, Send at Once for a Free Trial of Pyramid Pile Treatment.

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convince. Send today or better still, get a 50 cent box of Pyramid Pile Treatment at any drug store. It is the right thing to do. Do it for your own sake, to stop itching, bleeding or protruding piles, hemorrhoids and such real troubles. Take no substitute.

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PYRAMID DRUG COMPANY,  
647 Broadway Building,  
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Kindly send me a Free Sample of Pyramid Pile Treatment, in plain wrapper.

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## REAL ENTERTAINMENT IN BAIRNSFATHER PLAY

Everyday Life in the Trenches as Lived by Old Bill, Bert and Alf.

"The Romance of Old Bill," as related in the film of "The Better 'Ole," is a stirring story containing a strong vein of humor and a message to all who see it. Old Bill is played by Chas. Rock, in whose experienced hands Bairnsfather's character is admirably presented. The striking charm about these master studies is that they are so thoroughly unstudied. The characters reek—that is a sound word to use about the trenches. We see Old Bill, that philosopher of the trenches; Alf and Bert, those life studies in khaki, the comedy of the uniform. Khaki and cackination is the motto for "The Better 'Ole." It is better than any play. Only a percentage of people have seen the legitimate version. The screen version begins with a prolog, in which we vision Rouget de L'Isle singing the "Marseillaise," we see the Three Musketeers of Dumas, "one for three, three for one." These dissolve into our modern trio of warriors—Old Bill, Alf and Bert. We see them in their dugout, making merry in billets behind the lines, then off to Blighty and their welcome home. "The Better 'Ole" comes to Canada direct from England and will be shown at the Allen Theatre the week of Nov. 25, for the first time on this continent. The London Evening News says of it: "The Better 'Ole" is meeting with enormous approbation wherever shown. It gives real entertainment."

## PLAYS PICTURES AND MUSIC.

"Experience" Returns.

"Experience," that most wonderful play in America, returns to the Royal Alexandra for the entire week of Nov. 18. Written by George V. Hart and produced by the Messrs. William Elliott, P. Ray Comstock and Morris Gest, the play has won phenomenal success in every city throughout the United States and Canada during the past five years. Also a noteworthy feature of "Experience" is that it has been endorsed by the clergy, by parents, teachers and others everywhere it has been presented. It teaches such a strong and moral lesson that no one, man, woman or child, can afford to miss it. Seats are on sale today.

At the Princess.

The New Princess will have for its attraction next week John Cort's exhilarating musical comedy, "Listen Lester." Mr. Cort has provided a cast of exceptional interest that includes Emma Carus and many other players. The most prominent are Clifton Webb, Gertrude Vanderbilt, Felix Adler, Eddie Garvie, Hal Wilson, Pan Travers, Ruth Mabae and a chorus of dainty femininity that is magnificent and startlingly gowned. The seat sale opens this morning.

Mutt and Jeff Coming to the Grand.

Mutt and Jeff, the cartoon characters, made famous by Bud Fisher and the newspapers all over the continent, are coming to the Grand Opera House next week in a new comedy with music, entitled "Mutt and Jeff in the Woolly West." This season the "long and short," as these laugh producers are known, will have the principal roles in a play with the locale laid in the golden west. As the owners of a gold mine and with visions of unheard of wealth, Mutt and Jeff install themselves as Jeff's business manager. During the week at the Grand matinees will be given on Wednesday and Saturday.

Shea's Theatre—Vaudeville.

A great comedy show with all new features will be seen at Shea's Theatre next week. Music and novelty abound in the bill, and Blossom Seelye and her syncopated studio and Bernard and Rose will be among the headline attractions. Paul and Mae Nolan call themselves "Jesting Jugglers. Their juggling stunts are out of the ordinary and their comedy spontaneous. Shea's Theatre orchestra will be heard in a special musical program.

Loew's Next Week.

Alice Brady in "The Ordeal of Rosetta" to be shown next week at Loew's Theatre and Winter Garden, the zenith of her career to date. The Collins Variety Dancers, in a series of artistic terpsichorean specialties, will be the top-line of the vaudeville bill. The following entertaining acts: Brown and Barrows, Paul Petching & Co., Arthur Sullivan and Mercedes Clark, and the University Trio. Loew's war pictures and "Mutt and Jeff" cartoons round off the bill.

Shea's Hippodrome.

For next week the Hippodrome announces that it has secured probably the greatest production in motion pictures—William Farnum, in his greatest picture, "The Rainbow Trail." The headline attraction of the vaudeville bill will be the Seven Allied Singers, Hank Brown and Company, Florence Henry & Co., Charters & Myers, Myrtle and Jimmy Dunedin and Billy Kelgard complete the bill.

At the Allen.

Next week Mary Pickford, in her latest Arcturion success, "Johanna Enlists," will be featured at the Allen. In this production Toronto's favorite star has unusual opportunity to display her wonderful ability. An added attraction will be the first episode of "Boy Scouts to the Rescue."

Ruggles of Redgap.

Taylor Holmes makes his biggest hit in "Ruggles of Redgap," the picture feature at the Regent next week. He certainly has the delightful opportunity to get the most out of his rare vein of humor and Manager Elliott guarantees that he is the funniest in this vehicle that he has ever been. Frank Bessinger, who made such a hit last week, will be heard again.

The Social Follies.

Harry Seyon, who is this season at the head of the Social Follies Company at the Star Theatre next week, is a comedian of ability, and is considered among the best exponents of upique Irish comedy. His methods are upique, and at all times keeps his audiences in roars of laughter.

"The Very Idea," which New York, Chicago and Boston laughed at, will be at the Royal Alexandra for the week of Nov. 25.

**SOLDIERS' INSURANCE.**

At its meeting yesterday the board of control sent a request to the city solicitor to prepare a report on the possibility of providing insurance for soldiers' insurance up to date.



## "I wonder what he thinks of me?"

Another wounded soldier!

Never have I noticed so many on the streets as there seems to be today.

I wonder why that chap gave me such a searching look? If he thinks I am a slacker he's wrong. I'm not able to fight; but I have done my duty. Here's my honor button on my coat to prove it.

I've bought ten Victory Bonds—put nearly all my savings into them. Not quite all—that hundred I have left must be kept to buy Christmas presents.

Christmas presents? I wonder if this would be the best way to spend that money?

Let's see; I could take that hundred dollars and pay it as a deposit on four \$100 bonds—then pay the other \$300 in instalments.

But that would leave me nothing to buy Christmas presents.

I have it!

This year I'll give Victory Bonds as presents.

But would the wife like that? Would she like a Bond as well as the gift I was going to buy her?

Why she'd rather have a Bond, if she knew it might save one poor boy from being crippled like that lad there.

And the three children, every one of them has been at me to buy a bond.

I could pay the other \$300 in instalments—by being a little more careful of my expenditures. And the wife will gladly help.

I'll do it.

I'll take that hundred dollars to buy four more bonds. I wonder why I didn't think of that way before.

Let every Canadian do some serious thinking along these lines today.

You have only three days left to set yourself right with the boys who fought, toiled, suffered and died—for you.

Today may be the biggest day in your life.

You've never known a day that compares with it in opportunity to serve your country, for this loan must be oversubscribed.

Canada must show both friend and foe that she is in this fight to win.

# Buy VICTORY BONDS

Issued by Canada's Victory Loan Committee, in co-operation with the Minister of Finance of the Dominion of Canada.

## SAYS TEMPERANCE ACT IS HERE FOR ALL TIME

That the Ontario Temperance Act is here to stay is the opinion of Rev. Ben Spence. When asked yesterday if any plans had been made regarding a temperance vote now that the war is over he said he did not contemplate any such thing.

Speaking of the possibility of a referendum, Rev. Mr. Spence said: "The O.T.A. is in as definite a form as any other piece of legislation in the Province of Ontario, but the provision was made, and rightly so, that when

the war was over and normal conditions again obtained, the people, having had a fair test of prohibition, should be allowed to express at the polls their opinion upon that law. I have no doubt as to that opinion or expression."

Rev. Mr. Spence discredited the idea that the men at the front wanted the return of the license system, and said it was a shame to say it. "I am content to leave the vote entirely to the men who have been fighting for Canada," he said, "and have no fear of the result. It is the common sense to say they are not as good as the men at home. Men for whom they are better."

## MOVING TO LEASIDE SOON AS POSSIBLE

Just as soon as the yards at Leaside can be made ready the C.N.R. will move from the present quarters in the Don Valley. It was stated yesterday on reliable authority. In the meantime the work is being rushed with all possible speed, the only obstacle being the lack of sufficient laborers.

The question, "Do you expect to be moved by spring?" brought the an-

swer, "Yes, that would be the outside time. The possibilities are that the move will be made before that."

## CLAIMS HE IS PERSECUTED.

Claiming that he was being persecuted by some unknown enemy who claimed he was a German, Joseph Cleman, a Russian barber, appeared before the board of control yesterday. He claimed that he had been discharged from his situation three times lately. He produced evidence to show that he was a native of Russia, but had been naturalized a British subject, and further, his son has been cheerful.

at the front for the past four years. This unknown had been continually sending anonymous letters to his employers. He was advised to consult the chief of police.

## CALMLY AWAITS DEATH.

Calmly whiling away the time by playing checkers with the death guard at the Toronto jail, Hassan Neby, who will be hung on January 3 next, appears to be little disturbed by the future. Not only does he eat well, but he is reported as being decidedly cheerful.