Seriousness of War Explained Most Vividly

(Continued from page 1.)

many, while the other was strongly in favor of remaining neutral. This great struggle for supremacy has not yet begun, everything up to the present is preliminary. We are called upon now to enlist and we should do so. We are enjoying the freedom which is made possible by our allegiance to Great Britain; we are free to go or to stay home, we are not forced to go by conscription and should give a hearty response to the call.

Rev. Mr. Mccarthur struck the keynote with his audience when he said he would rather be doing his part for the Empire than standing before them there. He would willingly give his services in any capacity his country called him for. (Cheers). He would not ask men to go to be killed, but he would ask that our sons be given to the call to maintain our freedom. The men now at the front are heroes, glorious fellows.

Speaking of the large percentage of the ministers who have gone to the front, the speaker gave out the interesting statement that ninety out of one hundred of the sons of the manse of Scotland are now bearing arms with the colors. This, he said, would also be true of Canada if the war goes on for another year. King George, he said, was so impressed with this that he sent congratulations. We had many more loyal men whose names he would like to have added to the cards now in his church, the names of every Newcastle boy who has enlisted, Protestant and Catholic alike, no distinction. He was proud of every one of them, and hoped it would be his privilege to add many more.

Speaking of the Newcastle boys who have been wounded, he referred feelingly to Lieut. Allan Aitken, Leslie Miller, George Melnerney. Sergt. Knight was then introduced, and in sonorous tones fired a volley of hot-shot truths into the ears of his listeners that we venture to say left them with a different impression on their minds of the true existing conditions at the front than they have yet been brought to realize.

After asking his audience to come up as close to the stand as they could, as he found it hard to reach them with his voice by reason of a bayonet wound he received in the mouth, he said.

The hour here is nine o'clock. In Europe, it is four o'clock in the morning, and along the trenches facing the German hordes are the boys. Some of them are from Canada, some right here from Newcastle. These boys are keeping watch—they are keeping watch not over themselves, but over their loved ones over here, and you people of Newcastle.

The speaker's opening words brought forth hearty cheers, but he told them he did not come here to be cheered, he wanted them to give three cheers for the boys at the front which was done with a right good will. Sergt. Knight said he did not comej here to give offense, he came to tell the truth—God's truth—but he just wanted to say that the men of the Maritime Provinces were the most hardened and indifferent lot that he knew of, and many other things that we failed to take down. Perhaps he was right, and perhaps not; however, as the boys themselves are the best judges, we leave it with themselves to decide.

Sergt. Knight said that he had lived nine or ten years in the United States prior to the outbreak of war, and was in Arizona when war was declared between Austria and Servia. The people in the States, he said, knew this war was coming. Germany knew it. He knew men would be needed, and went to the British Consul in St. Louis, Mr. Pearson, who told him to go home, that he would not be needed. Not being satisfied, he went to the British Consul in Chicago, Mr. Nugent, who gave him the same advice.

Still further dissatisfied he went to Glasgow, Scotland, and in six days from the time he left the United States, he was enlisted with the 3rd Gordon Highlanders. Here, by way of a joke, he said that when he told the enlisting officer that he had served with the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, of Halifax, which by the way, are a branch from an old Welsh regiment by the same name, the officer sneeringly asked him if that was that ——old Welsh regiment. Sergt. Knight said if that officer had known as much about that regiment as he did, he would have known that it has been out of existence the past sixty years, and if he had been a member of it, he would now have whiskers down to his stomach.

Coming again to the serious part of his business, Sergt. Knight told of a quiet little town in Belgium, Aerschot, about the size of Newcastle, where homes were happy and prosperity was enjoyed by all. This little town was the first to suffer at the hands of the Germans, and for no reason whatever. On July 30th the neutrality of Belgium was declared. On the 19th of August, the army of the Kaiser marched into this town, and without provocation they burned houses and shot to death all civilians who came in sight. In the evening of the 19th many others were taken to the outskirts of the town, bayonetted and shot. These, and the many other atrocities perpetrated upon the people of Belgium, said Sergt. Knight, would be duplicated here if Germany should win in this war. They have got good reason to do so, said the speaker.

All this trouble, this great sacrifice of life on the part of Belgium, and the many barbarious acts committed upon the women could have been averted by Belgium had she allowed the Germans to pass over her boundary. But to have done this would have meant the sacrifice of her honor, and honor with Belgium is sacred. That honor will live in all history. When the history of this great struggle is written, that honor, those deeds of valor which for that time being saved the downfall of Europe, will stand as golden pinnacles and live forever in the minds of the offspring who will live to read it.

Men are heard to say, If Belgium wants to fight, let her fight. Any man, said the speaker, who would make such a remark is a fool and is not capable of thinking. This fight is a thousand times our fight and not Belgium's. It is Germany's war. The birth rate in Germany is too high to permit of all remaining in their native country, therefore Germany wants colonies. But Belgium's interference Canada so far, has been saved from falling into Germany's hands, and for this interference, we owe her a debt. Now are we going to pay it? Are we going to stand by and let Belgium suffer for what they have saved us? Why do the mothers of the boys of Newcastle, not all of them, hold back their boys? Are they any better than those who have gone? "Why," said Sergt. Knight, "did my mother send me—why did she send her three boys, her youngest only fifteen years old—are we not as good as you?" And why have thousands of those mothers sent their boys?

Here Sergt. Knight told of having heard several young men one evening outside his hotel talk over a boose picnic they were about to have or had had. Emphatically, he declared they were the most despicable, low-born fellows he had ever heard of, and he did not care who they were, what they were, or who they belonged to. He also related instances of people he knew to be worth thousands of dollars who only gave one dollar to the Patriotic Fund.

The time has now come, said this interesting speaker when mothers must realize that their boys belong not to themselves, but to God, and their services they owe to their country. We are too selfish, having too good a time. We must sacrifice this, no matter how painful to do so. He related how many mothers in France took their young boys before the altars on the side of the streets, and dedicating them to the care and service of God, sent them to the front in the defence of their Empire. Mothers here must realize as the mothers of France did, the absolute need of giving their sons to the call of our Empire, if they wish to be saved from the same fate, only a hundred times worse, as that which befell the mothers and daughters of Belgium and France. In his audience he judged there were at least two hundred young men who should go. If he could show them what he had seen—young babes tied up by the feet and then bayonetted, young girls subjected to such shameful treatment that the horrors of it preyed so much on their mind they would shrink in fear, even from those who would protect them. To the young men he said that if they wanted their sisters treated in like manner to stay at home. Unless they do go, Germany is bound to win. If we had the same system as Belgium and France, we would have under arms some 870,000 men.

Sergt. Knight said his purpose here was to get men to go back with him, but he did not want men with cotton backbones. He said the British Empire would emerge from this war purer and better. The men who came back will be the men who will control the government of this country. He was here to offer them a job, not with better pay, but one which requires them to perform a duty for their King and country. When he was ready for the trenches he asked God to protect him and to help him do his duty. He had done his duty, he had thrice been wounded. In November he was wounded by a bullet in the thigh, in December he received a bayonet thrust in the mouth which necessitated the removing of the back portion of the tongue. Again in February he received the wound which put a finish to his work in the trenches, and came pretty nearly finishing him altogether—he was struck with a 17-inch shell, but of course not the whole of it, in the stomach. Today his whole body is a mass of bandages and how he survived instant death is yet a miracle.

Sergt. Knight said that of all the men he had witnessed dying on the battlefield, he had not seen one that was not smiling. He also related how a Scottish minister had sat on the ground holding his bowels in his hands, and with a never-fading smile he kept urging his comrades on, until at last a German sniper, who had been picking him here and there, at last found a vital spot that put into his last long sleep this hero-minister, who had so willingly and so joyfully sacrificed his life that the mothers and daughters of his country might not suffer. He himself would say here, as Sergt. Patrick O'Leary had said, that he was willing to fight and give up his life for mothers, sisters, sweethearts and old men, but he would not fight for the stay-at-homes. The man who stays at home is mentally and morally deficient.

At no other recruiting meeting here were the truths of this gigantic struggle for world-power on the part of Germany, and freedom and righteousness on the part of the Allied armies, driven home so forcibly as they were by Sergt. Knight at this meeting. Having been there and seen for himself, and then told here, added strength to the truth of the outrages of which before we had only heard by report. It is regrettably true that even yet, regardless of all the energy employed by Sergt. Knight to make his words most impressive, and the truth of his stories of cruelty vindicative, there will be men who will stand idly by, men who could go, and mothers and wives, too, who, more the pity of it, being powerless to bring themselves to that point of resignation where they, too, might imitate the mothers of France and Belgium in taking their sons before the altar of God and putting them into His keeping, will hold back their sons until a day will come when it will be too late, a day when the shores of fair Canada, this Canada of ours on which the eagle eye of Germany has been focused these many years gone by, will be infested by the mighty murderous hordes of that nation, and our doom sealed forever. This is rather beyond the point of belief for many of us, but the great war lords say so. Sergt. Knight said it was sure to come unless more men were available, so those of us who have not seen must believe.

After Sergt. Knight had spoken for more than a hour strenuously endeavoring to drive home the truth more firmly into the minds of his audience, and with the gratifying results as shown in the first part of this article, he was followed by some interesting remarks by the Rev. Mr. Chader, a native of Sweden, who told of his experiences at the outbreak of the war, and the attitude of that nation toward the Allied nations. He had lived four years in Germany as a student to learn the German language, and he was familiar with her military system. He declared most emphatically that the sympathy of the five and one-half millions of people in Sweden was with the Allies. At his conclusion he was warmly cheered. With the singing of the National Anthem a most interesting and impressive meeting came to a close.

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DROWNING ACCIDENT

Oswald Menzie Accidentally Drowned Here on Sunday Night

A sad drowning accident occurred here late Sunday night when Oswald Menzie, cook on Ritchie's tug boat, the David R., in some unaccountable way, missed his footing in boarding the boat and was drowned.

The unfortunate young man was only 26 years of age and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Menzie, of Whitneyville. He has only been employed as cook on this boat a little over a week, and his sad ending under the above circumstances will be learned with general regret.

He went home on Saturday night, riding up on a wheel, and returned to town again Sunday afternoon about three o'clock. He was around town during the afternoon, and according to one report was seen going down in the direction of where the boat was tied about 8.30 o'clock that evening. Another report says he was seen sitting in the park at nine o'clock. The crew of the boat, however, went aboard at nine o'clock but the young man was not there. Engineer Alex. McFarlane came along at ten o'clock and found his cap on the wharf. Nothing particularly was thought of this, as it was supposed he had changed his clothes and had gone up town again. When he did not show up that night, it was then thought he had met with mishap and had fallen overboard.

Capt. McTavish, John Mullin and Ernest Sherrard, of the David R. began grappling Monday morning early, and found the body about a quarter past six o'clock about twenty feet below where the boat was tied.

Coroner Desmond was notified, and Undertaker Maltby, who took charge of the remains. An investigation was held by the coroner to determine whether or not there had been any foul play, but as no direct evidence of anyone having seen him at the time of the accident could be had, an inquest was found unnecessary.

The remains were taken to his home in Whitneyville on Monday, and the funeral is being held this afternoon in Whitneyville at two o'clock, and will be under the auspices of the Orange Order.

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PERSONALS

Mr. Joseph Napke, of Redbank was in Newcastle on Tuesday.

Mr. H. L. Crocker, of Millerton, was in Moncton on Friday.

Mr. John Sullivan of Rogersville was a visitor in town this week.

Mr. Howard Underhill is spending his vacation at his home in Blackville.

Mrs. W. J. McNeil of Campbellton, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Sullivan.

Mr. Berval Watling spent Sunday in Moncton with Mrs. Watling, who is visiting Mrs. Arthur Metcalfe.

Mrs. Robert Jarvis and Miss Jennie Copp, returned on Friday from a visit to friends in Fredericton and Fort Fairfield, Me.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Metcalfe are receiving congratulations on the arrival of a son and heir at their home in Moncton last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McCoy, of New York, and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCoy, of Moncton, have returned to their homes after a very pleasant visit to Mrs. W. A. Touchie.

The numerous friends of Harry Gray, Manager of the Miramichi Lumber Co.'s mill at Douglastown will regret to learn that he is very ill with fever.

Rev. J. J. Ryan, Inspector of the Indian schools, with his mother and Miss Hannibury, of St. Mary's were the guests of Hon. John and Mrs. Morrissy over Sunday.

Mr. T. H. Whelan, having received leave of absence, left yesterday, accompanied by Mrs. Whelan and baby daughter for Sussex, where they are attending the wedding of Mr. Whelan's sister, Miss Rosella, today. From there they will go to Boston, thence to Buffalo and Niagara Falls. From the Falls they will go to St. Thomas, and then to Mrs. Whelan's home, Chatham, Ont. They will then return home by way of New York.

POLICE COURT NEWS

In the police court on Monday a case of assault, the King on complaint of Robert P. Hubbard vs. Douglas Simpson, was heard before Police Magistrate Lawlor. It appeared that Hubbard was attending a wedding at David Blackmore's, Cassilis, on the 9th inst., and when leaving for home about ten o'clock driving, he was struck in the face by a stone, knocking three teeth out. Twelve witnesses were heard, but as no evidence could be obtained to convict Simpson, the case was dismissed. It appears that there is a gang of fellows in Cassilis whose night actions are what they should be. In addressing the court Magistrate Lawlor said that should ever evidence be brought against any of them he would give such offenders as came before him the full limit of the law.

Nowlan vs Power

On Tuesday morning the case of John Nowlan vs Thomas Power, both of Nelson, came up before Magistrate Lawlor. The case was for cruelty to animals. Nowlan's cows broke down the fence and got into Power's potato field. Defendant set his dog on the cows. Case dismissed.

A. A. Davidon for the prosecution in both cases, and J. A. Creaghan for the defence.

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