

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1918

The Evening Times and Star

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THE WAR SITUATION.

Another week ends without the expected German offensive on the western front. The French have made further important gains this week, and the British and Americans have improved their position. German resistance has not been at all effective in these minor operations. The Italians have not only gained more ground in the Piave area but they and the French have gained substantial success in Albania, suggesting important new developments on the Macedonian front. No success has been scored by the enemy during the week.

The past week has further emphasized the fact that the submarine is steadily being overmatched and that the movement of troops and supplies is less and less seriously interfered with by the U-boats. Rumors of very grave internal conditions in Austria must be discounted, so far as any immediate effect on the war situation is concerned, for Austria is at the mercy of her stronger ally. Nevertheless the explosion is bound to come sooner or later, and would be hastened by Allied success on the Macedonian front.

The German chancellor is as indecisive as ever in his talks about peace, and as determined as ever to continue the war. There is another report that Hindenburg is dead, but it is not official. The Russian situation grows more hopeful, from the Allied view-point, but armed intervention is not at present regarded as good policy.

THE GLOUCESTER ENQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. Veniot finds, after a sworn investigation that while there were some irregularities in connection with the Gloucester county road work the province has not lost money, nor are the main charges made by Hon. B. Frank Smith supported by the evidence. Mr. Veniot's report covers the whole ground of enquiry, and there is no attempt to shield anybody. It is perfectly clear that the main charges were unfounded. There was no padding of payrolls such as marked the regime of the old government. The supervisor by careless methods laid himself open to censure, however, and if the enquiry has the result of waking up all supervisors and other officials, and giving them to understand clearly that there is a new government and a new policy, it will have done good. Of course the purpose of Hon. B. Frank Smith was to discredit the government. His organ this morning devotes its whole editorial space to a gross misrepresentation of the enquiry and to be expected. This may deceive some people, but since Mr. Veniot's report appears in the same issue there is at least an opportunity for every reader to form an independent judgment. So far as the evidence taken at the enquiry shows irregularities, the minister will of course insist upon greater care on the part of all officials in the future. To that extent the enquiry will do good.

THE VOCATIONAL BOARD.

The vocational education board for New Brunswick has now been constituted. It consists of Chief Supt. Carter, Principal Briggs of the Normal School, Secretary Briggs of the agricultural department, Director Steeves of the elementary agricultural education department, Fred Magee, M. P. P., Rev. Father Testler of St. Joseph's, and Mr. George H. Maxwell of St. John. Mr. Magee represents capital and Mr. Maxwell labor. One of the three last named is to be made the chairman, and Supt. Carter is vice-chairman.

The government appoints only the last named three, as the act provides that the other four shall be members of the board. Appointed members hold office for three years, and may be re-appointed. Now that the board is complete it will doubtless proceed at once to business, as enquiries concerning the new law have been received from school authorities in various towns where it is desired to take advantage of the terms of the act to make a beginning in the matter of providing some measure of vocational training.

The act is very simple, and it is only necessary for a school board or boards to make the required provision and ask that the work be begun. There will of course be a director and it will not be difficult to get the fullest information.

The province has taken a very important forward step. It was not anticipated when the government appointed the provincial committee, in September of last year, to report on the subject, that within less than a year there would be a very progressive law on the statute books, highly praised by competent authorities in other provinces and the New England states, and with a board duly constituted to bring its provisions into effect. The quick results are due in part to the diligence of the committee, but very largely to the fact that Fred Magee and Dr. J. Roy Campbell, representing the two parties in the house, threw themselves heartily into the work. They enjoyed the confidence of the house, and its hearty sympathy. But even their

seal would not have produced such a notable result had it not been that they and the rest of the committee had the services of Mr. Fletcher Peacock, to gather information, make important suggestions, and prepare such a report as convinced every reader of the need of the proposed legislation. It is now the task of the new board to popularize the act and get results.

THE SUB-NORMAL CHILD.

In an address on Social Service, delivered recently before the Synod of Nova Scotia, Miss Potts referred especially to child-welfare. A report of her remarks says: "The remedy for 'misfits' is in understanding the child. Every child should undergo a medical and psychological examination. There are three methods of treating the sub-normal child. First at the home of the parents with expert treatment, secondly in the school by special class of which there are now three in Halifax. The Daughters of the Empire are doing a splendid work along this line by the establishment of a home for children of the disaster. The third method is that of the colony group, where the children are constantly under the care of expert superintendents, and grouped in cottages according to their class."

The report adds that the address of Miss Potts made a deep impression upon the Synod. It is a hopeful indication that the churches are manifesting a growing interest in social service, and that departments dealing with this subject are of increasing importance in synods and conferences. Touching the particular question discussed by Miss Potts, as here reported, it is easy to see how far our communities are from an ideal condition. In St. John we are now to have medical inspection, but there are no classes for retarded pupils, nor any institution for the care of the feeble-minded, who mix with the other children and perhaps by their inability to learn retard the progress of the whole class. As they grow older these sub-normal children become a menace to the welfare of the community, for some of them develop criminal tendencies and some fall into immoral ways. Society as a whole must be aroused to a sense of responsibility. The war is making terrible ravages in the lives of the young manhood, and it is a national duty to take such steps as will give all the children a fair start in life, that they may develop into strong men and women, inspired by right ideals. There are great tasks before the Canadians of the future, and whatever makes for the standard of manhood and womanhood, in health, morals, intelligence and industry should be given first place, apart from war work, in the minds of the people.

CORP. BIDDISCOMBE IS KILLED IN ACTION

Corporal Joseph Alfred Biddiscombe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Biddiscombe, of Chipman, was killed in action in France on June 28, according to information received in the city yesterday by Detective Patrick Biddiscombe of local police headquarters. Corporal Biddiscombe was a bright young man of twenty-three years of age, and the news of his death will be heard with keen regret by his many friends. This week word came to the bereaved parents at Chipman in the form of a letter of condolence expressing sympathy to the family in the death of their son in France on June 28. This was the first intimation that the young soldier had appeared in the casualty list. The father came to the city yesterday and acquainted his son, Detective Biddiscombe, of the particulars of the case. The latter immediately wired Ottawa for information and word came back that his brother had been officially listed as "killed in action."

Corporal Biddiscombe leaves besides his parents, who reside at Chipman, three brothers, of which Detective Biddiscombe is one and also two sisters. Further particulars of his death were promised in yesterday's despatch.

It appeared yesterday in orders that Lieutenant Aubrey Otty Cruikshank, of Fredericton, had been detailed for duty with No. 1 New Brunswick Depot Battalion at Camp Sussex. Lieutenant Cruikshank had his commission with the 104th Battalion and later became attached to a machine gun corps. He has seen service in France and was invalided home through illness. Captain Charles F. Gillis has been detailed for duty in Military District No. 7, to take effect from June 22.

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The death of Mrs. Jennie McL. Howie, of Fredericton, widow of J. Robert Howie, occurred on Thursday. She was forty-four years old and a daughter of the late Robert McFarland. Mrs. Howie is survived by her mother, two sons, Walter at home, and James in France; two daughters, the Misses Margaret and Elizabeth at home; two sisters, Mrs. Walter Limerick and Mrs. N. B. Adams, both of Fredericton, also survive.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE "GLORIOUS TWELFTH"

The twelfth of July was marked by the first fine day in a fortnight and the outdoor celebrations by the Orange lodges in various parts of the province were carried out with great enthusiasm. In recognition of war conditions there was no central provincial celebration, but many of the local lodges observed the day with special features. At Lorneville, Mount Purple and Corunna lodges held an all-day celebration. Early in the morning the members gathered at the hall and, headed by Wallace Gubraith, a procession of 200 men was formed. When crossing the bridge there were cheers for the King, the men at the front and King William of Orange. The procession marched to Sea View House, where dinner was served. In the afternoon the parade returned to the hall, where speeches were delivered by Dr. J. B. M. Baxter, A. E. McGinley, R. W. Anderson and members of the local lodges. A wrist watch was presented to George O'Dell, a member who has enlisted. In the evening an enjoyable ball was held. Dominion Lodge, L. O. L., No. 141, of this city, and many of the friends of the members enjoyed an excursion to Crystal Beach. A programme of sports was held in the afternoon and the excursionists had a good time.

In St. Martin's a dance, which was given in the Orange Hall, was largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Orangemen of St. George paraded yesterday afternoon and afterwards heard speeches from an outdoor platform. A programme of sports was held in the afternoon and a dance in the hall in the evening. Westmorland county Orangemen had one of the largest gatherings in their history at the celebration at Petticoat yesterday. After the procession speeches were delivered from the balcony of the Mansard House.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE MEET IN SACKVILLE

The semi-annual session of the New Brunswick Grand Division, Sons of Temperance, was opened in Sackville last evening. All the speakers mentioned with satisfaction the successful enforcement of the prohibition law and urged the keeping up of temperance organizations to prevent reaction. A report of the grand scribe, Rev. W. R. Robinson, showed that receipts for the year amounted to \$14,000. During the last six months 251 members were initiated, forty-four were suspended, six withdrawn and four died. He paid a glowing tribute to the work of Rev. W. D. Wilson, chief liquor inspector and his deputies, for the good work they have accomplished. He asked that his resignation be accepted, owing to ill health and business demands, but his request was refused. All officers were continued in office for another term.

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RECENT WEDDINGS

Wood/Norris.
A very pretty wedding was solemnized at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon in the Tabernacle church, when Rev. A. L. Tedford united in marriage Miss Elizabeth Norris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Norris, of Banneville, Kings Co., to William Gordon Ward of Richibucto. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a white silk robe dress with silk trimmings. She wore a bridal veil with orange blossoms and carried a bouquet of carnations and sweet peas. The bride was attended by her sister, Mrs. Roy Linton, who was also gowned in white and carried a bouquet of sweet peas. The groom was supported by Harry Norris, brother of the bride. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion by girl friends of the bride. The wedding march was played by Mr. Cogswell and after the ceremony a dainty luncheon was served at the home of the bride's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Norris, City road, after which the bride exchanged her wedding garments for a beautiful grey tailored suit with white hat. A large gathering of friends and relatives attended the ceremony. The bride and groom received many beautiful presents, including a substantial check from the bride's father. Mr. and Mrs. Ward will make their home in St. John.

Evelyn Alma Shipley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Shipley of River Hebert, N. S., was united in marriage to Charles Wilbur Titus of this city, on Tuesday, July 2. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. J. MacLeod, at the home of the bride's parents. Miss Catherine Merle Graves was used in marriage to Warren H. Huggard at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Graves in East St. John last evening. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. Lawrence Tedford. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Huggard left by auto for Norton.

RECENT DEATHS

Many friends in this city will regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Richard Nolane, which occurred suddenly at her home in Sackville, Ont., on Wednesday. She was a daughter of the late Andrew and Catherine Pauley of this city. Besides her husband she is survived by three brothers, John R., of this city; Andrew of St. Louis, and Joseph of St. Stephen, also two sisters, Misses Jennie and Bessie Pauley of this city. The sympathy of a wide circle of friends will be extended to the members of the bereaved family.

Stewart McNair was fatally injured last Monday while working in J. D. Irving's mill in Buctouche. He was hit by a piece of broken saw and died from his injuries a few hours later. He was twenty-seven years old and is survived by his wife and one child.

ONE WAY OF FEEDING THE PEOPLE

London, July 12.—(British Wireless Service)—A despatch from Constantinople dated July 4 describes one of the methods used by the Turkish government to make the population of the city believe that wheat was arriving there from the United States. Several ships left Constantinople by day and proceeded during the night to a port on the Black Sea where stores of wheat were held for the Turkish army. This wheat was taken aboard and the ships returned to Constantinople where it was brought ashore. It was announced that this was a grain shipment from the Ukraine. The authorities added, however, that the army was short of wheat. During the night the grain was returned to the Black Sea port from which it had come.

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