

RE-ORGANIZATION OF RECRUITING LEAGUE FOR WINTER CAMPAIGN

Officers and Executive Appointed For Purpose of Furthering Interests of 215th Battalion—\$500 Grant From Provincial Government.

Following the recent issuance of invitations to the various societies throughout the city and county to send delegates to the meeting held in the Y.M.C.A. auditorium, a representative body of citizens met last night to effect a comprehensive organization to carry on to a successful conclusion, the work of recruiting to its full strength, the second Brant Battalion. As was desired, men engaged in every occupation were present and suggestions were received from every standpoint, so that the original intention was fulfilled when the executive finally formulated a comprehensive plan of action for the population. The local situation was thoroughly discussed and different methods advocated which had met with success in other districts of the country. A feature of the proceedings was the announcement that financial support was being given by the Ontario Government as the result of the visit paid to Premier Hearst in Toronto yesterday by a local delegation, consisting of Lt.-Col. Morris and Mr. J. H. Spence, the president of the Brant County Recruiting League. By means of the promised grant, amounting to \$500, the campaign will be carried on far more effectively than would otherwise be the case.

In calling the meeting to order, Mr. J. H. Spence, who presided, stated that the league had been inaugurated shortly after the outbreak of the war and had been instrumental in recruiting some four thousand men, Brant County's share in the present conflict. Not only in men but also in contributions to the Red Cross and for patriotic purposes had the people of this section nobly responded to the call of empire, stated the speaker. At the present time, Mr. Spence said, we had with us the 215th battalion which left this city some months ago, six hundred strong, but that owing to the waning out process now presented a muster roll of five hundred soldiers. At the outset there had been some doubt as to the possibility of securing the required number to complete the battalion, but now that the half century mark had been reached there was a prevalent desire to attempt the greater undertaking of filling out the ranks to the fullest extent. The chairman declared that there were still many eligible men in the county and in spite of the scarcity of labor and the difficulty being experienced by the manufacturers, the prime essential was the victorious culmination of the struggle, and if need be, all other interests would necessarily have to be abandoned to ensure the attainment of that aim. In carrying on the proposed campaign perfect harmony was to be desired with the manufacturers, farmers, merchants and other employers of labor. The County had undoubtedly done nobly in the past, but its entire responsibility could not be considered

to be discharged until the war has been concluded. The first item of the business to be transacted was the election of officers and committees to conduct the campaign. Mr. Spence stated his position, that as the president of the Patriotic League his duties were manifold and since the resignation of Col. Cockshutt, he had only occupied the chair temporarily and it was now his desire that a permanent president should be chosen to fill the office. Mr. Brewster then stated the officers and committees which were necessary to administer the business of the league.

In concluding, the chairman advised that in the selection of an executive that the widest scope possible be given so that all classes in the community would be reached. The first step was then taken by Mr. W. S. Brewster, who nominated Mr. Spence for the position of president. In support of this action, Mr. Brewster stated that his nominee had both the ability and the requisite knowledge as well as being in close personal touch with the league to most capably assume the leadership of such a movement. The motion was seconded by Mr. E. L. Gould, and was put to the vote and unanimously carried.

It was then moved by Mr. Norman Andrews and seconded by Mr. A. E. Watts, that Warren Harris undertake the duties of vice-president, which was also carried without dissenting voice.

Following a motion by Mr. Hill, Mr. W. S. Brewster, who had acted so capably in that

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capacity before, was again induced to accept the secretaryship. Mr. P. D. Reville nominated Mr. Reg. Scarfe as the treasurer of the league and was seconded in this by Mr. E. L. Gould. This appointment was also received with favor.

It was at this juncture that the announcement was made concerning the outcome of the conference with Premier Hearst that afternoon. Mr. Spence declared that not only would the original grant be forthcoming but that when this sum had been exhausted and a favorable report could be submitted to the government showing that the funds had been put to good advantage, that additional support would be tendered for the maintenance of the work.

In the selection of the committees the president thought that some of the experiences met with in the organization of the patriotic league could be used to advantage. In this connection many of the stories existing had been removed by the incorporation into that body of the factories Patriotic Association which was in close touch with a large share of the population. It was urged that some of these men be selected to work in connection with the executive, and as the best means of accomplishing this end to appoint them as members of that body.

The attention of the meeting was then brought by Mr. P. D. Reville to the fact that in the previous year a nominating committee had been

appointed to choose the various committees and report their decision to the main body.

Mr. T. Hendry referred to the rumor to the effect that the counties of Hamilton were to be added to Brant for recruiting purposes, and if such were to be the case, he thought that they should be represented on the committee that before further steps were taken that they should be consulted. Mr. Spence stated that in that event the organizations would work independently of each other. Col. Morris in reply to this matter said that any such supposition as that put forward by Mr. Hendry was premature, as at this stage the matter was only rumored and no official word had been received from Ottawa as yet.

The following gentlemen were suggested by Mr. Hill to act on the standing committee, Messrs. A. K. Bunnell, H. W. Fitton, T. Hendry, Collyer Andrews, Lane, Riley, Simons, and by request Mr. Hill also was included in this number.

While the committee were absent the chairman stated that the resolution passed at the last meeting of the executive to the effect that the services of Premier Hearst and Mr. N. W. Rowell be secured to speak at an opening rally to be held in this city. The Premier stated that although he was largely taken up, that he would be pleased to come to the city whenever it could be suitably arranged and Mr. Spence also announced that he would be in the position to make his date coincide with that of Mr. Hearst. Both men had the advantage of a personal inspection on an extensive scale of the first line trenches which were come to Brantford with the experience of the statesmen of England, France and Belgium. The chairman then called upon Col. McCullough, the chief recruiter of this military district to deliver an address.

Col. McCullough said that it was a pleasure to be in the city in doing so he could be of any use in the organization for the coming winter. Those present were all practical men who were far better acquainted with the state of affairs in this section than he could possibly be. After being engaged in recruiting throughout the past two years there was little enthusiasm left to continue the work, declared the speaker and in this respect, he thought that the war was just as much a problem for the civilian to solve as the military man. There was a natural diffidence in approaching a young man and soldier engaged in the trenches, themselves in multi admitted Col. McCullough, but there were also many civilians who were especially equipped for this class of work and these persons should be utilized to the greatest extent as possible. The speaker continued that 10 per cent. was supposed to mark the maximum of the population, but as far as the war purposes while the county had supplied about 9 per cent, which was exceedingly good. If, however, the full quota promised by the government should be raised to 11 per cent, 11 per cent of the entire population of the country would have to be raised.

"The measure of our capacity should be the measure of our responsibility," was the motto employed to emphasize the seriousness of the situation.

Col. McCullough then proceeded to outline a measure whereby more recruits could be secured. One plan which met with his approval was the further cultivation of the rural districts and the best work could be done by the league in soliciting enlistment from this quarter. He also advocated the following plan: as about five hundred men were wanted, to divide the county into ten districts and allot to each of them one tenth of the required number of recruits to raise. This suggestion was also made by Col. Williams at a meeting of the executive of the league not long ago. The clerical patriotic association could also be used to advantage in the matter of exchanging pulpits. In the early stages of the movement some hesitancy had been displayed by a few pastors in giving place to speakers appointed to occupy their churches perhaps for the reason of contact with public opinion.

There were many splendid fellows in the battalion who could be induced to give pulpits to Swedish and other languages, and to demonstrate the building up qualities of the army. The band could be availed of, to assist in this work by performing a circuit throughout the county and by using persuasive methods, secure additional men for the cause.

A publicity committee would without doubt be a valuable acquisition to the league of men properly qualified to write competent articles for the press that would permeate the sentiment of the community.

"I have found wherever I have gone, outside the pulpits, and all other methods of recruiting, that the fellow who can turn the trick if he will is the man in the ranks," was the manner in which the speaker referred to the effectiveness of the methods employed by the boys in khaki in pursuing this kind of work. Some such individuals were to be found in every military unit, and it they could be selected and sent around the county, together with those who could sing, that splendid results would undoubtedly follow, was the opinion of Col. McCullough.

The battalion belonged to the community and it would be up to the district to do its best to assist their own to retain its identity by filling up the ranks. The speaker then paid a splendid tribute to Col. Cockshutt, for the effective measures he had adopted and the untiring efforts he had made to raise not only the 215th but also the 125th, and told those present of the inestimable assistance rendered not only in this community but also to the entire country in the carrying on of the war. Hon. Col. W. P. Cockshutt was then named as the public spirit of the Cockshutt family, who had all done so much to aid in Canada's part.

Col. McCullough concluded by stating that the public spirit of Brant County demonstrated that

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there was a lively public conscience prevailing, and that no doubt it would continue to support the cause of the Empire, engaged in the future his services could be of any possible assistance to the league, he freely placed his efforts at their disposal.

As there were several members of the clerical patriotic association present, Mr. Spence called on Rev. Gordon to give an outline of the purposes of the body and the officers in charge of the work. Mr. Gordon briefly gave the desired information. Rev. Llewellyn (Broys) was next called upon, and declared that it was unnecessary to assure the citizens of Brantford of the sympathy which the ministers of the city felt for the cause. Although there would be some interruptions, the pastors would always be willing to give place in their pulpits to qualified speakers selected by the league. Mr. Spence stated that a great many men out of uniform were to be daily seen about the streets and that the nonchalant employed by these young men hurt the retinae of those more than anything else with which they had come in contact with. He concluded by making reference to the fact that still greater help could be secured from his own congregation, and assured the gathering that at any time he felt sure that those in charge of his church would willingly allow a thoroughgoing patriotic circuit to leave to occupy the church.

Rev. Smyth concurred with the sentiment expressed by the president of the clerical patriotic association, and expressed sympathy with the undertaking.

Rev. G. A. Woodside, on behalf of the Ministerial Alliance of Brantford, spoke for a few minutes. He was not in accord with some of the methods pursued in the past, and thought that better results would be achieved if the available men were selected and then other responsible persons be chosen to present the matter to them in a more understanding way.

Mr. J. H. Spence referred to some deplorable incidents of the recent Red Cross Campaign, such as the placing of stuns in some of the envelopes provided for the purpose of contributing. Men who would so lower themselves were not deserving of the protection afforded by the Union Jack.

Rev. Archdeacon MacKenzie, as a resident of the city for the past 40 years was sincerely proud of the record of Brant County, whose people had given of their best men, money and service. He doubted if any portion of the Dominion has excelled the record of Brantford, but thought that still greater results could be secured from the rural districts. These portions of the community had not as yet risen to the level to be called the Sons of the Empire. (Continued on page five.)

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By Anabel Worthington.

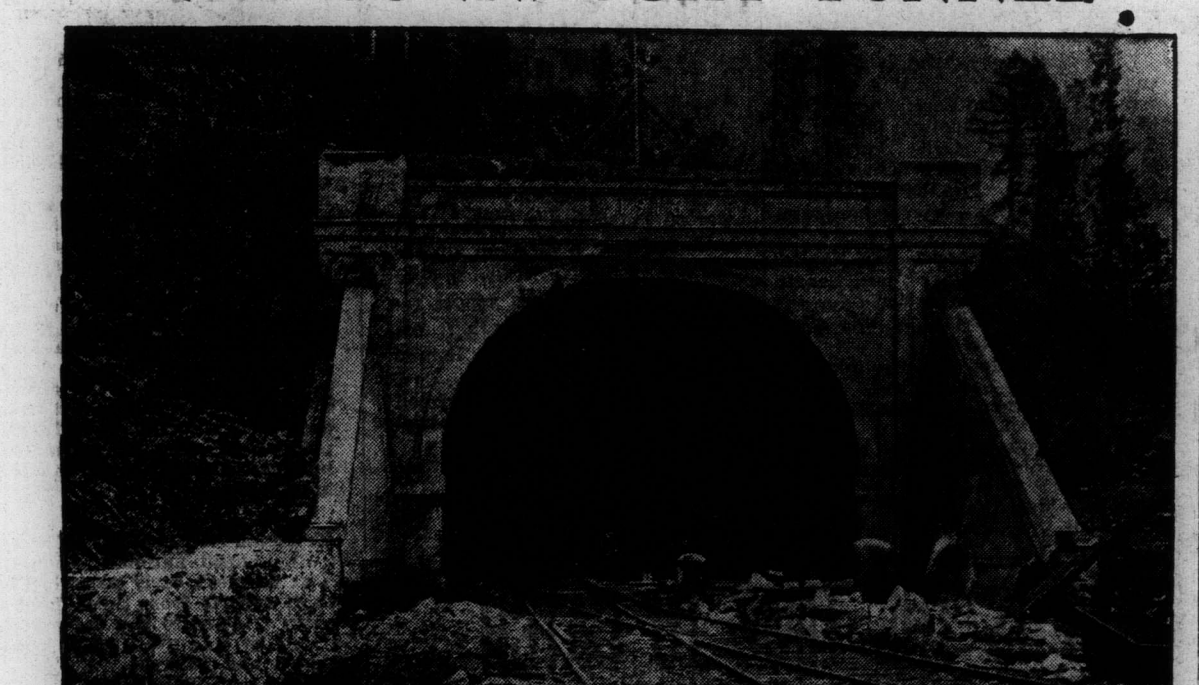
A study of the shirt waist designs nearly always gives an inkling as to the ideas that the Paris dressmakers intend to exploit. The information that counts does not seem to be important when details are changed, but it is true that every detail contributes significance. The full length sleeve and the prominence that buttons will have for elevating all garments showed first in the separate blouse. In the illustration we have one that will count among the season's successes. Although it may be made of all one material, the combination idea that has increased steadily since the beginning of the year is still dominant, and will give more than ordinary merit to a waist developed from this design.

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gave him to be associated with the pioneer work of the Canadian Pacific, and he complimented the company on the splendid strides it was making in the development of the country. Then His Royal Highness, baptizing the new work, christened it the Selkirk Tunnel. Some weeks later, at the request of Lord Shaughnessy, His Royal Highness consented to have the tunnel called after him. Henceforth it is to be named the "Connaught Tunnel," a fitting compliment to the excellent services which the Duke of Connaught gave to the Dominion during his term as Governor-General.

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