

TALES TOLD BY MEN IN THE FIGHTING LINES ON LAND AND ON SEA

A joint note written on a single sheet of paper by her husband and son at the front was received by Mrs. Peter Baird, Corbiehall, Bo'ness, Linlithgowshire, the other day.

Private Peter Baird is a reservist in the Gordon Highlanders, and his son, Lance Corporal Peter Baird, aged twenty-one, is in the Royal Scots Fusiliers. The two met by chance the other day in the same camp in France and before separating to take up their allotted places in the fighting line wrote a joint note to assure Mrs. Baird that both were well.

A private of the A.S.C. Motor Transport writes:

By the way I must tell you that, during one of our travels lately, we struck a bonny little village that boasted of a piano—Ye fates, a piano.

Our officers said: "Well, that's it, men. We'll have a concert tonight." We discovered quite a lot of talent among the men. There were several pianists, sentimental singers and embryo comedians (of the red nose variety).

The officers turned up at night and we set to work to put up a good show. It was really wonderful how well we sung after dieting on "bully beef" and "puppy biscuits." Sing, why it was marvellous. Why some of us can at most bark.

There was no doubt about the success of our efforts. Officers and men enjoyed the fun to the full, and with the grand finale "God Save the King," and "Abide with Me," we brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

A member of the London Scottish at the front writes:

The strain of watching through the night in the trenches is pretty awful. The trenches were pitch black and the rain was pouring down making the trenches an awful mess.

We sent a burial party out in front of us one morning. There must have been hundreds of Germans lying there with thousands further on. All we could do was just to cover them with earth. It was a horrible sight, and it is impossible for you folks at home to realize anything of the awfulness of this war.

It would not have been to miss the chance of doing my part here.

The Prince of Wales visited us yesterday. We are billeted in a cafe, and he came in, rubbing his hands with the cold. He looked jolly well, and has a fine healthy clear complexion. We have been living in the lap of luxury lately. Our last week in the trenches was a picnic compared with our first experience. This is a grand free life, a sight better than mooching round the city. I never felt so fit in my life and never had such a good time before. This is simply a splendid life and I am very glad indeed I did not miss my chance of being here.

Sergt. Waldren 1st Hampshire Regiment, writes:

Yesterday morning I believe they knew we were preparing breakfast. Some of our fellows were in a house making tea and were just putting the sugar in when a shell came ploving in straight through the fireplace. Fortunately no one was hurt and the tea was rescued.

We cannot grumble, though, for as a general rule they leave us alone, and I think the reason they were looking us up was because we have a battery in action not far away, and, naturally, they try conclusions with them.

I don't know whether I told you of an experience I and my crew had the other day, or rather morning. We had slept in some dug outs, and had gone into a house near by (a deserted one) to cook some bacon and make some tea for breakfast. I laid the table preparatory to having—as we thought—a comfortable breakfast. I served the bacon up and the tea—which we made in a soup tureen—was on the table. We had just sat down and—bang!—and a terrific bang it was; the door flew open, all the glass in the windows fell in, pictures came off the walls—in fact the house rocked. As far as we were concerned I hardly knew what happened. I looked at my chron and he looked at me and with one accord we gathered up our breakfast and made our way back to the dug-out.

When we got there we were informed that a shrapnel had burst directly over the house we had been in. In getting out of the house we had to pass through a shed at the back and although this shed had just burst, there still knelt one of our fellows milking a goat. He followed us, and when he got to our rabbit burrow we sat down and enjoyed our breakfast, but that one shell was only a fore-runner. Long before we had finished breakfast they sent "Jack Johnsons"

to greet us and for the remainder of that day they gave us pepper. Never before or since have I had such a time, nor do I want one like it again.

"We were among the fortunate troops to have the King and the Prince of Wales as visitors," says Corporal George Meads, of the 10th Hussars, in a letter to his sister at Reading, "and didn't we chant as they passed down our lines."

"The King and Prince were evidently much gratified at all they saw, and I am positive our enthusiasm afforded them more than ordinary pleasure."

"Both looked very earnest, but a glad smile came over them as we let our musical voices ring out."

"This visit of the King will do a vast amount of good. I felt my back stiffen as they passed along, and I am certain my feeling of pride was shared by all my comrades."

"This is no child's play we are now engaged upon, and we were encouraged by the King having come among us."

Private E. S. Knell, 4th Signal Company, Royal Engineers, writes home.

Somewhere near the firing line are billeted certain troops. They sleep at night in a hall which is used in the time of peace as a theatre. It is a small building and is very cosy for billeting. There is a plentiful supply of straw and blankets; in fact, all we require for comfort.

I mention all this so that you can imagine the scene before early morning. Everyone is enjoying a sound sleep, and under ordinary circumstances when the non-commissioned officer or picket comes in that room and shouts "Show a leg," or "Now then, my lads," his reception is not exactly the greeting you might expect to hear given a welcome visitor. I can assure you it is "not," and the remarks are anything but complimentary.

But lately all this has been changed by a very welcome little visitor, a child with a jug of coffee. What a change! Just compare the following description with the previous one. It is very early morning. All are sound asleep, when suddenly a child's piping voice is heard, "Come on, cafe." Up springs the nearest man to a sitting position and says, "Good morning, Madam!" (that is her name—she is a pretty child, nine years of age). Then she leaves her coffee jug and soon is walking everyone up with her childish prattle. Back to her jug she goes, and is pouring out coffee as fast as she can, all the while keeping everyone laughing with her chatter.

She is more reliable than any alarm clock and is able to do more than any non-commissioned officer could do—she turns a man out of a comfortable sleep on a bitterly cold morning to stable duty with a smile on his face.

This child is a refugee. Her father is a soldier. She carries her jug of coffee across rough ground in all sorts of weather alone, with the sound of guns quite close enough to put fear into an adult, and then she brings happiness to those who know how to appreciate a good turn.

WEDDINGS

SMITH—BROWNRIDGE

At five o'clock Friday afternoon the wedding was solemnized of Robert Francis Smith, of Portage, to Miss Agnes Ethel Brownridge, of North Brandon. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. Wilkinson, at the home of the bride's parents.

MUIRHEAD—ALBERT

The marriage took place on Thursday afternoon at the Anglican church, Wilkie, Sask., of Bessie Lillian Albert, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Albert, to Mr. William Henry Muirhead, of Brandon. Rev. G. Wright performed the ceremony, the bride being given away by her father. Miss Mary Albert, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid, while Mr. E. N. Carter acted as best man. The bride's dress was of Copenhagen blue silk trimmed with shadow lace, and her travelling gown was of brown serge. After the wedding breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead left on their honeymoon trip to eastern points. Both the bride and bridegroom are well known and very popular in Brandon.

WILLIAMS—IRVING

The wedding was solemnized on Friday at one o'clock at the First Methodist church of Mr. William Williams to Miss Mabel Irving. Rev. A. E. Smith officiated and the young couple were unattended. Mr. R. C. MacDonnell played Mendelssohn's wedding march as the bride, leaning on the arm of her father entered the church, carrying a bouquet of lilies

of the valley and white roses. Her gown was of midnight blue silk poplin trimmed with Mohammedan lace. Her hat was a black plush with a bird of paradise and silk velvet roses to match the gown. Mr. and Mrs. Williams left on the four o'clock train for Winnipeg where a brief honeymoon will be spent. They will take up their residence in Brandon.

GEORGE—TIPPING

On Dec. 31st the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carley, 333 7th St., was the scene of a very pretty wedding, when Miss Pearl Tipping, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Tipping, Listowel, Ont., became the wife of Mr. Anson George, of Saskatoon; Rev. G. A. Edmison of Knox church officiating. At the noon hour the bride looked charming as she entered the parlor, wearing a handsome gown of crepe de chene and shadow lace; her bouquet being white roses. Miss Vera Roberts made a pretty little flower girl, wearing a dainty dress of pale blue crepe de chene and carrying a basket of pink carnations. After congratulations the guests, being only the immediate relatives and friends of the bride, adjourned to the dining room, where a dainty luncheon was served. The groom's gift to the flower girl was a gold ring set with turquoise. Mr. and Mrs. George left on the 4 o'clock train for Winnipeg, amid showers of confetti. The bride's travelling costume was a princess suit of navy blue velvet with collar and cuffs of pan velvet blending in soft shades to match. Mink furs and hat to match, mounted with osprey. Among the many pretty gifts the bride received was a cut glass berry bowl with nappies to match, from the staff of Nation and Shewan, where the bride has been an employee for about two years. The bride also received a handsome cheque from her father. Much prosperity and happiness is the wish of the many Brandon friends.

Mr. and Mrs. George, after a short honeymoon, will return to Brandon for a few days, and will then take up their residence in Saskatoon.

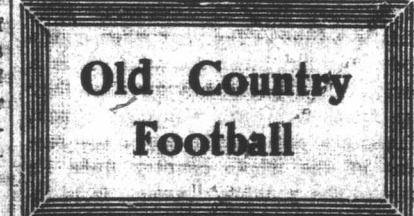
LUSITANIA HEAVILY LADEN WITH MAIL FOR HER RETURN VOYAGE

New York, Dec. 31.—Laden with 3,500 sacks of mail, one of the largest post-holiday shipments that has left this port, the Cunarder Lusitania sailed yesterday for Liverpool. She carried 217 first, 88 second and 200 steerage passengers.

In returning to England, the Lusitania started on the last day of her excursion trip for which she was insured for an additional \$1,000,000, the premium of which cost the company \$50,000.

Well Known Minister Dead

Delano, Minn., Jan. 5.—Rev. Francis B. Higgins, for 20 years the "Sky Pilot of the Lumberjacks," and known throughout the northwestern states and parts of Canada, is dead at his home in Shelburne, Ont., according to a message received today by his wife and daughter here.



London, Jan. 4.—The results of the league games played on Saturday were as follows:

- First League. Blackburn 2, Bradford 2; Bolton 2, Oldham 0; Bradford City 6, Burnley 0; Chelsea 1, Tottenham 1; Everton 3, Newcastle 0; Manchester city 1, Man. Ua. 1; Notts county 3, Liverpool 1; Sheffield Wed. 1, Sheffield Ua. 1; Sunderland 4, Aston Villa 0; W. Bromwich 4, 1, Middleboro, 0. Second League. Arsenal 5, Wolverhampton 1; Birmingham 2, Leicester 0; Blackpool 1, Hull 2; Bristol 1, Bury 3; Clapton 2, Fulham 1; Grimsby 4, Notts Forest 0; Huddersfield 3, Preston 1; Derby 1, Glossop 3; Leeds 1, Stockport 3; Lincoln 3, Barnsley 0. Southern League. Gillingham 1, Brighton 3; Norwich 2, Cardiff 1; West Ham, 4, Exeter, 1; Plymouth 3, Luton 3; Watford 2, Portsmouth 1; Northampton 2, Swindon 3; Southampton 2, South End, 0; Reading 2, Queens Park 2; Croydon 2, Millwall 2; Crystal Palace 1, Bristol 0. Scottish League. Raith Rovers 5, Aberdeen 1; Ayr United 1, Third Lanark 0; St. Mirren 1, Dumbarton 1; Falkirk 1, Hearts 1; Hibernians 1; Kilmarnock 1; Motherwell 4, Airdrieonians 2; Celtic 2, Clyde 0; Queens Park 0, Dundee 3; Morton 4, Hamilton Academy 0; Patrick Thistle 3, Rangers 1.

All Sale Prices are Strictly Cash



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The Store Each Day Invaded By an Army of Intelligent Buyers

And Many of the Most Wonderful Sale Values Have Yet to be Distributed

The store service is keyed up to the highest efficiency, ready to handle the big rush, that such bountiful savings as are being offered are bringing each day.

The Greatest Sale of the Times—Our Annual Stock-Taking Clearance Sale is now proceeding. The wheels of economy have been set in motion and each day as the sale goes on a new selling record is reached.

Every Department Strives With Startling Values

To Become the Centre of Shopping Attraction

There never was a sale in the store's career when savings were so really worthwhile taking advantage of.

LIST OF CASUALTIES

- London, Jan. 4.—The following additional casualty list was published today: Killed. Bamberger, Capt. C. D. W.—Royal Engineers. Menzies, Sec. Lt. A. G.—Scots Guards. Stacey, Capt. R. G.—Scots Guards. Edwards, Lt. E. A. J.—Bedfordshire regiment. Miles, Captain R. B.—Shropshire light infantry. Wounded. Alexander, Lt. Col. R.—Life Brigade. Elliot, Sec. Lt. G. H.—Royal Field Artillery. Farrier, Sec. Lt. A.—South Wales Borders. Fasson, Lt. D. M.—Royal Field Artillery. Fletcher, Lt.—King's Royal Rifles. Gray, Major N. McN.—Royal Field Artillery. Guest-Williams, Lt. W. A.—Berkshire regiment. Heyland, Sec. Lt.—King's Royal Rifle Corps. Hughes, Sec. Lt. G. W.—Middlesex regiment. Keddie, Capt. W. T.—Black Watch. Parry-Jones, Lt. M. M.—Royal Fusiliers. Thompson, Lt. K. C.—Royal Scots Fusiliers. Vanouss, Capt. E. C. L.—Shropshire Light Infantry. Way, Sec. Lt. E. E. B.—Hampshire regiment. Wilson, Capt. J. S.—King's Royal Rifle Corps. Indian Casualties—Killed. Lorin, Maj. C. V. B.—37th Lancers. Robins, Lt.—First Sappers and Miners. Unofficially Reported Killed. Baldwin, Capt. H. L. C.—58th Vaughan's Rifles. Gaisford, Lt. L.—58th Vaughan's Rifles. Wounded. Nine native officers wounded. Clarke, Lt. B. L.—23rd Cavalry. Corbett, Lt. T. W.—9th Hedgosa's Horse. Edwards, Major J. G.—3rd Gurkha Rifles. Grishaw, Capt. R. W. W.—34th Peena Horse. Jarvis, Capt. C.—20th Deccan Horse. Neville-Rolfe, Lt. A.—5th Gurkha Rifles. O'Cell, Capt. W.—123rd Oquiram's Rifles. Orchard, Capt. E. S.—8th Gurkha Rifles. S. ct, Capt. T. H.—87th Punjab's. Squires, Capt. R. E.—3rd Sappers

inordinate power to states with small marine interests, the Times suggests that no such objection could be raised to the institution of a court of appeal. The Times suggests that the British government in this reply will draw attention to the enormous increase in the export of contraband articles to neutral countries, out of all proportion to their normal demand, and to the line of action highly favorable to neutrals taken by the British prize court in certain cases. It adds that by appointing two committees to consider the unpaid claims of vendors of cargoes and of pledges or lien holders, the British government has shown a disposition never before exhibited by any belligerent to mitigate the harshness of prize law. In conclusion the Times believes that there exists all materials for compromise and a disposition to utilize them.

Educational Work in Manitoba

(Winnipeg Telegram) "Where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also." This is as true of the community as it is of the individual. We prize that for which we pay the price. By the expenditure we voluntarily make for any object some idea may be formed of the place which that object holds in our affections. Judged by this criterion, the people of Manitoba are interested in their schools. They are willing to spend money upon them. In cities and towns they are content, and rightly so, with nothing but the best. The Winnipeg school board has led the way with buildings which will bear comparison with any on the continent. Visitors from the United States, from New Zealand, from Australia, and from the older lands of Europe, express amazement and surprise that the people of a community so comparatively young have grasped so clearly the value of a properly equipped educational plant. As other of our communities grow in wealth and population, they build and equip schools not inferior to those already mentioned. On November 25, the citizens of St. James S. D. No. 7 held the formal opening of a magnificent building. It contains twelve large class rooms, with a full sized basement containing playrooms and all modern conveniences. This school is of fireproof construction throughout, and especial care has been given by the architect to the lighting and ventilation of the class rooms. The light is all from the left hand side, the only proper method of lighting a school, and the fresh air is all washed and warmed before being sent up through the building. The trustees and ratepayers of St. James

THINKS PERMANENT GOOD WILL RESULT FROM U.S. PROTEST

London Times Offers Suggestion for Answer to the Note Sent By Washington.

IMPROVE RELATIONS.

Sees No Reason Why International Court of Appeal Could Not be Instituted.

London, Jan. 5.—The Times in a special article offering suggestions for the answer to the American note, thinks the diplomatic correspondence incident to the note may bring about an improvement in the relations generally between neutrals and belligerents and thus from the episode from which Great Britain's enemies sought to make capital may come permanent good. Referring to the objections the house of lords raised to an international prize court, that it would give