

feeling quite fit again. England and Scotland in May and June are ideal, and, despite the fact that I was a bit under the weather, I never enjoyed myself better. The people don't seem to be able to do enough for us, and I am fortunate in having some good friends in town and up here. There is also a good golf course here, over which I played nearly every morning, excepting when we went up the burns trout fishing.

"I expect to return to the base at Shorncliffe next Tuesday, and I have arranged with my colonel to be returned to France immediately. The poor old battalion has been rather shot up lately, over half the officers being casualties, and, needless to say, I am anxious to get back. The Canadians, as I suppose you saw, had 270 officers' casualties in only five lists. The Ypres salient is about the worst place one could imagine. We get shot at from three sides, and the support trenches come in for a hotter fire than the front line. There one expects a little bit of a lull when in reserves, but everything within miles seems to be shot at and occasionally hit."

The following is a letter from LIEUT. J. K. PATTERSON, formerly of the First Street West (Calgary) branch, now attached to the 26th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, Bankers' Expeditionary Force, dated 21st June, 1916:

"It seems years since I left Calgary for England, and I have seen many different phases of life during that time. I obtained my commission within a month of arriving at home, had preliminary training at Cambridge, joined my regiment near London (which was at that time the 15th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers), afterwards moving to Shoreham in Sussex, near Brighton. In January of this year I was transferred to the above-mentioned battalion, which is also 'The Bankers', and arrived in France on the 5th of May, exactly one year from the day I left Calgary. During that time I have been in training. I have seen a considerable part of old England, and have spent many a jolly week-end in beautiful Surrey.

"As its name indicates, this battalion is composed of bank clerks from all over the United Kingdom. One could not wish for a finer lot of men, educationally and morally, but, unfortunately, their physique does not overly imbue one with confidence that they will bear the stress and strain of hardship and fatigue in a 'big show.' So far, their record of achievements in their course of training is exemplary, and, should they retain the same standard in actual fighting, their country will indeed be proud of them. They have not yet been tested.

"We have been taking our tour of duty in the front line every six days for the past month, and at present this company is in support to the other three. We have had an experience of a heavy bombardment as bombardments go in this part of the line, for the heaviest gun the Huns have just opposite is a 5.9. We have also been through a cloud of gas without any casualties, unless one counts the inmates of our dug-outs which are not included in the daily ration indent, namely, the rats and mice.

"I have had several trips into No Man's Land, and, on one occasion, returned with some booty in the shape of a ground sheet pinched from a