

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Canadian packers are to send six and a quarter million pounds of corned beef to the front before the close of the current year. This will certainly have a tendency to keep up the price of meat for home consumption.

The wheat crop in Western Canada this year is not only a record in quantity, but also in quality and grade. Up to a week ago 1,975 cars of No. 1 hard, and 26,798 cars of No. 1 Northern had passed inspection in Winnipeg. Cars are being inspected in Winnipeg at the rate of 10,000 per week.

Good for the public school teachers of West Elgin. At their institute session held in St. Thomas last week a resolution was unanimously carried that each teacher donate one-half of one per cent. of his and her salary as a contribution to patriotic and Red Cross work. The total amount will be nearly \$400.

The sum of \$261,000 was the estimated annual revenue required to make the electrified L. & P. S. Railway a paying concern. Three months' operation has brought in \$71,000, which is at the rate of \$284,000 per annum, and this notwithstanding the business of the G. T. R. and M. C. R. counted upon in the estimates. Looks as though the boycott by the steam roads is not to embarrass the electrified line.

It is definitely announced that an overseas unit to be known as the 91st Battalion is to be organized and trained in St. Thomas, under command of Lieut.-Col. Green. In all probability the Elgins, now in London, will form the nucleus of the battalion. This should stimulate recruiting in Elgin county, and we look for the ranks to be rapidly filled up. More and more men are absolutely needed, and old Elgin will surely do her full share in the nation's hour of need.

One has not to be connected with a school board very long before he is surprised and pained to find that considerable persuasion is necessary with many boys of school age to ensure their attendance at school. And worse than that the parents of some encourage them in absenting themselves, if a paltry dollar or two is in sight for their labor. Such parents apparently do not realize the handicap they are placing on the future of their sons by such action. Boys who do not secure a sound foundation of knowledge in the public school, reduce their earning powers and never make such useful citizens, as those who faithfully sit under the instruction of the schoolteacher. It may surprise our readers in Aylmer to learn that the truant officer, is kept comparatively busy rounding up the youngsters who skip school, and the officer very often finds an interview with the parents most unsatisfactory. Excuses and evasive answers of all kinds are given and the boy of course, takes advantage of this backing to again absent himself. The editor of the Rodney Mercury has evidently been doing some figuring as to the financial advantages to be obtained from an education, which should be particularly interesting to parents having children of school age. This is the way he figures it out: "The average educated man gets a salary of \$1,100 a year. Of course, very many receive much more and some less. He works forty years, making a total of \$40,000 in a lifetime. The average day laborer gets \$1.50 a day, 300 days in a year, or \$450 in a year. In forty years he earns \$18,000. The difference, \$22,000, equals the value of an education. To

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J. M. Rosser, Principal

acquire 12 years at school of 180 days each, of 2,160 days. Dividing \$22,000 this value of an education, by 2,160 number of days each day at school is worth a little more than \$10 to the pupil. Can't afford to keep them out, can we?"

The Ridgetown Dominion, ably edited by Phil Bowyer, in its last issue gave the appended editorial. We have all felt the strain, but it is rather a delicate subject to discuss just at this time. Every newspaper man, we believe, wants to do his full duty along patriotic lines, but as Bro. Bowyer so ably suggests, there is a limit to free space granted even for patriotic and charitable causes. The merchant may be a true patriot, yet he cannot afford to give all his goods with which to make comforts for our brave soldiers; the ammunition manufacturer, also a patriot, cannot give his products to annihilate the enemy. Here is what the Dominion says:

"The war and other things have hit the newspapers hard and they are forced to protect themselves. In Bruce county and other sections the price of weekly newspapers has been advanced from \$1 to \$1.50 per year. The requests for free publicity, owing to the great increase of patriotic, religious and other societies, have become so many as to seriously embarrass the newspapers, which too long have been giving free notices to all kinds of societies. The question has been asked: Why should the newspapers give away for nothing the space they must sell in order to live? The answer is that throughout Ontario newspapers are announcing that all readers, whether for money-making purposes or not, must be paid for. And, fairly speaking, why should not any body or society pay for the publication of announcements in which they are interested? Why ask the newspapers to bear the cost, for rest assured type is not set and papers printed and published without cost to somebody. It is astonishing, too, the difference it makes in the length of the notice brought in whether it is a free or a paid notice. When free no attempt is made to condense or shorten up to a bare statement of facts. When a charge is made however, not an unnecessary word is used and every line that means a cost of five cents is grudgingly written. The Ridgetown papers are still publishing the non-money-making advance announcements free; but in self-defence may have to make a charge, if for no other reason than to compel condensation of the flood of 'free notices' asked for from all quarters. The day of free publicity is drawing to a close, and no one should object to a small rate per line for what is for their benefit or interest."

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

The many friends of Mrs. Charles Strong will learn with regret that she has been confined to her bed from illness since Saturday.

Mrs. (Dr.) Frank Hoag and son, hurriedly returned to their home in Alden, Mich., on Thursday last, having been advised that their home had been destroyed by fire.

By a private letter we learn that Mrs. Harry Richardson, wife of Driver Harry Richardson, of the 4th Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, now in France, has decided to return to her home in Aylmer, and she may be expected home shortly.

The St. Thomas branch of the Canada Iron Foundries, Ltd., has received an order from the Government for 100,000 iron caps for shells. Work on the caps will be commenced within a week or ten days. The caps are temporary plugs for shells to be used by the Canadian troops and will be replaced by permanent caps when the timing fuses are inserted.

Last Saturday Secretary Elliott distributed the last of the Aylmer Horticultural Society orders, to the members in Aylmer. Few people have any idea of the work just started by this popular society. Tulip and hyacinth bulbs, peonia, tubers and shrub roots have been distributed in such profusion that Aylmer must be a beautiful place indeed, next spring.

Another epochal achievement in wireless intercontinental communication was announced in New York last Thursday by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. At 12:55 a.m. Thursday—just about three weeks after the human voice was heard at Honolulu by wireless from Arlington, Va.—observers listening at the Eiffel Tower, in Paris, heard an engineer of the company greet them at the Arlington station, 3,800 miles away. The Paris observers cabled confirmation of the feat and word was received also that the Honolulu engineers listening at the same time had heard Arlington say "Hello" to Paris. "I have absolutely no use for the man, either in uniform or out of uniform, who is a drinker," stated the Minister of Militia in the course of a brief address to the W. C. T. U. in Ottawa. He commended the work the W. C. T. U. was doing towards providing comforts for the soldiers at the front.

COL. BROWN WRITES THAT THE SOLE QUESTION OF THIS GREAT WAR IS EFFICIENCY

No Romance, no Glitter, no Show, Cold Blooded Business Like And Scientific.

Mr. Al Soper, of this place, has just received the following very interesting and descriptive letter from Col. Brown, now in France in charge of the 4th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery, Canadian Expeditionary Force, formerly a highly respected and useful citizen of Aylmer:

France, Oct. 5, 1915.

Dear Mr. Soper:

This is the strangest war that can be imagined and from appearances it looks to me as though it will not be over for a long time. We are certainly in for a winter campaign now and are beginning to realize what this means. Everything that can be done for the men's comfort is being done. We are doing our best to keep them dry and warm, clean and well fed. We may, and do fall down on each score now and then, but we try to make up for it. The "powers that be" do their very best to make it possible for us to meet the daily requirements of our men in action.

This is not a bit like people think a war ought to be. It is not even like any previous war has been. There is no romance, no glitter, no show. It is cold blooded business like and scientific. The sole question is efficiency. Are we better than the Germans? Are we better gunners, better diggers, better engineers, better rifle shots? Have we better devices or schemes to get information and to punish the enemy than he has to punish us. He works at this job day and night and so do we. The infantry on both sides fight at close quarters. They do most of their real scrapping at night when the whole line for hundreds of miles is far lighter than the streets of Aylmer. The line is illuminated by flares. Back of this line are the guns. If the scrap in front gets too hot the guns take part, if not they keep quiet. The infantry seems to be relieved at short intervals while the gunners stay at their posts for weeks and sometimes for months at a time.

The Germans shell us at all times, but usually three times daily. We call these shellings the "hates." The morning hate at 4 or 5 a.m. The noon hate between 12 and 1, and the evening hate from 4 to 6 p.m. But it seems to me that for twenty-four hours a day lately the rifles are cracking and the guns are booming. I find it very difficult to write letters when things are lively outside, but this is just to let you know that I am well, and that all our men are thriving. We are lucky so far, I trust you are getting on nicely. Yours very sincerely, WALTER JAMES BROWN

Mrs. E. V. Kaiser has sold her home on Sydenham street, to Mr. E. E. Martin, of the firm of Stratton & Martin, and has taken an option on the new home built by Mr. G. R. Christie.

Aylmer has had the good fortune to not hear the fire alarm very frequently of late. It sounded at the noon hour on Monday, however, a blaze having broken out at the warehouse of A. W. Pierce, immediately north of the G. T. R. tracks. The building is a large one and contained a great quantity of grain and feed, but the fire brigade by prompt and efficient work soon extinguished the flames. The largest part of the loss will be from water. A spark from a passing engine is supposed to have caused the conflagration. The building is owned by Frank Bros.

Walter Gilby, barber, has received word from Harry Lacey, who was employed by him when he enlisted as a driver with the 16th Field Battery, commanded by Lieut.-Col. J. W. Brown, of Aylmer. He is now at the front in Belgium, and writes under date of Sept. 28: "It's rather quiet at present, not fired a shell for three days, but the big guns keep going. I saw Smith, your brother-in-law, a few days ago. I am just fine, and dare say I will see you again if I come through all right. The St. Thomas bunch had bad luck. We have been through a good part of France and are now in Belgium." St. Thomas Journal.

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as deodorized and used in Dr. Jackson's Roman Meal. It's the most nourishing seed grown. It has always been known as a wonderful food for stock, but since Dr. Jackson's discovery of a method of deodorizing it, it has become available as a delicious human food, 25 per cent. of it being used in Roman Meal. This food is guaranteed to relieve constipation or "money back." It also nourishes better than meat and prevents indigestion. Ask your doctor. At all grocers, 10 cents and 25 cents.

The Wolthausen



Tommy Atkins

A Swagger New Shape \$2.50 up the only known nationally advertised Canadian made hat.

Thayer's

The Exclusive Gents Store Clothing and Furnishings.

J. Howard Gordon, late of the Symphony Orchestra, Great Britain, will take pupils for Violin, Viola, Cello Double String Bass, at Richards Drug Store, Tuesday Nov. 2nd.

Some twenty or thirty of the members of the Thirtieth Battery struck out about three o'clock Sunday afternoon and walked to Pt. Bruce and back. They had several offers of a ride, but declined and returned to town about 8 o'clock in the evening, after walking every step of the way, in splendid condition. The training the boys receive in the drill is certainly putting them in good condition physically.

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Owing to the War Conditions

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Compare our prices with the city catalogues. See our stock of Floor Coverings which was never as large or the selection as good.

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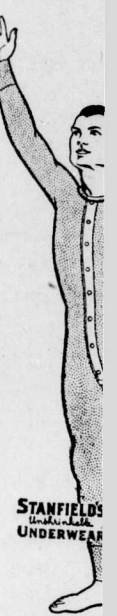
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LOOKING

The Condition Women and

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