PAYS $10,000 TO COUNTY AFTER 30 YEARS TO CLEAR HIS FATHER'S MEMORY

George G. S. Reid, of New York, Has Accomplished Great Purpose of Life in Making Good Alleged Shortage of First County Treasurer—Asks Only Interest on Bonds During Lifetime—Transaction Now Practically Completed

A most unusual and touching disclosure was made Friday by J. King Kelley, county secretary. Nearly thirty years ago the municipality claimed a shortage of $5,624.87 upon an audit being made of the accounts of Thomas M. Reid, county treasurer, who had just died, and now negotiations are just concluding between the municipality and George G. S. Reid, of New York, a son of the late treasurer, for the return of $10,000, it being understood that all references to the accounts of his father appearing after his death be stricken from the official records. The son has been laboring for the greater part of his life, it has turned out, to make good the claims upon his deceased father, and to erase the alleged blemish against his memory.

Mr. Kelley, in relating the history of the most unusual case, did so with the approval of Mr. Reid, for he was perfectly satisfied to have his act known of in view of the publicity given the reflection on his father's memory. Mr. Kelley told the story from the beginning, as follows:

"Thomas M. Reid," he began, "was the first treasurer of the county as it is at present organized. He died in 1886. Upon an audit being made of his accounts it was alleged that he owed the county $5,624.87. Upon the suggestion of the auditors an action was commenced against the bondsmen of Mr. Reid which was carried on for four years. The county council requested the then attorney-general, Hon. Mr. Blair, to hand the conduct of the cause over to the municipality but he declined to do so. He undertook the carriage of the cause himself but the case never came to trial, so that the county never collected anything from the bondsmen.

"Now Charles G. S. Reid, New York, a son of the late treasurer, has been in communication with the county secretary and at an executive session of the council on Dec. 17 last a formal proposition was received from Mr. Reid to the effect that he would pay the municpality as an act of paternal affection and on behalf of his esteemed father, the sum of $10,000. The council decided to accept the offer and to eliminate from its official records every reference to the accounts of his father which appeared after his death.

"In consideration of the payment of $10,000, which is nearly double the original deficit, at Mr. Reid's suggestion, the council agreed to pay him $500 a year, payable semi-annually, during his lifetime and should be pre-decease his mother to pay to her the amount during the rest of her natural life. Payments are to be made at the Bank of Nova Scotia in the city of New York.

"The council in executive session was not advised as to whether Mr. Reid desired any publicity to be given his generous offer. The secretary, after having communication with him on the matter of publicity, was informed that as the matter of his father's alleged shortage had been widely spread through the press he saw no reason why his payment of $10,000 should not be given out for publication.

"It is expected that a formal agreement with Mr. Reid and the municipality will be consummated at the Bank of Nova Scotia, New York, during next week.

"When the money is received the county will probably invest it in the bonds of the St. John County Hospital, of which an issue of $14,800 for balconies was ordered at the January meeting of the council. These bonds are $500 each, interest 5 per cent and payable in twenty years. Attorney-General Baxter, who also speaks as legal adviser of the city, has approved of the agreement.

T. L. Reid, of the post office staff here, another son, is delighted with his brother's act in paying $10,000 to remove every reflection that may be attached to the memory of their father."

Mr. Kelley showed the agreement. It has been prepared and ready for signatures, but it will have to be formally passed upon by the entire council on Tuesday next before the transaction can be completed.

It is stated that Mr. Reid has made it his life's aim to make retribution for the alleged discrepancies of his father. Many years ago, accompanied by his mother, he went to New York to reside. He is now connected with the conservation department of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. His correspondence in connection with the agreement show he has been laboring for years to fulfil his secret vow and his only regret was that force of circumstances compelled him to retard payment.

He was in the city last summer, it has been learned, to negotiate with the county secretary in connection with the matter. Mr. Kelley was away, however, so Mr. Reid returned to New York. Soon afterward he opened up a correspondence with the secretary with the happy consummation noted. Mr. Reid is in the neighborhood of sixty years of age and his mother is advanced in the eighties.

H. R. McLellan, warden, who has already affixed his signature to the document, said that it was one of the most pleasant duties he has fulfilled for many years. Other members of the council and in public life have expressed their sentiments in connection with the unusual action of Mr. Reid and his exalted principle and exemplary honor.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Ellen Gulliver.

Newcastle, Feb. 10—Mrs. Ellen Gulliver (nee Vye), one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants of Douglastown, and the last of a large family born at Beaubair's Point, died of a short illness of bronchitis Tuesday night. Deceased, who had enjoyed very good health up to about nine days before her death, was 81 years old past, April last. The funeral will be held today, services by Rev. Alex. Firth, pastor of St. Mark's Presbyterian church, of which deceased was a beloved member, and interment in St. Mark's cemetery, Douglastown. Deceased, who recently lost a daughter, Mrs. P. Walsh, and never got over that loss, leaves four children—Daniel and Richard Gulliver, Douglastown; Mrs. George Gratto, East Deering (Me.), and Mrs. Giles Ricker, of Hudson (Mass.); also a grandson, James Gulliver, who lived with her, and a large number of other grandchildren.

Sheriff F. W. Freeze.

Friday, Feb. 11.

High Sheriff Fred W. Freeze of Kings county died yesterday morning at his residence in Hampton after 1 week's illness of pneumonia. For the last twenty-one years Sheriff Freeze resided in Hampton. He was appointed as deputy sheriff of Kings upon the death of Sheriff Sproul, which took place in 1895. He held office under his father, the late Samuel Freeze, and also under the late Beverley Hatfield. Upon the death of the latter in 1905 he was appointed to the position of sheriff and had since filled it in a most acceptable manner.

His death, which came at a comparatively early age—fifty-three years—is deeply deplored by the residents of the county. He had a genial and kindly disposition, was good hearted and generous and often rendered valuable aid to charitable causes. He was a member of Corinthian Lodge No. 13 A. F. & A. M.

He is survived by two brothers, Samuel and Bliss, both residing at the old homestead in Sussex. E. Bliss McLeod of the postal service of this city is an uncle. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon from the homestead in Sussex.

John Walsh.

Friday, Feb. 11.

John Walsh, a well known resident of this city, died Wednesday in the St. John Infirmary after a brief illness of pneumonia. He was sixty-one years of age and is survived by his wife, two sons, Douglas, at home, and John, of the 104th Battalion, and two daughters, Irene and Laura, in Halifax. Mr. Walsh was a member of the Order of Elks, The Bal-Bougie Club, and the C. M. B. A. In his younger days he took a great interest in sport and assisted in promoting many athletic events. He was a native of this city, and had a host of friends, who will regret to learn of his death.

Mr. Walsh played left field for the old Shamrocks in the early seventies, and was a valued member of that team. He was an exceptionally good thrower and held the local record for several years. While playing on the Shamrocks his team won the city championship, competing against the famous North End Invincibles, Athletics and Mutuals. They also defeated teams in Halifax and other parts of New Brunswick. The team in those days was composed of Costigan, catcher; John McCarthy, pitcher; Mitchell, first base; Jim Flynn, second base; James McCarthy, third base; Spence, shortstop; Mike Holland, Patrick Kane and John Walsh, out-fielders.

Another sport in which Mr. Walsh was keenly interested in was horse racing. During the years 1885 and 1886 he was part owner of the famous runner Yorktown, and although he sold his interest the following year, he never lost track of any races in which Yorktown participated. In later years he attended every meet of any importance held in this city and was quite an authority on turf events.

Although interested in all kinds of sport, he never participated in any line with these exceptions, but he was always ready to assist in any line and he won many friends.

Arthur Gordon Ferris.

Friday, Feb. 11.

The death occurred yesterday morning at Chipman of Arthur Gordon Ferris, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Ferris. The child had been ailing for some time, suffering from spinal menengitis to which he finally succumbed. The funeral will be held on Friday at 2.30 o'clock from the residence of the parents. The affair is doubly sad owing to the fact that the little daughter is at present lying dangerously ill.

Joseph R. Stone.

Friday, Feb. 11.

The death of Joseph R. Stone, who passed away last evening at ten o'clock came as a shock to his many friends, the cause of death being from heart trouble. He was a man that took an active part in the life of the city and was respected by all who knew him.

The late Mr. Stone was in his seventy-third year and was born at Coverdale, Albert county, the son of the late William Stone. At about the age of twenty he came to St. John and, after a time, entered the banking business with his brother Oliver and the late Simeon Jones. Later on Mr. Jones withdrew from the business and it was continued by the two brothers, under the name of Stone & Stone. Eventually Mr. Stone left the banking business and became identified with the express business as manager for the American Express Company, a position in which he continued active until nine years ago.

Mr. Stone was a staunch Conservative and was a most valued man in the councils of the party, being treasurer for many years for the party in this province. While never anxious for political honors, he was always willing to assist the aspirations of others and he refused many posts of honor which had been tendered him. As a commissioner for the Central railway, Mr. Stone, for several years had given valuable service.

He was a prominent member of the Union Club and was also a charter member and, at one time, president of the Cliff Club. During his long life he has been identified with the Presbyterian church and was for many years a leading member of St. Andrew's church.

Mr. Stone's wife died fourteen years ago. He is survived by three sons and three daughters, also two brothers and two sisters. The sons are F. L. Stone, of Schnectady (N. Y.); J. W. Stone, of New York city; and Harold, of San Francisco. The daughters are Miss Olive and Miss Jane Stone, and Mrs. S. K. Scovil, of St. John. Dr. Herbert Stone, of Reigate, England, who is at present at the front, and Oliver T. Stone, of Kislo (B. C.), are brothers, and Mrs. Gavin Rainnie, of St. John, and Mrs. E. C. Cory, of British Columbia, are sisters of the deceased.

Fred. L. Stone, of Schnectady, arrived in the city yesterday and J. W. Stone is expected from New York Saturday.

Miss Elizabeth Connolly.

The death of Miss Elizabeth Connolly occurred Wednesday at the Mater Misericordiae Home. She was a sister of the late Monsignor Connolly late rector of St. John the Baptist church. The nearest relative of the deceased is Sister Clothilde of this city.

Arthur C. DeMille.

Saturday, Feb. 12.

F. E. DeMille left last evening for Somerville (Mass.), to bring back to St. John for interment the body of his brother, Arthur C. DeMille, who died very suddenly in that city on Thursday. Mr. DeMille had been away from St. John for many years, residing chiefly in Boston and New York. He was a great sufferer from asthma and his death, which occurred suddenly, is believed to have been from a severe attack. The news came to Chief Simpson in a message from the police authorities at Somerville, and F. E. DeMille was at once notified. Three sisters also survive, Mrs. L. Burpee and Miss Eliza, Ottawa, and Mrs. Silas M. McVane, widow of Prof. McVane, resident in Italy. Many in St. John knew A. C. DeMille well and have heard with sincere regret of his sudden death.

Miss Mary McAuley.

Saturday, Feb. 12.

The death took place yesterday morning at the home of Miss Anna Jordan, Paradise row, of Miss Mary McAuley, for more than sixty years a servant in the family. Miss McAuley was a native of Carleton and entered the employ of Miss Jordan's parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jordan, about sixty-four years ago, continuing after their death with Miss Jordan.

William Crocket.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 13—William Crocket, M. A., LL. D., passed away at his home in this city in his eighty-fourth year. The funeral will take place at 2.30 Tuesday afternoon with service at St. Paul's Presbyterian church at 3 o'clock. Interment will be made at the Rural cemetery.

Dr. Crocket was a prominent educationist. He was a native of Breclim, Scotland. He came to New Brunswick at the age of twenty-four. From 1856 until 1861 he was principal of the Superior school at Campbellton. From 1861 until 1870 he was rector of the Presbyterian academy at Newcastle. In that year he was appointed principal of the Provincial Normal school in Fredericton. He remained in that office until 1883, when he was made chief superintendent of education for New Brunswick. After holding that office until 1891, he became a member of the faculty of Morrin College, Quebec city. In 1901 he again was appointed to his former position of principal of the Normal school. In 1906 ill health compelled his retirement. Seven sons and two daughters survive. The sons are: James H. Crocket, of Fredericton; Dr. C. W. Crocket, of Fredericton; Allan A. Crocket, of San Francisco; Charles S. O. Crocket, editor of the Tribune, Campbellton; Judge O. S. Crocket, of the New Brunswick Supreme Court, Fredericton; Dr. A. Pierce Crocket, of St. John; Octavus Crocket, of Moncton. The daughters are: Miss Declinia Crocket, of Fredericton, and Mrs. H. Harper Smith, of Toronto, at present in this city.

Mrs. Robert Willis.

Sussex, Feb. 13—Death came to the home of Robert Willis Saturday afternoon and claimed his wife, who has been ill for several months. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Willis and little daughter, as this is the third death in the home within little over a year's time. Mrs. Willis was of sterling character and leaves to mourn besides her husband and daughter, Crissy, her father and mother, residing in Stellarton (N. S.); also four sisters and two brothers. The sisters are Mrs. Charles Grant, of Stellarton (N. S.); Mrs. Alex. Wilson, of Westville (N. S.); Mrs. James Calder, of New Glasgow (N. S.); Mrs. John G. McKenzie, of Glace Bay (N. S.); and John M. Davies, of Glace Bay, and George Davies, now in active service in France, are brothers.

Alma Lois Thompson.

As the result of an illness following an accident a year ago, when she was run over by an automobile in St. John, the death of Alma Lois Thompson, youngest daughter of Harry Thompson, occurred Saturday morning at her home in Welsford in her eighth year. Besides her father she is survived by one sister, Verna C., and one brother, Charles H. Thompson.

Mrs. Jennie E. Burger.

The death of Mrs. Jennie E. Burger, wife of T. A. Burger, occurred Saturday at the St. John County Hospital, East St. John. She was forty-three years of age. Besides her husband and mother she is survived by five sons—Curtis A., Angus McB., Gordon G., Freeman C., and Wilbert M.; and three daughters—Myrtle M., Jennie L., and Hazel E., all of this city.

Merton W. Barnes.

Sackville, Feb. 13—Merton W., the twelve-year-old son of Clarence Barnes, died Friday night. The cause of his death was spinal meningitis.

Mrs. Annie Crawford.

The death of Mrs. Annie Crawford, formerly of this city occurred on Saturday at Cambridge. She leaves one son, S. H. Crawford, of Cambridge (Mass.), three daughters, Mrs. Clark, of Framingham (Mass.), Mrs. W. A. Clark, of Somerville, and Miss L. Crawford, of Cambridge (Mass.) The body will be brought to St. John for burial tomorrow.

Mrs. J. E. McCaffrey.

Monday, Feb. 14.

Many will learn with regret of the death of Mrs. J. E. McCaffrey, which occurred yesterday at her residence, 171 St. George street, West St. John. Mrs. McCaffrey has been failing in health for some time past, having gone through a serious operation about a year and a half ago. She leaves, besides her husband, one son, Frank E., at home, and two sisters, Mrs. John McAndrews, of West Side, and Mrs. James McDonald, of Houlton (Me.)

The Swiss government has decided to establish a sugar monopoly and will take over all stocks of sugar in the country and raise prices from the equivalent of 7½ cents a metric pound to quotations varying between 8½ and 10 cents.

Jones—"I believe in early rising, don't you?" Smith—"Well, there's an abstract excellence in early rising; it all depends on what you do after you rise. It would be better for the world if some people never got up."

WEDDINGS

Slipp-Gillespie.

Amherst, Feb. 5—On Thursday afternoon, Feb. 3, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. John Gillespie the marriage took place of their daughter, Katherine, to Ralph Slipp, of Trocher, Alberta.

Rev. C. W. Rose was the officiating clergyman. The bride wore a very smart tailored suit of blue, with black velvet hat. Carnations and ferns lent their loveliness to the cheer and beauty of the rooms, while Miss Colu's skilful fingers furnished the music. Only the immediate friends of the bride were present. In church and Sunday school of the Baptist church the bride will be greatly missed but Trocher will be the richer for Amherst's loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Slipp left by the maritime for their future home in Alberta but will visit in Montreal, Toronto and other cities en route. Many good wishes follow them.

Day-Estabrooks.

The home of Capt. Frank Day, 114 Victoria street, was the scene of a pretty wedding when his son, Henry Temple Day, of this city, was united in marriage to Moretta M. Estabrooks, daughter of Isaac Estabrooks, of Upper Gagetown, by Rev. Mr. Deinstadt. After the ceremony a dainty supper was served and an enjoyable evening was spent by the immediate relatives of the young couple. The bride was given away by her cousin, William Harry Estabrooks, of this city. The groom's gift to the bride was a handsome gold pendant. The bride's presents were numerous and beautiful. Mr. and Mrs. Day will reside in this city.

Currie-Roy.

Halifax, Feb. 11.—Rev. Dr. V. E. Harris, assisted by Rev. J. A. Winfield, officiated at the marriage of Miss Reby Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Roy, and William Currie, manager of the Equitable Life Assurance Company in St. John, and well-known in Halifax. The wedding took place last evening. It was to have been in All Saints' church, Bedford, about a week ago, but owing to Mr. Currie's illness had to be postponed.

Miss Roy, who was given away by her father, looked very lovely. Both bride and groom were unattended. Mr. and Mrs. Currie left by the evening train for St. John.

WEST RENEWS DEMAND FOR FREE WHEAT

(Continued from page 1.)

Sir Robert Borden then read to the house a cablegram forwarded by Sir George Perley on behalf of the lord mayor and sheriffs of London, stating that they would feel honored if allowed to offer an exact replica of the commons mace lost in the parliamentary buildings fire.

Wants Reform in Divorce Procedure.

W. B. Northrup then introduced his resolution that in the opinion of the house the present unsatisfactory divorce procedure, which is prohibitive to the great majority of the people of Canada, should be taken into immediate consideration by the house this session with a view to reform.

Mr. Northrup emphasized that he did not propose to broaden the grounds on which divorce should be sought. He urged that the present procedure, however, was unreasonably expensive, so as to be practically prohibitive to the majority of Canadians. It was not only unsatisfactory, but absolutely idiotic that such an important matter as divorce should be carried on by a senate committee, as was the case today, the only change that had been made last year having been the addition of four members of the committee on private bills of the commons to the senate divorce committee. Mr. Northrup thought that parliament, in making only this modification where reform was needed, was not dealing fairly or sincerely with the people of Canada.

The member for East Hastings then went into the history of divorce legislation in England, to show how reforms had been brought about. There were now only two civilized countries which did not allow divorce, and only one other country where the same divorce law as in Canada obtained, Ireland. Mr. Northrup asked the house either to contradict him when he asserted the present procedure was unsatisfactory, or to change it.

Law Only for the Rich.

How could Canada ask her young men to go to the front, continued the member for East Hastings, and say to him: "If you are wronged at home and happen to be rich, why, file your petition and get your divorce, but if you are poor, why, then we can do nothing for you." Let the country either abolish divorce or put it on such ground that poor and rich would have the same rights. Mr. Northrup stated that whereas the Roman Catholic church was opposed to divorce, the Greek church was not, and neither was the Anglican church.

W. F. Carroll interrupted to state that the Roman Catholic church recognized divorce on some grounds, but Mr. Northrup replied that while, though it nullified marriages, for some reasons, it never granted divorces. He went on to quote the figures of divorce cases in New Brunswick, which was one of the four Canadian provinces, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia, where divorce courts now existed. Only 115 divorces had been granted there in forty-four years.

Mr. Northrup said the divorce procedure at present was "too monstrously absurd to be staged anywhere outside a vaudeville show." It was, for instance, "sublimely ridiculous" that the applicant for a divorce was obliged to advertise for six month in the Canadian Gazette. Even where the applicant pleaded in forma pauperis and certain fees were omitted, the cost of bringing witnesses to Ottawa was still prohibitive.

Mr. Northrup referred to what he described as a recent pitiful case in Toronto where an absent soldier had been wronged by a scoundrel who had taken advantage of his absence. The man from Toronto could not apply because he had not the money, whereas in another case "the man from Montreal could apply, because he had the money."

Hon. Mr. Lemieux.

Hon. R. Lemieux stated that even if Mr. Northrup did not propose to extend the grounds of divorce, there was no doubt his proposal would tend to create a substantial divorce law in Canada. As the minister of justice had pointed out last session, there was no divorce law in five Canadian provinces, so there could be no courts till a substantive law had been passed.

Mr. Lemieux contended that, as proved by the principles laid down at the synod in Montreal in 1905, the Anglican church in Canada was, equally with the Roman Catholic church, opposed to divorce.

The member for Rouville then referred to what he stated were the appalling statistics of divorce in the United States. From 1867 to 1915 there had been only 285 divorces granted by the senate in Canada; 158 to husbands and 127 to wives; 175 in Ontario; 52 in Quebec; 25 in Manitoba; 8 in Saskatchewan; 15 in Alberta; 2 in British Columbia; 7 in the Northwest Territories, and one in Prince Edward Island. This was a clean sheet, as compared with the United States, whose record should be a warning to Canadian legislators. Between 1867 and 1887 there had been 328,716 divorces in the United States, an increase of 157 per cent, whereas the population in that time had increased only sixty per cent, and from 1887 to 1906 there had been 945,625 divorces.

Mr. Lemieux said that intemperance was an important cause of divorce in the United States. The average duration of marriages which ended in divorce was ten years. He told the house that in two reformatories in the United States three-quarters of the boys received were the children of divorced parents. He urged that in view of the probable increase in immigration after the war divorce should not be facilitated in Canada or the number of divorces would certainly increase. Incompatability of temperament, Mr. Lemieux said, was no reason for a divorce. Moreover, he felt that divorce was, at best, an appeal to sentiment rather than reason.

Favors Court Procedure.

Mr. Carroll, of South Cape Breton, said that the majority of the members of the both houses were asked to vote on divorce bills without very much knowledge of the cases, and he expressed the belief that divorces which were not justified by the evidence were granted by parliament. He pointed out that while the lawyers in parliament were capable of weighing the testimony given before the divorce committee of the senate, the laymen were not. He, therefore, felt that parliament was not the proper tribunal to try divorce cases, and he was of the opinion that the proper tribunals to hear such actions were the civil courts of the land. He did not agree with Mr. Lemieux that to give the courts jurisdiction in such cases would increase the facilities for securing the annulment of marriage contracts. Indeed parliament had granted many divorces which would not have been accepted as conclusive in the Nova Scotia courts. He did not understand that Mr. Northrup proposed to add to the grounds on which divorce was obtainable, and he supported the resolution.

Marcil Would Make Divorces Harder.

Hon. Charles Marcil said that, as a Roman Catholic, he was opposed to the granting of divorces. He believed that divorce was the curse of the United States, and argued that to make divorce easy was to make it possible to sever family ties and undermine the home, which was the basis of the state. He was inclined to make divorce as difficult as possible, and he asserted that if the courts handled divorce cases as the senate committee some times did they would be guilty of a parody on justice.

A. A. MacLean, of Prince Edward Island, said that the Prince Edward Island statute provided for trial of divorce cases upon the issue of a fiat by the lieutenant-governor has never been acted upon, and that any application for divorce by residents of the province had been made to the Canadian parliament. The senate, he asserted, was a court for rich men, and he was of the opinion that if divorces were to be granted, all Canadians should enjoy equal rights.

Mr. Thorburn, of South Lanark, said that the appointment of a sub-committee of the commons private bills committee to sit on the senate divorce committee was a step in the right direction. He believed that the authority to try divorce cases should be transferred from parliament to the law courts.

Minister of Justice Against It.

Hon. C. J. Doherty said that Mr. Northrup had made it clear that by his motion he did not ask any addition to the grounds upon which divorce was not granted. The motion of the member for East Hastings did not ask for the transference of jurisdiction in divorce cases to the courts, or the creation of any special court. The minister of justice read the motion as calling for the substitution of some new procedure for the method now in use. However, much of Mr. Northrup's argument indicated that he favored the substitution of the courts for parliament in the granting of divorces. If, continued the minister of justice, such courts were established it would be necessary to provide a substantive law, defining when a man was entitled to a divorce. In Quebec the only legal enactment on the subject was the declaration in the code that marriage was indissoluble, except by death. In face of that declaration a divorce could would be powerless. In Ontario there was no law on the subject.

Mr. Northrup argued that if parliamen empowered the Ontario Supreme Court to try divorce cases, the tribunal would be able to proceed to grant divorces on such grounds as appeared to it proper. Parliament granted divorces in practice only on one ground, but it could grant divorces on other grounds if it saw fit.

Mr. Doherty replied that prior to the establishment of divorce courts in England there was no law, except that marriage was indissoluble. For this reason, a special act of parliament was necessary to dissolve a marriage.

There was no pressing demand on the part of a large portion of the population of Canada looking towards action of the kind desired by Mr. Northrup, continued the minister. It must also be remembered that this was a war session. The minister of justice said he would be glad if an end were put to divorce for all time, but this parliament could not take such action. Neither did he consider it desirable that this house should pass a resolution reflecting on the senate by declaring that its procedure in divorce cases was unsatisfactory.

D. D. MacKenzie, of North Cape Breton, said there was divorce in Canada, so the fact might as well be recognized. He thought that jurisdiction to try divorce cases might be given to the supreme courts of the different provinces, or it could be given to the exchequer court. He favored the motion.

Mr. Northrup, in concluding the debate, said it was an extraordinary state of affairs when the minister of justice, speaking for the government, objected to doing something to remedy what he admitted was wrong because he was afraid of reflecting on the upper house. The present resolution said nothing about the senate or the establishment of divorce courts, even, but it opened the way at least to a reform which would obviate the necessity of advertising divorce applications for six months in the Canada Gazette, and of summoning witnesses to Ottawa to find that the Senate Divorce Committee had adjourned for a week.

He also thought the criminal code should be amended to stop the disgraceful lobbying which constantly went on, as every member of the house was aware, and in this connection told the tale of a certain woman who, after obtaining her divorce on a close vote, held a levee in front of the senate and was congratulated by the senators in turn.

The resolution was then put to the house in the expectation that it would be declared lost, but so many voices shouted "Aye" that a vote was taken, the members filing in from the corridors with surprise written on their faces. The resolution was declared lost by only 15 votes, 24 for, and 39 against. Those who voted for it on the government side were: Messrs. Northrup, Morphy, Thoburn, Edwards, Nickle, Porter, A. A. McLean and Morrison. Liberals who supported the resolution were: Messrs. Pugsley, Graham, Bickerdike, Oliver, MacDonald, MacKenzie, Turriff, Carvell, Pardee, Buchanan, White of Victoria, Copp, McCrancy and Kay.

Those who voted against the resolution were Sir Robert Borden, Hons. J. D. Hazen, C. J. Doherty, Frank Cochrane, Arthur Meighen, A. E. Kemp, Dr. Reid, Crothers, Messrs. Grey, Wilcox, Patenaude, MacDonnell, W. H. Bennett, Henderson, Munson, Webster, Sutherland, Green, Shepherd, Nicholson, Stewart, Wright, Sexsmith, Ball, Steele, and Messrs. Lemieux and Murphy.

In answer to Hon. George P. Graham, the prime minister said that no agreement had yet been reached between the federal government and the Ontario government with regard to the transfer to the province of any federal rights in water powers situated in the province. Negotiations were, however, in progress in regard to the taking over by the province of some of the developed or undeveloped water powers, such as those along the Trent Canal, now controlled by the dominion. Pending the conclusion of some agreement, Sir Robert said that he could not give any details as to what would be done.

Mr. Pardee, and E. M. MacDonald asked for information as to shell contracts in the specific cases of the Invincible Steel & Iron Products Company and the Nova Scotia Steel Company.

The prime minister said that the government had nothing to do with the letting of shell contracts, and that information should be sought direct from the munitions board.

No Valley Road Agreement.

In reply to Mr. Carvell, the minister of railways said that no new agreement had yet been entered into with the province of New Brunswick in regard to a joint arrangement for the operation of the Valley railway. The arrangement which existed up to the beginning of the present year, whereby New Brunswick received forty per cent. of the gross earnings, and the Intercolonial sixty per cent., as compensation for operating the road, had been terminated on the ground of "non-completion of the provincial road." Negotiations are still on for a new agreement.

In reply to Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Cochrane said that the government did not intend during the present year to begin the construction of the Intercolonial branch line in Guysboro county. The minister also declared that there was no intention of establishing a fund by which old and incapacitated employes of government railways who do not come under the provident fund, could be provided for.

In reply to E. D. McKenzie, Mr. Cochrane said that the cables from Magdalene Island and St. Paul's Island would likely to be repaired this coming spring. Attempts had been made to repair the cables in December, but gales had prevented going on with the work.

Britain Buying Horses for Canada.

According to an answer given by the prime minister in the commons this afternoon to Mr. Hughes, of Kings, the Canadian government stopped, in August last, buying horses for military purposes. An arrangement was then entered into with the British government whereby the latter bought all the horses necessary both for British and Canadian purposes. Sir Robert said that the French government was also buying horses in Canada for war purposes, and that representations had been made both to the British and French governments as to the number available in Canada for remount purposes.

The minister of customs told Mr. Hughes that during the last months of last year the total amount of duty collected on "jewelry, not otherwise provided for," including diamond or pearl necklaces, was $175,820. Hon. Dr. Reid said that it was against the practice of the department to give specific details as to the entries for the expensive articles of jewelry inquired about by Mr. Hughes.

E. Lapointe, Fortier, Marcil, Proulx, Boivin, MacMillan, Papineau, Michaud, Gauvreau, Marcil of Bago, and Delisle.

Free Wheat Resolution.

Parliament turned its attention shortly before 11 o'clock to the subject of free wheat.

J. G. Turriff availed himself of the order of private members' motions, to submit a resolution declaring that "in the opinion of this house, in order to secure to the farmers and people of Canada the advantages of the American market for wheat, wheat products and potatoes, steps should be taken at once to put these articles on the free list in the Canadian tariff."

Mr. Turriff pointed out that ten months of the year farmers in his constituency could take wheat across the line, if it were not for the duty, and receive ten to fifteen cents per bushel more than they got under present conditions. "Why," he asked, "should wheat raisers in this country be crucified in that way?"

Wheat was higher in the United States, yet flour was cheaper. The American miller paid more for his wheat, and sold his products cheaper. Why should the interests of a few big milling concerns outweight theintercsts of the farmers with the government?

Mr. Turriff reminded the government that the next parliament would contain sixteen additional members from the prairie provinces, every one of whom would come to join the ranks of those who demanded free wheat. Under existing conditions, the government was allowing the milling interests to rob both farmers and consumers. The government was always ready to heed the voice of the big interests, but the voice of the farmer had no avail.

Mr. Turriff estimated that the closed United States market had caused a loss of $10,000,000 to the western producers of wheat this season, while the excessive trans-Atlantic freight rates had cost many millions more.

Referring to the shipments of cattle to the United States, under the Wilson tariff, Mr. Turriff stated that no one would say the farmers were less loyal because they were now selling their live stock in Buffalo, instead of Liverpool. Yet that was the argument advanced at the last general election.

Mr. Turiff declared that the government was taxing the farmers and consumers all over the country to enable milling concerns to pay large dividends.

The debate was adjourned by Thomas McNutt. It will be resumed on Wednesday, when the resolution will be taken to a vote.

MONTREAL TALKS TO VANCOUVER

Demonstration Last Evening When Prominent Guests Conversed with Friends on the Coast 4,227 Miles Away.

Montreal, Feb. 14—The Bell Telephone Company this evening successfully opened the Montreal-Vancouver line, said to be the longest ear-to-ear circuit in the world, 4,227 miles, the New York-San Francisco line, recently opened, being 3,400 miles in length. The demonstration took place in the Ritz-Carlton ball room, where more than 100 prominent citizens were seated as guests of the Bell Telephone Company, with C. F. Sise, general manager, presiding. A small telephonic receiver was placed at the disposition of the guests at the head table.

Lord Shaughnessy, president of the C. P. R., had a short conversation with F. W. Peters, superintendent of the C. P. R. in Vancouver; Sir Frederick Williams Taylor, manager of the Bank of Montreal, talked to Douglas R. Clarke, at the Vancouver branch of the Bank of Montreal, and Ald. Leslie Boyd, of Montreal, congratulated Mayor McBeth on his elevation to the chief magistracy of Vancouver.

The demonstration included chats with San Francisco, and concluded with God Save the King, being given by a gramaphone at Vancouver, while the Bell Telephone Company's guests in the Ritz-Carlton in Montreal were standing.

President E. J. Chamberlin, of the Grand Trunk railway, was one of the invited guests.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

FOURTH BATTALION.

Wounded—Frederick S. Jackson, Mount Dennis (Ont.)

Died of wounds—William C. Pepperell, England.

Previously reported missing, now reported buried in Germany—Walter Latimer, England.

NINTH BATTALION.

Seriously ill—John Lanier, Edmonton (Alb.)

Wounded—Edward Grey, Edmonton (Alb.); STEPHEN PEARSON, MILLTOWN (N. B.); William Thomas Madge, England; Roland Ardill, England.

Suffering from shell shock—Frank Booth, England.

FOURTEENTH BATTALION.

Wounded—James Davie, Scotland.

TWENTY-FOURTH BATTALION.

Died of wounds—Corporal Arthur Cook, England.

Wounded—Arthur G. Wilde, England; John L. Brereton, England.

TWENTY-FIFTH BATTALION.

Wounded — GEORGE SHARPE, MACCAN (N. S.)

TWENTY-SIXTH BATTALION.

Wounded — GUY R. McLAY, MOORES MILLS (N. B.)

TWENTY-SEVENTH BATTALION.

Slightly wounded—George R. Scott, Kenora (Ont.)

TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION.

Killed in action—Corporal Stewart Conlin, Red Deer (Alb.)

TWENTY-NINTH BATTALION.

Wounded—Sergeant Stanley Palmer, England.

FIRST CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES.

Wounded—Sergeant John W. Plummer, England.

SECOND CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES.

Died of wounds—James Bartlett, England.

Wounded—Henry G. Hawkins, Medicine Hat (Alb.); Harold A. Blakey, England.

FIFTH CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES.

Wounded—William Bradley, Ottawa.

FIRST FIELD COMPANY, FIRST CANADIAN DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS.

Wounded—Corporal John O. Brown, England.

HOPEWELL HILL NOTES

Hopewell Hill, Feb. 13—A stranger recently spent the night in the school house here, occupying the rooms of the advanced department, where he secured cozy quarters by the liberal use of the janitor's kindling wood. Entrance was made at one of the windows. After his snooze in the hall of learning, the wayfarer, it is understood, called on a nearby resident for his breakfast. On account of some uneasiness among the residents along his route the stranger ran into the arms of the law at Hillsboro and was taken before the police magistrate and an investigation held with the result that the traveller, who claimed he was engaged in honing razors, was allowed to go on his way, it being considered there was no evidence on which to detain him.

Private Jos. E. Smith of the 104th Battalion, Sussex, spent a few days at his home here thep ast week.

Walter E. Morris, railway mail clerk, of St. John, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris, Albert.

A. W. Bray, judge of probate, and M. B. Dixon, K.C., returned on Saturday from a business trip to St. John.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Irving, regret to learn of the illness of their son, Paul, 19 years of age, who has developed serious tubercular trouble.

FAMOUS CIRCUS MIDGET DEAD

New York, N. Y., Feb. 14—Relatives of Edmund Newell, Jr., a famous midget, who was widely known in the circus and theatrical worlds as "Major" Newell, have received news of his death in Liverpool last week. He was a son of Mrs. Sarah E. Newall, of Newark, N. J.

Newell was twenty-four inches in height, and weighed twenty-seven pounds when he married Minnie Warren, another famous midget. At thirty-five he attained a height of four feet. His first wife having died, he married again, this time a woman of ordinary height. He leaves wife and two children, the latter well-known on the English stage. Newall was sixty years old.

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MINING FIGH INFAN

Estimates from Petrog Turkish garrison at Erzeru nounced, at 100,000 men. T it has not yet been officially were taken by the Russians.

That the fighting before by a Constantinope report, ture of Erzerum, says that munaction was issued the R

Both Berlin and Paris r developments on the battle l sian front there have been fantry actions at various po most ceased for the present

The Italians are still eng them recently by the Austri keeping up their artillery ac and Gorizia. An infantry ported by Vienna to have b

There still remains a b United States and Germany

The state department h susceptible of settlement w armed merchantmen remain viously given the governmen of vessels by submarines.

ADDITIONAL PRISONERS

Petrograd, Feb. 17, via statement was issued tonigh

"Caucasian front: I five more guns have been and that thirty-nine offic taken in the region of For

"Our troops occupied

"The registration of is proceeding.

"Erzerum is on fire in

ON THE ROAD TO TREBIZ

London, Feb. 18—The R Baiburt, according to an A burt is 75 miles northwest o

British Hold Rim of Crater.

London, Feb. 17—The British statement on the campaign in the ern zone, issued tonight, says:

"Early this morning the enemy two mines, one near Fosse, the south of Loos. After the explos the latter the enemy attempted cupy the crater, but was driven b our fire. We hold the near rim crater.

"Today our artillery bombard enemy trenches near the Hohen redoubt and east of Armentiere tween the Ypres-Comines canal Ypres-Comines railway, the situa unchanged."

Moving Troops Under Fire.

Paris, Feb. 17, via London, 10.4 —The following official commun was issued by the war office toni

TWO ZEPPELI LAST GERMA

London, Feb. 18—That England was damaged by t and that there is good reas and put out of action, was by Earl Kitchener, the Briti

Earl Kitchener announced i for one airship, which was lost a second airship had been put o

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