

TO BLOEMFONTEIN.

Lieut. Fred Jones of G. Co. First Canadian Contingent.

Gives a Vivid Description of Forced Marching through the Enemy's Country.

Shot Nations. Want of Water and Sleep. Boots Without Soles, Nearly Starved and Almost Worn Out With Fatigue—Yet the Canadians Pushed on and Won the Highest Praise of the Major General Commanding for Bravery and Outstanding Energy.

(Lt. Col. Jones of the St. John Artillery, yesterday received the following most interesting letter from his brother, Lieut. Fred Jones of G. Co., First Canadian contingent, who was at date of writing at Bloemfontein.)

SUNDAY, March 4.—We marched in at six from outpost duty and slept all day.

MONDAY, March 5.—The mail arrived from Kimberley, twenty-seven miles away. We had ridden together and sent a man in on horseback to go down the railway till he found the mail, and then to hire transport and bring it out to us. I had such a jolly time of it, as there was three weeks of it, and I was in great luck, receiving fourteen from their family. As it was dark and raining, I put a piece of candle inside of a tin ration box, and got my head and shoulders inside and read them. They made me quite homesick, as the Canadian letters told me about Christmas, and I lay there in the rain and mud, cold and shivering, faint from hunger, as we had been issued but a biscuit and a half for that day, and thought of you all at home eating your Christmas dinner, each one eating more in that meal than I have had for a week.

TUESDAY, March 6.—Had a horrible night. A frightful thunder and lightning storm, with the wind a regular gale, blowing in gusts, and a perfect deluge of rain. Our bivouac was a mire, and we were a sorry looking lot when we fell in this morning. The parcels were issued, as everyone only wanted their letters the night before. I received a fine box * * * containing meat tablets, etc. How I ate the meat tablets till I was afraid that I would not have any of them left. The cigars are grand, as I have been smoking the men's chewing tobacco for two weeks, and it is not at all good for that purpose.

Marched seven miles, and were issued with two biscuits and 2-1/2 lb. of meat. The meat is on cooking half an hour after it is killed. We do not try to eat it now, but boil it and drink the water.

WEDNESDAY, March 7.—Marched at 5:30 a. m. to attack the enemy, on half a biscuit, our brigade, the 19th, on the left. We outflanked their position and captured one of their guns, and then started a chase, under a broiling sun, as we did not want them to take up a position on any of the kopjes, and we were about done when we chased them off the last kopje, and saw the plain stretching for miles at our feet, and the kopjes of Bloemfontein in the distance. This was by far the hardest day that we have had, as we marched and skirmished fifteen hours with only the half biscuit to eat. One march was five hours without a halt. It was broiling hot; our water bottles were empty, and our equipment seemed to weigh tons. I will describe it to you, and you will be able to judge what a day in the sun is like without water and faint from hunger.

Field glasses and haversack go on first, the waist belt buckles over them to keep them from swinging. Bayonet and revolver on the belt, with ammunition pouch, containing 100 rounds, bandolier over shoulder, with another 100 rounds, and then the water bottle. How would you like it? We bivouacked on the kopje, so our transport with our great-coat is miles behind, and there is no food. It was a most aggravating day, as about noon we were chasing them through their laager, and their pots were boiling and meat cooked, and how nice it smelt, after three weeks without a meal; but it was pretty lively just then, bullets flying past and striking the ground about us.

I grabbed a half cooked chicken and held on to it, though it was so hot that it took the skin off my hand, but how I did enjoy taking bites out of it as we pushed on. Two hours afterwards we took some of our transport, but had to push on, so we grabbed Landfuss of cornflour, dumped the cartridges out of our ammunition pouches, trying to lock to get them, when we ran out of those in our bandoliers, to one of the ammunition mules being around. The flour was a life saver to us that night, as our transport did not arrive till next morning. We mixed it with water and cooked it in the canteen covers, making cakes about an inch thick. It was somewhat tough, but very good. We had a very, cold night of it.

THURSDAY, March 8.—Had quite a breakfast of cornmeal cakes, coffee and the issue of biscuits, three today. The stragglers that fell out yesterday from fatigue and weakness kept coming in all day, hundreds of them. The following brigade order was read out: "The major general commanding the brigade wishes all ranks of the brigade to be at the honor to command, to understand how thoroughly he appreciates the spirit and zeal displayed by them since the brigade assembled at Grass Pan, Feb. 12th. All have been called upon for extraordinary exertions and have had to undergo forced marches, short rations, great wettings, want of water and sleep, severe and trying fighting, concluding with yesterday's extremely arduous flank march of over twenty miles. It will be gratifying for all to know that yesterday's march turned the Boer position on Lego Kopje and Blue Kopjes, and threatened their rear, causing them to retreat in haste,

making them cease firing on our naval guns, abandoning their own. It also enabled the Highland Brigade to advance direct on the enemy's trenches unopposed, and further caused the retirement of a large force of mounted men and guns, which had held the mounted infantry on the left in check all morning.

"It will be gratifying for all to know that by the untiring energy shown by every one, the brigade has established for itself a high name, which the major general feels all will do their utmost to maintain. He regrets the loss of so many brave officers, non-coms, and men, and especially wishes to record how deeply he deprecates the loss of that gallant and able officer, Col. Aldworth, D. S. O."

Quite a puff, was it not? Thursday we rested all day. The cigars sent me are splendid, as they take away the hungry, aching feeling of one's stomach. On Friday we marched at 3 p. m., to the river, and we crossed on two pontoon canvas boats, tied together, taking nine a trip, and a pontoon section of a bridge taking 40. They were pulled over and back by means of a rope. We reached camp at eleven. I could not sleep, as my blanket was soaking wet, and it was too cold to sleep without it, so, as it was a perfect moonlight night, I went up on a small kopje, and watched the army sleeping below me, and it was the most interesting sight that I have ever seen. Over thirty-five thousand fighting men, besides over 1,200 army service men, with transport, and then, besides, engineers, armorers, blacksmiths and every trade to make up a large city, over 20,000 oxen and 40,000 mules. The infantry in one large square like the blocks of a modern city, each regiment making a block; the rifles piled in perfect lines, with the men sleeping in double rows, rolled in their blankets, heads to the rear, and the sentries, with their rifles, artillery and ammunition in Parks. The transport in immense laagers, and the cavalry sleeping in rear of their horses, and the horses in perfect lines miles long, with the plouquet reserve farther out. Then the pikets, and then the sentries, with the visiting petrels, and still outside of them the mounted pikets and petrels. You could not imagine a grander sight or grander feeling that to belong to such a mighty army. About two o'clock the company cooks lit their fires, and the flank of their own companies, thousands of them, and it only made things the grander. Then the men commenced putting on accoutrements, so I rejoined my company.

Saturday we marched at five o'clock, halted from eleven till one, and then marched till six. The advance guard were fighting as we arrived, and moved into it, but the Boers retreated.

SUNDAY, March 11.—The mounted infantry and artillery moved out at two and we fell in at five and waited till ten, when word came that they had surprised the Boers and had driven them back. We then moved forward and passed the place where they had surprised them and we counted 350 dead Boers, and the farm houses all around were full of their wounded, and our ambulances and stretcher bearers were still collecting them. Marched till four p. m.

MONDAY, March 12.—Marched at five and bivouacked at do, doing twenty miles. To get the railway, four miles below Bloemfontein, the mounted men, with the R. E. A. guns, moved on Bloemfontein and took it, as we had encircled their defences and came from an entirely different direction from what they expected. We were greatly delighted over the capture of Bloemfontein and also at reaching the railway, as we were in a pitiable condition, nearly starved, utterly worn out with fatigue, want of water and sleep. We are all very weak. My boots have been without soles for three days and my feet are bandaged with canvas and the skin off them up to the ankles. There are hundreds like me. Fully one-third of the men have fallen out, and the wagons got full of them, and then they had to be deserted where they were. Our regiment lost 14 men unaccounted for.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

ALEX. CALDER DEAD. McDonald's First Partner Expires at Selkirk—A Cape Breton Man. (Vancouver World.)

Alexander Calder, one of the wealthiest miners of the Klondike and the first partner of Alexander McDonald, died at Selkirk on March 29th from the effects of a severe cold. News of his death has been received by his wife, who is living at her home on Terry avenue, Seattle. The remains have been buried at Selkirk, but Mrs. Calder will go north to attend to the settling of her husband's affairs and will bring the remains to Seattle for final interment.

Mr. Calder was well known among all mining men of the north. He was born at Sydney, Nova Scotia, in 1855, and went to the Klondike from Colorado three years ago. He early became associated with McDonald, and when the latter made his trip to Europe last year he gave to him his power of attorney and placed him in exclusive charge of all his extensive interests on the Klondike creek and other parts of the Klondike.

He came out to the States last fall and spent the winter with his wife in travelling through California. He bought a home in Seattle and then started for Dawson, leaving Mrs. Calder in Seattle. While on his way in he contracted the cold that resulted in his death. He was rated one of the wealthiest men in the Klondike, and was generally admired for his generosity and open-heartedness. He had no children.

Latest News in SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

The Secret of Health

The health of the whole body depends upon the blood and the nerves. Therefore a medicine that creates new blood and supplies the necessary materials for rapidly rebuilding wasted nerve tissues, reaches the root of many serious diseases. It is these virtues that have given

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS FOR PALE PEOPLE

their wonderful power to conquer disease, and caused the miraculous cures that have startled the scientific world. Thousands of cases have demonstrated that this remedy is an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of la grippe, pale and sallow complexions, and all forms of weakness in either men or women.

But you must get the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Imitations never cured any one, and other so-called tonics are but imitations of this great medicine.

A SEVERE CASE OF ANEMIA.

Miss Mabel J. Taylor, living at 1334 City Hall Avenue, Montreal, writes: "I write to give you the honest testimonial of a young girl who believes her life was saved by the use of your Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. In November, 1897, I was suddenly stricken with loss of voice, and for eight months could only speak in a whisper. At the time I was completely run down. I had no appetite, no energy; suffered from headache, palpitation of the heart, and shortness of breath. I was not able to walk up or down stairs. I was given up by the best doctors, and the different remedies I took did me no good. While in this condition I began the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. By the time I had taken four boxes my voice was restored, and after the use of eight boxes I am feeling perfectly well, cannot find words to express my thanks for what Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have done for me, and you are at liberty to publish this letter, in the hope that it may be of benefit to some other sufferer."



The Genuine are Sold only in Packages

like the Engraving. WRAPPER PRINTED IN RED.

At all dealers, or direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.



NOT ABLE TO TURN IN BED. Mrs. J. Sinclair, of Rockway Valley, Que., writes: "I have suffered more than my share from the agonies which accompany a severe attack of rheumatism. I was first attacked with the disease some four years ago. The trouble gradually grew worse until finally I was confined to bed, and could not turn myself. I was not able to put my hands to my head, and every bone in my body ached, and pained if I dared to stir. I was run down and felt very weak and wretched. It took several bottles of medicine prescribed by the doctors, but it did not help me. I saw Dr. Williams' Pink Pills so highly recommended that I got a few boxes, and before I finished them I saw I was gradually gaining health and strength. I kept on taking them for a couple of months, when every pain and ache had left me, and I was enjoying the best of health. I am never troubled with rheumatism now, and I have to thank Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for my release. I always recommend them to friends who are ailing."

PROGRESSIVE FARMING.

More About the Competitions for Sir Wm. C. Macdonald's \$10,000. (Montreal Herald.)

G. H. Clark, B. S. A., has been appointed to take direct charge of the work in connection with the sum of ten thousand dollars donated by Sir William C. Macdonald to promote "progressive agriculture" by encouraging boys and girls to select seed grain on the farms on which they live.

Mr. Clark has been for three years assistant to C. A. Zavitz, experimentalist at the Ontario Agricultural college. His training there in that capacity has given him particular fitness for carrying on the work, and the boys and girls will find him a most helpful and sympathetic co-worker.

Sir William C. Macdonald takes a deep personal interest in this movement, as he is desirous of forwarding any movement which makes for the improvement of the conditions under which people in the rural districts carry on their work. He has desired the words "progressive agriculture" to be put on every cheque to be paid to the boys and girls who are successful in their competition.

The sum of ten thousand dollars is to be paid in prizes during the three years. One set of prizes is to be awarded for the largest yield per acre of oats, counting also the quality of the grain. The basis for awarding the prizes is one mark for every pound in weight of grain of good quality per acre in the first year; two marks for every pound in weight of grain of good quality in the second year; and three marks for every pound in weight of grain of good quality in the third year. Other sets of prizes are to be awarded for wheat. Any acre of oats or wheat on the farm on which the competitor lives may be selected for 1900, and the particular acre need not be chosen until just before the grain is ready to harvest.

(a) The competitor who obtains the largest number of marks in the total of the three years will receive the first prize in the province; the competitor who obtains the second largest number of marks, the second prize; and so on for ten prizes in every province.

(b) There will be also prizes for wheat on the same plan.

(c) The following show the prizes for one province: Oats, Wheat. First prize..... \$100 \$100 Second prize..... 75 75 Third prize..... 50 50

Table with 2 columns: Prize rank and amount. Fourth prize... 25... 25, Fifth prize... 15... 15, Sixth prize... 10... 10, Seventh prize... 6... 6, Eighth prize... 5... 5, Ninth prize... 5... 5, Tenth prize... 5... 5.

(d) There will be sets of prizes as above for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, and British Columbia respectively.

(e) There will be also sets of prizes annually for the hundred heads of grain which contain the largest number of seeds of the best quality picked out of those selected from the acre each year.

(f) Any 100 heads from the acre entered for competition may be picked; one mark will be awarded for every seed on the one hundred heads, and two marks for every grain (in weight) which those seeds weigh.

(g) The competitor who receives the largest number of marks will receive the first prize in the province; the competitor who obtains the second largest number of marks, the second prize; and so on for ten prizes in every province.

(d) The following show the prizes for one province for 1900: Oats, Wheat. First prize..... \$25 \$25, Second prize..... 20 20, Third prize..... 15 15, Fourth prize..... 12 12, Fifth prize..... 10 10, Sixth prize..... 8 8, Seventh prize..... 5 5, Eighth prize..... 5 5, Ninth prize..... 5 5, Tenth prize..... 5 5.

There will be sets of prizes as above for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia, respectively, in 1900, and also in 1901 and 1902.

The seed grain for this competition is not supplied by Prof. Robertson; and it is not necessary to choose any particular variety of seed for sowing this year, but whatever variety of seed is sown this year will be continued during the three years of the competition on each farm.

Teachers in rural districts are invited to join in helping to forward this educational movement. Any teacher may send in a list of not more

WILL NOT REMAIN FRUITLESS.

LONDON, May 2.—Earl Kimberley presided this evening at a banquet given by the Australian federation delegates at the National Liberal club. Lord Kimberley, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and most of the other liberal leaders were present and spoke. The Earl of Rosebery on rising to propose "The Parliament of the Empire" was received with vociferous cheers.

In the course of his speech he said: "I anticipate a possibility of the mission of the delegates such an increase of the imperial spirit throughout the empire as will lead to amalgamation of the house of lords and the privy council as an imperial tribunal, leading ultimately to the constitution of an imperial senate.

"The young countries of the empire have come to the assistance of the old in resuscitating a new country in South Africa from an intolerable domination, menacing its future power and prosperity. I decline to believe that the spirit displayed during this crisis of the empire will remain fruitless. I believe the present chapter in British history will not conclude without a result worthy the sacrifices which all parts of the empire have made."

U. S. INDEMNITY MATTER.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 6.—The U. S. legation is doing nothing in the indemnity matter, which, apparently, is now forming the subject of direct communication between the United States and the Turkish minister in Washington.

Rear Admiral Ahmed Pasha, whom an imperial decree, issued April 27, ordered to proceed to the United States to study the construction of warships, has not left Constantinople.

FRUIT GROWERS!

The best Spray for trees is a solution made with GILLETT'S LYE.

If interested write us for particulars. Gillett's Chemical Works TORONTO, ONT.

As mentioned before, entries should be addressed to Professor Robertson, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and should contain only the words "Entry for Seed Grain Competition," and the full name and address of the competitor. These applications will be carried by mail free of postage. They will be received until the 1st day of June, 1900. Already there are many hundreds of entries from every province in the dominion.

ADVICE TO A SON.

An old lawyer was giving advice to his son, who was just entering upon the practice of his father's profession. "My son," said he, "if you have a case where the law is clearly against you, urge upon the jury the vast importance of sustaining the law. If, on the other hand, you are in doubt about the law, but your client's case is founded on justice, insist on the necessity of doing justice, though the heavens fall."

"But," asked the son, "how shall I manage a case where law and justice are dead against me?"

"In that case," replied the old man, "what you have to do is to talk round it." Tit-Bits.

Subscribe for the Semi-Weekly Sun.

SEMI-WEEKLY SUN, ST. JOHN, N. B. MAY 9, 1900. 7. TO BLOEMFONTEIN. Lieut. Fred Jones of G. Co. First Canadian Contingent. Gives a Vivid Description of Forced Marching through the Enemy's Country. Shot Nations. Want of Water and Sleep. Boots Without Soles, Nearly Starved and Almost Worn Out With Fatigue—Yet the Canadians Pushed on and Won the Highest Praise of the Major General Commanding for Bravery and Outstanding Energy. (Lt. Col. Jones of the St. John Artillery, yesterday received the following most interesting letter from his brother, Lieut. Fred Jones of G. Co., First Canadian contingent, who was at date of writing at Bloemfontein.) SUNDAY, March 4.—We marched in at six from outpost duty and slept all day. MONDAY, March 5.—The mail arrived from Kimberley, twenty-seven miles away. We had ridden together and sent a man in on horseback to go down the railway till he found the mail, and then to hire transport and bring it out to us. 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This was by far the hardest day that we have had, as we marched and skirmished fifteen hours with only the half biscuit to eat. One march was five hours without a halt. It was broiling hot; our water bottles were empty, and our equipment seemed to weigh tons. I will describe it to you, and you will be able to judge what a day in the sun is like without water and faint from hunger. Field glasses and haversack go on first, the waist belt buckles over them to keep them from swinging. Bayonet and revolver on the belt, with ammunition pouch, containing 100 rounds, bandolier over shoulder, with another 100 rounds, and then the water bottle. How would you like it? We bivouacked on the kopje, so our transport with our great-coat is miles behind, and there is no food. 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The remains have been buried at Selkirk, but Mrs. Calder will go north to attend to the settling of her husband's affairs and will bring the remains to Seattle for final interment. Mr. Calder was well known among all mining men of the north. He was born at Sydney, Nova Scotia, in 1855, and went to the Klondike from Colorado three years ago. He early became associated with McDonald, and when the latter made his trip to Europe last year he gave to him his power of attorney and placed him in exclusive charge of all his extensive interests on the Klondike creek and other parts of the Klondike. He came out to the States last fall and spent the winter with his wife in travelling through California. He bought a home in Seattle and then started for Dawson, leaving Mrs. Calder in Seattle. While on his way in he contracted the cold that resulted in his death. He was rated one of the wealthiest men in the Klondike, and was generally admired for his generosity and open-heartedness. 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