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The Eastern Guardian

PRIVATE DANIEL NEWTON McKinnon.—Mr. Neil McKinnon, Milltown Cross, has received official information that his son, Private Daniel Newton McKinnon was killed in action. Newton was a very fine young man and only 19 years of age when killed. He enlisted in the 105th, Nov. 1916, and December last was drafted into the 14th Regiment. Besides being very much missed by his many friends, he leaves to mourn their sad loss, a father and mother, two sisters and four brothers, who have the sincere sympathy of all. Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon wish to express their heartfelt thanks to the many friends who have spoken and written words of sympathy to them. A memorial service will be held in the United Baptist Church, Sturgeon, 7 p. m., Sunday, May 20th.—B.

THE KAISER'S DOUBLE

The news in the Hamburg Nachrichten that Wilhelm Schwartz, the Kaiser's double is dying of cancer must be anything but cheering to the imperial shore of horses, and his august namesake there is surely the most amazing affinity that has ever linked the lives of king and subject. The blacksmith entered the world on the same day, almost at the same hour as his future emperor, and he married on the same day a wife bearing the Kaiserin's name, Victoria. One by each bore her husband six sons, each in the way that brought a son to the imperial nursery; and when the joy-bells were ringing for the birth of a daughter to the Kaiser, there was similar rejoicing in the blacksmith's home at Prenzlau over the first baby girl.

Between the two Williams so far removed station there is, too, such an amazing facial likeness that, if they were dressed alike, it would be almost impossible to distinguish one from the other, and to crown these wonderful similarities the Emperor is said to be threatened by the very disease of which his humble double is dying.

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OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Ottawa Correspondent.) OTTAWA.—The House of Commons is still wrestling with the budget. The Opposition has seen to it that the debate has been prolonged. Their little hammer has been working overtime for several weeks. Nothing is allowed to escape it. But little harm has been done by operation except the prolonging of the debate and the hampering of the business of the country at a time when the parties should be united in the one great object—the winning of the war. Incidentally there has been some election talk, but neither side has exposed its cards. The Liberals, as a party, have not disclosed their intentions as to an extension of the session of Parliament, although the references they made to elections now and then would lead one to believe that they have their hearts set upon. Conservative speakers, on the other hand, do not take kindly to the holding of an election in wartime, not because they are afraid of an appeal to the people but because they think the time inopportune from a patriotic standpoint. In the meantime the Liberals are doing all in their power to make political capital in the effort to get back to office when an election comes. The Prime Minister and his colleagues, who have been overseas, having now returned to Ottawa it is thought that it will not be long before the Liberals will be compelled to show their hands.

An amusing debate was precipitated in the Commons the other evening when Mr. H. Boulay, who represents Ilkouski, introduced a resolution providing that in future men only shall be employed in those branches of the Civil Service where the salary is \$800 or over, and that a commissioner shall be appointed to supervise the work in each department. Speaking in support of the resolution, Mr. Baulay declared that from the standpoint of health and morals women should not be allowed to work in the Civil Service, but if they were so employed they should not receive more than \$600 per annum. It was useless, he said, to pay women more than that because the money would be wasted in the purchase of theatre tickets, outfit articles, dresses, powder and perfume, laying special emphasis on the powder and perfume. He said that as a rule women did not pay taxes, and it was not their habit to save anything. Women employed in the service did not have an opportunity to learn housekeeping and many of them have to desire to get married. He declared that Ottawa was suffering from two great evils—theatre-going and moving picture shows—and the employment of women in Government offices. Turning to the sterner sex, Mr. Boulay stated that no bachelor should receive less than \$700 a year and no married man less than \$800, and seemed to think that the extra \$100 for married men would lead to more marriages. Incidentally he strongly advocated a special tax on bachelors. In the discussion which followed the member for Ilkouski received very little support and seeing the finish of his resolution in the office he withdrew before a vote was called.

The province by the sea had their mind the other day when the question of shipbuilding in connection with the war brought up by Mr. Baulay. Acting Premier Sir George Foster told the chief Liberal hammer wielder that all Canada's shipbuilding activities were being requisitioned to meet the submarine menace, and any company undertaking to build wooden ships could get a contract for the assembly of the Atlantic coast. It was the Premier's information, but the capacity of that gentleman for absorbing information and not profiting by it is phenomenal. He just keeps on going. Now that his party is not in power his expressed desire is for a big shipbuilding programme which will include submarines, destroyers and every conceivable underwater and overwater craft. The discussion of the subject took up most of the sitting, and was quite interesting. But naturally Sir George would not tell the House all that the Government was doing to protect the eastern coast, as to do so would be giving information to the enemy. Two island members, Messrs. A. A. MacLean and J. J. Hughes, participated in the debate. The former told Mr. Macdonald that Canada has rendered splendid service to the allies in this war. Submarines, he said, were a menace of the other side of the water and to some extent on this side, but it was not submarines they wanted on the Canadian Atlantic coast. It was boats to repel submarines that were needed. In this connection the member for Queen's reminded the Minister of Militia and Defence that nothing had been done to fortify ports like Charlottetown, and emphasised the need of immediate action in this respect. Mr. Hughes suggested that the Government give a bonus of \$2,000 per ton for shipbuilding and that \$1,000,000 be voted for the purpose. The matter of shipbuilding was of more importance to the people of the maritime provinces than the passing of the highways bill, he declared.

Technical education and industrial training got another airing in the Commons last week. The proposition was thoroughly discussed, member after member expressing enthusiastic approval. Sir George Foster, after earnestly endorsing the principle of a resolution calling for early action introduced by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, hinted that the Government would shortly take up the question although he was unable to make a definite engagement in the absence of Sir Robert Borden. He offered, however, to bind the Government to action at the earliest practicable opportunity. Under the British North America Act of education has exclusive control of education. The Federal Government in devising a scheme for nationwide technical education must co-operate with

the provinces. There has been some difficulty in securing this co-operation. Canada, for instance, sent a commission of experts around the world to view technical schools and like institutions, and their report, which was presented to Parliament something like eight years ago, was at once forwarded to each provincial Government for an expression of opinion. Only one of the nine provinces replied. This would seem to indicate that at least eight provinces took little interest in the matter. But it may be that the bulkiness of the report had a whole lot to do with the lack of action, especially if the weather was hot when it arrived. Sir George Foster, in the course of the discussion, accepted the view that the war was not necessarily an excuse for the Government's failure to act, since the time had come to prepare for the approaching industrial and social developments and opportunities. Canada seems to be appreciably nearer the adoption of technical education and industrial training than it has been in years.

Canada is to be represented at the great British-American labor conference at Washington. The conference has been called to discuss war work, and the part British and American labor can and will play most effectively. When the conference was announced the Canadian Minister of Labor called Sir Robert Borden that the Dominion ought to be represented. Sir Robert took the matter up with the British labor leaders and they called the British ambassador at Washington with the result that Mr. Crothers has received a telegram from the United States capital stating that a Canadian representative will be welcomed. While it has not yet been definitely decided who will be sent to Washington it is understood that in all probability the Canadian representative will be Hon. Mr. Robertson who was recently appointed to the Senate at the instance of Mr. Crothers as the representative of labor. He resides at Welland, and is president of the Order of Railway Telegraphers.

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\$1,650,000 for the vessel, but had many changes and additions made in its construction, equipment and fittings. At the enquiry the other day Mr. P. L. Miller, of the Canadian Vickers Company, testified that the actual cost of material was \$677,257 and labor \$612,000, but there were many other expenses. It has once more been made clear that the Canadian Government knew nothing whatever about the contract between the Russian Government and the Vickers Company. All the Canadian Government did was to transfer its contract for the ship to the Russians. Therefore anyone who wants more detailed information will have more success if they transfer their fishing ground from the Commons to Petrograd.

The total enlistments for active service in Canada up to March 31 last were 407,221 men, and of that number 43,053 have been discharged as medically unfit. This includes men who have been incapacitated by wounds. Returns tabled in the Commons the other day show that 29,658 men were discharged in Canada exclusive of those who have returned from overseas; 11,917 have returned to Canada and been dropped from the military forces as medically unfit and 1,472 were discharged overseas. The total of 29,658 discharged in Canada is taken from reports from all the military districts except Montreal and the maritime provinces, and the numbers from these districts are on estimate. An analysis of recruiting returns indicate that in 1916 exactly 245,651 recruits volunteered for overseas service and 198,342 only were accepted. The percentage of acceptances throughout Canada was thus 76, while 24 per cent were rejected.

Many old friends in Ottawa heard of the death in Charlottetown of Mr. A.W. Owen with genuine regret. Mr. Owen resided here for years, and was a faithful and efficient public servant. He never lost his enthusiasm for his birthplace, and when he retired from active service he elected to spend the evening of his life in his beloved Prince Edward Island. Sir William Sullivan, Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island, is among the visitors to Ottawa, the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Scott.

The bottom has fallen completely out of the effort made by the Liberal members of the Public Accounts Committee to discover some wrongdoing in connection with the transfer of the icebreaker J. D. Hazen to the Russian Government. This ship was being built by the Canadian Vickers Company for the Canadian Government, the contract price being less than a million dollars. Russia paid

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