

ACTIVITIES OF MINISTER APPRECIATED

Hon. Mr. Murray's Interest in New Brunswick Troops Appreciated Writes Major Donald.

An evidence of the appreciation of the New Brunswick troops of the activities of the Hon. J. A. Murray, Minister of Agriculture, in their interests is shown in a letter received from the commanding officer of the 65th Battalion, Hon. Mr. Murray, while in England worked indefatigably to advance the interests of the gallant fighting men from this province.

The letter to the editor of The Standard is as follows:

Digate, Kent, Eng. 11th Dec., 1916.

Sir,—As an officer from New Brunswick I wish to express appreciation of the kind interest displayed by the Hon. Mr. Murray, Minister of Agriculture, in the welfare and interest of the men and battalions from that province.

Matters submitted to him were taken up with commendable energy and should result in the removal of the grievances that existed, and I am sure every officer, N.C.O. and man from the grand old province appreciate his efforts. If success does not result it will not be due to any lack of action on the part of the minister.

(Signed) A. DONALD, Major, O. C. 65th Res. Battalion, C.E.F.

PENOBSCQUIS

Penobscquis, Jan. 3.—On Monday evening the members of Martin Luther Loyal Orange Lodge, No. 104, held a banquet in the Penobscquis cafe which was opened some time ago under the management of C. W. Osborne. At about nine o'clock the table in the banquet hall, which held a spread of thirty-three plates, was taken in charge of by about twenty-seven guests, including a number of the members of the L.O.B.A. The menu was a good one and after good justice had been paid to it the following toasts were proposed and drunk by the toastmaster, Rev. A. W. Currie:

"King and Empire," responded to by Rev. C. D. McKenzie, the "Orange Order," responded to by Harry A. Wallace, "The Boys at the Front," responded to by Irvine H. Dunfield, "The Ladies," responded to by Mrs. Heber Lassie, Miss Rectorie Weston also spoke in behalf of the L.O.B.A.

God Save the King was then sung which brought the banquet to a close, at about eleven o'clock. A good time was spent by all those that were present. Much credit was given to Mr. and Mrs. Osborne for the splendid and efficient manner in which their work was carried out. The decorating was good.

SHIPPING NEWS

MINIATURE ALMANAC.					
Date	H. Water am.	H. Water pm.	L. Water am.	L. Water pm.	
4 D. W.					
5 Th.	8.36	9.14	2.42	3.14	
6 F.	9.30	10.05	3.36	4.04	
7 S.	10.20	10.52	4.24	4.49	
8 Su.	11.05	11.34	5.07	5.31	

Gloosetier, Jan 1—Ard: Sch McCantle, Swains Island.

Berkeley Harbor, Jan. 2—Ard: Sch Andrew Nesbiter, New York for Bar Harbor.

Neofolk, Jan 2—8rd: Sch Mary L Baxter, Caracoa.

Rockland, Me, Jan 3—Ard: Schs Henry Wilmington, New York for Bucksport; Warren B Potter, Boston.

Sid Jan 3: Schs Florence and Lillian, New York; Odis Miller Boston.

Boston, Jan 2—Ard: Schs Saran Eaton, Calais, for Fall River; Pochaset, Dow, Rockland for New York.

Perth Amboy, Jan 2—8rd: Ship Brynhilda, New York.

Vineyard Haven, Jan 3—8rd: Schs Gola C Baker, Portland; N E Ayer, Calais; Manie Saunders, Northeast Harbor; Rebecca R Douglas, do; B Hazard, do; William Blisbee, do.

THE POLICE COURT.

In the police court yesterday a soldier named John E. Bachu was charged with being absent from duty in Halifax without leave, and with stealing two pairs of boots and skates. A five years sentence was allowed to stand and he was taken in charge by a military guard who came from Halifax for him.

James Burns was sent to the Municipal Home for three months for vagrancy.

Neil Tobin for a similar charge was remanded.

Four drunks were fined the usual amount.

Thomas E. Robinson for not having a boiler in his building inspected, was fined \$25, which was allowed to stand.

A fine of \$10 was allowed to stand against F. E. Jones for allowing his car to stand in front of the Royal Hotel for a longer period than allowed by law.

BLUE LAW OF 1642 INVOKED TO JAIL A "BLASPHEMER"

Right of Free Speech in Connecticut Hangs on Case of Moccus, Accused of Calling God "a Liar" and "an Iron Frog" at Waterbury.

Waterbury, Conn., Dec. 27.—The application here of an almost forgotten Connecticut "blue law" to a case of alleged blasphemy has promoted what lawyers declare to be the most interesting legal contest this State has had in a century, one on which, it is contended, the right of free speech precariously depends.

It now lies in the District Court here, to which the opposing attorneys have been directed to submit briefs. Each side insists that should the decision here be against it the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court.

How the Case Arose

In a corner of this town called Brooklyn, populated by about 10,000 Lithuanians, a fight between the church and the devotees of alcohol has been waging bitterly for some time. Many of the Lithuanians believe they have not only the right to drink on Sunday, but to sell and purchase liquor on that day.

The church there, represented by the Rev. Peter Sauralisaitis, a Lithuanian, closed so many saloons there last summer and caused the arrest of so many persons who had converted their dwellings into unlicensed liquor stores, that retaliatory measures came up for consideration and adoption.

The Free Thinkers Alliance, a Lithuanian organization whose parent body has its headquarters in Newark, N. J., entered, or was brought into the fight. On its invitation there came to Waterbury last July Michael X. Moccus, a Lithuanian lecturer, who is forty-five years old and has been in this country nineteen years.

On July 17 last, in the third of three speeches on consecutive nights, Moccus referred to the Creator in terms that, for the greater part, are unprintable. His mildest assertions—his declarations—were that God is a liar, an "iron frog" and a man without goodness, and that "this teaching of Jesus is good only for thieves and robbers."

Some days prior to the first "lecture" given, as were the others, in a small hall in the Brooklyn section, his opinions were announced in hand-bills circulated in the Lithuanian colony. The topics were printed in these circulars.

The first speech was made on July 25. The subject was, "The Difference Between Belief and Knowledge through Experience." The second, "Invocations of Priests," delivered the following night, aroused considerable comment. Moccus apparently satisfied curiosity inspired by his flat statements on some church questions under this head by saying he had studied for the priesthood.

But the police were not satisfied either by that statement or the statements Moccus felt called on to make. In addition they feared that these utterances might lead to industrial troubles, for the majority of the members of the colony are employed in munitions and brass work and were made the subject of study and effort not long ago by Joseph J. Eitor of the I. W. W.

So, on the third night, when Moccus rose to speak on "According to the Bible, Who Cannot Enter Heaven?" he had in his audience a number of very interested persons. But as he spoke in his native tongue, only the policeman a man of Lithuanian birth, was able to get what the State contends were Moccus' statements. Some of his countrymen, who testified against him, were on the outside of the hall, and what he picked up drifted through the open windows.

Moccus was arrested. This development was not entirely unexpected by his friends, but when the local authorities dragged from obscurity and applied to the case a blue law, enacted in Connecticut in 1642, when men and women were being hanged for witchcraft, there rallied to Moccus' side influences of such unusual character that he was not less amazed than his friends. He had reason to be amazed, for when he attempted something of the kind in Baltimore last February, he was showered with eggs.

The Free Thought Alliance retained Lawrence L. Lewis, one of Waterbury's leading attorneys. And to bolster his defense, Theodore Schroder, a New York lawyer expert in free speech litigation and Secretary of the Free Speech League of New York, offered his services, which were accepted. At one time, if not now, Hutchins Hapgood, Brand Whitlock, United States Minister to Belgium; Lincoln Steffens, Gilbert E. Roe and Bolton Hall were officers of that organization.

This development gave motion to the storm of protest against a denial of the right of free speech that is growing in strength rapidly and whose ultimate aim is not only to have that right fully established, but is to wipe forever from the statute books of at least Connecticut the law enacted in witchcraft days. And, should the final court decision in this State be adverse to the defendant, his legal supporters have agreed to take the case to the United States Supreme Court.

The Charge Against Him

In the warrant on which Moccus was arraigned in the City Court here on Aug. 3 before Judge W. J. Larkin it was charged that Moccus "did blaspheme against God, the Scriptures and the Christian religion."

Moccus was convicted and sentenced to serve ten days in jail and give a bond of \$1,000 to guarantee good behavior for six months.

FORECLOSURE OF EASTERN S.S. CORP. ENDED

Company to Be Known as Eastern Steamship Lines to Be Formed—Bright Prospects.

Special to The Standard. Boston, Jan. 5.—The remainder of the property of the Eastern Steamship Corporation, not sold under foreclosure at Bangor Wednesday, was sold at auction here today for \$200,000 to Haydon, Stone & Co., bankers of this city, Montreal and New York, representing the bondholders. The firm is the same which bid in the steamers, wharfs, warehouses etc. at Bangor for \$3,266,000.

The corporation, which is in the hands of receivers, will be reorganized under the name of the Eastern Steamship Lines, Incorporated, and re-financed. The outlook for the future of the corporation is said to be bright.

Today is Feast of Epiphany, or "Old Christmas" Day.

Today is the feast of the Epiphany, one of the most important days of the Christian year in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches, and a holy day of obligation. Services will be held this morning in all the churches of both denominations the world over. By many the feast is called "Old Christmas."

DIED.

WORDEN—On Jan. 5th, at her home, 55 Hazen street, Annie, wife of George H. Worden, leaving two daughters and two sons.

Funeral from her late residence on Sunday afternoon, service commencing at 2.30 o'clock.

MURRAY—In this city, on January 5, Emma A. wife of John Murray, leaving her husband and one daughter.

Funeral on Monday morning at 8.30 from her late residence, 381 Haymarket Square, to the Cathedral for Requiem High Mass. Friends invited to attend.

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.

Monthly—W F Nobles, \$2.00; John H. Lee, \$2.00; Daniel Kirby (10 mos.), \$2.50; Mrs R W W Frink, \$2.50; J Rathburn, Westfield, \$2.00; William Murdoch, \$5.00; H E Gould, \$5.00; Geo. Coupe, (2 mos.), \$1.00; W. J. Cheyne (2 mos.), \$2.00; Mrs W C Good (2 mos.), \$2.00; Rev J C Berrie (2 mos.), \$1.00; Mrs H S Bridges (2 mos.), \$2.00; J H Parker (2 mos.), \$2; A G Gregory, \$5.00; John T Driscoll (3 mos.), \$1.50; W G Smith, \$2.00; S M Wetmore, \$4.00; H Sullington (3 mos.), \$8; W H Sharpe, \$1; G M Robertson, \$2; R F Downer, \$4; D P Nobles, \$2.00; Miss A Valle Santali, \$2.00; T H Smith, \$2.00; A H Snam, \$2.00; C E Dickinson, \$5.00; H J Mont Jones, \$5.00; R B Peterson, \$10; J R McParlane, \$5.00; A E Coates, \$2; J S Edgar, \$1.00; A B D Gandy, \$4.00; H O R Bosley, \$1.00; Mrs W Smith, \$1.00; Mrs P J Legge, \$1.00; G W Campbell, \$2.00; F L O'Regan, \$2.00; W J Hill, \$2.00; A Y Cowan, \$1.00; A G Johnson, \$2.00; S Given, \$2.00; H M Honper, \$5.00; W R Mathers, \$5; P J McCoubrey, \$2.00; R E Fitzgerald, \$1.00; John O'Pray, \$5.

Kings Daughters Guild.

The regular monthly meeting of the Kings Daughters Guild was held yesterday afternoon in the guild rooms on Chipman Hill, with the president, Mrs. A. Kirkpatrick, in the chair. Mrs. Burlington Hamm was an interested visitor. The members discussed the work of the International Travellers' Aid and other emigration matters.

Will Rejoin Unit.

Pte. John LeCain of the 1st Canadian Field Ambulance, who has been spending a short leave in the city, will spend shortly to rejoin his unit at the front. Pte. LeCain is a son of John LeCain of the post office department, and spent seventeen months in service before obtaining his leave. Before enlisting he was a member of the mailing staff of The Standard.

WILCOX'S Annual January Clearing Sale

Of Men's, Women's and Children's Clothing of All Kinds

That must be moved before Stock-Taking, and as prices are advancing all the time it will be worth your while to take advantage of this great sale and get your necessary wants before it is too late.

Sale Starts Friday, January 5, for Ten Days Only

Here a Few of Our Many Bargains:

MEN'S OVERCOATS AND SUITS

At Manufacturers' Prices

SUITS From \$75.00 to \$24.00
Less 20 per cent.

COATS From \$95.00 to \$26.00
Less 20 per cent.

BOYS' SUITS

Worth \$12.00.....For \$9.00

BOYS' SUITS
Worth \$10.50.....For \$7.50

BOYS' SUITS
Worth \$8.50.....For \$6.00

BOYS' SUITS
Worth \$6.50.....For \$4.48

BOYS' OVERCOATS
From \$5.50 to \$13.00
Less 20 per cent.

MEN'S CAPS

Worth \$1.50.....For \$1.00

MEN'S CAPS
Worth \$1.25.....For 79c.

MEN'S CAPS
Worth \$1.00.....For 69c.

MEN'S CAPS
Worth 90c.....For 69c.

MEN'S SWEATERS

At Manufacturers' Prices
From 98c. to \$5.50

MEN'S HEAVY WOOL SOX

Only 22c., 5 pairs for \$1.00

MEN'S HEAVY WOOL UNDERWEAR.

Worth \$1.25.....For 98c.

MEN'S GOOD WORKING PANTS

Only \$1.15

MEN'S OVERALLS AND JUMPERS.

Worth \$1.35.....For \$1.00

MEN'S REGATTA SHIRTS

Worth \$1.35.....For \$1.00

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GOOD WORKING SHIRTS

Only 59c.

BOYS' SWEATERS

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LADIES' SUITS

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Worth \$30.00.....For \$18.00

LADIES' SUITS

Worth \$25.00.....For \$15.00

LADIES' SUITS

Worth \$20.00.....For \$14.00

LADIES' SUITS

Worth \$16.00.....For \$9.98

LADIES' COATS

From \$9.00 to \$45.00
At from 25 to 50 per cent. Less Than Regular Prices.

LADIES' SILK DRESSES

From \$12.00 to \$18.00
Less 20 per cent.

LADIES' SERGE DRESSES

From \$6.50 to \$10.00
Less 20 per cent.

LADIES' CLOTH SHIRTS

Worth \$3.75.....For \$2.49

LADIES' CORDUROY VELVET SHIRTS

Only \$2.49

LADIES' SHIRTWAISTS

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LADIES' SHAKER NIGHTGOWNS

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LADIES' SILK HOSE.

Only 29c. All Colors.

LADIES' RAINCOATS

From \$5.50 to \$18.00
Less 20 per cent.

LADIES' CORSETS

From 75c. to \$4.50
At Special Cut Prices

LADIES' HOUSE DRESSES

Worth \$1.35.....For 89c.

LADIES' FLANNELETTE SHIRTWAISTS

Worth \$1.35.....For 89c.

ST. JOHN MAIN EXCHANGE.

January 1st, 1917.

Installations and Changes.

M3474-11—Brenan, H. S. Res. No. 8 Queen St.

M3498-12—Dixon, Chas. Res. Glen Falls.

W386-31—Gray, Walter W. Res. No. 230 St. James St., W.E.

M3498-42—Humphrey, Robert B. Res. Glen Falls.

W206-32—Lord, Wm. B. Res. No. 79 Water St., W.E.

M3491-41—London, Miss Gertrude. Res. No. 64 Harrison St.

M3464—M. O. in charge of troops of N. B. Bank of Montreal Building, King St. (Military Tel.)

M2994-41—McKibbin, Mrs. R. J. Res. No. 101 Mecklenburg St. No. changed from Main 2331-11.

M2103-41—Mason, A. J. Res. No. 192 Queen St.

M3250-11—Nixon, C. M. Res. No. 286 Germain St.

M2510—Paterson, C. M. Res. No. 265 King St. East. No. changed from M1593-41.

W320-41—Reade, Miss Roberta. Res. No. 93 Duke St., W.E.

W386-31—Stephens, Allan. Res. No. 58 Albert St., W.E.

M568—Smith, T. Russell. Res. No. 727 Main St.

W884-11—Williams, Capt. J. A. Res. No. 233 Duke St., W.E.

M2743-31—Dryden, L. T. Tobacconist, No. 197 Union St.

Whyte & Mackay's

possesses an incomparable mellow taste and agreeable flavor which makes it a favorite with those who know Scotch Whiskies best.

That's why it remains the most popular of all brands year after year.



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You Know it Always Pays to Shop at

WILCOX'S

Cor. Charlotte and Union Streets

INCREASE IN CIVIC ESTIMATES

Police and Fire Departments to be Increased

The City Council yesterday estimated the estimates for the fire departments calling for an increase of \$1,654 over the appropriations of about \$1,000,000.

The Mayor and Commissioner objected to the passing of the estimates until they had had a majority vote in the Council to deal with them as they saw fit.

Commissioner McLellan estimated that the lowest he could get along with the estimates until they had a majority vote in the Council to deal with them as they saw fit.

On the motion being passed the estimates were passed as presented along for another year. Commissioner Fisher objected to increase to the chief and a item for office rent.

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Fire Appropriations

1 Chief \$ 2.00
6 Engineers at \$85 per month 510.00
1 Engineer at \$95 per month 95.00
1 Engineer at \$75 per month 75.00
19 Drivers at \$70 per month 1,330.00
2 Drivers at \$60 per month 120.00
1 Motor Driver, \$75 per month 75.00
1 Chief Driver, \$75 per month 75.00
6 Tailmen, at \$70 per month 420.00
4 Pipemen, at \$70 per month 280.00
1 Lineman, at \$80 per month 80.00
Extra Chief Driver at \$5 per month 5.00

Call men \$1.00
Prop. Commr. S. \$1.00
Prop. Clerk's S. \$1.00
Prop. Clerk's S. \$1.00

Fire alarm supplies \$1.00
Shoaling \$1.00
Harness and repairs \$1.00
Ground rent \$1.00
Repairs and painting apparatus \$1.00
Advertising \$1.00
Light \$1.00
Fuel \$1.00
Hose \$1.00
Rent of bells \$1.00
Horses \$1.00
Repairs and painting \$1.00
Cannel coal \$1.00
Horse hire \$1.00
Stable supplies \$1.00
Rent of 'phones \$1.00
Sundry small accounts \$1.00
Water rates \$1.00
Uniforms \$1.00
Badges \$1.00
Copies \$1.00
Life net \$1.00
Pulmoner \$1.00
Gas helmet \$1.00
Bell striker, North End \$1.00
Contingencies \$1.00
Prop. office rent \$1.00

Salaries \$1.00
Uniforms \$1.00
Drivers' holidays \$1.00
Rubber coats \$1.00
Annual grant \$1.00
Repairs and painting rubber covers \$1.00
Insurance \$1.00
Unforeseen \$1.00
Commrs. salary \$1.00

Less insurance grant \$1.00
Less unexpected balance \$1.00

Cost assessing and collecting, one per cent. \$1.00
Total assessment, 1917 \$1.00
Total assessment, 1916 \$1.00
Amt. increased asmt. \$1.00
The estimates provide for an increase of \$20 to the chief of the department, for the price of feed, etc., additional equipment.