

HUGE AUDIENCE ATTENDED SUNDAY RECRUITING MEETING

Lt. Col P. A. Guthrie and Rev. Father Carney Gave Eloquent Addresses--Excellent Results Expected Later--Question Put up Squarely to the People of Fredericton.

The first Sunday night recruiting meeting held in Fredericton took place in the City Opera House last night. The direct result in volunteers was small, but like other meetings of a similar nature the indirect result will be realized later. The speakers were Lieut. Col. P. A. Guthrie and the Rev. F. L. Carney, pastor of St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Church in this city. Both gave excellent discourses. The audience crowded the Opera House so that the door had to be closed before the speaking began. His Worship Mayor Mitchell occupied the chair and introduced the speakers.

Those seated on the platform were J. J. Weddall, Ald. J. M. Lemont, Rev. Dr. W. H. Smith, Hon. Capt. the Rev. Father Lockary, Rev. Thomas Marshall, Private Osborne Kelly, P. P. C. L. L.

Mayor Mitchell.

His Worship Mayor Mitchell made a brief introductory speech. He referred to the fact that another recruiting campaign had been begun for the County of York; Sunday night had been selected for a meeting in Fredericton because Lieut. Col. Guthrie could be present and address the gathering and also because many citizens could be present on that occasion who could not attend on any other night. His worship then introduced Lieut. Col. Guthrie.

Lieut. Col. Guthrie.

Lieut. Col. Guthrie said the attendance bore eloquent testimony to the interest taken by the public. During the past few weeks he had been engaged in the organization of the province of New Brunswick for recruiting purposes. A few months ago he had not taken particular interest in recruiting. He had gone to Ottawa to place his services at the disposal of the Militia Department, believing his place to be on the firing line. He had been prevailed upon to direct his efforts toward recruiting and had decided to aid Capt. Tilley of St. John in his work in New Brunswick during the few months that he expected to be in it.

Recruiting was most important and could not be abandoned until this dreadful conflict had been brought to an end.

Women Interested.

Col. Guthrie said that the attendance of women was an excellent sign. The women of Belgium had suffered; the women of Serbia had suffered; the women of Montenegro had suffered. It well behooved the Canadian women to urge the men to join the colors.

The speaker stated that his appeal was to young men—men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. Unmarried men were those first wanted.

The speaker traced the developments which led up to the outbreak of the war in August, 1914. In the seventeen months since the outbreak of the war the British had but one thing to boast of—the British navy had swept the German flag from the sea.

Canadians should not rely entirely on the British navy. A powerful German navy evidently was being created, just as a powerful army had been made.

As far as military operations were concerned, the Germans had been victorious—in Poland, in Serbia, in Belgium. Before the war it had been said that the German people would not stand behind the Kaiser. The speaker had no hesitation in saying that the German people were more interested in the war than any other nation in the world.

Every Available Man.

Col. Guthrie amid applause said that the effective way to forestall German endeavor would be to put every available man in the field in Europe. Canadians were living too much on the glories of the past. The present was the time to strike. (Applause.)

War had become the work of the British nation. "Business as usual" was a bogey. War had become the business of the nation, and to that business every energy should be devoted. All the cheering necessary could be done after the war was over. The call of King and country should be strong and the call of comrades should be stronger. Fredericton had done well, but she would not do her best until every available man had been sent.

"Hang On."

The speaker said he well remem-

bered the message of General Smith-Dorrien on the 22nd of April last, when the Canadians were holding five and a half miles of trenches at Ypres: "The eyes of the Empire are on you, Canadians. Calais is at stake. Hang on! Hang on!"

That was the message which still came, "Hang on, hang on!"

Germany would not wage one kind of war in Europe and another in Canada. If a German force should cross the Atlantic Canadian women would be dealt with as had the women of Belgium. If no other argument would reach the young Canadian man, would not that cry for the defence of his women?

To mothers he would say that it was their duty not to hold their sons back. To the old men he would say, "Send your sons, and send them gladly." To sweethearts he would say, "The man who is not willing to fight for you is not fit for you to spend the rest of your days with." To the young man he would say, "Come tonight; don't wait until conscription comes."

Col. Guthrie closed his remarks with an appeal for recruits in defence of their homes.

Rev. Father Carney.

Rev. Father Carney was then introduced by Mayor Mitchell.

Rev. Father Carney said he appreciated the fact that Col. Guthrie had given him time for but a short speech. (Laughter.) War had been raging for more than seventeen months. When it began many thought it soon would be over. He himself had been one of those unfortunate prophets who said the war would be over in three months. Col. Guthrie said one truth. Although our armies had fought brilliantly we never had celebrated a victory. Except on the sea no headway had been made. Nevertheless, there was no ground for despair. The end was not in sight, but victory would be soon. (Applause.)

There were the men and the equipment, and there were faithful allies. In Canada there was a voluntary system of military service and he hoped conscription would never come. (Applause.) Col. Guthrie had said Fredericton had done well. He was right, but Fredericton could, he thought, do a little better. Gallant deeds had been done by the Canadians, and those to follow would do the same.

He saw before him some young men in uniform. They were happy and contented looking and could take to themselves the praise given by Col. Guthrie. They could go out to battle with the best feelings of their friends and relatives and with the blessing of God.

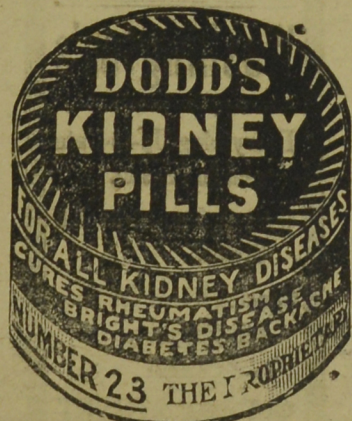
It was the young man's opportunity. It was dangerous, it must be admitted, but the proportion of killed and wounded was not large when the enormous numbers in the army were taken into consideration.

Call to Manhood.

The call had come to Canadian manhood and the response had been generous, but there was still room for more. War was a curse, but it might be turned into one of God's blessings. It might knit together race to race, creed to creed, people to people. It was an opportunity for self-sacrifice and trial in which to prove the men. It would tend to make one people of Canadians and of the British Empire. The British had won the admiration of the world for their work on the sea. The time had come for them to do the same on land. (Applause.)

After the address by Rev. Father Carney, Col. Guthrie called for recruits. He paid a glowing tribute to the former speaker's effort and seconded by Ald. Lemont, moved a vote of thanks, which was extended to Rev. Father Carney, who responded briefly.

The meeting ended with the singing of the national anthem.



Opposition Platform

The following platform was adopted at the Opposition Convention held in St. John recently:
In the event of the Opposition being returned to power, we pledge ourselves:—

NO PARTIZAN CONTROL OF CROWN LANDS.

1. We pledge ourselves to completely reorganize the Crown-Lands Department, so that its administration shall be entirely severed from politics and administered on sound business principles under systematic plans by a non-partizan commission specially appointed for that purpose, responsible to the Legislature and working in co-operation with the Dominion Commission of Conservation.

TAKE THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF POLITICS.

2. We pledge ourselves to take the highways out of politics, giving the expenditure of the money collected from the people and the control of the labor, together with the Government appropriations, into the hands of supervisors, chosen by the people of each parish, to whom a detailed and audited account must be rendered every year at the annual meeting, and a duplicate thereof forwarded to the Department of Public Works, the work of the supervisors to be under the inspection of a competent provincial engineer.

We also pledge ourselves to set aside the money collected from the licenses upon automobiles and other motor vehicles, together with an equal appropriation from the revenues of the Province each year, to pay the interest upon the bonds to provide for permanent roads, which shall be constructed as rapidly as possible.

PROHIBITION PROVINCE WIDE.

3. We pledge ourselves at the first session of the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the Province to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitution, and within three months after the passage of said Act to submit the same by referendum to the electors of the Province, and should the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to bring the same into force by proclamation within one year thereafter.

ELECTION LAW.

4. (a) To amend the electoral law so as to make it impossible for members of the Legislature to traffic with the Government and still retain their seats.

(b) To make it possible for young men, when they reach the age of 21 years, to register their names and be placed forthwith upon the voters' lists, instead of waiting for the tedious machinery of revision as it now exists.

(c) To divide the counties into electoral districts which shall each be represented by one member.

(d) We will also consider amendments to the election law to make bribery in municipal as well as provincial elections impossible.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

5. To obtain at once a correct statement of the financial condition of the Province in order that the people may have definite knowledge of the vastly increased public debt and the enormous obligations of guaranteed bonds they will be called upon to pay; and to so reduce the cost of the administration of affairs and the number of useless officials as to avoid the necessity for direct taxation now confronting us.

AGRICULTURE.

6. To give the farmers all the practical assistance that the resources of the Province will permit, to improve agricultural methods and the quality and quantity of the stock upon the farm; to reduce the enormous salary list in the department, and to spend the educational grant received from the Federal Government without regard for political patronage.

VALLEY RAILWAY.

7. To complete the Valley Railway from a point on the Trans-continental Railway at or near Grand Falls, to St. John, and insist upon the Dominion Government carrying out the terms of the original legislation and allow the Province forty per cent. of the gross earnings thereof.

EDUCATION.

8. To always maintain and improve the educational service of the Province and to co-operate with the Federal Government in carrying out the recommendations of the commission upon technical education.

IMMIGRATION.

9. The inauguration of a vigorous immigration policy to properly place before intending immigrants, whose number will be large after termination of the war, the advantages of the agricultural possibilities of New Brunswick.

Slants Of Humor

THE COLD.

I have a rather stubborn cold
And life seems all awry.
But everything of which I'm told
I try.

The list assumes a goodly range;
I hope to getter get.
And have I noticed any change?
Not yet.

But still I do what I am told;
Give ear to all the chaps.
Eventually I'll cure that cold,
Perhaps.

MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

I call a spade a spade
And that is quite all right.
No enemies are made,
You see, a shade can't fight.

But when a man's a mutt
I do not so affirm.
He may be all that, but
I find a milder term.

SWAPPING JOKES.

We all tell wheezes hoary
But let us not repine.
I'll cackle at your story
If you will smile at mine.

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PERSONAL

Mr. Seth Jones of Sussex, provincial poultry superintendent, is at the Barker House.

Mr. Gerald H. King of Chipman, is at the Queen.

Mr. J. S. Ackheast of Halifax, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. S. B. Kaye of St. John, is in the city.

Strange how those German lines stick to Champagne.

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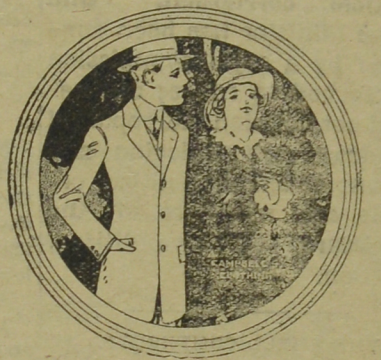
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