

# NORFOLK NEWS

## HOLIDAY WAS QUIET AT SIMCOE

### Death of Sergeant Stanley Richards, A Former Simcoeian

#### OTHER SIMCOE NEWS

(From Our Own Correspondent)  
 Simcoe, July 2.—Simcoe was a closed book. For the greater part, citizens remained at home. Some entertained relatives in khaki, for the weekend some worked their war gardens. Very few went out on the railway. Cottagers remained by the gas log of the cottage hearth at the lake shore, and apart from a limited traffic, the town was sealed up for the day. Only on public buildings were flags flying.

Outside farmers for the greater part went about their usual Monday labors.

James Downing, a well-known Windham Township farmer, died on Sunday night in his 86th year. The funeral will be held to Oakwood on Wednesday. Deceased leaves a large family, widely scattered. A son, Herbert, is on the homestead, Mrs. Thos. McNamara is a daughter, and another daughter lives in Simcoe.

It has been our pleasure to peruse the July-August (1917) number of the Welsh Regiment "Pals" Battalion home publication, devoted almost exclusively to extracts of letters from the boys at the front (in Macedonia) and to read a letter from the commanding officer addressed to Mrs. Richards, mother of our townsman, Arthur Richards, and of our former townsman, Pte. Thos. Richards—now overseas—after the death of another son in service with the "Pals" in Macedonia.

Sgt. Stanley Richards was 25 years of age. His commanding officer said in part:

"In the highest sense, Stan, was a man, I sorrowed for the death of one I loved and counted a treasure in calling friend. . . . What a father he was to the boys, and whatever Stan said was law for them. He had a great heart and a most generous spirit. He was a friend, and never once presumed on the friendship of a nobler and never lived, anything but truth and love being quite antagonistic to his whole being."

The remains of the late Wm. Fero, who died at St. Thomas on Saturday were brought here yesterday for interment. Burial took place at St. John's, Woodhouse.

**Picnics Called Off**

The Union Sunday school picnic announced for Thursday has been by mutual consent between the Methodist and Presbyterian Sunday schools, cancelled. The event has been an annual outing for over quarter of a century, but it was thought that the present war-time should be of help, the fact that most of the young people are at useful labor, and the expressed wish of the government would be better recognized by holding no picnic this year.

The McKnight family of Norfolk has some time since decided to cancel the 1918 picnic at Woodhouse, Detweiler-Williamson Nuptials.

Dignity and simplicity characterized a prominent social event here on Saturday in the matter of marriage of Eileen Velyan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Williamson, to Herbert Knudsen Detweiler, M.D., of Toronto, and son of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Detweiler, of Kitchener.

The ceremony was performed at St. Paul's Church at 12 o'clock by Rev. M. Scott Fulton, M.A., B.D., and in the presence of a considerable audience of spectators, and was of the simplest character. The bride wore her travelling suit, and both bride and groom were unattended. The party returned to the Williamson residence for a family luncheon, after which the young couple went by motor to Waterford and entrained for their summer home in the Laurentians. In the autumn they will take up residence on Markham street, Toronto. Dr. Detweiler is a member of the University staff.

**Press Photographs**

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Ratwell spent the week-end visiting their sons at Welland and Niagara Falls.

L. T. Atkinson and party, consisting of F. O. Austin, Chas. Brantford and Thos. M. Atkinson, left yesterday on a motor trip to Proctor, Vermont, combining business with pleasure and visiting Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany, en route.

P. J. Pearce, founder of the Waterford Star, is critically ill at the home of his son, P. G. Pearce, in Waterford.

D. A. Austin motored to Buffalo.

### SIMCOE AGENCY

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Mrs. Austin and daughter, who have spent a fortnight visiting friends there, will return with him.

Wm. Becker of Ft. Rowan visited Oscar Clark over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Brown of London, Miss Harris of St. Thomas, and Mr. Wm. Hughson of Thornedale spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. H. Moulton, Court street.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gagnon of Durham spent Dominion Day with the Forsyth family, 32 Victoria street.

**Odd Ends of News.**

Walter S. McCall's big car took fire on the way to Dover just past the Halfway House on Saturday and burned on the road.

The waterworks system is now working on direct pressure to the main—painting of the interior of the standpipe is in progress.

Mr. Jonathan Porter was sworn in as county treasurer on Friday and is now in charge of the county's strong box.

It is claimed that the Townsend petition did not ask for the resignation of W. A. Charlton. The Waterford Star will publish the text in full this week.

**Waterford Star Speaks Out**

Referring to the Villa Nova barn fire, the Waterford Star, the only Reform paper published in the county, comes out boldly in condemnation of the persecution that at present obtains in the district and shows clearly that the editor believes in obedience to law and order no matter who's who. The article reads in part:

"Union Government farmers have perfect right to their opinions, and it is hard to conceive that any man would use this as an excuse for burning a neighbor's barns. Any deceptions committed in these parts now is attributed by some to the above cause. No true Canadian much less those who are opposed to what they call the autocratic Government, should stoop so low as to commit arson. We are informed that a farmer in the north of Townsend has received a letter threatening that his barns will be burned and he has employed a watchman. A provincial detective should be located here to round up the guilty ones and hand them the full penalty of the law."

The "Waterford Star" man is highly commended here for his straight to the point pronouncement, and his attitude in the matter is quite likely to neutralize a type of fanaticism that has been—perhaps unintentionally—spread at rural mass meetings by incautious and intemperate speakers who are to-day, no doubt, self-complacent.

**Matters Really Serious.**

We are in receipt of a letter from a passive resident of the district in which complaint is made that law-abiding citizens are, and have been for some time, left "practically at the mercy of the very worst elements in any country—pure and simple Bolshevism," and asking for some possible means whereby "this condition of affairs might be brought here as you must admit, there is a great deal of laxity, and as outrage after outrage is committed we, whose chief thought is winning the war, commence to feel that it is a poor reward if we must be awake all night in fear of intruders whom a show of authority would silence."

The whole situation goes to prove that there is a deal of intimidation prevalent not only in some localities, more especially in Townsend and Windham, and that the fire has been let run too long. We are, however, expecting developments, as detectives are said to have been for weeks working in the district.

**The Greedy Starfish.**

In his report to the Eastern Sea Fishery Board at Spalding recently, Mr. H. Donnison, of Lincolnshire, said: "Starfish, mostly small in size, and some not the size of a three-penny piece, have been very abundant, and constant attention on the part of the staff has been necessary to prevent them doing serious damage to the shellfish beds. In the channels, and on some low-lying ground which seldom dries, they congregated together, destroyed every mussel and cockle around them, and gradually worked up the sands for more. A small special trawl obtained about 37 tons of the pest. The shrimp and mussel fishings during the half year were much above the average in quantity; cod-fishing on the Norfolk coast was also very satisfactory. The inshore herring, fishing was only moderate, and there was a diminished supply of cockles."

—London Times.

**12,000 Houses for London Port.**

The housing question in relation to the extension of the dock system of the port of London has been enquired into by a special committee appointed by the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association. In their report the committee recommended the building of twelve thousand houses in the immediate future to meet the most pressing needs.

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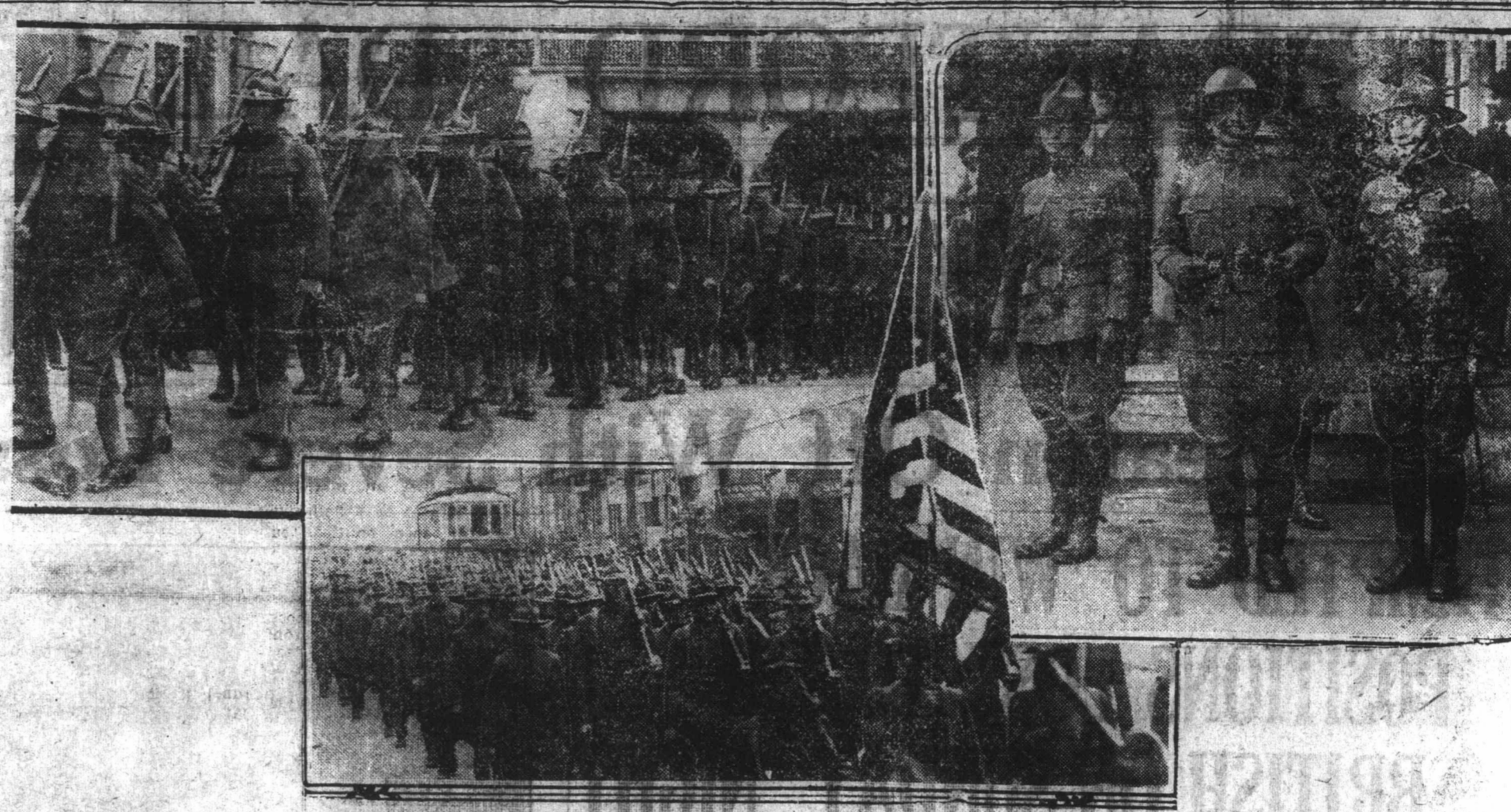
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**COUSINS FROM ACROSS THE BORDER PARADE THE STREETS OF TORONTO**  
 on the way to the Pacific Coast to France. The upper picture shows the soldiers leaving Yonge St. subway. In the photo underneath they are seen marching down Yonge street to right are: Lieut. C. L. Keen, Major J. R. Woolnough, the O.C., and Lieut. M. G. Howard.

**Wrapping Oranges.**

The orange-packing plants of the Pacific coast have long employed sizers, weighers, brushes, nail-machines, etc., all of which work automatically, but until recently wrapping was done by hand. A machine has now appeared, however, which automatically cuts and prints the wrapping paper and wraps the orange. Each machine wraps one hundred oranges a minute, without waste of paper or injury to the fruit, and with perfect precision. Mechanical hands pick up the fruit without bruising the skin and place it on conveyor-belts. The wrappers already cut and printed by the machine are automatically fed on to the belt and receive the fruit from the mechanical hands. Then the machine folds the wrappers around the oranges and crimps them over the stem end so tightly that the fruit can be rolled over a rough floor without undoing it.—Family Herald.

**Rubber rings of inferior quality** and of improper sizes are held responsible for much of the spoilage of canned goods the past year. Because of a good deal of complaint the Department of Agriculture carefully investigated the question and found that many of the rings were not sufficiently durable to be used in the cold-pack method. Not only must the rubber rings be able to withstand hot water and steam, but they must not enlarge very much when heated. Rings for standard jars should have an inside diameter of 2 1/4 in. and the width of the circular band should be from 3/4 to 1 in. Government investigators have drawn up a set of specifications for rings, which have been adopted by the manufacturers.

**Ocean Salt.**

The oceans occupy three-fourths of the surface of the earth. A mile down in the sea the water has a pressure of a ton to every square inch. If a box six feet deep was filled with sea water, which was then allowed to evaporate, there would be two inches of salt left in the bottom of the box. Taking the average depth of the ocean to be three miles, there would be a layer of salt four hundred and forty feet thick covering the bottom in case all the water should evaporate. In many places, especially in the far north, the water freezes from the bottom upwards.—Family Herald.

**SINGING MICE.**

Sound Made by the Animals is a Rapid, Whole-Toned Trill.

Many people have heard of "singing mice," but almost nothing is known as to the meaning of their performance.

One of the most precise descriptions of the song is given by Mr. C. A. Coburn, who says: "The sound is best described as a rapid, whole-toned trill, involving the tones c and d. The quality of the tone resembled somewhat that of a life or flute, but each tone ended with a slight throaty click." The song can be heard at a distance of from 15 to 20 feet. It is usually heard late at night or early in the morning, but that may be partly due to the fact that these are usually quiet times.

Mr. Coburn noted a female singer with an ordinary mouse, but none of her many children had her peculiarity. Nor did it occur in the second or third generation. Some have suggested that singing mice are suffering from some disease of the lungs or vocal chords, or that they have asthma, but this is only guessing. One curious point is that the few singers that have been examined have all been females.

The song is not at all like the ordinary squeaking of mice. Dr. Elliott Coues writes of a mouse he had given to him, that "in a few moments the little musician piped up, and sang very prettily. It was not squeaking, but singing, musically and rhythmically, in a high key, with a thin and very hard, not displeasing quality—something like a weak-voiced canary bird."

We ought to find out something more definite about this curious peculiarity. The kettle "sings" the cat purrs, the dog snores; what does the mouse do?—My Magazine.

**TOO CRITICAL FOR STRIKES.**

London Pacifist Editor Strenuously Condemns Threat of Engineers.

According to London papers just to hand Mr. George Lansbury, editor of the London Herald, a paper circulated among the laboring classes, and himself a pacifist, is now alarmed—furious even—at the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for their daring to threaten to create a strike at such a critical period of the war, when every man is needed on the battlefield, in the shipyard and in the factory.

Asked what he would say if he were addressing the engineer extremists who are threatening a strike, Mr. Lansbury said:

"I should tell them that striking to serve their own skins was a disgrace to them. My view about any strike during the war is that unless it would have the effect of bringing peace it ought not to take place. I have no sympathy with men striking at this time for wages, hours, or to put other men in the army instead of themselves."

"I think the time for strikes in any country was when the Austrians of 1914 were striking—if the working classes by any action could have brought the war to an end then, I should have been in favor of their doing it. That is past. I have no sympathy with the sort of man who says, 'I will strike if I am to go, but another fellow can go.'"

**Metal-Coated Seeds.**

Considerable interest is being created by an altogether new system of soil electrification that may eventually prove meritorious. Its two outstanding features distinguish it from the laboratory and field tests conducted abroad. Instead of an expensive overhead network of wires being erected, two distributing electrodes, consisting of insulated wires with pointed copper projections 8-inch intervals, are imbedded parallel with each other, in the ground along opposite sides of a field. These sub-surface lines are extended to a depth of about six inches and are so situated that they do not interfere with cultivation. The current, stepped up to about 2,000 volts by passage through a high-frequency apparatus, is in this manner "sprayed" through the ground. In passing across the field from one electrode to another the current, following the path of least resistance, seeks out the seeds, which are metal-coated. The condition thus created is described as being analogous to the coherer of a wireless set. In laboratory germination tests really remarkable results have been accomplished. Field tests were conducted last season with the encouraging, although not at all conclusive, results. In the minds of impartial experts who are familiar with the laboratory and field tests, the system is worthy of further experimentation, but at the present time not ripe for commercial exploitation.—Popular Mechanics.

**Germany As It Is To-day.**

The German empire, better known as the German vampire, embraces 208,820 square miles, but not a single square mile, says the Brooklyn Eagle. It comprises four kingdoms, six grand duchies and 3,876,531 grand goosesteeps. In outline and inclination it is highly irregular. On the east it hounds Lemno. On the north it is hounded by the Allied fleets and on the west by Gen. Foch.

The principal waterways of Germany are the Rhine and the Kiel Canal. The high C's boy under its control are confined to the open house. The Kiel Canal is used for exercise by the bottled ships on pleasant Sundays. The sea board, restricted like all other kinds of board, is known as the high cost of living. The country is not entirely on the level. It has, in the interior, a large table land, entirely empty. There is also a deep depression in all parts of the nation.

Berlin, the capital, was established in the thirteenth century, on the Spree river. It has not yet recovered. The inhabitants are divided into two main classes—junkers and junked. The present ruler is Kaiser Billious II. His principal occupation is looking for a place in the sun. There is something wrong with that in store for him. It sounds something like Heligoland. The crown prince is the barely apparent. The national motto is "Spurio ver-kenk."

## LAI D AT REST

**I. B. HAWLEY**

The funeral of a well known and respected citizen of this city took place Thursday when Ira B. Hawley, late of Victoria avenue, was laid to rest in Fairview cemetery.

Mr. Hawley had lived here for fifteen years, and was a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. For the past few years he has been inspector of local improvements here. Previously, Mr. Hawley was a farmer, and lived at Onondaga, near Brantford.

The Rev. James Barber performed the last rites at the funeral, which was largely attended. The pall-bearers were: John Lamb, W. J. McMurray, Wm. Morwick, G. E. Will, F. D. McPherson and R. F. Carter.

The deceased leaves a wife, one son, Leslie R. Hawley, and brother John, of this city.—Niagara Falls Review.

## EARN AND GIVE PICNIC.

The boys who took part in the recent Earn and Give Campaign held a picnic yesterday afternoon to Whiteman's Creek where a good program of sports was given. The Canada Glue Co. kindly loaned their big motor truck and the boys were thus "transported." Mr. J. W. Coy driving. Messrs. Williamson, Mosley and Giddes of the Y.M.C.A. accompanied the party. After supper had been served the boys returned at 7 o'clock.

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