

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Daily despatches show that the Canadians are never idle. They are constantly making raids on enemy posts and dugouts, and almost invariably bring back prisoners and machine guns as trophies.

If further evidence were needed that many more men are needed at the front, it may be found in the latest official notice issued in England, warning men 47 and 48 years of age to be ready to report for medical examination, as calling-up notices may shortly be issued.

We have it from a high military official that the young men of Quebec are now flocking to the colors by the thousands, which is indeed satisfactory news. No doubt this is largely due to the silencing of the seditious utterances of Bourassa, Lavergne, et al, who kept the young men of that province constantly stirred up to resist conscription. Why their obstructive writing and talk were not stopped many months ago is a mystery to most people. There must surely have been a colored gentleman in the woodpile somewhere.

The initiative of Canadian soldiers has created a great demand for them to qualify as officers. A press cable from London this week says that nearly three hundred received lieutenantcies last month, and that two hundred men will be sent from France for the same purpose, as soon as conditions permit. Ninety-seven lieutenants leave this week to join the Imperial forces, while fifty men from the ranks qualified as lieutenants for the air service. Fifty additional instructors, including French-speaking instructors, are being returned to Canada from the gymnastic staff to train recruits. The new method of instruction in massed boxing has been introduced in all areas. King George was much amused and interested witnessing a whole company vigorously punning each other during his recent visit.

There is perhaps no branch of public service in Canada that has been hit harder in man power since the war began than the banking institutions. Already more than fifty per cent of their male employees are in khaki, and additional officers and clerks are being called to the colors from month to month. This drain has without doubt decreased the efficiency in service, the result being that certain special services, such as receiving payments for tax bills, gas bills, electric light and water bills, is to be discontinued after July 1. Beginning next Saturday, the banking hours are to be changed to the following: 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9.30 to 12.00 o'clock. This means that banks will open a half-hour earlier and close a half-hour earlier than at present, which will give the staff more time to complete the day's work after closing. The banks reasonably appeal to the public to co-operate by transacting their business as early in the day as possible, and by drawing as few cheques as possible. The latter may easily be done by depositors drawing one cheque and paying small accounts in cash.

It is a matter of congratulation that Premier Sir William Hearst has been able to get the acceptance of Archdeacon Cody, of Toronto, of the post of Minister of Education for Ontario, and it was only the supreme sense of duty of Mr. Cody at this time which made it possible. His church has led all others in Toronto in sending men and money to the front, and he has been an indefatigable worker in the cause of liberty. He accepts the position at a financial loss of \$2,000 but it is not likely his congregation will fail to make up the amount. Rev. Cody is the son of the postmaster at Embro, and was born in December, 1868. He was educated at Galt Collegiate and Toronto University, and was a brilliant scholar. At the University he took the gold medal in Classics and first-class honors in mental and moral philosophy, also in

Civil Polity. As an educationalist he was for some years Classical Master in Ridley College, St. Catharines, and later was Professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Church History in Wycliffe College, Toronto. His wife is a daughter of the late H. E. Clarke, M.P.P., Toronto. His appointment appears to meet with great favor among leading educationalists.

We understand that arrangements are under way whereby at least two of Aylmer's churches are to hold union services during July and August, when the respective pastors in turn are to take their well-earned vacation. Such an arrangement is to be commended for more than one reason. It shows a brotherly feeling, it saves the congregations from much squirming during a service conducted too often by indifferent and incompetent supplies, and it saves the individual church considerable expense. But why not all the local churches unite during July and August? In union there is strength, as was plainly shown in the last and most successful evangelistic campaign held in Aylmer. It does the people good to meet together as one great Christian family, and we venture to say that the total attendance will be greater than it would be under the old system. That is, if judgment is shown in not keeping up the service too long. There is no question but that one hour's spirited meeting is productive of better results than a long drawn out session at any time, and particularly so during hot weather. If any pastor disagrees with this statement, we respectfully refer him to his official board or the members of his congregation.

Some time ago our cotem, very properly called attention to the fact that Aylmer was behind Springfield in welcoming returned soldiers, and the same might be said of the send-offs given the departing heroes. We think, however, that our Council and citizens had a better plan in waiting till a number return, and then make a reception worth while. The greatest desire of the average soldier is to join his family and friends as soon as possible, and in many cases getting him to attempt a speech is more difficult for him than dodging a shell. Several returned heroes have told the Express that the one thing they dread on returning was to be called upon to make a speech before a cheering assembled multitude, and they took it as a distinct favor to be allowed quietly to go home and meet their loved ones. We also think it wiser to erect some lasting memento for our men, instead of giving gold pieces or wrist watches, as has been the case in surrounding villages. When there is some evidence of the end of the war, our council is pretty certain to call a meeting and decide the form of some lasting memorial. To many young people it will be the greatest heritage they will receive from fathers who may sleep in Flanders Fields. It will be at least from six months to a year before our men can return after peace is declared, owing to lack of shipping facilities.

To the astonishment of everyone a resolution was passed at a convention of the Great War Veterans' Association held in Hamilton on Saturday criticising the Y.M.C.A. in their work at the front, and alleging overcharges for supplies provided by that institution. In behalf of the Y.M.C.A., Dr. John Brown, Associate General Secretary of the National Council, and General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. military work, makes official reply, denying the allegations and contending they were made in ignorance or were inspired by pure prejudice. Dr. Brown declares that the Y.M.C.A. keep their prices as low as possible, and says that in some cases they would be lower but for the fact that they are not allowed to undersell the Expeditionary Force canteen. The Veterans belittle the giving away of hot drinks, which they say is a small thing. Dr. Brown gives official audited figures showing that more than \$80,000 was expended in free hot drinks for the soldiers in France in 1917. On more than one occasion

Aylmer people have heard from the public platform, notably from Capt. McGillivray and returned men, of the many great services performed by the Y. M. C. A., in view of which they will find it somewhat difficult to reconcile the criticism made on this excellent institution, whose whole object seems to be to provide needed comforts and recreation to the boys who are fighting our battles. A further discussion of the charges, with more particulars, seems to be a necessity.

George Partlow, well known here, and a former schoolteacher at Orwell has been spending a few days in town. He has just given up a most lucrative position with the Packard Motor Co. to engage with a firm which will build the famous Liberty airplane motors. A great effort is to be made this year to make up for the disappointment, or worse, that the airplane men caused the allies heretofore. A billion dollars was set aside for airplane work in the United States last year, and though it has been nearly all spent, it was stated recently that only one fighting plane had reached the front. An investigation is now going on as to the cause of this. The use of a few hundred machines at the present time would be invaluable to the allies, who have fought the German fighting planes to a standstill. The scout machines can safely go out and drop bombs on the enemy country, giving the Germans a taste of the horrors of war from which they have been free because of the Huns' preparedness for years, and taking possession of allied country before arms could be provided for defence. It is said that fighting air men are born, not made, and the experts at the front easily determine who are best suited for the fighting planes. It is certain that the U. S. can supply many such. Their best "ace" was recently killed by coming into contact with an armoured German machine, which was something new. Canada supplies the greater part of the wood used in the allied airships. Spruce wood has no equal in the construction of aeroplanes, and this fact greatly benefited British Columbia, where there were great forests of it, practically useless, as it was not in demand for building purposes, and there are no paper mills there to use it as pulpwood for paper manufacture.

The Germans opened up their third great offensive at dawn on Monday, and up to the time of writing have made rapid progress on the road to Paris, their objective. Their armies are under the command of the Crown Prince, and their whole force, directed at a given point, have, regardless of losses, stormed and captured the strong defensive positions of the Allies. Latest reports admit that they have crossed the Vesle at two points, and cut the railroad from Rheims to Soissons, which must seriously cripple the French transportation system along the Aisne. They have in two days advanced twelve miles at one point, and covered nearly half the distance from Laon to the Marne. It is quite possible that the battlefield of the Marne, where the Germans were stopped and crushed in September, 1914, may again be the scene of a mighty conflict. The enemy offensive was not opened at the point expected by the Allies, and the latter were outnumbered all along the line, in some places as many as ten to one. They were therefore forced to give way, but did so in perfect order and at great cost to the enemy forces. There is no attempt made to minimize the extreme danger nor the seriousness of the situation. At the same time it should be remembered that the Allies, particularly the British, fight best when placed in a tight corner. The enemy has been checked on the flanks, but presses forward in the centre. He claims fifteen thousand prisoners taken on Monday, besides many guns and projectiles. It will be some days before General Foch can bring up reserves in strength to the critical point. A faint was made in Flanders, which is now known to have been merely camouflage, but it answered its purpose only too well. It is admitted that the

**SHOES**

Our Shoe Department is certainly a busy spot these days. Our big range of stylish Summer Shoes and our most reasonable prices are being appreciated by hundreds of pleased customers. We have just what you want, whether it be high or low shoes, canvas or leather shoes, either leather or rubber soles and in all the popular colors.

**Clothing and Furnishings**

This department is also booming. The reason is that we have such a big selection of just what you want and which we are selling at lowest possible prices.

Men—Our \$15, \$18 and \$20 Suits are remarkable value.  
Boys—Our \$6.90, \$7.25 and \$10 Suits can't be beat.  
Child's Wash Suits, Child's Rompers.  
Men's and Boy's Underwear in 2-piece or Combination.  
Bathing Suits from 50c up to \$3.50.  
Fine Shirts, Work Shirts, Overalls, Panama Hats, Sailor Hats, Work Hats.

We guarantee every article we sell to be the best obtainable and our prices are invariably lower than you would be asked elsewhere. We bought heavily before the big raise in prices and are giving you the benefit of our buying.



**The G. R. Christie Co.**  
THE STORE FOR BEST VALUE

German leaders have as many men as they had for the first assault on March 21, but they are not considered as fine quality, and are therefore not so formidable in a long struggle. But the Allies are much stronger than they were at that time, having been enforced by Italian and American troops, which have been constantly pouring into France for several weeks numbering upwards of a million.

**ADDITIONAL LOCALS**  
Mr. John Wilson, of Hornby, spent a few days this week with his brother Mr. Hodge Wilson.  
Mr. J. R. Caron, of Colorado, a former Aylmer citizen in renewing his subscription to the Express writes: "Regards to all you old Aylmerites and may you soon all celebrate the downfall of the Hohenzollerns and their mad career."  
Mr. R. A. Penhale, Registrar for East Elgin, has secured the assistance of Mr. Thos. Hammond in his work, which entails a large amount of organization. Mr. J. M. Farthings has been appointed deputy registrar for Aylmer, and a deputy will be appointed for each municipality in East Elgin. The date of registration has been set for Saturday, June 22nd.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
IN THE SURROGATE COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ELGIN  
In the Matter of the Estate of Sharlotta Day, (Commonly called Charlotte Day,) late of the Town of Aylmer, in the County of Elgin, Widow, deceased.  
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to R. S. O. 1914, Cap. 121, Sec. 56 and amending acts (if any) that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Sharlotta Day, who died on or about the sixth day of March, A.D. 1918, are required to send by post prepaid, or deliver to William Warnock, Aylmer, Ontario, the Executor of the Will of the said deceased, on or before the first day of July, A.D. 1918, their names, addresses and descriptions and a full statement of particulars of their claims and the nature of the security, if any, held by them duly certified, and that after the said day, the executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice.  
Dated this 29th day of May, A.D. 1918.  
WILLIAM WARNOCK,  
Executor, Aylmer, Ont.  
By W. HAROLD BARNUM,  
His Solicitor and Agent.  
M30, J. 6, 13, 90.

Mr. and Mrs. Emerson McLachlan, of Hamilton, have been spending a week with the formers' parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. McLachlan. They returned home to-day accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Monteith, who will spend a few days in Hamilton and Toronto.  
Lieut. L. F. Clarke, who recently went to England with a draft from the 63rd Battery, Guelph, returned home last week on the same boat with Captain Dunnet and Pte. W. Antill, two other Aylmer men. Owing to his age, Lieut. Clarke was not permitted to go to France and was ordered back to Canada. He reported to headquarters at London on Monday.

Mr. L. E. Benner, yesterday shipped two high class hunting horses to Mr. Peter Roche, of Boston, Mass. The horses were secured from Messrs. Asa Pound and John Martin, of Sparta.  
Mr. Geo. Dunning has again accepted his old position of superintendent at the Aylmer Shoe Factory. Mr. Dunning resigned some months ago to go into the ready repair shoe business here, which he will still conduct and give the same prompt service. Mr. Dunning was succeeded at the Shoe factory by Mr. Watkins, of Toronto, who last week resigned. Prior to leaving, Mr. Watkins was presented with a Masonic ring by the employees of the factory.

**NOTICE To Ice Users**

Owing to circumstances beyond our control there was not the usual supply of ice harvested. Therefore it will be necessary for all customers to use the

**Greatest care in Economizing**

This can be done by keeping the refrigerator out of the kitchen and in a cool place and keeping all refrigerator doors closed as much as possible. With sufficient care we expect to have sufficient for all.

**Extra pieces of Ice will be charged 15c**

Any new customers wanting ice kindly leave order at our office. If at any time you are not receiving proper service we would appreciate it if you would advise us.

**We trust that our customers will assist us as much as possible.**

**The H. M. Hambidge Co.**

Thursday, May 30th, 1918

**Return Row**

Immense Crowd dresses of W turned Men.

Monday night is the Aylmer author ion to extend a he: to our brave fellc turned home after ersas. Some hav fighting line in months, been seve es shattered and s charged. Others v fit to reach France as England, but a it. "There hearts place, and twas they were turned have been sent ho rest and change a shortly go back to take a hand in t "Welcome Home" cesful event and c gotten by the brav ready to lay down country.

The big proces o'clock sharp. fre church, corner of streets. It was l Dan. McLean an on horseback, the Public School Cdr band, and a strin more cars filled w mer citizens. The ceeded west on T lington street, wh to Sydenham and The park was pret flags and bunting, 1,000 people gatc welcome extended

Mayor Wright, France with the and called on R Rev. Chas. Miles, and Rev. W. G. rousing speeches back home. Each feeling terms of t this vicinity who and had made the Many tributes we sacrifice and sile mothers, sisters the men overseas

Captain Dougl first to reply for rades. "The welc en us this event is felt with the pleasure. Your bringing to you k the men who h the others that h that have done t done more than I officers, although done without, th it is the men in doing the bigges ning the war. I h and again when will win. When thought the war v time. They are same thing, and it puzzled to find question. I woul to your notice th the officers who went overseas. we owe the splen we the example dled that we hav like them to do you people who friends overseas, about them I will you about them. back with my peo God that it has b to safely return i fighting."

Flight Sub-Lie ton, who is home a fall of sever; his machine whi also made a fit that the most ple would carry bac of the spirit of who are never tir of the enemy. Th to meet the ene and even the litt on the look-out have no hesitan; the big undersea equipped with he air the spirit is t air man has no on two or three C things, said Lieut. a man afraid of y German air men He was glad the given in the park on either land or

**Head:**  
Come mostly fr the stomach, liv Regulate these c free from head

**BEECH PIL**  
Largest Sale of Beech PIL Sold everywhere