

The Beacon

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ST. ANDREWS, N. B., CANADA.

Saturday, 1st February, 1919.

THE PROGRESS OF PEACE

IN the past week the Peace Conference held a number of important meetings in Paris, and much progress was made and perfect unanimity seems to have prevailed. The most important decision reached was not to restore the conquered colonial possessions to Germany, but to apportion their control among the Allies, subject to the ultimate supervision of the League of Nations, the formation of which is a certain consummation of the Peace Conference. Representatives of British dominions and colonies do not seem to endorse entirely the decision reached, but their fears may prove unfounded. So long as Great Britain is a member of the prospective League of Nations the whole world can be assured that any control exercised over colonies by the League will be used in a manner conformable to the traditions and custom of British colonial practice, which has always been to safeguard the interests of the native races.

While the Conference is working hard, and successfully, in bringing about a permanent and just peace, unhappy Russia is still in the throes of revolution and war. Fighting occurred in several places in European Russia and Siberia, the Bolsheviks being successful at some points, and those opposed to them succeeding at others, the net result, apparently, being the further weakening of the Bolshevik power.

The opposing factions in Poland have reached a basis of cooperation, and the new Republic, under the Presidency of Paderewski, has been recognized by the Powers represented at the Peace Conference.

Counter revolutions in Germany have not altogether ceased, the government is becoming stronger daily, and the prospect of the power being firmly, speedily, and universally supported is very bright. Extremists must give way to the control of moderates.

Canadian troops have continued to arrive in large numbers from their campaigns overseas, and St. Andrews has again had the pleasure of welcoming home a few more of her returned heroes. It is announced that in future returning Canadian soldiers will be transported in units, which will facilitate their transportation by railway to their homes in Canada; and it will also make it possible to have the welcome accorded to the men embrace a large number, instead of only one or two at a time, as has been the case.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR ST. ANDREWS

SOME enterprising citizens are organizing a Company for the purpose of establishing an electric lighting plant in St. Andrews, and it is earnestly to be hoped that they will succeed in their undertaking. That St. Andrews has been no long without electric light for general users and for street illumination, is a source of wonder not only to the visitors but to the mass of the townspeople as well. There is not the slightest doubt that if electric light were available it would soon be installed in every house in town; and our streets have been so long in total darkness on those nights when the moon does not shine brilliantly, that all the residents of the Town will hail with joy the lighting of the streets by electricity. The wretched old and dim kerosene lamps that were used for a time to light(?) the streets were justly discarded, as their maintenance was only a waste of money; but they served the purpose of showing the greater advantage of having streets lighted properly by electricity.

The gentleman who are organizing the Company are among our most public-spirited and enterprising citizens; and we are confident that the object they have in view is to supply a much needed public utility rather than to exploit the public for private profit. They should receive every encouragement.

There ought to be no hesitation, on the part of the Town Council to arrange with the Company to light the streets. The Company will have to get permission from the Council to erect poles, and when that permission is granted it would be well for the Council to arrange with the Company that the Town shall have the right to take over any time after a definite

period the plant to be installed by the Company at a valuation be fixed by expert agreement confirmed by the Provincial Public Utilities Commission. Let there be Light.

A PERSONAL NOTE

AS is announced in another column, there will be no issue of the BEACON for four or five weeks, as I am due to leave next week for England on a business trip that concerns me personally and will have a direct ultimate bearing on the future of the paper. For nearly five years I have carried on the BEACON at a very considerable pecuniary loss, but in spite of the unsatisfactory financial condition, the paper has been enlarged to its present size, and has provided weekly a large amount of interesting news and other reading matter. The readers of the paper have been highly appreciative of my efforts, and have given me great encouragement. The subscription list is quite satisfactory, and the number of subscribers was beginning to show an increase, but the commercial interests of St. Andrews have not used their local paper to the extent they should do, both for their own advantage and for the benefit of the community at large. Advertisements in any well-balanced newspaper should occupy nearly one-half the whole space; but at present the reading matter in the BEACON takes up nearly three quarters of the space. Such a paper cannot possibly pay unless the number of subscribers is very largely increased. It is true that the war years have been very hard on all country weekly newspapers throughout Canada, but in no town in Canada have conditions been so hard for a local newspaper as they have been in St. Andrews; for in other towns it is the practice for all merchants to advertise, and extensively, but here many of the merchants, mechanics, and professional men do not advertise at all, and some of those who do advertise use only a very small space. The loss falls on the whole community, for buyers go where they are invited to go by merchants who advertise; so St. Andrews fails to get the share of outside trade to which it is entitled by its geographical position, and many people in St. Andrews buy largely from outside sources from mail order houses and merchants who advertise.

I have striven hard for nearly five years to revive the spirit of enterprise and cooperation that used to prevail in St. Andrews, but there are so many here who are so self-centred, so inclined to work only for their own individual profit and to ignore the general interests of the community, so prone to invest their savings and profits in enterprises in other places rather than help to build up industries in their own community, that much missionary work remains to be done. Just how these selfish and indifferent people can be reached is a problem, but it ought to admit of a solution.

For myself, the trip I am about to take is not for pleasure or recreation, though I know of no one who has earned a holiday more than myself, by nearly five years of the very hardest kind of work without any relaxation whatever; but I hope by my visit to England to interest some capitalists in an enterprise I have long had in contemplation and which the war has held up for four years. The enterprise contemplated includes the continuation of the BEACON, and its further improvement; and I am confident that all its readers are well-wishers for my success.

I am extremely sorry that I have been unable to get someone to carry on the paper in my absence, but my efforts in this direction failed. I sincerely hope that the patrons of the paper, both advertisers and subscribers, will wait patiently for my return, which will be as soon as possible, probably in not more than five weeks at the most.

St. Andrews has a brilliant future if its people will work together for the common good, and will show their faith in, and regard for, the Town by endeavoring to expand present business and to develop new enterprises. I wish to do all in my power to this end, and have already made large sacrifices in time and money with this sole object in view.

WALLACE BROAD

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

The Editor has received several letters from Correspondents that require an answer, but this will have to be deferred until his return from England in March.

Thrift Stamps are "quarters"

NO RECEIPT NECESSARY

Subscribers sometimes make requests for a receipt for remittances made in renewal, and such receipts are sent when a stamped addressed envelope accompanies the request. But no receipt is necessary, as the date on the address slip shows the time up to which the paper is paid, and the date is always changed when the money for renewal is received. The mailing list is now corrected to January 29, and the next correction will be made three days before the next issue of the BEACON.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY COUNCIL

(Concluding Report)

The sessions of County Council were continued at St. Andrews until Friday afternoon.

Coun. Mawhinney, of Lepreau, who had missed connexion at St. John Tuesday morning, took his seat at the Wednesday afternoon session, thus completing the personnel of the Council.

Coun. Douglass placed the Town Hall in St. Andrews at the disposal of the Council for a recreation room.

The committee to whom had been referred the matter of the salaries of the sheriff and jailor, reported, recommending that the salary of the sheriff be increased from \$600 to \$700, and that of the jailor from \$420 to \$500, and it was so ordered. The report pointed out that the jailor also received free light, fuel, and rent, valued at \$200.

Nearly all of the afternoon was spent in finance committee, in consideration of bills in connexion with the old "health districts," which have gone out of existence under the new Health Act. Those from District No. 14, parish of Grand Manan, were properly certified and were ordered to be paid and the required assessment of \$570.07 ordered levied on the parish. Those for districts 15 and 28 were not certified by the recent chairman and were, after careful consideration, left for further action.

THURSDAY MORNING

When Council reassembled, Coun. Connors, of Pennfield, moved that the regulations against cattle running at large in that parish be enforced after June 1 of the present year; and the motion was seconded by Coun. McVicar. Coun. Connors presented a petition in favor of the change signed by 123 residents, and one against the change signed by 50 residents.

Coun. Hawkins urged that no change be made, as the matter would be decided by the residents of the parish at the election next fall, when two councillors would run on each side of the question.

Coun. Connors urged that the matter be determined at this time. On the question being put, fifteen voted in favor of putting the cattle regulations in force in June, and seventeen against, and the motion of Coun. Connors was declared lost.

Coun. Grimmer, chairman of the committee on County Property, explained that new carpet ordered to be placed in the court house had not been purchased because it could not be secured. They would endeavor to have the work done during the present year.

Coun. Hawkins introduced a resolution placing the "day pay" of councillors at \$5, instead of \$3, and stated that because of the increased cost of travelling, board, etc., the councillors could not "get by" at the present pay. This was seconded by Coun. Monahan, who stated that the motion was not made in the interests of the present councillors as of those who would follow them.

Couns. Morrell, Pollard, and McMillan spoke against the resolution, the latter remarking that, judging by the way the councillors stayed in the Shire Town, they must feel that they are getting enough. Couns. McNeill, Richardson, and Johnson spoke in favor of the resolution.

On the motion being put, five councillors Calder, Donald, Pollard, Morrell, and McMillan, voted against the increase, and the other twenty-eight voted in favor.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The secretary read a petition of the Bay of Fundy, Red Granite Co., Milne Coutts & Co., asking for a reduction of the valuation of their property in the parish of St. George, claiming over assessment.

Coun. Maxwell advised against interfering with the work of the assessors, as it was difficult to get men to do the work, and he thought that the assessment was right.

On motion, the matter was referred to a committee consisting of Couns. Hawkins, McCann, and Pollard, who subsequently reported, recommending that the valuation be reduced from \$6000 to \$4000, and the recommendation was adopted.

The Council then went into finance committee, when the bills from Health District No. 15, amounting to \$654.04, and No. 28, amounting to \$485.26, were ordered to be paid and assessed upon the parishes concerned.

Then the demand for the current year for the purposes of the new Board of Health, \$3500, was ordered to be assessed upon the towns and parishes of the county. This was a new "baby," born of the provincial government and rather forced upon the county without any choice on their part. It was not cordially received, but the secretary assured the council that to refuse the demand of the board would accomplish nothing other than to bring further expense on the county, and the child was reluctantly adopted. There are no party politics at the Charlotte County Council, few members know or care what party the others belong to, and as a consequence matters are considered solely on their merits. None were heard to approve of the new Health Act, but none were inclined to contend against it when that would only mean increased cost to the county.

Coun. McNeill spoke of a health bill of \$236 for furniture destroyed in the home of Mrs. McKinney on Deer Island—follow-

ing an outbreak of smallpox, that was not paid at the last session of the council. As other bills of a like nature had been passed at this session, he thought this account should now be paid. After investigation, it was ascertained that the amount charged in this bill for clothing and furniture destroyed was \$125, and this was ordered to be paid.

This concluded the work of the finance committee, and it then reported to council, the report being adopted and its recommendations ordered to be carried out.

Coun. Pollard asked the secretary for information as to the liability of returned soldiers in the matter of taxes.

The secretary stated that he knew of no provision in the Assessment Act or the Military Service Act which, in any way, exempted soldiers from liability in this matter. They could not arrest or detain a soldier in uniform for taxes or any other cause, as the state has first claim upon his services. In some towns and parishes, the soldiers have been exempted from taxes, and he believed properly exempted, but the assessors and the collectors have no authority in law to exempt, unless they choose to do so, as many do, just close their eyes to the exactions of the law and deal generously with the soldiers. He was strongly of the opinion that they do not become non-residents because of their absence on duty, for their home is still their home, and their names should be kept on the voting lists. It is a case where generosity should rule.

Coun. Douglas thanked the members of council who showed their sympathy by going with him to the train that day to assist in the welcome to his son returning from overseas. Coun. Douglas stated that the citizens of St. Andrews had been considering the matter of a memorial to the soldiers of the town who have fallen in battle, and many favored the erection of a monument, though this has not been decided. If such a memorial is decided upon, they would like permission to erect it on the vacant square in front of the county building and would like to have the lot deeded to the town for that purpose. If the county was to erect a county monument, the people of the town would gladly work and contribute to that object, rather than to one for the town only. The matter was very fully discussed.

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St. Stephen, N. B.

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—ON—

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Prices: Afternoon—Children, 25c., Adults, 75c. Evening, 75c. to all.

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LEGAL PRINTING Done
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DEPARTMENT.

Beacon Press Co.

SEND ALL ORDERS TO
THE BUSINESS OFFICE

Stevenson Block

Next Door to Custom House

Social

Miss Emma Greaves at the Calais Hotel and here with her Martin Greenlaw.

Mr. Cleveland moved into Red Street.

Lieut. Philip H. have been the guest Minister's Island.

Miss Marjorie King in St. Stephen.

The Misses Righting party on Monday.

Judge Byron was week.

Miss Freda Wrote tea hour on Tuesday.

The Evening Mrs. Ralph Gooding. Miss Bessie Oest score.

Miss Hazel McCuher recent illness.

Miss Bessie Grier from a visit to St. John.

Rev. Father O' from St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. C. visiting in Florence.

Signaller Hugh M. visited relatives in

Mr. John F. Calder, of Campbell's Customs, were

Mrs. J. H. Stic members of All Saints hour on Tuesday.

Mr. Warren Stinson.

Mrs. F. H. Grim members of All Saints Tuesday.

Miss Melda Calder, of her friends at Monday evening.

Phyllis and Lois Th. Edith Finigan, Russell, Gretchen Grant and Mary Newton.

Mr. Guy Sutherland, town for a few days. Sutherland has resigned of Nova Scotia, St. turning to his home where he will enter father.

Mr. and Mrs. Good evening in honor of who has just recently overseas. Dancing the evening, after were served.

Mrs. Robert Slater, that the Sch. Caskin band sailed, has arrived video, South America.

Mrs. and Mrs. F. Sunday with relatives.

Mrs. R. Slater, Mr. Forest Ross were Rigby at Bayside.

Miss A. McDonald, from a pleasant visit.

The Misses Grace who have been the Richardson, returned day.

Mrs. E. A. Cockburn tea hour on Wednesday.

Miss Annie Richardson home by the previous.

On Thursday evening and other officers of entertained the members. In the guessing contest, and Miss Bessie prize winners.

Mrs. Howard Right Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy the orchestra and the on Thursday evening.

Miss Marjorie B. from St. Stephen.

Miss Bessie Wren in pneumonia.

Mrs. Edward Larsen, Chipman Hospital for

Mrs. Elmer Rigby sewing party on Friday.

Mrs. E. N. Heney, West, is entertaining on Friday—Lady Tail West, is entertaining at luncheon on Thursday.

—Mont

SUBSCRIBERS IN January 1, over 300 out, and only 100 responded. We want amount is small in each the difficulties with papers have to struggle serious. So, please pa