BOURASSA'S IDEAS HOTLY DENOUNCED

French-Canadian Officer, Now at Front, Writes Scathing Letter.

STIGMA ON PROVINCE

Quebec's Reputation in Britain and France is Not Enviable.

Special to The Toronto World.

Montreal, Oct. 24.—Has Quebec done her duty in the present war? is a question answered by Capt. G. Lanctot, who, after discovering that Major Asselin's regiment was going to Bermuda, got transferred to the 73rd Scotch Regiment of Montreal and is now doing his bit for the empire and the allied cause.

"All the English and French newspapers," writes Capt. Lanctot, "are full of compliments for the 22nd Regiment, which covered itself with glory at Courcelette. This may fill you with pride, but between you and me our reputation is not famous in Europe just now. In France, as in England, people are astonished at our indifference at the progress of the war. It is admitted that there have been circumstances to discourage recruiting, but what cannot be admitted, and especially in France, is the fact that certain newspapers in the Province of Quebec are carrying on an anti-ally campaign, throwing cold water on any enthusiasm that may be created, accusing the entente nations of having provoked the war, questioning Great Britain's full participation in the conflict, and injuring the prestige of France. The indignation, however, is at its height in face of the affirmation of a certain leader in Montreal who is not sure if one should wish a full measure of success to the allied nations. Before such an attitude as this high personalities of French public life, such as Mr. Hanotaux and General Malleterre, have used language of unheard of severity in this country, but which is perfectly justified.

Fatal to Nationality.

"That any man should preach ideas fatal to his nationality and become the friend of the Huns passes all understanding. It is, however, the sad truth, for it is evident that those whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad.

"I have had an interview with Gen. Joffre, who spoke to me of the recruiting in Quebec, and also with the great minister, Lloyd George, and both spoke of the same question and does not this give you the desire to ship the Nationalists off to Greece or the United States with their colonel at their head?

The Gallant 22nd.

"In your next letter you will tell me if public opinion is awakened in Quebec, if we still remain one of those nationalities which refuse to share the grand ideas of humanity, preferring to die like the Athenians listening to the demagogs who are brave in times of peace and shirkers in time of war. If you only knew what all this means to us here who are fighting that our sons may have the right to march with head erect alongside of the other nations who are striving to bring about a reign of liberty and justice! We do not wish to see Germany extend her domination to the shores of the St. Lawrence, neither do we wish that our race shall be allied with the servile Greeks or the apathetic Americans. The 22nd French-Canadians at the taking of Courcelette continued their record gained at Chateauguay and on the Plains of Abraham, and all we ask is that other regiments like the 22nd may be sent here from Quebec."

Race Horse Owner Arrested At Windsor on Fraud Charge

Michael Burns, part owner of the Plattsburg stables and the race-horse "Safe Home," was arrested yesterday afternoon at Windsor on a charge of fraud. The complaint is laid by Maurice Kelliher, proprietor of the American Hotel, Wellington and York streets, who claims that Burns failed to pay his board bill for August and September, amounting to about $25. Detective Twigg left last night to bring Burns back.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

TAKING advantage of the German preoccupation with Roumania and with the allies on the Somme, the French opened yesterday a great offensive from Verdun. The first the Germans knew of what was coming was the sudden opening of one of the greatest artillery bombardments of the war, of an intensity defying adequate reply. At 11.40 o'clock, at the word of command, the French infantrymen swarmed from their trenches on the eastern bank of the Meuse and rushed forward, overwhelming the Germans as they advanced. Prisoners soon began to pour in as the French continued their progress, under the protection of their curtain of fire, and by nightfall 3500, including 100 officers, had been counted. As a result of their success the French occupy the old positions that they held after the first few days of the German offensive in February. Douaumont Fort, Douaumont Village, Thiaumont Work and Thiaumont Farm, the Haudremont Quarries and other important landmarks, were speedily occupied.

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As a result of this successful action the French, by last night, had established their lines along the road from Bras to Douaumont, and the following positions: Along a line drawn north of Caillette Wood, the western outskirts of Vaux Village, the eastern border of Fumin Wood and north of Chenois Wood and the Damloup Battery. The Germans offered comparatively little resistance and the French losses were slight. Tho this attack was launched on a comparatively narrow front, it looks as if it were intended to proceed. It is in a theatre of narrow dimensions, but it promises decisive results if pushed to a logical conclusion. Two or three more days of such fighting would suffice to break the German front and to make a breach thru which troops could pour down the eastern bank of the Meuse upon Sedan, cutting the German troops in western France off from Metz and the Rhine. Westward from Metz runs a great trunk railway by which the German armies in northwestern France are mostly supplied.

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The fact that the French were able to penetrate the German front to a depth of two miles in one afternoon gives reason for believing that the Germans have been taken completely by surprise. If so, this ally may drive clear thru the German lines in three or four days and decide the war in the next few weeks. The notion of creating another Sedan, this time for the Germans, and of discrediting the crown prince as former head of the German war party, would be one that would appeal to French temperament. Its achievement is not beyond the possible, and the theatre chosen for the blow is adapted by nature and the lay of the railways for that eventuality.

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It is almost certain that an opening was given the French for an attempt that gives promise of startling success by the withdrawal of troops from this front to fight the Roumanians. Such a move would be characteristic of Von Hindenburg and his simple, almost barbarian mental limitations. In order to gain some transitory but dazzling success, he is the man to risk everything on a gamble. It was said before that if the Germans undertook another offensive that offensive would fail and the war would be ended the sooner. This declaration may turn out quite true.

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The greatness of the French achievement is seen from the fact that their coup at Verdun has regained in a single day virtually all the ground lost in the battle that began last February. It took the Germans two months in wresting this territory from the French.

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The taking of 1000 prisoners alone, besides inflicting further large losses in killed and maimed, and suffering only 1200 casualties in doing it, was the experience of the British army in storming a five-mile front on Saturday, Si Douglas Haig, in announcing this fact, thus exposes the falsity of the German assertion about the British suffering heavy losses.

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On the Roumanian-Transylvanian frontier the Germans have advanced down the Predeal Pass and they have taken Bredeal Town, on the railway leading from Kronstadt to Bucharest. The fighting appears to have amounted merely to the pushing of the Roumanian lines back beyond the town, for the Germans claim no more than the taking of 600 prisoners, indicating that the Roumanians have suffered no serious mishap. The struggle is still being continued along the borders of Predeal. The Germans are also attackin the Roumanians violently in the region of Dragoslavia, but the Roumanians are holding their positions. In the Jiul Valley the Roumanians slightly receded before violent attacks. But in other sectors of the front the conditions are better for the allies. The Roumanians attacked and repulsed the Germans on the left bank of the Alt River. In the Uzul Valley they drove the enemy westward and they are continuing the fighting with violence. At Oltus they attacked the Germans on the whole front and took 312 prisoners and ten machine guns. oncerning the Dobrudja operations, latest reports put a better complexion on the situation. The Russians and Roumanians, probably because their heavy artillery had been borrowed where it was needed more, withdrew their right wing to the line of heights that extends from the coast of the Black Sea to the Danube. These are more easily defended than lines in the open. Their left wing still covers the Cernavoda Bridgehead.

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The best feature of the situation is the continuous arrival of the Russians, whose strength will soon begin to tell in the struggle. A communication, issued at Petrograd yesterday, records that the czar's forces are confnoting the Germans in the Trotus Valley, along the Buzeu-Dobrana-Kimpolung line, and at Orsova, on the Danube. In the first two sectors the enemy remains passive o is engaging in an artillery duel, while at Orsova his attacks have been repulsed by the Russian fire.

Altho the Germans officially asserted that they had halted the Serbian advance, the Serbians, who have also something to say in the matter, have refused to be halted, and so their first army has made another advance along the whole of its front, storming Bulgarian first line trenches. To the east of the first army, the Serbian Vardar division was heavily engaged with the Germans and Bulgarians. These violently attacked the Serbians all day Saturday and they were severely beaten. The Serbians followed up this success by worsting the Bulgarians in another encounter. British patrols have discovered the presence of German troops on the Doiran front in virtue of a raid.

TWO BIG RALLIES SUNDAY EVENING

Recruiting Organizations of Toronto Call for Response to Borden's Appeal.

MASSEY HALL AND LOEW'S

Prominent List of Speakers Includes Premier Hearst, Mayor and Sir John Hendrie.

As an immediate response to Sir Robert Borden's appeal issued yesterday asking for 100,000 more recruits for Canada's army, officials of recruiting organizations and public-spirited citizens are promoting two recruiting rallies, which will be held at 8.30 o'clock Sunday night. One meeting will be held at Massey Hall and the other will be held at Loew's Theatre.

Announcement of these meetings was made last night by Capt. Oliver Hezzlewood, who, with Commodore Jarvis and Dr. Abbott, are acting as leaders in the movement.

Sir John Hendrie, lieutenant-governor of Ontario, will preside at the Massey Hall meeting, and Premier Hearst, Justice Riddell and Col. R. Cecil Williams, chief recruiting officer of the Dominion, will be introduced as speakers, while Col. H. H. Brock will preside at the rally at Loew's Theatre and the speakers will be Mayor Church, President Falconer of the University of Toronto and N. W. Rowell, K.C. Col. Brock is director of national service for this district.

Exect Big Response.

That there will be a more than satisfactory response, represented in the enlistment of many recruits, to Premier Borden's appeal is the conviction of those who are arranging the two meetings. Toronto, it is argued, has contributed whenever a call has been made, and on this occasion will again demonstrate her loyalty and patriotism to the British Empire.

Premier Borden's appeal was impressive in that it is his first nation-wide call to arms. He declares that 100,000 more recruits are needed, and appeals to those of non-military age those who from other causes are unable to go as well as the class of men who should be in khaki. He says that many are needed for home service in necessary industrial and agricultural work.

BELGIAN RELIEF DAY TOMORROW IN TORONTO

Public is Urged to Give Generous Support to Worthy Cause.

Practically all arrangements are completed for the Belgian relief "Tag Day," which will be held in Toronto tomorrow, Thursday, Oct. 26, by the Toronto Belgian Relief Committee, 80 West King street.

The committee urges the people to support this worthy cause, which is approved and aided by the British Government, permitting the Belgian workman to refuse to work in the factories or the railways for the Germans. A starving Belgian must yield, and thus releases a German soldier for the trenches, it is argued.

Millions of dollars are needed to conduct this most successful relief work ever attempted, and Canada, the committee declares, can never fully pay its debt to desolated Belgium. A Belgian family can be kept for a month with $2.50. The people of Toronto on tag day are earnestly asked to give all they can. The convenor of the committee is Mrs. Arthur Pepler and the hon. treasurer is Miss Isabella L. George.

"Lid Lifters" at Star Theatre Entertain Wounded Soldiers

For over one hour yesterday afternoon 450 convalescent soldiers of the Gerrard street military hospital were entertained by the "Lid Lifters" company who are appearing at the Star Theatre this week. Since their last appearance in Toronto the company has sent comforts to soldiers in the trenches and on arriving here the manager of the show, Louis Talbott, on behalf of the company, requested Dan Pierce, manager of the Star, to make arrangements with the military authorities for them to entertain the sick men.

After the matinee performance the company were taken in four Red Cross ambulances to the hospital in their stage costumes. Lieut.-Col. Richardson, who is in charge of the institution, welcomed the company and thanked them for taking so much interest in the men. The members of the orchestra volunteered their services, and every number was well received by the soldiers.

WOMEN STOLE THE CAR.

Borrowed Motor to Pay a Visit to an Aunt.

Nancy Wilson, alias Nancy McArthur, and Alice Walt, alias Mrs. Jackson, rooming at 193 Jarvis street, were arrested yesterday by the Cobourg police on a charge of stealing a motor car from Pearce Walker, a monument agent, of Collingwood, Ont. Detective Montgomery brought the women back to Toronto this morning.

According to the police, Walker, about a week ago, came to Toronto on business and went to room at 193 Jarvis street. As he was preparing to run downtown in his car one day, the two women asked him to give them a lift. He did so. Then they persuaded him to allow them the use of the car to visit an aunt in the west end, promising it to return it by the time he had finished his business. The women motored to Cobourg.

McINTYRE RELATIVES WANTED.

The Toronto Detective Department is in receipt of a request from Chief Coroner J. E. Burgess, of Detroit, to try and locate the relatives of James McIntyre, who was shot by a policeman about two weeks ago in Detroit. McIntyre, with two other men, held up a number of Detroit citizens. A policeman interfered, and in the pistol fight which ensued, shot and killed McIntyre. The body is in the morgue there.

MEN AT LONDON, ONT. ARE READY TO STRIKE

Unless Order is Rescinded They Will Quit This Afternoon.

London, Ont., Oct. 24.—Definite preparations are being made here by C. P. R. trainmen for a strike, and orders have been given for them to walk out at five o'clock tomorrow afternoon. "Quarters for the men have been secured," said an official of the union here today, "and unless word is received in the next few hours calling off the strike we will proceed with our plans."

Representatives of the unions here have been sent to Winnipeg, with instructions to concur with the delegates at the big convention. At a vote taken in this district, the eastern Canadian Pacific Railroad trainmen voted 95 per cent. in favor of strike, providing the company declined to meet the demands of the Winnipeg meeting.

LATEST LIST SHOWS HEAVY HONOR ROLL

Over Score of Toronto Citizens Have Made the Supreme Sacrifice.

EIGHT REPORTED MISSING

Forty Are Mentioned as Wounded—Seventy-Five Names in All.

About 75 names of Toronto men appear in the latest casualty lists. Of these nearly a score have been killed, several have died of wounds, eight are missing and nearly 40 are reported as wounded.

Lieut. Guy C. Hamilton, previously reported missing, is now stated to be a prisoner of war in a German hospital with a slight wound in the leg. A cablegram to this effect has just been received by his mother, Mrs. George R. Hamilton, 150 Kingswood road.

Lieut. William Proudfoot, only son of W. Proudfoot, M.I.A., is reported as being slightly wounded.

Pte. Samuel Parker, officially reported as killed in action, was about 45 years of age. He enlisted with the 74th Battalion and formerly lived at 725 West King street. He leaves a wife and three children.

Pte. Ernest Partridge, killed in action on the Somme, was formerly of the Q.O.R. and went overseas with the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

Pte. P. J. Walker, 296 Rhodes ave., killed in action, is survived by his wife and two children. He left with the 81st Battalion. He was born in Toronto.

Pte. Sidney Burton, 332 Oakwood avenue, reported killed, has been in France since last June. He is survived by his widow and four sons.

Pte. Wm. Jones, 441 Erie terrace, is reported to have died of shrapnel wounds. He has a wife and two children. He left with the 75th Battalion.

Pte. Robt. Oates, 108 Alcorn avenue, reported wounded, is now reported as dying from wounds. He was born in Toronto.

Pte. E. J. Murray, reported killed in action, lived at 245 University avenue. He enlisted with the 81st but was transferred to the C. M. R.

Pte. Wm. Darrell, formerly of 214 John street, reported killed in action, went overseas with the 74th Battalion, but was transferred to a first contingent regiment.

Pte. W. H. Wilcox, 1198 Dufferin street, reported killed in action, went overseas with the 83rd. He had been at the front since July.

Pte. W. A. Cram, 44 Fenning street, killed in action, had been in the trenches since June. He enlisted with the 74th.

Pte. Ralph W. Porter, reported killed, went with the 75th Battalion as a recruit from the 9th Mississauga Horse. His mother resides in Norfolk, England.

Pte. Wm. J. E. Woolley, formerly of 128 Booth avenue, was killed in action during his second week in the trenches.

Pte. Chas. Watson, 265 Woodbine avenue, previously reported as wounded, is now stated to have been killed in action. He leaves a widow and three little children.

Pte. W. J. Anderson, 95th Battalion, reported to have died of wounds, trained in Toronto last winter. His home is at Lisle, Ont.

Sergt. Herbert L. Nown, killed in action, enlisted a year ago and went overseas last April. His mother resides at 4 Seymour avenue.

Pte. E. J. East, previously reported missing, and now as killed, enlisted with the 74th Battalion. His widow lives at 540 Lauder avenue, Fairbank.

Pte. Andrew Weber, 213 Garden avenue, is officially reported missing since Sept. 23. He is the only son of Mrs. Mary Weber. He went overseas with the 76th Battalion.

Pte. H. R. Agassiz, a South African war veteran, is reported as wounded and missing. He went with the 92nd Battalion. His wife and five children live at 132 Silver Birch avenue.

SEEK WIDER POWERS.

St. Catharines, Oct. 24.—By a unanimous vote the city council declared in favor of granting legislative powers to municipalities of Ontario to enable them to enter into the manufacture or sale of food products and articles of necessity. The legislature will be asked to enact to this effect and the co-operation of other municipalities of the province will be asked.

WESTERN ONTARIO "DRIVE."

London, Ont., Oct. 24.—What is characterized as a "whirlwind tour for recruits" thruout Western Ontario was started here today by the 241st Canadian Scottish Borderers. Capt. H. A. Springle, Capt. J. F. Reid, Lieut. W. W. Ferguson, and Corp. Allen are in the city perfecting plans for the "big drive."

CLEMENCY FOR DESERTER.

Windsor, Oct. 24.—When arraigned in the police court today for sentence on charge of deserting from the 208th Battalion, Pte. Fred Forster of Toronto made a successfulplea for clemency for the sake of his wife and four little children. He was released on suspended sentence, and will rejoin his battalion, which he left at Camp Borden last summer.

MAJOR MUSSON LEAVES.

Chatham, Oct. 24.—Major George Musson, the medical health officer of Chatham, who went to France with the first contingent, and who has been spending an extended furlough in the city, left for an eastern point this morning, where he will embark for England. Major Musson was the guest of honor at a banquet given by the Masonic Lodge last night.

HAMILTON KILTIES LEAVE FOR EAST

Hundred and Seventy-Third Given Great Send-Off at North Toronto.

MEN IN FINE SPIRITS

When Leaving Borden, Battalion Gave Three Cheers for Gen. Logie and Staff.

Five hundred relatives and friends of the members of the 173rd Highland Battalion (Hamilton), including Mayor Church, were at the North Toronto station between five and six o'clock last night to accord a send-off to the regiment as it passed thru this city on its way from Camp Borden to a point further east. The 173rd was the only Highland overseas unit in training in No. 2 military district. It had been at Camp Borden all summer.

The battalion traveled eastward on two trains, the first carrying "A" and "B" companies and the band, and the second "C" and "D" companies, also the staff, including Lt.-Col. W. H. Bruce, officer commanding.

Each train of Highland soldiers was given an enthusiastic send-off. The men themselves were in fine spirits and appeared to enjoy immensely the opportunity of greeting their Toronto friends, even if only for a brief 20 minutes.

The brass band of the 216th Bantams Battalion was stationed on the railway platform and played appropriate airs, including "Tipperary," "Highland Laddie," "Auld Lang Syne," and a lively march by Sousa, the latter tune evidently being in honor of the United States-born members of the battalion, the Highlanders having received a draft of 150 men from the 213th "American Legion," two weeks ago.

Just before leaving the Camp Borden station, the 173rd formed up in battalion order on the platform, and gave three cheers for Major-General Logie and the headquarters staff. It was the first occasion during the partings from Camp Borden that a unit had thought of according the staff officers this honor.

IDENTIFY HERO OF SOMME FILM

Soldier Who is Seen Rescuing Wounded Man is Driver T. Spencer, Burnley.

PATRONAGE IS STEADY

Rialto and Globe Theatres Handle Large Crowds From Morning Till Night.

The British soldier who, in the official motion pictures of "The Battle of the Somme," which are scoring their second week's success at the Rialto Theatre, Yonge and Shuter streets, and the Globe Theatre, 72 West Queen street, and who is shown carrying to safety a badly wounded comrade, has at last been identified as Driver Tom Spencer, a Burnley man, who enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery and latterly has been serving in a trench mortar battery.

Spencer is described as an "unknown hero who rescued 20 wounded men," and in the Somme film is not only seen running across a field under fire with a man over his shoulders, but is again photographed in a "close-up" as he brings the wounded man thru the trenches to safety. The first man Spencer brought in died a half hour after he was taken back into the trenches.

Spencer, in writing to his mother about the Somme battle, mentioned that he was photographed as he was carrying a wounded man, and added: "I am pleased to say that I was commended twice in one day, so with a bit of luck, there will be more honors in the family."

He had completed ten years in the navy's service a short time before the outbreak of the present conflict and also had two years' previous army experience. Mrs. Spencer's third son, Frank, was badly wounded in France more than a year ago, and her eldest son has gained the distinguished conduct medal for gallantry in Gallipoli.

Steady Patronage.

Steady patronage at both the Globe and Rialto Theatres during the first two days of this week that the pictures have been exhibited attests to the phenomenal success of the Somme film. Most of the seats in both houses are occupied during the day, beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning, an hour after the doors are opened, and lasting until 10 o'clock, an hour before the shows end, in the evening. While there is not the crowd or congestion which marked the first week's exhibition, yet spectators come and go steadily and regularly thruout the day at the two theatres showing the film this week.

Many thousands of spectators saw the film last night, pronounced it the most remarkable and marvelous production the world has ever known, and hundreds more people are taking the opportunity to witness it this week. The special music and accommodation being provided at the Globe and Rialto has been favorably commented upon by spectators since the film opened its second week in Toronto.

The Somme pictures are extraordinarily realistic. They show all the grim horrors of warfare. The men are seen to leap over the parapets, and so vivid are the photographs that the spectators feel that they can hear the word of command. The camera spares nothing, and in doing so makes its reproduction the greatest moving picture known to that industry. If there was anything needed to justify the existence of the motion picture camera machine it is to be found in this really wonderful series of moving photographs.

FOUND MERIDA'S CABIN.

Port Stanley Tug Picked Up Wreckage.

London, Ont., Oct. 24.—The tug Eastside of Port Stanley last night towed into harbor the cabin of the steamer Merida, the vessel lost on Lake Erie in the gale of last Friday and Saturday. The cabin was found about 15 miles south of Port Stanley, and in the regular route of the P. M. car ferry. A buoy was anchored at the spot with a view to facilitating search for the lost steamer, as well as for bodies of the members of her crew.

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GRAIN GROWERS TO FORM BIG MERGER

More Than Hundred Thousand Western Farmers to Be Included.

BIG POLITICAL FACTOR

"Octopus" Plans to Dominate Western Affairs, Says Calgary Paper.

Calgary, Alta., Oct. 24.—The News-Telegram today says:

"The big consolidation of all the farmers' organizations in western Canada is about to be completed. At the recent meeting of the representatives of the several organizations of the three prairie provinces in Winnipeg all points were agreed upon and the final action is about to be taken by submitting to all the shareholders of all the organizations for a vote on the issues involved. A meeting of the representatives of each organization will take place early in November, and thereupon a vote will be ordered and taken, when with a majority in favor the greatest grain merger of the world will have been effected.

"The organizations involved are the Grain Growers' Grain Co., of Manitoba; the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co., the Grain Growers' Association, the United Farmers of Alberta, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co., and the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. The Canadian council of agriculture is a party to the move, and the other provinces also have signified their intention to join in the great merger.

Transfer of Shares.

"The scheme embraces a system of transferring of shares of the Alberta and Saskatchewan organizations for shares of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. of Manitoba.

"A subsidiary company of the Grain Growers' Grain Co., the New York Exporting Agency, also will be involved in the gigantic plan. The merger will comprise membership of more than 100,000 farmers, with the good will and support of twice as many more. It will be a potent factor in Canadian politics and finance, and will in the end do much of its own manufacturing, importing, building of towns, hospitals, roads, elect its own men to office, and in fact enter as an octopus, with the interests of the grain growers at heart, into the public life of the Dominion."

DENY PLANS ARE COMPLETED.

Winnipeg, Oct. 24.—The above statement was presented to a meeting of the directorate of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association and representatives of the Grain Growers' Grain Company which happened to be in session this afternoon, and President R. C. Henders, speaking for the meeting, said: "The statements contained in the despatch are not correct. Some of the organizations mentioned have not considered amalgamation very favorably. At present the matter is in a very nebulous state, and the above despatch is entirely misleading."

STOLE HORSE AND RIG.

Chatham, Oct. 24.—Fred Daley, aged 19, of Detroit, was arrested at noon today in Chatham charged with stealing a horse and rig, the property of J. C. Renaud of Belle River. He is believed to be a deserter from a Windsor regiment, having given the name of Charles Colman to the border authorities.

FORTY THOUSAND FIRE.

St. Catharines, Oct. 24.—The loss in the destruction by fire early this morning of Baldry, Yerburg & Hutchin's machine shop, engine house and storehouse on the Welland ship canal is expected to reach $40,000, on which there is but small insurance. The blaze was caused by the upsetting of an oil lamp by a workman as the night and day shifts were changing.

JOIN MOVEMENT FOR EARLY CLOSING

Clerks of General Stores Want Shorter Hours and Form Organization.

PUT FORTH CLAIMS

Point to Other Canadian Cities Where Scheme Works Successfully, They Declare.

Another step in the movement having for its object the earlier closing of retail stores in Toronto was accomplished last night at the Labor Temple when forty local clerks of general stores organized a union and established an affiliation with the Retail Clerks' Association of America. This step was taken with the assurance of the support of the Retail Merchants' Association, which was represented at the meeting by President F. C. Higgins.

At present many proprietors are finding it hard to compete with those who do not observe short hours, and the establishment of the union will help them considerably. The clerks claim that there is no reason why the early closing of retail stores in Toronto should not work out equally as successfully as it has in Winnipeg, Ottawa and other Canadian cities.

Urging the necessity of organization, addresses were made by James Simpson, vice-president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; Alderman J. Gibbons, T. A. Stevenson, secretary of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council; Thomas Black, American Federation of Labor organizer; and William Glockling.

G. R. Jameson and H. Cowell were elected president and secretary of the organization pro tem, and further organizing will take place at a meeting to be held in the near future.

GEO. DAVIDSON DEAD.

Prominent Woolen Manufacturer Was Toronto University Graduate—Pneumonia Caused His Death.

Kitchener, Oct. 24.—At the age of 72 years, Geo. Davidson, one of the city's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died this morning. He was a native of the city and a son of the first sheriff of the county. After graduating in arts at Toronto University, he went into the woolen manufacturing industry at Waterloo, and later assumed the office of secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Woolen Mills in Toronto. In 1907 he returned here. He is survived by a wife, one son and one daughter. The cause of death was pneumonia.

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