

FIVE MORE CASUALTIES IN THE TWENTY-SIXTH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF PROVINCE FOR PAST YEAR IS VERY SATISFACTORY

Despite War Year Substantial Credit Balance in Accounts of Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure, with Generous Provision for Important Public Service.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Dec. 29.—In the Royal Gazette today the official statement of the receipts and expenditures of the provincial accounts for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31st last as submitted by the auditor general, Mr. W. A. Loudon to Hon. Dr. Landry, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, is published. The statement will prove a most gratifying one to the people of the province for it shows that despite the fact that it has been a war year he revenues have held up so that there is a substantial credit balance of about \$5,000 in the accounts of ordinary revenue and expenditure with equally as generous provision as ever for the important public service.

ST. JOHN MAN WOUNDED; TWO NORTH SHORE MEN IN LIST

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—The casualty list issued at midnight includes five members of the 26th Battalion as follows: Killed in action—Wm. A. Martin, Galt, Ont. Wounded—Ross A. Murphy, Bass River, Kent County, N. B.; Henry I. Bertin, Bathurst, N. B.; Henry A. Adams, South Africa; Leonard McQueen, 9 Ann street, St. John, N. B. The Twenty-Fifth Battalion also figures in the list. Third Battalion. Killed in action—Frederick H. Lapresse, England; Frank Gretham, England. Fourth Battalion. Killed in action—John Hart, Eng. Died of wounds—George M. Simpson, Scotland. Fifth Battalion. Killed in action—George Brown, Scotland. Seventh Battalion. Killed in action—Cyril Stewart Wiggett, England; Wm. G. Tall, Scotland; Frank Ward, England. Wounded slightly—Lieut. Wm. Archer Casey, England. Eighth Battalion. Previously reported killed in action, now missing—Wm. Meddings, Eng. land. Thirteenth Battalion. Killed in action—Robert A. Tall, 23 Patterson, Amherst, N. B. Wounded—Corporal Herbert M. De

Suffering from concussion—Samuel Sheriff, Montreal. Died of wounds—Joe Gagnon, Du-luth, Minn. Twenty-Fifth Battalion. Wounded—George Brown, Florence, C. B. Suffering from concussion—Edward Davies, Westville, N. S. Wounded, now on duty—John T. Francis, 61 Longard Road, Halifax, N. S. Twenty-sixth Battalion. Killed in action—Wm. A. Martin, Galt, Ont. Wounded—Ross A. Murphy, Bass River, Kent County, N. B.; Henry I. Bertin, Bathurst, N. B.; Henry A. Adams, South Africa; Leonard McQueen, 9 Ann street, St. John, N. B. Twenty-seventh Battalion. Wounded—Orwell Eanis, Agr. Ont. Wm. Geo. McCutcheon, Ireland. Accidentally wounded—Lieut. Sydney H. Wilson, England. Twenty-eighth Battalion. Wounded—Lieut. Gerald G. D. Murray, Moosemin, Sask. Twenty-ninth Battalion. Wounded—Percy H. Rumely, Har-castle, Guelph, N. S.; Alfred A. Hyde, New Zealand. Killed in action—Thomas McCormack, Vancouver. Thirtieth Battalion. Died—Wm. J. Huty, Jamestown, N. Y. Thirty-first Battalion. Seriously ill—Dexter A. Werner, Wales, Ont. Forty-Ninth Battalion. Wounded—Archie Ferguson, Deville, Alb. Killed in action—Wm. H. Fraser, Scotland. Princess Patricia's Provisional Battalion. Believed killed, now killed in action—Wm. Stewart, Scotland. Royal Canadian Regiment. Died—Edward Hiscock, Manitoba, Nfld. Third Canadian Mounted Rifles. Reported wounded in error now officially rejoined regiment—Rowan P. Fitzgerald, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

MEN OF THE FLEET FIND LIFE IN TRENCH NOTED 'SOFT JOB' THEY IMAGINED

Party of Jellicoe's Men Spent few nights in Trenches in France and have their views of conditions changed considerably. Mr. Philip Gibbs sends an interesting account of the impressions given to a party from the British fleet to whom Admiral Jellicoe had granted the privilege of visiting the fighting front on the continent in order to give the navy a nearer view of the work which is being done by the army. British Headquarters, Monday. "When the wind blows over the state of Flanders and booms like the rumbling of distant guns, our soldiers often say to each other, 'Pretty rough on the fellows at sea! What a time they must be having in the front! The fleet does not know the state of the soil, and one can only guess the hardships of the seamen in this dirty weather. Hardly a word breaks the silence in which they live in their unknown whereabouts. Yet the other day to the trenches in Flanders came a glimpse of the human nature which is crowded on our battleships. The men of the North Sea Fleet have been envious, it seems, the way of life in the trenches. They have had an idea that compared with their own existence the troops in the trenches had a 'soft job,' with more variety, excitement and creature comforts. A dear little digout in France appeared to Jack's imagination as a fine and enviable place. Taking their bearings in the trenches 'Well, Sir John Jellicoe has thought it a good idea to let some of his men see for themselves what the soldiers are doing, so that they can take back a personal description to the fleet, and three or four days ago a naval lieutenant and ten seamen came to our part of the western front to take their bearings in the trenches. They were very much surprised at a typical section of the trenches was chosen for them in which they could spend a couple of nights without excessive heat, but with a fair experience of ordinary conditions of trench warfare in winter. They were cheery fellows, and they laughed heartily when, on the way to the front line, they went stumbling and tumbling in mud which reached the upper edge of their top-boots and gradually their eyes were opened to the reality of things when they saw that, so far from having a soft job, our soldiers are living in conditions of discomfort and peril which need great strength of endurance and patience as well as great courage. Under Fire. Shells came screaming overhead, and they found themselves making exposed to the enemy's fire over certain swamps where the communication trenches had been hit by the heavy rains. Rain slashed down upon all the soldiers who were going up with the night reliefs, and they were wet and muddy scrawns before they reached the front line, where they had to stand in mud not far from the enemy over the way. The dugouts were not so full of comfort as Jack had imagined. It was very cold in the night, so cold that the men could hardly get a grip on their rifles, and out of the dark mist came whizz-bangs and pipe-bombs and other noisy things with threats of death. The guns on each side were busy through the night, and the shells went rushing overhead like express trains through Clapham Junction on Derby Day. In their first experience of the trenches the men from the navy were awestruck by the life of soldiers who live in dirty ditches and in muddy holes under all that tumult of explosives and take it all cheerfully as a matter of course. Their comments afterwards were amusing. They had been extremely uncomfortable, but enjoyed the novelty of the adventure. "Not so Soft a Job." "We were in action all night, sir," said one. There was a smile at his answer—because there was no "action" as soldiers call it, but only the ordinary "strafing" between the lines. "We had one casualty," said another bluelicker. The General was surprised and alarmed. He had hoped that his naval guests had escaped without a scratch. "One casualty?" "Yes, sir. One of our dugouts was hit by a piece of shell." There was a general agreement among all the seamen that after all, life in the trenches is not so soft a job as they had imagined, and that there is more comfort on a battleship even in dirty weather. They were amazed at the high spirits of the men, and there is no doubt that they will take back to the fleet a vivid story of the pluck with which the "land-lubbers" carry on in their wet ditches. In the Quagmire. Truly, all the rain has made the front a quagmire which only the high spirits of our fighting men could suffer without complaint. Some camps which I visited yesterday were so muddy that if one stepped off the "duck-walks" or boarded pathways one went ankle-deep. In a bad place outside one of the camps a man who had missed his way nearly disappeared altogether. He sank up to his chin in mud—it was pitch-dark at the time,

COMPULSORY SERVICE IN CHINA AFTER JANUARY 1

Formation of an Aeroplane Corps Also Part of Government's New Military Plans. Peking, Dec. 19. (Correspondence)—China is to have compulsory military service. The government has announced that conscription will be inaugurated on January 1, 1916. It will first be put into effect on Chi Li province, in which Peking is located and Shan Tung province, which adjoins Teh province, on the south. Details have not yet been arranged, but are now under consideration by the general staff.

TOWN OF 4,000 PEOPLE WIPED OUT BY EARTHQUAKE

San Salvador, Dec. 29.—The earthquake shocks which began early Monday morning are still being felt here. A wall collapsed during a shock today, killing two persons and seriously injuring two others. Late advices from Honduras confirm the previous reports that the town of Graecia was completely destroyed by the earthquake Monday morning. This town, which lies 70 miles north of San Salvador, had a population of 4,000.

Imperial's Last Showing Today

"THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW" "THE CAMPBELLS ARE COMING" "The Broken Coin"—No. 18 Singers and Comedies

LYRIC THEATRE. A HOLIDAY PROGRAM WHICH WE THINK WILL PLEASE. "CUPID BEATS FATHER" COMEDY DRAMA. "THE DRUMMER'S TRUNK" A COMEDY WITH A NEW IDEA. VAUDEVILLE—BEAL & STILLWELL (LADY AND GENTLEMAN) SONGS AND DANCES.

UNIQUE. "KEY TO THE PAST" 2-Part American Drama. "THE VILLAINOUS VEGETABLE VENDOR" COMEDY—YES, AND A REAL FUNNY ONE.

SCHOOL INSPECTORS IN SESSION AT CAPITAL. Dinner Guests of Dr. W. S. Carter Last Night—Addresses Voted to Two Inspectors Going to Front.

OPERA HOUSE. THE W. S. HARKINS PLAYERS. TONIGHT "The Spy in the House" FRIDAY and SATURDAY (New Year's) NIGHTS, The Best of all Comedies. "BABY MINE" SATURDAY (New Year's) MATINEE TO BE ANNOUNCED.

HEADQUARTERS FOR Horse Blankets, Fur Robes, Harness, Horse Clippers and Horse Furnishing Goods. Power Horse Clippers from \$9.50 to \$15.00 each. Street Blankets from 3.00 to 7.00 each.

BRITAIN ALLIES' SUCCESS DEPENDS UPON THE FLEET, B

Without Its Powerful Power May be Silent, Allies Against Tyrannical Forces Isolated From World and Another.

London, Dec. 29.—The British government has never yet had the opportunity of being from hour to hour, day by day, through the foundation upon which every success is based by A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, is based upon a moving picture record of the first production of which he presided. Mr. Balfour declared that the first importance to Britons of all the land operations of the Allies, from the Persian Gulf, ultimately depended upon the fleet because were it removed, the Allies would be against the tyranny of the Central Powers from the outer world and from each other. The magnitude of the task thrown upon the fleet is, he said, "it is performing, at this time, but for the whole world, the greatest drama now being played out for the world has yet to know how much it owes to the assured victory which is coming to least as much as the gift of the British of the Allied troops, whether British or

LONDON PRESS ON CABINET SITUATION

All agree Government decision is in favor of Compulsory Service—Difficulties may be remedied without resignations. London, Dec. 29.—The evening newspapers today all concede that the decision of the cabinet is in favor of compulsory service. The Westminster Gazette, which frequently voices ministerial opinion, says: "The only man who would have a right to resign in the present circumstances is the man who has a conscientious objection to compulsory service in any circumstances, and who is willing to face all the military consequences of a shortage of men rather than consent to the principle." The others, the newspaper contends, are not at all in a position to resign, and it is not their business to do so. The Westminster Gazette expresses the opinion that the difficulties within the government and in parliament will be cleared up by the time the cabinet meets on Monday. The Evening Standard agrees that now a decision has been reached all difficulties will assume quite measurable proportions, and contends that the nation will welcome this as a sign that the cabinet has "at last been aroused to a sense of the realities." According to the Westminster Gazette's parliamentary reporter the number of single men not attested

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