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Thrilling Story of Canadian Bravery in Battle of Langemarck

Sometimes The Germans Were Fifty to One and Generally Ten to One---Brilliant Capture of Guns From The Enemy---Wounded Men Eager to Get Back to The Front---Uhlans and Prussian Guards For Once Lost Their Nerve

Toronto, May 5—London,—(Special cable by F. A. McKenzie, copyrighted at department of agriculture, Ottawa:)

"Tales of the great battle as told by the wounded, now lying in English hospitals, present one great fantastic picture of days of almost delirious excitement, men in the open moving forward without shelter, digging themselves in under fire, an almost ceaseless rain of shells from field and heavy artillery, of narrow escapes, and splendid gallantry. Every boy has some tale to tell of the bravery of his comrades, but is silent concerning his own. One shows a dented, twisted cartridge, which saved his life by deflecting a fragment of shell; another shows a jack-knife he carried smashed by a bullet.

"It is evident, despite the utmost endeavors of comrades, the wounded suffered heavily. Many had to lie twenty-four to thirty-six hours on the field before aid reached them. One lad told how after lying thirty hours, knocked out by gas and with a big shrapnel wound, he made his way four miles, rolling, crawling, and dragging himself along the ground until an English doctor met him and had him conveyed to the base. There is no complaining. Everyone recognizes this is inevitable in the immense conflict, but it helps us realize what our boys endured.

"German poison gas gets you just as though some one threw a handful of cayenne pepper in your face," said M. J. Wall of the 14th Battalion, who took part in the famous Highland Regiment charge. "We had been relieved in the trenches and were resting Thursday afternoon, when the Algerian troops shouted 'Allemands! Allemands!' Major Shaw commanded us to extend five paces across the road. Then came our march during the night, our charge in the woods, and our continual bayonet work. The Germans had built themselves little shelters with sand bags in the woods. They were heavily equipped with full loads. We had dropped everything before the charge except our rifles bayonets and ammunition; so when we got on them they could not escape. Picked German regiments, the flower of their army, were facing us, Uhlans and Prussian Guards. After a time I threw away by Ross rifle, picked up a German soldier's rifle and fought with it. The Ross is splendid for target practice, but it is not a gun for a fierce fight. Our different regiments were mixed up, but all worked together. Thus a number of the 48th were round me. I carried two wounded of the 48th to the rear on my back. We do not want to claim special credit for any regiment. It was Canada that fought and all did the same. The most surprising thing was the terrific number of German troops. They came on like a flock of bees. We shot them down line after line, but all our firing seemed to have no difference in their numbers. It was as though as they fell each sprang up again, and on one occasion our guns opened at point blank range against the advancing host. There were times when they were fifty to one against us at particular points. Ten to one seemed the common rule. We certainly surprised them some. On Friday morning they thought they had only black men against them, but when the Canadien Highlanders advanced, shouting and yelling and bayoneting, the Germans for a moment lost their nerve."

Driver Alfred J. Wheeler, who is reported recommended for the Victoria Cross, is a little brown-faced, cheerful warrior, now resting at Cliveden with a smashed right arm.

"There were three of us," said he, "Johnston, Brown and myself. We were with the ammunition in reserve, and saw from a rising ground the Germans advance upon our artillery. The shell fire was terrific. Our own boys standing by our guns were killed where they stood. Then came our infantry advance and recaptured the guns. All the horses of the 8th Battery were killed. Our officer said to us:—'Well, boys, do you see those guns? If you like you can try to get them.' Two large ditches and a field of grain lay between us and them. The Germans' fire was pouring around. We galloped off. Johnston in the lead, Brown in the centre and myself. We were tickled to death at the chance of getting through. One horse was shot, and shrapnel caught my right arm. We got one gun and brought it back. We returned for the second gun, then the third and fourth. One shell killed Johnston and killed the horse of lead team. I was thrown from the horse and the gun wheels passed over my wounded arm, smashing it. Brown was badly wounded and lies in a hospital in France today. I am going to get better and hurry back to the front again."

Private G. Gordon, of Toronto, 4th Battalion, with fractured leg, minimizes his own part in the great advance:

"We made our advance," he said, "then dug ourselves in and remained until Friday night, when we were relieved by reinforcements. We came back Saturday into the front line and stayed until Sunday night, then went back to the trenches beside the canal. A shell burst quite near me, and here I am." (Signed F. A. McKenzie).

HER SON KILLED IN BATTLE

Charlottetown, P. E. I., May 5—Mrs. Ellen Watson, of the staff of the P. E. Island Hospital here, received a cable yesterday that her son, George, aged 24, had been killed in battle. He was a sailor on a British battleship at the Dardanelles. Mrs. Watson and daughter came here from England last fall.

Since the war began, ten islanders have been wounded.

WAR BRIEFS

Twenty-one recruits of the company of the 55th, being raised in Moncton, underwent their final medical examination today, Lieut. Gardiner, of the 55th, being the examining officer.

Information was given out at the war office, London, today that Joseph Benoit, a member of the Canadian contingent, has been accidentally shot in camp by a friend who was cleaning a rifle.

Gabriel D'Annunzio, the Italian poet, wrote the editor of Figaro:—"The die is cast. You will receive great news from Genoa on May 5, Italy and France will be allies."

Nine British trawlers were sunk by German submarines on Monday. No lives are reported lost.

The British naval losses in the entire war up to April 1, are given as follows in an official statement:—Killed, 382 officers, 4,981 men; wounded, 61 officers, 640 men; interned, 41 officers, 1,624 men; missing, 7 officers, 72 men; prisoners, 11 officers, 924 men; total, 462 officers, 8,141 men.

The strike of 1,800 carpenters at Woolwich arsenal is at an end.

The trawler Portia has reached Hull after an exciting chase in which she managed to elude the submarine which was after her.

TRY TO WHITEWASH MR. FLEMMING IN DYING HOURS OF LEGISLATURE SESSION

Few in House; Resolution Given a Railroading Through

Legislature Agrees That Ex-Premier is Not Guilty, as Charged, in Timber Lands Case—Try to Prove Innocence in Railway Charges by Statement That Flemming Did Not Open Packet of Money Received From Contractor Kennedy — Not a Dissenting Voice is Heard

In gross violation of the rules of the house, without notice, and in the closing hours of the session, there was rushed through the legislature this afternoon a resolution whitewashing J. K. Flemming. J. L. Stewart was not in the house. He had been assured there would be no business but prorogation. In the face of the report of the Royal Commission this act of the legislature stamps its members as utterly unworthy of the confidence of the people of New Brunswick.

A Fredericton despatch to The Times says:—

The announcement was made in the house this morning that prorogation would take place at four o'clock this afternoon. At 1.30 o'clock this afternoon Premier Clarke laid on the table of the house the report sof the Royal Commission on the charges made by L. A. Dugal, M.P.P., last session in connection with the Valley Railway and the Crown Lands.

As soon as the premier had submitted the reports J. L. White, Victoria, arose in his place and moved a long resolution, which was virtually a whitewashing for ex-Premier Flemming. The resolution, in brief, picked out those portions of the reports which were favorable to Mr. Flemming. The substance of the resolution was that the legislature agrees with the finding of the commission that Mr. Flemming was not guilty, as charged, in the crown timber lands matter.

In connection with the Valley Railway charges the resolution mentioned, and laid emphasis upon, the fact that Mr. Flemming, when he received the $2,000 from John Kennedy, accepted the money in a sealed packet and turned it over to the treasurer of the campaign fund without opening it. The resolution went on to say that this money was given by Mr. Kennedy before he had received his second contract and at a time when he had no idea that he would be seeking a second contract.

The resolution was seconded by George P. Jones, of Kings, and without a word from any of the twenty-five members present, was passed unanimously without a dissenting vote.

(Continued on page 2, third column)

NO CAUSE FOR DEPRESION, SAYS GENERAL HUGHES

Germans Lost 12,000 in Killed Alone While Total Canadian Casualties Were Only 6,000

Ottawa, Ont., May 5—(Special)—Speaking this morning of the fighting in which the Canadians have been engaged, General Hughes said:

"That is what they went over for, and I see no cause for a feeling of depression. The Germans admit that they lost 12,000 killed, and make no mention of their losses in wounded, which must have been very heavy. The total Canadian casualties were only 6,000 killed, wounded and missing. With poisonous gases and overwhelming numbers used against them at Langemarck, it is amazing to me that the Canadian losses have been no larger, and that our boys were able to inflict such losses on those who attacked. With the leaders they have I fear nothing. I have the utmost faith in the Canadian boys. I know the stock they come from. What they have done they will continue to do."

Montreal, May 5.—"We have sent over the first and second contingents, the third is ready to go, the fourth will soon be prepared, but we will not stop here. We will send a fifth and sixth and up to twenty contingents if needed, and we will fight until German militarism is crushed forever," declared Major General Sam Hughes, the minister of militia, to one of the most enthusiastic and largest audiences ever gathered together in St. James Methodist church. The edifice was filled to the doors, there being an attendance of nearly three thousand to join in the service in commemoration of the gallant Canadian dead of Langemarck.

A MYSTERIOUS ASSAULT CASE

Evidence of Two Prisoners Taken Taken in Connection With Attack on Cobbler—Blame it on the Stranger

The preliminary hearing against William Petley, Joseph Kelly and Robert E. Walker for assaulting James Xenos, a young Greek, in a shoe repair shop in Dock street, last Saturday, was continued in the police court this morning.

Detective Worrell testified that about two o'clock on Saturday afternoon in reply to a telephone request he went to No. 13 Dock street, in company with special Patrolmen Jeffrey and Barrett. He saw the complainant, Xenos, bleeding from a wound in his head. The defendant, Walker, was sitting on a chair in the back of the store and the defendant. Kelly, was in the toilet. In consequence of a statement of the plaintiff, Xenos, he told the two defendants that he would have to detain them and ordered Patrolmen Jeffrey and Barrett to take them to central station. He then took possession of the hammer with which, he said, Xenos claimed to have been struck. He then went in search of the man who had escaped. Later, upon returning to central station, Kelly and Walker said they wanted to make statements, and he cautioned them about doing so. As they insisted he took them into the office separately.

Kelly's statement was as follows:—

"We met a man, whose name I don't know, and asked him the way to Courtenay Bay. We then went into a saloon and had two drinks. We started off for Courtenay Bay and, while going up the street, Walker said that he wanted to have his rubber heels fixed. The fellow took us across the street into a shop. I put my overhauls on. Bob Walker and I were talking together and the other fellow was arguing with the foreigner. Soon afterwards the foreigner ran to the door with blood on his face; he ran out and held the door and I didn't see him again. We waited for the police."

Walker's statement follows:—"Kelly and I went into the Wooden Taps in Mill street and while in there met a man, whose name I do not know. We had several drinks together. The stranger said he could get us a passage to Boston. When we were passing the shop, he (the stranger) and Kelly, who were in front of me, turned in and I followed. Kelly and I stood by the table. The stranger went over to a fellow who was repairing shoes. I afterwards saw the shoemaker jump towards the door. There was blood running down his forehead."

Detective Worrell then told of the arrest of Petley and of the trouble he experienced trying to get into the house in Sewell street, where Petley was rooming. He said he knocked at the door for a couple of hours and those inside would not let him in. Later, he got a search warrant and broke open the door and arrested Petley, who was identified by Xenos.

Dr. D. C. Malcolm, superintendent of the general public hospital, was the next witness called. He testified that the plaintiff, Xenos, came to him on Monday morning and, upon request, he examined his head and found that there was a scalp wound on the side of the head. It was about five-eights of an inch in length and extended to the bone. He said such a wound could be made with a blunt instrument such as a hammer.

The prisoners were then remanded until Friday morning. H. S. Keith appeared for Walker and Kelly.

$40,000 AT ISSUE IN TEST CASE

Question Whether Valley Railway Bonds Are Liable For Debts of Hibbard Construction Company Before Supreme Court

Fredericton, May 5.—(Special)—The supreme court met this morning and heard argument in a special case involving the relations of the Hibbard Construction Company and St. John and Quebec Railway Company. H. A. Powell, K.C., appeared for St. John and Quebec Railway Company, F. W. Hibbard of the Montreal bar and F. R. Taylor, K.C., for the Hibbard Company, and R. B. Hanson for certain creditors of the latter concern. The point which has to be decided is whether the amounts owed by the Hibbard Company for work and supplies are properly chargeable against the bond issue of $10,000 per mile made by government to the railway company last year. Mr. Powell argued that the railway company was responsible for its own indebtedness and for guarantee obligations. It was not responsible for debts of the Hibbard Company. After Messrs. Hibbard, Taylor and Hanson had argued the contract the court announced that judgment would be reserved. The amount involved is between thirty and forty thousand dollars. There are also claims which have been filed with the government.

OPPOSED WAR GRANT FOR THE KAISER'S ARMY

London, May 5—A considerable minority of the Socialist party in the German Reichstag, opposed the voting of the full war credit demanded by the German government, according to last Saturday's Berlin "Vossiche Zeitung", a copy of which has been received here.

The newspaper explains that a meeting of the Socialists' party before the session of the Reichstag, March 20, which voted the credits, a series of votes were taken. In these twenty-three Socialists are declared to have opposed voting the credit of £500,000,000 ($2,500,000,000), but the newspaper asserts that it was decided by sixty-nine votes to thirty, that the party should support the budget as a whole. The newspaper adds that a motion that it should be expressly stated that only a majority of the Socialist party supported the estimate was rejected against a minority vote of twenty-three.

A UNIQUE TRIO OF VOLUNTEERS

Belgian, Frenchman and Englishmen Join the 55th Today—Care of the Feet Emphasized in Lecture to Men

Recruiting in the 55th battalion this morning brought in a unique and strangely representative trio of volunteers. One was a Belgian, one was a Frenchman and the third was an Englishman.

The Belgian, Alphonso Dufour, and the Frenchman, George Busignies of Lenc, France, both came from the Minto mines for the express purpose of volunteering for the service of the allies. The Frenchman could not understand English very well, but it is expected that he will pick up the orders of command very quickly and therefore is being given a tryout. The third man was Earl St. Clair Winslow of Digby.

The men of the 55th heard a most instructive lecture this morning by Sergt. Major Ford on "Extended Order and Discipline in Marching," in which he especially emphasized the care of the feet. No soldier, he said, could be too careful of them.

SOLDIERS ON ISLAND ENJOY GOOD PROGRAMME

The boys of the home defence militia held a smoker and entertainment at Partridge Island on Monday evening. There is a good deal of talent among the men. The programme included: Piano selection, Gr. V. Thorne; vocal selections and whistling, Corp. Bawn and Bomb. Noddin; solo, Sergt. Wallace; step dance, Gr. W. Stone; piano duet; Bomb. Noddin and Gr. Thorne; imitation of artillery starting on march, Trumpeters Putty and Bullock and Drummer Brown; club swinging, Gr. J. J. Kelly; comedy act, Corp. W. Bawn, Gr. G. Griffin; piano selection, Gr. W. Smith; harmonica solo, Bomb. Noddin; vocal solo, Gr. G. Griffin; solo, Corp. W. Bawn; comic solo, Gr. J. J. Kelly; step dance, Bomb. Noddin; solo, Gr. Collins; short act, Sergt. T. Brown and Corp. R. Grant.

There were also some boxing exhibitions, as follows: Gr. Robert Ross and Bomb. Myers; Gr. S. Allaby and Bomb. C. Noddin, three rounds each; Corporal Phillips and Bomb. Preston; Gr. Brown and Bomb. Preston, one round each.

P. E. I. CLERGYMAN IS GOING TO TRINIDAD

Charlottetown, P. E. I., May 5—Rev. George Millar, Presbyterian, of Alberton, has accepted an appointment in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Four German Brigades Trapped By the Russians

The Latest German Move Can Have No Lasting Signifigance—Libau and Mitau Still in Russian Hands

London, May 5—The Petrograd correspondent of the Times telegraphs that he learns that three brigades of cavalry and one of infantry, composing the German raiders of the Baltic provinces, have been trapped. He adds that probably none will escape unless they succeed in reaching ships from the coast.

London, May 5 — The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Petrograd wires:

"Apparently no unfavorable inferences should be drawn from the fact that the latest general staff communique omits the mention of the German raids through the Kovno government, in the direction of Libau and Mitau. I am assured on the best authority that these towns are still in Russian hands, as a proof of which it is added that a telegram was received from the former place late Sunday afternoon.

"In any event this latest move by the enemy can have no lasting strategic significance. Its aims are evidently plunder and destruction, to the annoyance of Russia and to the edification of public opinion of Germany, rather than for any influence on the main current campaign."

The Russians have had at least a partial revenge for the defeat inflicted upon them in Western Galicia by the Austrians and Germans by badly beating the Turks who had invaded Persia. The defeat took place in a three days battle, near the frontier, and Petrograd reports that the Russians inflicted heavy losses on the Ottomans. If the success of the Muscovites has been followed up, military observers declare that Persia should be free of her uninvited guests.

London, May 5.—The Russian reports concerning the recent fighting in Western Galicia, are being accepted by British military critics, as reducing the German claims of victory in this battle to more just proportions. Following his custom, Grand Duke Nicholas, commander-in-chief in the field, has not hesitated to admit a reverse, and confirms the German statement that his antagonists have succeeded in breaking across the Dunajec River.

But the Grand Duke adds that he is holding them fast on the bank of this stream, and he seems to intimate that he has little anxiety concerning the ultimate outcome of the fierce fighting which has been going on in this region for a week past.

Observers in London are of the opinion that the fact that the Russians have not been diverted from their objective elsewhere, and that the battles in the Stry region continue with unabated energy, is good evidence that the situation of the Russians is not so critical as has been painted, and the idea is being advanced in London, that political reasons may have something to do with the huge importance attached to this success by the German and Austrian government in their official communications concerning it.

RUSSIAN REPORT IS MORE CHEERFUL

London, May 5—Telegraphing from Petrograd, the Times correspondent under date of Tuesday says:

"On the southwestern front, the Russian position continues excellent. The Austro-Germans are trying to advance in this region, hence the fierce onslaughts on the Defaja and Lower Nida Rivers.

The enemy has successively failed in attacks in Eastern Galicia, in the direction of Stry and of Mezolaborcz, where they everywhere found the Russians too strong. Moreover the enemy's attacks toward Stry were followed up by a Russian offensive and an advance southward.

"The latest, and perhaps the most desperate effort to stem the tide of the Russian invasion doubtless will encounter equally strong resistance."

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Synopsis—The barometer is comparatively low, and the weather somewhat unsettled from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic. Heavy rain fell yesterday in southwestern Ontario, and showers have occurred in other parts of the province and in the maritime provinces and Manitoba.

Better

Maritime—Moderate winds, some local showers, but partly fair and a little warmer today.

New England Forecasts—Unsettled tonight; Thursday, partly cloudy, moderate shifting winds.

Enemy Still Savagely Attacking the British

Rushing All Available Reinforcements in Effort to Push Back British Lines North of Ypres, But Without Effect

London, May 5—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Rotterdam telegraphs:—

"Furious fighting is reported from the northeast of Ypres, where the Germans are making tremendous efforts to advance south from Gravenstafel, toward which the British have held a wedge, and so to straighten their line from St. Julien to Zonnebeke.

"The British are clinging tenaciously to a group of villages and hamlets in this corner, although at several points they are subjected to a flanking fire from the enemy in the positions between Gravenstafel and southward toward Zonnebecke.

"Troop movements in Belgium indicate the Germans are sending all available reinforcements to this small zone of fighting in a desperate attempt to push back the British from the line which, if held, threatens to prevent the enemy from reaping the advantage from the ground captured in last week's advance.

Paris, May 5—(2.40 p m.)—The French war office this afternoon gave out a statement on the progress of hostilities reading as follows:—

"To the north of Ypres, the Germans yesterday evening delivered an attack against the left section of the British front. They were repulsed and taken in the flank by the French artillery. They suffered serious losses.

"Nothing has been reported from the remainder of the front."

IN HONOR OF GARIBALDI

Genoa, via Paris, May 5—Every train which arrived in this city yesterday and last night was crowded with prominent persons from all parts of Italy who have come here on their way to Quarto Sant "Elena," to attend the dedication of the monument erected in honor of Garibaldi and his famous thousand who sailed from the little town in Sardinia, on the expedition which resulted in the annexation of Sicily by Italy.

These ceremonies have been regarded as of peculiar political significance because of the proposed participation of the king might be considered a direct affront to Austria at a time when diplomatic relations were strained almost to the breaking point. The abandonment of the king's plans, is considered therefore to mean that the negotiations between Italy and the dual monarchy are to be continued on a new basis.

GERMAN SUBMARINES NOW IN THE ADRIATIC

London, May 5—The Morning Post's Amsterdam correspondent says he learns from Berlin that several German submarines are now in the Adriatic operating on behalf of Austria.

NOVELTY SHOWER

Friends of Miss Gertrudes O'Leary tendered her a novelty shower last evening at her home, 23 Harding street. During the evening dancing and games were indulged in after which refreshments were s——

ARRESTED 148 TIMES

In the police court this morning Andrew Irvine appeared for the one hundred and forty-eight time to answer a charge of drunkenness. When he was given his freedom on Monday he promised Magistrate Ritchie that he would not drink any more liquor until after the war. Tuesday, however, he imbibed too freely and in a few hours was again in custody. He said he had only taken two drinks of gin from a bottle and he did not think that it would make him drunk. Policeman McNamee testified that he saw the defendant coming along Mill street yesterday afternoon in a drunken condition. When he got in front of the Union Station he shouted out that he was going to jump the train, which was at that time crossing the street. Thinking that the man might get injured and, besides, considering that he was not in a condition to take care of himself, the witness said he placed him under arrest. The prisoner was remanded to jail until the magistrate decided what to do with him.

WILL NOT NOMINATE SIR ROGER CASEMENT

Dublin, Ireland, May 5—Investigation shows that there is no foundation for the report that the Sinn Fein party will nominate Sir Roger Casement for the seat in parliament made vacant by the recent death of Joseph Patrick Nanetti, member for the College Green division of Dublin.

DOMINION OFFICER HERE

A visitor at central police station this morning was B. Carron, who is a member of the Dominion police department, Ottawa. He was present in the court room during the proceedings.