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FAIR AND WARMER

THREE CENTS

New Brunswick Rejoices Today in the Homecoming of its Gallant Soldiers

THE BOYS IN HALIFAX

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., May 16—New Brunswick's own Fighting 26th Battalion got an advance idea of their welcome in St. John tomorrow when, in the clear sunshine of this afternoon, it witnessed the grand ovation given to the 25th by the people of Halifax. Due to fog, the floating city, S. S. Olyn, did not dock until afternoon, thus giving the citizens an excellent opportunity to secure advantageous positions to view the parade of the 25th, and send greetings to the other fighting men on board. The liner, with 5,200 passengers, moved slowly to her berth amid the thunderous cheers from the troops and the people on the dock. Heads were thrust out of every port hole, and the three decks were masses of khaki-clad heroes. Several pipe bands and the Halifax garrison band furnished an excellent programme during the time occupied by the docking of the vessel and the debarkation of the home unit. The Twenty-fifth Battalion was the first off the ship and was greeted with wild applause. The route from the gang plank to the shed exit was lined with matted and maimed ex-members of the battalion, and "Hello Bill," "Welcome Home," "Put 'er There, Jack," and other greetings were the order of the day. Shortly after four o'clock the 25th got away and paraded through the decorated city and the garrison in the final public review.

The 26th Battalion was the last unit to leave the vessel, being preceded by the 22nd, 24th, 29th, Royal Mounted Police, Second Field Ambulance, Second Divisional Ammunition Column and lesser details.

Glad To Be Home.

"The boys are overjoyed to be back in dear old Canada again," declared Lieut.-Col. Brown, D. S. O., commander of the Fighting 26th, to The Standard, as he stood watching the mustering of his men preparatory to making the long-looked-for return to St. John. "Ever since the fateful 11th of November, we have been looking forward to this day and, to a man, each heart is hungering for his home." "What are they going to do to us in St. John," was the general query from the boys, and after being told of the planned program the word went around the ranks that Saturday would be some day for the battalion as well as for the city.

The Twenty-sixth is returning with five originals among the officers—Lieut.-Col. Brown, D. S. O. and Bar; Major (Sandy) MacMillan, D. S. O.; Major Pringle, M. C.; Major Lawson, M. C. and Major Birrell, M. C.

There are one hundred and thirty-five other ranks who are original members of the unit.

The returning men have won two D. S. O.s, a bar to the D. S. O., two bars to the M. C., 14 M. C.'s, 30 D. C. M.'s, 172 M. M.'s, and five M. S.'s.

The last "show" of the battalion was at Quiverein, Belgium, on the 8th of November, which was an absolute walk-over for the unit. Later, at Wasmes, the unit helped pave the way to the famous entrance of Mons, which was completed by the 3rd division.

Leaving Mons after the signing of the armistice, the unit went to France and later marched to Germany, crossed the Rhine a few days before Christmas and remained in Germany until January 22.

The outstanding war record of the 26th is the fact that it played a very important part in the push at Amiens last year, conceded by all experts to be the greatest advance of the whole war.

In the ages of men and officers it is one of the youngest Canadian units. The battalion had a splendid farewell at Southampton, marked by speeches from General Bursfield, O. C. 5th Infantry Brigade, the Lord Mayor, and splendid music by a local military band, one of the crack bunch of musicians in the 26th organization. Titter lack of the typical British reserve marked the departure of the Olympic from Southampton.

THE SOLDIER SETTLEMENT BOARD.

The Qualification Committee of the Settlement Board will meet in the office on the top floor of the new Post Office Building, St. John, N. B., every Friday in May. Applicants for loans should appear in person before this committee.

First train due 8.15 a.m. with Divisional Ammunition Column and 'A' Company 26th
Second train due 8.35 a.m. with remainder of the 26th Battalion



Photo of officers of 26th Batt. taken at Hauteville near Arras in July 1918 just previous to battle of Amiens while batt. was in rest billets.



Top Row—Lieut. Paton, M. C., Lieut. Benn, M. C., Lieut. B. Murray, M. C., Lieut. now Capt. Sharpe, M. C., Lieut. Simmonds, Lieut. Doucette, (killed), Lieut. Corey (killed), Lieut. Donald, Lieut. McQuade, Lieut. Mersereau (killed), Lieut. Coles, Lieut. Strong, M. C.
Centre Row—Lieut. Dawson (killed), Lieut. now Capt. Buchanan, M. C., Lieut. Henderson, M. C., Lieut. Armstrong, Lieut. Grannan, Lieut. H. Palmer, Lt. MacGowan, Capt. Stewart, M. C. (attached), Capt. McDougall, M. C., Capt. Reny McKay (killed), Lieut. Kelly, M. C.
Sitting—Capt. Cook, Rev. Major McGillivray, M. C., Capt. Coater, Capt. Ashford, Capt. Moore, Major Porter, D. S. O., 2nd in command, Lieut.-Col. A. E. G. MacKenzie, D. S. O., officer commanding, (killed), Capt. R. A. Major, M. C., adjutant, Capt. Campbell (killed), Capt. Shand, M. C., Major Pringle, M. C., quartermaster, Capt. Hoff, paymaster, Capt. Hines, M. C., medical officer.

TODAY'S RECEPTION

Troop trains carrying the 26th Battalion and the Ammunition Column are due to arrive in St. John this morning between eight and nine o'clock. According to latest advices received last night, the first train carrying the Ammunition Column and members of "A" Company of the 26th Battalion will arrive at eight fifteen daylight time, and the second train with the remainder of the 26th, twenty minutes later. Those troops arriving on the first train will remain in the depot until the second detachment arrives.

After the customary welcome by the soldiers' reception committee the whole parade will form and march to King Square where the welcome of the city and province will be extended. Immediately thereafter all the men of the two corps who so desire will march to the armories where breakfast has been arranged by the Knights of Columbus. Following breakfast the St. John members will disperse to their homes and those from outside points will receive the necessary papers and instructions and be permitted to proceed to their various destinations without unnecessary delay.

On leaving the depot the parade will march in the following order:

Order of March

- Mounted Police.
- Squad Police.
- Depot Band.
- Bugle Band.
- War Veterans.
- D. A. C. Veterans.
- 26th Veterans.
- Mayor, Commissioners and Civic Committee.
- 26th Battalion Brass Band.
- Brig.-Gen. Macdonnell, C. M. G., D. S. O., G. O. C., M. D. 7.
- 26th Bn. N. B. Regiment with Temple Band between "B" and "C" Companies.
- City Cornet Band.
- Divisional Ammunition Column.

This parade will pass by way of Mill, Dock, King and Charlotte streets to the south side of King Square forming up in front of the reviewing stand which faces the Imperial. On arriving addresses of welcome not exceeding two minutes in length will be made to the men by Mayor Hayes, Lieut.-Governor Pugsley, Premier Foster and Gen. A. H. Macdonnell, while it is expected that brief replies will be heard from Lieut.-Colonel Brown of the 26th and Lieut.-Colonel Harrison of the Ammunition Column.

During the progress of the parade members of the Cadet Corps will line both sides of King street while the Boy Scouts will look after Market St. and the foot of King street. The public will not be permitted inside the train shed at the depot because of the congestion which will result through over-crowding, nor will automobiles or vehicles of any description be permitted on the route of the parade. The troops will march in column of sections instead of in fours and the public are requested to permit sufficient free space in the centre of the streets to prevent crowding.

Perhaps never in its history has St. John been so elaborately decorated as today. King street from top to bottom is a blaze of color and on many of the buildings the designs are especially attractive. Flags and bunting, regimental designs and notices of greeting are everywhere. In addition to the business houses, public buildings have been given attention and on the depot itself the work is extremely effective. Perhaps the finest display of all is that on the McMillan building on Prince William street, where members of "The Staff" have gone to a great deal of trouble in their efforts to extend a striking welcome to their chief, Major Alexander McMillan.

The return of these two corps has been the sole topic of conversation during the entire week and the probabilities are that there will be such a turnout of citizens to welcome our men as has never been equaled.

C. P. R. SUBURBAN.

On Saturday the C. P. R. suburban due to leave the city at 6.10 p.m. (daylight) will be cancelled. In its place suburban will be operated leaving city at 10.15 p.m. (daylight). This change in order to comply with wishes of suburbanites.