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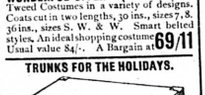
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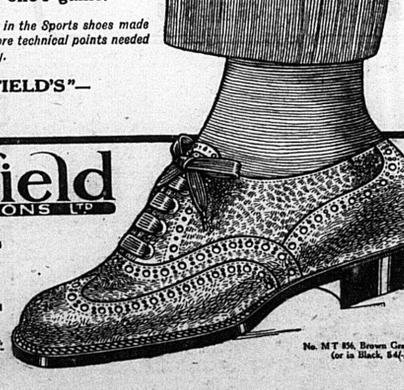
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DEPTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL.

COST OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

A lengthy debate took place at the meeting of the Deptford Council on Tuesday evening, the Mayor presiding, on a motion by Alderman Green that the Council express agreement with a resolution passed by Woolwich viewing "with great concern the increasing cost of local government due to the increased cost of commodities, and recognising that the continual rise in prices is largely due to the action of the Government in inflating the currency by continually borrowing, and to the failure of the Government in organising production, urges:—the making of a capital levy to repay the national debt; and the provision of useful work for able-bodied unemployed in all classes of society."

Alderman Green said the rise in prices was not because of the increase in wages, and therefore they must look for some other explanation. The national debt was 800 millions, and demands were being constantly made on the municipalities to go in for things which were necessary for reconstruction. The taxation had been placed on the shoulders of those who were least able to bear it because the Government had not had the courage to tax the right people. As a firm believer in increased production he urged the immediate use of men and of land and factories which were lying idle. Employers, aided by the Government, were, he contended, retarding increased production by discharging men from Woolwich Arsenal and other factories. The question of the standardisation of wages would come up for consideration in September, and employers wanted to establish a market of unemployment before that date. They could depend upon it that prices would come down and that the national resources of the country would be used to the best advantage.—Councillor Searle seconded.

Councillor Marchant, O.B.E., said he honestly believed that the country could not afford to carry on in such an extravagant manner. He thought the position was like that of a great landowner who had mortgaged all his resources, and he regarded the position with utter despair if we were to continue the present course of "wild extravagance." If there could be a capital levy no one would be more pleased than himself, but his view was that if the middle classes went under the working classes would quickly follow.

Councillor Iffen said they had been told by the Inland Revenue authorities that a capital levy was practical and would be an advantage. His opinion was that the country had "a millstone of inflated debt."—The motion was adopted by 23 to 11.

THE RENT RESTRICTIONS ACT.

The General Purposes Committee reported that they had arranged for the Chief Rating Clerk of the Town Clerk's staff to be in attendance at the Town Hall for two evenings a week to give advice and assistance on the effect of the provisions of the new Act.

EX-SERVICE MEN'S PENSIONS.

Councillors Baldwin, Cracknell, Horan and Tams were appointed to represent the Council at a conference at Islington to protest against the inadequate scale of pensions to ex-service men, widows and their dependents, and to urge upon the Government that an immediate and substantial increase should be granted to meet the further rise in the cost of living.—Councillor Baldwin pointed out that the only increase since 1914 had been 14s. 6d. per week.

THE LOCAL TRAIN SERVICE.

On the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee it was resolved to send communications to the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company and the Ministry of Transport representing in the strongest possible terms the necessity for a fifteen minute train service to and from London during the busy hours of the morning and evening, and calling attention to the inconvenience caused to the public by reason of the inadequate booking office accommodation at New Cross station.

DISABLED POLICE OFFICERS.

The General Purposes Committee reported the receipt of a reply from the Home Office to the Council's further representations on this subject, in which the Home Secretary stated that the question of reinstating the men had been fully and repeatedly considered both by himself and the Government, but there was no prospect of any modification of the decision that they should not be reinstated. He also pointed out that the amount of the police rate was based on the actual cost of the police and not on an estimate of what the cost would be if the force were at full strength.

TERRITORIAL FORCE AND HOLIDAYS.

A recommendation by the General Purposes Committee, that extra leave of absence, in addition to the holidays which they were allowed, be granted to any of the staff or employees who were or might become members of the Territorial Force, for the purpose of attending the annual training required under the regulations, and that remuneration be paid them by the Council equal to their salary or wages, less the total army rate of pay and allowances receivable by them or their families, was adopted.

BOROUGH HALL LETTINGS.

Considerable criticism was initiated by Councillor Bryer as to the action the Baths Committee had adopted in regard to the Borough Hall for seasonal lettings and special nights. The report stated that seven offers had been accepted for next season, the amount of the tenders ranging from £2 2s. to £21.—Councillor Bryer said it appeared to him that the committee had accepted the tender of the highest bidder, and moved that the report be referred for further consideration.—Councillor Carnell seconded.—Alderman Green said that it would cast a slur on the work of the committee.—The motion was negatived by a large majority, and the committee's report approved.

PROPOSED GOODS STATION FOR DEPTFORD.

It was reported by the General Purposes Committee that they had considered the suggestion made at the last meeting that further pressure should be applied to the Ministry of Transport on this matter, and that they noticed in the reply of the Ministry it was stated that the cost of moving the goods traffic from north London by rail "would be of an extensive nature, and the charge it would be necessary to levy for such a service would probably be more than the present carriage cost." The committee understood that at the present time the cost of transit by van from Deptford to North London was 10s. less than 17s. a ton, and, in view of this figure, they were replying to the Minister of Transport enquiring whether he took this into consideration when stating that the cost of forwarding goods by rail would be greater than the present cartage cost.—The report was agreed to.

SOUTH METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANY'S BILL.

The Town Clerk stated that the City Corporation and the County Council had withdrawn their opposition to this Bill, and he thought the only thing the Council could do was to also withdraw. The ground, he added, had been cut from under their feet.—The Council agreed to withdraw their opposition.

THE NATIONAL KITCHENS.

Councillor Simmonds, J.P., called attention to a balance of £1,261 15s. 8d. overdrawn on the National Kitchens accounts, and asked for information.—Councillor Tiffen (Chairman of the Finance Committee) said he was not able then to give him the exact figures, but thought it would be better to defer any statement until the kitchen was closed at the end of three months.

LEWISHAM COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

The Borough of Lewisham Council of Social Service met on Friday evening at the Town Hall, Catford, the Mayor of Lewisham presiding. After the business meeting an interesting discussion on the facilities of treatment of tuberculosis was opened by Miss Faulkner (District Organiser of Children's Care Committees), the following points being specially stressed.

1. The way in which the present shortage of proper housing accommodation and consequent overcrowding tend to foster the development and spread of the disease.

2. The difficulty of finding suitable employment for men discharged from sanatoria, fit only for light work.

3. The question of the formation of industrial colonies, the pressing need for the provision of a sanatorium and a home for incurable cases in each borough were also dealt with.

WAR MEMORIALS AT ST. PETER'S, BROCKLEY.

DEDICATION AND UNVEILING.

In the presence of a crowded congregation, on Saturday afternoon, the Chaplain-General to the Forces (Bishop Taylor Smith, C.V.O., D.D.) unveiled and dedicated at St. Peter's, Brockley, three stained-glass windows and brass tablets in memory of 99 members of the church and parish who gave their lives for their country in the war. The Bishop was received by the Vicar (the Rev. P. Whitfield Daukes) and the churchwardens (Messrs. A. Lloyd Edwards and C. Newell, C.C.), and a guard of honour furnished by the Deptford and Lewisham Companies of the 1st Southwark Battalion Church Lads' Brigade, K.R.R.C., under the command of Major Buck, M.C. During the assembling of the congregation Mr. H. Russell Davis (assistant organist of the church) and Mr. G. H. Heath Gracie (organist and choirmaster) rendered selections on the organ. The service, which was choral and of an impressive character, opened with the hymn "The Son of God goes forth to war," and the choir gave a beautiful rendering, unaccompanied, of Croft's setting of the opening sentences of the Burial Service. The 15th Psalm ("Lord, who shall dwell in Thy tabernacle") was chanted, and the Vicar read a lesson from Revelation, chap. 19, verses 6 to 14. After the choir had sung "I heard a voice" the Vicar offered prayers for the memory of the dead. During the singing of "For all the Saints" the clergy and choir proceeded from the chancel to the nave, from where the Bishop unveiled and dedicated the windows, the ceremony being followed by "Last Post," sounded from the Altar steps by two trumpeters of the Royal Artillery, Woolwich.

The Bishop, in an address, said a threefold purpose brought them together. First of all he would ask them to lift up their eyes and hearts and give thanks to God, for it was He who gave them the victory. Men came forth in their thousands, but it was not those who saved us. People gave their money, but it was not that. It was not the munitions, and it was not the Americans, who came to our help at the eleventh hour. It was God only, and if they asked the generals and all the other officers along the line they would tell them that it was neither they nor the men who saved us, but God alone. Therefore their first note must be one of thanksgiving from an unprepared and undeserving people. The second purpose for which they met was to unveil and dedicate these beautiful windows to their dead, and to remember with grateful hearts how much they owed to them. Those men went out, never to return, in order that we might go in and out of our homes in peace and safety—they formed the living wall between our enemies and our homes. When that was not enough they laid down their lives, and we at home must never forget how much we owed to the living dead. He was being asked, almost daily, had the war made us better or worse? and his answer was "both." These last five years had made their influence felt on each one of us. We were not the same five years ago, and the question was whether we were nearer to God or farther away. There had been great changes in the hearts and lives of men, and he could give many instances where God had spoken to men on the battlefield, who were not indifferent to the heavenly vision. There had been a great reaction since the Armistice, there was "slanting" here and there, but a reaction was taking place from that reaction. Men from the battlefield were beginning to think again, and were remembering the vision they saw in their hour of distress. Their third purpose was that they should consecrate themselves afresh to God's work and service, and to that end he would give them a motto for all time: "In nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body whether it be by life or by death" (Philippians, chap. 1, verse 20). Speaking to the young people who were present at the service, the Bishop said he knew how much they suffered during the five years of war, but he desired to remind them that the great work of the future rests on their shoulders. As they looked back they would admire the heroes. There were larger opportunities, and this poor broken world and bruised humanity were calling for help. Through God their bodies and lives could be made beautiful in His service in anticipation of the Higher Service. Rich and poor, old and young, could glorify God and show forth their gratitude to the dead by consecrating themselves afresh to His service.

During the singing of the hymn "Abide with me" an offertory was taken for St. Peter's war memorial—a children's ward at the Miller General Hospital, Greenwich-road. Following the episcopal Benediction the trumpeters from the west door sounded "Reveille," and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

The following is a description of the windows (as prepared by Mr. Lloyd Edwards):—

"In memory of the great war and those who have given their lives for their country. Fighting the good fight of Faith. Left window—St. Andrew (The Prevailing of Prayer): The battle of the children of Israel against Amalek; Joshua and his warriors fighting in the plain; Moses, Aaron and Hur holding up their hands in prayer. Centre—St. George (The Call to Arms): The battle of the children of Israel against Midian; Gideon blowing the trumpet—the people flocking to his standard. Right—St. David: The battle of the Israelites against the Philistines; David challenging Goliath."

The names of the fallen inscribed are as follow:—Charles Edward Ascott, George Frederick Thomas Ascott, William James Armstrong, Reginald Percy Baker, Harold James Thomas Bannehr, Leslie William Baxter, Leonard Bendixen, George Wilson Borman, Eric Gordon Bowden, Harry Leslie Carter, James Carpenter Crawford, Henry Herbert Davison, Frederick George Dawe, Ernest George Dowdell, Harold Bernard Dowdell, Cyril Dowley, Harold Frederick Dowley, Jack Leonard Dunnett, Chas. Eaddy, Alfred Rivers Finch, Sidney William Gibbins, Leonard Thomson Harris, Cyril Frederick Hobgen, Henry Joseph Hollies, Sidney James Hollies, Ansurin Ingman, Cecil Theophilus Longman, Edward Joseph Manwaring, George Sefton Miller, John Douglas Farquharson Murray, Leonard Gordon Nash, Colin Francis Neals, Sidney James Neil, John Gordon Newell, Thomas Allan Noise, Frederick William Poet, Derrick Allan Kirkpatrick Pile, Lawrence Henry Power, Cuthbert Lourence Richmond, Francklin Allander Roberts, George John Jackson Ridler, William George Roles, Philip William Boome, Walter Frederick Salisbury, Percy Wafford Silvester, Reginald Silvester, Alexander Smith, Herbert Bennett Smith, Donald Sparks, Charles Thomas Squires, Robert Miller Stephens, Douglas Stevenson, Thomas Allan Campbell Stockham, George Atwill Tietjen, Sydney Robert Trask, Tom Stockham Travers, Sydney Purves Vickers, Jack Walton, Ernest Walker, and Harry Leslie Winter.

GYMNASTIC DISPLAY AT WOOLWICH POLYTECHNIC.

A large gathering was present at a gymnastic display at Woolwich Polytechnic on Saturday evening by students of the women's classes and the girls of the day schools, under the direction of the instructress (Miss J. H. Andrew). The programme included a number of exercises by the students, with eccentric and other dances by Miss W. Raine and Miss M. Bryant, a Russian dance by the Misses D. Dugon and D. Wright, and additional exhibitions by teams from the Regent-street Polytechnic. Medals were distributed to the following:—Seniors: Marjorie E. Bryant, Mary W. T. Walton, Winifred O. Raine, and Dorothy E. Thomas. Juniors: Olive R. Brett and Isobel L. A. Allison.

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Furthermore, this free book tells you all about Smarts' Simple System of Furnishing out of income, how it has helped thousands to achieve their greatest desires, how it will help you, whether your requirements are few or many, whether you can pay cash down or prefer to get the furniture first and pay afterwards.

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