

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1916

Howard Johnstone Killed in Action

Gallant Young Officer of Nova Scotia Battalion, Formerly of The Chronicle Staff, Made Supreme Sacrifice; How Lieut. Stairs Fell

Lieut. L. Howard Johnstone, of a Nova Scotia Battalion, son of Dr. E. J. Johnstone, of Sydney, and a former member of The Halifax Chronicle's editorial staff, was killed in action at the front last Saturday. This news was conveyed to friends in Halifax from the family at Sydney by telephone on Sunday. Lieut. Johnstone was at the time of his death, as far as is known at present, acting as second in command of "D" Company. His career since going to the front had been more or less brilliant, having been several times mentioned in despatches.

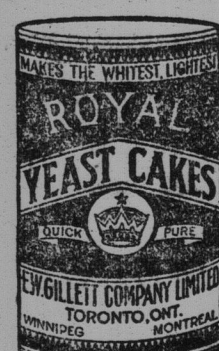
Lieut. Johnstone won recognition at the front as a bombing officer, and later did splendid work with a trench mortar unit. Lieut. Johnstone is survived by his father and mother, several brothers and sisters. His father is a prominent practicing physician at Sydney. One brother, Murray, in the artillery, went overseas with the Coburg Battery and has since been wounded. On both sides of his family, Lieut. Johnstone was connected with men and women who have given loyal service to the province of Nova Scotia. He was the great-grandson of Hon. J. W. Johnstone, and descended from several of the great pioneer men of the province. Lieut. Johnstone was representative of that thoroughbred Nova Scotian manhood which is sacrificing everything today for the preservation of the Empire and the cause of freedom.

The deceased officer had strong military tendencies, and his knowledge of naval history, both past and contemporary, was such as possessed by few laymen, young or old.

Lieut. Johnstone was about twenty-eight years of age, and up to the time of his enlistment for active service had a career in journalism that promised brilliantly. He was born at Sydney, and educated in the high school of that city, graduating at an early age. From early boyhood he had given evidence of special aptitude for newspaper work in fact had shown more than ordinary capacity, being a wide reader, and possessing a most retentive memory. Last year he was on the staff of the Sydney Record. Incidentally, at that time, he was acquiring military knowledge in the ranks of a local militia regiment.

On The Morning Chronicle.

In 1905 he became a member of The Morning Chronicle staff, and after ex-



MADE IN CANADA

Bread is the cheapest food known. Home bread baking reduces the high cost of living by lessening the amount of expensive meats required to supply the necessary nourishment to the body.

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

EW. GILLETT COMPANY LIMITED
TORONTO, ONT.



cellent service on this paper for several years he attracted the attention of Thomas Cantley, then general manager of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, who made him his private secretary.

He resumed his journalistic work in 1912, joining the staff of the Montreal Gazette, and later in the year returning to The Morning Chronicle. In reportorial work there were few newspaper men in Eastern Canada who were better descriptive writers on big stories, and few whose careers in journalism promised more brilliantly. Naval and shipping events particularly attracted him and many vivid stories came from his pen.

A True Canadian.

To people who knew him intimately he opened a very large heart, generous and sympathetic. Lieut. Johnstone possessed to a marked degree those outstanding qualities of Canadian manhood, confidence and initiative. He had a strong sense of loyalty to his native country, having specially educated himself in British history by long and thorough reading. Could he have chosen his death, not guided by the faithful hand of this war, he would have desired none other than that which he has obtained. No higher tribute could be paid him than that terse remark by an old friend, who, when informed of the gallant officer's death, said, "So Howard has made good." He died in the service of a land, with the traditions of which he was so thoroughly imbued.

It was a strange coincidence that on the very day of his death at the front a letter should have been received from him by relatives of Captain John Stairs, of Halifax, a brother officer, and who was killed two weeks ago, in the attack on Courcellette. This letter gives a glimpse of the sympathetic nature of the man, and also some account of the fighting in which the battalion has been engaged.

Parts of the letter were as follows:—

Tributes to His Comrades.

"The 8th Brigade were ordered to attack in the afternoon (Sept. 15), and we were the first line of attack. Only four officers in each company were taken in and I was one of the few who were deprived of the opportunity of participating in the attack. John was hit in the first part of the advance and while coming out of the dressing station was hit

again and must have been instantly killed. For some days we could not find out definitely what had happened to him. Then a runner reported having seen his body and I took out four volunteers from his own company and went to search for him and finally was successful. He was buried in Albert with Major Tupper and Horace Dickey. Poor Brooks' body has not yet been found.

The Call of Duty.

From the very outbreak of the war, Howard Johnstone knew where his path of duty lay, and was enthusiastic to perfect himself in military knowledge sufficient to take his commission in an overseas battalion. He graduated from the Royal School of Infantry, Wellington Barracks, early in the first autumn of the conflict, and when the 28th Battalion was organized, he was given an appointment. He was an exceedingly hard worker, and those abilities which had been winning him success in civil life won him recognition in his military career.

He was known by a wide circle of friends in Halifax, Truro, New Glasgow and Sydney.

How Gallant Stairs Fell.

"The battalion has paid a terribly high price for its success. In John, Tupper and Brooks, I have lost three of my dearest friends. I had to stay behind and watch them go in and I can't begin to tell you how magnificently they went into action. I watched the long perfectly dressed lines marching through the after hell of the German fire. At one moment they would be blotted from sight by scores of bursting shells, and next minute would come, marching as steadily as if they were on the barracks square. On they went for 1,500 yards and the Germans never stood up to them. They simply ran before our chaps everywhere. John fought his company with the utmost courage, and had his men thoroughly in hand. He continued to direct them even after being badly wounded, until he was ordered out by the colonel. I think there is no question that when hit the second time he was instantly killed. I cannot tell you how he was respected by his men; when they knew I was going to look for his body every man in C Company volunteered to come with me. He was buried in the Canadian cemetery at Albert yesterday. It is as if I had lost my own brother."

SOLDIERS' COMFORTS

Work of First Circle, West St. John—Ready to do All Possible—Some Suggestions

The First Circle, Soldiers' Field Comforts, West St. John, have packed and have ready for shipment, fourteen cases of Christmas cheer for the soldier boys. The aggregate value of these goods is \$800. The articles include fruit cake, socks, gun, mitts, tobacco, Oxo cigarettes, chocolates, candy, lead pencils, condensed cocoa and coffee, handkerchiefs, and candles. The circle has listed and packed, besides their own goods, a large number of parcels for persons having friends at the front.

Shipments of goods will be made regularly this winter, and parcels will be received, listed, packed and forwarded from any person wishing to send goods this way.

Especially does this circle wish to care for the soldier who has not the loving tender care of mother and home to cheer him, and the president will be especially grateful for the address of these lonely soldiers.

Yarn will be gladly supplied to those who can assist in the important work of knitting socks. Contributions of small fancy cards and pictures to help in making scrap books, which are intended to brighten the monotony of trench life, are asked for. Don't forget to send us all the old rubbers you have, or can get, the proceeds from which go for our yarn fund.

MRS. E. A. YOUNG,
President.

194 Guilford street, West St. John, Phone 76-21.

ST. JOHN COUNTY FAIRS

Exhibits at the annual Loch Lomond fair yesterday were quite as good as usual but the crowd was smaller. Effect of the war was seen in the preponderance of women where in former years the men came in large numbers. If it had not been for the presence of officers of the kilties with two pipers on a search for recruits the gathering would have been almost without interest except for the thrifty farmers who competed for the money prizes. Produce showed up well but the live stock entries were not perhaps as well filled as in former years.

Among the judges and others who attended the fair or the Agricultural Society's dinner at the Ben Lomond House which followed were: Commissioner McLellan, Commissioner Fisher, Alexander Campbell, James H. Pullen, L. R. Ross, J. King Kelly, county secretary; John Kelly, J. C. Chesley, Lt.-Col. J. M. Morgan, Major J. A. Legere, second in command of 168th; Major C. J. Morgan, Sgt. Wilkison, a Deputy Mayor and Crouwell, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jackson, Mrs. F. E. Williams, Hecley V. Dickson, M. L. A. J. W. A. Dixon, W. S. Harding, Frank V. Hann, William J. Ryan, Walter E. Foster, E. S. Carter, and Mrs. R. P. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. O'Neill, Misses Gorman and O'Neill, Miss Margaret McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Coles and Miss Coles.

A dance was ended in the evening with the recruiting party of the 28th making a most stirring appeal.

St. Martins Fair

The annual fair held at St. Martins yesterday was also eminently successful. The weather conditions were most propitious and at an early hour large numbers began to arrive from adjacent country sections, many of them exhibitors, although quite a few came to view the splendid exhibits that had been entered in the various classes.

Men well qualified to judge and who have been attending the fair in former years had no hesitancy in stating that the exhibits in many instances were superior to those heretofore shown. The live stock exhibit was particularly good and many fine horses were shown while the cattle exhibit could hardly have been excelled at a provincial exhibition. There were many entries in the poultry class. Herbert Sherwood was judge in the cattle division while M. A. McLeod, of the Maritime Farmer, had his hands full looking after the comparative virtues of the splendid vegetable exhibits. From every standpoint the fair was a genuine success. W. E. Foster, of St. John, was one of the visitors.

FOR RED CROSS ON TRAFALGAR DAY

All churches and patriotic societies in St. John will be asked to contribute toward the British Red Cross funds for a Trafalgar collection to be taken up as near the date of Oct. 19 as possible. This was decided at a meeting of clergymen and prominent ladies of the city, called at the direction of Mr. Hayes, and held in his office yesterday afternoon.

It was felt that time was too short to perfect or even arrange any sort of an organization to raise funds, and it was accordingly decided to take the method of appealing to the people through the medium of the churches and the patriotic societies.

The secretary of the meeting, R. E. Armstrong, read a communication from the Canadian Red Cross Society, saying it would contribute \$10,000 toward the fund, but felt that it could not take active part in any of the work. Mayor Hayes said that he hoped the society would be able to get along without any grant from the city. Last year it donated \$1,000 toward the fund, and has already this year given \$5,000 to the British Sailors' Relief Fund.

Very Rev. J. J. Walsh favored an organization, but the time was deemed too short, and it was finally moved by Rev. L. R. Sherman that grants be asked from congregations and from patriotic societies. This seemed to meet with general approval and the motion was passed. Mr. Armstrong will draw up an appeal and forward it to pastors and patriotic organizations at once.

The following clergymen were present: Father Walsh, Father Duke, Father McMurray, Rev. J. A. MacKeigan, Rev. F. W. Thompson, Rev. F. S. Dowling, Rev. J. A. Morrison, D. Rev. G. F. Scott, Rev. L. R. Sherman, Rev. W. G. Lane, Rev. F. H. Wentworth, Rev. J. C. B. Appel and Rev. J. H. Jenner. The ladies who attended included: Mrs. J. V. Anglin, Mrs. G. K. McLeod, Mrs. J. B. Travers, Mrs. H. C. Schofield, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Miss Cudlip, Mrs. V. H. Shaw, Miss Fairweather, Miss Lois Grimmer, Mrs. James L. McAvity, Miss Clara Schofield, and Miss Doris DeVeber.

ONE MORE STORY OF CANADIAN PLUCK AT COURCELLETTE TAKING

London, Oct. 11—(Montreal Gazette Cable)—Lieut. Hiltz, of Kingsport (N. S.), who was recently seen in hospital here by the Gazette representative mentioned that he was one of the first

British soldiers to enter the main street of Courcellette.

Since then the Gazette correspondent has learned from another officer that Lieut. Hiltz headed a small party sent in advance when they suddenly found themselves surrounded by a battalion of the enemy. They at once made a charge,

and succeeded in dispersing or capturing the Germans. The latter, thinking that the main Canadian force must be close at hand, were completely bluffed, and expressed bitter chagrin when they realized that their whole battalion had been put to flight by a mere handful of Canadians.

"Young man, did you kiss my daughter in a hall last night?" said the girl's mother sternly.

"I thought I did," said the young man promptly. "But really you look so young that I can't always tell you apart."

The impending storm did not burst.

**THE elegant art of cookery,
Is a bride's perpetual
dower,
If she shows her perspicacity
By the use of Purity Flour.**

PURITY FLOUR
More Bread and Better Bread

**Penman's
Sweater-coats**
THE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

THERE'S a jaunty about a Penman Sweater Coat that suggests country lanes, cross country walks and country air. The very feel of one perks your head up, and seems to put a spring in your heel. Put one on, turn your face to the open, tuck your hair securely under last year's hat, whistle up Towser— you're off.

Penman's Limited
Paris

also makers of
Underwear & Hosiery

Made in Canada

IT is true that Ivory Soap is used for laundry purposes. But the kind of laundry purposes for which it is used is just another proof of its excellence for your bath and toilet. For Ivory washes safely the exquisite linens and laces, the gossamer-like silks, the delicately colored materials that you would not dare risk to the average toilet soap.

In other words, Ivory Soap is the mildest, purest, best soap for the bath and toilet that you can buy.

IVORY SOAP
99 44/100% PURE

Procter & Gamble Factories
in Hamilton, Canada

5c

"Give me
WRIGLEY
1-2-3-4-5."

"Drop a nickel,
please—on the
counter in the
little corner store—
it's sold everywhere."

WRIGLEY'S

the largest
selling gum in the world.
Because it benefits while it gives the
longest-lasting pleasure for the price.

**Chew it
after
every
meal**

Made in Canada

Write Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co., Ltd., Wrigley Building, Toronto, for the Sprigley Spearmen's funny Mother Goose book.

C45