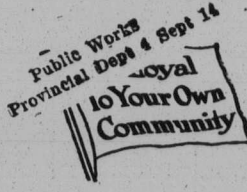




The Union Advocate



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NO. 19

Garden Rakes, Hoes and Spades
Vegetable and Flower Seeds
Timothy and Clover Seeds
Blatchfords Calf Meal

D. W. STOTHART

Performance of The Soldiers
From Canada Was Remarkable
As Long as Brave Deeds Retain Power to Fire Blood of Anglo-Saxons Stand Made by Canadians Will be Told by Fathers to Their Sons.

The following communication is from Sir Max Aitken, the Canadian recording officer now serving with the Canadian division in France, and its publication is authorized by the war office:

"The recent fighting in Flanders, in which the Canadians played so glorious a part, cannot, of course, be described with precision of military detail until the time has made possible the coordination of relevant diaries, and the piecing together in a narrative both lucid and exact of much, which, so near the event, is confused and blurred. But it is considered right that the mourning in Canada today for husbands, sons, or brothers who have given their lives for their Empire should have, with as little reserve as military consideration allow the rare and precious consolation which, in the agony of bereavement, the record of the valor of their dead must bring, and indeed the mourning in Canada will be very widely spread, for the battle which raged for so many days in the neighborhood of Ypres was bloody, even as men appraise battles, in this callous and life-engulfing war. But as long as brave deeds retain the power to fire the blood of Anglo-Saxons the stand made by the Canadians in those desperate days will be told by fathers to their sons, for in the military records of Canada this defence will shine as brightly as in the records of the British army the stubborn valor with which Sir James MacDonnell and the Guards beat back from Houpmont, the decision of Foy, and the army of Rellie.

"The Canadians have wrestled from the trenches, over the bodies of the dead and maimed, the right to stand side by side with the superb troops who, in the first battle of Ypres, broke and drove before them the flower of the Prussian Guards. Looked at from any point the performance would be remarkable. It is amazing to soldiers when the general and composition of the Canadian divisions are considered. It contained, no doubt, a sprinkling of South African veterans, but it consisted, in the main, of men who were admirable raw material, but who, at the outbreak of war, were neither disciplined nor trained, as men count discipline and training in these days of scientific warfare. It was, it is true, commanded by a distinguished English general.

"Its staff was supplemented, without being replaced by some brilliant British staff officers. But in its higher and regimental commands were to be found lawyers, college professors, business men, and real estate agents, ready with cool self-confidence to do battle against an organization in which the study of military science is the exclusive pursuit of laborious lives.

"With what devotion, with a valor how desperate, with resourcefulness how cool and how frightful, the amateur soldier of Canada confronted overwhelming odds, may perhaps be made clear, even by a narrative so incomplete as the present.

"The salient of Ypres has become familiar to all students of the campaign in Flanders. Like all salients it was, and was to be, a source of weakness to the forces holding it, but the reasons which have led to its retention are apparent and need not be explained.

"French Did Their Duty Well
"On April 22, the Canadian division held a line of roughly five thousand yards extending in a northwest-

erly direction from the Ypres-Roulers railway to the Ypres-Polecapelle road, and connecting at its terminus with the French troops. The division consisted of three infantry brigades, in addition to the artillery brigades. Of the infantry brigades the first was in reserve, the second was on the right, and the third established contact with the Allies at the point indicated above.

"The day was a peaceful one, warm and sunny, and except that the previous day had witnessed a further bombardment of the stricken town of Ypres everything seemed quiet in front of the Canadian line. At five o'clock in the afternoon a plan, carefully prepared, was put into execution against our French allies on the left. Asphyxiating gas of great intensity was projected into their trenches, probably by means of force pumps and pipes laid out under the parapets. The fumes, aided by a favorable wind floated backwards poisoning and disabling over an extended area those who fell under their effect. The result was that the French were compelled to give ground for a considerable distance. The glory which the French army has won in this war would make it impertinent to labor on the compelling nature of the poisonous discharges under which the trenches were lost. The French did, as every one knew they would do, all that soldiers could do, and the Canadians, officers and men, look forward to many occasions in the future in which they will stand side by side with the brave armies of France.

"The immediate consequence of this enforced withdrawal was, of course, extremely grave. The Third Brigade of the Canadian division was without any left, or, in other words, its left was in the air. It became imperatively necessary greatly to extend the Canadian lines to the left rear. It was not, of course, practicable to move the first brigade from reserve at a moment's notice, and the line, extended from five to nine thousand yards, was not naturally the line that had been held by the Allies at five o'clock and a gap still existed on its left.

"The new line, of which our recent point of contact with the French formed the apex, ran quite roughly to the south and west. As shown above, it became necessary for Brigadier General Turner, commanding the Third Brigade, to throw back his left flank southward to protect his rear. In the course of the confusion which followed upon the readjustment of position, the enemy, who had advanced rapidly after his initial successes, took four British 4.7 guns in a small wood to the west of the village of St. Jules, two miles in the rear of the original French trenches.

"The story of the second battle of Ypres is the story of how the Canadian division, enormously outnumbered, for they had in front of them at least four divisions, supported by immensely heavy artillery, with a gap still existing, though reduced, in their lines, and with dispositions made hurriedly under the stimulus of critical danger, fought through the day and through the night, and then through another day and night; fought under their officers until, as happened to so many, these perished gloriously, and then fought from the impulsion of sheer valor because they came from fighting stock.

"The enemy, of course, was aware whether fully or not may perhaps be doubted, of the advantage his breach

in the line had given him, and immediately began to push a formidable series of attacks upon the whole of the newly formed Canadian salient.

"If it is possible to distinguish when the attack was everywhere so fierce, it developed with particular intensity at this moment upon the apex of the newly formed line running in the direction of St. Julien. It has already been stated that four British guns were taken in a wood comparatively early in the evening of the 22nd. In the course of that night, and under the heaviest machine gun fire, this wood was assaulted by the Canadian Scottish, 16th Battalion, of the Third Brigade, and the Tenth Battalion of the Second Brigade, which was intercepted for this purpose on its way to a reserve trench. The battalions were respectively commanded by Lieut. Col. Leckie and Lieut. Col. Boyle, and after a most fierce struggle in the light of a misty moon they took the position at the point of the bayonet. At midnight the Second Battalion under Lieut. Col. Watson and the Toronto Regiment, Queen's Own, (Third Battalion), under Lieut. Col. Rennie, both of the First Brigade, brought up much needed reinforcements, and though not actually engaged in the assault, were in reserve.

"All through the following day and night, these battalions shared the fortunes and misfortunes of the Third Brigade.

When One Fell Another Took His Place.

"An officer who took part in the attack describes how the men about him fell under the fire of the machine guns, which, in his phrase, played upon them "like a water-pot." He added quite simply "I wrote my own life off." But the line never wavered. When one man fell another took his place, and, with a final shout, the survivors of the two battalions flung themselves into the wood. The German garrison was completely demoralized, and the impetuous advance of the Canadians did not cease until they reached the far side of the wood and entrenched themselves there in the positions so dearly gained. They had, however, the disappointment of finding that the guns had been blown up by the enemy, and later on in the same night, a most formidable concentration of artillery fire, sweeping the wood as a tropical storm sweeps the leaves from a forest, made it impossible for them to hold the position for which they had sacrificed so much.

"The fighting continued, without intermission all through the night, and to those who observed the indications that the attack was being pushed with ever-growing strength, it hardly seemed possible so difficult to defend, and so little the subject of deliberate choice, could maintain their resistance for any long period. At six a. m. on Friday it became apparent that the left was becoming more and more involved and a powerful German attempt to outflank it developed rapidly. The consequences if it had been broken or outflanked, need not be insisted upon. They were not merely local.

"It was therefore decided, formidable as the attempt undoubtedly was, to try and give relief by a counter-attack upon the first line of German trenches, now far, far advanced from those originally occupied by the French. This was carried out by (Continued on page 8.)

Half the Canadians Were Killed, Wounded or Captured

Canadians Fought with Bulldog Tenacity Worthy of Best Traditions of British Army, and Battle of Ypres Will Go Down as one of Bloodiest in History

Ottawa, May 3—That half of the twelve Canadian battalions that participated in the bloody battle of Langemarck have been wiped out is the fear of the military authorities at Ottawa.

There were a thousand to eleven hundred men in each battalion, and the total casualties in dead, wounded and missing, will total from five to six thousand men.

By the time the lists are all made up, the deaths will likely run from seven hundred to a thousand, the wounded will total over three thousand, and it is likely that the German claims of a thousand captured Canadians is true. The battle, of which the Canadians bore the brunt, was undoubtedly one of the bloodiest battles of history.

It was feared Saturday that the 13th and 14th Regiments of Montreal had been completely annihilated. The eye witness graphically told how these two regiments had been left to fight a rear-guard action at Saint Julien, covering the retreat of the 3rd Brigade. He intimated that all had been lost. The news has caused the greatest anxiety and efforts are being made to find out the fate of these two regiments. However, London dispatches assert that no other commanding officer in addition to the three reported, Col.

McHarg, Col. Boyle and Col. Burchall, have been killed. This would mean that Colonel Loomis and Col. Meighen, of the 13th and 14th Regiments, are safe, and if they are safe undoubtedly many of their men are. It is thought now that the eye witness was referring to detachments of the two regiments.

The 40th Highlanders undoubtedly suffered heavily from capture. They are reported to have suffered from the German attacks by asphyxiating bombs, and it is believed the men were captured while stupefied. The three Canadian Highlander Battalions were particularly hard hit. They are the 14th Battalion, representing the 5th Royal Scots of Montreal, the 5th Battalion, recruited from the 48th Highlanders of Toronto, and 16th Battalion, made up of detachments from the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg, and the Seaforth Highlanders of Victoria.

However, there is not a Canadian Battalion which has not suffered severely, and all the regiments have lost so heavily in both officers and men that they will have to be reorganized before being able to take the field again effectively.

It is not expected unless an emergency arises that the Canadian will again be in the trenches for three or four weeks.

Grit Antagonism Makes An Election Imperative

Hon. Robert Rogers, Speaking at Montreal, said Liberals Have Not Played Loyal Part in Assisting Government

Montreal, May 3—Addressing the Liberal-Conservative Association of Montreal today, Hon. Robert Rogers indicated unmistakably the early approach of a general election through no date was mentioned. Mr. Rogers violently criticized the action of the opposition during the past session, and particularly the opposition press, which, he said, had descended to the very lowest possible level.

"When I make this statement I frankly acknowledge I am thinking of the Montreal Herald, the Toronto Globe and the Winnipeg Free Press, all papers that have prospects in one form or another by the purchase and sale of influence with Liberal leaders, by the purchase and sale of Liberal principles, or by pure and unadulterated graft during the reign of the late administration."

Fault of the Liberals
He blamed the opposition and the press, with the aid of the irresponsible majority in the Upper Chamber, for preventing the Government from carrying out its Imperial policy two years ago. In view of this action the Government had decided, he said, to appeal to the people last September, but their plans were changed by the outbreak of the war last August.

If the opposition had played a loyal part, said Mr. Rogers, "and assisted the Government in the emergency, these would have been no talk about an election at the present time, but the Liberals had opposed the Government's war policy vigorously and had made strenuous opposition to the Government's proposals to raise money for war purposes through the tariff.

Try to Tie Government's Hands
"This war," he said "could not be carried to a successful conclusion without money and without means. The opposition declared by their voices and by their votes that they must not have this money, and moved a vote of confidence in the Government for asking for it."

He also charged the irresponsible Liberal majority on the Senate with tying the Government's hands, and said it was unfair to the Government and to the Empire to permit this condition to continue.

Those dependent upon them, that should and must be expected in the government of our country in the great crisis of this so-called hour, remain as we are, handicapped and crippled and interfered with at every turn, tarrying and disputing with an opposition that has not only refused their support, but has declared by their voice and by their vote a want of confidence in our proposals for the providing of the necessary means that up to the present have been estimated as necessary for the carrying on of our part in this great conflict, and in view of our recent deplorable and heavy losses it is evident that renewed and greater efforts have yet to be made."

Liberals Against Soldiers' Vote
He has strongly criticized the Liberal attitude toward the soldiers' voting bill, and intimated this opposition was due to the knowledge that 99 per cent of the soldiers would vote for Sir Robert Borden's policy of closer British connection.

In addition to the press, Mr. Rogers severely attacked a few clerical, unnamed, who are simple minded enough to venture to re-echo from their pulpits some of the misrepresentations being published from day to day in the Grit press of the country. And he assailed Prof. Bland personally as a "well known professional hypocrite, who has ever been ready to endorse, approve and applaud every crooked act that has ever been known to have been committed by any Liberal."

LOCAL NEWS

Heavy Casualty List
The report that the Canadian casualties aggregate 6,000 fell or are missing is officially confirmed by the Militia Department.

Officer Recovering
Mrs. C. J. Mesereau has received word that her husband, Major Mesereau, is recovering from his wounds received in the battle at Ypres.

Auto Guide Book
An auto guide book, prepared by Mr. E. Hutchison, of Douglastown, and issued by the Provincial Department of Public Works, Fredericton, has been received. It is a very handy book and will be appreciated by all auto owners.

Don't forget Clean-up Day, May 14th.

Two German Torpedo Boats Sunk by British Destroyers

The British Torpedo Boat Destroyer Recruit Was Also Sunk by German Submarine

London, May 2—The British Admiralty stated this evening that two German torpedo boats had been sunk in the North Sea. The British torpedo boat destroyer Recruit also was sunk.

The text of the Admiralty statement follows: "A series of small affairs took place in the neighborhood of the Galloper and North Hinder Lightships on Saturday.

"During the forenoon H. M. destroyer Recruit was sunk by a submarine, four officers and twenty-one men being saved by the trawler Daisy.

"At three p. m. the trawler Colombia was attacked by two German torpedo boats who approached her from the westward and commenced an action without hoisting their colors. The Colombia was sunk by a torpedo, only one deckhand being saved by other trawlers.

"A division of British destroyers, comprising the Laforey, Leonidas, Lawford and Lark, chased the two German vessels and after a brief running fight for about one hour, sank them both.

"The British destroyers sustained no casualties.

"Two German officers and forty-seven men were rescued from the sea and made prisoners of war."

"The destroyer Recruit was on patrol duty Saturday morning, when the submarine sank her. According to details received here, she was struck amidships by the torpedo and began to sink. The wounded vessel signalled for assistance and her call was answered by the trawler Daisy and thirty men out of her complement of sixty-five were saved.

It is stated that a torpedo was fired at the Daisy, which was forced to leave one of her rescue boats behind, and that the submarine chased this boat and fired her gun at it, wounding four men.

British torpedo boat destroyers, sighting in the distance two German torpedo boats which had sunk the trawler Colombia, and apparently were supporting a submarine, engaged the Germans at long range in the vicinity of the North Hinder Light. The Germans endeavored to run away, but the British boats pressed them hard and shortly afterwards sank them. The British boats rescued some of the crews of the Germans and landed them today.

LATE WAR NEWS

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ITALY AND GERMANY ARE OFF
Rome, May 4—Direct information from the German embassy confirms the report that negotiations are off between Italy and Germany. Excitement in the city is growing.

WESTERN GALICIA DEFEAT OF RUSSIANS DENIED
Petrograd, May 4—Austro-Germany claims of a great victory in Western Galicia were denied by the Russian War Office today. It was said that the recent offensive undertaken by the Teutonic allies at the Dunajec

River had resulted in some gain for them necessitating a regrouping of the Russian forces, but that the latter had subsequently regained practically all the lost ground.

CANADIAN OFFICER KILLED AT DARDANELLES
London, May 4—It is officially announced that Lieut. Colonel Herbert Carrington Smith, Second Hampshire, was killed during the landing of the Mediterranean expeditionary force in Turkey. He was a Kingston graduate and second son of the late Herbert Carrington Smith, of Quebec.

ENTERTAINMENT AT BATHURST

"Let Me Explain" Was a Decided Success—Dance Held After Concert

The local concert troupe, who made such a decided hit here last week in "Let Me Explain," accepted the invitation of the good people of Bathurst, and journeyed to that town on Monday where that evening they gave their entertainment to a crowded house of exceedingly enthusiastic people.

In all about eighty went from here, and on arriving proceeded to the Robertson House where supper was had. As there was no time just then to make a visit over this thriving town, the members of the company went right to the opera house where Manager Cole made the preliminary arrangements for the opening. With the company went the Misses Cool and Powell, the Scottish dancers of Moncton, dancing their sword dance with great success.

As our readers are now familiar with the program as carried out by these talented people, a repetition is unnecessary. Their performance was highly received by the Bathurst people, several of the song hits being encored as many as five times.

After the concert, a dance was given, which was thoroughly enjoyed by about two hundred people. The young people of the town furnished lunch which was much enjoyed, especially by the members of the company, after their efforts of the evening. Mr. P. Legere, on whose invitation this entertainment was given, and who is also the genial proprietor of Bathurst's most up-to-date show house, engaged the orchestra which supplied most enjoyable music for dancing.

The company and those who escorted them to Bathurst returned Tuesday morning thoroughly well pleased with their trip and the hospitality accorded them by the people of Bathurst, and especially Mr. Legere, who did all in his power to make their visit an enjoyable one.

Mrs. Chas. Sargeant being unable to accompany them, her place at the piano was very acceptably filled by

Mrs. H. B. McDonald, of Chatham.

The proceeds of the concert amounted to about \$180.00. A feature of the program was the singing of La Marseillaise by Mr. Jackson, which received a very hearty applause.

An invitation has been extended the company from the people of Chatham, which will probably be accepted.

PERSONAL

J. E. Park, M. D., of New Glasgow, N. S. is in town, making preparations for opening an office here.

Hon. John Morrissey is attending a meeting of the grand officers of the National Council of the C. M. B. A. in Toronto.

Miss Hazel O'Keefe, of Campbellton, was the guest of Miss Mary Lawlor the latter part of last week. Mrs. Henry Ingram, who was operated on four months ago in the Vincent Memorial hospital, Roxbury, Mass., returned home Wednesday night, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Minnie Ingram, professional nurse. Her many Newcastle friends are pleased to see her home again, and trust she will soon return to health again.

Mr. W. R. Fitzmaurice, I. C. R. Assistant Superintendent, Newcastle, was in the city Saturday on railway business.—Moncton Times.

