

## SCHOOL CHILDREN TO SEW GARMENTS FOR SOLDIERS

Motion Made and Approved at  
School Board Meeting—Several Salary Applications.

At a meeting of the school board held in the trustees' office last night, Dr. H. S. Bridges, superintendent, stated that he thought it would be very advisable to form classes in the domestic science school for the making of garments and other articles of clothing for the soldiers at the front, and in the hospitals. Dr. Bridges said that for a long time he has been of this opinion and that Miss Bartlett, the domestic science teacher, is also very anxious for the organization of such classes.

The trustees present at the meeting were: R. B. Emerson, chairman, Dr. J. Manning, J. V. Russell, H. Colby Smith, E. R. W. Ingraham, Thos. Nagle, George Day, Michael Coll and the superintendent.

The regular business of the evening

was then discussed. A communication from Margery K. Milligan was read, tendering her resignation to the board. The resignation was accepted.

A letter was then read from Miss Bertha Estabrook, asking for a leave of absence for three months on account of the illness of her mother. Miss Estabrook also requested that the board grant her half pay for the three months. The letter was referred by Dr. Bridges to the teachers' committee.

A letter was read from Miss Muriel Fanjoy applying for a position on the teaching staff of the city schools. The chairman announced that Dr. Bridges had written a letter in reply stating that from the present indications there would be no vacancies on the staff before the beginning of the next term.

Another communication from Miss Jean Crawford requesting a position on the city teaching staff was also read. Dr. Bridges also replied to this and the letter was referred to the teachers' committee.

A letter from J. A. Alward was read, asking for a position as a manual training teacher. Dr. Manning moved that the letter be referred to the teachers' committee.

A communication from Charles Wheaton, janitor, was next read, asking that the board grant him \$5 a month more pay, as all the cleaning utensils had gone up thirty per cent. The letter was referred to the estimate committee.

A bill of expenses incurred on her recent trip to Halifax was sent in to the board by Dr. Mabel Hanington. Great credit is due to the way in which Dr. Hanington handled and attended the patients that were under her care, and Mr. Day moved that the sum of \$80 be paid to Dr. Hanington to cover her expenses. The motion was unanimously carried.

A letter from Miss Ida Northrup, domestic science teacher, was read, thanking the board for favours that she had received in the past, and stating that at the present time her salary was only \$625. In her letter Miss Northrup stated that the salary of all the other teachers in the school had been raised since she came to the school, but she had always been overlooked. She also said that about a year ago she was granted an increase of \$100 a year, but unfortunately she has never seen any of that amount. It was moved by Mr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Coll that her letter be referred to the teachers' salaries committee.

A communication was also read from Dr. Mabel Hanington asking for a place on the medical board of the schools. As it has not yet been decided by the board as a whole to have medical inspection in the schools, the letter was referred to the estimates committee.

All the teachers' letters that were to come before the board were then referred to the estimates committee.

Dr. Bridges then made a motion that a sufficient sum of money be granted to Miss Bartlett, domestic science teacher, for the providing of material for the sewing classes in the domestic science school to manufacture garments and clothing for the soldiers on active service. A letter from Miss Bartlett was also read expressing her eagerness to form such classes in the domestic science school. The letter was referred to the teachers' committee.

It was moved that a special meeting of the school board be called on Jan. 3. A. Gordon Leavitt, the secretary, presented his report for the month to the board. The report was: Pupils enrolled, 6,254; pupils belonging, 8,092; boys belonging, 3,880; girls belonging, 4,212; pupils in daily average attendance, 7,842; percentage of enrollment, 86.94; percentage belonging, 81.18.

Dr. Bridges then reported that he had been in communication with E. Murray Olive, chairman of the board of assessors, who stated that he had seen the district commissioners, who said that they would be willing to take the school census at five cents a ward. Dr. Bridges said that this would mean a total cost of about \$400.

Treasurer McManis presented his report for the month, stating that there had been eighty irregulars and eleven truants.

**GOVERNMENT MEETING**

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 21.—The provincial government closed its December meeting here this afternoon. Another meeting will be held at Fredericton early in the New Year beginning Wednesday, January 2. Premier Foster returned to St. John tonight, and the majority of the other members also have left for their homes.

Decision concerning the matter of aid for Halifax has been deferred until the

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next meeting. At the meeting which closed today the government took action toward securing seed wheat and fertilizer for the season of 1918, both being urgently needed in connection with the campaign for increased food production. Hon. J. F. Tweeddale, minister of agriculture, and W. R. Reek, have been engaged for some time in connection with this matter.

The report of John Hall, of Orange (N. J.), recently employed to make a health survey of the province, was presented to the government at this session. It will be published soon in pamphlet form.



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## OFFICE RIFLED, FURNITURE LEFT IN LITTLE BITS

"At the peril of your life don't say anything about this, (Signed) BAD BILL."

This was the startling threat that the office employees of the Canadian Oil Company Ltd. found pinned on the wall of their offices yesterday morning. They discovered that every piece of furniture in the office had been smashed to smithereens and was lying in hopeless ruin on the floor, while pinned on the wall was the above message.

From the clues that were found by the police it is evident that the marauders gained entrance to the office through one of the windows. It is thought the object was theft, and that on finding that all the money was safe secured in the safe the minds of the offenders turned to vengeance. Weapons to gain their ends were near at hand, and grasping a shovel the would-be thieves completely smashed every article of furniture in the building. When it was discovered that a break had been made the police were summoned yesterday morning, but so far no one has been arrested for the crime. From the wanton destruction and the note that was left pinned on the wall it is thought the spoilers were young boys.

## TREAT IN OPERA HOUSE FOR THE SOLDIERS' LITTLE ONES

The true significance of Christmas prevailed in the hearts of at least 1,400 children—both boys and girls, of St. John soldiers now serving overseas yesterday afternoon in the Opera House, when the Soldiers' Wives' League entertained the sturdy younger sons and daughters of men now in the trenches. Each year, since the war began, the Soldiers' Wives' League has not allowed the Christmas season to pass without showing in a special manner their appreciation of the work the soldier fathers have done.

The Opera House which was kindly offered by Manager MacKay for the occasion, was packed to capacity shortly after 4 o'clock. It was a joyous gathering, and a gala time. As one glanced over the faces of the merry children the thought came that the spirit of heroic fathers must surely live in such children. The true spirit of Christmas reigned supreme.

Mrs. George F. Smith, president of the league, in a brief address, welcomed the children. She expressed the hope that by this time next year peace would rule, but she said that she had remarked the same thing last Christmas to many of the children present yesterday, but still the war was on.

Mayor Hayes also briefly addressed the children. He said that a great deal of pains had been exercised by the Soldiers' Wives' League in arranging the present treat, and he hoped that they were very glad to see so many children present and hoped they would enjoy themselves.

A fairy tale picture of a delightful nature especially arranged for children was screened. The picture was loaned by the Universal Film Company. Following the picture the curtain was raised and before the enraptured gaze of 1,400 kiddies stood a large Christmas tree, becomingly bedecked with all that the Christmas season implies, but electrically lighted, giving a splendid sitting. For a moment there was a moment's silent admiration then a burst of applause as the glances of the children's tiny hands and shouted in joyful admiration. Suddenly Santa Claus made his skilful glide through the chimney and landed on the stage in front of the big tree. He was given a rousing welcome. He spoke in a joyful tone and hoped that all had been good boys and girls during the year. He said that he had a difficult task in reaching the "treat," but it was worth all the exertion he had made. He passed through the throng of children and assisted in the distribution of the good things.

The children enjoyed a delicious "pass around" of ice cream and cake, and as they passed out through the doors of the theatre they were each handed a large bag of delicacies. There were more than 1,500 bags prepared by the league and each contained an orange, nuts and raisins.

A feature of the "treat" yesterday was the contest in story telling. Fred Belyea of \$50 towards the organization to assist in making the annual Christmas tree and treat for the children of the soldiers overseas the greatest success it really was. The ladies of the league were very grateful to Mr. Belyea for his thoughtfulness, and wish to thank him through the press for his kind and very generous donation.

The Opera House orchestra, under Professor Casson, rendered several pleasing patriotic selections. Steve Matthews made a jovial and typical Santa Claus. Members of the Opera House bill playing this week assisted in the programme and in the carrying out the arrangements.

**The Committees.**

The Christmas tree was trimmed by Mrs. J. L. McAvity, Mrs. J. L. Day, Mrs. Robert Cruikshank and Mrs. Arthur Bowman. The cake committee was in charge of Mrs. Leonard Tilley and fifteen assistants.

The big cream committee consisted of Mrs. Warwick and fifteen assistants.

Mrs. Williams, Mrs. J. Roy Campbell, Mrs. Golding and Mrs. Fowler composed the cake committee.

Mrs. C. deForest made the purchase of the nuts, Miss E. Skinner the candy, and Mrs. J. Hunter White the oranges.

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Mrs. W. W. White was general convenor of committees. The assistant manager, H. L. Branan, was also remembered. His gift was a handsome pipe, with a pouch and a supply of the best tobacco.

A new time table of the Royal Mail Steam Packet service has been forwarded to the secretary of the board of trade. There will be a fortnightly, instead of a weekly service on the line to the West Indies for the present. Those interested may see the time table at the board of trade office.



**Gifts Suggestions**  
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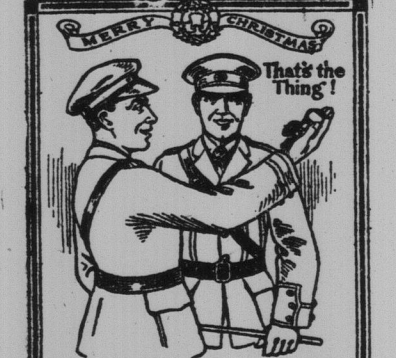
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