

OBSERVER EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS ON PENSIONS

Different Kinds of Pensions For Injuries and Otherwise Are Discussed

The recent announcement that Old Age Pensions will be discontinued to all individuals who get sent to jail is an interesting one, from more than one point of view. At first glance one might be inclined to think that very few people over the age of seventy years are apt to receive jail sentences. But, upon consideration, that is by no means so certain. In these days when grandpa and grandma wish to seem as youthful as their grandchildren, almost anything may happen. We should not be surprised to see grandpa exercising his youthful spirits some fine evening by heaving bricks through a store window. Or going on a regular binge and painting the town red. Lots of old people like to show the world that they are just as sprightly as any of the youngsters. Any day we are apt to see some gay old couple of some 82 summers steal a car, get lit up, and go for a wild joy ride.

It must be from fear of just such eventualities that the authorities have issued the warning. And it is surely no more than right that grandpa should be punished for not being able to keep his exuberant spirits under better control. Shame on you, grandpa!

Seriously, however, this matter of pensions deserves some thought. There seem to be two schools of thought concerning pensions of all kinds. One view is that a pension should only be paid to a person so long as they have no other source of income, or at least are receiving a very small income. This view is the correct one, there can be little doubt as far as the Old Age Pension is concerned. Old age is something that comes to all who live long enough, and such a pension is in no sense the same as one paid for injuries received on military service.

It is here that the other view of the significance of a pension applies. A man who has suffered an injury such as dismemberment, the loss of an eye, an arm or a leg, while serving his country should, according to this second view, continue to receive his pension no matter whether his injury prevents him from earning his living or not. That is the way it is at present. But there are many who think that the particular pension paid in any case should depend on the amount of income the recipient gets from other sources. If he is receiving a good income from other sources cut down his pension, or take it away altogether.

Now this seems to me to be fundamentally wrong. If a man has suffered an injury while on his country's service, especially injuries such as I have mentioned above, his pension should be regarded as compensation for that injury or loss. The matter of what other income he may have, or may eventually obtain, should not enter into the question at all. That pension is a sum paid to him by the government as compensation and in recognition of the injury sustained by him while serving his country. It is something that you can't take away. His country cannot give that man back his eye or his arm, but they can recognize his service in the only way possible. Now if this man succeeds in making a good income outside of his pension,

that is his own business and his good luck. That fact does not give anyone the moral right to take away his pension. That is a separate thing altogether.

There are many kinds of pensions. There are pensions paid to the surviving relatives of those who have given their lives to their country's service. Who shall say that the relatives should be deprived of that pension because they may happen to be making a living without it? What has that got to do with it? Nothing can alter the basic fact for which that pension was granted in the first place.

In regard to jail sentences, the law is the same for all types of pensions. A jail sentence cancels the pension for the duration of the sentence. After the sentence has been served the pension continues. One might even question the soundness of this law. For, after all, if a pensioner is unfortunate enough to land in jail, does the fact change or minimize the service for which the pension was originally granted? If the pension is being paid for the loss of an arm, does a jail sentence grow a new arm on a man? Presumably the reason for this law concerning jail sentences is its deterrent value. But if a law is only meant as a deterrent it is not always either sound or just.

When all is said and done it does seem as though there was hardly any need for making this proclamation about the recipients of old age pensions. The percentage of persons over seventy years of age who receive jail sentences must be pretty small. There is a lot of unsound thinking on the pension system as a whole, and this will continue until we learn to regard a pension as a payment for an act, service or injury which is an established, unalterable fact; a fact which no subsequent act on the part of the recipient can change, unless it be found that the original claim was fraudulent, or a complete recovery to health is achieved.

OBSERVER.

CITY SCHOOLS ARE ORGANIZING FOR THE FALL TERM

The Board of school trustees report today that several more permits for the common school grades have been issued since school re-opening yesterday. There is also a slight increase in the Fredericton High School enrollment. A complete check-up on the total number of students is now under way and will be known within a day or two. All the schools were swinging back into routine work today, with classes getting organized and studies for the term mapped out. The Provincial Normal School students were busy at work today. Yesterday, Dr. H. H. Hagerman, principal, said that the registration this year is slightly below what was anticipated. However, it is expected that more students will be enrolled within the next few weeks. Of those enrolled at present, ten are only back for one month, doing professional work.

ROYAL ROAD

The wet weather is making the harvesting very slow.

Willard Anderson, who does the threshing through this community, has already started the fall threshing and is kept quite busy.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Anderson are receiving congratulations at their home, of a baby boy.

Leo Brannen, of Boston, Mass., who has been visiting his uncle, Owen Smith, left on Saturday for his home in Boston.

Miss Thelma Anderson is spending a few days with her aunt, Mrs. Gordon Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. DeLong and family were the guests of Mrs. J. Foster on Sunday last.

Miss Beulah Seymour of Moncton has been visiting her cousin, Miss Irene Lint.

Mrs. Ralph Seymour is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. McCrea of Fredericton.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Hon. A. A. Dysart and Mrs. Dysart are in Saint John today attending the wedding of Arthur Driscoll and Miss Mabel Scully, daughter of W. E. Scully, M.P.P., and Mrs. Scully, of that place, which took place today. Miss Scully has many friends in this city, where she has been a frequent visitor.

* * *

Mrs. H. N. Walton and her daughter Miss Elizabeth have returned to their home in Lisbon, New Hampshire, after a pleasant visit with relatives and friends in North Devon. Mrs. Walton was formerly Miss Margaret Mabey and her many friends were pleased to see her after her long absence. Her husband, Rev. H. N. Walton, was formerly pastor of the Advent Christian Church in North Devon.

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Miss Evelyn J. Sinnott has returned home from Saint John, where she was visiting her uncle Guy Wade and Mrs. Wade for two weeks.

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Mrs. Charles D. Ross of this city, who has been visiting relatives in North Bay, Ontario, for the past two months, returned home yesterday. While in Ontario Mrs. Ross visited Callender, the home of the Dionne quintuplets and watched the famous babies at play.

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Mrs. George Soucier and small son Tommy of Presque Isle, Maine, are spending this month at the home of Mrs. Soucier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilson, North Devon.

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Mrs. F. A. Kennedy is entertaining at the tea hour this afternoon for Mrs. D. J. MacLeod. Mrs. W. J. Lawson will preside over the tea cups. The house is bright with summer flowers.

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Rev. Steadman Smith and his son, Gordon Smith, of Marysville, have returned from a fishing trip to Juniper.

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Gordon Smith will leave shortly for Wolfville to resume his studies at Acadia University.

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Honored on Golden

Wedding Anniversary

Last evening about 100 friends and relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith, Nashwaak Bridge, to celebrate the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Bradley. The rooms were bright with flowers, one room being decorated with white streamers. When Mr. and Mrs. Bradley entered the house Lohengrin's Wedding March was played. A social evening was spent. Later, Rev. J. E. Shanklin, in a few well chosen words, presented Mr. and Mrs. Bradley a well filled purse and other gifts, including a bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums tied with gold ribbon. Mr. Shanklin then called on a former pastor, Rev. D. R. Chowne, who extended congratulations. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley made a fitting reply, after which "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows" was sung. Dainty refreshments were served, including a wedding cake, and the enjoyable time was brought to a close by the singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." Among those present from Fredericton, Devon and Marysville were Sheriff and Mrs. C. N. Goodspeed, Mrs. Frank Richards, Miss Hazel Richards, Miss Emma Todd, Mrs. A. E. Mathewson, C. W. Clark, Mrs. Laura Brewer, Rev. and Mrs. D. R. Chowne, Mrs. Wilfred Coy, Miss Haining, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McNeil, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Shields, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. White and daughter Miss Sarah White.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley have five children, who are all living: Mrs. Ernest Fairley, Veasey, Maine; Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson, of Sardis, B.C.; Doris Bradley, at home; Charles McN Bradley, Gull Lake, Sask.; and Geo. C. Bradley, Mossbank, Sask.

Lr. Queensbury

We are having nice cool weather at present and the farmers are busy harvesting their grain crops.

A number from this place attended the play in the Bear Island Hall on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Hedley Moore returned home Friday night, after a delightful visit with relatives in Maine.

Miss Gwen Moore, who has been visiting her cousin, Miss Ruth Moore returned home on Sunday.

Orie Scott, Prince William, spent the week-end at the home of Frank Joslin.

Mrs. John Lyons and children, of Fredericton, who have been visiting her sister, Mrs. Clarence Jordan, returned home on Friday night.

Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Amos Jordan spent Saturday afternoon with Mrs. Martha Murch.

Mrs. Ralph Murch and children, Frank and Esther, spent a day recently with Mr. and Mrs. Murray Murch, Macnaquae.

Our school has opened again with our former teacher, Miss Marion Gordon in charge.

Mrs. Jas. A. Conlon has arrived in the city and has taken up residence with her husband and family at 324 Westmorland street. The family include Miss Catherine Conlon, at home, Miss Contance and Dustin are pupils at the Fredericton High School, and Lois has entered St. Dunstan's school.

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Colter King and Miss Dorothy McNeil of Boston are guests of Mr. King's mother, Mrs. Eleanor King.

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Mrs. Jack Wilson, North Devon, spent the holiday in Plaster Rock.

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The Ella Thorne Circle of the King's Daughters held its opening meeting last night at the home of Miss Myrtle Moffatt with Miss Marion Edney assisting Miss Moffatt as hostess. The President, Miss Marjorie Macredie was in the chair and twenty four members present. Miss Mary Adams had as her devotional subject "Kindness to Others" taken from the Silver Cross Magazine. A social hour was spent, after which delicious refreshments were served.

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Mrs. Arthur Johnston of St. Paul, Kent county, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cormier.

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Mr. and Mrs. D. J. MacLeod with their small daughter Shirley, are leaving on Saturday afternoon for Ontario, where they will visit relatives prior to sailing for England, where they will spend the coming year.

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Leonard Cormier, son of Comptroller General and Mrs. E. J. Cormier, left yesterday morning for Memramcook, where he will enter St. Joseph's University, and resume his studies.

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The Men's Club of St. Paul's church held a banquet recently at the 'Nu-Palms for D. J. MacLeod, who is leaving in the near future for the Old Country.

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Miss Muriel Wainwright, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. S. F. A. Wainwright, returned early in the week from an extended trip to the British Isles and the Continent.

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Dr. and Mrs. S. F. A. Wainwright and their two daughters Miss Muriel Wainwright and Miss Doris Wainwright, are away on a motoring trip to Newcastle and other points on the North Shore. Dr. Wainwright attended the Convention of the New Brunswick Medical Association which was held this week in Bathurst.

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Mrs. John M. F. MacKenzie is entertaining a dinner bridge this evening at her home, for Mrs. D. J. MacLeod.

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The regular meeting of the Victorian Order was held yesterday in the City Court House, with Ald. Ivan McKnight in the chair. The Nurses' reports were given for July and August both of which were very busy months and it had been necessary on account of each nurse being on holidays, to get the help of supply nurses. During July 92 cases had been nursed, 12 of these maternity, 428 nursing visits having been made. In the Well Baby Conference there had been 34 new cases, 15 of which belong to Devon. 19 babies have been sent to own physician. In August while Miss McArthur was on duty 61 cases had been nursed, 7 of these being maternity cases and 311 nursing visits having been made. The average attendance at the Well Baby Conference was 68 in Fredericton and 22 in Devon. 30 babies have been sent to own physician. During both months the Nurses assisted in the Pre School vaccination clinic. At the Well Baby Conferences tea was served in Fredericton during July by the Celestial Chapter, and in August by the Catholic Women's League.

BLOOMFIELD

Rev. Mr. Turney held service in the United Church Sunday.

Lt. Julian Green held service Sunday evening in the Baptist Church.

The Misses Marguerite and Lucia Norrad spent the past few days with their grandmother, Mrs. Lucy Ross of Pleasant Valley.

A Harvest Supper was held in the Bloomfield Hall Monday evening. The sum of \$46.83 was realized. The proceeds went to the Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. William McKenzie motored from their home in Woodland, Maine, Sunday. They were the guests of Mrs. Harvey Scott.

A large number of people in this place attended the Harvest Supper held at Parker's Ridge Thursday evening.

Mrs. Arthur Boies was a recent visitor to Fredericton.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Palmer were visiting her mother, Mrs. Dave Carson.

Miss Lorena Lovelas and Ashley Hunter were calling on Mrs. Elmer Greene.

The men of this place are employed at cutting their harvest.

CANADIANA

The last issue of The Canadian Poetry Magazine contains the following pretty poem, of which the author is Charles Frederick Boyle, popular clerk of the Queen Hotel, of this city. The poem is one of the best in this book, which boasts of good poetry. Mr. Boyle, who is a Fredericton boy, is a graduate of St. Dunstan's school and of the Fredericton High School.

SOUNDS AND SHADOWS

The cool, sweet breath of the May night;
The faint, almost-inaudible stirring of wind in the budding branches;
The great grey hand of darkness spread over the earth, except for a little space in the north-west

Where a church tower set in trees still points up against the light of another world;

The delicious feeling of stirrings and vapors floating up to the moon;
The silence so intense that it is pregnant with sounding significance.
So still we can almost hear the whisperings and supplications of flowers and grasses,

The love songs of things we can see and things that are purely ethereal;

The low, solemn church-bells wavering and flying to the arms of Night,

Lingering long, then dying, making more distinct the quietude;

And especially the warm, live smell of the freshened, clinging earth—
All these I love, with a love that is blind and unreasoning.

All these bring joy, but at the same time an ineffable sadness;

They are the sober reef to the restless surge of my mind.

They quiet me, comfort me, but cannot hold me forever—
Still must I mourn, and dream of the joys of my vanished love.

—Charles Frederick Boyle.

Annual Re-union

(Continued from Page One)

ident Victor V. Wiggins then made an address of welcome, followed by an address by George S. Wiggins. The history of the Wiggins family was read by Miss Annie M. Wiggins, Fort Fairfield, Maine. An interesting old letter written by the grandfather of Mrs. Emma Denton, of Caribou, Me., shortly after his ship had been wrecked off the coast of Ireland, was greatly enjoyed. Mrs. Denton had recently celebrated her 86th birthday. F. P. Thomas of Caribou, Maine, ended his speech with a poem "Life is a Jigsaw Puzzle. A reading "The Vision," was given by George S. Wiggins.

The business meeting then was proceeded with. Expressions of sympathy were extended by George Wiggins to all those who had been bereaved since the last reunion. An interesting report of the Family Tree Committee was read by Miss Annie Wiggins of Fort Fairfield, and a letter from Daniel Turner offering to trace the family ancestors to pre-Loyalist days was read.

Election of officers resulted as follows: George S. Wiggins, life president; Victor V. Wiggins, vice-president and Mrs. Stanley T. Britton secretary treasurer. An entertainment committee was appointed, F. P. Thomas, Julia Ross and Mrs. Hazen Gray. Miss Mary Mott of Philadelphia was called upon by the new president and stated her great pleasure in being present for the first time at this reunion of relatives. Remarks were made by other friends of the family and a vote of thanks tendered Mr. and Mrs. Britton, the programme ending with God Save The King, The Star Spangled Banner and God Be With You Till we meet Again.

The Wiggins Reunion for 1937 will be held at the home of Stanley Britton on Labor Day.

BATHING SEASON NEAR END

After Wednesday, September 9, the caretaker will no longer be in attendance at the West End bathing beach.

E. R. Upham and C. P. Waddleton of Moncton, are staying at the Waverly for a few days.

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