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 Open Day and Night

CANADIAN TROOPS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO THE BATTLE LINE

Col. Hughes Returns From Valcartier to Ottawa—Camp 'is Deserted—A Strong Escort of Cruisers for the Men.

VALCARTIER CAMP, Sept. 24.—Canada's contingent is already on the way to the war. As reported, Admiral Wemyss has brought over a powerful fleet of British war vessels and collected others at convenient points to make doubly sure that no stray German ships have the slightest chance of doing damage or in any way impeding the passage of the transports. For days past there has been ample evidence here that the troops in camp have been preparing to move expeditiously so soon as the moment arrives. More than a week ago the ships at Quebec were taking on war stores, and ever since then there has been a steady flow from the camp Quebecwards, and as the transports are loaded they steam seaward and pick up the British war vessels on the way, so that every little group of transports is accompanied on this journey by a protecting force fully able to secure it against attack. Moreover, the transports are themselves armed with heavy guns.

Yesterday and last night the work here has been going forward ceaselessly, and as one rode in by car this morning from Quebec it was easy to see that in the camp itself there was a sensible diminution in numbers. Gone are many of the troops, gone are the artillery and much of the equipment, so much so that one could not but remark upon the comparative quiet after days of bustle and abnormal activity, and last night the Minister of Militia found himself free to go to Ottawa by the 8.30 train.

When seen yesterday afternoon the Minister of Militia was well

pleased with the progress made, and especially was he delighted with the thoroughly efficient steps taken by the British Admiralty to secure the safety of the Canadian contingent on its way east.

He had yesterday the pleasure of welcoming Admiral Wemyss, whom Britain has sent over, and the Minister made no secret of the fact that he had formed a high opinion of the Admiral, whom he described as a splendid type of British seamanship, such as the country might well be proud of. The Admiral, said the Hon. Sam Hughes, had scarcely taken off his clothes since the war began. The fleet brought over to safeguard the Canadian troops consisted of battleships, cruisers, and torpedo destroyers. There would be one good staunch man-of-war for every two transports, and the transports were well armed.

"I had a meeting with clergy members this morning," continued the Minister, "to appoint clergy to accompany the contingent. I have also had a meeting of 150 officers from all parts of the Dominion, by which number we were over-strength. There were a lot of the finest fellows in the country, and out of the 150 there were only eight or ten who failed in their qualifications. All proved themselves thorough soldiers. Thousands of men were offering themselves for the second contingent from all parts of the Dominion, and they claimed that they were even better than those in the first. Inspecting those in the morning I was deeply moved at seeing so many fine officers for whom I

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ONTARIO'S PREMIER IS DEAD

Sudden Change Came Over the Premier at Noon To-day.

Expired in Presence of Wife and Daughter Before Arrival of Doctor

[By Special Wire to the Courier] TORONTO, SEPT. 25.—SIR JAMES PLINY WHITNEY, PREMIER OF ONTARIO, DIED SUDDENLY AT 12 O'CLOCK TO-DAY AT HIS HOME, 113 ST. GEORGE ST. LADY WHITNEY AND MISS WHITNEY WERE THE ONLY PERSONS AT THE BEDSIDE. DR. HERBERT J. HAMILTON HAD BEEN HURRIEDLY CALLED, BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED THE PREMIER HAD PASSED AWAY. SIR JAMES' DEATH WAS DUE TO CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE CAUSED BY HARDENING OF THE ARTERIES. HE HAD BEEN CONFINED TO HIS HOME THROUGH ILLNESS SINCE AUG. 1ST, SINCE THAT TIME HE HAD SPENT DAYS IN BED, WHILE ON DIFFERENT OCCASIONS HE WAS ABLE TO SIT UP.

FIRST SIGN NOTICED THIS MORNING AT 12 O'CLOCK THE NURSE NOTICED A CHANGE IN SIR JAMES. LADY WHITNEY AND MISS WHITNEY RUSHED TO HIS BEDSIDE, BUT THE PREMIER LAY WITH CLOSED EYES. ONLY ONCE DID HE OPEN HIS EYES. HE LOOKED UP AT HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER AND SMILED. HE CLOSED HIS EYES AGAIN AND PASSED AWAY.

HE WAS 70 YEARS OF AGE. THE ATTACK CAME ON SIR JAMES SO SUDDENLY THAT NEITHER LADY WHITNEY NOR MISS WHITNEY REALIZED THAT DEATH WAS NEAR. THE END CAME A FEW MOMENTS AFTER THE CHANGE WAS NOTICED.

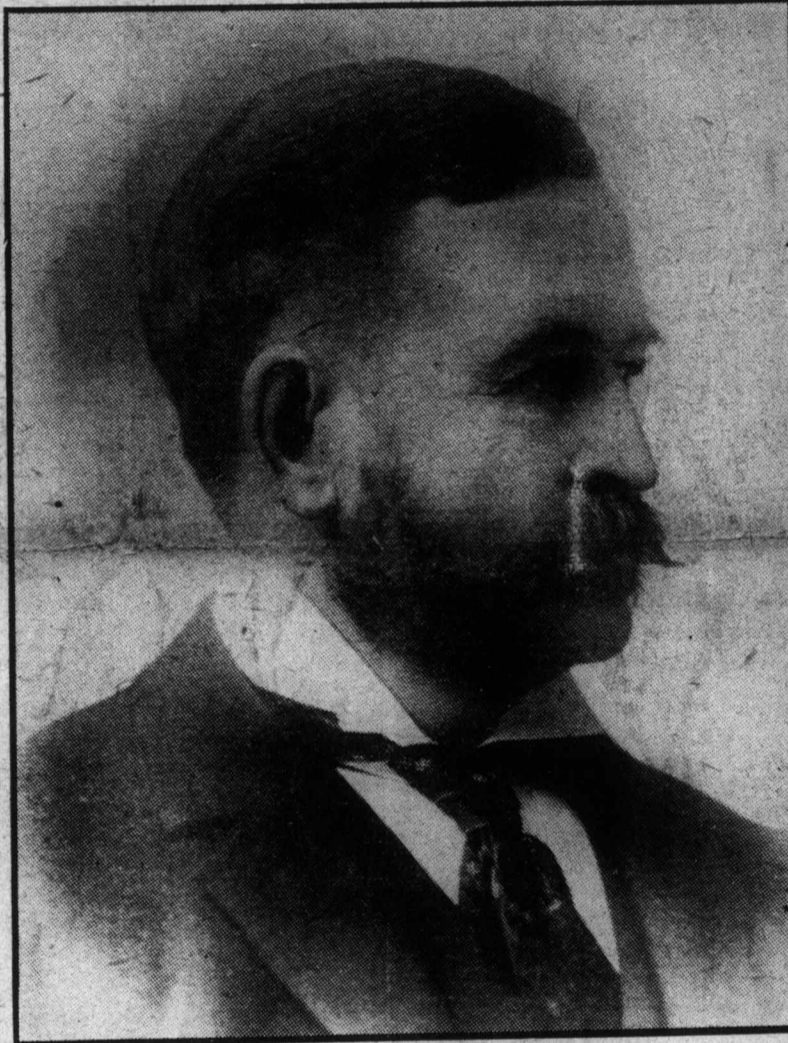
DR. HAMILTON STATED THAT DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS HE HAD NOTICED AN IMPROVEMENT AND HE HELD OUT HOPES THAT THE PATIENT WOULD BE ABLE TO BE OUT AND ABOUT IN A FEW WEEKS.

WAS NOT CURABLE A hardening of the arteries such as Sir James suffered from is not curable, yet both Hon. Dr. Pyne and Dr. Hamilton had both hoped the Premier would be able to attend to his duties.

Dr. Hamilton said that this last illness of Sir James was not due to his returning to the parliament

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SIR JAMES WHITNEY



Ontario's Premier Passed to His Rest at Toronto To-day.

BATTLE IS IMPOSSIBLE OF DESCRIPTION—STRAIGHT FIGHTING IS IN PROGRESS

Luck Will Cut Some Figure Says, Correspondent—Line of Battle Over 100 Miles Long—Germans Will Never See Paris.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Sept. 25.—A correspondent of the daily Mail, telegraphing Tuesday from outside of Paris, says: "The battle now proceeding is of course beyond description. No one can see it. It would take a good walker, for instance, at least a fortnight to get from one end of the line to the other. You still come across croakers who are convinced yet that the Germans are playing a subtle game, that they have something up their sleeve, and will presently give an alarming surprise, which they now are carefully developing behind their lines, and come back to Paris."

"The common sense of the matter is that the Germans went back from the Marne because they had to, and they do not advance now because they cannot. There is nothing more mysterious in their plans than that, and the allies cannot make quicker progress because the Germans are very brave, are well armed, have strong positions and know that, if they break now, they break for good. Their prolonged and formidable resistance is no more mysterious than their retreat. Luck is almost as important in warfare as good soldiers. Admitting the value of that essential, it is safe to say the Germans will never get back to Paris. They will see Berlin first."

SIR JOHN FRENCH IN REPORT SAYS BATTLE IS PROLONGED SIEGE

Searchlights, Siege Guns and Aircraft Play Leading Part—One German Line of Communication Cut—Force Back Infantry of the Enemy.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—The official press bureau issued further details of the operations in North east France last night. These details are a continuation of the statement given out Tuesday night. The statement says: "The enemy in order to maintain himself along the whole front is using detachments of the active army and the Landwehr. Our progress is slow, owing to the strength of the defensive position against which we are pressing, and the continuous battle may well last for several days more before a decision is reached, since it now approximates siege warfare. The Germans are using searchlights, which, coupled with their great strength and heavy artillery, leads to the supposition that they are employing material which was collected for the siege of Paris.

"During Sept. 18 the artillery fire was intermittent on both sides during the daylight. At night the Germans made counter attacks on portions of our line, supporting their infantry advance as always, by a heavy bombardment. The attacks were not delivered with great vigor, and ceased at a o'clock in the morning.

"Sept. 19 was uneventful, except that a hostile aeroplane was brought down by us, and one of our aviators succeeded in dropping an incendiary bomb on an enemy's transport with considerable effect. A story of the enemy's munitions was found buried near the Aisne. There also were traces of large quantities of stores, having been burned, indicating that so far back as the Aisne the Ger-

man retirement was hurried.

"On Sept. 20 there was a brief spell of fine weather. The Germans made counter attacks at several points. All these were repulsed with loss. The advance of the German infantry was started with bands playing. The brunt of the resistance has fallen on our infantry, who, despite the fact that they were drenched to the skin and that the trenches were deep with mud and water, and despite the incessant night alarms and continuous bombardment, have been ever ready.

"The Germans rely on concentrated and prolonged artillery fire to shatter our nerves, but the British soldier is a difficult person to impress or depress even by immense shells filled with high explosives which detonate with terrific force, and form craters large enough to serve as graves for five horses. The German howitzer shells are eight and nine inches in calibre. On their impact they send up columns of greasy black smoke. On this account they are irreverently dubbed 'coal boxes.' 'Black Maria's' and 'Jack Johnson's.' Men taking things in this spirit seem likely to upset calculations based on the loss of morale carefully framed by the German military philosophers.

"From statements of prisoners it appears that they have been greatly disappointed by the marauding effect produced by their heavy guns, which, despite the actual losses inflicted, has not been at all commensurate with the expenditure of munitions. Ammunition which has really been wasted by this it is not implied that their

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Germans Give Fierce Front in the North

[By Special Wire to the Courier] PARIS, Sept. 25.—According to information reaching the French capital this morning, the Germans are continuing their desperate resistance against the advance of the allies in the north. This advance was first upon Roye, 25 miles to the east of Amiens, and then upon Peronne, 20 miles north of Roye.

It was only by a continuous raking artillery fire and had fighting that the French and British troops were able to continue their advance against the vigorous attacks of the enemy. The left wing of the allies now occupies positions between the River Oise and the River Somme which were traversed by the Germans during their advance in the direction of Paris. From this fact it is argued here by military observers the Germans will be obliged to

concentrate a great force in order to protect their right wing which if outflanked, Paris believes would mean a decisive victory for the allies.

In this fighting, which is in a large measure from improvised forts, the allies have advanced, not only on the left, where their manoeuvres apparently were successful, but also at other points which were strongly fortified, such as Berry-au-Bac, in the direction of Craonne. Judging from the reports coming to Paris, the Germans appear to be sacrificing masses of men in the hope of gaining a quick decision.

So strong are some of the positions on each side that Paris believes a long and steady siege at some points is not impossible. The allies would appear to be prepared for this eventuality, as well as for any other development.

Real Heroes Were the British at Battle of Mons

[By Special Wire to the Courier] NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—A tale of warfare from the British camp in France, vivid with description of the way the British forces faced death on the battlefield, of the jokes they cracked and the prayers they said with the bullets sweeping their ranks, was brought to New York to-day aboard the steamer Mauretania by the Rev. James Molloy, a native of Trenton, N. J., who served as chaplain for several weeks with one of the British regiments in France.

"In a modern battle there is an overpowering sense of unreality," he said. "The business of seeing men kill each other seems me-

chanical because of the preponderance of the machine element in the affair; the human element simply bleeds and dies, but the machines continue in their perfection of slaughter.

"The conduct of the British soldiers in the trenches was surprising. There stood men behind shoulder high mounds of dirt, facing level sprays of death in front yet cracking jokes and singing snatches of music ball ballads between volleys. Stupendous bravery I call it, or stupendous absence of nerves. I've heard men under the crashing fire of the terrible German guns, and with comrades

(Continued on Page Four.)

If you haven't done your duty yet, do it now. Our soldiers are playing the game in the water filled trenches---play your part---Patriotism and Humanity make demands on you ---Answer the call.