

Mentioned in Despatches

H. W. Richardson, who has been called to the Senate, is one of Kingston's best known and most distinguished business men. He was born in the Limestone City, educated there and has carried on his business in that locality. Mr. Richardson is a grain merchant, and as head of the firm which bears his name transacts one of the biggest businesses on the Great Lakes. He has been offered nominations for Parliament, but prefers to confine his activities to industrial matters connected with his native city. One of his sons was killed at the front a short time ago.

Mr. J. G. H. Bergeron, Montreal's Postmaster and former Member of Parliament for Beauharnois, has just died in Montreal. The late Postmaster, who was born at Rigaud in 1854, was known in the House as the "Beauharnois Boy," representing that constituency for some twenty-eight years, being defeated in 1911. He had been a prominent member of the Conservative Party, except for a short time when he left his former colleagues as a result of the execution of Louis Riel. Sir John Macdonald's sunny ways induced him to make his peace with his colleagues, and the "Prodigal Son," as Sir John designated him, again returned to the fold. Bergeron was well liked by the political men of both parties, and was a good example of the more tolerant, broad-minded French Canadian public man.

R. S. White, Collector of Customs at the port of Montreal for the past twenty-one years, has resigned his post and goes back to his old love, journalism. Mr. White is returning to the Gazette as its chief editorial writer, a position he occupied many years ago. R. S. White was born in Peterboro in 1856, his father being the Hon. Thomas White, a prominent Conservative of Sir John Macdonald's time. He was educated at McGill, and then joined the Gazette away back in 1874, eventually succeeding his father as editor-in-chief of the paper. Mr. White also followed in his father's Parliamentary footsteps, representing Cardwell in the House of Commons in 1895. Journalists throughout the country will welcome the return of Mr. White to the profession. He was one of Canada's ablest journalists, and his articles on commercial topics have long been regarded as among the most authoritative ever written. He is extremely popular with the business men of Montreal, as his administration of the customs has been characterized by the utmost tact and an unflinching courtesy.

Sir William Mulock. — The citizens of Toronto under the chairmanship of Sir William Mulock, have given an emphatic answer to the peace proposals of the Huns by subscribing \$3,259,000 for patriotic and Red Cross purposes. This is only one of several big contributions made by that city. A year ago something in the neighbourhood of \$2,500,000 was secured, also under the chairmanship of Mulock. Sir William is one of the veterans of Canadian Liberalism, and is well known to the people of the Dominion as a former Postmaster-General in the Laurier Cabinet, and as the creator of the Labour Department at Ottawa. Sir William was born at Bondhead, Ontario, seventy-three years ago, educated at the University of Toronto and then studied law. He was a member of the House of Commons for nearly a quarter of a century, retiring in 1905 to accept the position of Chief Justice of the Exchequer Division for the Province of Ontario. Throughout his entire life Sir William has been keenly interested in social service and patriotic movements.

William F. De Morgan, the English novelist, who has just died, was a rather remarkable character. At a time when most men are setting their houses in order for the end he took up an entirely new line of work and achieved fame. When sixty-five years of age De Morgan had a severe illness, and while convalescing started to write a book for his own amusement. It grew into one of the longest novels of the age, but in spite of its length and the fact that the author was unknown "Joseph Vance" became one of the best sellers. Then came "Somehow Good," "Alice for Short," and "When Ghost Meets Ghost" and "It Can Never Happen Again." De Morgan had been engaged in a half dozen occupations, but failed to achieve success in any of them until he became an author. He was born in London, the son of a Scotch professor, was educated at University College, London, and then studied art at the Royal Academy. In turn he was a painter, an inventor, a poet, and lastly an author. De Morgan was seventy-eight years of age.

Mr. Anson McKim, who was killed a day or two ago at Coteau Junction, was head of the largest advertising agency business in Canada and one of Montreal's best known and most highly respected business men. Mr. McKim was born near Napanee some sixty-three years ago of United Empire Loyalist stock. After a short experience in Toronto on the reportorial staff of the Toronto Mail he was sent to Montreal as that paper's representative and a little later started in business for himself as an advertising agent. Later his company was incorporated, the business attaining such large proportions that he was unable to handle it alone. Unfailing tact, courtesy and hard work enabled him to build up the biggest business of its kind in Canada. A few days before he met his death he retired as vice-president of the Montreal Board of Trade, in which organization he had taken a very active part for a number of years.

Thomas Ahern, who has been made a director of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, is president of the Ottawa Electric Railway Company, the Ottawa Power Company, a director of the Bell Telephone Company and the Canadian Westinghouse Company, and one of the big business men of the Capital city. Ahern has been described as the "Canadian Edison." He is a native of Ottawa, and as a young lad learned telegraphy. From that he became local manager of the Bell Telephone Company and later, in partnership with W. Y. Soper, branched out as electrical engineers and contractors, in which fields they have met with a very large measure of success.

Charles E. Tanner, who has been leading a forlorn hope in Nova Scotia, will find the political going easier in the Senate at Ottawa. Mr. Tanner was born at Pictou in 1857 and studied law. He was first elected to the Nova Scotia Legislature some twenty odd years ago, and was defeated on one occasion and on another ran for the Federal House. For the last half dozen years he has been leader of the Conservative Party in the Nova Scotia Legislature. Mr. Tanner formerly took a very keen interest in military matters.

John Gowans Kent, the new president of the Toronto Board of Trade, is one of that city's big business men, being prominently identified with the crockery and glassware business. Mr. Kent is also a director of the Crown Life Assurance Company, the Canada Bond Company and the City Dairy Company, but is perhaps best known for his work in connection with the Canadian National Exhibition and the services he has been able to render the Board of Trade. The honor which has come to him is well deserved.

Lt.-Col. J. G. Ross and Lt.-Col. Maurice Alexander. — Two Montrealers were included in the belated New Year honor list, which has just been issued. Lt.-Col. J. G. Ross and Lt.-Col. Maurice Alexander have each been given the C. M. G. Lt.-Col. Ross is senior member of the firm of P. S. Ross and Sons, accountants, was born in Montreal and educated in this city and at the Guelph Agricultural College. He has been a military man all his life, receiving the Long Service Medal several years ago, and as a young man, was famous as an athlete. Before going overseas to take over his duties as chief paymaster he was in command of the 5th Royal Highlanders of Montreal.

Lt.-Col. Maurice Alexander is a Montreal lawyer, being the second member of the firm to go overseas as a lieutenant-colonel, the senior partner, Lt.-Col. Peers Davidson having gone over as commanding officer of a Montreal Highland Battalion. Col. Alexander is a native of South Africa, but studied law at McGill, and practised his profession in Montreal. He went overseas early in 1915.

Lt.-Col. W. C. Macdonald, of the Confederation Life, who was killed in Toronto in a railway accident, was one of the best known insurance and military men in Ontario. He has been connected with the Confederation Life for the past thirty-six years; he and his father, who was president of the Company, being two of the oldest employees of the Company. Col. Macdonald was also president of the Toronto Insurance Institute. He was equally well known as a military man, having served through the Northwest Rebellion and later as commander of the 48th Highlanders. Col. Macdonald lost a son in the early part of the war and was killed himself while saying farewell to a battalion leaving for service overseas.

Col. Frederic Nicholls. — Another newspaper editor has found his way to the Red Chamber at Ottawa. Col. Frederic Nicholls, who has just been called to the Senate, was formerly a newspaper man. Early in life he saw the possibilities of electrical development, and dropped the pen for a business career, forming, and becoming manager of the Canadian General Electric Company. Col. Nicholls is a live wire, is a director of a score of big corporations including the Bank of Commerce, Confederation Life, Dominion Steel Corporation, Toronto Railway Company, and other big institutions; is an ex-secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, and generally takes a very keen interest in the industrial and economic development of the country. Col. Nicholls was born in England in 1856, but came to Canada as a boy of eighteen.

Lloyd George has smashed more precedents than any other man in the United Kingdom and, from all appearances, is going to continue to smash them. In the early days of the war when there was a call for recruits, Lloyd George dismissed his able-bodied chauffeur and appointed a woman to drive his car. Now he has broken every tradition connected with the office of premier and appointed a Miss Stevenson as his private secretary. Miss Stevenson, who is a good example of the Entente Cordiale, is a daughter of a Scotch father and a French mother. She is a university graduate and has been with Lloyd George for several years, serving under him when he was preparing his National Insurance Act. She followed him when he became Chancellor of the Exchequer, then when he became Minister of Munitions, from there to the War Office, and now to the premiership. As a rule, the private secretary of the Prime Minister is given a peerage, or at least a baronetcy, and some of the most famous men in British history have started their careers as private secretary to the Prime Minister. It is not known what Lloyd George will do for his private secretary, but undoubtedly he will treat her right, as she and her family have done and are doing their bit. Her only brother was killed at the Battle of Givenchy.

Railroad mileage of the principal countries. (First National Bank of Boston).

