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Meeting of Patriotic Association.

War Memorial Discussed.

At last night's meeting of the Patriotic Association, His Excellency the Governor presided and some thirty members attended. Following the reading of the minutes of the last meeting by the Secretary, Dr. Burke, His Excellency apologized for calling the meeting at such a busy time but felt it necessary before the end of the year. The following report was then presented by Mr. E. A. Bowring, Hon. Secretary of the Patriotic Fund:

The Chairman,
Nfld. Patriotic Association:
Sir.—We respectfully beg to report on the operation of the Newfoundland Patriotic Fund as follows:

Since last report, matters dealt with by the fund have been purely of a routine nature.

In consequence of demobilization of our land and sea forces, we have been enabled to discontinue the bulk of our allowances. The number of grants current at the present time is 104, of which 97 are being continued as payments on account of possible pension, and these will be further reduced from time to time as the pensionability of the payees is decided by the Board of Pension Commissioners. The other current grants comprise:

- 4—Imperial pensions.
- 1—A/c Imperial soldiers.
- 2—Current grants on account of men still serving.

Payments to beneficiaries of Canadian soldiers have all been discontinued since August 31, 1919, at the instructions of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, and all disbursements on this account have been repaid to us.

In the early days of the present year the Government decided to increase the separation allowance granted by the Admiralty to dependents of Nfld. Royal Naval Reservists, so as to place them on the same footing as dependents of members of our land forces.

As the policy of the Patriotic Fund has always been to give these people the fullest benefits allowed by the fund, taking into consideration the fact that their pay and allowances were much smaller than in the cases of the land forces, they had received allowances for varying periods from the Patriotic Fund, which they would

not have had the benefit of if the scheme of augmentation had been in force from the outbreak of the war.

The trustees of the Patriotic Fund, therefore, considered it their duty to approach the Government with a view to obtaining power to recoup themselves from the authorized increased allowances, for the payments which they had made to those dependents who would be receiving the benefits of the increase. The Prime Minister at that time considered that as the amount involved was comparatively small and the amount of accounting in connection therewith correspondingly great, that such a course might be obviated by the Government making a special grant to the Patriotic Fund, and a rough calculation was made showing the amount to be between \$25,000 and \$30,000. To date nothing further has been heard of the matter.

Our resources at the present time amount roughly to \$22,000, which has to be carefully expended to meet all claims that may arise, and which, though deserving of recognition, cannot be dealt with under the regulations governing the issues of separation allowances or pensions.

With this end in view the trustees of the Patriotic Fund respectfully suggest that the Legislature be asked to enlarge their powers so as to enable them to grant assistance to meet such cases as have suffered through the war, but which cannot be alleviated through the Board of Pension Commissioners or the Board of Review of Separation Allowance Claims.

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN BROWNING,
Hon. Chairman.
ERIC BOWRING,
Hon. Sec.-Treas.
M. G. WINTER.

In reply to a question by the Chairman, Mr. Browning pointed out that the Fund had only dealt with Army and Navy cases, but now sought powers to assist others affected indirectly by the war. Mr. H. Mitchell asked as to deductions from allowances and was informed by Mr. Browning that a lot of money had been advanced and some \$30,000 was still due the Fund from the Government from

which none had been yet received. Except in one or two cases the advances made had been returned. The Fund would be pleased to hear of corroborated cases in which assistance is needed.

Dr. Blackall in seconding the adoption of the report hoped to see those in charge of the Fund given greater powers and discretion as to whom they might assist such as one of a needy father pointed out by Mr. Bowring. The report was adopted.

His Excellency explained that the principal object in calling the meeting was to hear the report of the War Memorial Committee which was then read. This recommended the erection of an Educational Institution or University containing technical and normal schools, and laboratory which would assist in the introduction of scientific methods in connection with the fisheries and other industries, and records of all who fought in the war in the form of brass or bronze tablets adorning the walls. A group of statuary or other form of memorial might be placed in front of the building. His Excellency from a careful study of the financial situation hardly thought Newfoundland would be justified right off in committing itself to such a heavy expenditure and looked to see at first something costing about \$40,000 or \$50,000, whatever it might develop into later. Like other countries this is suffering from an orgy of over-expenditure and he strongly advocated economy and the Patriotic Association might set a good example in this direction. It seemed there was a tendency here to make Water St. pay for everything. The various ideas as to a memorial brought forward he considered so impossible, but that embodied in the Committee's report might possibly be the nucleus of what is needed here, that is something that later might be extended into a University. Opinion seemed to favor something symbolic in statuary as that exhibited by Major T. Nangle viz.: a Caribou on the hill top, replica of the memorial to be erected to the men of Ours in France and Flanders. This he thought might be erected on Custom House Hill overlooking the harbor as does the statue of Rodney at Jamaica. He thought the future for which the soldiers did so much should be looked to develop the educational scheme which should be taken up cautiously keeping our views on a level with our financial abilities.

Rev. Dr. Curtis in moving the adoption of the report referred to the unanimity evinced at the Committee meetings and read letters from His Grace Archbishop Roche, His Lordship Bishop White and Rev. Dr. Bond, President of the Methodist Conference, favoring the erection of an educational building. Throughout the country he had found sentiment in favor of the movement. Those who fought and fell, won for us peace, and it is up to us to attain our share of that peace by improved education. He agreed that economy is vital but we should not begin with education, as money spent in this direction is the best form of economy. The greatest need of to-day is education and there is no better way to honor those who fought and fell than by equipping those who succeed them for life's battles. He appealed for better education that democracy may be more intelligent and prepared to deal with all big questions of the future. We want professional training for teachers that they may not go on experimenting on the children, the application of science to industry and the raising of the whole standard of education towards University lines. He felt all sections would assist the movement and no ideas of economy should be allowed to destroy the present opportunity.

Mr. A. J. Harvey, Chairman of the Memorial Committee expressed doubt that the outposts would support the idea as the larger places were working on memorials of their own. Subscriptions to educational movements had already taxed those able to contribute and further he feared that in time an Educational Institution would be regarded only as such and the idea of a memorial be lost. He favored something in the way of statuary with the names of all Newfoundlanders in local or other forces, adorning the base, and suggested the Colonial Building grounds as the site. Dr. Blackall seconded the motion for adoption and said that the memorial should be something commensurate with the gratitude which we feel to those who gave their all, something that should inspire all with the ideas for which the dead had laid down their lives. He believed in giving the whole country a chance to contribute towards the suggested building and was confident a fitting one would be erected. He estimated the cost of the building at about \$100,000 and from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per year to maintain operations with a permanent staff of 12 besides visiting teachers.

Lt. Col. Bernard presented resolutions passed by the G.W.V.A. on Saturday advocating first a local monument, a replica of those being erected in France and second a building containing normal and technical school, rooms for the G.W.V.A., while compulsory education should also be introduced. The monument could be erected by the city alone as the outposts are attending to their own while the school should be undertaken

by the Government thus making it a truly national movement. He referred at length to the literacy in the Regiment stating from 50 to 60 per cent. had been unable to write proving that education here is at a low ebb. Ours was the only Regiment in which the officers had to be given special instructions as to the paying of the men and in some cases the names of 6 out of 10 had to be signed for them when they were paid. He moved the G.W.V.A. suggestions as an amendment to the Committee's resolutions.

Dr. Robinson in seconding the amendment said the meeting had heard a lot about education, but all through there was one erroneous idea, that was the using of the promoted, exalted soldiers as a peg on which to hang projects not the Association's to perform. We want normal, technical schools, etc., and Newfoundland should provide them and not the dead. As he took it all who subscribe do so with one object, that is to honor those who have so greatly honored us. It is easy to talk of putting up buildings, but he believed the estimates of Dr. Blackall would be greatly enlarged, and that would be only the beginning of the expenses. A guarantee of the Government was necessary or any resolutions would be no good. The design of the monument exhibited was alright and the names might be added, while the site should be Bannerman Park where children particularly would receive inspiration from it. Nothing had been done since last meeting, eleven months ago, and he proposed the amendment be taken up and something decided on. From his knowledge of the country he did not think the outposts would support the building of a university which would be available only to those in the city and the richer folk outside. As in the case of the Enns and other disasters the outposts would do nobly, but they needed a cause and a university would not appeal to them. For our own credit something should be decided quickly and a memorial erected that coming generations might look back on and say "they did not forget."

Major T. Nangle explained that the model exhibited was the work of Basil Gatto, an exhibitor at the Royal Academy for 25 years. Though 53 years of age he had seen service, and as a musketry instructor was in touch with Ours at Winchester. The model shown was made in three hours. Base of the memorial here would be covered with native moss and stunted pine. Four are being erected in France and one in Belgium at a cost of £1000 each and plaques on the side measuring 6 feet by 4 feet to contain the names would cost £500 more. He would suggest the addition of figures representing the army and navy at the base. In Gallipoli, owing to climatic conditions, a rough hewn granite cross was being erected. He felt the men of the regiment would favor the Caribou design, as the Bou stands for both themselves and Newfoundland. It was the best model yet presented at the War Office. The resolutions of Lt. Col. Bernard, he believed would be backed by every man of the Regiment as they had suffered by lack of education and regretted the inability of obtaining it when young. The monument should be put up by the city and the educational scheme undertaken by the Government.

Mr. W. G. Gosling agreed with Dr. Robinson and saw no need of dragging in the fallen to back up an educational improvement that was wanted even if there had been no war. He favored a memorial alone at first and thought it did not matter much where it was placed as long as it served purely as a memorial.

Mr. John Browning considered the idea of a University absurd and higher education as framed at present, a farce. He agreed with the G.W.V.A. idea and thought the Government should be pressed for technical schools mainly. Sound elementary education is needed and the idea of Universities should be dropped. He further thought the monument resolution might be dealt with separately.

Mr. A. Wilson approved of compulsory education and thought the University idea was starting at the right end as it would keep many students here. He supported Dr. Curtis' resolutions.

Lt. Col. Bernard thought the two resolutions might be combined and Mr. J. J. McKay, Secretary of the Memorial Committee felt that statuary might be erected by subscription and the national memorial by the Government. Mr. H. E. Brookes supported the Committee's resolutions thinking the Association by its own efforts would induce the Government to back it up.

Mr. S. D. Blandford approved the G.W.V.A. idea while Mr. Justice Kent saw little difference in the resolutions and thought ideas were mixed as to a University which was intended for the future. We want a normal school before compulsory education so as to have qualified teachers and he thought the memorial should contain a hall to contain the invaluable records of the Regiment and souvenirs.

Dr. V. P. Burke warmly supported the Committee's resolutions pointing out the G.W.V.A. was the same except that the word University was a misnomer and unfortunately used.

Messrs. W. J. Ellis, F. W. Bradshaw, W. R. Howley and Sir W. F. Lloyd also expressed their opinions. Dr.

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Robinson was added to the Committee and it was finally decided that the Association and G.W.V.A. representatives get together with the view to formulating a proposal to be submitted at another meeting on Monday next. The meeting closed at mid-night.

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ATROCIOUS TELEPHONE



RUTH CAMERON

Why is it that so many women who are otherwise fairly well-mannered, have such perfectly atrocious telephone manners? I called a number the other day and was given the wrong number. A feminine voice responded with a great tartness that it was not

and that the line was busy. Of course I immediately tried to signal the operator to remove me and give me the number I wanted, whereupon the feminine voice, become several degrees tarter and shriller than before, ordered me to get off their line.

Of course I was no more anxious to stay on her line than she was to have me, (perhaps less, as I had five minutes to get a call before train time) but the only way I could get off was by signalling the operator. If she had given the matter an instant's consideration she would have known that. But she didn't. She just let herself go in a most rude and unpleasant way.

Face to Face She Would Probably Be Deceit.

Of course she may not have been a woman of any breeding, but the first time she spoke there had been a slight suggestion of breeding underlying the tartness, and I would not be surprised to find that she was a woman who, face to face with anyone, would use some measure of courtesy.

You notice that I have specified by spoken of women's lack of telephone manners. This is deliberate. I think women as a whole are less considerate, less patient, less courteous telephoners than men. They

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