

MILITARY EXPERT TELLS HOW WAR CAN BE WON; ALLIES HAVE MAN-POWER

Nearly 4,000,000 Men Still in Civil Life in Britain.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The Times' military correspondent today calls for greater British effort in the war. He contends that although the French are still strong, their reserves are less numerous than could be wished for. Russia, he adds, will bring new armies into the field in 1917, but their usefulness depends on their being provided with heavy guns, airplanes and mechanical transports, while Russia's poor railway systems and other causes point to the necessity of not exaggerating what Russia can do.

Italy, says the correspondent, cannot easily increase her forces appreciably. After admitting that Great Britain has done a big share in the work at sea and financed and equipped the Entente Allies, the correspondent continues:

Can Have 30 Divisions. "There are a number of changes to be effected before we can say we are winning the war. Germany met us in the autumn with 27 new divisions, and thereby secured a strategic reserve which enabled her to conduct the campaign in Rumania without disaster in

the west. We must not only counter dispositions of this character in time, but must be beforehand in the future. The reserves of manhood in the British Isles and dominions are ample for 30 divisions, to expand munition works and to meet all legitimate demands of the navy, the home defence and air services. Nearly four million men of military age are still in civil life. The limit for age liability is still far below the German standard, and no answer has yet been made to the German auxiliary service act.

Allies Have Man-Power. "What is needed is vigor in the Government and a single-handed determination to win the war. We have a larger reserve of manhood than Germany, and the annual contingent of youths in France and England together are greater than the annual contingents in Germany. It is no longer possible to think of winning the war by self-insurance. The new premier should state to the country the measures necessary for victory, and stand or fall by them with the courage we know him to possess."

Merchants Were Fined. BRANTFORD, Dec. 23.—Seventeen Colborne street businessmen were in police court today, charged with a violation of the snow bylaw. In each case the minimum fine of \$1 was imposed. Indignation and comments as to highway robbery had no effect on the police, who are waging a systematic campaign to clear the sidewalks free from snow and ice.

AMHERSTBURG RECRUITING STAFF, WHICH HAS MADE FINE RECORD



STANDING—Sergeant G. S. Craig, Sergeant A. W. Allcorn, Sergeant C. J. Erice, Sergeant F. H. James, Sergeant M. Morgan, SEATED—H. W. Severson, Major T. B. Balfour, Sergeant Major J. G. Brown.

EXCELLENT RECRUITING WORK DONE BY MAJOR BALFOUR AND STAFF IN WINDSOR DISTRICT

Since Beginning of War, 3,602 Men Have Been Enlisted Through This Organization, Going to Various Battalions Raised in Military District No. 1.

Perhaps few people in the County of Essex, military district No. 1, or the Province of Ontario, have any idea of the number of recruits who have been secured, attested and passed through the Amherstburg recruiting depot, to be sent on to join the various regiments and units in military district No. 1 and other military districts in the Dominion of Canada, since August 4, 1914.

When the first call to arms came, and with it the first call for men for the Canadian army, Major Balfour put on his uniform and received orders from Ottawa to recruit 77 men for the 1st Hussars detachment, who later were to form part of the 1st Battalion, C. E. F., and to be ready to move on a moment's notice. With the assistance of Lieut. L. M. Thomas, now Major Thomas, Lieut. J. P. Tashan and Lieut. R. A. Reame, all belonging to C Squadron, 1st Hussars, 80 men were recruited, passed by the medical doctor and sworn in at Amherstburg in four and a half days. These men came from Amherstburg, Windsor, Leamington, Comber, and also a few American citizens from Detroit, Mich. They mobilized at Amherstburg to await orders, and on the eighteenth day of August they proceeded to Valcartier Camp, Quebec, in command of their Lieut. Thomas, who had signed up himself, and, accompanied by Lieut. Reame and Tashan, who had also signed up as privates to take their chance with the same unit.

Went After Horses.

Major Balfour then devoted his time in doing a quiet campaign finding out prospects for more recruits in his district and also assisting the Government horse buyers under Sir Adam Beck in bringing together some of the best horses in the county to be used for the Canadian army. This work done by him was done free for the period of four months. When the 1st Battalion, C. E. F., was authorized in the late fall of 1914, Major Balfour recruited and secured a number of recruits for that unit. On January 10, 1915, Major Balfour was given command of B Squadron, 7th C. M. R., and ordered to recruit his squadron with full establishment.

ment. He at once organized it, and with the assistance of Capt. R. Hillier, his second in command, the squadron was brought up to strength (166 men) in the short space of nine days. Lieut. Corwin H. Thomas and E. B. Balfour assisted greatly in the recruiting, and they joined the squadron later as privates. A few men for this squadron came from Courtright, Ingersoll and Petrolia. Every town, village and hamlet in the County of Essex contributed some men to this squadron, and the city of Windsor was pretty well represented, and in addition there were also ten United States men in the organization, but the squadron was principally of Amherstburg's native sons and the immediate vicinity. This squadron, after staying in Amherstburg for a few days, proceeded to London and mobilized with the rest of the 7th C. M. R. Regiment there.

Major Balfour, in command of his own squadron, took it to England, and after a few days there it was split up into drafts at Canterbury, and he then went to France for a short period, finally being ordered back to Canada for duty there, and was in charge of all returned officers and men on the steamer back. One month after arrival in Canada he was authorized to take command and recruit a squadron of the Depot Regiment, C. M. R.'s of Eastern Canada, which period he completed in eleven days, 216 men being recruited in that time, over one-third of them coming from Essex County, a good portion of them from various towns in military district No. 1. While at this recruiting, an order was also secured for the 43rd Battalion, C. E. F., and the 43rd Battalion, C. E. F., by Major Balfour. The command of this squadron was under Major Balfour for some time, and he was largely responsible for its efficiency, and the class of men who were enlisted with him would do credit to any military organization.

Has All Nationalities.

On April 30, 1916, Major Balfour was transferred back from military district No. 2 to military district No. 1 for the purpose of going on recruiting work, and since that time and up until the present time he has recruited, with the assistance of his recruiting sergeants, the big majority of the large total of men that were secured for all branches of the service on land, and also a percentage enlisted for the Royal Naval Reserve and the Royal Flying Corps. These men who enlisted in the period have come from all over Essex County and from different parts of the Province of Ontario, some representatives from every province in the Dominion, representatives from every state in the United States, Englishmen, Scotsmen, Irishmen, Welshmen, men from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, Belgians, Serbians, Italians, Russians, Rumanians, Greeks and a goodly number of colored men from Canada and the United States. The town of Amherstburg and the farming community in the immediate vicinity have sent 385 native-born sons to the front alone since the war began.

A Fine Record.

Since the beginning of the war in 1914, Major Balfour and his recruiting staff have recruited 3,602 men, and out of that big total 14 men only have failed to pass the required medical examination. During the months of May and June, 1916, the average number of recruits obtained was sixteen men per day, and August 1915, 21 men per day. These were the three best months on record for the Amherstburg Recruiting Depot, but the red letter day was August 4, when 31 Greeks signed on blue and five other recruits besides. A large part of the responsibility for securing recruits falls to Major Balfour's recruiting staff and sergeants, who at all times work to the best interests of the cause and who followed out Major Balfour's system of securing men, which was conducted as a business proposition and more of an appeal to the men than a persuasion. These recruiting sergeants work from 6 a.m. till 9 and 10 p.m. without a trundle or a kick, and Major Balfour himself is on the job every day from 8 a.m. till 1 a.m., the next morning, and when he applied to headquarters at Ottawa for a commissioned officer to assist him in his headquarters refused to allow it, as it was too expensive, notwithstanding the fact that Major Balfour has secured the large number of men he has. The 99th Battalion, C. E. F., also secured 70 men in the town of Amherstburg while stationed there.

The recruiting staff has been changed from time to time, as members of it either enlisted for overseas service or were able to secure a more remunerative position. The splendid work done by Lieut. J. E. McQueen and Sergeant Major J. G. Brown of the original recruiting staff brought most creditable results, and their faithful work was instrumental in securing a good share of the recruits obtained. Sergeant A. W. Allcorn also did splendid work while a member of the recruiting staff. The other members of the recruiting staff with Major Balfour from time to time were: Sergeant C. J. Erice, Sergeant A. E. Day, Sergeant H. W. Severson, Sergeant T. Carter, Sergeant G. B. Mulholland, Sergeant R. A. C. Oile, Sergeant R. M. Sales, Corporal A. McKenzil, Corporal H. Williams, Corporal R. W. Stebbins. These did valuable work in recruiting,

and while on the staff were responsible for a part of Major Balfour's success. The present men, under Major Balfour, Sergeant G. S. Craig, Sergeant M. Morgan, Sergeant A. J. Hamilton, and Corporal C. C. Trotter are making things go and are keeping up the good work and are recruiting with splendid success, 42 men being obtained for the week ending December 9, 1916, and 14 men for the 11th day of December, and recruits are still being secured. This staff is always cheerful and contented, and does its work with perfect harmony.

An Old Soldier. Major Balfour has been a soldier for 25 years continuously, and understands the handling of men and, besides serving in this war, he has served through the South African war in the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles. He first joined the 10th Field Battery, C. F. A., when 14 years old, and served nine years in that corps. He served 14 years in the 1st Hussars, and now commands C Squadron in that same unit, and has been in uniform since the present war began. He comes from military stock, his grandfather, Col. T. Broadhead, being in command of the Michigan Cavalry in the American Civil War. He is a son of the late D. W. Balfour, and a Scotch-Canadian by descent, and a Roman Catholic by religion. He is well known to the militia people all over Canada, and has always commanded the respect of all who served under him, and all the men he was responsible for enlisting since the present war began.

The units to whom the recruits have been sent since the war began are as follows: 1st Battalion, C. E. F.; 18th Battalion, C. E. F.; 23rd Battalion, C. E. F.; 7th Battalion, C. E. F.; 17th Canadian Mounted Rifles; Depot Regiment Canadian Mounted Rifles; Royal Canadian Dragoons; 55th Battery, C. E. F.; 3rd Battery, C. E. F.; 63rd Battery, C. E. F.; C. F. A.; Detached Dragoon Cyclists Corps, London; Canadian Army Service Corps, embracing Mechanical Transport, Horse Transport, Clerks, etc.; Canadian Engineers; Army Medical Corps and Field Ambulance; 91st Battalion, C. E. F.; 99th Battalion, C. E. F.; 241st Battalion, C. E. F.; 171st Battalion, C. E. F., Quebec; 19th Battalion, C. E. F., Montreal; 142nd Battalion, C. E. F.; 123rd Battalion, C. E. F.; 178th Battalion, C. E. F., Montreal; 16th Battalion, C. E. F.; 21st Battalion, C. E. F.; 23rd Battalion, C. E. F.; 28th Forestry Battalion, C. E. F., Ottawa; 32nd Forestry Battalion, C. E. F., Montreal; 230th Forestry Battalion, C. E. F., Montreal; 23rd Railway Construction Battalion, C. E. F., Windsor, N. S.; No. 2 Construction Battalion (colored men's unit), C. E. F.; Royal Signalling Corps at Rockville, Ont.; the Royal Flying Corps, and the Royal Canadian Naval Reserves. Each and every one of these units has benefited by recruits from the Amherstburg Recruiting Depot, and Major Balfour's labor and success in securing men.

Major Balfour and his staff are still recruiting for all branches of the service and securing recruits every day. His headquarters are at Amherstburg, Ont., and he also has an office at C Company room, the armories, Windsor, Ont., where men can present themselves for enlistment, or by word of letter will be answered promptly, giving all information. The photograph is of the organized recruiting staff of the Amherstburg Recruiting Depot taken on the 1st of October last, and that staff with the present one now working with Major Balfour is responsible for the successful campaign and the securing of the large numbers of recruits who have been obtained in the last seven months and a half.

Of those who have worked on the Amherstburg recruiting staff since it was organized, J. E. McQueen is now a captain overseas in the Naval Base Patrol, G. B. Mulholland is a lieutenant in the 19th Battalion in France, R. M. Sales is a lieutenant in the 241st Battalion in England and France. Threat of the men who served as sergeants or corporals on the staff later joined the C. E. F., and have gone to join units, and the present staff is signed up and sworn in with the 1st Hussars to work on the Amherstburg recruiting staff, but may later decide to join some C. E. F. unit.

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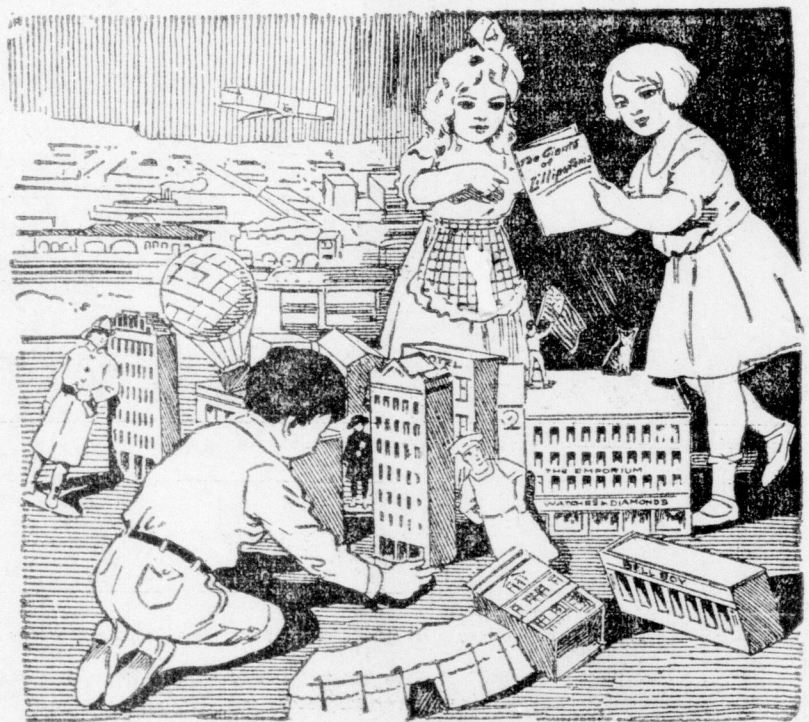
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