

S. A. COMMISSION IS IN GOOD CONDITION, SAYS ANNUAL REPORT

Meeting Is Being Held This Afternoon.

FINANCES SATISFACTORY

But Provision For Extension of the Work Is Advised.

The annual report of the Soldiers Aid Commission, which is to be presented at the annual meeting of the commission at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and of which a summary is given below, shows the commission, according to the secretary's report, as being in excellent condition, and the year ending July 31 is termed as one of the most successful in the history of the association. The commission has this year closed with a surplus of \$1,551.38. The fiscal year closed on July 31, but the grants are made for the year ending December 31, consequently making six months more for the commission to run. In the course of this six months a grant from the head office will be received, which will amount to 50 per cent of the general fund, with a maximum of \$2,000, which will make the finances in an excellent condition, and will allow the commission to increase its work.

Special Fund.—The special fund, also closed with a good year, and below is given a summary of this fund for the year: Number of advances made, 391; Total amount advanced, \$13,345.16; Number of payments received, 324; Total amount repaid, \$14,468.09; Total amount outstanding, \$3,021.06. The total amount in the bank at the starting of the year with the grants, etc., together with the surplus of the preceding year, amounted to \$1,022.46, and at the close of this year, after all expenses have been paid, the surplus totals \$1,051.38. Three hundred and seventy-seven dollars were expended on the reception of the returned soldiers last year.

Relief Fund.—The relief fund, also closed with a surplus. Although it is slightly behind that of last year, it amounts to quite a bit, and no anxiety is felt as to the future of the fund. Last year the fund closed with a total of \$984.40 on hand, and this, together with grants, etc., of this year, brought the amount up to \$1,022.46. After the expenditures on supplies and grants, the fund closes this year with a surplus of \$477 on hand. The relief committee has during the past year been very busy, and through the generosity of various societies and others interested in the welfare of the returned soldiers, thus making it possible to render assistance wherever needed. The committee reports that, although it has been successful, steps should be taken to enlarge the fund. It is suggested that the committee should make it a point to keep in touch with the places where help is needed. It is understood that several recommendations have been brought up to the committee this afternoon, asking it to take steps in this direction.

Enthusiastic Receptions.—The reception committee reports that the receptions during the past year have been most enthusiastic, with the exception of one party of men who arrived this year without notice. The method of handling the men during the year has been changed several times, but the committee has been able to continue its work without lack of enthusiasm. The committee thanks Miss Agnes Hall of this city, the ladies and the military and Salvation Army bands and the auto owners of this city for their valuable assistance in receiving the soldiers upon their arrival.

The summer outing committee, whose work again revolved nearly around a series of most successful trips for the boys who are invalids in the city, reports good and most successful progress. The committee states that the trips were greatly appreciated by the men, and it is gratified to the care owners of the city, as well as the many other people and organizations who made the trip enjoyable for the boys.

Employment Committee.—Remarkable success has been met with during the year by the employment committee. The committee suggests that steps be taken immediately to prepare for the increasing number of men. Ed H. Lance, secretary of the commission, submits a report to the meeting, in which he states the activities of the office have been successful for the past year. The report stated that the committee has been relieved from returned men for assistance, and that in the great majority of these calls he has been able to assist in a practical way. Many complaints have been satisfactorily adjusted, and every effort has been put forth to keep in touch with the changing conditions involved in the interest of the returned men. Many improvements have been made about the office which enable the committee to be served. It is suggested that a census of the returned men of the city be taken by sending out a questionnaire asking certain questions, from

FORMER ORDNANCE OFFICER PROMOTED AGAIN IN ENGLAND



Col. Karl Folger, C.A.O., who has been on the headquarters staff at Argyle House, London, has been appointed D. R. M. C. in which capacity he will assist Gen. Hogarth in England. Col. Folger for about three years was in charge of the ordnance stores department here and relinquished that position to go overseas in the spring of 1915 as ordnance officer to the 4th Canadian Division. His ability and recognition in England and his promotion have been rapid.

The answers to which it is thought that considerable good could be derived. It is also asked that a more private place be installed for the secretary to hear the grievances of those calling.

Forty-five receptions were staged, in which 2,122 men were received. Forty hundred and ninety-nine men applied and 236 were supplied. A preceding year, 2,000 cases were placed before the commission for adjustment and 234 were settled, while the rest are still pending. Twenty-four hundred men have been added to the list, and the total number on file now equals 3,350.

PRINCE PRESENTS DECORATION WON BY LATE LIEUT. TAYLOR

Lieut.-Col. Smith Receives Military Cross on Behalf of Parents.

The military cross presented to Lieut.-Col. H. D. Smith yesterday afternoon by His Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught, was for the late Lieut. Wallace Taylor of Chatham, Col. Smith accepting the medal on behalf of the dead officer's parents, who were unable to be present yesterday.

CARDS AND DEVIL GO HAND-IN-HAND; ALD. WILSON SHUNS BOTH

Does Not Object to Firemen Playing Game However.

Ald. William Wilson does not believe in cards. He does not believe that the devil and cards are closely associated. For this reason when cards appear Ald. Wilson disappears. Ald. Wilson does not want the devil in his home. For this reason he does not allow cards to cross the parlor. He never has and never will. "I do not believe in cards," this declaration was not given at a testimonial meeting. Ald. Wilson was discussing card-playing in the fire hall. However, Ald. Wilson declared he was not a card player. He did not let the firemen play cards if they wished to.

CHINESE PARLIAMENT OPENS.—PEKING, Aug. 15.—The new Chinese Parliament was opened in the presence of president and members of his cabinet. Addresses were delivered by the president and the premier. The proceedings were very brief, being completed in 20 minutes. All the approaches to the Parliament buildings were under heavy guard.

SPRINGBANK VIEWS APPEAL TO PRINCE ON OFFICIAL VISIT

His Royal Highness Delighted Also With Hospital.

TEA SERVED AT BYRON

Decorations Presented at Carling Heights After Review of Troops.

While on his official visit to London yesterday, His Royal Highness Prince Arthur paused for a few moments on the brink of the Carling Heights. He was seen in his admiration of the fancy woven baskets, and the various buildings and equipment of the institution. He was seen in his admiration of the fancy woven baskets, and the various buildings and equipment of the institution.

Impressed by Scenery. While attending to Byron, the inspecting party with the royal visitor paused for a few moments on the brink of the Carling Heights. He was seen in his admiration of the fancy woven baskets, and the various buildings and equipment of the institution. He was seen in his admiration of the fancy woven baskets, and the various buildings and equipment of the institution.

Entertained by Nurses. At the conclusion of the inspection at the Sanatorium the royal party was entertained at 5 o'clock by the nursing staff of the institution on the veranda of the new nurses' home. Prince Arthur, at 2:30 p.m., inspected the troops in training at Carling Heights, along with members of the Great War Veterans Association. Drawn up on parade. He evinced special interest in the returned soldiers, passing to chat with several battle-scarred heroes. Many Penian Road veterans were present. Through his persistent Doyle of this city, enjoyed a hearty talk with the royal visitor. Prince Arthur also spoke to Lieut.-Col. H. D. Smith of this city, and recalled that he met him in Belgium while serving with the First Canadian Division.

Presents Military Medal. Before leaving Carling Heights, His Highness presented the Military Medal with bar to Sgt. L. Edwards, a volunteer of the 1st Canadian Battalion, who won his decoration at the battles of Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. The Military Cross won by the late Lieut. Wallace Taylor was presented by the prince to Lieut.-Col. H. D. Smith, in the absence of W. J. Taylor of Chatham, father of the dead officer.

Upon the conclusion of this inspection Prince Arthur inspected the military hospital at Carling Heights. The Central Military Convalescent Hospital on Ottawa avenue. The route followed from the barracks was: Adelaide street to Queen's avenue, west on Queen's to Waterloo, along Waterloo to the hospital. Leaving the hospital at 4:15, the party proceeded to the courthouse, via Waterloo to Dundas. From the courthouse to the Sanatorium, the route was: Dundas to York, York to Waterloo, Waterloo to Baseline, Baseline to Windsor road, thence to Brink street and to the sanatorium.

Leaving the Byron grounds at 6 o'clock, Prince Arthur waved a farewell to the many children who were present who had turned out to greet him. A quick trip was made to the city, and the party arrived at the Canadian Pacific Hotel at 8:30 p.m. Where the royal train awaited. A large crowd was on hand to get a glimpse of the prince, and a guard of honor provided by the Western Ontario Regiment, the 1st Canadian Division, the Italian, Western Ontario Regiment, Band was also present. As the train pulled out for Ottawa at 8:30 p.m., Prince Arthur, standing erect on the rear platform of his private car, waved a farewell to the local headquarters staff, and to the city of London, with which he seemed greatly pleased on his first official military visit.

Long Service at Front. Prince Arthur, who has recently returned from a diplomatic mission to Japan, served at the front for over three years, having arrived in France three weeks after the outbreak of hostilities, and remaining there until April last. He served for some time on the headquarters staff of the 4th Canadian Division, being present at the battles of Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. Prior to that time he served as a major in the famous Scots Greys, in which regiment he still holds his rank.

His highness, unfortunately, is troubled with a serious limp in his right leg, resulting from a bullet wound while tiger hunting in India during his younger days. He is on the last lap of his inspection tour of Canada, which is purely military. Toronto being the only city the Dominion government civic reception was tendered him, the Queen City representing the Province of Ontario on this occasion.

PENSIONS BILL FOR THIS YEAR \$15,000,000

This National Expense Will Increase in Marked Way.

HUME CRONYN SPEAKS

It Is for People to Determine to What Extent Nation Can Afford to Contribute.

WINDSOR, Aug. 15.—"Pensions," declared by the speaker to be "an integral part of the far larger questions dealing with demobilization and reconstruction after the war," was the subject of an address before the City Chamber of Commerce here today by Hume Cronyn, M.P. for London. He said that Canada has already awarded \$5,000,000, and the estimated expenditure for the fiscal year was \$15,000,000.

Mr. Cronyn declared that he considered vocational training and settlement of returned soldiers matters of more importance, but the subject of pensions is national, and one that he fervently trusted would be kept out of politics. In introducing his subject the speaker gave a short sketch of Canada's pension legislation.

Old System Limited.—The old system, he said, was present war dealt only with the permanent force, and provided very limited pensions for the soldiers. For instance, a totally disabled private, or his widow, if he was killed, received \$50 a year.

In 1915 the scale of pensions was somewhat increased. The pensionary committee, having taken evidence, recommended a further increase, and that is the one still prevailing. At the last session the question was again before a parliamentary committee, and the routine followed in the awarding of pensions, and outlined some of the difficulties in arriving at the percentage of disability. He himself, he said, self favored allowing an appeal, he said, if an aggrieved individual and believed that the award in his case was adequate. At the present time the only appeal to the pension commissioners who made the award is by way of the matter into the House of Commons.

Mr. Cronyn asked his hearers to take Canada, he declared, make up your mind what she can fairly afford to pay. In doing so he asked them to consider the matter from the viewpoint of those who have gone.

THREE EMPLOYEES OF M. C. R. ARRESTED BY POLICE AT WINDSOR

Search Made for Fourth, Said To Be Leader of the Gang.

WINDSOR, Aug. 15.—City detectives tonight placed under arrest three employees of the Michigan Central Railroad, and are looking for a fourth man, said to be the leader of a gang, which has been systematically robbing bonded freight cars in the railroad yards here for months.

During this period thousands of dollars worth of valuable merchandise has been stolen, very little of which has yet been recovered. The police are now working on the case for some time.

Up to the 1st of June about 35,000 pensions had been granted, and over 1,000 pensioners a month are now being granted. It is estimated that the expenditure for pensions for the present financial year will amount to \$15,000,000. As you will easily understand, with every year of the war's continuance, this outlay will increase in a marked way.

In Twenty Classes.—"Canada's pensions," said Mr. Cronyn, "are divided into twenty classes, ranging from the totally disabled (or 100 per cent) man down to the man whose disability is less than 10 per cent. The totally disabled men of the rank and file receive \$30 a month. If married they are paid \$38 per month additional, as well as \$5 per month for each child. The widow of a deceased soldier receives \$40 per month and \$5 per month each for her children."

Mr. Cronyn followed with a comparative statement of the pensions of most of the Allied belligerents, which showed that the Canadian rank of pensions for the rank and file is distinctly higher than that of any other country on the list. The figures summarized are: Rank and file—Canada, \$60; Great Britain, \$51; Australia, \$48; New Zealand, \$46; France, \$40; United States, \$30; Italy, \$24.

France's widows \$450, each child \$96; Great Britain, \$175 and a sliding scale for children, from \$65 down; Australia, \$125 and a sliding scale; New Zealand, \$150 down; New Zealand, \$175 down; United States, \$100 and \$120 down; Italy, \$121 for widows.

Proceeding to Consider. The question, then, for the decision of the people of Canada is whether \$600 a year under all the circumstances is a satisfactory allowance to the man who has been killed. You will not notice that the rank and file of the disabled man is entitled to a further allowance of \$36 a year if he be married, and a similar sum for each child. In addition, if the soldier be entirely helpless he is entitled to a special allowance, exceeding \$30 a year. Based on these figures, a man 100 per cent disabled, receiving \$30 a year, children, would draw a pension of \$584 per annum. If the father were helpless, that amount might be increased by \$200.

The question of the maximum amount is," declared the speaker, "the key to the whole matter. Three Rules Followed. The speaker outlined three rules which are observed when granting pensions: "The war earnings or station in life of the pensioner is not considered. The test of the extent of a man's disability is the only basis for awarding power in the untrained labor market. An accountant might lose one, or both legs, his left arm, or one eye, and yet be quite as capable of carrying on his trade as a similar man who is an ordinary laborer or mechanic the loss of a limb is a serious affair and his condition is taken as governing."

No deduction is made in a pension where a soldier enters the profitable employment. He is encouraged by training and otherwise to render himself wholly independent. Mr. Cronyn said that during the probe of the pensionary committee was urged to declare in favor of equal pensions for the rank and file. He was entering the war with the experience acquired in the previous years, and ventured to say that our country might reach the same decision as did the United States. He felt that, as we had entered the war with a scale of pensions, which increased with the rank, and as it was clear many officers entered the service with a pension, and that their families would receive the pensions then fixed, it was not now possible to reduce the pensions of officers, as that would be breaking faith with those in the ranks.

Officers Not Numerous. It is worth noting that the pensions for officers have not been raised from the figures originally fixed, while those for the rank and file have received a substantial increase. It is also worth while recording that pensions paid to those below the rank of captain cannot exceed 97 per cent of the total amount disbursed.

The committee were asked to consider the possibility of adopting an insurance scheme such as is now in force in the United States. Here again Canada lacks the advantage which our friends across the border have gained from experience. We are now to ensure our forces, what would be the position of the families of those who have been killed or crippled in illness? It was felt that it would be impossible at this stage of the war to devise a scheme which would fairly cover all those interested.

Mr. Cronyn said that it was pointed out to the committee that much hardship arose because of a provision in the pension regulations that a man was only entitled to be pensioned in so far as a pre-existing disability was aggravated by active service.

Sound If They Fight. "The committee finally decided that in the case of the man who reaches the actual theatre of war no attention should be paid to pre-enlistment disability; in other words, he should be treated as being a perfect physical specimen when he is able to endure the rigors of training in Canada and Great Britain without breakdown."

Another class of cases, which had been the cause of much hardship, was the limitation of payment of pensions to those parents who had actually been maintained by the soldier prior to enlistment. Many a boy went off to fight at an age when not only was he not supporting his parents, but was in fact being maintained and educated by them. The years passed by; the father died or became disabled; the mother is in want. It was felt that this boy reared in the home of his parents, and who would have been cast upon him to help maintain his mother. Under these circumstances, the committee felt, where parents were actually in want, the board should be given the power to relieve that want by payment of a limited pension."

Good Start Made. Dealing with the administration of pensions, as distinguished from the principles upon which the pension law is founded, Mr. Cronyn declared that, despite the criticism heard, if any man will take the time to investigate the work of the board of pension commissioners, will look into and appreciate the manner in which the board has been set up—and will follow from start to finish the ordinary routine which the board follows, he will be well satisfied that a magnificent start has been made in dealing with what will always be a delicate and difficult matter."

Mr. Cronyn concluded with review of the routine followed in the awarding of pensions, and outlined some of the difficulties in arriving at the percentage of disability. He himself, he said, self favored allowing an appeal, he said, if an aggrieved individual and believed that the award in his case was adequate. At the present time the only appeal to the pension commissioners who made the award is by way of the matter into the House of Commons.

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London Ready-to-Wear



Here is your dress opportunity. Every dress in stock on sale at special prices. Messalines, crepe de chine, taffetas, satins, etc. The newest shades and styles. Many have just passed into stock this week. Come early for first choice.

SILK POPLIN DRESSES

Black, Brown, Navy, Grey, Taupe, Sand, Copen, some in coat effects, with hand embroidery, in dainty colors, on front and back, fancy satin and silk collars; three styles to choose from. All sizes.

\$11.50

SILK POPLIN DRESSES

Georgette crepe sleeves, latest style, collar of white satin, buttons, trimmings, full gathered skirt with blouse of coat effect, taupe, black, navy; less than the price of the material alone. Sale price

\$13.95

CREPE DE CHINE DRESSES

Splendid quality of crepe de chine, in navy, black, brown, grey; several styles to choose from. All the latest models, braided trimmings, some combined with satin. Values to \$22.00. On sale at\$15.95

ONE LINE OF DRESSES

No two alike, a great variety of shades and styles to choose from, in poplin, taffeta and messaline. On sale at\$5.95

Many other good values in dresses. We cannot describe them all. Come and look these over. It will interest you. Remember the sale includes every dress in stock.

SWEATERS—Just received a shipment of pull-over Sweaters, in cardinal, Oxford, Nile, corn, green, etc. On sale from\$5.95 upwards

All summer stock of Dresses, Skirts, Middies, etc., at clearing prices.

London Ready-to-Wear

256 DUNDAS STREET.

AGNEW'S Midsummer Shoe Sale

GENUINE MONEY-SAVING BARGAINS

COMPARE OUR LINES BEFORE PURCHASING. SEE OUR WINDOWS.

Ladies' White Canvas Pumps, Strap Slippers and Sport Shoes, all our broken lines and samples we are going to clear out; splendid goods, newest styles; not all sizes in each line, but all sizes in the lot. Selling at \$2.25 to \$3.00. Midsummer Sale\$1.49