POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1917

VOLUNTEERS NOT

R uiting Offices To be Closed

Discharged

With the enforcement of the Military With the enforcement of the Military
Service Act will recruiting offices
throughout New Brunswick become entirely done away with? In other words,
following the advent of conscription, will
there be any voluntary enlistments?
When the Act was introduced assurance
was given that recruiting would continue, but orders received yesterday
would indicate the contrary.
Lieut.-Col. James L. McAvity, when Lieut.-Col. James L. McAvity, when approached on the subject last evening, said that with "the instructions I have received from Ottawa all the recruiting instruction will offices throughout my jurisdiction will be closed after October 1, which means that all the officials attached thereto will be discharged from further activ-

Colonel McAvity, who is the chief re-cruiting officer for New Brunswick, said that he had followed his instructions and that all those connected with re-cruiting offices in the city proper and throughout New Brunswick had been duly advised that their services are no

longer required after October 1.

It is understood upon good authority that this order will not affect Captain J. R. Miller, who is officer in charge of the central recruiting office in Prince William street, and is also detention of-, as the duties of the latter position it is understood, still retain the ser-

the detention officer are important, dealing with the looking after of all ships which enter this port in war time to see if any necessary precautions must be taken in the matter of placing guards,

etc.

It is also understood that the chief recruiting office in the Pugsley building will be kept open until the final business is wound up and some details attended

On October 1

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passing will be accompanied by expressions of keen regret.

New Brunswick are: Captain G. P. Ryder, whose office is at St. Stephen, and who was chief recruiting officer for Gloucester, and who was chief recruiting officer for Northumberland, Kent and Westmorthe counties of York, Sunbury, Queens and Colonel McAvity's duties will also and affected by the foregoing orders in cease as far as recruiting is concerned, with the execution of these orders. Major F. F. May besides being deputy recruiting officer under Colonel McAvity, has also charge of all the recruits passing through the city for the Canadian-British Aid Commission. His duties relative to local recruiting will also be at an end, but he will undoubtedly be retained in connection with the recruits passing through here coming from the States and going to Aldershot (N. S.) The recruits for the C.-B. A. C. are on the increase, and will demand continued the increase, and will demand continued attention. Sergt. Popham, who is the N. C. O. under Major May will also be retained, it is understood, in his present

> Among those who have received notice that their services no longer will be required is Sergeant E. J. Petts, a returned soldier, who has been in charge of the Prince William street office, under

It is said that advices received by the It is said that advices received by the recruiting sergeants whose services are no longer required are that they might secure positions as instructors in the local training depot under the M. S. A. Some military officials have been pointing out that although the M. S. A. is in force a man can still enlist voluntarily. But if the recruiting offices are tarily. But if the recruiting offices are closed and they will be, where is he to go end what unit will he be attached

All the recruiting sergeants who have been retained in this province were men who had seen active service overseas.

They will now be compelled to look for positions elsewhere unless they apply for berths in the training depot. This sought after by returned men who have seen the shells fly, and it is generally known that they are not very keen in applying for positions as instructors.

This is the second occasion apparently that the government has officially checked recruiting. When the need was greatest, and Britain's public men were still asking for men as the greatest need of the empire, announcement was made that more men were applying in Canada than could be handled. This was in March, 1916, and after this the good work done by voluntary recruiting committees was largely lost and the monthly average dwindled from 30,000 to 6,000. It is interesting to note that in the eight months from May, when conscription was first announced, to the end of the year, with even the low average of 5,000 a month, the discarded voluntary system would have produced 40,000 men while the first call under conscription at the end of this period is said to be for only 30,000—a striking commentary on the real anxiety of the Borden government to increase Canada's fighting efficiency abroad. This is the second occasion apparent.

INDUCTION OF REV. H.C. FRASER

First Minister of Knox Presbyterian Church Since Its Organization by St. Stephen's And St. John's

The induction of Rev. H. C. Fraser, M. A., as pastor of Knox Presbyterian church took place last evening in the presence of a large congregation. Rev. J. A. MacKeigan, moderator, and pastor of St. David's church, presided and performed the ceremony of induction. Rev. T. P. Drumm, of Moncton, read the charge to the new pastor. Rev. A. J. Langlois read the scripture lesson, Rev. F. W. Thompson offered prayer and Rev. F. S. Dowling of St. Andrew's church delivered an address to the church delivered an address to the people. Miss Grant of Trinity church choir sang a pleasing solo during the

choir sang a pleasing solo during the evening.

In his induction address Rev. Mr. MacKeigan referred to the amalgamation of the two churches into the present Knox and said that it marked a new epoch in the history of presbyterianism in St. John. He congratulated Knox church on the strong bonds of unity and good fellowship that prevailed and paid warm tributes to the former pastors of St. Stephen's and St. John's, who had retired. The speaker also referred to the good record both as a student and pastor of Rev. Mr. Fraser.

Greetings to Knox congregation from Rev. J. H. A. Anderson and Rev. Gordon Dickie were read and Mr. MacKeigan also extended congratulations on behalf of St. David's church. Charge to Pastor.

Charge to Pastor.

In delivering his charge to the new pastor, Rev. Mr. Drumm also traced the past history of the churches which went to make up Knox and told Mr. Fraser that in coming to St. John he was coming to no mean city, and in the church over which he would preside he would find a united people who would be loyal to their minister.

After dwelling at some length on the duties and responsibilities of the ministry, Mr. Drumn said that some ministers preached with one eye on the big headlines in the newspapers and headlines in the newspapers and warned the newly inducted pastor not to allow the newspapers to "make or unmake him in his duties." At the unmake him in his duties." At the same time the speaker congratulated the people of St. John on having good newspapers which took the right attitude in regard to church affairs.

Rev. Mr. Dowling then addressed the congregation on the duties which it owed to its new pastor. After which some time was spent by those present in extending social greetings to Rev. Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser.

Rev. Mr. Fraser is a former New Brunswicker, a native of Prince William, York county. He is a graduate of Pine Hill Seminary at Halifax and has been for some years pastor of a church in British Columbia. He has the reputation of being an energetic worker and an eloquent speaker, and will be heartly welcomed in returning to his native province

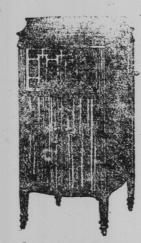


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