

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1918



ONE MORE BLOOD BATH.

—By Cesar

### HALIFAX RELIEF

Answer to Question in Legislature Regarding New Brunswick's Contributions.

Following is the answer to enquiry No. 68, by Mr. Crockett, in the legislature.

Referring to the answer of the honorable, the premier, made yesterday to my enquiry No. 66 of Wednesday last respecting the province's contribution to the Halifax relief fund:

Q. 1—What is the name of the person, or what are the names of the persons who made representations to the government "that there were abundance of funds at hand at the present time and no need for urgency?"

Q. 2—What was the date of the representations so made?

Q. 3—Was the Halifax relief fund committee notified that a contribution had been made by order-in-council?

Q. 4—On what day of last week was the contribution forwarded?

Q. 5—Was there any correspondence between the government and the Halifax relief fund committee on the subject? If so, to whom was it addressed, from whom did it come, what were the dates of it and what was its nature?

Q. 6—In reply to all of the questions in enquiry No. 68. As soon as possible after the Halifax disaster, the premier of New Brunswick wired Hon. Mr. Murray, premier of Nova Scotia, expressing the heart-felt sympathy of our people and asking how we could best assist those afflicted by the awful explosion.

A few days later, about December 18, the premier directed his secretary, Mr. E. S. Carter, who was in Halifax with Hon. Mr. Carvell in connection with relief work, to enquire of Hon. Premier Murray and the relief committee in what manner New Brunswick could supplement the splendid assistance already given by the people of the different towns and municipalities. Mr. Carter reported that Hon. Mr. Murray was deeply grateful for the assistance already provided Halifax, not only by New Brunswick but by the people of Canada and the United States.

"Tell your premier," said Hon. Mr. Murray, "that our chief needs now are not money and supplies, which have poured in so abundantly, but housing for the homeless and transportation of supplies and building material. As for a money grant in these war times, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are both poor, but do what you feel you can reasonably. There is no urgent need of immediate action."

In consequence of this Mr. Carter

wired the premier: "Trucks needed as soon as possible," and the following day Premier Foster received a telegram from the chairman of the relief committee Halifax, which read:

"W. E. Foster, Premier, St. John (N. B.).—Cannot adequately express by wire our sincere appreciation of the magnificent assistance people of your province are rendering and particularly in the case of motor trucks now en route."

"R. T. McLELLITH, Chairman Relief Committee."

At the next meeting of this government, January 3, an order-in-council was passed granting \$10,000 for the relief of Halifax, and the premier sent a message to the treasury officials that there was no immediate need for the check to issue. The check was issued April 4, but only three months should elapse without the check being called to the fact is due to the neglect or stupidity of some official not yet determined. The premier is investigating the matter.

WAR GARDENS.

At the meeting of the Natural History Society last evening the president, James A. Estey, was in the chair. The feature of the evening was an address by William McIntosh, curator of the museum, on common garden insect pests and their control. Slides of the most common insects liable to be troublesome to war gardeners in St. John were shown on the screen and clearly explained by Mr. McIntosh. He also announced to the audience that their remedies would soon be provided in printed form to all the members of the War Gardens Association. T. H. Estabrooks then explained the aims and objects of the War Gardens Association. He announced the benefits which the members would have, such as manure, fertilizer, seeds, and expert supervision of the members' gardens. The whole association is simply a big benefit society to all concerned. Mr. Estabrooks also announced that the membership fee was twenty-five cents. At the conclusion of the addresses there was a very general discussion on the war gardens of Amiens, and pictures illustrating them were shown on the screen.

NEXT.

Winnipeg Domestic Workers Form a Trade Union.

Winnipeg, April 17.—A Domestic Workers' Union was formed last night at a meeting held in the Loyal Temple, with a membership of fifty. Many more have signified their willingness to join. A committee of four has been appointed to draft by-laws. The union will send delegates to the Trades and Labor Council.

SENT OUT TO ENLIST SOLDIERS OF SOIL

The S. O. S. call to the boys of the province has gone out and the campaign started yesterday in the effort to get the boys of this province to help the farmers in better crops than ever before.

Nine teams of two young men each, backed up by half a hundred Boy Scouts met at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon and, loaded with posters, started in all directions to give every merchant and office holder in town a chance to co-operate. More than 700 posters are being prominently displayed, where they will be easily seen by every available boy and his parents. Sandwich boards were also taken to different points of vantage about the city inviting the farmers to sign the enlistment forms during the week starting April 28, school boys to sign the forms furnished by the local director of the S. O. S. to his teachers, while employed boys who can be spared by their employers for part or the whole of the summer months, can obtain the forms from the S. O. S. committee-men or the Y. M. C. A.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the S. O. S. movement will not be the success that is anticipated and necessary if New Brunswick is to do her part in the war, unless the farmers also give their active co-operation. It is hoped that they will not delay in sending in their applications for boys to the Department of Agriculture at Fredericton so that the boys can be sent out to them as soon as possible.

THE IDEAL WIFE

One of the most successful men of this country recently wrote: "What I am, and whatever success I have attained, I owe it all to my wife. She has ever been an inspiration and the greatest helpmate of my life." To be such a successful wife should be the ambition of every woman, but how impossible when dragged down by headaches, backache, dragging-down pains, nervousness and "the blues." Every woman in this condition should start at once to build up her system by a tonic of specific powers, such as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which for three generations has been restoring American women to health and consequent happiness.

Testimony to Ability.

R. L. Richardson said he had known Mr. Nichols for twenty years, and wished to testify most strongly to his ability. There were not more than half a dozen men in Canada, he thought, as well

### FOR ABOLITION OF PATRONAGE

Put Civil Service Under Jurisdiction of Commission

EXIT THE JOB-HUNTER

Principle Approved on Both Sides of the House at Ottawa, But Some Criticism of Recent Appointments

Ottawa, April 12.—Both sides of parliament today heartily approved the principle of the abolition of patronage as embodied in a government resolution moved by the acting finance minister, Hon. A. K. Maclean, on which it was founded the bill putting the whole civil service completely under the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission in the matter of appointments and promotion solely on merit. Members of parliament, like cabinet ministers, welcome the relief from the constant haunting of the job-hunter.

Efficiency first, and political pull eliminated, the appointment of those who will work on the job and not those who have merely worked for the job, was the principle endorsed alike from both government and opposition speakers. But there was a difference in opinion as to promise and performance, and as to the practical results to be achieved from the reform by-law. Opposition speakers, with Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux leading off, criticized the "political" appointments of A. G. Acres as Ottawa postmaster, W. W. Macdonald as customs collector at Montreal, and other post-union works as being an evidence of insincerity in respect to the fulfilment of the pre-election pledge to abolish patronage.

Few Under Old Order.

As for these few appointments the government was not adequately expressed by Mr. N. W. Rowell, was that the government had drafted its detailed policy in regard to future appointments with the least possible delay after the election, considering all the circumstances, and meanwhile the few appointments which had been made were necessarily under the old order of "appointments by order-in-council."

The proof of the government's sincerity, said Mr. Rowell, lay in the measures now before parliament.

Mr. Nichols Defended.

Replying to some vigorous criticism of the appointment of Mr. E. Nichols, a half-brother of Sir Thomas White, as director of public information, Mr. Rowell said he had made the recommendation to the cabinet without consulting it at all with Sir Thomas, and on the advice of representative newspapers in Toronto, Winnipeg and Montreal. Mr. Nichols was, he said, the very best man available.

Practical Outworking.

As to the practical working out of the reform to which the government is committed, some doubts were expressed. Hon. W. S. Fielding, for instance, thought that possibly the Civil Service Commission, even with the best intentions in the world, might find the task of looking after the appointments of a state of 60,000, in both inside and outside services, too big, and things might drift back again into the old system of recommendation by local M. P.'s, but at any rate the principle of abolishing patronage was unanimously approved.

Given Up Without a Protest.

Save for the final putting through of the bill, the reform is accomplished so far as parliament can decree. And that without a protest against the giving up of a prerogative which M. P.'s have exercised since the party system started.

Order-in-Council Directive.

When the house went into committee on the resolution by the minister of finance to bring about civil service reform, Mr. Maclean read the order-in-council passed on Feb. 18 in regard to civil service appointments, which said: "The action of the government in connection with the war measures Act, the governor-in-council could enact the regulations."

The question was raised as to whether the appointments of postmasters came under the order-in-council, particularly reference being made to the Ottawa appointment. Mr. Maclean stated that the appointment to the postmaster at Ottawa was made prior to the passage of the order-in-council. Since its passage, he said, it had been rigidly adhered to. That was the main thing.

Mr. Lemieux Takes Govt. to Task.

The government, said Mr. Lemieux, on Dec. 1 solemnly pledged itself to the elimination of patronage, and while it was doing this hundreds of young men and girls were taken into the various departments on the shallow pretext of winning the war. The action of the government in connection with appointing a new postmaster at Ottawa was hardly in line with its pledge to eliminate patronage. In the first place, why had Mr. Gouin been relieved of his duties? He was hale and hearty and able to discharge them. In his place had been appointed Andrew G. Acres, secretary of the Conservative Association. He had been given the job in spite of protests by the Civil Service Federation. Since the postoffice, said Mr. Lemieux, there were employees of twenty-five years' standing, with experience which qualified them for taking the postmaster's job. Why had they been passed over, especially after the

Montreal Customs Collectorship

Mr. Lemieux then drew the attention of the House to the appointment of Alderman Weldon as Collector of Customs at Montreal.

Mr. Lemieux said that the principle of promotion and competition was not followed in the appointment of a customs collector at Montreal. The members of the opposition, he said, would await with interest the explanation of the appointment of Mr. Acres as postmaster at Ottawa.

Testimony to Ability.

R. L. Richardson said he had known Mr. Nichols for twenty years, and wished to testify most strongly to his ability. There were not more than half a dozen men in Canada, he thought, as well

qualified as Mr. Nichols for the position when he held it. Mr. Lemieux—Well, let us say that he is as capable a journalist as my honorable friend from Springfield. Why was he appointed to a post that is not needed at all?

Mr. Lemieux went on to ask what was the nature of the work that Mr. Nichols was doing, and what he had accomplished since his appointment at the salary of \$5,000 a year. Was he writing political propaganda of the kind which is distributed by the government at the time of the last election? If so, Mr. Lemieux protested that his work was not in the public interest.

Mr. Richardson—I wish it distinctly understood that I was not defending the appointment. I only desire to testify to Mr. Nichols' ability.

Connected Solely With War.

Mr. Rowell stated that Mr. Nichols' appointment was, of course, connected in no way with political propaganda; his work was connected solely with the war. He would, he said, be very pleased to give the fullest information about Mr. Nichols' work when the estimates for his department were under consideration.

"Unfair," Says Mr. Richardson.

Mr. Richardson said this criticism was unfair. The board in Ottawa was not going to select men for these small postmasterships. The resolution clearly stated that recommendations for these posts must be made by a responsible officer of the department. If there had been one in Canada it was the patronage system, and he felt that the government should be encouraged in its effort to eliminate it.

Favors Eliminating Patronage.

Mr. Fielding said he was heartily in favor of eliminating patronage, and his criticism was not for the purpose of hampering the government. He did not, however, agree as to the tremendous harm which had been done by the patronage system. He felt that the government should be encouraged in its effort to eliminate it.

Dr. Edwards agreed with Mr. Fielding. He said he had seen how it was possible to make appointments in outlying districts without getting the advice of the members.

Minister Promised Consideration.

Capt. J. Read, Prince, said he had written to a member of the government in regard to the question of patronage. In reply, Capt. Read said, he received the following response: "As far as any patronage in connection with the Civil Service is concerned, there is not the slightest doubt that both Liberals and Conservatives who supported the Union government will receive every consideration."

The reading of the letter was followed by cries of "Name." The writer of that letter, Capt. Read repeated, "was a member of the government."

"Name, name," a number of members again shouted.

"No," responded Capt. Read, "I will not give the name of the writer. While the lamp holds out to burn, the vilest sinner may return."

Government Deserves Sympathy.

Dr. Clark (Red Deer) thought that the government deserved sympathy for making an honest attempt to solve the problem. Mr. Tweedie (Calgary) took the view that, if Civil Service reform was to be a success, individual private members of parliament would have to understand the political influence in securing appointments. He said that the Civil Service Commission should, as far as possible, appoint from the district in which the appointment was to be made.

No Opposition to Principle.

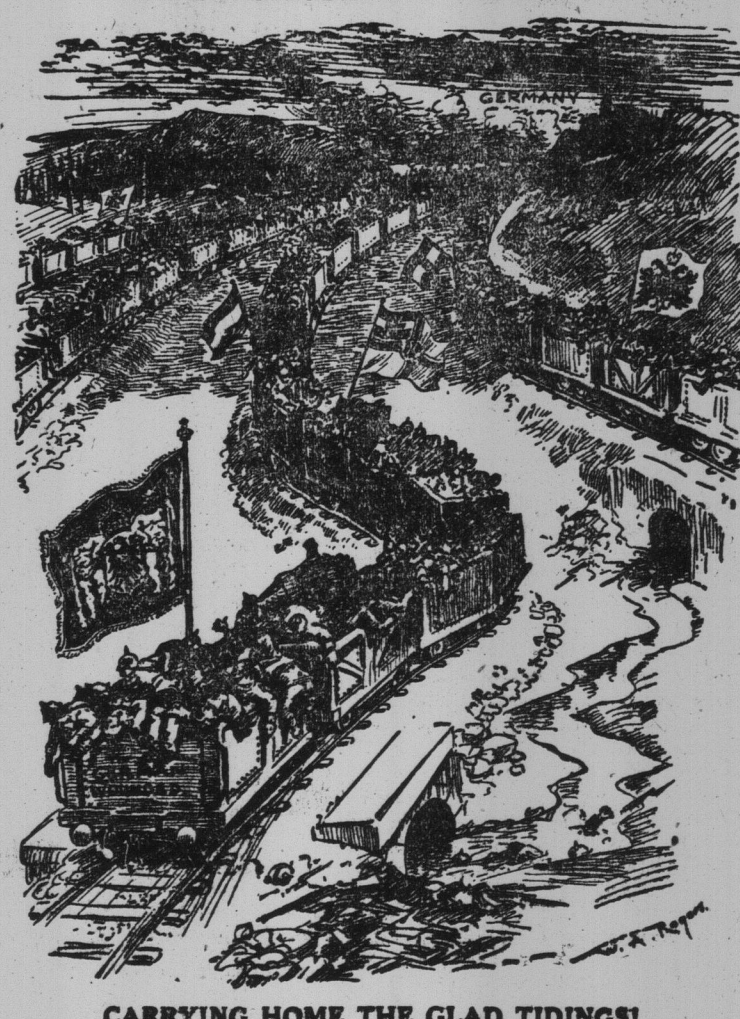
Mr. Devlin (Wright) emphasized that the Opposition was not opposed to the principle of the resolution, "Civil Service reform," he said, has been advocated on this side of the House for a number of years."

Hon. Charles Murphy declared that he had in his pocket a letter written by a member of the government, informing a correspondent that he would place him on the patronage list of his department.

Mr. Lemieux—Was the letter sent after the election?

"No," Mr. Murphy replied, "it was sent just before the election. It was well timed."

### A HOHENZOLLERN "VICTORY"!



CARRYING HOME THE GLAD TIDINGS!

### GREAT GROWTH OF THE WORK OF PLAY

Interesting Young People in Sports Shows Vast Development

War Gives a Stimulus—Extension of Seasons and Expansion of Opportunities Are Outcomes

Washington, April 17.—The year book for 1917, about to be issued by the Playground and Recreation Association of America, an organization which has been taken over bodily by the Foodstuffs Commission on training camp activities to carry on its beneficent work for the new armies under the name of war camp community service, reveals the fact that the "business of play," for both children and adults, has increased instead of diminished on account of the war. This increase has amounted to 18 per cent in the number of playgrounds operated and to 60 per cent in the amount of money spent—\$6,500,000.

Realizing Its Value.

Many things in the statistics submitted for the year show an awakening in America to the importance of recreation centres—an increase in municipal participation, the extension of play into the winter months, an increasing demand for lighted playgrounds for evening use, the establishment of schools to train play workers, the raising of the standard of these workers by civil service examinations, the opening of more public school buildings to evening recreation, and the increasing of the work in fifty-two new cities.

The Playground Hosts.

The association reports that nearly 9,000 men and women were employed to

direct play at recreation centres throughout the country, that 750,000 boys and girls daily swarmed in the play centres, that more than 600 playgrounds were open and lighted during the evening, that the average evening attendance throughout the country was more than 600,000 young people, that some 700 school buildings were used for play after school hours, that 200 public bathing beaches, 400 public baths and 300 swimming pools were in use and that some 4,000 playgrounds and neighborhood recreation centres were maintained during 1917.

As to details, 50 cities specialized in 1917 in brass bands, 60 in orchestras, 200 in community singing, 800 in story-telling, 800 in folk dancing, 100 in pageants, 150 in tramping, 120 in wading, 100 in skating, 60 in camping, 100 in amateur theatricals, 80 in moving pictures, 100 in libraries, 40 in debating clubs, 50 in self-government, 100 in lectures, 175 in gardening, 175 in industrial work and 25 in junior police.

Serving War Aims.

All this experience in interesting boys and girls and grownup boys and girls in clean, healthy diversions and occupations is now turned into the channel of preserving the physical well being and stimulating the morals of soldiers on leave. There has been a real renaissance of the community spirit which will mean much to this country, not only for her armies during the war, but after the war, when the work will be carried on and the spirit of health, happiness, kindness and service thus engendered will persevere.

AGAINST CITY'S DEMAND FOR SHARE OF THE FINES

A resolution against the changing of the prohibitory law in St. John on account of the effect that it would have throughout the province, was passed at the meeting of the Prohibition Enforcement League in the Y. M. C. A. last evening. The president, W. R. Robinson, was in the chair, and Rev. Thos. Marshall was secretary.

The following resolution was passed unanimously by the meeting:

"That this league is of the opinion that the request of the commissioners of the city of St. John for a portion of the fines received from violators of the prohibitory law, should not be granted. This league believes that no changes should be now made in the principle of the enforcement of the law. A change in St. John would inevitably mean similar changes throughout the province and would in all probability lead to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing under the Scott Act and Liquor License Act, and local option. The gain to the city of St. John by the increased sobriety of its people, with the great economic saving resulting therefrom, far more than compensates the city for any expense it may incur through its share in enforcing the law. It was resolved that the president, W. R. Robinson and J. Willard Smith, lay this matter before the government at Fredericton."

PROVINCIAL CHAPTER DAUGHTERS OF EMPIRE

Fredericton, N. B., April 16.—The Provincial Chapter, Independent Order Daughters of the Empire, closed its annual meeting here this evening. The majority of the visiting delegates returned to their homes tonight. The next annual meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of April next.

The officers elected on today's balloting are: Mrs. William Fugley, Rothesay, honorary president; Mrs. Robert FitzRandolph, Fredericton, president; Mrs. W. C. Crockett, Fredericton, 1st vice-president; Mrs. George K. McLeod, St. John, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. W. J. Scott, Fredericton, secretary; Miss E. L. Stopford, Fredericton, assistant secretary; Mrs. B. C. Foster, Fredericton, educational secretary; Mrs. E. A. Smith, St. John, organizing secretary; Mrs. A. J. Gregory, Fredericton, Echo secretary; Mrs. A. B. Pipes, Dorchester, standard bearer; councillors for 1918, Mrs. F. E. Sayre, St. John; Mrs. H. J. C. Ketchum, Fredericton; Mrs. Josiah Wood, Sackville; Mrs. J. B. Richardson, Fredericton; Mrs. Duval, St. John; Mrs. E. A. Taylor, Chatham; Mrs. F. T. Mercereau, Ruisagormus; Mrs. G. C. VanWart, Fredericton; Mrs. F. R. Taylor, St. John; Miss Edith Miller, St. John; Miss Florence White, St. John; Miss Esley, St. John; Mrs. H. B. Robinson, St. John; Mrs. J. S. Fraser, St. John; Miss Rita Barry, Fredericton.

James Potter, aged eighty-four years, a former resident of St. John, died in Moncton yesterday. He had lived in Moncton for ten or twelve years. He leaves no family.

Quick, Harmless Way to Remove Wrinkles

Springtime brings wrinkles to many sensitive skins that are much exposed to winds and changing temperatures. To make an effective wrinkle remover, mix one ounce of powdered exfoliate and a half pint witch hazel. Bathe the face in the solution immediately every wrinkle is affected. It acts wonderfully on sagging facial muscles, also, the lotion possesses remarkable astringent and tonic properties. Use it once a day for a while and see how it will improve your facial contour.

This simple lotion cannot harm the most delicate skin. The treatment itself leaves no traces—no cures the secret of your increasing youthful appearance. But be sure to ask the druggist for the powdered exfoliate.

TO RELIEVE CATARRHAL DEAFNESS AND HEAD NOISES

If you have Catarrhal Deafness or head noises go to your druggist and get 1 ounce of Parmit (double strength) and add to it 1-4 pint of hot water and a little granulated sugar. Take 1 tablespoonful four times a day.

This will often bring quick relief from the distressing head noises. Clogged nostrils should open, breathing become easy and the mucus stop dropping into the throat. It is easy to prepare, costs little and is pleasant to take. Any one who has Catarrhal Deafness or head noises should give this prescription a trial.



### MEN'S

\$4.50

### PANTS

GIVEN AWAY

FREE

To every man who purchases a Suit at our store, for the balance of this week, we will give a pair of \$4.50 Pants Free of Charge.

### MEN'S SUITS

From \$12 to \$30

### MEN'S NEW SPRING HATS

From \$2.50 to \$4.00

GIVEN AWAY

FREE

With every Man's Spring Overcoat sold, for the balance of this week, we will give you your choice of one of our New Spring Hats Free.

### MEN'S NEW SPRING OVERCOATS

From \$12 to \$28

And Your Hat Free

REMEMBER

This Offer is for This Week Only

### Wilcox's

Charlotte St.

Cor. Union

## Saving Wheat

Is surely accomplished by using other grains in the composition of cereal foods. The barley used in making

## Grape-Nuts

increases flavor and digestibility, and makes of this splendid product the

## FOOD FOR THE TIMES