

SPLENDID WORK ACCOMPLISHED UNDER SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT

Fifty Thousand Applications Under the Scheme, of Which 36,000 Have Been Approved—Average Loan Per Settler Was \$3,700.

Ottawa, May 7.—(Canadian Press)—A comprehensive view of the work accomplished to date under the Soldiers' Settlement Act, for which Hon. Arthur Meighen is asking a vote of \$50,000,000, was given in the House this afternoon. The amount of loans approved from the time the scheme was incorporated until March 27 last was \$53,859,049. There had been fifty thousand applications under the scheme, and of these over 36,000 had been approved. At the present time all of these could be said to be either on the land or on the way to the land. The number of settlers whose loans had actually been approved, and who were now on the land through the assistance of the government was 1,668. The average loan per settler was \$3,700 and already there have been 49 applications, who have discharged their obligations in full. Mr. Meighen outlined the work of the board from its inception. The sum asked for the work this year was \$50,000,000, and of this \$17,000 was for administration expenses. There were three branches of the work, the Loan Branch, the Agricultural Branch and the Home Branch. A total of 556 applicants had completed a course of training under the Agricultural branch and there were another 600 in training at the present time. Training allowances, paid under this branch, amounted to \$91,556.11, and the number of established settlers was 13,438. Of the \$35,000,000 already approved for loans, approximately \$42,000,000 had actually been dispersed.

Mr. Meighen indicated that a gradual betterment in the financial indebtedness of the Soldiers' Land Settlement Board might be expected. Of the applicants in 1918, 43 per cent were qualified. This showed that the standard of applicants was gradually increasing. It was to be expected that the better class of men were early on the job and anxious to take advantage of the Act.

Expenditure for equipment, up to March 31, was \$5,720,312, and for the stock \$5,747,108, or a total of \$11,467,420. On equipment there was a saving of \$403,758 to settlers by reason of the special purchasing arrangements the board had made with standard firms.

Mr. Meighen gave a resume of the administration of the board and said that on the various provinces much good was being done by the Home Branch in assisting the sale of the settlers with their work. In Saskatchewan 250 women were taking the course in home economics, and this work was being gradually extended in all the provinces.

Despite the crop failures in many parts of the West, payment on loans had been made very satisfactorily. Of the \$50,000,000 required, Mr. Meighen said that all but \$22,000,000 would be used in loans. That amount would be required for administration purposes. What it would cost the country in losing the interest on the money loaned for two years, and also in the difference between what the soldiers and the government must pay for this money would more than be made up by the benefits received from having these men settled on the farms. It was also a solution of a large share of the returned soldier problem. The men were not encouraged to go onto the farm unless there was every likelihood of their making good. Mr. Meighen also spoke of the work of the selection board in Britain which was carefully inspecting all applicants from the imperial army. Major G. W. Andrews (Centre Winnipeg) congratulated the Minister and the Government on the splendid work of this board. It had been a remarkable achievement, he stated.

T. W. Caldwell, (Carleton, N. B.), said he had had a large share in the working out of the Act in his own province, where he had served on the loan committee and other bodies. The apparently low average cost of land in New Brunswick was due to the fact that extreme vigilance had been exercised and good results had been secured for these soldier farmers. The board in all cases sought to make sure that the farm would produce enough to keep the farmer and his dependents, and had refused many places which did not measure up to the production standard.

LIVED SIX DAYS IN AIR TIGHT BOX

Cambridge Professor Tries Unique Experiment—Demonstrated That Airmen Needed Oxygen.

Cambridge, Eng., May 8.—Joseph Barcroft, a reader of physiology at King's College here, has lived for six days in a hermetically sealed glass box. An experiment arose out of a thirty-year-old controversy as to whether it is possible to calculate the amount of oxygen in the blood from a knowledge of the amount of oxygen in the breath. The test was also made to demonstrate whether it was necessary that airmen should have oxygen apparatus when flying at great heights. It proved that oxygen was necessary to flying men, but it did not show to what height they could fly with safety. While in the box Barcroft kept a record of his sensations and made scientific observations. He said he suffered from sleeplessness, but otherwise did not experience much inconvenience except on the last day when the atmosphere became extremely rarified. He then had headaches and nausea. He was watched continually while in the box. He took food and slept in two small compartments fitted with wicker chairs, a table, a small bed and a bicycle on which he exercised every morning.

Very Common.
(Detroit Free Press.)
A favorite trick with some people is to hire a doctor to tell them what to do and they do something else.

AUGUSTUS JOHN MOST DISCUSSED OF PRESENT DAY

Artists in England—Hailed as a Heaven-Born Genius in Painting World.

EQUALLY FAMED AS PAINTER AND ETCHER

May Join the Ranks of Royal Academy in the Near Future.

Cross-Atlantic News Service. (Copyright.) By Mark Zenger.

London, May 7.—The most discussed artist in England today is Augustus John. He is hailed everywhere as a heaven-born genius, who alone amongst his contemporaries possesses an instinct for painting. He is a man of very remarkable gifts. At present he looks rather larger than life, but the perspective of time will reduce him to more reasonable, though still excellent, proportions. He is an indefatigable worker, an accomplished draughtsman. Equally famed both as painter and etcher—he has been declared one of the great etchers of all time.

His portraits, if somewhat impersonal and lacking sympathy, are yet highly accomplished; his exhibition at the Alpine Club Gallery, "War, Peace Conference, and Other Portraits," includes presentations of such world figures as Lord Fisher, Emir Feisal, and Bernard Shaw, the last mentioned as "The Philosopher in Contemplation." He is not entirely successful in large compositions such as "The Thinker" and "The Bump," but many of his smaller works stand comparison with the best.

His art, however unequal at times, is always strongly individual; it is neither academic nor extreme, and he has steadily grown in favor till the name of John has become one to conjure with. Now the Art World is agitated by the rumor that this independent spirit, who has always scorned the Royal Academy, is to join the academic ranks; and perhaps another brilliant outsider also, Wilson Steer. Such additions would be warmly welcomed by all who see in these artists potential reformers of a conservative, self-sufficient institution.

The cry for the reform of the Royal Academy is ancient, but it has never hitherto been calmly and consistently ignored. Now at last there are signs of a more liberal spirit. Even the admission permitted this year for the first time, of works with other than gold frames, may indicate the stirring of the academic mind. The institution has, of course, even been an anathema to the advanced artist, who denies the right of any body of men to say to the public, "Look, 'cast no!"; and many good men never send their work to the Academy at all.

The election of a man like John would certainly give more power to the elbow of such liberal elements as already exist in the academic ranks. Suggestions of all kinds are being advanced; even that the most extreme schools—vorticists, cubists and what not—should be represented at Burlington House. But this would be little appreciated by a public that likes to know what it is looking at. And the Academy relies a good deal on the shillings for admission which adds thousands of pounds to its annual revenue.

It is the way of the Royal Academy, ever careful of its dignity, when an artist attains indisputable distinction without its aid, to hint to him discreetly that, should he aspire to academic honors and recognition, he should be prepared to accept the conditions of their privileged ranks, the result.

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HITS BACK AT THE ENGLISH BISHOPS

Sir Conan Doyle Makes Answer to Recent Proclamation of Anglican Primates.

PROTESTS MAY DELAY

But Cannot Stop Final Triumph of Spiritualism Which He Claims is of God.

Cross-Atlantic News Service. (Copyright.) By Mark Zenger.

London, May 8.—Sir Conan Doyle, the staunch disciple of spirit communication, tonight cabled the Cross-Atlantic service the following reply to the four British bishops who recently issued a public denunciation of spiritualism in which they deplored the spreading belief in communication with the dead:

"Such protests delay but cannot hinder progress of this great movement which is of God and must prevail. It is extraordinary in these prelates to see a subtle form of materialism that clothes itself in the outward trappings of religion."

"In spiritualism, with its definite proofs of independent post-mortem existence, there is found such enforcement for true religion as has not been since the apostolic age. The actual experience has taught me the basic facts of supernatural religion, that spiritual evolution and improvement are the objects of our existence. If the contention of the Bishop of Hereford is correct, we should expect to find a high rate of lunacy among the spiritual communicants now numerous in England. This is notoriously not so. They are a remarkably healthy people and copious."

might not impossibly be favorable. And this, it is said, has now happened to John. And how does John regard the matter? Well, his point of view cannot be regarded as complimentary to the Academy.

"I cannot imagine," he says, "that any independent artist could wish to join the Royal Academy, as at present constituted, except in a spirit of self-sacrifice and from a sense of public duty." In the face of this, will the Academy select John? It would be rather like turning the other cheek.

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but far fewer than their quota to the asylums."

ST. JOHN-DIGBY SERVICE. It was expected that the S. S. Digby would resume service Monday, May 10th, but unlooked for circumstances have developed, and the steamer will not go on its route until Thursday morning, May 13th.

DRESS WARM AND KEEP FEET DRY

Tells Rheumatism Sufferers to Take Salts and Get Rid of Uric Acid.

Rheumatism is no respecter of age, sex, color or rank. If not the most dangerous of human afflictions it is one of the most painful. Those subject to rheumatism should eat less meat, dress as warmly as possible, avoid any undue exposure and, above all, drink lots of pure water. Rheumatism is caused by uric acid which is generated in the bowels and absorbed into the blood. It is the function of the kidneys to filter this acid from the blood and cast it out in the urine; the pores of the skin are also a means of freeing the blood of this impurity. In damp and chilly odd weather the skin pores are closed, thus forcing the kidneys to do double work, they become weak and sluggish and fail to eliminate this uric acid which keeps accumulating and circulating through the system, eventually settling in the joints and muscles causing stiffness, soreness and pain called rheumatism.

At the first twinge of rheumatism get from any pharmacy about four ounces of Jad Salts; put a tablespoonful in a glass of water and drink before breakfast each morning for a week. This is said to eliminate uric acid by stimulating the kidneys to normal action, thus ridding the blood of these impurities.

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