

CONSTRUCTION MEN URGENTLY NEEDED

Building of Railways in France Now Important Part of War.

UNIT GOING SOON

Railway Corps Sends Out Earnest Appeal for Laborers.

It will be of interest to many patriotic men, who for their own reasons do not care to join an infantry battalion, yet would like to do their bit in another form at the front, to know that there is now forming in Canada a Railway Construction Corps, with headquarters at Valcartier, known as the 23rd, and for railway construction work only. An urgent call came from England a week ago to send over the corps as quickly as it could possibly be formed.

The officer commanding it Lt.-Col. T. W. Stewart, the well-known railway contractor of the firm of Foley, Walsh & Stewart. All the officers of the corps are railway construction men especially selected for the work for which the corps is intended. A call for a corps of this nature was sent out by the war office in London, and Col. Stewart, on account of his railway construction experience, was requested by them to form it. He has constructed in recent years over 5000 miles of railway in the west, and also the Rogers Pass tunnel in the Rockies, recently officially opened by the Duke of Connaught, constructed in record time for any similar work in the world. Any men joining the corps will, therefore, appreciate the fact that they are seeing service under a man fully capable in every respect to undertake the work required.

Over Four Hundred Enlisted. The corps has now been forming for six weeks, and already over 450 men are enlisted, mostly from the west, and formerly working for Lt.-Col. Stewart. At the front in France railways are as rapidly as possible taking the place of roads, owing to the heavy traffic taking place on the roads at the front a heavy rain turned them into a quagmire. Trains and all kinds of goods are delayed and sometimes held up altogether. These railways now being constructed enable the wounded to be taken away from the front in any kind of weather and with little jolting; supplies to be brought up as required, and big guns and ammunition to be moved forward as the advance takes place. This latter requires especially constructed tracks, the big guns weighing about 140 tons, with four ammunition lorries in addition. As the advance takes place, the railways follow close behind. Railways are also being constructed in other parts of France to shorten communication and relieve the pressure at the front.

Col. Stewart was sent for by the war office in London, as soon as he was requested to form the corps, and after consulting with them and visiting the French front to gain first-hand experience of exactly what was required, he sent to the headquarters of the corps in Canada the special form of organization considered advisable by himself and the war office. This will consist of brigades, carpenters and stone workers, engineers, plumbers, laborers and teamsters, and eight complete main crews of 170 men each. The special call now is for laborers and teamsters, as most of the other kind of men have already been obtained. Although the men in the corps will not have to carry rifles, yet they must realize that they are required for hard and a strenuous work at the front, and for this reason their standard physically must be the same as that of any other unit. Any men joining this corps do so in the realization that they are doing service which will greatly assist their fellow-soldiers in the front trenches, and by enabling the big guns to work forward as quickly as possible as the advance takes place doing valuable work in the big advance.

FOUR WERE INJURED BY FALLING SHAFT

One Man and Three Girls Hurt Yesterday at Canada Foundry.

When a large piece of shafting fell in one of the shell rooms at the Canada Foundry yesterday afternoon three men and one girl were injured and a room collapsed from fright. Bella Smart, was operating one of the machines, who was injured more seriously than any of the other women. Miss Smart was struck in the back with a piece of the falling shaft. She was picked up unconscious and carried to the hospital room, and after receiving medical attention was taken in Special's ambulance to Grace Hospital. Her back is badly bruised and she will recover.

FOREST FIRES AT PARHAM. WINGSTON, Ont., Aug. 24.—Lively forest fires broke out four miles from Parham Station, but the good work of the people saved it from doing serious damage. It is supposed the fire was started by some careless fisherman who left a fire smoldering.

S. AFRICA LOYAL TO BRITISH EMPIRE

Visitor From Johannesburg Tells of Conditions There in War Time.

CREATED BIG DEMAND

William Campbell Says Canadian Goods Are Especially Called For.

A visitor from Johannesburg, South Africa, in the person of William Campbell arrived in Toronto yesterday and remained overnight at the Walker House. Mr. Campbell is one of the largest handlers of American goods in South Africa and has an organization extending from Rhodesia to Cape Town. After visiting England and the United States he traveled thru Canada from the Pacific coast, arriving in Toronto from Winnipeg. He is on a business trip meeting Canadian manufacturers with a view of arranging to handle some of their lines.

The business outlook in South Africa, he stated, was never brighter, and the war has greatly increased the demand for American and especially Canadian goods. The army, in which he has a son, are using many American cars, the lighter ones being largely used for conveying troops and equipment over the poor or rather non-existent roads, especially of German West Africa.

Water Cost Money. "There is a vast difference in the value of German East and German West Africa," said Mr. Campbell. The west is very barren in places and every gallon of water taken to the troops cost the government about ten shillings. German East Africa, on the other hand, is very rich and abounds with game, lions and other wild animals frequently visit the soldiers' camps. In a recent letter from one of the men in that portion of the war zone, he was told of a visitation in which several mules were carried off in the night.

Rapid Growth of S. A. South Africa, said the visitor, is growing very rapidly, and the great extension of agriculture and the wool industry made times very good. There is a great demand for farm implements and motor cars, as well as all kinds of machinery. The price of wool, which has doubled since the outbreak of war, has boomed that industry.

Johannesburg is the centre of the greatest gold producing field in the world, the annual production being over \$25,000,000 sterling. Asked about the feeling throughout the country toward the empire, he said that the result of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman giving autonomy to South Africa was greater than could possibly have been dreamed of. It was the most successful political experiment in history. Today, except for a small backward section of what in America would be called the hazyed farmer, the people were English-speaking and loyal to the empire.

AUSTRIAN COUNCIL IN EMERGENCY SESSION

Deliberations Lasted Many Hours—Entire Cabinet Council Was Present.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Aug. 25.—A Vienna despatch says that the Austrian cabinet council was in session all day Wednesday. The council met at 10 o'clock in the morning and did not adjourn until 9 in the evening. The premier, Count Karl Stueger, presided, and all the ministers were present.

ST. CECILIA'S PICNIC.

St. Cecilia's picnic will be held on Edwin-avenue schoolgrounds next Saturday afternoon and evening. The bugle band of the 23rd Battalion will play on the grounds. Mr. A. E. Donovan, M.L.A., will speak on "Canada and the War" at 7.30 in the evening. Grand concert in the evening cars to Royce avenue, thence walk over to Edwin avenue.

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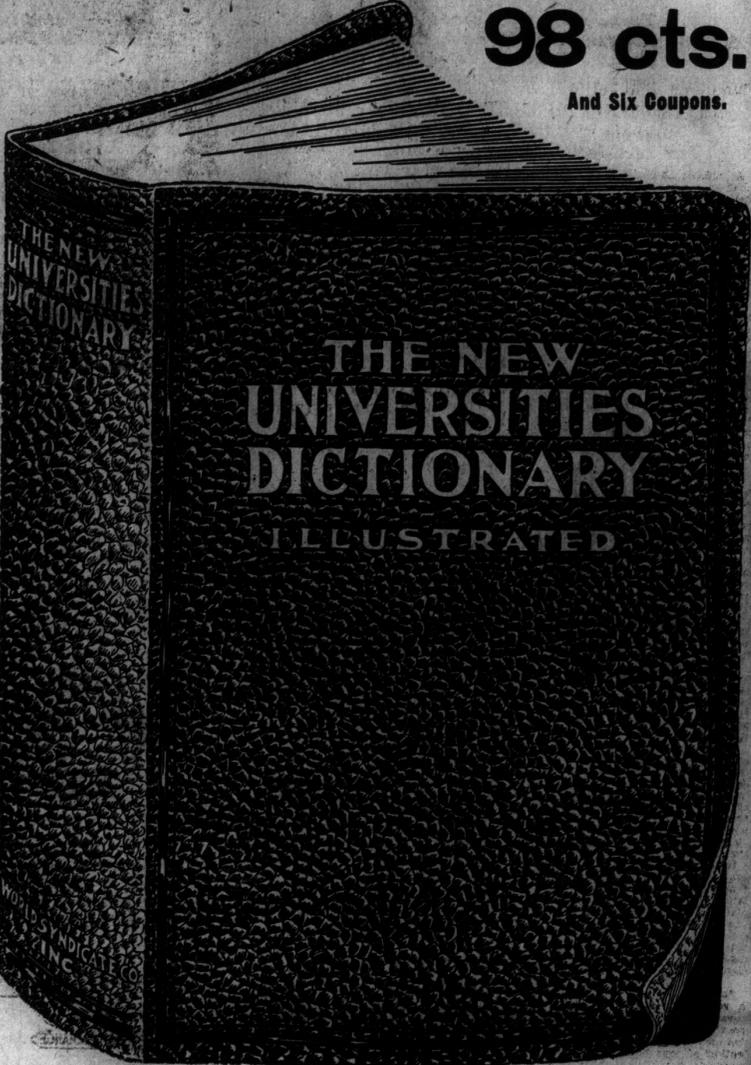
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TOO MANY EXPERTS AT WINNIPEG TRIAL

Such is Complaint of Defence, But Testimony is Allowed. WINNIPEG, Aug. 24.—The evidence of F. W. Simon was concluded in the ex-ministers' trial this afternoon, and J. H. B. Russell, architect, was called to the stand by the crown. His examination was barely started when adjournment was made, and he will spend all of tomorrow in the witness box.

YOUNG MAN CAUGHT IN BURNING BUILDING

Was Fighting Blaze Which Destroyed Grist Mill at Phillipsville. Special to The Toronto World. BROCKVILLE, Aug. 24.—A grist mill, owned and operated by R. Haszkin at Phillipsville, was burned yesterday, together with its contents. A son of the owner while fighting the blaze was caught in the building and was rescued in an unconscious condition. A saw mill was destroyed on the same site a year ago, and in both instances Haszkin carried no insurance.

NOTIFIED HUSBAND IS IN HOSPITAL WOUNDED

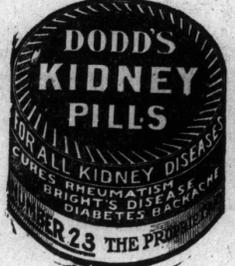
Pte. Herbert W. Steele Formerly Managed Union Store—Mrs. Donald Fraser is Dead. Special to The Toronto World. ST. THOMAS, Aug. 24.—Mrs. H. W. Steele of St. Thomas was officially notified today that her husband, Pte. Herbert William Steele of the Mounted Rifles was wounded August 14th, and is now in the General Hospital, Chelsea. Mr. Steele for several years conducted a general store at Union, three miles south of St. Thomas. He enlisted with the 3rd Battalion and later in England he was transferred to the 5th Brigade, Mounted Rifles. He has been in France about three months.

KILOSSA, EAST AFRICA, OCCUPIED BY BRITISH

Lt.-Cold Vandeventer's Force Gained Success at Slight Cost. LONDON, Aug. 24.—An important advance in the campaign for the conquest of German East Africa is reported in a Reuter despatch from Nairobi, British East Africa. The despatch says that British troops under Lieut.-Col. Vandeventer on Aug. 22 entered the Town of Kilossa, near the Wami River. The British sustained few casualties.

TWO PERSONS BELIEVED LOST NEAR BROCKVILLE

Cries of Help Heard in Early Hours and Burning Motor Boat Found. Special to The Toronto World. BROCKVILLE, Aug. 24.—Cries for help coming from a burning motor boat aroused parties on the shores of the St. Lawrence River west of Ogdensburg, between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning. When the craft drifted ashore it was almost entirely consumed, with no trace whatever of the occupants, of whom it is thought that two or more lost their lives.



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