

## IMPORTANT AMENDMENT TO SCOTT ACT

Ottawa, May 2.—Hon. C. J. Doherty's bill to amend the Canada Temperance Act was read in the Commons today a second time, put through committee and passed. It deals with the manufacture and sale of liquors and wines within districts which have adopted the Canada Temperance Act. It provides that producers of wine and cider, distillers and brewers and merchants licensed to sell liquor wholesale, having their manufacture or stores within such districts, may sell their commodities only in quantities of ten gallons or more at any one time, and only to licensed druggists or vendors, or to persons who only have good reason to believe will carry the liquor outside the Scott Act territory and will not deal with it in violation of any provincial law. Upon producers, distillers, brewers or traders charged with violating the act will lie the onus of proving that they had good reason for believing that the liquor sold would not be dealt with in violation of the law.

The penalties for contraventions of the act are fixed at not less than \$50 or more than \$100, or one month's imprisonment for the first offence and imprisonment for not less than four months for the second and subsequent offences. The bill also provides that where appliances or preparations usually found in taverns are found in any place in a Scott Act district, and intoxicating liquor is also found, such liquor shall be deemed to have been kept for sale contrary to the law, unless the contrary is proved.

Hon. Mr. Doherty explained that the bill was intended to add to the restrictions placed upon the sale of liquor by the Canada Temperance Act in such a way as to prevent violation of the pro-

vincial laws. Hon. William Fuglesy enquired if the Minister of Justice had considered the suspension of the Canada Temperance Act in provinces which had adopted prohibitory legislation.

Sir George Foster thought it would be an arbitrary act for the Government to override the decision of the people in a locality who had voted to adopt the Scott Act. Such people might feel that the Canada Temperance Act was preferable to the provincial act.

## DIVORCE QUESTION COMING ON TUESDAY

"The Divorce Question," which enjoyed a long run in New York City and Chicago, is endorsed by all the leading clergy as one of the truest and most forceful dramas ever written.

The story of the play in this case is that of a couple who had two children, secure a divorce, and as neither desire the custody of the children they have them placed in a boarding school.

Having been accustomed to the comforts of home, and missing the guiding hand of a mother and father, they soon tire of this and make their escape. Years afterward they are found in the slums. Through force of association with the lowest element in the slum district, the boy, has acquired the drug habit, while the girl has fallen into the hands of white slavers.

For a while the boy loses track of his sister, but at last finds her in a cheap saloon under the influence of a man who ruined her. In his attempt to rescue her he kills the man. Pursued by a mob, he takes refuge in the house of a priest.

The father and mother, who have married a second time, learn through the priest how their children from their former marriage have fallen, and both refuse to carry them into their new homes, as they would be a menace to so-called society. When the daughter learns of this the shock proves too much, and she dies of a broken heart, while the son, in his weakened condition from the drug habit, becomes a raving maniac.

Thus it teaches us that the laws of God should not be overcome by laws

of man, and again leads up to that vital question in divorce cases, "What becomes of the children?" This play will be presented by the Urban Stock Co. for one performance only, Tuesday May 9, at the City Opera House. Seats now on sale at Ryan's Drug Store.

## GOVERNOR WOOD SHOULD TAKE ACTION

(Moncton Transcript.)

The crisis at Fredericton grows in intensity.

The duty of the Lieutenant-Governor is clear, and he ought to discharge that duty in common fairness to the people of New Brunswick.

His duty is to dissolve the Legislature and compel an appeal to the people.

The story which is now revealed by the Hon. John Morrissey is one which will shock not merely the people of New Brunswick, but those of Canada.

It is impossible that the Lieutenant-Governor can justly continue to retain as his advisers men who are charged with such shameful corruption and wrong-doing.

It is unnecessary to dwell at any length at the present moment upon the charges made. It might distract attention from the very seriousness of the charges by raising a discussion. The Transcript contents itself in this issue simply with presenting to the public the facts as stated by the Hon. John Morrissey.

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## REV. CAPT. MacDONALD AT LONDON MEETING

(St. John Times.)

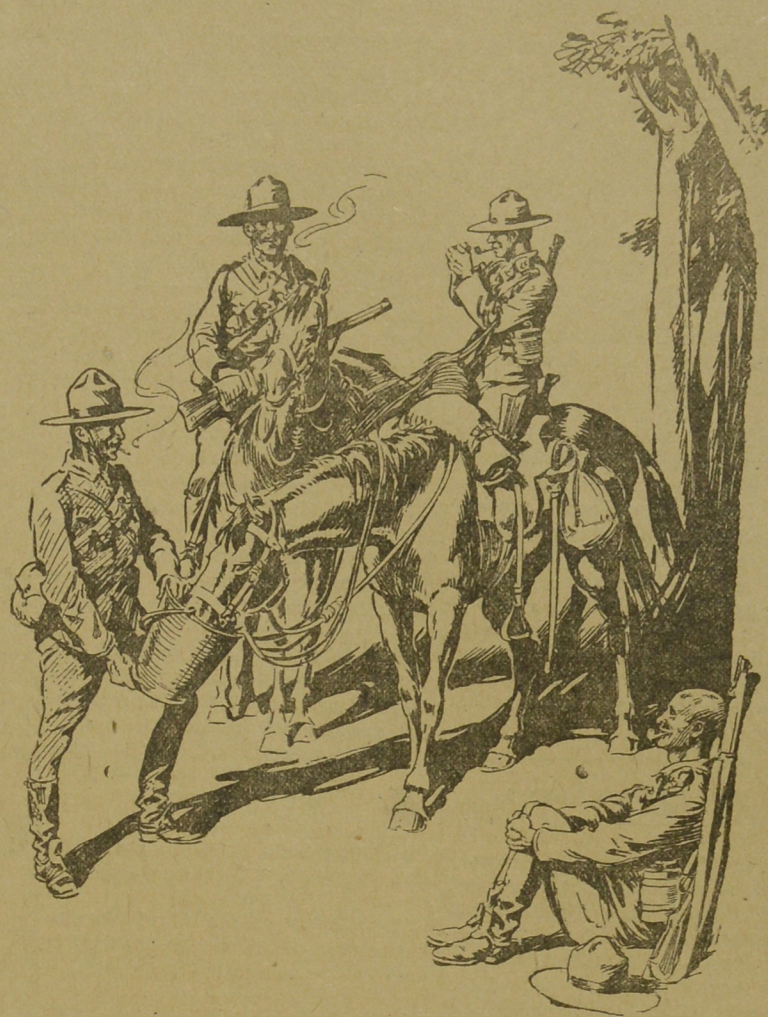
This London cable to the Montreal Gazette is of interest to many in St. John, for it says:

"Canadian chaplains figure conspicuously on the programmes of many meetings now proceeding here. One of the most trenchant addresses at the Baptist Union Assembly yesterday was that of Captain J. H. MacDonald, in which he upheld Canadian churches for their active help in the recruiting of men for overseas service."

Capt. MacDonald is Rev. J. H. MacDonald of the Maritime Baptist. That paper today says:

"From the numerous inquiries made we know that all our readers have greatly missed for the last few weeks Dr. MacDonald's communications from the front. We have received no word from him since he returned from France to London. He is now engaged in executive work, assisting the Director of Chaplain Service. This he has found very exacting both as to time and strength. Yet we hope that he will soon find time to write us of the work in London, and are sure that this will be scarcely less interesting than were his letters from the front."

Lovers of political sensations, who are now being served with fresh tid-bits every day sometimes think of how they used to live for months on nothing but a sawdust wharf or a few bales of pressed hay.



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## \$400,000,000 FOR PRAIRIE PROVINCES

A Talk With J. S. DENNIS, Assistant to C.P.R. President

Wheat alone the three prairie provinces yielded last year 340,000,000 bushels against 140,000,000 bushels in 1914, while the yield of wheat, oats, barley and flax amounted to 700,000,000 bushels in 1915 against 320,000,000 bushels in 1914.

These four crops in 1914 gave to the farmers approximately \$219,000,000, while a conservative estimate places the value in 1915 at \$400,000,000.

Probably no man in the West is better qualified to speak on past and present conditions there, and the prospects for the future, than Mr. J. S. Dennis, Assistant to the President of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, who, with other officials of the Department of Natural Resources, is at present in Montreal, attending the annual meeting of that department.

Mr. Dennis has spent the past 40 years in the West, in the service of the Dominion and Provincial governments, the Hudson's Bay Co. and for the last 14 years with the Canadian Pacific, and during all that time has been more or less identified and connected with immigration and colonization and the development activities of the West.

"The West," he said, "is wonderfully prosperous this year as a result of a bumper crop—a crop which may well be termed a double-crop, with yields running all the way from 30 to 72 bushels of wheat. Never has the West made such a record; never have the prairies so demonstrated their fertility, and, I may add, never, both from our point of view and that of the Empire, was it so necessary for the West to come through. In wheat alone, the three prairie provinces last year yielded more than all other grains put together—340,000,000 bushels, as against 140,000,000 in 1914, and if you take wheat, oats, barley and flax, we have a yield in 1915 of over 700,000,000 bushels against 320,000,000 in 1914. These four crops in 1914 returned to the farmers approximately \$219,000,000; this 1915 crop on a conservative basis, will return \$400,000,000. I have never attempted to boost the crop yield, and have always endeavored to be as accurate as possible, but it is quite evident that the 1915 crop surpassed anything in the history of the West, and that the financial returns per acre are greater than for any previous year; in addition, favorable late fall and early winter weather has permitted the farmers to thresh the greater part of their crops. Figures issued by the Provincial Governments just prior to my departure from Calgary give Alberta a wheat yield of 36.18 bushels per acre; Saskatchewan 28.75 bushels per acre; and Manitoba, 28.50 bushels. Such yields are much in excess of those in any other portion of the hemisphere, but, of course, be looked upon as phenomenal. Conditions are also much improved in British Columbia. The fruit districts of the province had the largest crop in their history, and the lumbering and mining industries showed marked revival and improvement during the year."

"What about immigration?" "That, of course, has fallen off," he replied, "and is our big—our main problem—to-day; we want more population and a readjustment, as far as possible, of the present distribution of rural and urban population. The desired end can only be reached through stimulating and increasing the immigration of people of the right class, and so colonizing them as to produce the best results. In all the provinces of Canada there is an economically uneven distribution of the present population; too many people live in the urban centers, and the rural and producing population is too small a percentage of the whole. This is

particularly true of the four Western Provinces, where the population is divided on a basis of 43 per cent, urban and 57 per cent rural, and this, in spite of the fact that these provinces contain one of the largest areas of good agricultural land, available for settlement and immediate development, in the world. Occupying a territory greater in area than that of the United States, Canada has a population of approximately 8,000,000 as compared with 100,000,000 south of the international boundary. Possessed of natural resources in our forests, mines, fisheries, and vast areas of agricultural land, Canada to-day is importing great quantities of manufactured products and foodstuffs, which could be and would be here were the population increased and distributed on a producing basis.

"Coincident with our remarkable urban development, the past decade has shown great expansion in our manufacturing and industrial plants, but we have not always built the superstructure on sound basis. Industrial development—particularly in the West, has established many industries, the raw product for which has to be imported, while sufficient attention has not been paid to those which would handle the raw products of the country, particularly those resulting from agriculture and animal husbandry. This fact is especially noticeable in connection with the flour industry. It is economically unsound that we should ship such a large bulk of our wheat out of the country instead of milling it at home, shipping the finished product in the shape of flour and retaining all the by-products, which are urgently needed to assist in expanding our stock-feeding and stock-finishing activities. Not only do we need more people on the land, but to build up our industries, and put our country on a self-producing basis."

"In these trying times, Mr. Dennis, where are you looking for immigrants?"

"If you take the Dominion Government reports," he replied, "you will find that the total immigration for the past 10 years has been a little over 2,500,000, of which approximately 1,000,000 are reported to have come from Great Britain; if these figures are correct, it is quite clear that only a small proportion were looking for farm homes and that the greater number were of the laboring class. The report further shows that about 900,000 came from the United States and the balance from other countries. Whatever the total may be, I am convinced that, if we are going to have any success in solving the problem of increasing and properly distributing the population of Canada, we must so stimulate our immigration as to provide at least 500,000 a year for the next ten years."

"How are we going to do it?" "For the present, at least, we can't do very much other than advertise our prosperity as widely as possible and prepare for the time when we can. The United States is, unquestionably, the field which should first be considered. They sent us approximately 60,000 in 1915. Conditions there, particularly in the Northern States, are analogous to those existing in Canada, and residents there, whether native-born or foreign, are accustomed to systems and methods of agriculture similar to our own, and to similar systems in connection with taxation, schools, currency, weights and measures, transportation, and general methods of living common to the two countries. The population of the United States is expanding so rapidly and the opportunity of obtaining cheap and or suitable employment decreasing correspondingly, that, inevitably, there must be and will be an increase

ing 'spilling over' into the adjoining countries, if the openings there are attractively presented.

"Great Britain supplied, during the past decade, the largest number of immigrants, but the smallest number of agriculturists. The reason for this is readily understood when it is remembered that Great Britain is an agricultural country, less than 15 per cent. of the population being engaged in agriculture (some 25,000 families in all), and under such conditions any marked propaganda on the part of the overseas portions of the Empire to reduce the present small agricultural population of the Mother Country is not good policy. Large numbers of the laboring class have been, and can be, obtained from Great Britain, but outside of skilled laborers, and a small number of farm laborers, the field is restricted.

"Of the unskilled immigrants in the above statement, the majority come from Northern Europe, including Belgians, Dutch, Scandinavians, Germans, Russians and Hungarians, and it is to the countries from which these people came that we must look for the large percentage of our immigrants on the conclusion of the war.

"That there will be a large movement of these people to America when the war terminates is my firm opinion. There has been such a movement following every European war of modern times, and, though it may be expected that all countries engaged in the present awful struggle will be desirous of and attempt to keep their people at home to assist in rehabilitating conditions, it is inevitable that all who can will be desirous of getting away from enforced military service and excessive war taxation, and move to the United States and Canada. It must be remembered also that there are numbers of people of all the nationalities engaged in the war already resident on this side of the Atlantic, and they will make every effort to get their friends and relatives to come and join them.

"There will of course, for a time, be a sentiment both in Canada and the countries with whom Great Britain is at war against the immigration of people of those countries into Canada, but this feeling will eventually pass.

"The question of returned Canadian soldiers after the close of the war and disbanded soldiers in Great Britain is going to be one of the serious problems following the war. It has been an acute problem following all wars, and our earliest colonization in Canada was by discharged soldiers after the war of conquest in Canada, and the Napoleonic wars of Europe. Active military service unsettles and antis the majority of men for the occupation they followed before joining the army, and, without question, the problem of rehabilitating in civil life the men that Canada is providing for the present war is going to be a serious and troublesome one. In addition, consideration should be given to the possibility of helping Great Britain in the solution of this difficulty by bringing suitable men and their families to Canada.

"The West has suffered a serious drain in the young men who have responded to Canada's call to join the army and help the Empire in the present crisis, and this loss and the other difficulties mentioned are ahead of us to be solved. They will, however, be grappled with energetically, and with the prosperity that is now in the country, the new wealth from industrial and agricultural sources, I foresee an era of continued growth and development beside which our progress of the past decade will be comparatively insignificant."

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"Why, I never heard of such a thing," said John. "The idea of getting quotations from a doctor; it's the asylum for you."

"Well now, why not? I am a specialist in printing and publicity. I study my business just as carefully as any doctor can do. If I do say it that shouldn't, I have just as much brains as the average doctor. I strive to give my customers the benefit of my knowledge, my artistic skill and judgement and my ideas on publicity. I give service as the term is understood in the Twentieth Century.

"When some people around here have a little printing to be done, they visit all the printing offices, get quotations from each one, and then give the work to the man who gives the lowest figures.

"The ordinary user of printing knows his own business, but he is no more a judge of the work of printing than he is a judge of what sort of medicine a doctor should give him for the cure of his ailment. If people ask me for quotations and pass me by if my price happens to be a little more than the other fellow, why shouldn't I apply the same method to the doctor, lawyer, dentist and painter? Why not? It's a mighty poor rule that won't work more than one way."

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