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Annual L. O. A. Convocation.

The Provincial Grand Lodge, L. O. A. of Newfoundland, closed its Annual Convocation at Coley's Point on noon Saturday. The gathering of members was the largest on record and a most interesting and beneficial session was held. Most of the delegates arrived by Tuesday's train and were met by the Orange brethren at Bay Roberts and accompanied by the hand they paraded to their destination. The Grand Black Chapter opened the same evening and completed its work by noon Wednesday. The reports were very satisfactory showing a general increase. The election of officers then took place and are as follows:—Grand Master—Adam Martin. Dep. Grand Master—J. W. James. Asso. Dep. G. M.—R. S. Smith. Grand Chaplain—Rev. W. J. Wilson. Grand Registrar—J. Milley. Grand Treas.—J. C. Puddister. Dep. Registrar—J. W. Mercer. Deputy Treasurer—G. Langmead. Lecturer—John R. Martin. Dep. Lecturer—W. J. Mercer. First Censor—Dr. A. C. Forbes. Second Censor—A. Frazer. Point on Standard Bearer—John Badcock. Pursuivants—Stanley Bradbury and R. M. Andrews. Committee—Hon. D. Morrison, J. B. Giles, James Wheeler, R. J. Ivany, Arthur Kelloway. Auditors—Walter Moore and S. G. Abbott.

On Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock the Grand Orange Lodge opened. Grand Master R. A. Quinn presiding, a large gathering of brethren were present, and following the usual preliminaries an address of welcome was read by W. M. A. Fisham, of Coley's Point Lodge, which was replied to by the Grand Master and Bro. D. Morrison. The annual reports were submitted and adopted, the various working committees were appointed. On Thursday morning Divine Service was attended at the C. E. Church, the Rev. E. Hunt delivering a very excellent and appropriate sermon in a manner that evoked universal admiration. The people of Coley's Point attended to the comforts of the visiting brethren.

George St. A. B. C.

Yesterday afternoon in the A. B. C. Room of George Street Methodist Church the members and their friends listened to an interesting debate on the subject, "Will the great war in which the world is engaged promote the spread of the Kingdom of God?" Leaders were: Mr. T. M. Gillingham for the affirmative, Mr. C. J. Loughlin for the negative. The addresses given by both sides were of special interest, and on being put to the vote the affirmative won by a majority of 13. The class meets each Sunday afternoon at 2:30 and all visitors to the city are cordially invited to attend.

GRATING OVERFLOWS—Owing to a grating overflowing on New Gower Street, Saturday night, the store of Mr. Gus Wadden was flooded, very little damage was done.

I THINK YOU'VE GOT A NERVE, DEARIE, TO QUESTION THE HONESTY OF MY BUSINESS METHODS—YOU KNOW IT'S A WELL KNOWN FACT THAT YOUR FATHER MADE MONEY BY WORKING AS A 'STICK UP' MAN OUT WEST



BUT THIS IS HOW HE DID IT



MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES NEURALGIA.

Our Volunteers.

The volunteers now in training are becoming very proficient in the various drilling exercises. Saturday was spent at indoor drill at the Armoury and in the afternoon a swimming parade was held at the Seamen's Institute.

Returned Soldiers and Sailors Association.

Now that our wounded soldiers and sailors and those on sick leave are returning home, it is not time we follow the example set by our Canadian cousins and organized a returned Soldiers and Sailors Association, with the object of having some suitable meeting places where our boys could be made welcome. To commence with two rooms would be sufficient, a reading and smoking room, with writing desk and stationery, a few packs of cards, a second hand piano or a gramophone with records, furniture or fittings, loaned or donated by those in sympathy with the movement. Any lady or gentleman could become a member on the payment of a small fee. An executive committee with various sub-committees would be appointed, and if necessary would work in harmony with the W. P. A. or Recruiting Committee. Knowing the good work done by similar organizations in Canada there is no reason why the formation of an Association here should not be successful and beneficial.

THE MAN ON THE STREET.

Marion Bridge, C. B., May 30, '02. I have handled MINARD'S LINIMENT during the past year. It is always the first Liniment asked for here, and unquestionably the best seller of all the different kinds of Liniment I handle. NEIL FERGUSON.

Here and There.

HEAVY STORM.—A severe N. E. snow storm raged on the Gait Tops last yesterday.

TABASCO LEFT.—The s.s. Tabasco left Halifax at seven o'clock Saturday night for this port.

STEPHANO LEAVES.—The s.s. Stephano leaves New York this evening for Halifax and this port. The passage was made in 21 days.

PICKED UP WATCH.—While making his rounds one night last week night watchman Ed. Skeffington picked up a gold watch. He has found an owner for it since.

BUYERS RETURNING.—Messrs. H. E. Cowan and K. M. Blair, who were purchasing goods for their firms in the old country are passengers on tomorrow's incoming express.

SEALING PREMISES READY.—The Southside sealing premises of Messrs. Bowring's, and Job's are in readiness for the work of manufacturing the catch.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—Several young men who showed the right spirit by offering to enlist, are now at the General Hospital getting feet defects made good.

SLIGHT FIRE.—The Central and Eastern Companies were called out yesterday afternoon to Balsam Street where a chimney was on fire. No damage was done.

HOPES ABANDONED.—The barq. Lake Simcoe, Capt. Halliday, is long overdue to this port from Naples. She is 130 days out and hopes of her turning up are abandoned.

"Stafford's Phoratox," the best Cough Medicine for all kinds of Coughs and Colds. Price 25c. Postage 5c. extra.—jan5,16

MADE GOOD SCORE.—Corp. E. Ellis came first in a shooting competition held recently at the South Side Rifle Range. His score was 139 out of a possible 150 points. Seventy-seven took part in the competition.

Stafford's Prescription "A" cures Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Gastritis and Nervous Dyspepsia. Price 25c and 50c. bottle. Postage 5 & 10c. extra.—jan5,16

Hamilton Fish, Jr., told a war-story at a smoker at the officers' training camp in Plattsburg.

"Two brothers, Russians," he said, "were captured in the Karpathians and sent to a prison camp in Germany."

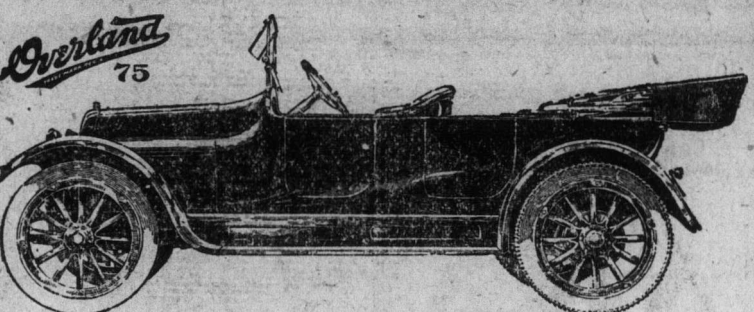
"Their mother heard nothing from them for a long while, and the poor woman was nearly distracted. Then, at last she got a letter from the elder brother Piotr."

"Dear mother," he wrote, "here I am in the lovely German prison-camp. I have a beautiful room, with the use of a bath. The bed is comfortable, clean sheets every week. Good food and plenty of it. Beer to drink and cigars to smoke. I am very happy. PIOTR."

"P.S.—Brother Ivan was shot this morning for complaining."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

FREE TO ALL SUFFERERS from rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, etc. who are unable to get relief from any other medicine. Write for FREE TRIAL BOTTLE of MINARD'S LINIMENT. Address: MINARD'S LINIMENT CO., 100 N. 2nd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES NEURALGIA.



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1914 model, 35 H.P., Perfect running order, electric lights, electric starter, electric horn, speedometer. A full line of "Overland" spare parts always on hand.

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LNETEN GROCERIES!

- Fish - in Tins.**
 - No. 1 LOBSTER.
 - ASS'D FISH PASTES—Anchovy, Sardine, Lobster, Salmon & Anchovy.
 - No. 1 Salmon.
 - French Sardines, Skipper Sardines, Anchovies (in oil), Kipperd Herring, Fresh Herring, Findon Haddock, Oysters.
 - Halibut.
 - Cream Lucca Oil, Princess Olive Oil, Peanut Butter.
- Marmalade.**
 - Hartley's 1 & 2 lb. crocks and 7 lb. tins.
 - Robertson's Golden & Silver Shred.
 - HARTLEY'S JAMS in 1 and 2 lb. crocks.
- Coffee.**
 - Seal Brand, White House, Caranza, Camp (bottles), For Something Good in TEA.
- Fruit Pulp.**
 - Apricot, Peach, Crushed Pineapple, Cranberries, Partridge Berries, Dalmat Butter.

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PERFECTION.



When you buy from us you get **Fine Gold, Good Weight, Bright Finish,** and every Ring is carefully examined, before going out. Out-of-town orders receive every attention from **T. J. DULEY & Co.,** THE RELIABLE JEWELLERS, ST. JOHN'S.

NEW MILLINERY

We are now showing the very latest in Ladies' and Children's **Trimmed and Untrimmed Spring Hats** Also a large variety of **NEW FLOWERS, MOUNTS, FEATHERS, RIBBONS, ETC.** **WILLIAM FREW.**

Amusements.

AT THE CRESCENT. The Crescent Picture Palace opens this week with a splendid programme and one that is sure to please all patrons. "Honor Thy Father" a three reel Kaleid feature with Alice Hollister and Harry Millard, is one of the best productions of this first class movie company. "Just Rebutation" a Lubin drama, featuring Orni Hawley, Earl Metcalfe and Kempton Greene. "The Evolution of Coney," a Vitagraph comedy, featuring Wally Van supported by a strong cast. Take in this fine programme at the Crescent.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

WILL THE GERMAN ARMY GO ON STRIKE?

People who are in touch with Germany, and know the actual internal conditions which prevail there, have been discussing the possibility of the German Army going on strike, or, in other words, refusing to fight any longer.

This admitted startling contingency is made more probable than at one time would have been imagined by the fact that the ranks of the German Army are incorporating more and more of the essentially unmilitary elements of the Empire. So reduced, indeed, have become the manhood resources of Germany for reinforcing purposes, that they are taking elderly men and those who would ordinarily be rejected as medically unfit.

Watering Down the Standard.

A letter recently found on a captured German prisoner in France spoke of a recruit who was leaving for the Front although obviously suffering from consumption, and another recruit being passed into the Admiralty although he limped badly.

The seriousness of this admixture of good and poor troops lies in the watering, supplied by history, that, in proportion as you water down the standard of troops, so you weaken their morale and the fighting efficiency of the whole.

The strength of a chain is the strength of its weakest link, and the analogy may be applied to a unit of an army. Physically inefficient troops compel their comrades to adapt their movements to suit their own feeble powers, and their disgruntled temper acts as an insidious but deadly solvent of the spirit of the others.

It will be seen, then, that if this danger is as serious as in past years it has proved itself to be, there is justification for discussing such a far-fetched eventuality as the German Army going on strike.

There are certain signs which show an unmistakable amount of discontent among the German soldiers, not the least of them being the continual promises, which the Kaiser and his advisers are under the necessity of making, that the war will not last much longer.

In Spite of "Victories."

Almost equally as important is the growing popularity of the peace movement in Germany—a sign that, for all the "victories" achieved by the Fatherland, they are growing tired of fighting a war of which they cannot foresee the end. Of lesser significance is the growing daily occurrence of German deserters on the Western front. These desertions seem to advocate a wave of discouragement, in particular German units.

It is not an easy matter for any of the enemy to cross over to the Allied line. They have to run the risk of being shot either by their own comrades, or in the dark, by our outposts and snipers. If, notwithstanding all these risks, they do make the attempt to desert, it is surely some indication of how "fed up" they are with the war.

Desertions into Holland on the part of Germans stationed in Belgium were also so frequent in the latter part of 1915 that, not so long since, the German authorities were compelled to in the frontier. It is further, a matter of common knowledge that German soldiers who have been warned for service on the Yser, that place of terrible memories for Germany, have deserted at the first opportunity, rather than obey.

A Polish deserter who came into the French lines just before Christmas, reported that in his regiment, the 73rd Landwehr, neither Poles nor Berlin people hide their discontent. Owing to the heavy German losses, he added, the Balkan "victories" had been received without enthusiasm, and he wound up with the impressive remark:

"The Allies must hold firm till the day when the German soldiers throw down their arms. That day will arrive!"

"They Were Worn Out."

The French headquarters staff, in their account of the battle of Champagne, offer the following comment: "In an engagement, in the open the number of prisoners is an indication of the spirit of the enemy. In Champagne the Germans surrendered in constituted units (sections of companies), and even in groups of several hundred men. They confessed that they were worn out. They had been, for the most part, without supplies for several days, and had suffered more particularly from thirst.

"They all showed that they were greatly impressed by our unintermitted artillery fire, the feeble responses of their own guns, and their losses. So recently as December 30th, a reliable war correspondent at the British Headquarters in France was noting a marked increase in the tendency to desert from the enemy lines.

"The Germans themselves are aware

of this," he said, "and take the utmost precaution to prevent it. Any man whose movements even give rise to suspicion of a design to break away is fired at. Deserters who have come in of late have been unanimous in their declaration that, but for the perils and difficulties of running away there would be wholesale fleeing from their lines.

Another war correspondent, in writing home from France, declares that there is a general impression gaining ground that the Boche has no longer any stomach for leaving his trench; that the impression on the British front is that the Germans, even their snipers, have lost heart and vitality; and that the New Year was rung in by deep depression among the tactful men behind the enemy parapets.

The failure to make a separate peace with any of the principal Allies has proved another disconcerting factor; for, among the lies wherewith the Germans sustained the spirits of their troops, it was stated that Russia had already sued for peace, and that public opinion in England was being prepared for a similar demerolence.

Last, but not least, there has been the depressing influence of the growing and terrifying violence of the Allies' artillery cannonade. Reports found on captured German officers in the battle of Champagne prove the tremendous upheaval in the morale of the enemy caused by the incessant bombardment.

"Many men are no longer fit for anything," wrote the captain of one German company. "It is not that they are wounded, but they are Landsturmners."

The Prussians Will Fight On.

Here we have, taken in bulk, an amount of evidence bearing on the possibility of the German Army laying down their arms which cannot be ignored. Is this evidence sufficient to induce the belief that there is any chance of a strike occurring among the German soldiers?

There is no reason to believe that the assertions or the weakening of morale have any reference to the Prussian formations; so long as the spirit of these regiments, who form the bulwark of the German army, remains unaffected, so long would it be hugging a delusion to have faith in the possibility of the debacle discussed.

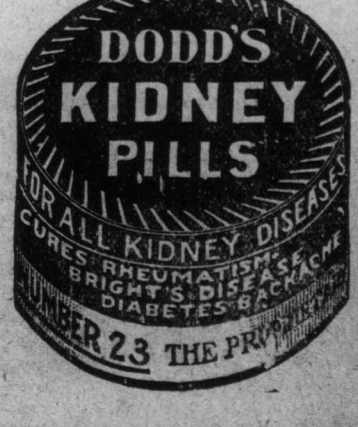
Austrian regiments composed of Slavs and Bohemians, have surrendered, wholesale. Not very long ago the German general, Mackensen, had to crush a mutiny in an Austrian regiment by shooting the officers and every tenth man. Some weeks ago the Austrian Emperor expanded for ever from the Austrian Army records the name of a regiment that had gone over in entirety to the Allies, and we have had the astonishing spectacle of 20,000 Austrian prisoners, starved and bootless, accompanying the Serbs in their retreat to the Albanian mountains and making no attempt to escape.

Despite all these signs of lack of spirit among the Austrian troops, no one would be so foolish as to say they are general, or that there is any fear of the Austrian Army going on strike. Much less, then, must we argue from the mass of evidence summarised here that the German Army stands in any danger of the men mutinying.

Preparing for the Worst.

The weaker elements in the German Army may be, and undoubtedly are, discouraged, and would like to be back in the "Dear Fatherland" again; but the stronger elements, which include the officer and the Prussian classes, are by no means broken in spirit, and mean to fight to the bitter end.

The discussion of the possibility of the German Army going on strike may lead to an interesting exchange of views, but we should be wrong to be deceived into giving too much importance to signs and portents which seem to point in that direction. The fact that this country has resolved on compulsion is a proof, if any were needed, that the British Government, which ought to know, believes it will be a straight fight to the death.—Answers.



SOMETHING. It's hard to save for the rainy day; there's always something for which to pay; there's always something demanding coin; we have to pay for the tenderloin, for the grocer's prunes and the baker's bread, a new pillowslip bed, for a hat for Jaque, for seeds garden rakes! We some magazines, pain and the wine need some salt horns, we must prune the trees for the bumblebees all the winter's something de-an must study and ten cents in a rod and staff when to buy a shroud done—there's al- manding mon!

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