

EIGHT MEN RESPONDED AT LAST NIGHT'S BIG RECRUITING RALLY

Very Fine Fine Speeches are Made by Messrs Gaptain Forgie and Major Buchanan - Mr. J. H. Ham M. P. P. Also Delivered Good Address.

Eight recruits, one of them a married man with two sons at the front, came forward at the conclusion of last night's recruiting meeting at the Brant Theatre. The appeal for men was made chiefly by Major Buchanan, a veteran of the 75th, and who comes from a fighting stock, his father having led the Argyle and Sutherland's in the Crimea, and his sister is nursing in France. Major Buchanan, at the end of a stirring speech, asked all the men who were over age to go forward to stand, and over 150 men stepped forward. The Major called for men to serve, and amidst encouragement, music and cheers, one by one the men came forward until eight had offered themselves.

ON THE PLATFORM

As usual the Brant Theatre was filled to overflowing, and a very bright meeting was held. Mr. Joseph H. Ham was in the chair, and besides him and the two speakers, Captain Forgie and Major Buchanan were on the Platform. Major McLean, W. G. Raymond, Lt.-Col. Cutcliffe, Lt.-Colonel Cockshutt, W. Norman Andrews, ex-Major Spence, Rev. A. E. Lovell, President Ministerial Alliance, The Brant Battalion band furnished good music, while Ptes. Nuttycomb and Murray rendered patriotic songs in good style.

"CALLED" THE WHISPERERS

Mr. Joseph H. Ham, M.P.P., in his opening address, reviewed briefly and interestingly some features of history wherever autocracy and democracy had clashed in contest as at the present, and he made an appeal to young men to come forward. Captain Forgie, attached to the 16th (Highlanders) Battalion on Y. M. C. A. work, and now on leave, gave an especially attractive talk, telling many particulars of life at the front. Major Buchanan proved himself a fiery speaker. He opened his address by rebuking whisperers in the gallery, as he got close attention for the rest of his speech. He confessed himself utterly at a loss why recruiting meetings should have to be held at all, why men did not flock forward to meet the crying need. He discussed reasons advanced for not enlisting and refuted them in detail. He was quite original in many of his statements, one striking one being the definition of Britain, as the people sitting in the building, the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers of those present. He also gave a very vivid account of his first experience under shell fire.

THE PREVAILING EPIDEMIC

The prevailing epidemic of grip and colds was manifested in the amount of coughing done by the audience last night; at times it was so general, speaking was difficult. Only about ten per cent of those present were of military age, and of those many had already been rejected. The appeal was so direct to the young men, that the person on the fence stays away.

MR. HAM

Mr. J. H. Ham, M.P.P., stated that he wished, in addressing a meeting such as the one before him, that he were in khaki. Unfortunately, he was four years too old. He had a son in training, however, and although un-

der age, thought he might get abroad before he was 18.

PROCEEDING

Proceeding, Mr. Ham referred to two great crises in history. One was in 1846 when freedom and autocracy clashed in Germany, but unfortunately autocracy won. The other was when freedom and autocracy clashed in England during the reign of Charles I., and in that contest freedom won. To-day we were facing another crisis. Would we preserve our liberties or not? If the crisis was to be settled right, every person must do his duty. Mr. Ham referred in glowing terms to the noble part played in this struggle by women. The men who went abroad had certain things to ease the strain of life, but the women had to wait at home listening for the news from the front.

DEFINITION OF BRITAIN

Another reason was that people said, why should they fight for Britain. Where was Britain? asked the speaker. "Britain was beside you in the seat here to-night, your mother, your sister, your brother, your sweetheart—that is Britain." Never were we so surrounded in Mesopotamia, and were at a standstill in the west. The only reason why was, because Britain had not the men. So authorities got meetings, and put out circulars, and still people did not enlist. "I simply can't understand it," declared the speaker.

REASONS FOR NOT ENLISTING

The Major told of German activities which had come under his notice while abroad. Canada would get the same treatment if Germany won. He said that the enemy was in Flanders. He concluded that if a man did not enlist it was because he was selfish, or yellow, or his people held him back. He pleaded with the ladies every trade was needed in the army, he said. It did not matter what occupation a man followed, he could be used.

UNDER HIS FIRST FIRE

The Major told an amusing experience—that is, amusing in the telling—which he had undergone abroad on the first occasion of his coming under fire. He was four miles behind the front lines, and was sent to carry a message to General Alderson. Walking across a field he came under fire; all the shells seemed to be aimed at him. All the soldiers made for cover, but he did not. He intended to walk away, but was soon running. Coming to a hedge, he remembered that it bordered a ditch, and he went to it. The enemy machine gunners were quite close to him, and he fairly scrambled into his berth, and though it was full of water he felt more comfortable. Soon a shell scattered earth all over him, and on raising a bit to shake it off, he saw a gold-braid staff officer. He thought it was all over. A staff officer had seen him in a ditch, and he felt he would be returned to the camp. He then commenced to explain about the ditch. "Quite right," said the staff officer. "The only thing you can do. The Germans are four miles away; the only thing you are to do is to take cover."

THE BURNING VILLAGE

The speaker told of a rather clever German trick. Just at dusk they were in a village, and soldiers in the reserve area gathered to see the sight. The enemy immediately turned loose on them hundreds of shrapnel shells, but fortunately no damage was done, only four men being slightly wounded.

FOND OF MUSIC

Many of the men are so fond of music that they carried a violin, or guitar in addition to their heavy marching equipment. Concerts were very popular in the billets. For one London and printed in colors, although a beautiful violin selection in this affair was rather spoiled by the noise of a German shell dropping in the near vicinity, much to the disgust of the audience, who abused the Hungarians for upsetting their performance.

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS

A feud has existed between Colonel Arthur Stanley and his cousin, Judge Lamar. Stanley, over an heirloom, the diamond from the sky, fought in a fatal duel with an ancestor. Also, the succession to the Stanley earldom in England may come to Arthur Stanley, son of a daughter in law to the colonel and the mother dies, the colonel buys a gypsy boy and his mother, having had no part in this bargain steals the girl, being reared in secret, and leaves her son undetected. The gypsy boy has obtained possession of the diamond from the sky, and a document which tells of the gypsy queen, the adoptive Esther, her friend, the young girl, Hagar, now gypsy queen, returns to Virginia with her son. Arthur Stanley, son of the colonel, in love with Esther and so does his companion and cousin, Blair Stanley, a male heir of Stanley, by stealing the diamond Blair causes the death of the gypsy queen, and the blame is placed on Arthur who takes the diamond from him. The sheriff attempts to take Arthur into custody, but he eludes him. Blair, now gypsy queen, reveals his identity and upbraids him for his wild life. Needing money, he persuades the sheriff to let him go. He goes to New York, where he meets a supposed New York belle, Vivian Marston, is the guest of honor, Arthur and Blair, a diamond on the table, she is an adventuress who has borrowed it. Luke Lovell, Hagar's eyes guard, and the diamond, and to avoid detection drops it into a mail box. Arthur leaves a message to Blair, who picks up by Quabba, organ grinder. Quabba's monkey steals the diamond. Hagar takes it to Stanley hall. Tom Blake, a detective of Richmond, who is hired by Hagar, produces fingerprints to Mrs. Stanley as the price of Hagar's and Esther's being received. Hagar strikes down Hagar and steals the finger prints, leaving the gypsy deserted. The diamond is found by a tramp. The latter is murdered by Hung LI. It is stolen just as a stumping party is given to honor the deceased Earl of Stanley. Learning Arthur is a fugitive he seeks Blair instead. Blair returns to the diamond, later marrying her and leaving for the west. Their train is robbed, Vivian losing the diamond, which she takes to robber drops on the desert. The \$100,000 was stolen by Arthur, who is known as John Lovell, sheep herder on the ranch. Blair, telling him he must regain the diamond, tells him he must drive from the camp after learning of the robbery. Blair leaves to seek Blair. Hagar is under treatment and Esther is in Richmond society, professing of Mrs. Stanley. Hagar, who has her name, and of Mrs. Randolph, Mrs. Bloom, gambler, who knows Blair's guilt, covers his name. Blair will not listen to Lovell, and Arthur also insists on his silence. Blair returns to Richmond and has been married. Stanley asserting Vivian had been married. Indian woman, Dr. Lee, Arthur learns, died of heart disease. Becoming very rich through Blake, and also provides for Hagar and his money left secretly in Esther's room. Luke Lovell buys the diamond from the squaw, but loses it in a fight with Santa Barbara, the gem sinker. At the auction Smythe buys a mounted deer head. Vivian desiring aid to escape, she sends for Blair. The latter is worried in an attempt to take the Stanley document from Esther, defended by Blake and Quabba. Also Blair, go to learn the whereabouts of the diamond from the California mines to seek Arthur. Blair and Luke, the coach who has been dragged from the broken limousin that Luke Lovell, at Blair's instigation, had replaced gave way. The tongue had snapped like a pipestem, and the driver, tangled in the reins, had been dragged when the broken limousin that Luke Lovell, at Blair's instigation, had replaced gave way. The tongue had snapped like a pipestem, and the driver, tangled in the reins, had been dragged when the broken limousin that Luke Lovell, at Blair's instigation, had replaced gave way. The tongue had snapped like a pipestem, and the driver, tangled in the reins, had been dragged when the broken limousin that Luke Lovell, at Blair's instigation, had replaced gave way.

CHAPTER XXIX

Desperate Chances.

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gave any heed to the seeming dead man in the road nor the driver, bruised and dragged by the boiling, frenzied horses. They sped down the steep hillside, to witness their work nor stopped for they stood beside the slattered old coach body.

There, prone among the wreckage, lay Esther and Marmaduke Smythe. Esther's eyes were closed, but she had been thrown out providentially, it would seem, with a cushion from the coach that had saved her even from shock and bruise.

No longer a timid gypsy maiden, but resolute young woman now, realizing she was a Stanley of the blood, Esther had become as wise as the serpent, though seemingly as mild as the dove. Was it love for Arthur or was it the old feudal courage of her forebears that prompted her to darting?

Like a flash, once the shock and danger of the accident had passed, Esther realized it was Blair Stanley speeding down the hillside and close beside her, Luke Lovell. The wisdom of the ser-



Luke Picked Her Up as Though She Were a Child.

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point and the mildness of the devil Esther had turned at the approach of her enemies, stirring as one half unconsciously and in pain, and had secreted the Stanley document under a stone, slipping it from her bosom and hiding it, even as she seemed to stir feebly, Blair Stanley pursued and sought her. She realized the tragic accident to the coach was his work—his work and that of his accomplice, Luke Lovell.

Beside her the insensibility English lawyer neither moaned nor stirred, while Esther, her eyes closed again, feigned unconsciousness. She heard Luke Lovell roar angrily, like a sullen beast.

"Blas't you, Blair Stanley! You knew Esther was in the coach. It wasn't the English lawyer you hired me to kill then! Though he lies dead down to suit anybody there. You tricked me, you gentleman blackguard! I wouldn't have a hair of her head harmed! I'll have your life for this!"

"I swear I didn't see the girl. I was in the shop, you know, when the coach stopped," lied Blair glibly. "It was the English lawyer I was after. He is going to find Arthur Stanley. If Arthur Stanley goes back to Virginia I will swing for the murder of Dr. Lee."

"You lie, and you know you lie!" roared Luke. "The girl is dead. She would never look at me, but I have always loved her. I might have been a better man if she had cared for me."

(To be continued.)

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Treasurer,
NEWTON WYLLIE,
General Secretary.

stand upright in it, but the throat...
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led the "greyhound of the sea," for its...
long, slender body is built on the lines...
of a racing yacht, and the animal can...
equal the speed of the fastest steam-...
ship. The "humpback" is the most...
interesting of our large whales, be-...
cause of the fact that its habits are...
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other members of the family.

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Committee voted Liberal
in the last Provincial elec-
tions?

THE PERSONAL LIBERTY LEAGUE OF ONTARIO

Is the Citizens' Committee of One Hundred Non-Partisan

The Citizens' Committee of One Hundred has now published the personnel of its membership.

Paris, Jan. 24.—In the official report last night occurs the following:—
"On January 23 two of our groups of aeroplanes, comprising twenty-four machines, bombarded the railway stations and barracks at Metz. One hundred and thirty bombs were launched against the objects designated. The bombarding aeroplanes were escorted by two protecting squadrons, the pilots of which fought the trip enlivened in ten combats with Fokkers and Aviatiks.
"Our aeroplanes were violently cannonaded along the whole of their course, but returned undamaged, except one only, which was obliged to make a landing to the southwest of Metz."
An aged woman froze to death near Harrisonburg, Va., while on her way to market.
The mussel prefers a bed of sand or fine gravel perpetually covered with water. It attaches itself to its bed by the ligature-like growth on the shell known as the byssus, and multiplies itself amazingly.

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