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Women's Meetings

Matters of Interest at Sessions of
Several City Organizations

The Women's Hospital Aid Association of the General Public Hospital of St. John held an executive meeting in the board of trade rooms yesterday afternoon when most of the time was taken up hearing the most excellent reports of the denominational vice-presidents regarding the membership enrollment. More than 1,000 members are already enrolled with many more coming in. As the hospital can now be visited the work of the aid will start at once in real earnest.

Mrs. E. Atherton Smith, the president, was in the chair yesterday and the committee reported that the Seamen's Institute had been very kindly offered to the aid for holding its meetings for this month, and the board of trade rooms will no longer accommodate the members. When all of the denominational vice-presidents had given their membership reports showing how the enrollment had increased and was still increasing, it was decided that it was no longer possible to notify members of meetings by means of cards, and that it would be necessary to use the columns of the press to announce the meetings each third Thursday.

It was reported that several cases of follow up work were already being undertaken. This work consists of visiting patients in their homes after they have been discharged from the hospital and seeing that they receive proper care and any special delicacies or appliances that they may require. It has been said that this work alone will justify the aid's existence and will in a great measure prevent many cases being returned to the hospital.

The visiting committee, with a convenor appointed monthly and three visitors appointed weekly, will start its work of kindness at once, and the house committee after consulting with the lady superintendent of the hospital, will probably report at the next meeting.

At the regular meeting of the Y. W. P. A. last evening, Miss Charlotte Dodge, second vice-president presiding, further plans were made for the Veterans' tag day which the association has taken in hand. A grant of \$100 was made towards expenses so that the Veterans will reap the benefit of all contributions. Miss Helen Church reported plans for the stringing this evening, of the 20,000 tags to be used and the labelling of the boxes. This is a task of some magnitude, but the young ladies believe they are equal to it.

Letters of thanks were read from Mrs. Harold Lawrence acknowledging on behalf of the local Red Cross committee the gift of furnishings for the nurses' rest room at the dependents' hospital. An appeal from the Anti-Tuberculosis Society met with a prompt response of a vote of \$50. The treasurer's report, read in her absence by Miss Keefe, showed a balance in the general fund of \$1,864.24; in the reserve fund, \$126.10 and returned soldiers' fund, \$537.

On motion of Miss Calkin \$100 was voted to the citizens' reception committee. Miss Dickson reported on a needy family in the country and assistance was granted. Miss Storm reported for the war savings society, showing a total membership of thirty-two and continued interest in this worthy work.

Reports were also received from the ushering and entertainment committee and on successful concerts at the Old Ladies' Home and at the Seamen's Mission. Announcement was made by the chair that at the next meeting petitions would be signed by all members regarding the incorporation of the society under the war charities act.

Members of the canvassing committee for the Y. W. C. A. sustaining fund campaign that will be conducted next week, met yesterday afternoon in the building, 23 King street, with Mrs. John A. McAvity presiding. Mrs. McAvity

had prepared, and read at the meeting, instructions for the canvassers in which she set forth clearly the need for support of the association in the city as it should be brought before the people who were being asked to assist the project. She referred to the furnishing of the new home with money donated last fall by the business men of the city and explained that it was now the intention to enroll as many of the women of the city as possible as sustaining members contributing \$5 each year in order to put the Y. W. C. A. on the map of which every citizen felt most strongly, on a firm and lasting basis.

It was the opinion that Mrs. McAvity's instructions were admirably thought out and when put into practice by the large body of canvassers next week that they would undoubtedly reap a much needed and well deserved harvest for the Y. W. C. A.

High School Alumnae

A meeting of the High School Alumnae was held at the residence of Miss Grace Campbell, 47 Hazen street, last evening, and there was a very large attendance of members present. Final arrangements were made for a lecture to be given in the German street institute next week by Nursing Sister Agnes Warner, who will also address the club at the May meeting. It was also definitely decided to establish a scholarship in the high school as a memorial for all the boys and girls of the high school who have given their lives in the great war.

Several contributions have already been received for this scholarship. The honor roll of the high school is to be unveiled on Empire day. This honor roll will include the name of every high school boy or girl who enlisted for military service.

CORP. A. W. WATSON HOME FROM WAR

Among the St. John boys to arrive home this week was Corporal Albert W. Watson, son of Andrew Watson, of 191 Carmarthen street. Corporal Watson has been doing his bit in Flanders and France for the past two years, and has seen much service. In the battles of Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge, the unit to which he was attached, the Canadian Engineers, did much commendable work.

In the first of the New Year, 1919, when the call went out over the dominion for more men, Corporal Watson responded at once and donned the khaki to help out in the great fight for democracy. After bidding farewell to his friends and relatives he then proceeded to the training depot at the Canadian Engineers at St. John's, Quebec, and while in training there was attached to the headquarters staff. In the spring of the same year he proceeded overseas and for a short time was stationed in England. After a short training he was detailed with many other St. John boys for Active Service in France. After doing his bit for nearly a year Corporal Watson was sent to one of the base hospitals suffering from shell-shock.

After recuperating he was again sent up to the base prior to entering last summer's fighting, and while there he met a number of St. John boys who went overseas with the 115th battalion and are now transferred to the Fighting 20th. Among them were John (Daddy) Allen, M. M., and Fred. Killen, son of Patrick Killen, of this city. Corporal Watson again entered the fray with his old unit which did much magnificent work in the final dash towards the German frontier.

Some two months ago Corporal Watson left France and was sent to England pending his being sent to Canada. While in the city he had been renewing old friendships and he expects to leave in the near future for the west, where he has been offered a position with a Toronto firm. A few years ago Corporal Watson was a member of the mailing room staff of The Daily Telegraph.

The auxiliary schooner Grace L., Captain Ralph Welsh, is ashore at Chebogue Point. The craft was bound from Westport for Publico when the accident occurred. At low tide the vessel is high and dry on a rocky coast. The crew is standing by.

B. F. Smith Dealt With Effectively

His Allegations Shattered by Hon. Mr. Veniot

Statements Prove a Boomerang—
Not Much Likelihood of Legislature Being Prosegued Before Easter

Fredericton, N. B., April 3.—A boomerang is a dangerous plaything especially when it is directed by venom rather than judgment.

B. F. Smith, of potato fame, not only learned this lesson but had it rubbed in this afternoon.

Mr. Smith is still suffering from the sting of the resolution of censure in which he was named and the ignominy of the invitation to resign his seat, and he has been looking for revenge. Apparently accepting as justification for remaining in public life the regret and deprecation of his opposing colleagues and their effort to conceal their real opinion of him by the evasion of responsibility which marked this amendment last week, Mr. Smith appeared this afternoon in the role of a reformer and champion of regularity and business-like methods.

His excuse for this attitude was his attempt to detract attention from his own case by an attack on two government members. In accordance with his motion, the report of Hon. Mr. Veniot on the investigation into road matters in Gloucester county was the order of the day. After the report had been read, Mr. Smith in a speech which was largely a mass of misrepresentations, introduced a resolution of censure directed against the minister of public works and Mr. Robichaud.

Then the boomerang which he had hurled with such malicious intent turned in its flight and dived back over the chamber, crashed against the reputation of the man who had thrown it.

As Hon. Mr. Veniot and Mr. Robichaud replied to Mr. Smith's remarks and arguments, the latter found himself in the role not of the accuser but of the accused, with the evidence of his guilt too unmistakable for him to deny.

It was shown by the gentlemen on the government side that he had made his allegations—he had not had sufficient confidence in them to put them in the form of charges—on reports forwarded to him by one Martin J. Robichaud, a former member of the legislature who had been driven from the house by the report of a royal commissioner. It was further shown that his chief witness whom he had asked the house to believe in the face of the sworn contradictions of reputable citizens, was a man who had served a term in jail for perjury and who faced charges of twice breaking jail. Other witnesses on whom Mr. Smith had relied were said to be women whose reputations were such that he had shrunk from placing them on the stand, and Mr. Smith did not deny it.

The irregularities upon which Mr. Smith had laid so much emphasis were shown to have been condemned by the minister himself to his report on investigation, but not to have been of a nature to have cost the province a dollar.

The investigation was shown to have been conducted with such impartiality that the minister had chosen a defeated Conservative candidate to serve as interpreter.

It was proved, and Mr. Smith did not question the evidence, that the charge against Mr. Robichaud that he had had done on his property at public expense, was without foundation, and that instead Mr. Robichaud had saved the province money by such a large quantity of road material.

Coming to the insinuation contained in the allegation that a bill issued for work on the roads had been endorsed by somebody other than the payee, and that the money had found its way to Mr. Robichaud, it was proven that this had occurred through an act of charity on the part of the member.

The man who had earned the check was the man whom Mr. Robichaud had sent to jail on charges of perjury and battery, but it was shown that he had advanced money to this man, taking in exchange an assignment of his check and power of attorney for his clerk to endorse the check.

Every allegation was fully answered, and the defence was a smashing arraignment of the man who had dared them and the methods he had adopted in attempting to support them.

In the face of all this Mr. Smith allowed his motion of censure to stand and sixteen other members of the opposition—three being absent on the stand—stood up at the crack of the party whip and voted with him for his resolution, which was defeated by the unanimous vote of the government party.

Mr. Murray (Kings) said that when a vote was taken on a matter in the house this week four members involved had retired from the chamber. He thought a similar course should be adopted by the honorable members referred to in the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that he had no objection to retiring, but his conduct as a member had not been called in question. The resolution declared that his finding was partisan, but did not reflect on his conduct.

Hon. Mr. Speaker after reading the rule of the house applicable to the case, said that the honorable member (Robichaud) had withdrawn from the house but he did not see that it was necessary for the honorable minister of public works to do so.

Mr. Baxter said he thought the resolution called for the censure of the house. Had he read it the same way the other day as it is now being read he need not have retired as there was no charge against him.

The house divided on the resolution which was lost on a vote of nineteen nays and seventeen yeas.

It being 6 o'clock the speaker left the chair to resume his seat at 8 o'clock. Upon the speaker resuming the chair Hon. Mr. Foster stated that owing to the earlier departure of trains the house would meet tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. He said there would be the usual week-end adjournment but he trusted that honorable members would arrange their business affairs so that they could remain in the city a week from Saturday. He had been asked if it was the intention of the house to prorogue by Easter but he was unable to answer the question. He was hopeful that it might be possible to do so.

Mr. Murray (Kings) said there was a strong desire on his side of the house to complete the session by Easter and he and his colleagues would do all in their power to facilitate the work of the session.

Adjourned—11:25 p.m.

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CORPORATIONS COMMITTEE

Fredericton, N. B., April 3.—Committee room, April 3, 1919.—The committee on corporations met this morning and considered the bill to incorporate the Associated Alumnae of the University of New Brunswick. The bill was allowed to stand in order to obtain the Christian names of all those to be incorporated.

The bill relating to the Restigouche & Bay Chaleur Soldiers' Memorial Hospital was reported as amended.

The bill to incorporate the Albert Mines Holding Company, Ltd., caused some discussion. P. J. Hughes, of Fredericton; E. Lorne McDougall, of Ottawa, and Mr. Fraser, of Montreal, appeared in support of the bill. Mr. Peck said that it was desired to put all the Albert county mining properties in order so that they could be sold.

Mr. Baxter claimed that the recital should be supported by affidavit. There was precedent for that. Mr. Tilley was of the same opinion.

Mr. McDougall was heard in support of the bill. He said he appeared for interests representing liabilities against these mining properties amounting to

\$114,000. They were in accord with the promoters of the bill and the only prospect for recovering their money lay in the hope that the promoters would make good.

Mr. Burchill, the chairman, suggested the appointment of a sub-committee to report on the statements and figures presented by the promoters.

Mr. Magee moved that a committee of five be appointed.

R. B. Hanson, who appeared for certain interested parties, took objection. Mr. Baxter said there had been too much ball-tossing from group to group with regard to all mineral deposits in New Brunswick. In this particular he wanted protection for the public. If that were given he would be willing to support any effort of the government if it proposed to take over these deposits on behalf of the province.

There was further discussion and the committee rose at 1 o'clock with the intention of considering the bill further.

DELIGHTFUL EVENING WITH KINGSLEY

This week the meeting of the Wednesday evening club was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Estey, "Brunswick Place," Douglas avenue. The subject was "The Centenary of Kingsley."

Novelist and Geologist. The programme was as follows: brief introductory talk by the president; Kingsley as Geologist, by Dr. George Matthews, who explained that although Kingsley was a member of the geological society, he used geology in a practical way as "Town Geography," and not as a study, or in an historical way. Mrs. Matthews followed with humorous selections from "The Life of Kingsley" written by his wife, and Rev. Mr. Crisp gave an original criticism of Kingsley as a preacher and critic; also a vivid description of the land of his birth, he himself having been born in that vicinity. Mrs. Montgomery delighted all with her excellent rendering of Kingsley's "Three Fishers Went Sailing" and other selections; and all joined in singing "The Roast Beef of Old England." Mrs. Matthews read from Kingsley's life the conditions under which he wrote "Three Fishers Went Sailing."

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