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## Pte. Smithson of Pats Arrive Home

Ottawa Member of Splendid  
Regiment Wounded in the  
Head—Some Experiences

Private George A. T. Smithson of 77 Victoria Street, Ottawa, one of the few remaining of the gallant Princess Patricia's, has arrived home with a bullet wound in his left temple which he received in the trenches on January 26th at Ypres. Since that time Pte. Smithson has been in half a dozen hospitals in Belgium, France, and Britain, leaving Newcastle-on-Tyne on June 13th for Canada. To the Ottawa Citizen Private Smithson related some of his experiences.

Private Smithson was asked about the casualties in the Princess Patricia's. "So far as I know," he said, "there is only one officer, Capt. Papineau of Montreal, and thirty or forty n.c.o.s and men left of the old regiment which left Ottawa last year. At present the regiment is at Rouen, refitting for further duties."

**Concrete Trenches.**  
Another statement of Pte. Smithson of outstanding interest is that the Germans have three lines of concrete trenches across Belgium, which have been laid for many months. This information was conveyed to Pte. Smithson and a group of Canadians by a wounded German officer two hours before he died. "The country is mined everywhere," continued Pte. Smithson. "We shall never take Belgium. The officer stated that the concrete trenches had been built by Belgian and British prisoners. But Belgium seems a dead country. It is devastated and no one here can remotely imagine what that country is like, and I am afraid it cannot be cleared of the enemy."

**Can't Describe.**  
Private Smithson was asked to describe the trench warfare. His reply was that it would be like telling a blind man about colors. "There is nothing to compare with it," he said.

Pte. Smithson was shot in the head by a German sniper. The bullet scraped its way and slightly injured the skull, which has affected the left side of the body. It was with satisfaction that Pte. Smithson stated the same German sniper who "got" him was killed fifteen minutes later by one of the Pats.

**Conditions Severe.**  
The Pats first entered the trenches about the night of December 28th. They stayed there three days. The casualties on that occasion were not heavy, but the water was up to their waists, and the mud at the bottom above their ankles. They cut off the skirts of their great coats to relieve the burden of the accumulated mud and water, and it took the regiment four hours to walk one mile back to quarters that day. All they had to eat was cheese and jam, there was not a bit of bread or biscuit.

**Intricate Moves.**  
On one occasion an incident happened which illustrates the intricacies of trench fighting. The company was ordered into trench C3. About twenty of the Pats went to take positions in this trench, but afterwards discovered that they were in a German trench. The net result was that they captured six of the enemy and occupied the trench.

"The allied machine guns are as good as the Germans," said Private Smithson. "But they beat us in heavy artillery. The commander of a machine gun squad has about the most dangerous 'post possible' for the moment a machine gun opens fire the first thing that is done is for the artillery to silence it—in other words, wipe out men, machine and all."

One night Private Smithson read Dumas' Chicot the Jester under a field carriage. The next day he said tons and tons of metal were pounded into that field but an hour and a half after the regiment had moved south.

**Lucky Thirteen.**  
A most interesting circumstance regarding Private Smithson's exploits was the recurrence of the number 13. He believes it a lucky number now. His regimental number is 1313. He was wounded on Jan. 26, went to No. 13 base hospital on train No. 13, occupied No. 13 bed in Bristol, England, hospital, was discharged and left for Canada on June 13.

He was in hospital at Vermicelle, Dickenbushe, Baillieu, Boulogne, Bristol and Newcastle-on-Tyne. The P.P.C.L.I. brigade headquarters were at Dickenbushe. General French's headquarters are not far from here, but the general was only seen on one occasion.

Private Smithson recalled with pleasure the treat they had on Christmas day when Mrs. Hamilton Gault, sent them each a Christmas pudding. When at Plymouth the whole regi-

## Not Inclined To Talk Peace

But Miss Jane Addams  
Thinks Warring Nations  
Approachable by Neutrals

New York, July 9.—Miss Jane Addams, chairman of the International Congress of Women for Peace, that met at The Hague in April last, and who headed the delegations appointed at the conference to visit various countries on a peace mission, arrived here to-day on the steamship St. Louis from Liverpool.

Miss Addams declared that the people of the warring nations were in a mood to consider terms of peace, but that negotiations must come from neutrals and the longer they were delayed, the harder would be the task of restoring peace. Since the adjournment of the conference, with other delegates she visited most of the countries at war, met and talked with leading civil and military officials and sounded each on the prospects of peace.

"The nations at war," said Miss Addams, "have no choice but to go on. No negotiations can now be suggested by any of them without giving the appearance of weakness, and none of the nations as yet feel inclined to talk peace."

## Zeppelins Drop Papers On Ireland

A sensation was caused at Athlone in the centre of Ireland, on a recent Saturday night, when a giant Zeppelin passed over the town.

There was a panic at first, but when instead of bombs the flying machine dropped great bundles of literature and placards marked "Greetings to Ireland," the feelings of the people can better be imagined than described. Thousands of circulars telling of the defeats of the English on land and sea and the "defeat of the Allies at the Dardanelles" and the revolt in India were showered all over the district and elsewhere towards the West Coast. The police and military authorities made a wild rush to seize the literature before it got to the people.



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(The Senior Dentist)

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READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

ment was invited to the home of Gen. Pole-Carew, of South African War fame.

## CHURCH UNION IS LIVE ISSUE

Circular Letter Issued By  
Executive Committee of  
the Opponents of Move

The vote on church union will be taken in all the Presbyterian churches in Canada next winter. The ballots will be furnished by the general assembly and all members and adherents will have an opportunity to vote. Each congregation will arrange for the voting among its own people.

The executive of the organization in the Presbyterian church opposed to church union has issued a statement as the result of a recent meeting in Toronto in which it states that the big vote in the assembly on the resolution in favor of the people having another opportunity to vote on the question did not necessarily mean that this majority was in favor of church union. It claims also that a confidential letter sent out by friends of church union to different people warning them to see that the church union sentiment was fairly represented in the general assembly by selecting commissioners favorable to the union, may have affected the composition of the assembly.

**Not Vote on Union.**  
The statement includes the following:

"Inasmuch as the recent vote in the Presbyterian general assembly has been claimed as a great advance in favor of church union, the executive resolved to lay before the people the two following facts regarding the assembly and its vote.

"It was not simply a vote upon union, but a vote as to whether the question of union should be now dropped or again sent to the people for their judgment.

"Some hold that as the people have already expressed their judgment, only about one-fourth of the membership (twenty-seven per cent.) voting for union on the proposed basis, with a large and strong opposition, the church should not be again put to the unrest and cost of another vote.

"Others, even of those opposed to union, think it well that people should again vote, and some members of assembly, opposed to union, voted with the majority, to send the question again to the people. This was one cause of the large majority.

**Selecting Delegates.**

"A second fact bearing upon the assembly and its vote is the confidential letter sent out five months ago, by the leaders of church union, to some friends in the different Presbyteries of the church."

The confidential letter is published in the statement and includes the following paragraphs:

"It was, moreover, thought that it would be important for the friends of union in the Presbyterian to be on their guard against any attempt to pack the assembly.

"It is not for a moment suggested that the opponents of union be deprived of their fair share of representation, but it is held to be important in view of the vote which is likely before long to be taken that the church at large be not puzzled or misled by an abnormally large opposition in the assembly.

"Will you, then, along with any others whose co-operation you may think desirable, be quickly on the watch in order to make certain that the union sentiment in your Presbytery may be fairly represented by your commissioners?"

**Caustic Comment.**

Referring to this letter, the statement says:

"Some questions naturally arise, e.g.: What effect had that letter upon the composition of the assembly and its vote? Are such methods to be commended? Does a right cause require them? Are such methods an indication of the 'new estimate of values,' the 'broadened outlook,' the 'wider vision,' the 'higher life,' and 'sublime reality,' to which these men are calling our church?"

"This executive has never had any previous knowledge or experience of such methods, but is of opinion that they will be disapproved by most men and women, within and without the church; and that those who purpose continuing the Presbyterian church will be confirmed in the assurance that they are doing right, and will be more than ever resolved to have no part in a uniformity movement outlined and carried out by such methods of leadership and work."

The statement is signed by T. Wardlaw Taylor, secretary of the executive.

Some men manage to make a little noise in the world by rattling their ancestors' bones.

# Anderson's Great Removal Notice.

THIS week we are busy removing our complete stock of dry goods from the Old Stand at Grace Building to our New Modern Store—one of the best lighted stores in the city—just opposite the Eastern End of the General Post Office.

By Saturday, July 10th, we hope to be ready to meet our Customers in the New Store, but of course it will take a few days before our stock will be thoroughly arranged, therefore we will ask you to overlook any inattention on our part during our removal days? Come and see us in the New Store.

Anderson's, Water Street, St. John's.

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- 5 cases STRAWBERRY PULP.
- 5 cases APPLE PULP.
- 5 cases GOOSEBERRY.
- 25 cases PEELED and CORED APPLES, 1 gallon tins, at 35c. tin.
- 2 cases CRYSTALLIZED GINGER, 1lb. & 1/2lb tins.
- 1 case PARROT FOOD.

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