



## The Western Scot

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1915

### THE BATTALION XMAS DINNER

On Christmas Day that portion of the Western Scots not on leave, to the number of about 500, sat down to real old fashioned turkey dinner in the men's mess room, which had been gaily decorated with evergreens and flags for the occasion. Lt.-Col. Ross, commanding, occupied the centre of the table, supported by the adjutant, Lieut. Sturgess, while Major Christie occupied the chair, and Major Harbottle the vice-chair. All the officers of the Battalion in camp, some twenty-five or more, were present, and all hands entered into the spirit of the occasion with a vim. During the repast the diners were treated, at the hands of the Battalion orchestra, under Prof. Turner, to a musical programme that in its way was unique, so artistically were the many popular national and patriotic tunes rendered. All hands joined in singing many of the refrains, and the pleasure afforded by the orchestra, and particularly by their well known and clever leader, will not soon be forgotten by those who were present. After the health of the King had been drunk, Colonel Ross made a short characteristic speech, wishing the officers, N.C.O.'s and men a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in the way of a wish that you may soon have an opportunity to meet the enemy. The sentiment met with prolonged cheers. The pleasant reunion was brought to a close by the singing of "God Save the King."

### THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S APPEAL

London, Dec. 24.—"There is one tremendous item of national expenditure that the ordinary citizen can help to diminish. That is the £160,000,000 spent on drink. Even if £50,000,000 could be taken off this expenditure and invested in the war loan it would be an appreciable help towards something every patriotic citizen ought to be absolutely set upon—that is, the winning of the war.

"My suggestion is that at the special services which close the old year and inaugurate the new, there should be given away at all the churches and chapels throughout the land, and on Saturday at the town halls of all boroughs, a war pledge which would be worn by men and women, rich and poor alike.

"The men who return from the front are often surprised to find the old comfortable home life so little changed and wonder whether, after a year and a half of war, with the end not in sight, the nation really takes it seriously.

"During the first six months of this year the nation spent on drink £88,084,000, as opposed to £80,154,000 in the first six months of 1914.

"I think the sight of 40,000,000 war pledges worn by those who would rather die than to have worn anything approaching the blue ribbon before the war might convince them more than anything else that the whole nation is in earnest at last."

## VARIETY THEATRE

MON., TUES. and WED., DEC. 27th, 28th and 29th

J. WARREN KERRIGAN in

## The New Adventures of TERENCE O'ROURKE SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

### OTHER FEATURES

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### "THE CANADIAN SCOTTISH"

(From Vancouver Province)

The second issue of "The Canadian Scottish," the regimental journal of the 16th Battalion, First C.E.F., edited by Private J. F. Cadenhead, of Vancouver, is, like the first number, a noteworthy addition to the military publications which are now in circulation. A copy of the attractively-printed and well-edited magazine has been received from Mr. Percy F. Godenrath, a well known Vancouver newspaperman, formerly connected with the Victoria Colonist, who is now at the front.

In an introduction to the latest number Brigadier-General R. G. Edwards Leckie explains the scope of the journal, and states that it has been suggested that the magazine be published in Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg and Hamilton—where the members of the Canadian Scottish hail from—so as to make it available to the public. The proceeds, after expenses of publication have been paid, would be devoted to one of the charities connected with the war, likely the Canadian Red Cross Fund.

There is a Christmas message to the folks at home from the lads in the trenches in the issue, the sentiment: "Seas between us braid hae roar'd sin auld lang syne," painted in the cover, eloquently conveying this feeling. The second number of "The Canadian Scottish" includes a number of articles dealing with the experiences of the 16th from the time of its departure from Canada to its arrival in the firing line and subsequently.

### ENTERTAINMENT NEW YEAR'S NIGHT

All hands are reminded of the kind invitation of the Misses Spencer to the "Western Scots," their wives and sweethearts, to be present at the entertainment in the old Victoria Theatre next Saturday evening. It is understood that a very interesting programme of vocal and instrumental items has been prepared, and a cordial invitation is extended to all to be present on the occasion.