

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MEETS IN JUNE AT WINNIPEG

Rev. Dr. Baird, of Manitoba College, Likely New Moderator.

CHURCH UNION TO BE DISCUSSED

New Hymn Book for Church Ready Probably Next Year.

Winnipeg, May 16—Rev. Dr. Somerville, agent of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, reports all arrangements completed for the annual meeting of the General Assembly next month which is again to be held in Winnipeg. The first business when the delegates are seated will be the election of a new moderator. It is generally believed that only one name will go before the assembly, that of Rev. A. B. Baird of Winnipeg, principal of Manitoba College. Dr. Baird has been in the west thirty-five years. He was the first minister of the church in Edmonton, having gone to that settlement when it was far removed from railway connection and a mere trading post on the Saskatchewan. He is a graduate of Knox College, the next man in line for the honor is Dr. John Neil of Westminster church Toronto. There is a possibility that the opponents to church union may put up Rev. Dr. MacLeod of Barrie, Ont., but it is generally conceded that Dr. Baird will have a vast majority of the delegates at his back.

CHURCH UNION

The topic which will absorb the thought of the coming assembly to the practical exclusion of all others, so far as popular interest is concerned, will be that of church union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches. It is well understood in church circles that the Winnipeg meeting will be historic in this connection. The decision of the assembly will probably be that the union must be consummated, and that after the war is over, any congregation can take a vote, and if the majority decide that they do not want to go into the union, they can remain out, retaining all their property.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

The assembly will follow in its general program in Winnipeg its time-honored practice and give up the second evening of the meeting to the discussion of its home mission work, and its third evening to the subject of foreign missions. In spite of the fact that both these great enterprises have been going forward as usual.

NEW HYMN BOOK

The committee dealing with the new book of praise which the Presbyterians intend to issue at an early date, has been in session in Toronto. One of the most valued members of this committee is the Rev. Dr. Hamilton of Keewatin, well-known in Western Canada, especially in Winnipeg. Dr. Hamilton has been at work with his committee for a number of years, and has contributed largely to the success of the work. The new book will probably be published in 1917.

MONTREAL NEXT

The east has already been discussing where the meeting of 1917 will



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be held, since an invitation must be presented at the meeting in Winnipeg. It is generally agreed here that the assembly of next year will convene in the metropolitan city of Montreal. It is some ten years since the last gathering met there.

GREAT SHOVELS FOR SOLDIERS

Railway Construction Overseas Corps to be Well Equipped.

Montreal, May 16—Gigantic steam shovels weighing sixty-five tons each, capable of digging up the earth at the rate of 150 to 200 cubic yards an hour and self-propelling extension track pile drivers are part of the equipment recently purchased by the Government for Col. C. W. P. Ramsay of the Canadian Overseas railway construction corps. This plant was selected by Col. Ramsay's colleagues in the engineering department of Canadian Pacific Railway and is being prepared by that company at the request of the Government for shipment abroad. The Canadian overseas railway construction corps has already built many miles of track at strategic points and is all the while engaged in surveys for further construction. The work has often been done under fire and though there have been some narrow escapes there have been no serious casualties. Out of the non-commissioned officers and sappers that enlist on the foundation of the corps, 18 have already received commissions in the royal engineers, a remarkable tribute to their efficiency while Col. Ramsay and Major Harvey have been mentioned in despatches. The splendid work of the Canadian Engineers has been highly appreciated by the allied commanders.

Mr. George Bury, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific, announces, in a special circular, that two free scholarships, covering four years' tuition in the Faculty of Applied Science in McGill University, are offered to apprentices and other employees enrolled on the permanent staff of the said company, and under 21 years of age, and to minor sons of employees, the same being subject to competitive examination.

The competitive examination will be held at the university, Montreal, and at other centres throughout Canada, in June, 1916. The candidates making the highest averages—and complying with the requirements of admission will be awarded the scholarships and have the option of taking a course in any department of applied science.

The scholarship will be renewed from year to year to cover a period not exceeding four years, if, at the close of each session, the holder thereof is entitled under the rules to full standing in the next higher year. In case a scholarship holder finds it necessary to interrupt his course for a year or more, notice must be given at the close of the session to the railway company and to the head of the railway department of the university, in order that the scholarship may be open to other applicants.

In order to establish prior claim to the next available scholarship, notice of the student's intended return must be given to the railway company and the head of the railway department not later than January 1st preceding the opening of the session in which such scholarships will be available. Applications for certificates entitling eligible persons to enter the competition should be addressed to Mr. C. H. Buell, staff registrar and secretary pension department, Montreal.

Pte. William Wormald, 14th Battalion, Owen Sound, who claimed to have been a nephew of Brigadier-General Wormald, of the British army, killed in action in France last fall, was buried with military honors.

MANY ARTICLES ARE PROHIBITED ENTRY TO FRANCE

Idea is to Obtain More Space in Incoming Vessels.

MOTORS ARE HIT AGAIN Chassis and Automobile Parts Are Proscribed.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, May 17—In accordance with a recent law, the government has just prohibited the importation of a long list of articles, many of which come from the United States and England. The representatives in Paris of American business firms to-day eagerly studied the official decree designating merchandise, the entry of which in vessels coming to French ports has been stopped, and were struck by its far-reaching effect.

The decree contains a clause authorizing the minister of commerce and agriculture to make exceptions and to permit under conditions to be determined by the minister of finance the importation of particular articles. No official explanation accompanied the decree, but it was said it undoubtedly had been put into effect with a view to procuring more space in vessels coming to French ports for such supplies as the government has absolute need.

The question of exchange and the effect the decree would have on the lowering of the monetary rate were also mentioned as reasons for the new condition of affairs.

Among the importations prohibited in the decree are automobile chassis, with or without motor or body; automobile coach work and other automobile parts; parts of photographic apparatus, fresh and preserved fruits; perfumery and soap or other perfumed articles; porcelain, glass, crystal ware, crockery, cotton, hosiery, gloves, undressed skins, imitation jewelry and musical instruments. A detailed list of the prohibited articles covers two pages in The Official Journal.

Famous Indian Runner

Toronto, May 17—Tom Longboat, the famous Indian athlete, was arrested last night on a serious charge, preferred by Carle Thompson, a waitress in the London Cafe, at the corner of John and Queen Streets.

The American government is preparing to protest to Great Britain against its policy of refusing to allow the shipment of hospital supplies by the American Red Cross to Germany and her allies.

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Be sure your druggist gives you Hood's, for nothing else can possibly benefit you as much and nothing else can take its place. Get it today.

Boy Knight Notes

There was a good turnout of Boy Knights on Friday evening with the usual results.

On Monday evening, May 22, the Boy Knights will gather at their armory to bid good-bye to their leader, Lieut. Hunt. All the boys are earnestly requested to be present, and a cordial invitation is also given to interested friends of the Movement.

Mr. Forbes Thompson will also be introduced to the members at this meeting. He has kindly volunteered to look after the work during the absence of their leader, and will rank as captain of the corps. It is the earnest wish of the O. C. that the members will co-operate with Mr. Thompson with even more energy than in the past. He brings with him to the work, years of valuable experience in the work and will undoubtedly be most successful in his work.

Orders are issued by O. C. that all outstanding equipment, hats, caps, belts, uniforms, etc., of members, not in regular attendance should be returned to stores immediately. Our management committee will meet shortly and plans are being formed so that the boys will be well looked after during the coming season.

Medals will also be presented on Monday evening to those who were regular on parade, during the summer.

PRINCIPLE IS GOOD, BUT CAN NOT BE PRACTISED

Armistice After Battle Not a Proposal Possible to be Adopted.

Geneva, via Paris, May 17.—The bulletin of the International Red Cross, which has just appeared, gives the answers of the various governments to the proposal of Gustave Ador, executive head of the Red Cross, requesting several hours armistice after every engagement to permit the removal of the wounded and the identification of the dead. The Russian general, Michael V. Alexieff, chief of staff, replied that he accepted his orders to the chiefs of the Russian armies to negotiate with the enemy after each battle for a suspension of hostilities.

The French, British and Belgian governments replied, approving the principle, but saying that its operation was not practicable.

The Italian chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Cadorna, said that a suspension could not be made without formal assurances of an identical suspension on the other side. General Ador's reply was communicated to Austria, which replied: "A suspension does not appear practical to the commanders of the Austro-Hungarian army."

The German reply said: "The Imperial government is unable to consider the proposed measure unless the initiative is taken by the enemy powers."

Alpine Club

Montreal, May 17—Although many of its members are at the front, the Alpine club of Canada will hold its annual camp from July 13th to July 31st in the Bow valley at the foot of the massive range about twelve miles west of Banff in the Canadian Pacific Rockies. Preparations are being made for the accommodation of a hundred climbers and the peaks selected for graduation climbs are Mt. Pilot, Mt. Brett, Mt. Bourgeau and an unnamed central peak of the massive range. The massive range is the home of the wild goat and hocks congregate in alpine meadows of its hanging valleys. Facilities will be provided to visit Hole-in-the-Wall Mountain, Mt. Edith and the still unclimbed mountain, Louis, while an expedition will probably be arranged up Red Earth creek to Shadow Lakes in the Rockies. Distinguished representatives of literary and scientific bodies, of standard magazines and professional photographers will be given the same rate as members.

HOHENZOLLERN "WHITE LADY" SCARES KAISER

Always Seen Just Before Calamity Visits His Family.

Kaiser Wilhelm may fear no man on earth, but at the very mention of one woman's name it is said his cheeks blanch. In fact, there has been no Hohenzollern for many a century past who has not held this formidable female in dread. Even Frederick the Great, the bravest man as he was, would never allow her name to be mentioned in his presence, while his neurotic nephew, Frederick William II, once fell in a dead faint when he was told that she had been seen in a corridor of his Berlin palace.

And, indeed, the Hohenzollerns have good cause for their fear; for whenever "Bertha," known as the "White Lady," has been seen she has always been the harbinger of death or some great calamity to their house. The evening before William I. drew his last breath, and the very night on which his son, Frederick III, died in agony, she was seen by more than one, wandering through the rooms of the palace in which they were lying.

CLOTHED IN WHITE On the latter occasion it is said the intruder, challenged by a sentry, walked up to him with such fierce eyes and such a menacing aspect that he uttered a piercing shriek and fell unconscious.

Those who have looked on this apparition, that haunts the Hohenzollerns describe her as an old woman, clothed from head to foot in white, with black eyes blazing from a deeply-furrowed, corpse-like face, and carrying a broom—a circumstance from which it is evident and sceptical have dubbed her the "Sweeper."

But the Hohenzollerns have no monopoly of White Ladies in Germany. A similar phantom haunts the palace of Hesse-Darmstadt—indeed, it was from the legend of this palace that Wagner borrowed the subject of his Lohengrin; the Grand Dukes of Baden are haunted by a third; and there are a few ancient castles in the whole of Germany which are not the haunts of other varieties of this special woman, mostly bent old crones, carrying a heavy, tapping walking stick which heralds their approach.

GHOST FORETOLD A SHIPWRECK. But the most attractive or the least unattractive—of them all is the White Lady who, for centuries, has foreshadowed calamity to the Hapsburgs.

A young woman, she is described, "marvellously beautiful, with a long, flowing white veil." She was seen by many in the Castle of Schonbrunn the night before Mexico, Austria, came to the aid of his tragic end in Mexico; and in 1889, immediately before Crown Prince Rudolph died so terribly and mysteriously in the Mayerling hunting lodge, which heralds their approach.

Italy Cuts Down Rome Takes Steps to Stop Importation of Bulky Luxuries.

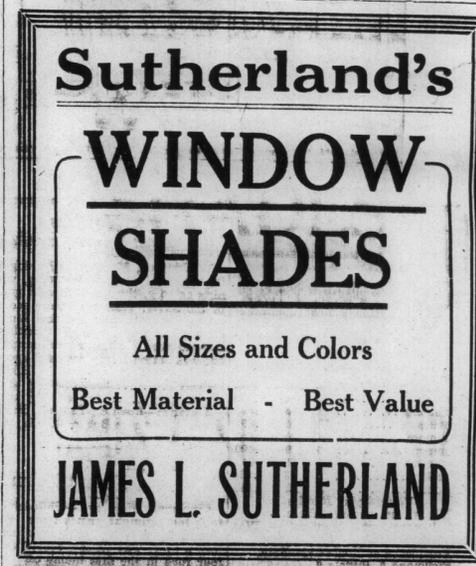
Rome, via Paris, May 17.—The cabinet issued orders to-day prohibiting the importation of luxuries and bulky articles which are not of prime necessity, such as pianos and furniture. This step has been taken to remedy the difficulty of securing freightage for government supplies and such common articles of food as it is necessary to import.

The government is also considering establishing maximum prices for provisions and making a more extended use of female labor. Other measures to improve the economic and industrial situation arising from the war are being planned.

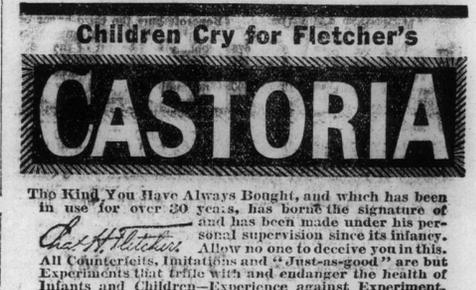
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LITTLE RESOLVED GUNS

Yet in Spite of Stuck Resolved—Many Individual Daring Records Witness.

Ottawa, Ont., May 17.—The long official report on last week's operations at the front was received by the Militia Department yesterday from the Canadian eye-witnesses. Day after day, night after night, the Canadian front guns thundered, their menacing rumble swelling in gradual crescendo to a roar of the bombardment, now swelling in volume to an interminable growl. There is little rest or sleep in the rearward areas. Oft labor of weeks is undone in a moment. Fortifications crumble, apertures collapse, buildings are swept roofs and approaches at intervals and from points of vantage keen-eyed snipers watch for the unwary.

TOLL IS HEAVY. Under these conditions men to live, hold the line, dig entrenchments, erect entanglements, carry the food and ammunition and seek relief. For both sides it is approximately the same, and even in a devoid of outstanding features the active siege warfare is heavy. Two days in succession exceptionally intense bombardment directed by the enemy's artillery, mortar batteries against the defense of an Ontario brigade and the age of a British Columbia battery. Some of our trenches were badly aged and in places advanced were temporarily isolated, owing to communications being blocked.

HELD THEIR POSITIONS. In spite of the terrific fire and casualties our men everywhere on to their positions with the greatest steadiness. When the fire finally died down the damage was quickly repaired. The retention of our artillery to hostile bombardment was at all times prompt and effective. German parapets were breached, trench lines destroyed and fortifications heavily pounded. Lumber and sandbags were thrown into the air. At several points the lines of the enemy were observed to escape from the trench, in order to escape our hail of shells. During the course of a bombardment on the positions of a New Brunswick battalion, in the F. S. grove, St. John, was slightly wounded. When his injury was being dressed at the clearing station it was covered that he had had a narrow escape from a more serious wound. Another bullet had struck him in a dangerous place, but had been stopped by a Bible that had been given by his mother, which he carried in pocket.

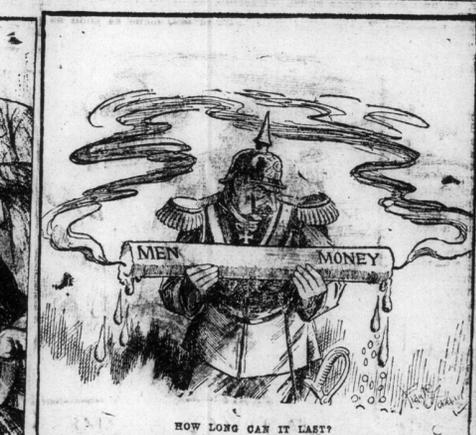
AVIATORS WORK. German aviators were less aggressive than for many weeks past. Not again they crossed our lines, dropped signals and directed the fire of their artillery, but on the approach of our planes retreated rapidly to their own territory. Hostile working parties were active on all parts of the line. On more than one occasion they suffered casualties from our choppers and dispersed, leaving their dead upon the ground. Under cover of darkness good work was done by our scouts and patrols. CLEVER WORK. Lt. S. J. Matheson, Royal Highlanders of Canada, led a small patrol to the German wire and moved along it made a useful reconnaissance. On the same night a patrol of a western Canada brigade entered a trap leading to the enemy's lines. Advancing up the sap for ninety yards our patrol came across the bodies of five Germans and brought in articles for identification purposes. Scouts of a British Columbia battalion reconnoitered an enemy's position. While engaged on this task they detected a large hostile working party. Word was taken back to our lines and the enemy was scattered by our machine gun fire. CARRIED BACK MINE. About the same time a patrol of



THE HISTORIC HATCHET AGAIN With Just a Trifling Difference German George Washington: "Me? I didn't do it; it must have been the cat."—Bystander, London.



PREOCCUPIED. Following the appalling losses of the Germans in their attacks on Verdun comes news from Germany that their financial resources are being rapidly exhausted. How long can it last?—Reynolds, London.



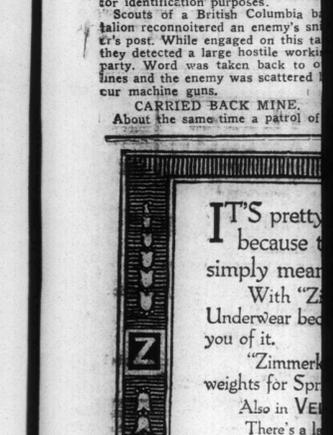
BURNING THE CANDLE AT BOTH ENDS. Following the appalling losses of the Germans in their attacks on Verdun comes news from Germany that their financial resources are being rapidly exhausted. How long can it last?—Reynolds, London.



EXPLANATION FOR NEUTRALITY. Now write: With regard to Verdun, Germany has made this attack simply in order to repose her troops from the tiresome life of the trenches.—Echo de Paris.



SHORTAGE OF COPPER IN GERMANY. German Soldier: "If you please, Herr Major, I have here a man who has refused to give up his wife's saucapan for the Glory of the Empire."—Bystander, London.



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