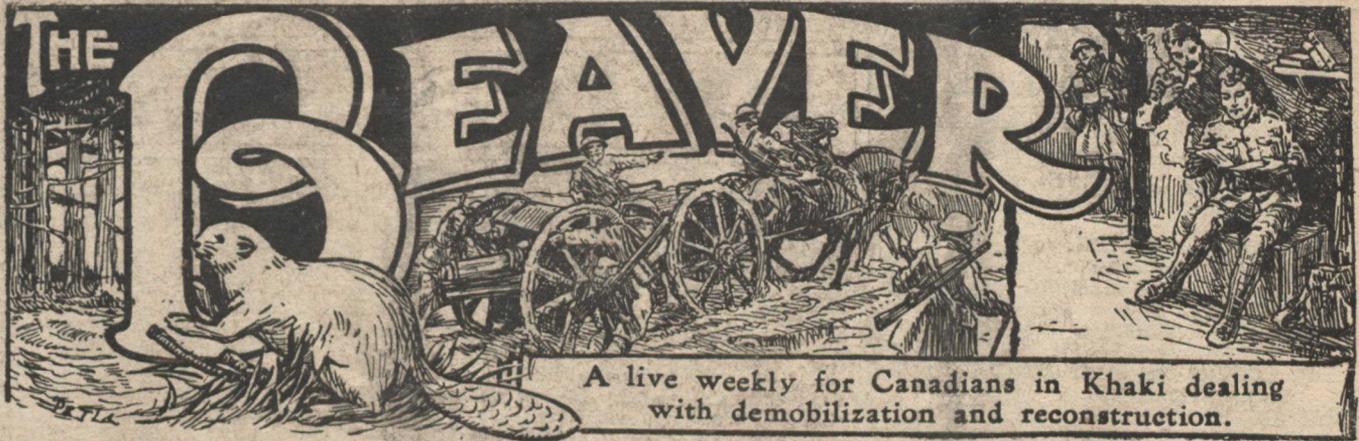


THE PAPER WITH SNAP IN IT!



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CONTEMPT OF DANGER.

THE Victoria Cross was awarded to Lieut.-Colonel G. R. Pearkes, of the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles, for most conspicuous bravery and skilful handling of the troops under his command during the capture and consolidation of considerably more than the objectives allotted to him, in an attack.

Just prior to the advance, Major Pearkes, as he then was, was wounded in the left thigh. Regardless of his wound, he continued to lead his men with the utmost gallantry, despite many obstacles.

At a particular stage of the attack his further advance was threatened by a strong point which was an objective of the battalion on his left, but which they had not succeeded in capturing. Quickly appreciating the situation, he captured and held this point, thus enabling his further advance to be successfully pushed forward.

It was entirely due to his determination and fearless personality that he was able to maintain his objective with the small number of men at his command against repeated counter attacks, both his flanks being unprotected for a considerable depth meanwhile.

His appreciation of the situation throughout and



the reports rendered by him were invaluable to his Commanding Officer in making dispositions of troops to hold the position captured.

He showed throughout a supreme contempt of danger and wonderful powers of control and leading.

Lieut.-Col. G. R. Pearkes is also the holder of the M.C.

"The Gazette," referring to the deed for which he received the Military Cross, says that this officer handled his battalion in a masterly manner, and, with an enveloping movement, completely baffled and overcame the enemy, who were in a very strong position. He then captured a wood, the final objective, which was about 5,000 yards from the start.

Before this, however, the men were becoming exhausted, on observing which he at once went into the attack himself, and, by his splendid and fearless example, put new life into the whole attack, which went forward with a rush and captured 16 enemy guns of all calibres up to 8 inches.

Canadians have shown military qualities of the highest order, and it is one of the glories of Empire that so many men from overseas shone so conspicuously in individual deeds.

Beaver Gallery : No. 22.—Lt.-Col. G. R. PEARKES, V.C., M.C., 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles.