

SOLDIERS ARRIVING YESTERDAY MAKE COMPLAINT OF TREATMENT ON STEAMSHIP SCANDINAVIAN

Bad Food, Unsanitary Conditions, Profiteering by Stewards, Drunkenness of Ship's Doctor, Conduct of Dispensing Clerk, and Insufficient Care for the Sick on Board—Four Passengers Died on Voyage to St. John.

When the C. P. O. S. transport Scandinavian docked at berth three yesterday morning she carried one hundred and sixty-five of the most disgruntled fighting men that have landed at a Canadian port this winter. Every man, and many of the dependents, had a story and every story was to the same effect: bad food, unsanitary conditions, profiteering by stewards, drunkenness of the ship's doctor, conduct of the dispensing clerk and insufficient care for the sick on board.

The trouble started December 4th when the men and their dependents reported to their company officer for transportation to Canada. And the trouble grew and multiplied until when the ship was three days out of Liverpool the N. C. O.'s and men held an indignation meeting, and a committee of thirteen, one representing each military district, was selected to draw up a formal complaint, which was typewritten, signed and sent to the officer commanding the troops, Lieut.-Col. H. R. Tremaine. The complaint, five pages, closely typewritten, covers the entire voyage, sanitary conditions, berthing arrangements, lack of medical attention, drunkenness of the ship's doctor, the lack of food, care of infants, latrines and sleeping accommodations. The original complaints still stand and have grown firm with time, but the greatest kick of all is regarding the sanitary conditions on board and the conduct of the ship's physician and his staff.

According to the statement given out yesterday of all the troops that have left or entered a Canadian port, the Scandinavian is the one that should have been supplied with every medical attention. There were 740 soldiers' dependents on board, 382 of them children, and of the latter group there were 174 kiddies between the ages of four and twelve. Many of the women were in a delicate condition and as this was the first ocean voyage for the English girls who had married Canadian warriors, their discomfort even under ideal conditions can well be imagined.

But conditions on board the Scandinavian were far from ideal. According to the fact that the vessel had to labor through a side-storm at sea, the fact that there were no proper facilities for the care of children, the only medical service on board was supplied by a ship's doctor and a dispensing clerk, so that the military forces had to lean their medical aid on the ship's doctor and his staff.

In all, there were fourteen cases of influenza on board. The dead ones were Sergeant George Wilcox, Sydney Mines, C.B., who died Wednesday, with a widow and five children waiting for him at home; Private Edwin H. Vancouver, who was buried the same day as Wilcox; Mrs. Harriett Roberts, Sydney Mines, C.B., who died Thursday, leaving three little tots without protection on board the ship until the Y.W.C.A. worker on board took them in charge. Miss Edith Dingley, Eastern Passes, P.S., aged 22 years, died on Thursday, and was buried the same time as Mrs. Roberts.

stated that he and an orderly officer had made daily inspections of the quarters and daily visits to the dining room for serving meals. On one regular complaint had come to his hands, that from a sergeant who had under his wife who was to have had first class accommodations and was surprised to find her in the third class, or steerage.

Dr. Robert M. Taft, the ship's surgeon, told The Standard that there was a lot of seasickness and very cold weather during the trip, but far less sickness than during an ordinary voyage. Questioned directly, he said: "Yes, we did have four deaths and some influenza, but the influenza was nothing to speak of at all. I have been on boats where there were sixty or seventy cases. I am used to a much larger vessel, was torpedoed three times, there are the stripes, they are giving gold one now, but I did not have anything on this trip I could not handle. We had lots of medicine, lots of supplies and equipment, and plenty of doctors."

In answer to a question Dr. Taft said he was not responsible for the soldiers' dependents. They had paid their fare and were on the same footing as ordinary passengers in peace times. He said he was surprised, but understood they were under the direction of the military officers. Certain statements had been made by a sergeant that he was responsible for the conduct of J. W. Jones, formerly of the Red Cross, now hospital steward and dispensing clerk on the Scandinavian.

Questioned about this Jones stated that there was a woman on board who was very sick and such condition that he had been ordered by the ship's surgeon to administer morphine. He did. Later, on entering her room, he found her dead. He said he was not let go. Women in condition similar to this case have been known by him to try to jump overboard and he has tried his best to pacify her. All talk about him was utter slander. He had given up his berth to a woman and her child, and had been on board with her. He believed the woman found on board was brought on by the soldiers themselves, and he believed the woman who worked on board by Major Fyche, the medical officer but had no words, good or otherwise, for his chief, the doctor. He said the two nursing sisters were very busy throughout the voyage, but the medical officer had previously stated that during most of the voyage.

In their formal complaint, the men asserted that several times between December 4 and 10, the ship's doctor, Captain P. A. Greenspan and two nursing sisters, Mary McGuire and Josephine Cameron, had been assigned to aid him, but all three were incapacitated by very heavy storms. He declared that the staff of the ship's stewards and stewardesses would be ample if the weather had remained continually calm, but during the rough weather there were not half enough of either to care for the sick. As a result it was necessary to call on the medical attendants, Johnson and Spencer, into the wards to act as nurses. Regarding the charges that the presence of these men in the ward had proved very embarrassing to the sick women, he declared that a woman had been detailed to remain in the women's hospital room in all but the night watches to prevent any criticism.

Adjutant Capt. R. H. Morris said the ship's staff was not sufficient and there were no means for the proper care of the children. There were 174 children on board between the ages of four and twelve—282 children at all together, and he was of the opinion that the purser did not know how many people were on board until the ship was eight days out. The nursing sisters worked in purely voluntary capacity. They were passengers, with their fares fully paid.

The Standard reporter was taken over the ship by the medical officer and the different arrangements were explained. Three hospital rooms were provided on the vessel for the third class passengers, one for men, one for women, and one for contagious cases. The ward for women had been accommodations for twelve, but Major Fyche said at one time there had been thirteen patients there, with two women on each of two narrow bunks. Some of the men said there had been as many as thirteen in the ward. The men stated that the boat, and particularly the hospital wards, were very cold throughout the whole trip. Major Fyche denied the saying that men could not expect a Royal Victoria Hospital on board the Scandinavian. He said that the reporter went into the women's ward and he saw so cold, that one's breath could be seen, the floor and ward were not clean, and the ward was in very bad order. In one of the hospital rooms, the reporter placed in third class accommodation were always out of order. A woman and her children were placed in a compartment near one that had been out of order for several days, and the small ward was unbearable.

"As high as eight women and children," the complaint goes on, "were placed in third class accommodation where only four berths were available. Musty straw was used for mattresses and pillows. In the evening the ward was crowded with women and children sleeping in every nook and corner on the boat. Rather than sleep in the filthy compartments, some of which had not been cleaned for days. Application was made for more blankets, which were promised, but not one received the extra blanket. Several of the compartments flooded and the occupants had to move out and shift for themselves."

Under the heading of "care of babies," the report says: "It was painful to see and hear them crying for their mothers, who, as a rule, were too sick to give them proper attention. Sputum cups were used for the purpose of bathing the babies, no other receptacle being available. Hardly any attention was given to the children except by our own men and women. No arrangements were made for the babies' food. They had to be fed the same food as adults. "The food served in the steerage accommodations," continues the complaint, "was unpalatable half the time, porridge burnt, fish soup, soup like dishwater. One could distinguish little coloring in the tea jug on the table, which was supposed to be coffee or tea. Many of the boys remarked that they had better food in the front line trenches. The women and children were supposed to eat the same as the men. The food was not fed to the pigs. Women who were sick in bed could not get proper food, especially those who were not accompanied by relatives. It was said to depend on the neighbor next door." In conclusion the report states that several women on board, returning

LAST KNOWN LETTER WRITTEN BY COL. ROOSEVELT A GEM

He Denounces Divided Loyalty, and the Red Flag Which Symbolizes All Wars Against Civilization—Have Room Only for the English Language.

Officers of the American Defense Society of which Colonel Roosevelt was honorary President, pointed out yesterday that the letter upon citizenship and Americanism, written on Friday by the ex-President to be read at the Hippodrome on Sunday night, probably was his last message to the public. It follows: "I cannot be with you, and so all I can do is to wish you godspeed. There must be no sagging back in the fight for Americanism merely because the war is over. There are plenty of persons who have already made the assertion that they believe the American people have a short memory and that they intend to revive all the foreign associations which most directly threaten with the complete Americanization of our people. Our principle in this matter should be absolutely simple. In the first place, we should insist that the immigrant who comes here in good faith become an American and assimilate himself to it as he shall be treated on an exact equality with every one else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed or birthplace or origin."

But this is predicted upon the man's becoming in very fact an American and nothing but an American. If he tries to keep segregated with men of his own origin and separated from the rest of America, then he isn't doing his part as an American. There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag, and this excludes the red flag, which symbolizes all wars against liberty and civilization just as much as it excludes any foreign flag of a nation to which we are hostile. We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language, for we intend to see that the crucible turns our people out as Americans, of American nationality, and not as dwellers in a polyglot boarding house; and we have room for but one soul loyalty, and that is loyalty to the American people. Colonel Roosevelt had been invited to attend the concert, but he wrote that his health would not permit the journey to the city.

Colds Cause Headaches and Pains Feverish Headaches and Body Pains caused from a cold are soon relieved by taking LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. There's only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on the box. 30c.

GARD OF THANKS. The family of the late James L. Hovey wish to thank their many friends for the expressions of kindness and sympathy shown them in their recent bereavement.

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 9.—Gross earnings of the Canadian Northern Railway system, for the week ending January 7th, were \$779,400, which represented an increase of \$113,000 over the gross earnings of the corresponding period of last year.

THE NEW BRITISH ANNOUNCED

Andrew Bonar Law, Lord Spencer Churchill, Sir Laborite Named as

London, Jan. 10.—The new paper of Premier Lloyd George was announced tonight. It presents few surprises. The question the British newspapers are asking is whether Mr. Lloyd George will rule his cabinet, or whether his Conservative advisers dominate him. The majority of members of the cabinet, in the places, are Conservatives, notably Lord Bonar Law, Earl Curzon, Arthur Balfour and Viscount Milner. For four years ago, when Mr. Lloyd George was the Conservative leader, he regarded the Premier as pledged by his campaign promises to a sweeping programme of liberal reforms, particularly the giving of land and housing to the poor and the discharge of his principal advisers, except for representatives of the land owning interests, who, following tradition, were placed barriers in the way of such reforms.

The ministers, without portfolio, George Nicoll Barnes and Sir J. Geddes, have important duties which there are no cabinet places. Mr. Barnes will represent Labor at Paris peace conference, while Sir J. Geddes has undertaken the management of the Home Office. One innovation of the selection the first time of an Indian as a member of the Government, Sir S. Sinha, having the place of Under Secretary for India. Another is the appointment of Cecil B. Harmsworth, brother of Lord Northcliffe, to succeed Lord Robert Cecil as Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

London, Jan. 10.—The new British cabinet will be headed by David Lloyd George, Premier, and Lord Robert Cecil, Foreign Secretary. An official statement made tonight that the other members of the government will be: Lord Privy Seal and Leader in the House of Commons—Andrew Bonar Law, President of the Council and Leader in the House of Lords—Earl Curzon of Kedleston. Ministers without portfolio—George Nicoll Barnes and Sir J. Geddes. Lord Chancellor—Arthur Balfour. Home Secretary—Edward Shortt. Under Secretary—Harold Greaves. Foreign Secretary—Arthur J. V. Balfour. Secretary for the Colonies—Viscount Milner. Under Secretary—Cecil Blount Harmsworth. Secretary of War and the Ministry which have been confirmed—Winston Spencer Churchill. Under Secretary—Viscount Peel. Financial Secretary to the War Office—Sir John Simon.

Officers of the new government will be: Lord Privy Seal and Leader in the House of Commons—Andrew Bonar Law, President of the Council and Leader in the House of Lords—Earl Curzon of Kedleston. Ministers without portfolio—George Nicoll Barnes and Sir J. Geddes. Lord Chancellor—Arthur Balfour. Home Secretary—Edward Shortt. Under Secretary—Harold Greaves. Foreign Secretary—Arthur J. V. Balfour. Secretary for the Colonies—Viscount Milner. Under Secretary—Cecil Blount Harmsworth. Secretary of War and the Ministry which have been confirmed—Winston Spencer Churchill. Under Secretary—Viscount Peel. Financial Secretary to the War Office—Sir John Simon.

Officers of the new government will be: Lord Privy Seal and Leader in the House of Commons—Andrew Bonar Law, President of the Council and Leader in the House of Lords—Earl Curzon of Kedleston. Ministers without portfolio—George Nicoll Barnes and Sir J. Geddes. Lord Chancellor—Arthur Balfour. Home Secretary—Edward Shortt. Under Secretary—Harold Greaves. Foreign Secretary—Arthur J. V. Balfour. Secretary for the Colonies—Viscount Milner. Under Secretary—Cecil Blount Harmsworth. Secretary of War and the Ministry which have been confirmed—Winston Spencer Churchill. Under Secretary—Viscount Peel. Financial Secretary to the War Office—Sir John Simon.

OFFICERS OF NO STORIES

Their Evidence Showed Ple The Service Might Have Occasion for Complaint

Ottawa, Jan. 10.—The officers of the White Star liner Northland were the stand today in the hearing before the court of inquiry. The officers' evidence went far to refute the story told by the men who returned on the vessel.

Every food shortage was due to the method of serving, rather than to the failure of the company to provide provision the ship, was evident from the testimony of the chief steward, who stated that, after she had reached Halifax and debarked her troops, the Northland had left a most sufficient food for her crew, but across the Atlantic as a cargo vessel. It would feed the steamer's crew, but not the passengers.

Officers in regard to the food supply was even more convinced. Chief Engineer Monks, whose business it was to fill the vessel's tanks with food, stated that the food supply was ample for the crew, but across the Atlantic as a cargo vessel. It would feed the steamer's crew, but not the passengers.

It also came out that the Northland's accommodations for the troops, when she carried troops, was the same as on this occasion, and that these men were rationed to the vessel.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

Keep the stomach well, the liver active, the bowels regular, and the breath will be sweet and healthy. But let poisons accumulate in the digestive organs, the system becomes clogged, gases form in the stomach and affect the breath. Correct these conditions with Beecham's Pills. They promptly regulate the bodily functions and are a quick remedy for sour stomach and Bad Breath.



The Sunny South and Clever Novelties

Set the banjos to pink-planking, let the rich negro melodies set your feet a-tapping—draw on the vast fund of musical novelties that Columbia Records provide—and no "down town" show will match your home hours for real enjoyment.

- "Li Lisa Jane" and "Oh, Boys, Carry Me Along," Harry C. Brown, Baritone. Peerless Quartette. AS208, 10", 90c.
"River of Jordan" and "Condit' Hear Nobody Fly," Negro Folk Songs. Pike University Male Quartette. AS108, 10", 90c.
"At the Cotton Pickin' Ball," Fox Trot, and "There's a Lump of Sugar Down in Dixie, Medley, Marjamba Phone Band. AS260, 10", 90c.
"Old Black Joe" and "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," Louis Gravena, Baritone. AS269, 10", \$1.00.
"Nobody Knows de Trouble I've Seen" and "I Don't Feel Noway's Tired," negro spiritual. Oscar Seagle, Tenor. AS100, 10", \$1.00.
"Breakfast—Porridge, boiled eggs, bread, jam and coffee, hot coffee. Dinner—Soup, roast beef, green peas, boiled potatoes, rice pudding, stewed apples, bread and tea. Supper—Sausages, mashed potatoes, pickles, cheese, crackers, bread, jam, tea or coffee.
Breakfast—Oatmeal and milk, kippered herrings, eggs, Wilshire bacon, grilled steak and onions, potato au gratin, fresh fruits, toast, tea, coffee or cocoa. Luncheon—Pea soup and appetizer, curried mutton and rice, braised veal with lemon sauce, boiled potatoes, poted shrimps, roast lamb, stewed prunes and rice, biscuits, cheese, tea or coffee.
Dinner—Consomme auignon, fried plaice, roast sirloin beef, horse-radish, cauliflower au gratin, boiled potatoes, roast turkey, bread sauce, black cap pudding, sweet sauce, biscuits, cheese, dessert to order, tea or coffee.
Piles Cured in 8 to 14 Days. Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Stops Irritation; Soothes and Heals. You can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 60c.

Columbia Records

Sold in St. John by AMHERST PIANOS LIMITED 7 Market Square

FOR SALE. At once 100 tons No. 1 Oat Feed at \$1.50 per bag, some slightly damaged by water at \$1.25 per bag. Call, wire, or phone to A. Garson & Co., 103 Union street, West St. John. Phone W. 435.