

Regina and District

ADOLF EHLMANN JR.
WILL LEAVE FOR YUKON
Adolf Ehlmann jr., a well known young citizen, will leave the city the latter part of the week on detachment duty with the R.N.W.M.P. in the Yukon. His headquarters will be Dawson City.

BIRTH NOTICES

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wirth a son, Sept. 19th, at the General Hospital.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wolf a daughter, Sept. 21st, Armour St.

ANNUAL MISSION FESTIVAL

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Rev. J. Fritz, Pastor, will celebrate the annual Mission Festival Sunday, Sept. 29th. Services 10.30 a.m. by the Rev. J. Bohnhoff, Valley City, N.D., 7.30 p.m. by the Rev. H. Giese, Francis, Sask. Rev. Bohnhoff will also preach an English sermon at the evening services.

Great War Veterans Maintain Mennonites in Western Canada Abusing Privileges

Resolved that this assembly of citizens petition the Dominion government to prohibit further immigration into Canada of such classes of people as refuse to accept the full responsibilities of citizenship.

And be it further resolved that members of such classes immigrating to Canada subsequent to the Military Service Act, 1917, be not granted exemptions from military service, but be made to conform to said act in the full force thereof.

Resolved that the clause in the Military Service Act of 1917, as it applies to exemption from combatant military service, granted under the treaties to the original Mennonites who came to Canada by way of Hamburg, subsequent to the order-in-council of Aug. 13, 1873, and to the original Doukhobors under order-in-council of Dec. 6, 1898, be maintained in its full force and tenure, but that there is no equivocation from these treaties and that the descendants of these people who are eligible for military service be made to so conform.

These two resolutions were unanimously endorsed by the mass meeting in the city hall held last Friday night, under the auspices of the Great War Veterans, organized for the sole purpose of discussing the "Mennonite menace."

James Balfour, K. C., in the absence of Mayor Black, presided at the meeting. With him on the platform were Major W. D. Cowan M.P., Chief Bruton and the five speakers.

Rev. John Lewis, the opening speaker, came out strong in his criticism of the government for their apparent tenderness for the aliens in this country. He declared such action on the part of the government was strongly resented and that they would be emphatically called to book when the opportunity was afforded the people of this western country. The speaker took the stand that such steps as are now being taken by the Great War Veterans, who are working with such zeal to rid the country of the Mennonite menace was simply unveiling treason.

"The Mennonites, continued the speaker, are Germans in language, outlook, ideals and literature. They resent the use of the English language in their midst. By their creed they are not supposed to take any part in the civil life of the

country, and thus they cannot be decent citizens and true Mennonites at the same time. They will neither bear arms or take oaths. The speaker declared that Hon. Mr. Calder, by his statement on this question had not begun to answer the contention of the veterans and others interested in the Mennonite situation.

"Why were these people permitted to come here at all this year of our Lord?" said Mr. Lewis. "Our friends in the United States are pleased to have them come here, pleased to have us take these undesirable, but the lure held out to them is shown by a letter written from Mr. Calder's department."

Rev. T. A. Simpson opened his address by relating the efforts made by the Britishers from Waldeck and Herbert to bring the question of the Mennonite problem before the public. For a long time these efforts had been unavailing but he was pleased to see such an interest manifested in the matter now.

"Canada, we believed, should not be a dumping ground for outlandish parasites of other nations; the Mennonites in this country should equally sacrifice and serve as other citizens."

Mr. Simpson recounted how the Mennonites of the Herbert and Waldeck districts had become Canadianized to some degree, becoming men of affairs and taking a voice in the government of the country. With the assumption of citizenship, however, they failed to assume the duties attached thereto, they lived for themselves and had no idea of giving of their best to the state, he said.

In connection with the present Mennonite situation, Mr. Simpson said that in his opinion had the people of Canada known last year that such conditions would exist today, the win-the-war government would not have been returned to office.

F. J. S. Ivay, president of the British Citizenship League, related his efforts with Klaas Peters, of Waldeck, to get an amicable settlement, whereby all of the contention would be obliterated relative to their position in Canada. Peters, he stated, refused to come to any agreement. He, however, informed Mr. Ivay, according to Mr. Ivay's statement, that the Mennonites had already made arrangements to emigrate to Argentina, and that they were only waiting for the word from the Canadian authorities that the agreement of 1873 was not a protection to the Mennonites who were not direct descendants of those who came under the treaty, to leave here. Within sixty days the Mennonites would be ready to leave, after the government had indicated that they would have to serve. Mr. Ivay, however, pointed out it was just the desired end of a German propaganda. The Germanophiles were only waiting for such a thing to happen so that they could point their finger to Canada and say that she had disregarded her treaty, had made of it a scrap of paper as Germany did in the case of Belgium.

Grant McNeil, provincial secretary of the Great War Veterans' association, then took up the statement of the Hon. Jas. A. Calder, minister of immigration. Prior to dealing with the specific statement, Mr. McNeil explained that the Great War Veterans had no political motives in precipitating the discussion on the Mennonites. The alien problem in Canada had been one which the Veterans took up immediately on their return from service.

As to Mr. Calder's statement, Mr. McNeil said that either Mr. Calder was not aware of the situation in Saskatchewan, or else purposely evaded the point on which he was interviewed. The veterans had protested to Mr. Calder that the provisions of the treaty of 1873 were being abused, and Mr. Calder appeared amazed and said the responsibility for the enforcement of the M.S.A. rested with the officials to carry out the law as it stood.

In contradiction to the statement of Mr. Calder, relative to exemptions under the Military Service Act, when he said that no subterfuge would exempt a man, and to further prove the charges that men are being exempted, Mr. McNeil quoted the following letter from the superintendent of immigration, written to the Mennonite leaders of Kansas:

OTTAWA, June 13, 1918.
"Sir,—On the 15th ultimo a letter was addressed by yourself, Mr. John Esau and Mr. A. R. Kroeker, to the minister of the interior, asking whether, in the event of your Mennonite community moving from Kansas to Canada, there will be extended to your people the same privilege and exemption, under the Military Service Act, as are now extended to Mennonites already in this country."

"Your letter has been sent to me for attention, and the delay in replying has been caused by the consideration which has been given to the subject by the department of militia and defence."

"The decision is that any Mennonite, Dunker or Amish, who produces a certificate from a recognized bishop of the church to the effect that he was, prior to July 6, 1917, and still is, a bona fide member of the church, is regarded at the present time as exempt from the provisions of our Military Service Act. Whether any further consideration of the situation may result in a modification of the situation, I am unable to say."

"The Canadian Military Service Act applies only to British subjects resident in Canada. No alien now entering Canada can become a British subject without five years' residence in Canada, or in some other British dominion. Hence, apart altogether, from the position of your people on account of religious views, the question of citizenship, almost, if not altogether, completes the answer to your question."

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) W. D. SCOTT,
Supt. of Immigration.

Mr. MacNeil said that for Mennonites immigrating into Canada wishing exemption, the card route is the easiest way out. Authority for the card is taken from the following order of the department of justice, issued July 29, 1918, which Mr. MacNeil read:

"This section and the following apply only to these Mennonites of German-Russian origin who immigrated to this country after 1873 in agreement with the provisions of order-in-council dated August 13, 1873, who were promised, together with their descendants, immunity from military service and constitute one of the exceptions of the act. As a result of conferences between this department and representatives of the western Mennonites, it has been decided that ordained ministers of the Mennonite faith in the four western provinces shall be authorized to issue to the men belonging to their denomination of military service age and condition, certificates in form which follows, and the police have been instructed to honor these certificates when produced as prima facie evidence entitling the holder to immunity from military service."

Mr. McNeil then went on to say there is a loophole in the United States military convention regulations, whereby the Mennonites will be exempt from military service by quoting the two following sections and these placed side by side with the above letter from the superintendent of immigration he considered sufficient proof for at least demanding further explanation.

"United States military service convention regulations, section two (2): United States citizens are hereby made subject and liable to military service in Canada and they shall be entitled to exemption or to discharge therefrom under the laws and regulations governing military service now, or from time to time, in force in Canada; provided, however, that in addition to the grounds of exemption enacted for British subjects, United States citizens may claim exemption upon the grounds that they enlisted or



HON. J. A. CALDER,
Minister of Immigration and Colonization, who is in the west at present in order to confer with the western provincial governments.

enrolled in the military forces of the United States within the time limited by the convention, but the burden of proof of such enlistment or enrollment shall be upon the person who alleges it."

Department of Justice—Circular No. Six (6)—Sept. 6.

United States citizens who wish to claim exemption, other than diplomatic, from Canadian service are ordered to register as hereinafter described and their claims will then be decided according to the laws and regulations governing military service in Canada, except that in addition to the grounds of exemption enacted for British subjects, United States citizens may claim exemption upon the ground that they enlisted or enrolled in the military forces of the United States on or before September 28, 1918, the burden of proof of which enlistment or enrollment being on the person alleging it."

In closing Mr. McNeil stated that the Veterans wanted further explanation and would ask for a genuine effort on the part of the authorities to Canadianize those aliens who are neutral, and that all disloyal aliens be punished sternly. The time was ripe he stated for a change, and that our public men should no longer devote their time to political manipulation, but to wield the influence they have for the betterment of the nation.

Captain the Rev. Murdoch MacKinnon, received an ovation lasting fully half a minute when called on to give an address. Captain MacKinnon announced he would be brief, besides in uniform a man could not say as much as when he was a minister of the church. On the Mennonite question he had little information, he had come to learn and not to express his opinion too freely. It was also an occasion for him to bid farewell to the veterans.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National anthem.

HON. J. A. CALDER
Visits West and Seeks Opinion of Provincial Governments on Immigration

Hon. J. A. Calder arrived on Thursday last for a few days stay in the city.

He had a conference with Premier Martin and members of his government on Saturday evening relative to the plans of the Dominion government in connection with after the war immigration and reconstruction. Mr. Calder, in an informal way, outlined some of the ideas which were being considered in connection with land settlement, and discussed the extent to which provincial co-operation could be secured, when a definite immigration and land settlement policy was put into effect. It is understood that there was nothing decisive said on either side, and that it will be a considerable time before the provincial government will be able to make an announcement on the subject.

Hon. Calder after a brief visit to his constituency (Moose Jaw) departed for Winnipeg on Monday night.

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Allies Strike Successful

(Continued from page 5.)

but was met and engaged by two seaplanes and two airplanes. One German machine was destroyed, the others retiring eastward."

"After their heavy losses on the previous day, enemy aircraft were less active yesterday. The weather on the British front was fine, with a strong wind."

"Our machines were at work all day, carrying out reconnaissance and photography far behind the German lines, observing and reporting the effect of our artillery fire and bombing enemy airdromes, ammunition dumps and other selected targets. Eleven hostile machines were destroyed and five others driven down out of control. Ten of our machines are missing."

"At night we heavily bombed three German airdromes, four squadrons working in the battle area are located. Three large hostile night bombing machines, which came over our lines, were detected by our searchlights, attacked from the air and brought down. One of our night flying airplanes is missing. The total weight of bombs dropped by us during the 24 hours was 29½ tons."

FRENCH

PARIS, Sept. 18. — "Our troops, co-operating with the British, progressed west of St. Quentin. We advanced our lines two kilometres between Holnon and Essigny-le-Grand on a front of ten kilometres."

"We reached the western outskirts of Francilly-Selency and captured Sazy wood and Fontaines-Cleres. We held the southern outskirts of Contescourt. We have taken several hundred prisoners in this operation."

"We made progress to the west of Jouy (northeast of Soissons). The enemy strongly counter-attacked on the plateau to the east of Allemant. We drove him back and gained more ground, taking 130 prisoners."

"Between the Ailette and the Aisne, we enlarged our gains, local attacks enabling us to advance on the plateau north and east of Allemant. We took about one hundred prisoners."

"This morning we occupied a strong point of support held by the enemy east of Sancy, the number of bodies found by us north of Laffaux, indicates the heavy losses sustained by the enemy in the recent fighting in this region."

"On the Vesle front the German thrice counter-attacked our positions in the neighborhood of

Glennes and were repulsed each time with heavy losses."

GERMAN

BERLIN, Sept. 18. — "Anglo-French attacks were carried out on a wide front from Havrincourt wood to the Somme. Counter-attacks are now progressing against our enemies, who penetrated in the centre of the battlefield between Hargicourt and the Omignon rivulet."

"On the rest of the front enemy attacks failed. We are fighting everywhere west of our old Siegfried positions."

ITALIAN

ROME, Sept. 18. — "North of Monte Grappa, five enemy counter-attacks, in an effort to retake ground at the head of the Seren valley, were repulsed. The number of prisoners taken in minor operations between Cesilla valley and Col del Orso yesterday morning was 442. Twenty machine guns were also taken."

"On the slope of Monte Nozzola, southeast of Mori, there was lively fighting between reconnoitring parties. In the Ordie valley a hostile outpost was captured."

"The enemy artillery was particularly active along the Piave in the Montello region and near Fagari."

FRANCO-SERBIAN

PARIS, Sept. 18. — "Our operations undertaken on Sept. 15 on the Macedonian front, were pursued the following day with every success. The breach made in the enemy's lines on Sept. 15 on the front of Sokol-Dobropolje-Vetrenik was widened to the west and to the east for a distance of more than 25 kilometres and a depth of seven kilometres."

"West of Sokol, Serbian divisions captured the enemy fortified zone between Gradeshnitza and Sokol, and crossing the Gradeshnitza river, drove the enemy back in disorder onto the Razim Bay ridge, where the enemy units were bombarded by allied airplanes."

"East of Vetrenik, the allied forces captured the Chlem and Golo Bilo Massif and the defences of Zhoroko."

"A Jugo-Slav division, taking advantage of their initial success, today stormed the Koziak massif, the second enemy defensive positions in this region."

"The number of prisoners taken in the first two days of the operations totalled more than 4,000, including a colonel with his staff, and more than thirty guns, numerous mine throwers and machine guns and a considerable quantity

of material remained in our hands. The offensive continues."

"The Serbian troops are fighting with splendid morale. They have equalled the endurance, courage, spirit and sacrifice of French units in repulsing Bulgarian counter-attacks. Fighting stubbornly in the face of very energetic resistance, they stormed positions which the enemy had prepared for three years on ground at an average of height of 1,800 metres, including several wooded heights which appeared to be impregnable."

BRITISH

LONDON, Sept. 17. — "There was great aerial activity all along the British front on Sept. 16, and our machines were busily engaged in every department of their work. Photographic reconnaissances were carried out with great completeness in spite of strong opposition and the number of aerial photographs exceeds any recorded to date for one day."

"Observation of our artillery fire was successfully performed both by airplanes and balloons. Much damage was reported in hostile battery positions and many fires and explosions were caused."

"Nearly 24 tons of bombs were dropped by day and 15 tons on the following night, on airdromes used by the enemy's flying airplanes on all railheads and dumps."

"The fighting was intense all along the front throughout the day, combats taking place a considerable distance east of the lines. Forty-five hostile machines were brought down by our airmen. Of these, seven were brought down in one fight by one of our squadrons. Twenty other German machines were driven down out of control. In addition, one hostile airplane was shot down by our anti-aircraft guns. One hostile balloon was destroyed."

"Sixteen of our machines are missing."

"On the afternoon of Sep. 16, our squadrons made two separate attacks on the airplane works and chemical factory at Mannheim, with excellent results. The enemy attacked our machines over the objectives. Three of our machines are missing."

"A German home defence airdrome at Hagenau was attacked by a squadron and bursts were observed on and near the hangars. One hangar was seen in flames. All our machines returned."

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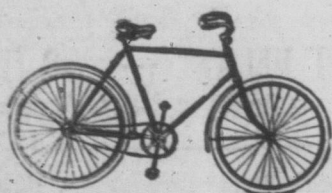
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