

REV. W. A. BEECROFT GIVEN LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND PURSE OF GOLD.

A deputation from Knox Church, Aylmer, consisting of the chairman of the Managing Committee and the secretary and treasurer of the church, quietly waited upon Rev. and Mrs. W. Beecroft at the manse on Monday, and on behalf of the congregation presented that worthy couple with a purse of \$50 in gold, expressive of their love and appreciation. Mr. Beecroft left for London yesterday, in which city he will preach at an induction service to-day, and will then join his battery. Mrs. Beecroft will make her home in London for the present.

In Saturday's issue of the St. Thomas Times appeared the following from the able pen of Mr. Thomas Hammond concerning the enlistment of Rev. W. A. Beecroft, which we take the liberty of reproducing. We are pleased to say, however, that Mr. Beecroft's resignation as pastor of the Aylmer and Springfield churches was not accepted. He was generously granted leave of absence during the war, and it is the sincere wish of everyone that he may safely return, after his country no longer needs his services, and resume the good work he is doing in the community.

Rev. William A. Beecroft, B.A., B.D., pastor of Knox Church, Aylmer, and the Presbyterian Church at Springfield, has resigned his charges at these places and enlisted as a private in the 63rd Battery, London. This action on the part of the reverend gentleman has caused a sadness and a gladness, not only in Aylmer and in Springfield, but in the surrounding country. It naturally causes a sadness to part with such charming and useful people as Rev. W. A. Beecroft and his estimable wife; it also gladdens the hearts of all right-thinking citizens to know that some of our ministers of the Gospel are willing to make such personal sacrifices, even the great sacrifice, if need be, to defend and protect their beloved country and the principles of justice and liberty represented by the Anglo-Saxon race. It is indeed a sacrifice the Rev. Mr. Beecroft is making. He cannot fail to know that both he and his wife are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. They love, and are loved by, their church people. These churches need Mr. Beecroft, especially the church at Aylmer, which, on account of local conditions, is much in need of services such as the subject under discussion could give. The severing of his connection, under the circumstances, has been a severe strain on the heart strings of Mr. Beecroft, but this gentleman has been sorely afflicted of late with that troublesome thing called "conscience" which has impelled him to abandon his comfortable home, sever his connection with his beloved congregations, don a suit of khaki, and with his usual modesty and humility, asks for nothing better than a private's position of gunner in the 63rd Battery for overseas service, in order to do his "bit" towards protecting the Christian principles that are the revered gentleman's profession to teach.

In addition to fighting for what we consider sacred, Mr. Beecroft will have ample opportunity to preach his Master's Gospel — perhaps with greater effect, for he will be so well imitating his Master in offering, possibly, his life for others. The ministers of the Gospel who go to the Front and return to their ministerial duties will be capable of much more effective work, will be more humane, have broader thoughts, and deeper sympathies for having passed through the great school of suffering as found on the battle front—"one touch of nature and all the world is kin."

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

Kodaks, \$2.00 up—at Caughell's.
Mrs. Florence Miller returned to her home in London on Monday after a fortnight's visit with Mrs. J. C. Haggan.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wright are spending a few days in town. Beginning next Sunday, Mr. Wright will occupy the pulpit of a Kincardine church during the summer months.

NOW IS THE TIME

to plant
**EARLY TOMATOES
AND CABBAGE**

WE HAVE THEM AT
THE AYLME GREENHOUSE
Tomatoes, Cauliflower, Cabbage,
Peppers, Etc.

BEDDING PLANTS
Geraniums, Coleus, Asters,
Phlox, Verbena, Etc.

CUT FLOWERS
Roses, Carnations, Antirrhinum,
Mignonette, Sweet Peas,

The Aylmer Green House
JOHN J. FISHER - PROP

Miss Hattie Walker spent Sunday with friends in Woodstock.

Take a day or more off during Race time, and help make up the biggest and jolliest crowd that ever flocked to the Races. Meet your old friends and make new ones. You'll enjoy every minute you're there. Aylmer Races, June 20th to 22nd.

John L. Millard, electrician, was operated upon about two o'clock last Friday morning for appendicitis. Dr. Williams, of London, performed the operation, which was very successful. Mr. Millard is recovering very rapidly.

When the 29th and 43rd Batteries pulled out of Guelph last February, they left five officers behind them whom they could not use. Hugh Hill was not one of them, but pulled off his lieutenant's uniform, and donned that of a private, and this act brought out an ovation for him from the other privates, in which Hugh joined, as he did not know what all the cheering was about. He was speedily made a corporal and is now a sergeant. He is the sort who is in earnest about serving his King and Country.

Miss E. Chapman, of Toronto, graduate of the McDonald Institute, Guelph, will hold a series of afternoon meetings at the following places, under the auspices of the E. Elgin Women's Institute: Straffordville Hall, May 22nd; Luton church, May 25th; Springfield, Muller's Hall, May 27th; Kingsmill and Mapleton, home of Mrs. J. Drake, May 30; Bayham church, May 23rd; Aylmer Town Hall, May 26th; Lyons Hall, May 28th. Everybody is welcome and a good programme is being provided by each branch. The annual convention will be held in the Disciple church, Mapleton, on Wednesday, June 28th.

The bowling green is a busy place these days, and the premises are being put in a neat and cleanly condition for the season. The clubhouse, fences, seats, etc., are being painted, and it would seem that many of the members are as expert with the brush as with the bowls. A fresh gang is on duty every day, most of the boys being willing to do their "bit" in the good work. The bowling green is one of Aylmer's most attractive spots during the summer months, and when the grounds committee have completed their work and get their flower beds in shape, it will be one of the town's most beautiful show places. The club holds its first annual tournament on 14th June, and we are sure the visitors will be most favorably impressed with the greens and the surroundings.

The ladies of Aylmer Knox Church have during the past months thoughtfully, and with no small degree of labor, from time to time, compiled books of clippings which they thought might interest the Canadian boys at the Front. In order to know whether or not the subject matter were appropriate, a request was made that the readers communicate with Mrs. W. J. Mann here. Several letters have recently been received by Mrs. Mann, and the writers all assure the ladies of Knox Church that the books give much pleasure and information, and are greatly appreciated. One soldier boy writes that he was surprised to find in one of the books a picture of himself from a photograph taken at Goderich some ten years ago. A suggestion was made that a book be made up of Canadian casualty lists, as it appears this information does not reach them. By this means they would know if anything happened to former comrades in other units. Letters were from England, France, and Flanders, and the wish is universal that the Knox Church ladies will continue to send the "News from Home" books.

Some forty Aylmer and Malahide boys of the 91st O.S. Battalion, St. Thomas, came down on Saturday and spent the week-end at their homes here. On Sunday evening, headed by the Citizens' Band, and accompanied by the 30th Battery C. F. A. Aylmer, they marched to the Baptist Church and attended service. The men in khaki filled the centre pews of the spacious building, which was crowded to the doors with Aylmer citizens and friends of the soldier boys, who will shortly go overseas. The boys were greatly impressed with the excellent discourse given by Rev. Thos. J. Mitchell, who is a member of the 30th Battery, and appeared in khaki; and were delighted with the musical numbers rendered by the choir. The pastor chose a very appropriate text: "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit ye like men; be strong," and his discourse was most interesting and helpful. Besides the anthem by the choir, the Symphony Male Quartette sang a very pretty number, unaccompanied, and Mr. A. Ray Lemon rendered that very appropriate solo, "Canadian Jack," in excellent voice. After the service the boys lined up and marched back to the post office corner, where they were dismissed by Lieut. Clarke, the officer on parade. The boys of the 91st were in charge of Quartermaster-Sergeant C. D. Lloyd and Corporal H. V. Mitchell, and received many compliments from our citizens.

The Big Store

Aylmer's Best
Stores

The General Store

WE PAY 22c FOR EGGS

At the Big Store

NOW is the time people feel their summer needs and here is a store that can supply them. This week we are showing some excellent values at special prices, in

Middy Blouses, White Skirts in Repps, Piques and Drills

Middy Blouses

We have just opened a big shipment of Middy Blouses made in the latest styles specially priced 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Your New Spring Suit



MADE BY
Louder
TORONTO

If you are interested in getting the best you can for Spring Clothes money this store's stock shouldn't fail to interest you. In it you will find the smartest styles of Canada's leading makes as well as of the Twentieth Century people of Toronto. It offers patterns and styles not to be found elsewhere. If you have not yet learned how good are the clothes we sell come in and have a comparing look. We will not worry or coax you to buy, we will leave all the persuasion to the clothes THEMSELVES.

Men's Navy Blue Suits
priced - 15.00 to \$25.00

Men's Tweed Suits, priced
- 8.00 to \$15.00

Boy's 2 piece Suit, priced
- 3.45 to \$7.50

Boy's Khaki Suit, priced
- \$6.00

10 Dozen White Skirts

All the new styles made in Repps, Piques, Cads and Drill, excellent value, priced \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.00

Men's Balbriggan Underwear

Some men like the Pen Angle brand of goods made by the Penman Company and others prefer the Mercury brand. Both are good. They are light and soft yet they outlast most of the other brands made in single piece or combination.

Single Garments, priced - 50c each
Combinations, priced - \$1.00 suit

At the General Store

SHOES

That we are selling better shoes at any given price than most stores, we are proving to scores of our new customers each week. No matter where you have been buying your shoes in the past see what we are showing now. We only ask a comparing look, a chance to show you the value and styles that are building up one of the best shoe trades in the county. The look costs nothing and it is worth a lot to you. We stand behind every pair of Williams Shoes that we sell and our prices are always moderate consistent with good material and workmanship.

The Big Store

Dry Goods, Millinery,
Ladies Ready to Wear,
Gent's Furnishings,
Clothing, House Furnishings, Hats and Caps

STRATTON & MARTIN

AYLMER'S BEST STORES

"Honest Goods at Honest Prices"

Highest market prices paid for produce, good to shop at both stores.

The General Store

Dry Goods
Groceries
Boots & Shoes
Hats & Caps
Neckwear

Miss Julia Dunnett is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Dunnett. Miss Dunnett is a professional nurse, and leaves shortly to accompany a patient on a trip to the Adirondacks.

Durham Chronicle: Still the prices are soaring! A few weeks ago we spoke of paying \$6 a pound for ink we formerly bought for \$3. That was a sudden jar, but not quite so bad as the one we got on Tuesday when a representative from the ink house was here and asked us \$15 a pound for the same ink. Fifteen dollars a pound! We'll spell it out in full so as to make no mistake about it. This is a special ink we have been using for years, and for certain kinds of work we would still like to use it, but we simply can't afford it without a much better price for the product. Our customers may kick, and we can't blame them; but what are we to do? For a time the price of paper and other requirements remained fairly reasonable, but of late the advances have got to be a terror. Nearly all price lists have been withdrawn, and on sending in an order we have no idea what the price will be.

**Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA**

Mrs. F. D. Campbell's resignation as organist at Knox Church took effect on Sunday last, and with her family she leaves in a few days to join her husband, who has a good position in Orillia. Mr. E. A. Richards has kindly consented to take the organ at Knox Church for a time at least.

On April 26th, at his eldest son's residence, Owasso, Mich., as briefly announced in last week's Express, Mr. C. B. Hunt passed away at the ripe age of 88 years. Deceased was born on the 8th Concession of Malahide, near Trinity Methodist Church, on 28th December, 1828, and spent his life on and near the place where he was born, with the exception of a few years when he was with his daughter, Mrs. S. W. Trim, of Winnipeg, and at the home of his eldest son, David N., of Owasso, where he died as stated above, from declining years. He was a consistent member of Trinity Methodist Church, where his remains were laid to rest in the cemetery adjoining. He leaves six children to mourn the loss of a kind father, viz.: David N., of Owasso, Mich.; Albert, of Fargo, N. Dakota; Elias W., of Alberta; Mrs. J. W. Widner, of San Francisco, Cal.; Mrs. S. W. Trim, of Winnipeg, Man.; and Mrs. C. R. Beam, of London, Ont.



"AN INVITATION"

is extended to all ladies and gentlemen to see

Dorenwend's Display of HAIR GOODS

at the Brown House, Aylmer, on
Tuesday, May 30th, '16

when the finest and newest hair-goods creations in every style from a pin-curl to a complete head-dress will be exhibited. Transformations, Pompadours, Switches, Waves, Etc.

EVERY BALD MAN

should see the **DORENWEND TOUPEE**. It is a benefit to the appearance and a protection to the health. A demonstration is free of charge.



**Remember Tuesday,
May 30th**
(ONE DAY ONLY)

DORENWEND'S

Head Office and Showrooms, 105 Yonge Street, Toronto