

PENSIONS FOR MILITIA MEN

OTTAWA, May 19.—Major General Mowburn has given notice of a resolution to amend the Militia Pensions Act. Its provisions are in part as follows:

That an officer who is retired compulsory for any cause other than misconduct or inefficiency, after ten years' service shall be entitled to a pension for life not exceeding one-fiftieth of the pay and allowances of his rank or permanent appointment at the time of his retirement for each completed year of service.

That the time served as an officer, non-commissioned officer or man on active service during the war between Great Britain and Germany, which commenced on August 14, 1914, shall be counted for pension purposes under the said Militia Pension Act.

That every militia-man shall be entitled to retire and receive a pension for life who has completed not less than ten years service, subject to the provisions of the Militia Pension Act.

That the pension to a militia-man on retirement shall be:

If he has completed ten but less than twenty years service an annual sum equal to one-fiftieth of his annual pay and allowances for every completed year of service.

If he has completed twenty, but less than twenty-five years service, an annual sum equal to twenty-fiftieths of his annual pay and allowances with an addition to two-fiftieths of his annual pay and allowances for every completed year of service above twenty years.

If he has completed twenty-five years service an annual sum equal to thirty-fiftieths of his annual pay and allowances with an addition of one-fiftieth of his annual pay and allowances for every completed year of service above twenty-five years; provided that the pension shall not exceed two-thirds of his annual pay and allowances at his retirement.

That the pension of a widow shall, if her husband was at the time of his death on full pay, be an amount equal to one-half of the pension to which he would have been entitled if he had been retired compulsorily immediately before his death or if, at the time of his death he had been pensioned, an amount equal to one-half of such pension.

MANY TROOPERS ON WAY TO HALIFAX

OTTAWA, May 20.—The movement of troops from England to Canada is proceeding rapidly and if present progress continues until the end of the month, the total of men brought back in May should be a large one. The Militia Department has been advised of the sailing of three more ships, carrying 5,432 Canadian soldiers, all of which will dock before May 24th.

The Caronia, with 48 officers and 2,685 men on board due at Halifax on or about May 31. The Northland with 131 officers and 1,099 men should arrive at Halifax the following day. The Minnedosa, carrying forty-one officers and 319 men, is expected to reach Quebec on the 22nd.

On the Caronia there are two officers and 142 other ranks for Halifax; thirty one other ranks for Moncton; seventy other ranks for St. John, ten other ranks for Charlottetown, and five other ranks for Quebec.

Included in the Northland's list are two officers for Charlottetown, seventeen other ranks for Halifax and five other ranks for Quebec.

The Militia Department has been advised of the sailing of three more ships carrying a total of 4,546 Canadian troops. Two of them, the Minnedosa and the Bohemia are bound for Halifax, and should reach that port on the 22nd. The former carries 175 officers and 2,361 other ranks and the latter 23 officers and 1,635 other ranks. The third vessel, the Gramplan, with 37 officers and 360 other ranks on board, should reach Quebec on the 22nd.

CANADA IS DESTINED TO BE KEYSTONE OF BRITISH UNITY

LONDON, May 19.—(Reuter's).—The Observer in an editorial under the caption of "Canada's Glory" says:

"The birth of the League of Nations throws on all of us, and on Canada not the least, wider responsibility as members of the British Commonwealth. In this regard Canada has a single part to play. She is destined to be the keystone of our unity. Of the self-governing Dominions she is the greatest, and, save for Newfoundland, the nearest to Europe. The integral French element in her population ensures special sympathy with an understanding of the Latin races of Europe. The fact that like her great neighbor she absorbed and will continue to assimilate into her British stock no small contribution from the other races of Europe, gives her a direct interest in the old world, and an unparochial outlook on its affairs. In fact, Canada adds to her position as a Dominion much of the prestige which the United States enjoys as the home of millions of emigrants from Europe.

"And further, she is by geography and politics the natural channel for a mutual interaction of ideals and culture between the British and American peoples. Thus she occupies a place unmatched for influencing the future of imperial world politics. It is a great task. She has given abundant pledges to her sister nations that she is equal to it, and never more eloquently than in the past five years.

"Deep in the heart of the people of this country are the splendid memories of Canadian deeds and intimate memories of Canadian soldiers among us are gratefully imprinted. The coming generation will prize these years as the source of firm and almost personal tradition of friendship, a tie rod stouter than steel to underpin the fabric of political or commercial relations."

The Sunday Times editorially says:

"Alone among all our Colonial Premiers Sir Robert Borden will return as a living evidence that a people can and will render a service to their convictions, to their sense of right and justice to the call of the blood and the flag under which they live, at a vast and unreckoned cost to themselves, without either prepostulating and recompense or subsequently claiming any share of any indemnity or compensating spoil which might remain for distribution. Canada has fought, paid and suffered. Other great Dominions have sought security for the future only, but must be conscious that in demanding just guarantees they have also received some compensation for their sacrifices. Canada has given all and sought nothing.

"When all else is forgotten Canada's selflessness will remain as proof that the Empire entered the war for liberty, and liberty alone."

The Daily Telegraph says editorially:

"It has been a happy circumstance for our commonwealth of nations that a man of Sir Robert Borden's cool courage and high ideals was Prime Minister of Canada when the war broke out, and that he has enjoyed the confidence of the vast majority of his fellow-countrymen during the whole period of its continuance. We hope that the intimate personal association set up between Sir Robert Borden and the British Government may not be broken until the British constitution is firmly established on its new lines of development.

"Borden's phrase equality of nations within the British Empire was the enunciation of a doctrine which will come to mean as much to the British Dominions as the Monroe Doctrine means to the United States. The problem is the intensely practical one of how to best give constitutional expression to the principle of equality of nationhood and, accepting the establishment of an imperial cabinet as the most promising step in that direction. How to plan its working arrangements and peace time standing with least inconvenience to the Dominions. These matters cannot be settled until the promised conference on the imperial constitution has taken place, and we hope this will not be postponed later than is absolutely necessary."

SEAL RING HAD ORIGIN WITH ANCIENT ROMANS

The seal ring worn by the modern business man and occasionally used to seal important letters and documents, had its origin in the early Roman empire and has come down, through the centuries virtually unchanged.

This as disclosed recently in an exhibit of ancient Roman jewelry, collected by a wealthy Chicago attorney and placed on temporary exhibition in one of the large art galleries along with other treasures of the days of Hadrian and Trajan.

Each bears in intaglio the coat of arms or crest, duplication of which by any outsider constituted a crime. "Safety first" seems to have been a cardinal virtue also, because pater familias often wore a seal ring to which was strongly attached the key to his strong box. One got possession of it only over his dead body. These jewels show plainly the influence of times and conditions; trace

victories and conquests, and reflect the successive gradations of the early Romans from the summit of world-power to decadence.

For instance, the passion for engraved gems was plainly stimulated after Pompey's victories in the east. The conquests of Greece and Etruria are plainly reflected in the infusion of delicate handicraft and Etruscan artists, taken captive to Rome. Compared with the jewelry of other ancient nations, the distinctly Roman jewels are held to possess the advantage of color and strength in design and workmanship. Its characteristic features were broad surfaces, massive construction and the use of large stones.

Under the Roman republic the use of precious stones was prohibited except in rings, but in imperial times they were worn in such lavish profusion that successive laws were made in an effort to correct wild extravagance. Pliny describes a girl who at her betrothal ceremony was covered with pearls and emeralds from head to feet. Reflecting the decadence of this period is the fact that rings were worn by men in senseless profusion. Martial speaks of an exquisite who wore six on every finger, and had different sets for Winter and Summer.

Bracelets were also worn in large numbers, the designs of a coiled serpent being very popular. This is believed to have been an importation after Pompey's Oriental conquests,

marking a distinct tendency in Roman jewelry after that time.—Buffalo Commercial.

DIVISION OF GERMAN SHIPPING

LONDON, May 19.—The division of the German mercantile shipping, which has been the subject of considerable discussion in England since the announcement that America was to receive all vessels interned in American ports, was raised in the House of Commons today by Ben Tillett, Labor member for North Salford. Mr. Tillett asked Bonar Law, the Government spokesman what steps the Government was taking to claim a share of enemy shipping in proportion to the losses sustained by use of the vessels detained in American waters. Mr. Bonar Law said he could not discuss the matter, but hoped the House would trust the British delegates to protect British interests.

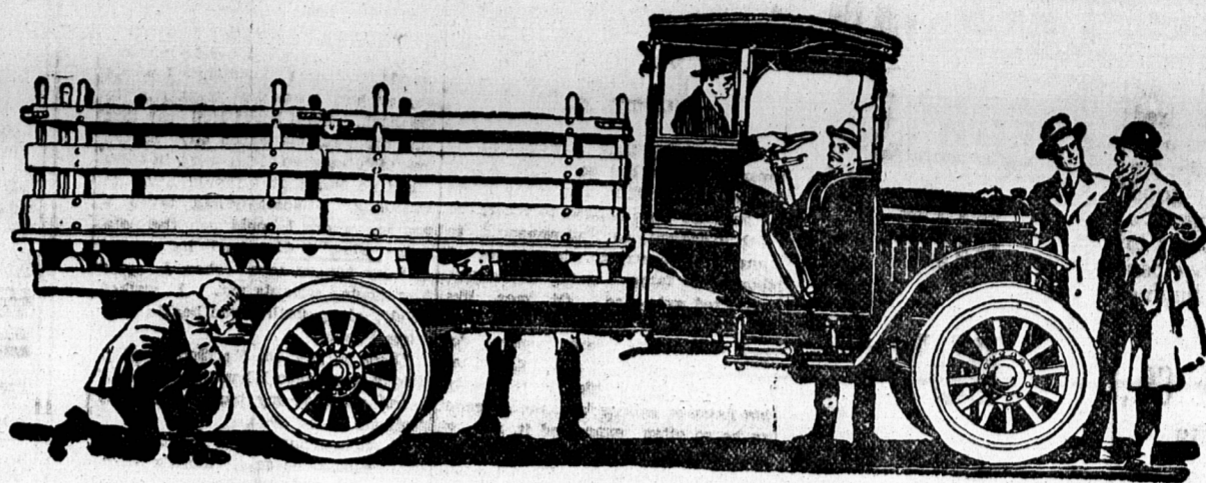
Horace Bottomley, an independent member, asked whether it was not a convenient opportunity for President Wilson "to prove the sincerity of his idealism by making no claim for these ships, and giving them to those who have borne the heat and burden of the war."

There was no answer from the Government benches.

A search for a missing meteor, conducted by the United States Geological Survey, ended in a reservoir of the

water company at Townsda, Pa., and incidentally enabled the company to account for the sudden disappearance of its ice crop one night last January. On the afternoon of the meteor's flight the reservoir had decided to cut the eight inch crop of ice the next morning. During the night the meteor landed in the reservoir. When workmen went to harvest the ice it had dwindled to a scant three inches.

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