

180TH H. S. SPORTSMEN ALL WELCOMED

LL-Col. L. H. Greer's Unit Given Tumultuous Greeting in Streets of St. John—With 169 Sport Champions—Newcomers Are Fine Body of Men—Story of Their Organization and Sketches of Some Members.

Wednesday, Oct. 25. With a soldierly grip of good fellowship in every fist the 180th Sportsmen's Battalion arrived in St. John yesterday afternoon. From the colonel down to the smallest drummer boy they are sports, and their sphere of activities range from the roped arena to the billiard table but now mostly concentrated upon shouldering a musket.

From what the citizens learned of the unit last night its big heart is the most outstanding feature. Jolly, healthy, optimistic they have taken the city by storm.

"This is a citizen's battalion," you know said the famous athlete and manager, Tom Flanagan, who introduced The Telegraph to Corkery, the well known Marathon runner as the "best runner in the world" and Corkery returned with, "I see a flaw in my next contract if that's so."

There was much speculation at the station as to who was who, and old prints of famous Canadian athletes had been dug out of scrap books and studied carefully. Many of the lads were taken for men who were long gone to the abode of their fathers.

There was a Tom Longboat in every platoon, and in some instances three or four, and the real Indian record-breaker was unrecognised by many as he swung along with a long stride, looking every inch a soldier in his khaki suit. Tom is still a runner but intends to run in only one direction when he gets to the front and that according to the arrow on the military sign post which bears the inscription, "This way to Berlin."

Owing to the fact that the battalion arrived in the city several hours earlier than was anticipated the citizens were not out in full force to greet the boys of Colonel Greer's unit, but the boys were well pleased with the reception as it was one of the officers said, "We have passed through a good many towns, and visited some, but this is the best reception that we have ever received, barring our home city, of course."

The ladies who had prepared lunches for the boys were taken unawares and some remarked in that St. John's production of doughnuts and sandwiches had suddenly doubled, when the news went about that the 180th would reach the city at 3 o'clock. "It always hard to secure a good thing," said an officer to the "madam" who said that the train was held up for some time at Hampton because of a broken drawbar, "but even fate could not keep us from coming, and now that we're here I'm glad."

One kindly disposed lady thinking of the gastronomic desires of the men asked an officer: "What is it the men need most just now?" and she was somewhat checked when he replied, "A bath, madam."

The Telegraph thought it noticed the lady glance quickly in the direction of the Bay of Fundy, while the officer quickly explained that the men entrained at Camp Borden on Sunday and were rather travel stained on arriving at St. John.

The First Arrival. "A" and "B" companies together with the headquarters staff and band reached the city on the first train and were officially welcomed to the city by his worship the mayor and the citizens' reception committee. Brigadier-General Hugh H. McLean, together with Major Good and other members of the staff took charge of the military reception.

The men formed up outside the station and there the mayor addressed them. He said that he wished to extend to them the heartiest of welcomes on behalf of the citizens of the city and felt sure that everything possible would be done by the civilians to add to the comfort of the men during their stay in the city.

Three cheers followed for the battalion, and Lieut-Colonel Greer, being a crown attorney in civilian life did not take much time in summing up the "cue" for the battalion, and the citizens' jury present were favorably impressed. He thanked the mayor and citizens for the reception and closed his short address by the command "Hats off." That is evidently the command of the 180th for "loud and prolonged cheers" as Hansard would express it and the lads cheered themselves hoarse in appreciation of the reception.

"It's the way the boys have of speaking for themselves," explained the colonel, and they spoke in no uncertain tone. The formalities being concluded the men "fell in" and marched to the barracks headed by the splendid band of the 180th "French-Canadian" Battalion. Owing to the unexpected arrival of the battalion the 160th was absent drilling at Courtney Bay and was unable to form the proposed guard of honor as had been planned.

"Sprightly and Smiling." As they passed along more than one expressed astonishment at the splendid appearance of the men even after a long journey. They were sprightly and smiling and one little fellow who evidently passed the medical examiner by main strength and stretching, was not satisfied with ingesting his big Oliver equipment with a dose of considerable proportions stuck to the top of his pack like a wooly lamb. This canine is the pet of the unit.

The second train bearing "C" and "D" companies arrived in the city at 9 o'clock and the men were given a rousing reception the second time. By this time more people had congregated and the greeting was even more effusive than the first one. The Commander.

RESERVES ON WAY TO FRONT MEET ONE OF MEN THEY ARE TO REPLACE



Dramatic scene on western front, where British are slowly but surely driving the invader back. As the stream of wounded flows back to the hospitals, another never-ending stream of able-bodied men is poured into the fighting line. The photograph also gives a good idea of the condition of the part of France which has been subjected to the fire of the British big guns.

FRENCH HOLDING VERDUN GAINS; INCREASE PRISONERS TO 4,500

German Right Wing East of Meuse Crushed in Five-Hour Battle—Thiamont Work Carried in Twenty Minutes, Douaumont Fort Making Most Desperate Resistance With Commander About Last Man to be Captured—Three Times Germans Essay to Come Back But Fail Utterly

(Special London Times Cable to The Telegraph). Paris, Oct. 25.—The French offensive on the right bank of the Meuse was a magnificent crushing of the right wing of the Germans who had selected Verdun as the likeliest battle ground on which to paralyze the vitality of our Allies and bring them to their knees. By a few hours the German captures of forts won after many months of sustained efforts at a ruinous cost, were cancelled. The rejuvenated French army is now practically in position to hold out until the end of May.

General Nivelle, commanding the second army of which General Mangin is commanding the attacking section, was silently preparing the great coup for weeks. Some days ago reinforced by several divisions, fresh batteries were posted for the bombardment of the enemy which began ten days ago, but when everything was ready, bad weather delayed the operations. In spite of this warning the Germans were caught napping.

"An evan't" rang out at midday. At 4 o'clock the German defence was mastered. At 5 o'clock Douaumont fort was surrounded by Mangin's troops, the very men who had held the fort for a brief period in May. A rocket announced that the "poilus" had forced an entrance into the village, stormed at the same time. In and around Douaumont fort the struggle continued until darkness fell. Three-fourths of the Germans had been killed or wounded when the survivors surrendered with their commander.

A Zouave non-commissioned officer, describing the action, says: "The Boches seemed stupefied when they saw us rushing at them. We entered Thiamont work in twenty minutes, killing and taking prisoners the whole garrison, not one of whom escaped." An officer who appeared to be in command, shot himself in the head when he recognized resistance was in vain. The heaviest fighting was at Douaumont fort, which the Germans defended desperately, but after the village was taken the fort was exposed to our fire. We were thus able to surround it.

The garrison fought on, refusing to surrender until 6 o'clock, when 400 survivors hoisted the white flag and laid down their arms. Ten minutes later French flags rang out, and on Douaumont fort the red color was run up. How cleverly the German high command was hoodwinked is evident from the fact that for the last three weeks the Germans had been holding two divisions in the rear of Verdun ready to reinforce their troops on any sector when attacked by the French. Last Wednesday, believing our Allies had renounced the offensive at Verdun, the German command dispatched two divisions to the Bapaume front, and missed the critical day.

The available supply of guns and shells holds a splendid promise for next spring when the tremendous artillery output of Allied workshops will provide the generals on the western front all the heavy artillery for which they now yearn on sections of the line which are now inactive.

Counter-Attacks Repulsed During Day. Three successive counter-attacks by the Germans north of Verdun, in the region of Haudromont and Douaumont, were repulsed by the French today, says the bulletin issued by the war office last night. The prisoners taken by the French now exceed 4,500.

The text reads: "North of Verdun the enemy delivered three successive counter-attacks in the region of Haudromont and Douaumont. None succeeded, and our front was maintained intact. "East of Fumilin Wood and north of Ochnois we continued to make progress during the day."

"The number of unwounded prisoners, actually counted, exceeds 4,500." "The clearing of Fort Douaumont was completed during the night. The commander of the fort, who was in a dug-out, was taken prisoner."

Rain on British Front. London, Oct. 25.—The statement issued tonight from British headquarters in France reads: "Rain fell again during the greater part of the day. South of the Ancre the enemy artillery was active, especially in the neighborhood of Les Cars and Eaucourt l'Abbaye. "Elsewhere on the front there was intermittent shelling on both sides."

CANADIANS SHARED IN FINAL CAPTURE OF REGINA TRENCH

Prisoner Tells His Captain That Germans in Canada Were Notified to Be in Readiness in June, 1914

Son of Canon Scott of Quebec Dies Gaily While Leading His Men to Attack—Vicious 5.9-inch Howitzer Added to Canadian Trophies—Enemy Found Well Concealed in Famous Position.

Ottawa, Oct. 25.—Lieutenant-General Sir Sam Hughes has received the following report from the Canadian war records office: Canadian Corps Headquarters in France, Oct. 22, via London, Oct. 25.—The mystery of the Regina trench is solved. The resistance of the Germans at this point has been finally broken, and the British are now in possession of a line to which the enemy attached considerable tactical importance. Three times the Canadians had attacked this position. Each time they had successfully broken into the trenches and had inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy, but each time strong hostile counter attacks had driven them out again.

The German defences had indeed been so organized that almost an air of mystery and of chivalry, hidden danger had come to be attached to the Regina trench. It was known to be strongly built, with many deep dugouts, and to be protected by heavy wire entanglements, but the line ran, for the greater part, below the crest of the intervening ground, and could be reconnoitred only by night.

Wounded men who returned claimed that the enemy rifle and machine gun fire came from behind the trench, and that in counter attacking the Germans appeared to spring from a concealed position immediately in the rear.

In the big advance of Oct. 21, which carried the British line forward on a frontage of 5,000 yards, and to an average depth of 800 yards, the Canadians, with other troops, advanced to the attack of Regina trench. They were successful. Profiting by the former experience, their attack maintained a continuous bombardment of their objectives until the wire entanglements were all completely blown away and no longer presented an obstruction to the infantry advance.

The Attack. In the general assault the task of the Canadians was a minor, but a very important one. Their actual objective was only a length of 800 yards of the Regina trench immediately to the north of the village of Courcellette. But this formed the right flank of the attack, and the Canadian troops were obliged not only to secure their proper objective, but also to connect the trenches. As the captured position with their original line in such a manner as to make a defensive flank to the east.

For this purpose troops from western Canada were specially employed. An Ontario battalion was also to advance in close support. During the night of Oct. 20-21, the assaulting troops took up their position. The night was clear and frosty. The trenches, dug in heavy soil, were half filled with mud and water, for there has been much rain during the previous days.

The ground about was in a difficult condition, churned and beaten into a sticky pulp by the long bombardments. The morning sun could do little to dry the water-soaked earth. Suspected Attack. Shortly before noon the enemy, suspecting perhaps the imminence of an attack, began a heavy artillery fire upon our front lines. About noon our own guns opened with a rapid fire, their muffled batteries. The concentration of shells and the hail of heavy shells and shrapnel descended with deadly force and accuracy.

The infantry advance began. The men clambered out of their trenches and in long lines dashed forward, close under the barrage, advancing as rapidly as the state of the ground would permit. The trench line of 500 yards of open ground had been crossed, and Regina trench was ours. On the right a tragic incident for a moment threatened the success of the assault. Canon Scott's son, the son of Canon Scott of Quebec, was advancing at the head of his men and was directing their progress in accordance with the artillery barrage. As the men three by three were waiting to await the momentary lift of the guns, Lieutenant Scott was shot and instantly killed. His death was not at first remarked, and his men still waited for the signal to advance.

Not until the barrage had passed beyond the German trench did the men realize the situation. Then, with a fierce, impetuous rush, which nothing could arrest, they dashed for the German trench, eager to avenge the death of their gallant young officer. In the meantime, however, the enemy had been able to man his parapet and had opened a rapid fire at this point. We, therefore, suffered some casualties, but the result was the same. Our men went in with the bayonets and their rifles short shrift for the Germans.

As some points the enemy, consisting of Prussians brought recently from the Ypres salient, were eager to surrender. They jumped out of their trenches and advanced to meet our men, holding their hands above their heads. Altogether 103 prisoners were taken, and between 75 and 100 dead Germans were counted in the trench. Among these who surrendered were two or three machine gun crews who abandoned their guns.

One of the prisoners, a sergeant taken by a Montreal battalion, was a German who was actually living in Montreal at the time the war broke out. He had been there for a year and a half, employed as a moulder. He stated that in June, 1914, he had applied for a passport to the United States, but it had been refused to him on the ground that a war was imminent, and that he would have to hold himself in readiness to return to Germany at a moment's notice.

Not only was the whole of our infantry successful, Consolidation was proceeded in the manner intended, but strong parties pushed well over beyond and established posts in certain tactical positions. The operation was entirely successful. Consolidation was proceeded with, and during the following night communication trenches were rapidly constructed, linking up the old line with the new.

Attempts by the enemy to counter-attack were promptly disposed of by our artillery. "Justice is said to be slow." "Maybe that is why the old girl is so hard on speed fiends."—Kansas City Journal.

LETTERS REVEAL BOLD BREACH OF U. S. NEUTRALITY

London, Oct. 25.—The following two letters, intercepted on their way to Germany, were made public here today. The first one from Max 461 East Eighth street, South Boston, addressed to his brother, said: "Dear Gustav—The Wilhelm had sailed today. I am to stay here till the end of the war. The Wilhelm will act within the American three-mile limit as a telegraph station for submarines. She has been tied up here since front August, on a special mission. "Later you will hear more from me. I rejoice that I have done something for the fatherland, and that I still have more to do." Captain Non-Communicative.

TELLS TROOPS THAT DEITY IS WITH HIM

Berlin, Oct. 25, via London.—Emperor William, on his recent visit to the troops on the Somme front in France, made the following speech, according to the correspondent of the Tagblatt: "Comrades, following an impulse of the heart, I have hurried to you from the east front to bring you the greetings of your comrades there, and thanks of the fatherland for the four months' hard struggle on the Somme, and for the heroic manner in which you have fought. The world's history knows no parallel for the struggle in which you are participating and for the greatness of your deeds. For centuries these battles of the Somme front in France, in the following model for the conquering will of a united people.

"In you that Germany will find expression, under whatever circumstances, to prevent the enemy from prostrating us to the ground and to stand firm against French insolence and British stubbornness. From all German regions you stand like a metal-walled of German sense and duty and self-loved valor, fighting to the last breath.

"On all sides the German people stand in a tenacious struggle against half the world, and against the manifold superiority of our enemies. It is our duty, it is our honor, and it is our duty to stand firm and endure long yet the Lord of Hosts is with you. They at home have besought Him, and He has inspired you with strength and courage. Trust in God bravely, feeling that you are fighting in a just cause.

"Thus I greet you, comrades. Hold out, the Lord will give His blessing to the end."

THE U-53 SAID TO HAVE BEEN SUNK

Boston, Mass., Oct. 25.—Captain W. G. Tudor of the British steamship Hochberg, which arrived from Lousburg yesterday, said that before he left Nova Scotia, persistent rumors were current that the German U-Boat 53 had been sunk off Sydney, C. B., by the Canadian patrol boat Stanley. He said he was unable to verify the report.

"Before I left Lousburg," he said, "I was told by a shipping man that I need not worry about the German submarine. This man said the U-Boat would not bother any more British vessels because she had been sunk by the Stanley."

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WANTED—General in family. Mrs. H. J. Duke street, St. John. WANTED—By Septem erwood School, Rother malds; also a good teacher. Currie, Netherwood, Rothermalds.

Increased Efficiency Has compelled increased beginning November 1. Those entering this month present rates. Rate card mailed to an

BIRTH S. KER

BIRTH EARLE—On October Methodist parsonage, Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert E. WANAMAKER—Oct. and Mrs. R. A. Wainwright (N. B.), a son.

MARRIAGE RICE-BERUBE—At Ruber, eldest daughter, to Edward Rice, of Ed SLINNEY-RECORD—A church, Silver Lake, Ont. A. J. O'Neil, Thomas E. C. Record.

DEATH ELLIOTT—On Oct. and Mrs. George C. E. Chené, a daughter, Irene FLETCHER—At 121 Rev. M. B. Fletcher morning at 5 o'clock, less two sons. Durin, and O. in France.

WARNOCK—On Oct. widow of Patrick Warnock, leaving three sons to mourn. STORBERG—October dock street, Mrs. Elizabeth lower, aged 68 years, Griffith—October Lloyd, infant son of Mary Griffith.

BURNS—On Oct. 24, Burns, aged 68 years, and two daughters.

CARD OF THANKS Mr. John Parkhill and thank their many friends shown during their recent Mrs. David McDuff with her heartfelt gratitude to the school children of Barry, of the St. John's their kindness during her illness, and Mrs. Charles family, of Hanover, for their appreciation for the kindness received their recent bereavement.

NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL CHILDREN There is nothing more of the world have respect of their little brothers Belgium—those countless little creatures, of the cheery nature of the littlest that comes of the school children. recently sent \$27,000 of London to be turned into a tenacious struggle against half the world, and against the manifold superiority of our enemies. It is our duty, it is our honor, and it is our duty to stand firm and endure long yet the Lord of Hosts is with you. They at home have besought Him, and He has inspired you with strength and courage. Trust in God bravely, feeling that you are fighting in a just cause.

Steamer North Star, loaded with potatoes, yesterday to Boston. The ing from Boston to Hago. This makes one of the most successful ports on an Eastern Star. In addition to Star will carry a large laneous freight.

Sore Corns Go! No t... will out the sting over. It leaves no scars. Putnam's Corn Exter