

## The Minister of National Defence Greets the Men Upon the Occasion of the Holding of the Canadian Corps Reunion in Toronto



HON. IAN MACKENZIE  
Minister of National Defence

To The Editor:

*My best of good wishes to all members of the old Canadian Corps who are to be present at the Reunion in Toronto in July. My blessings on the Listening Post and on the old memories it revives.*

*It is wonderful indeed to think that twenty years after the great events that decided the destinies of nations, and the fate of civilization itself, the name and the inspiration of a little trench journal should be perpetuated as you are doing now.*

*The Listening Post was probably the most famous of all trench journals. To us in British Columbia it had a peculiar personal touch, a deep personal significance.*

*The old 7th Battalion we regarded as our very own. Its brilliant Commanding Officer, Hart McHarg, was amongst the first of gallant Canadians to fall.*

*With him as he fell was Victor Odum, who subsequently established a wonderful record as one of Canada's most brilliant soldiers. He penned some of the first articles and messages appearing in the Listening Post and today carries on in community and business life the old traditions of twenty years ago.*

*In my own City of Vancouver are many members of the old 7th Battalion, and they will be glad indeed to read again a word or two of comfort and inspiration, and to chuckle over timely sallies and humorous thrusts as they did in younger days.*

*You are indeed to be especially commended upon this effort to revive a past that is now somewhat receding amongst the curious mists of memory, a past where such splendid comradeships were formed, a past that witnessed such splendid feats of endurance and heroism and of sacrifice, a past of twenty years ago that saw us all as boys and youths and young men in the carefree comradeship of arms, and now mingles across the intervening testing time of the years with a present that sees those of us who survive, older, less visionary, but still endeavouring to carry out the same ideals, the same high purposes which we all shared together in Flanders and in France.*

IAN MACKENZIE.