

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IS GRANTED SOLDIERS WHO GOT TO BRITAIN

Great War Veterans' Association Has Lengthy Discussion of Proposal.

### PROPORTIONAL VOTING

Ottawa Delegate Suggests Change in General Procedure.

Men who have been to Great Britain, but no further, as soldiers will be granted active membership in the G.W.V.A. This was the decision reached yesterday afternoon by the convention which is in session at the Technical School, Harbour Street.

The discussion was protracted and strenuous, and involved three proposals: The grant of active membership to only those who had been to France, to those who reached no further than Britain, and to those who never left Canada. The men who went no farther than Britain won out by a majority vote of 67 out of a total of 137 votes.

Comrade Harrison, of Windsor, pleading the cause of the associate members, strongly criticized the government. He asked if it would not be better to make 8,000 friends than 8,000 enemies. Bring them all in, was his slogan. Give a punch to the association.

Comrade Law, of Winnipeg, strongly opposed the proposed inclusion of associate members. Too many men, he said, were eager to get the G.W.V.A. badge without having been to France. Whatever strife had been noted within the association could be traced, said Comrade Law, to the influence of the men who had not been to France.

The Army and Navy Veterans had taken over the rejects from the G.W.V.A., and were welcome to them. Major Andrews, M.P. for Winnipeg, was strongly in favor of Comrade Robinson's motion to restrict membership. The time would come, he hoped, when the sons of the veterans would be permitted to join the association. This time had not arrived. The men overseas were impatient that membership in returned soldiers' organizations be restricted to those who had been in France.

Comrade Jensen, of Brantford, expressed the opinion that the association was going the wrong way. He strongly favored the policy of inclusion. He pointed out that the agony of the mind exceeded in its influence the agony of bodily hurt. This agony of mind belonged to thousands of men whose names were unassailable, and who could well be considered as having made sacrifices equal to those suffered by the men who had been to France.

More than a dozen other opinions were expressed pro and con, and the battle for inclusion proceeded through the afternoon session.

Points to Discrepancies. The afternoon discussion of the question was featured by an attempt by Comrade Pidgeon, Ottawa, to force a change in the general procedure of the convention. Colonel Pidgeon pointed out discrepancies in the representation of various provinces and branches, and moved an amendment to the recommendations of the procedure committee to the effect that the votes be cast at the rate of one for every branch represented. He failed to win his point.

The meeting finally decided to accept one of three proposals: To grant the privileges of active membership alone to men who had been to France; to grant the same privileges to those who had been no further than Britain; and thirdly, to grant these privileges to the men who had never left Canada. The majority of these propositions was carried by a large majority, and the third was given no consideration at all.

### ORAL EXAMINATIONS INSTEAD OF WRITTEN

Captain Edgar, Captain W. J. Gerard and A. J. Wimby, officials of the Sons of Empire, and also delegates from Montreal to the G.W.V.A. convention, will present a resolution before the convention today urging the need of dealing with the alien question, and also pointing to the need within the civil service of oral instead of written examinations.

Captain Gerard stated yesterday that a large majority of the members of the Sons of the Empire were returned men from the iron trades. While not educated at college, they had a fund of common sense and could respond to oral examinations with greater facility than to the written ones.

Many members of this association, Captain Gerard stated, were returned officers, and the entire membership wished to adopt a definite plan of reconstruction to facilitate the status and work of the returned soldier after the war.

### COL. PIDGEON LOSES CASE AT CONVENTION

Col. Pidgeon, Ottawa, a delegate to the G.W.V.A. convention, yesterday lost his case against what he termed disproportionate representation at the convention. He moved that all voting proceed on the basis of one vote for each fully paid-up and duly accredited branch when matters of profound importance called for consideration. He stated that under the present ruling the Province of Ontario held votes for 94 branches out of a total of 178. Each of these branches sent in several delegates, and this system gave Ontario delegates the majority vote. In this connection he pointed out that the other 84 branches covered a paid-up membership of 5,000 in excess of Ontario. The membership for the entire Dominion counted 19,000 paid-up members, and of this number the Province of Ontario was said to have 7,000.

Comrade Peart (Hamilton): "How do you make that out? Why, we have 900 in the two cities, Toronto and Hamilton. What about the other 50 or

## VETERANS REPORT ON Y.M.C.A. WORK

Give Credit to Organization for Efforts for Soldiers.

### CONFERENCE WAS HELD

It is Established Free Gifts Were Not Given Early in War.

### EYES OF CANADA UPON CONVENTION

Delegates to Veterans' Meeting Entertained at Government House.

Sir John Hendrie, lieutenant-governor of Ontario, Sir William Hearst and William Proudfoot, M.L.A., leader of the opposition, expressed the hope at the banquet given to the G.W.V.A. delegates at Government House yesterday afternoon that they would realize that the eyes of Canada were upon them as they deliberated at the convention now being held in Toronto.

Sir John Hendrie pointed out that the G.W.V.A. was an association which had the respect and the affection of the people of the Dominion. He was sure that the association desired to keep the goodwill of the country. Canada, he pointed out, had not yet had time to properly thank the great problems affecting returned soldiers. He believed that the pen-cases of the men should be raised because the men came from every class in the Dominion.

Sir William Hearst expressed the hope that the G.W.V.A. could do much for itself, much for the returned men generally and much for the country at large. This, he believed, was the aim of the present convention.

Mr. Proudfoot stated that all who knew the association realized that it was fast becoming a potent influence in the affairs of the country.

The banquet was the first ever held in the ball room of Government House.

### RIVERDALE G.W.V.A. AGAINST SHANAHAN

The membership of Riverdale branch of the G.W.V.A. is said to be dissatisfied with the decision of the convention to allow J. J. Shanahan a seat at the convention. Comrade Carmichael stated yesterday that Comrade Shanahan had moved to Vancouver months ago, and had paid nothing into the Riverdale branch for six months. He was not an accredited representative of the Vancouver branch, and having lapsed payment of dues to the Riverdale branch could not be considered as an accredited member of Riverdale G.W.V.A.

J. J. Shanahan is a member of the Dominion executive, and as such claims the right to attend the convention. The committee which had been appointed to investigate certain charges against the former acting president of the Dominion Association, reported in Mr. Shanahan's favor. He was, therefore, granted the right to attend the convention.

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO HANDLE PROBLEM

The president of the G.W.V.A. convention, now in session at the Technical School, has appointed a special committee to deal with twenty different resolutions relative to the alien question, which the resolutions committee felt itself unable to deal with satisfactorily. These may be considered on Friday afternoon.

Each official will be given fifteen minutes in which to present his case. Both of them are veterans. Major Buchanan has been considerable service in France, and Major Ashton of the last settlement committee has been wounded and has gained his D.S.O. on the fields of Flanders.

### AN OLD CAMPAIGNER

Among the veterans who championed the cause of the associate members at yesterday's session of the G.W.V.A. convention was Lord French's "old temptibles," and a campaigner from Indian and African fields.

### The Man With the Hoe

Hoeing is a severe strain on the back. It calls into play muscles not used much in lifting or in other kinds of farm work.

If you have a weak back you cannot stand much hoeing unless you use Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to set the kidneys right and remove the cause of weakness and lameness of the back. Just try one pill a dose at bed time and see how much better you will feel.

## WOMEN ELECTORS EXCEED THE MEN

Conservatives of Northeast Toronto Hold Organization Meeting.

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The creation of a system of secondary education, including technical, business, agricultural and domestic science instruction, has been the subject of a meeting of the Northeast Toronto Conservatives.

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## GRAIN IS RIPENED QUICKLY BY HEAT

Spring Wheat is Promising, Says Agricultural Report.

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The following is a summary of reports made by agricultural representatives of the Ontario department of agriculture:

The crop is practically all out and housed, but the quality is generally good, as the weather was favorable for curing. The second crop of clover has started well, but the fields are not yet ready for cutting.

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