

YPRES LIKE MALPLAQUET, PURELY SOLDIERS BATTLE

"Canadians Fought Such a Fight as World Has Rarely Witnessed" Writes Army Chaplain

Green Brigade, Three Days Out From England, Came to Assistance of Canadian Division and Performed Prodigies of Valor—Effect of Gas Truly Awful, Beside Which "Ghastliest Wounds Were Sweet and Pleasant."

(Special Correspondence.)

London, Aug. 12.—In an interesting letter to the Methodist Recorder this week, Rev. Owen S. Watkins, in relating his experiences in the second battle of Ypres, gives some insight into the part played by Canadians on that occasion. Rev. Mr. Watkins is attached to the 14th Field Ambulance, 5th division, B. E. F., and went through the South African war, including the siege of Ladysmith. He is correspondent for the Christian Guardian, Toronto, and visited Canada a few years ago.

Following is his story in part:

To describe in detail the Second Battle of Ypres is not possible, and for one who was present it is very difficult to give a general view or get things into their proper perspective. We know what took place in our own little portion of the far-flung line, but of the doings of others our knowledge is even less than that of those at home who read the newspapers diligently. Like the First Battle of Ypres, this fight lasted for three weeks—from Thursday, April 22, to Thursday, May 23. At the end of that period it "blew out" owing to the British attack at Festubert. As in the first case, too, our troops were called upon to face overwhelming odds. It was not merely that the enemy had a crushing preponderance of artillery, threw high explosive shells of the heaviest weight, descended to the use of asphyxiating gas, but their reserves of men seemed inexhaustible. Attack after attack was repulsed, whole German corps were exterminated, but ever their places were taken by fresh troops who, unlike ours, were not worn and shattered by long fighting. For days our fate hung in the balance; our reserves appeared to be exhausted; more and more, like Malplaquet, it became a soldiers' fight, dependent for victory upon dogged fighting and the invincible spirit of our men. Heavy Guns Brought Up.

On Tuesday, April 20, whilst we were still fighting for the possession of Hill 60, the enemy began a systematic bombardment of Ypres. The city had been rent and torn by the previous bombardment, but still was habitable, and in it were living many thousands of civilians. On Sundays and holidays its streets were black with promenaders, and none seemed to heed the light shrapnel which from time to time burst high above the houses, doing little damage except to tiles and windows. Now, however, the Germans were using heavy siege guns, six-inch and eight-inch high explosive shells were being used, for the first time they brought heavy guns into play with deadly effect, 15-inch and 17-inch guns.

The bursting of a 17-inch shell is like a volcanic eruption; the whole creation rocks; the radius of danger is nearly 1,000 yards. I have seen a hole in the ground made by one of these projectiles which measured fifty feet across and was nearly thirty feet deep. There is nothing I have yet met so calculated to put the fear of death in a man as the German 42-cm. gun. The first of these shells which hit the city completely demolished a big three-story house—everybody in it perishing in the ruins—killed fifteen children who were playing in the street, and wounded some twenty other people, some of whom were more than a quarter of a mile away from the explosion.

By Thursday, April 22, the city had become uninhabitable, but still there were many hundreds of civilians who preferred to stay in the cellars of their ruined homes to running the gauntlet of the shell-swept streets—and I should judge that the greater proportion of these perished in the bombardment.

Going into the open-air for a few moments to get the air, and feeling the sphere of the wards, our attention was attracted by very heavy firing to the north, where the line was held by the French. Evidently a hot fight, and eagerly we scanned the country with our field-glasses, hoping to glean some knowledge of the progress of the battle. Then we saw that which almost caused our hearts to stop beating—figures running wildly and in confusion over the fields. "The French have broken," we exclaimed. We hardly believed our words. It seemed so impossible, so inconceivable. For a while we almost thought that the whole French army was in retreat. Gun limbers passed at the gallop, fugitive zouaves and turcos clinging to them. In a few minutes the road in front of the Asylum was choked with fugitives—soldiers and panic-stricken peasantry from the farms and villages around. The story they told we could not believe, we put it down to their terror-stricken imaginations—"A greenish grey cloud had swept down upon them, turning yellow as it travelled over the country, blasting everything it touched, shrivelling up the vegetation. No human courage could face such a peril. 'We can fight, but the good God would not have us stay and be poisoned like rats in a sewer.' Then there staggered into our midst French soldiers, blinded, coughing, chests heaving, faces an ugly purple color—like people who had asphyxiated behind them, in the gas-choked trenches, we learned they had left hundreds of dead and dying comrades. The impossible was only too true; the enemy, in violation of every law of war, of civilization and of Christianity, had descended to the use of asphyxiating gases.

Four-Mile Breach.

The immediate result was a four-mile breach in our line, and through this the Germans were pouring in their thousands. A wilder battle has seldom been fought, and the prodigies of valor displayed are almost without parallel. The story of how the Canadian Division flung themselves into the gap has already been told by able pen than mine. Overwhelmed by superior numbers, both of men and guns, sick to death with the poison-gas fumes they fought such a fight as the world has rarely, if ever, witnessed before. In the small hours of the Friday morning reinforcements reached them, and they began to "make good." At one critical period, the 15th Brigade, the shattered remnants of which had been drawn out from Hill 60,

had to be thrown into the fight to assist the hard-pressed Canadians, and in spite of depleted numbers and exhausted men, performed magnificently the task assigned to them. Later the Northern Division—Territorials who had arrived from England only three days before—came to their assistance, and these untired troops proved themselves in every way the equals of the veterans by whose side they fought. But when all have received their need of praise, the fact remains that, but for the Canadian Division, we should have had to record a terrible disaster, instead of a hard-won victory. For a solid week they fought, sometimes without food, for it was impossible to get it to them, always faced by overwhelming numbers, subjected to a shell-fire such as no troops had ever been called upon to face before, and constantly choked and poisoned by the asphyxiating gas-bombs, or the poison-gas which the Germans pumped into them. Small wonder that a thrill of pride ran through the Empire as the tale was told, and that Canada, rejoiced even in her sorrow—she had lost the very flower of her manhood, but they died as heroes and in their dying added untold glory to her name.

Overpowered in Hundreds.

Sunday, May 2, is a day that "will long live in my memory, for it was then that I was really brought face to face with the effects of the devilish German poison-gas. When the French were gassed we had seen something of it, but only the slightest cases had passed through our hands; now we were to see it at its worst. Finding they could not win Hill 60 by fair means, they tried foul-asphyxiating shells were thrown, and then, favored by the wind, they pumped their poison-gas into us. In a solid bank it rolled down upon our trenches; our men did not break, but bravely faced it, with the result that they were overpowered in hundreds.

Those that fell in the bottom of the trench never got up again; scores died in the trenches; over a hundred died in the regimental aid-posts and the ambulance dressing-stations; whilst of the men we sent to the clearing hospitals a very large number had no chance of recovery. When I arrived at our advanced dressing-station I found it full to overflowing—houses, barns, out-houses, stables, and on the ground in the yard and garden, they lay to the number of 300, faces purple, twisting and writhing in agony, dying by long-drawn-out torture, their piteous eyes asking for help—and there was none that we could give. It was the most ghastly, wicked thing I have ever seen; the ghastliest wounds were sweet and pleasant beside it. To aid to the horror we were being bombarded. Heavy shells were falling in Ypres, in the field in front of us, in the field behind us, splinters of shell were hitting the house, and we were in constant fear of having our patients wounded where they lay. It is always difficult to say on what exact date a particular battle came to an end. The Second Battle of Ypres ended officially, I believe, on May 18, but there were several later incidents which, to us, seemed part of the same battle, noteworthy amongst these being the fourth gas attack on May 24, when the cavalry, especially were the sufferers. I am not going to describe it; enough has already been said to give you some idea of that horror; suffice it to say that in twelve hours 800 cases passed through our hands. But they were not such serious cases as in the previous attacks, for the men had been equipped with respirators, which greatly neutralized the effect of the gas, and since that date there have been no improvement that now the gas is powerless to touch us.

GERMAN MILITARY ATTACHE ACCUSED

Captain Franz von Papen, military attaché of the German Embassy, who is accused of implication in a German plot to influence newspapers, inspire labor troubles and gain control of ammunition plants in the United States, according to revelations published in the New York World.

Woman's Fear.

A woman isn't afraid that a burglar will steal anything. She is afraid that he will see her raggedy union suit hanging over the back of a chair in her bedroom.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Serbia Replies to Entente Note; Handed to Italian Minister

London, Aug. 26, 2:09 a.m.—Serbia's reply to the Quadruple Entente note respecting concessions to Bulgaria was handed to Baron Sonnino, Italian foreign minister, yesterday afternoon, according to a Rome despatch to the Daily Telegraph.

STRATEGIC RELATION OF BALKAN STATES TO TURKEY



In the region of the Dardanelles, A indicates the position of Sedd-el-Bahr, the original landing point for the Allies, and B that of the recent landing at Suvla Bay. C may be the approximate point on the Gulf of Saros where the Italian expeditionary force will land. There are two views as to the point at which this last force—probably of 200,000 men—will be flung against the Turks; the diplomatic and the military. The former is that they will be conveyed to Smyrna, Jaffa, and other places on the Asiatic coast in order to give protection there to Italian subjects as a natural sequel to the ultimatum. The military view is that such an operation would not materially affect the campaign at Gallipoli, which it is in the interests of the Entente powers to bring to an early conclusion as possible. In the circumstances it seems likely that a sufficient force will be sent to Smyrna and the other Asiatic towns to rescue the Italians there—the Italian press would demand it—but that the main force will be sent to aid the Franco-British expedition. Italian military men who objected to

sending a force at all argued that the Franco-British force had the situation at Gallipoli well in hand. Recent advances show that although that part of the allied force which landed at Sedd-el-Bahr has advanced only about five miles, those who landed at Gaba Tepe, fifteen miles farther north on the western side of the peninsula, have been threatening the lines of communication with Constantinople, while still farther north, at Suvla Bay, a British force has actually succeeded in cutting these lines. It is, therefore, believed that the Italian landing will be made on the northern curve of the peninsula, on the Bay of Saros, forty miles from Sedd-el-Bahr. Here there is—just where the strait broadens to form the Sea of Marmora—could be easily enfiladed with guns such as the Italian navy has. This isthmus has already been bombarded by the Franco-British fleet, and many of the defenses destroyed, but no force was landed there.

Thus, with communications cut from Suvla Bay, their forces flanked from Gaba Tepe, and attacked in front near Kithia, the Turkish army would be still

further isolated were an enemy to gain possession of the isthmus.

Moreover, the force of the Italians—200,000 men—is significant. It is larger than either the French or the English—possibly larger than both combined. This would seem to indicate an independent movement nearer Constantinople. Such a movement would be in keeping with the supposition that the 150,000 Bulgarian troops reported to be massed on the Turkish frontier, north of Adrianople, would soon be used with the same objective in view.

Advices have recently come from the chancellors of the Entente powers, as well as from the Balkan capital, to the effect that the Gallipoli business must be concluded as soon as possible before Germany has a chance to release any of her troops in Poland to form a junction with the Turks via Serbia. Just before the fall of Warsaw Enver Pasha, the Turkish war minister and commander-in-chief, expressed the hope that Germany would fulfill her promise and come to his rescue. This morning's news may mean that the Italian force has already landed and the downfall of the Turks is assured.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Aug. 28.—The midnight list of casualties follows:

FIRST BATTALION.

Wounded.

Herbert Gater, (formerly 84th Battalion), England; Sergeant Albert Bates, England.

Killed in Action June 15.

John D. Anderson, (formerly 9th Battalion), Windsor (Ont.); Corporal Harry B. McKnight, Lochlin (Ont.).

Wounded and Missing.

Lance Sergeant Thomas Wakelin, England; Wesley Milton Goodall, St. Thomas (Ont.).

SECOND BATTALION.

Killed in Action.

John W. Tidman, England.

Dangerously Ill.

Daniel Cross, England.

THIRD BATTALION.

Killed in Action.

Sergeant William J. Young, England.

FIFTH BATTALION.

Wounded.

Frank E. Williams, England.

Wounded and Missing.

A. L. Paterson, Scotland.

Corporal Harold Kiff, England; Richard Williams, England; Daniel J. LeMay, Scotland.

SEVENTH BATTALION.

Wounded.

Thomas A. Worsley, England; James McDonald, England; William Thomas Murphy, England.

Missing.

John Bewsher, England.

Prisoners of War.

David Robertson, Scotland.

TENTH BATTALION.

Suffering From Shock.

James Leverton, Middle Church (Man.).

THIRTEENTH BATTALION.

Killed in Action.

David Campbell, Norval (Que.).

FIFTEENTH BATTALION.

Died, While Prisoner of War.

Joseph Flanagan, East Toronto.

ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS.

Wounded.

William Cook, England.

LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE.

Wounded.

George Camden, England.

NO. 3 COMPANY, CANADIAN ENGINEERS.

Died of Wounds.

Company Sergeant Major Walter Main, England.

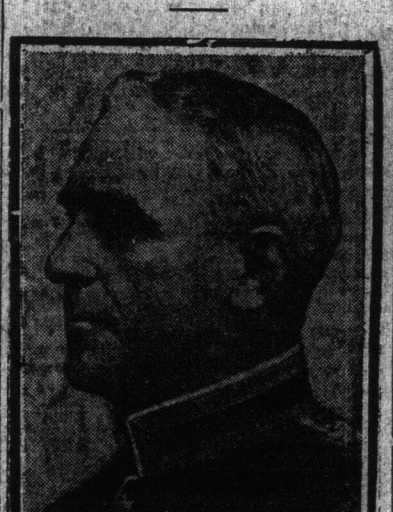
Ottawa, Aug. 24.—The midnight list of casualties follows:

FIRST BATTALION.

Wounded and Missing.

Alexander W. Mathieson, Braebridge (Ont.); James McIntosh, Scotland.

CANADIAN MINISTER KNIGHTED BY KING



SIR SAM HUGHES, K. C. B.

London, Aug. 24.—Major-General Sam Hughes, Canadian minister of militia, was knighted this afternoon during an audience with King George in Buckingham Palace.

General Hughes was created a Knight Commander of the Bath.

Ottawa, Aug. 24.—(Special)—It will be "Sir Sam" not "Sir Samuel" Hughes. Canada's minister of militia, who was honored by the king today, was christened just "Sam" and the abrupt monosyllable and cognomen has always been preferred by him to the more dignified tri-syllable name of the Biblical character.

The major-general will stick to the characteristic explosive front name with the anglicized appellation in front of it and eschew any frills.

The title of the new knight "K. C. B." gives both civil and military honors and gives higher rank than the "K. C. M. G." of Sir George Foster or Sir George Pailey.

Sir Robert Borden is now the only member of the dominion cabinet holding a higher knighthood than the one bestowed by his majesty on Major-General Hughes, while Sir William Otter is the only other Canadian officer holding a K. C. B.

Further honors for Canadians may be expected this week.

London, Aug. 24.—(Montreal Gazette Cable)—Major-General Sir Sam Hughes was the recipient today of many congratulations regarding his new honor. Going down to Buckingham Palace at 3 o'clock, accompanied by the colonial secretary, the minister of militia received the investiture of K. C. B. at the hands of the king.

Further honors for Canadians may be expected this week.

It was announced Thursday that \$470 had been realized at the East St. John patriotic fair, which was held last Saturday at Courtenay Bay Heights.

The committee in charge of the fair has decided to apply the proceeds as follows: \$100 to the Red Cross, \$100 to the Soldiers' Comfort Association, \$100 to the tobacco fund, \$100 to Miss McKel, nurse in France, for the benefit of her patients, and the remainder to provide a bed in a hospital at the front.

The ladies of East St. John have arranged to give a supper at the garden party to be conducted by the Sons of England Band at Courtenay Bay on Labor Day.

LIEUT.-COL. G. H. BAKER, M. P. for Braine, now in command of the 5th Mounted Rifles at Shorncliffe.

The sum of \$51 for soldiers' comforts was realized at a concert given by the local chapter of the I. O. O. E. in Port Elgin last Friday.

JAPAN SUPPORTS RUSSIA BY MAKING MUNITIONS

New Foreign Minister Says the Bonds Uniting Japan and Triple Entente Will Be Drawn Closer

Premier Promises Support by Forwarding Large Supplies of Ammunition—Russia Overcoming Natural Difficulties—Archangel Busiest Port in the World.



COUNT OKUMA, PREMIER OF JAPAN.

Paris, Aug. 25.—"My first care will be to draw still closer the bonds uniting Japan and the powers of the Triple Entente," said Baron Kikujiro Ishii, former Japanese ambassador to France, who recently became minister of foreign affairs in the Okuma cabinet, to a representative of the Petit Journal.

"Is not the fate of Japan," asked Baron Ishii, "entirely bound up with that of her allies? Nay, I go further, after the war the relations of Japan and the Triple Entente must remain not a whit less close, not only in the interest of each but still more in that of the world's peace."

To an inquiry as to what aid Japan intended to give Russia, the baron said: "Since the beginning of the war Japan has been sending arms and ammunition to Russia. In the presence of the grave difficulties through which Russia is now going, it is an imperative duty for us to consider what more can be done in order to give her the maximum of help."

Premier Okuma Affirms Support.

Tokio, Aug. 24.—The Kokumin Shim-bun says: "Premier Okuma has found that Japan has decided to give greater assistance to Russia to prosecute the war. He could not discuss details, but allowed it to be understood that this assistance would take the form of forwarding greater supplies of munitions."

The Associated Press learns that Japan has decided to employ all available governmental and private resources for increasing the output of munitions for the Allies, particularly Russia. The Japanese government says the time has arrived for more concerted action against the enemies of Japan and her allies.

"Count Okuma emphasizes the impracticability and impossibility of dispatching troops to Europe, but points out that the great advance in the capacity of the Japanese to manufacture munitions will prove of great help to the Allies."

"The premier said Japan plans to send delegates to the peace conference, although it is not expected to extend her sphere of influence to Europe."

"Japan wants Europe to recognize Japan's supremacy in the Orient," he said.

The position of Russia in regard to obtaining war supplies has been one of unusual difficulty. The Russians as a people are not given to industrial pursuits, and their manufacturing plants, utilized by adaptable Russia, are unable to operate effectively in the production of guns and ammunition, which are needed and directed largely by Germans at the time the war began. The dispossession of the powerful German element in Russia which occurred in the early period of the war left the nation unprepared to operate effectively even the limited number of establishments at her disposal.

A bureau of munitions was established and every effort was made not only to increase the number of plants but to train Russians in this work. It proved to be almost a hopeless task, however, to create in a nation of Russia's proclivities, without the assistance of the German technical genius, such a great industrial machine as was required.

To obtain guns and shells from the outside world Russia was dependent upon two routes of communication—from the north through the port of Archangel, and from the east over the Trans-Siberian Railroad. The harbor of Archangel is blocked by ice a large part of the year, and when it was opened late in the spring the great Austro-German offensive movement was already under way. Russia obtained a considerable amount of supplies from Japan by rail-road, but this course was cut off suddenly for some time in the spring. The crises in the relations between Japan and China became so serious that Japan, foreseeing the possibility of hostilities, devoted her energies to the accumulation of war supplies for herself. In consequence of these conditions Russia was unable to procure the required guns and shells from within or without.

Although Russia has placed extensive war orders in America and Canada, she has received from North America little in the way of guns or shells. The shipments to Russia from Pacific ports have

consisted principally of supplies such as motor trucks and other heavy equipment. France and England have found that the unexpected demand for ammunition during the war has strained their resources to the utmost, so that they have been able to lend Russia little assistance in this respect. The inauguration of the great Austro-German movement found Russia unable to meet the emergency with any such array of guns and shells as was possessed by her opponents. Russian military officers attribute to this fact the rapidity of the Austro-German advance, stating that the fall of Warsaw, as well as the events which preceded it, were brought on largely by this state of affairs.

Archangel Ranks With New York.

Washington, Aug. 23.—The port of Archangel, Russia, from being little heard of, has become most important in the volume of its commerce. A report received by the department of commerce, by cable today, from Henry C. Baker, the United States commercial attaché at Petrograd, who has just visited Archangel, says that the place now ranks with New York in the amount of its shipping and clearances as at New York.

In the present open season more than one hundred warehouses have been built and thirty piers have been constructed. Four floating cranes of the largest size have been imported and the port is now handling the bulk of the cargoes arriving for the government with reasonable promptness. Private freight, however, still suffers.

The Red Cross has an immense stock of supplies hoisted there which arrived early last fall, and it is now impossible to say when any part of it will be removed to the interior. Mr. Baker says that a half of the American cotton accumulated at Archangel has been transported to the mills in the interior.

Petrograd and Moscow are so almost easily reached from Archangel with bulky freight, as it can proceed on barges on the River Volga and connecting canals and rivers into the heart of the country.

Preference has been given all through the season to wheat over all other export commodities and more than 20,000,000 pounds have been shipped out of Archangel in the last summer. Mr. Baker attributes much of the confusion and delay at Archangel to the fact that there are few brokers and shipping agencies and these have been overworked.

A narrow gauge railway to Archangel will be paralleled by November with a broad gauge road and a narrow gauge is to be widened next year.

Private Charles Biddiscombe, of the Divisional Ammunition column, writes of the recreation of the column. In the last three weeks we have had two field days with running and sports and had a real good time at both. Of course they were made up entirely from the ammunition column, but the Canadian contingent, at least part of it, has formed a baseball league. Besides that we kick up a football game once in a while. So you can see that this war game is not all blood and thunder.

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WANTED—Second or third class teacher for coming term. Apply stating salary to Weldon Kelstead, Canaan, Queens county.

WANTED—A teacher, second class for School District No. 1, Westmorland county. Apply, stating salary, to John W. Steeves, S. Trustees, Shennston, Albert, State salary.

WANTED—Second class teacher for school district No. 1 of Hampton and Georgetown county. Apply, stating salary, to Hawley Secretary to Treasurer Hill, N. B.

TEACHER wanted for N. school, six miles from P. station, second class female teacher. State salary expected. E. Gough, North View, V. N. B.

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FARMS WANTED—After immigration to this country. We are in communication with hundreds who intend to buy this is the opportune time for our 7th annual Free advertising. Correspondence. Alfred Burley & Co., street, New Brunswick, Pa.

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THE JUNIOR S. K.

BIRTHS

CORBETT—At Welsford 14, to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred 28 Adelaide street, St. John McLEAN—On August 2 residence, 8 Chubb street, Mrs. F. C. McLean, a son.

MARRIAGES

RYAN-MacCREADY—Of Miles H. MacCreedy, August 20, by the Rev. J. P. Corbett, John J. Ryan, Jr., Battalion, to Miss Laura Creedy, (Boston and St. please copy).

DEATHS

PAUL—At Hampton, 1 on the 22nd inst., James A 78th year of age, leaving two brothers to mourn.

STEVENS—At the G Hospital on Sunday morning Stevens, aged 18 years, son of William Stevens, Main street, Sussex, to his parents, aged twenty-one years; mother, three sisters and a brother.

MENICHOLO—Entered 74 Elliott Row, Mary Lou James Menicholo.