

LIEUTENANT RAULT

TEXT OF AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY HIS COMMANDING OFFICER AT THE GRAVESIDE OF FRENCH HERO BURIED IN PORT ARTHUR

Daily News Chronicle, Port Arthur, Oct. 24.

Those who attended the imposing funeral of Lieutenant Rault, Friday last, October 18th, in St. Andrew's Cemetery, will remember that the Commanding Officer a few minutes before the volleying of the platoon, approached the grave, and personifying the deceased officer, delivered in French, the following remarkable address of which we gave a translation:

A my rank of Commanding Officer gave me the sad, though honored privilege of assisting at your bedside during your last moments on earth, I deem it my duty to tell those who surround your mortal remains the kind you were during life, and at the hour of death.

Born in 1886, at St. Lunaire, in Brittany of Breton parentage, a seaman you were, as also the son and grandson of hardy mariners. Drawn from boyhood by the charm of life on the ocean, you left home and sailed to distant lands. At the age of twenty-five a successful examination won for you the rank of Captain on ocean service.

The great War found you second in command on the "Tijoca" one of those splendid sailing vessels, which brave the southern seas, in quest of the "nitrate" needed at home.

In mid ocean, your vessel was sunk by an enemy submarine, but no sooner had you reached the coast of France, than as a true Breton, you pursued your calling, and, proud of those stately ships, whose high masts and lofty shining sails, seem to cast defiance to the enemy submarines, you set sail on the "Alexandre." For a second time your ship fell a victim to the enemy submarine at three hundred miles from the nearest land. You succeeded in saving the crew of the vessel, displaying your splendid qualities as a Commander and a seaman.

On the 9th of September, being appointed to serve on the cruiser "Montcalm," you left France for New York. But on your arrival you received orders to proceed to Fort William, to take charge of two mine sweepers, which were to be taken to the ocean.

At the head of a detachment, you left New York and arrived on Sunday, the 6th at Fort William. Feeling then very ill, you were invited to rest, but being in the habit of overcoming nature, and being of the race of those for whom nothing had been accomplished, if their still remains something to be done, you refused. Forced at last to enter St. Joseph's Hospital, your approaching end seemed to dawn on you, when you told the Sister who met you at the door, "Sister, I am coming here to die."

On the morning of Sunday the 13th overcome by the disease, and knowing that the end was near at hand, after receiving the last rites of the Church, you called me to your bedside. For two hours, I witnessed with sorrow the fearful struggle between life and death, and all the while, perfectly conscious, not a word of complaint, not the least expression of bitterness ever escaped your lips. Forgetting your own sufferings, you thought only of the sorrow of those awaiting you at home in Brittany, whilst calmly and unflinchingly you saw death draw near.

Lieutenant Rault, you have died the death of a Christian, of a brave sailor and a valiant soldier. Officer of the "Montcalm"! like the French hero whose name your Cruiser bears, you came to die on Canadian soil. We shall leave you here to rest in peace in this land of Canada, so rich with the noble deeds and the blood of the sons of France, hoping that in this country, on whom weighs so heavily the burden of war, the mothers who weep over the loss of the dear ones who lie in the far distant land of France, will kindly tend to the grave of the French officer who so sadly died on duty, far from home and Country.

In the name of the Admiral Commander of the North Atlantic French naval squadron, in the name of the Captain of the "Montcalm," in the name of thy comrades, and of those who served under thee, we bid thee a last farewell.

Commanding thee to God.

MARCEL LECLEDER
Commanding Officer, F. N.

OBITUARY

LIEUT. FRANK HARRIS KILLED IN ACTION

Lieutenant Frank W. Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Harris, and brother of Rev. Father P. Harris, of Blessed Sacrament Church, Ottawa, was killed in action in France on September 29th, according to information received by the parents of the deceased. The late Lieut. Harris was in his 25th year. He was born in Ottawa. He was extremely popular in the city and had hosts of friends.

He was a superb athlete, a sprinter of ability and an excellent baseball, football and hockey player. Graduating from St. Patrick's School he attended Ottawa Collegiate for a time, later going to the University of Ottawa, where his personality and pleasant manner soon made him a prime favorite with the professors and students. While at the Ottawa Collegiate, he made a name for himself as a sprinter, capturing many cups at the annual sports. Later at the College, he became known as a baseball and football player of ability. It was however, as a member of the "St. Pats" baseball team that he really shone. For a couple of seasons Lieut. Harris played goal for City Hockey League Team in the City Hockey League teams. Along about 1912 he organized and captained the Chelsea Baseball team in the Gaitheau Valley League, and captured the championship year after year.

The late Lieut. Harris was with his father in the firm of Brady and Harris, where he managed the ambulance service. Feeling the call to the colors, Lieut. Harris enlisted in the Mechanical Transport Branch of the Army Service Corps in 1916, and sailed for France at Easter 1916, where he served with the 4th Army Troop Corps, as a driver during the battle of 3 pres, Passchendaele, Bethune and Arras. After a short leave to Paris at Christmas 1917, he was summoned before his adjutant and his record read to him. This certified that he had never missed a roll call on account of illness, never had an accident while driving, never had a crime marked against him, and did the most driving of any driver in the 4th Army Troop Corps. He was accordingly recommended for a commission, and trained for six months at the Canadian Cadets' Training School at Bexhill on the Sea, England.

He was gazetted a lieutenant on August 31st, 1918 and arrived in France to do duty with a Mounted Rifle Regiment on September 2nd. He went into action in the front line on September 12th and was killed on September 29th. He is survived by his father, of the firm of Brady and Harris, his mother, three brothers, Rev. Father P. Harris, of Blessed Sacrament Church, D. Roy Harris and Sydney L. Harris, of Ottawa and one sister Miss Ethel M. Harris at home.—The Ottawa Journal.

The following letter gives additional details:

"Frank died while leading his platoon in our attack on one of the outskirts of Cambrai, and fell within a few hundred meters of that town. I have spoken to the few of his men who survived a terrible storm of machine gun bullets on that beautiful Sunday morning and they are all enthusiastic in their praise of Frank's fearless bravery. When his he was walking calmly up and down the thinned line of his platoon exhorting them to take cover, the meanwhile absolutely oblivious to his own danger. So it may make it easier for you to bear his loss to know that he died a true heroic soldier's death, and that inspired by his splendid example, and bent on avenging him, his few remaining men held on, and later in the day took all their objectives. It may please you to know his body was carried out and properly buried in our battalion cemetery. Rev. Capt. Arthur Cole, of Peterboro read the services." Signed Lt. (Atg. Capt.) HERRON, M.C.

BURN WATER INSTEAD OF COAL

Temperature recommended by the Ontario Fuel Administration for working and living rooms, 64 F. (64 is the "optimum" temperature,

or the degree of heat, at which science agrees man is at his best).

Temperature recommended for sleeping rooms, 50 F. or less.

"Make water warm you instead of burning an excessive amount of coal to do it," is the advice of the Ontario Fuel Administration in urging the importance of properly moistening the air in the home.

Dry air at 70 or 72 may feel cooler than moist air at sixty degrees the Administration declares. Moist air holds the heat longer and saves coal.

There are 10% more deaths at a given temperature if the relative humidity is below 40% than if it is above 70%.

Give the air a drink out of a pan instead of off your skin. Evaporation from the skin renders one susceptible to colds, catarrhs and other diseases of the respiratory organs.

As much, if not more, attention should be paid to the humidity reading as to thermometer reading. A hygrometer, as well as a thermometer, should be in the home.

The Department urges every householder to follow these simple rules for humidifying air in the home:—

When the house is heated by stove, have a pan of water or a boiling kettle always on top.

If by warm air, see that the water retainer in the hot air jacket of the furnace is always well filled. Place open pans of water near the registers.

In cases where steam or hot water systems are employed, provide humidifiers, or pans of water, for every radiator.

The average room may require a quart of water per day. Change water frequently.

THE PHILADELPHIA NUNS

There are other heroes besides our brave boys in khaki and blue, other dangers scarcely less terrible than machine gun nests. It takes no less courage to expose oneself to virulent forms of fatal disease than to front the enemy's fire in the storm of battle. Yet all over the United States during these last weeks we have had examples without number of this unobtrusive, high-spirited bravery, ready and eager to put life in jeopardy in order to minister to the sick. Physicians, nurses, ministers of religion have all had their share, their large share in this self-sacrifice, and their memory will be an inspiration. They themselves make light of their courage and say they have merely done their duty; but their duty called for altruism of a very high type, and they have not flinched in its performance.

Others, not called by duty or profession, but merely volunteers, have done the same. The mayor of Philadelphia finding the resources of his city totally inadequate to cope with the epidemic, asked the Archbishop to come to his assistance. At once the latter appealed to the nuns. The response was spontaneous, generous to the extreme, heroic. Emergency hospitals sprang into existence almost overnight, and 2,000 Sisters went forth from their convents to fight the plague in hospitals, almshouses and in private houses. If the remaining one-third of the Sisters did not do the same, it was because they were needed at home to care for the sick in their own communities. Had their wishes been consulted they would have given no notice, but their services have been written by high officials where all may read. The Mayor's statement is unqualified praise:

"I have never seen a greater demonstration of real charity or self-sacrifice than has been given by the Sisters in their nursing of the sick, irrespective of the creed or color of the victims, wherever the nuns were sent. I look upon the services rendered by the Archbishop and the nuns as one of the most potent aids in making the headway we have to ward getting control of the epidemic."

There was it is true, a certain obligation on the part of the Mayor to render this testimony, unsolicited and unexpected as it was; but others, under no such compulsion, and with even closer opportunities for estimating the value of the nuns' work, have been equally outspoken. Dr. John M. Fisher, distinguished physician and consultant at Emergency Hospital No. 3, made the following statement:

"In my thirty-three years' experience among the various hospitals in this city, I have never witnessed such heroic devotion to duty as that manifested by these Sisters, beautiful souls that they are. The equal of the Catholic Sisterhoods, as they have worked before my eyes, in this emergency, cannot be found, I feel safe in saying. They are incomparable. Their conduct is an example to every one. Their only thought and their only care are for the patient. The orders of the physicians could not be carried out more religiously. I am a Methodist, but I must voice my appreciation of their heroism."

The Soldiers' Aid Committee of City Councils speaks in the same sense: No praise is too lavish to be bestowed upon the Sisters for their skill, devotion, and tenderness towards the sufferers of the city."

Naturally such fearless devotion to the sick could not go unscathed, death has taken its toll from these Sisterhoods, and the gold star is theirs no less deserved than if they had died in action on the field of battle. Instances could be multiplied, but one will suffice to show the spirit of all, survivors and victims

alike. A nun who had spent long years in the classroom begged to be allowed to do her share in the crisis. She was assigned to the almshouse and wrote enthusiastically to a friend that she was to minister to the very poorest of the poor. For all she knew, she was going to her death, but she never did anything more gladly. A few days later she was stricken. Already she is dead, but she died that others might live. Long years before she had taken the name of Aloysius, and from the day of her profession had endeavored to walk in his footsteps. Little she knew that like him in name, and like him in life, she was to be like him also in death, a martyr of charity for the plague-stricken of her city. God's benediction be on her and her companions in courage! All honor to the heroic Sisters—America.

ERIN CLAIMS FRENCH HERO

London, Oct. 12.—Ireland claims the latest "French" hero as her own. General Mangin is the son of an Irishman who fought against the Germans in 1870, then settled down in France. He is said to be blessed by the watchful spirit of a French clairvoyant who has won fame since his recent successes. Following Nivello's failure and removal, Mangin was placed on the retired list.

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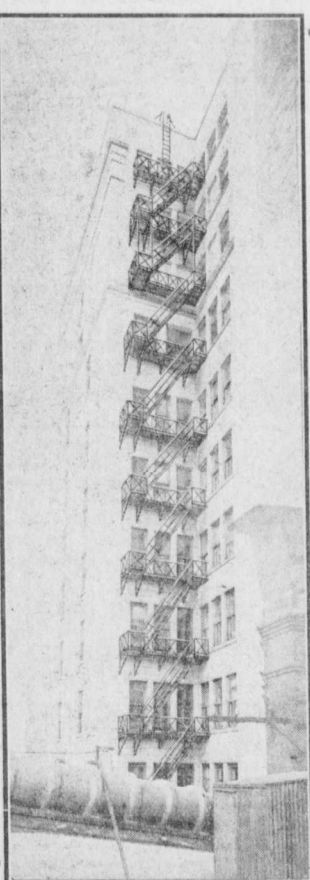
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