

### SHORTENING OF SCHOOL COURSE

Suggested by Inspector Clarke  
Women Teachers' Petition  
For Increase in Salaries

#### NO ADVANCES GIVEN.

Investigation Proposal Turned  
Down by School Board After  
Spirited Discussion.

(From Saturday's Daily)  
The women teachers of the city combined in a petition to the school board for an increase of salary owing to the high cost of living, but no amount was stated. The school management committee thought their stand justified but owing to the estimates having been made and salaries set nothing could be done at present, yet the committee went on record as favoring a minimum salary of \$550 with \$30 per year until \$700 (the maximum) is reached, the new schedule to start Sept. 1st, 1917.

Mr. O'Flynn at last night's meeting of the board supported the recommendation of the committee, but Mr. E. H. Kott with favoring, thought the 1917 board should deal with the problem as the schedule would not go into effect until next year. There is no schedule at present, the limits being \$550 and \$700.

Col. Ponton thought the petition came at an inopportune time. All people are suffering as a result of the war. Why should this request be met with a hard and fast schedule? Why should we not be asked, meet this problem now? "I am against the increase of salaries and I object to saying over the difficulty for two or three years." The special value of special teachers would be overlooked by the ascending schedule which is based on the lapse of time alone, not on merit.

That all reference to future salaries be struck out was the amendment of Col. Ponton. The other section referred to the board's regret that the increase could not be considered.

"Our idea is that we will not keep a teacher that is not first-class," said Mr. O'Flynn. "If a teacher did the work properly, she should be assured of an increase. We were not thinking of playing to the public."

"This board should not tie the hands of the 1917 board," said Mr. F. S. Deacon, seconding Col. Ponton's amendment. Mr. McGie endorsed this stand.

The board carried Col. Ponton's resolution that all references to future salaries be eliminated from the report. Hence salaries remain as they were.

Miss B. Spencer of Harrowmouth has been engaged as teacher at a salary of \$550 per annum, duties to begin Jan. 3rd.

The school management committee asked further time to consider the problem of the boundaries between Queen Victoria and Queen Alexandra streets.

#### Education Waste

Inspector H. J. Clarke, B.A. in his semi-annual report said: "Under present conditions it seems to me that we might well consider the matter of educational waste. It is quite apparent without any proof that there is a great waste in our school plant. We find expensive buildings and grounds, with the exception of the play ground, at Queen Mary School. These buildings and grounds are in use for less than 200 days in the year and then for only a few hours in the day."

"Another cause of waste is the fact that on the average pupils spend two hours a term in the public school and thus a large percentage leave school entirely before completing the course. We are by no means alone in this matter, in fact we are in a better position than many places. But I am not satisfied with our progress. On Dec. 1st the average of our primary pupils was less than 7 years, so that on the average the children enter at slightly over six years of age. On the same date, the ages of the entrance classes are on an average as follows: Q.V.S. 14 years, 3 months; Q.A.S., 13 years 6 months; Q.M.S., 14 years 2 months; Grier street, 12 years 3 months. So that on the average these pupils will enter High School after 8 years of the public school. This, in my opinion, is too long to spend over the course prescribed for public schools. Further a child should enter High School at about 13 years of age, for the following reason: Adolescence begins usually between the 12th and 13th years and the failure of school authorities to understand the changes that takes place in the beginning of adolescence is responsible for more trouble than any other single cause. We may truly say he is born again. He moves in a new world, and he never to be taught in a place where in the majority of whom are pre-adolescents and he should never be taught by a man or woman who lacks a keen insight into the spiritual attitude of one who is neither boy nor man, girl

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### XMAS TREES ON THE MARKET

Prices Held Steady—Poultry Scarce and High Priced.

(From Saturday's Daily)  
A real Christmas market in many respects was this morning, what with firm prices, Christmas trees and many yuletide offerings.

A unique feature was the steadiness of prices. Eggs held the 60c figure for "strictly fresh" and 48c for "not fresh." Butter was the same as last Saturday, 45c. Potatoes also remained unchanged at \$2.50 per bag. Beef slumped a little owing to the approach of Christmas, its usual procedure. Hind quarters were wholesaling at ten cents per pound. But hogs have advanced to \$12.25 live weight and \$16 dressed. Some were holding on the market at \$17 for small dressed pigs.

Apples quoted at \$1.00 per bushel. Hay showed an easier tendency at \$9 per ton loose. Baled is still quoted around \$11.

Grains are easier, wheat \$1.50, oats 60c. Hides are today quoted at an advance, the present figure being 13c to 19c.

The poultry market was rather a small one, with turkeys \$3.50 to \$4, for small birds, geese at \$2.00 to \$2.50, ducks 80c to \$1.00 and chickens \$1 to \$1.50 per pair. Wholesalers are paying the following prices for shipment:

Turkeys, rough dressed 33c to 36c lb. Geese, rough dressed 15c to 18c lb. Ducks, rough dressed 15c to 20c lb. Chickens, rough dressed 12c to 20c lb.

### J. NEVIN DOYLE PASSED AWAY

Career of Brilliant Artist Closed  
Last Evening—Well Known As Composer.

(From Saturday's Daily)  
Joseph Nevin Doyle, the composer of "The Golden Age," and a musician and artist of rare power, passed away last evening at the family residence, 22 Alexander street, after a long illness. Mr. Doyle was taken ill while the 165th minstrel troupe were touring Hastings, and he was compelled to return from Madoc. He had been managing the tour, but the exposures which he underwent while not in the best of health brought a breakdown. Latterly no hopes were held out for his recovery.

The son of ex-Alderman John Doyle, and Mrs. Doyle, who survives, Joseph Nevin Doyle was undoubtedly the rarest genius Belleville has produced. He was born in this city and spent his early days here. His education was received at Bourget College, Rigau, Quebec, Ottawa University and Albert College, Belleville. His musical career was remarkable. The foundations were laid at Ottawa University to which he afterwards returned as teacher in music. He was for many years organist of St. Michael's church, Belleville and also at Ottawa.

He was early attracted to the operatic stage and first played in the original production in America of "The Mikado" by J. C. Duff, the elder. He was with the original productions of "Augustin Daly"—"Runaway Girl," "San Toy," "Country Girl" and "Cingalee." The most successful numbers in these operas were his own production. He also sang in Henry W. Savage's original production of "The Merry Widow." He was the author and composer of a great many successful musical songs.

It was only recently that Belleville had a fair opportunity to appreciate the talent of Mr. Doyle, when "The Golden Age" of which he wrote both the libretto and the score, was produced on two occasions, once at St. Michael's Academy and nearly three years ago at the Griffin Theater. The latter production brought Mr. Doyle much praise. Since then he had worked on "The Enchanted Garden" which is said to be a still finer work but it unfortunately remained unfinished.

His literary career was long and varied. He was city editor of The Belleville Sun a number of years ago and later was associate editor of Irving Bachelor's "Pocket Magazine" of New York. For some time McClure's Magazine had him on its staff and he syndicated a great many of his short stories. He was the author of two beautiful novels which were never finished—"The Shepherd of the Logs" and "A Duchess in Dimity." These were never published. Sir Gilbert Parker praised the former as a wonderful and beautiful work.

During later years he was in the pressario business, for some time for Miss Julia Marlowe and other leading stars. He still devoted attention to music and poetry.

The late J. N. Doyle was never married. He was a member of St. Michael's church. Mourning his early and untimely death are his mother, one sister Loretta, and five brothers, Dr. John D. of Brooklyn, F. M. of New York, Capt. J. V. of the 155th Battalion, Bramshott, England; Peter and William L. of Belleville. The deepest sympathy to the mourning family goes out from all classes in their great loss.

### APPRECIATION OF JOS. DOYLE

Editor Ontario.—  
Today witnessed the death of a young man, whose loss is irreparable. We have had many musicians, but our friend "Joe Doyle" was the only composer of dramas, songs and melodies, who ever brought honor to his native city.

Mr. Doyle was a genius. He possessed one of the brightest intellects, which ever distinguished a citizen of Belleville coupled with the most charming manner. Everybody liked "Joe" He had troops of friends, who deeply sympathized with him during his long fight against the terrible disease, which brought him to his grave. He was ever ready to offer his services in behalf of any patriotic or charitable object. Kind, cheery, modest and retiring, everybody who knew him, will regret his demise. Many days will dawn, many years roll away into oblivion, before we shall find any one to replace him. May he rest in peace.

J. J. B. Flint.

### FRENCH GAIN COMPLETE SUCCESS AT DOUAMONT.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The French troops in an advance today north of Douamont and between the Meuse and Woivre Rivers, captured more than 7,500 prisoners and several heavy guns, according to the French official communication issued this evening.

The advance was over a front of 10 kilometers and a depth of three kilometers. The statement says: "After several days of artillery preparation, we attacked the enemy to the north of Douamont, between the Meuse and the Woivre, on a front of more than ten kilometers (six miles). The attack started at ten o'clock.

The enemy's front broke down everywhere to a depth of about three kilometers (two miles). Besides numerous trenches, we captured the Villages of Yvercherville and Louvemont, the farms of Chambrettes and the fortified works of Hardamont and Besonvaux.

"We have taken many prisoners, whose exact number has not yet been determined. Seven thousand five hundred of them, including 200 officers, already have passed through our commandant's post.

"We have taken or destroyed numerous pieces of heavy and field artillery, and also a considerable quantity of material.

"Notwithstanding unfavorable weather conditions, our aviators took a brilliant part in the fighting. Our success is complete. The troops have given vent to great enthusiasm. Our losses are slight."

Belgian communication: "An artillery battle, which started the night of Dec. 14-15, has continued with violence in the region of Steenstraete and further to the north. Belgian guns of all calibres and trench artillery have spiritedly taken to task the enemy's batteries."

### DUMA IS SOLIDLY FOR WAGING WAR.

London, Dec. 16.—A despatch to Reuters' Telegram Co. from Petrograd says: "The Duma has unanimously passed a resolution against the acceptance of the German peace proposals after a spirited speech by the minister of foreign affairs."

The text of the resolution, as received here, follows: "The Duma, having heard the statement by the minister of foreign affairs, unanimously favors a categorical refusal by the allied governments to enter, under present conditions, into any peace negotiations whatever.

"It considers that the German proposals are nothing more than fresh proof of the weakness of the enemy, and a hypocritical act, from which the enemy expects no real success, but by which it seeks to throw upon others the responsibility for the war and for what happened during it, and to exculpate itself before public opinion in Germany."

"The Duma considers that a premature peace would not only be a brief period of calm, but would involve the danger of another bloody war and a renewal of the deplorable sacrifices by the people. It considers that a lasting peace will be possible only after a decisive victory over the military power of the enemy, and after definite renunciation by Germany of the aspirations which render her responsible for the world war and for the horrors by which it has been accompanied."

### BRITISH TROOPS TAKE TURK TRENCHES AT KUT.

London, Dec. 16.—British troops have taken the offensive in the region of Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, and have occupied Turkish positions on the Hal River, south of Kut-el-Amara, says an official statement issued last night. In the offensive movement the British crossed to the right bank of the Hal River and took Turkish trenches near Kala Haji Fahan, 2 1/2 miles from Kut-el-Amara.

### CHECK USE OF METAL IN NON-WAR ARTICLES.

London, Dec. 16.—According to the parliamentary correspondent of the Daily News, the Government's orders for checking the use of metal in non-war manufactures include the prohibition of the further making of women's hairpins.

### OTTAWA GIRL'S MESSAGE OF HOPE

Tells Tired Women of Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Ottawa, Ont., December 18th. (Special.)—"I am glad to say I have found Dodd's Kidney Pills have done me a wonderful lot of good." So says Miss Gladys E. M. Logan, of 264 Queen Street, this city.

"I suffered from drowsiness and sharp pains across my back. My sleep was broken and unrefreshing. I had headaches and was subject to neuralgia and rheumatism. I was depressed and low spirited and troubled with palpitation of the heart.

"I was always tired and nervous and very sensitive and there were hollows under my eyes.

"For two years I was in this worn-out condition, often having to lay off for a day or two. I was attended by doctors and wasted money on useless medicines, but I only found relief when I used Dodd's Kidney Pills."

Miss Logan's statement is a message of hope to thousands of women in Canada. They are suffering just as she suffered. She wants them to know they can find relief in Dodd's Kidney Pills.

### STIRLING

Miss Conley of Belleville is a guest of Mrs. A. Conley.

A memorial service will be held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church on Sunday morning for the late Roy Bissonette and Harold Constable of the 80th Batt.

Mr. Albert Kingston of Rawdon Tp. was injured in an automobile accident on Thursday last, while on his way to Mr. T. Solmes' sale. His injuries though not of a serious nature will confine him to the house for a time.

The Evangelistic campaign at Mt. Pleasant continues with deepened intensity. Night after night crowds go to church and day after day people gather in prayer meetings. It is probable that never in the history of the Township have more people been touched by a spiritual movement characterized by quiet power, earnest purpose and well directed energy. About 125 have professed conversion up to Tuesday night.—The Leader.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ALBERT COLLEGE

The annual Christmas concert held on Friday evening last was a most pleasant function, largely attended by the many friends of the college, who enjoyed the program furnished by the students in the music, expression and physical culture departments. Piano solos "Romance" by Sibelius, "Serenade" by Meyer-Hellmann, "Polish Dance" by Scharwenka, "Why" and "Whims" by Schumann and "Sons Boiss" Victor Staub, played by the Misses Norma Russell, Irene Lane, Laura German, Winifred Pearce and Mr. John McGie; songs by Miss Helen Burgess; "The Star of Bethlehem" sung by Miss Keltia Sheffield; readings by Miss Bishop, Miss Rae Farrell and Miss Stocks; a flag drill by twenty young ladies costumed in white with red scarfs and each one carrying a flag, created very much enthusiasm by their accurate and clever evolutions in which they presented many beautiful figures to the music which accompanied them. The statue posed by young ladies in Grecian costumes were very beautiful pictures of mythological scenes. Rev. Dr. Baker, principal, spoke encouraging words of the present and hopefulness of the future and reported that the endowment fund was now only a very short distance from \$100,000.

### 285th BATTALION NOTES

Eight recruits were taken on the strength of the 285th battalion on Saturday.

In Bowmanville the 285th held a great recruiting meeting last evening and an overflow was necessary. The band, Col. Scobell and Capt. McLean were present.

Fifty per cent of the soldiers of the 285th will have leave at Xmas and 50 per cent at New Year's. From Friday noon until Tuesday noon following the leave will extend. For the men who remain here at Xmas a special dinner has been arranged to be held at the barracks. Turkey and plum pudding will be prime favorites. The 28th hockey team will begin practice on Wednesday evening at the arena.

Dr. Scott of Bridge Street Methodist Church was yesterday called to Toronto on account of his brother's illness.

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### SOLDIERS SMASH GALLERY WINDOW

Two Men Got Drunk on Ginger-Biscuits—Heavily Fined For Disorderly Conduct.

(From Saturday's Daily)  
Inspired by a mixture of soft drink to which was added ginger essence, secured at a drug store, two soldiers Pte. George Beck and Pte. Edward Peppin of the 285th battalion created a scene on Front street last night shortly before eight o'clock. The men were quite noisy and gave vent to obscene language. A citizen who had been in Mr. Win. Day's shooting gallery went out and hearing the language, urged the drunken soldiers to be quiet. They crossed the street and one sought assistance but did not get it. Thereupon a stream of the filthiest talk issued from their lips and although Mr. Day used his persuasive powers to try and pacify them, it was useless. For a time the military police hesitated to interfere with the men for some reason and finally word was sent to headquarters. The commanding officer called up the city police and Sergt. Naphin and Constable Jarvis responded. Before they could reach the scene a small riot started. The soldiers struck at the windows, one with his fist, the other with his cane, and in less than a minute six large lights of glass had been broken. Some soldiers sought to get their companions away but without result. The city police interfered and placed the drunks under arrest. Some military friends threatened to interfere, but Col. Scobell ordered them to disperse or he would have the whole of them locked up. The disorderly soldiers were got to the police station without further trouble.

### ENLARGED ONE WEEK

The case of Carl Babcock charged with an assault on John R. Collins, of Point Anne was enlarged today for a week. Mr. W. Carnew for the crown and Mr. W. C. Mikel, for defendant.

### A NEW INDUSTRY

A public meeting will be held in the city hall on Tuesday evening next to discuss the proposition of a new industry for Belleville. The city's delegates to the rubber works at Akron, Ohio, will report on their visit and matters of general interest to the citizens will be discussed. Mayor Ketcheson will preside.

### SILVER SPRINGS CHEESE FACTORY.

Milk received 1,225,371 pounds. Cheese mfg. 112,361 pounds. lbs of milk for cheese 10.90. Average selling price 18.60. Average paid stockholders for season, 100 of all expenses \$46.95. Total receipts \$21,148.65. Total expenses \$1,962.00. C. Trevorton, Pres. J. H. Dudgeon, Cheesemaker.

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