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TWELVE HUNDRED MEN IN FORCES TO BE IN ST. JOHN SOON

Definite information was received in the city this morning to the effect that soon more than 1,200 troops from western Canada will arrive in the city. The units are the 22nd battalion, Toronto, under the command of Lieut-Col. Earchman, and the 23rd battalion, Edmonton, under the command of Lieut-Col. Lettrobien.

The 22nd was recruited in Sudbury, Ont., and is a construction battalion. It was later removed to Toronto, where it has been quartered for the last six months. Its total strength is about 900 men, including twenty-eight officers.

The coming of this unit will prove of special interest to the St. John hockey fans, as their hockey team has been playing in the N. H. A. with considerable success. Their team is mostly composed of officers and includes Progers, Oatman, Aboour, Driscoll, Meking and the McNamara brothers. It is possible that this famous team will be seen on local ice.

The 23rd battalion was recruited in the northwest, and has been quartered in Edmonton for the last ten or twelve months. The total strength is only 800. During their stay in the city they will be quartered on Partridge Island. Three brothers of the deceased also enlisted.

FORMERLY OF ST. JOHN

Private Arthur Wilkins, officially reported today as killed in action, was a son of William Wilkins, a farmer who lives in Salisbury road, near Moncton. The family came from England to Canada and moved to Moncton from St. John about four years ago. Three brothers of the deceased also enlisted.

AXE APPLIED BY COUNCIL TO THE WATCHING STAFF

A Reduction From 51 to 30 Men is Order

MORE NOT NEEDED IS EXCUSE

Commissioner Russell Charges Others With Inconsistency and Would Like to See Enforced Economy in Other Departments

The decision to reduce the number of wharf watchmen from fifty-one, the present number, to thirty, of whom eighteen would be assigned to the west side and twelve to the east side, was arrived at by the common council in committee this morning. Commissioner Russell strongly objected to a reduction below thirty-six, which he considered was the least he could get along with and he had the support of Commissioner Wigmore. The motion was carried by the mayor's casting vote. Commissioner Russell then charged the council with inconsistency and suggested that the other departments should be called upon also to sacrifice efficiency for economy.

Commissioner Fisher presented an outline for restrictions against the enforcement of business in residential districts.

Applications for the use of the exhibition building for Y. M. C. A. and other military purposes were referred to Commissioner McLellan.

The council decided to hold their Monday and Thursday committee meetings at 4.30 p.m. instead of 11.30 a.m. until May 1.

Mayor Hayes presided and all the members of the council were present. Commissioner Fisher gave notice of motion to the effect that "legislation be sought authorizing the council to enact a by-law giving the council control of the issuing of permits for construction of business premises; also for enlargement and addition in districts to be called residential, where seventy-five per cent. of the occupation of land, in any street or block of not less than eight hundred feet in length, taking both sides of the street into account, is purely residential."

This was offered in place of his previous recommendations for business restrictions and was received with general approval. Commissioner Fisher will discuss the matter with the city solicitor before moving the adoption of his resolution.

The Watchmen

The matter of the west side watching staff was then brought up for discussion. Commissioner Russell said he was willing to recommend a reduction of fifteen men on March 15. There are now fifty-one men on the pay roll and this would leave thirty-six. Several other men were thinking of leaving also. He would make other reductions as he considered it advisable.

Attention was drawn to the use of watchmen on the old C. P. R. wharf, which is given of charge to the government and on several east side wharves where the other commissioners thought the expense was too great for the revenue received.

The mayor suggested one man to each of the six west side wharves, in eight hour shifts, would take only eighteen men and Commissioner McLellan thought twice would be ample for the east side. The latter also inquired as to the 62nd home guard corps.

Commissioner Wigmore thought that the militia should guard the wharves. He suggested that the harbor commissioner should press the matter upon the attention of the O.C. of this district and even go to Ottawa if necessary.

The mayor said he did not think the council should urge the necessity of guarding by militia or any one else. The city should notify the militia department and if Ottawa thought the guards were necessary, they could be provided by the dominion authorities.

Commissioner Wigmore moved that the matter be referred to the mayor and commissioner of harbors to interview the military authorities and learn whether the latter considered the guarding necessary and if so to undertake it. Commissioner Russell opposed the motion as ineffective.

Commissioner Fisher also opposed it on the ground that it would be an admission that the guards were necessary. The mayor said that he and Commissioner Russell would interview General McLellan, without an resolution.

Commissioner McLellan moved that the number of watchmen be reduced to eighteen for the west side and twelve for the east side.

Commissioner Russell wanted to know if the dismissals were because the guards were unnecessary or because it was desirable to save the money.

The mayor said that it was because they were not needed; the saving would be important but secondary.

Commissioner Russell said that if the number was placed at thirty-six, it could be worked out without any hardship to anybody.

The mayor seconded the motion for the reduction of the staff to thirty.

It was explained that this did not affect the sweepers, who were dropped on May 1.

The motion was put and opposed by Commissioners Russell and Wigmore, the latter supporting a reduction to thirty-six. The motion was carried by the mayor's casting vote.

LOCAL NEWS

BLINN-BOUDREAU

A very pretty wedding took place at eight o'clock this morning in St. John the Baptist church, when Father Goulet, chaplain of the 16th Battalion, united in marriage Miss Josephine Boudreau of St. John, and Private Charles Blinn, of the 16th. The bride was wearing a pretty blue broadcloth suit with white fox furs and white hat to match. She was attended by Mrs. J. Leclair and the groom was supported by James Leclair. After the ceremony the party drove to Mrs. Leclair's, where a dainty breakfast was served. Numerous presents received attest to the popularity of the bride and groom.

FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROHIBITORY ACT

Evangelical Alliance Recommends Organization of League

Evangelistic Campaign in All City Churches Planned - Ministers Feel That Such Is Needed at Present

An adjourned meeting of the Evangelical Alliance was held in the school room of St. Andrew's church this morning, with Rev. Neil J. McLaughlin presiding. The object was to hear the report of a committee concerning the enforcement of the prohibitory act. The recommendations of the committee were given as follows:

First, that on February 18, as far as possible, in all the churches of the city a sermon be preached on the new prohibitory act. Second, that an organization be effected looking to the enforcement of this act. Third, that the name of this organization be known as the "Prohibition Enforcement League."

Fourth, that a meeting be called for the organization of such a league.

Fifth, that this meeting be called on February 25, Sunday evening, at 8.30 o'clock in the Imperial Theatre.

Sixth, that one or two speakers be secured for the occasion; and

Seventh, that a male chorus be secured.

This report was received and a committee, consisting of Revs. N. J. McLaughlin, D. Hatchinson, J. Hardwick, J. Charles B. Appel, W. H. Sampson, Hon. R. J. Ritchie, A. M. Belding and T. H. Honourable, was appointed.

Rev. W. H. Barralough spoke of a simultaneous evangelistic campaign in all the churches of the city beginning in the last week of March and ending in the first week of April. A committee of five was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Those on the committee are: Rev. Messrs. McLaughlin, Hatchinson, McKeigan, Appel and Barralough.

All those at the meeting expressed themselves as heartily in accord with the proposed movement. The general opinion was that a strong evangelistic movement was needed at the present time and also a community influence to make people live better.

MAY HAVE EFFECT OF INTERFERING WITH RUNNING OF "THE AMERICAN BOAT"

Boston, Feb. 12—A dispute among members of the crews of the ships of the company, Steamship Corporation, threatened last night to interfere with the company's passenger and freight service between New York, Boston, Portland, Maine, Halifax, N. S., and St. John, N. B.

The number of men involved was estimated between 700 and 1,000. Robert McDonald, international delegate of the marine firemen, sailors and water trawlers' union, contended that the management locked 1,000 men because of their refusal to join a "welfare plan."

According to President George H. Wiley, of the Marine Engineers' Union, the differences are due to a jurisdictional fight between rival unions. Denying that any attempt had been made to enforce membership in a welfare organization, General Manager Frederick Jones, of the company, said last night that "whatever trouble existed among the men are probably due to disagreements among themselves."

MOTHER OF REV. H. R. BOYER DEAD IN NEWBURYPORT

Mrs. Grace Boyer, widow of Edward S. Boyer of Fredericton, died on Monday morning at one o'clock at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fred C. Tedford, Newburyport, Mass. Rev. H. R. Boyer of this city is a son, and A. D. and John Thomas of Fredericton are brothers of the deceased. The burial will take place in Fredericton on Wednesday.

merely wished to show the inconsistency of the council.

Commissioner McLellan moved that the committee meetings be held at 4.30 p.m. instead of the morning, until May 1.

Commissioner Russell moved in amendment that the hour be changed to three o'clock, but withdrew his amendment.

The motion was carried.

Reporting on the claim of J. A. Barry on behalf of Miss Mary McDonald for alleged false arrest, Commissioner McLellan said that he had found that the city was not liable, but he promised further inquiries and every justifiable effort to clear the young woman's reputation.

Commissioner McLellan presented a communication from H. H. Thus, military Y. M. C. A. secretary, asking quarters in the exhibition building in place of the premises taken over by the hospital. He also had requests from the military authorities for portions of the building for a warehouse and for a lecture room and also from T. McAvity & Sons for permission to place two machines in the machinery hall.

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February 12, 1917

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