

## LETTERS FROM OVERSEAS

England, July 11th 1917.  
My Dear Mother:—

I am well and hope you are all the same. All the 235th Battalion is broken up and drafted into two Battalions. There are a few left here at Sandling Camp. I hope to be home to you some day sooner or later. I expect to go up to London next Monday on leave. Tell Lillian I will send her a present when I take my trip to London. I am looking forward to a good time. Mother, don't be fretting about me for I am all right and having a good time. We are all jolly soldier boys, set out to do our duty and work for God and King and Empire. Mother, please write often and tell me all the news. A nice lady from Ottawa wrote me a letter. I answered it yesterday.

The weather has been very dry and hot since we arrived here but it is cooler now and we have had some rain. Crops are looking fairly well here in England, how are the crops looking at home? My dear Mother, I did not expect to leave so soon, but we have got a call to go to France tomorrow, in a draft to a labor battalion. I will write from there. Don't fret or worry, Mother, about me for I am feeling fine and in good spirits and good health and I will get along all right. Good-bye, Mother, for this time and God bless you till we meet again, from your loving son

Pte. R. B. Mitts,  
No. 102753 No. 1 Co., No. 2 Platoon,  
c/o Army P. O. LONDON, ENG.

Dear sister Emma:—

I received your letter of June 28th and was very glad to hear from you. How are you getting along? I often wonder what you are doing these days. I suppose working as hard as ever. We see some queer things here. They haul in their hay in one horse wagon, two men on the load and two pitching it on. It looks so queer after the way we work at home. I hear poor Leslie Nickle was killed at the front, poor fellow, it is too bad. Write soon again, whether you hear from me or not, as I feel very homesick here and like to get letters from home. Remember me to all friends, my brothers and sisters and neighbors around home and take good care of yourself and don't work too hard, as I know nursing is very hard. Well Emma, I will never forget the pleasant talk we had on Easter Friday night. Now I have given you all the news for this time. Good-bye, write soon, I remain your loving brother,

R. B. Mitts.

## CHARLIE CHAPLIN RECOVERS FROM SEVERE ILLNESS

Charlie Chaplin, the famous screen comedian, has just recovered from the most severe illness he has had in many years and according to an announcement from the Chaplin studio in Los Angeles, his condition for a time was the source of considerable worry on the part of his physicians. On July 7th, doctors, who attended Chaplin, found two incipient carbuncles on the comedian's legs and after lancing them, advised Charlie to remain in bed for a time. Impatient to be out, however, he got up sooner than he should have and he became worse. Prompt measures were necessary to prevent blood poisoning and the patient suffered a relapse which caused him to spend several more days in bed. He has now returned to the studio, however, and except for a slight weakness is regaining his usual vigor nicely.

Chaplin's illness commencing when it did, was one of a number of happenings which caused a cloud to envelop the Chaplin studios. The first blow was the death of Mrs. Elic Campbell, wife of the big foot four comedian seen in support of Chaplin in his comedies. The following day, Laura V. Austin, another member of the company was seriously injured when the automobile in which she was riding, was struck by a street car, and the cycle of ill fate was continued when several days later, Edna Purviance, Chaplin's leading woman, suffered a nervous breakdown.

## CONFUSION YET REIGNS

West Bridge Street Pavement Situation Worse Confounded Than Ever

The West Bridge Street paving muddle is surely confusion worse confounded.

Last night a meeting of property holders along the thoroughfare, was held at the home of Sydenham Hagerman to see if some arrangements could not be arrived at.

The meeting developed little of harmony and had the effect of sending several off on a new tangent.

Among those present were Messrs. Stevenson and Martin and Messrs. Warham, (Ex-Mayor) Panter, (Ald.) Robinson, Gael, (Dr.) Harold, (Rev.) A. L. Geen, (Prof.) Campbell, Cook, Hagerman, Dumaine, Elliot, City Engineer Mills and a number of other ladies and gentlemen.

Rev. A. L. Geen was appointed Chairman and Prof. Campbell, secretary.

The City Engineer addressed the meeting, giving the cost of several kinds of standard paving. He also gave particulars in regard to a new kind of paving that he called "asphalt macadam." This is practically the same as tarvis except that asphalt instead of tar, is the binding material. The life of the pavement is also above that of a well laid tarvis pavement but the cost is considerably higher. Particulars were not given as to places where asphalt macadam had been tested for durability.

A motion was carried to have a petition circulated favoring asphalt macadam. The petition will be circulated by Prof. Campbell and Mr. Warham.

Brief addresses were made by Miss Stevenson, ex-Mayor Panter, Ald. Parks, Ald. Robinson, Prof. Campbell, Mr. Dumaine and the chairman.

It was the opinion of some of those present that it will not be possible to secure a sufficient number of signatures, favorable to asphalt macadam to make the petition valid.

In fact the opinion is now voiced that a sufficient number of the ratepayers cannot agree upon any one kind of paving.

In that case the council will probably let the matter stand over for another year, making only such repairs as will make the street passable.

## TANK CAR UPSET

Narrow Escape Of Young Men On Trent Road Yesterday

Late yesterday afternoon while the British American Oil Company's tank auto was being driven along the Trent Road, just west of Jones' Creek, the machine slewed and overbalanced, turning on its side over on the road. The fender and driver's seat and top were smashed and the driver, Mr. Leo McGuinness and Mr. David Waters who was with him, had a wonderful escape, neither being injured. Greenleaf's repair outfit was called to the scene and brought the car into the city for repairs. A great deal of difficulty was experienced in righting the tank as in its prone position, it was too heavy.

## MRS. SARAH ANN SHARPE

Mrs. Sarah Ann Sharpe, widow of the late John Sharpe, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles A. W. Thompson, 180 Charles St., last evening. She was born in Hamstead, England in 1833 and came to Belleville in 1875. For several years she had been in ill health. She was a member of St. Thomas Church. To mourn her loss there survives two sons, Sgt.-Major Howard Sharpe of the Infantry School of Instruction, Kingston, John E. of Napanee and one daughter, Mrs. (Corporal) Chas. A. W. Thompson, Belleville.

Miss Imogen Palen went to Toronto today and will remain there for the next six weeks.

Miss Marjorie Fraser of Hamilton, is visiting Miss Alford, George St.

## A WILD AUTO PARTY

Early this morning an automobile, driven at the rate of 35 to 50 miles per hour, according to Police Constable Ellis' opinion, raced down Front Street and as the driver could not make the corner near the No. 1 Firehall properly, he went over the curb and on the grass. After a spin around Victoria Park, they returned and the most foul language was heard from it. The constable tried to stop the car but the driver got past. He had one companion. Both seemed drunk. The policeman got the auto permit number.

## DROVE WITHOUT MARKERS

Last night an automobile was driven in the city without the required markers. The police stopped the machine and had E. A. Dixon, the driver, brought to the police station. The magistrate instructed the police to let him go and hold the car. Dixon was driving a new Chevrolet from Oshawa to Ottawa. Finally it was decided to release the car on payment of \$10. and costs.

## CASUALTIES

Wounded:—  
L. D. Willard, Kingston.  
Gar. G. Kelsey, Gananoque.  
Acting-Cpl. W. R. Walsh, Cobourg.

## DIED

SHARPE—In Belleville on Wednesday, August 1st 1917, Sarah Ann Sharpe, widow of late John Sharpe, aged 84 years.

MIDDLETON—Aug 1st, Wilfred William Middleton, aged 26 yrs.

## INVESTIGATION ENLARGED

The preliminary investigation of a charge against William Patrick McKenna, was yesterday afternoon enlarged by Magistrate Masson until Friday.

## ENTRANCE TO NORMAL

The list of successful candidates at the Middle School examinations for Entrance to Normal Schools follows:

## Hastings

H. G. Carleton (honors), R. E. Collip, (honors), C. E. Coughlin, H. F. Cross, J. S. Gay, M. N. Goshard, E. A. Hearst, M. G. Hill, P. T. Heaslip (honors), E. V. Ketcheson, (honors), M. H. McDonnell, (honors), H. M. McIntosh, W. P. Marshall, S. M. McKeljohn, L. M. Minns, H. J. Nunn, (honors), K. M. Sinclair, G. W. Sills, J. R. Stewart, M. M. Shurle, F. M. Thompson, P. V. Williams, A. H. Ward (honors), M. H. Yeomans.

## Lennox and Prince Edward.

D. E. Boyce, K. F. Barnes, B. G. Duetta, E. C. Foster, P. J. Gay, A. Hicks, M. A. Hawley, L. E. Hager, (honors), V. Holland, E. C. F. Jones, I. Lacey (with L. S. art), L. McTeat, T. M. Murphy, H. E. Roote, G. I. Sexsmith, M. Thompson, D. Vincent, M. E. Wilson, C. F. Young (honors).

## SIDNEY CROSSING

Rain is badly needed just at present. Potato blight has not as yet put in an appearance here.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Field and little daughter, of Oakfield, N.Y., have returned home after visiting Mr. and Mrs. P. Casey and other friends.

Mr. and Mrs. G. French and Garret spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Kelly.

Mr. Chas. Hess, President of the Cheese & Butter Co., is the proud possessor of a new McLaughlin car.

Miss Phyllis Bonisteel has returned from a week's visit with her uncle, Mr. Arthur Bonisteel, of Aurora. Her grandfather, Mr. W. H. Bonisteel, returned home with her.

## CARD OF THANKS

Mrs. Bert Searies, Stirling, wishes to thank her friends for their kindness during her recent illness and especially the ladies of the W.M.S. also the members of the Adult Bible class who so kindly remembered her illness at the hospital.

Mrs. W. A. Lingham is making a short visit to Mrs. Esther Lingham, prior to her departure for Australia.

Mrs. A. Blake-Forster and daughters, Mary and Betty of Toronto, are visiting Miss Gerty Alford, Church St.

## YESTERDAY'S SAD DROWNING

Coroner Dr. Yeomans Opens Inquest Into Death of W.W. Middleton, Who Sank Into Deep Hole Off Zwick's Island.

The first bathing tragedy of the season occurred yesterday afternoon off the south shore of Zwick's Island at a place where gravel had been dredged out some years ago and adds another name to the list of victims which the dangerous conditions at this point has claimed in recent years. This fact led Coroner Dr. Yeomans and Crown Attorney Carnew to decide upon an inquest into yesterday's drowning whereby Wilfred William Middleton, a plumber in the employ of Mr. J. Harry Demarsh, lost his life.

Coroner Dr. Yeomans in outlining the case to the jury at Tickell's morgue this morning referred to the dangers to bathers at the place where Middleton met death. The spot is very tempting to bathers, shore sloping, but suddenly dropping into deep water because of the dredging which had taken place there. After the drowning of a young Italian it was thought the authorities would take some steps to placard the spot as one of danger or afford protection. But this had not been done. Accordingly the Crown Attorney and the coroner thought that as another fatality had occurred evidence should be taken and the city might be asked to take some steps to protect this point. Of course bathers always take risks, but still it must be remembered that lives are valuable.

The jury composed of A. Blackburn, foreman; J. B. Archibald, C. R. Cole, P. Harrison, T. F. Wills, W. Britton, L. Soule and W. H. Panter viewed the remains after which the inquest was adjourned until Monday evening at 8 p.m. in the police court room.

Yesterday's tragedy cast a spell of gloom over the picnickers on Zwick's Island, where hundreds bathe at points where there is little or no danger.

Middleton and a close friend named George Marsh had gone to the island to bathe. Marsh can swim but did not know of the dangerous excavation a short step from the shore. He thought that the only danger was from currents if a bather went too far out. Accordingly he and Middleton chose this spot as it was a very tempting one. Middleton could not swim but had intended to learn at the first opportunity. Yesterday as the waves were choppy, he did not intend to try swimming but went in more for the purposes of a bath. It seems that they had waded out about forty or fifty feet from shore and Middleton was in water a little above his waist. He seemed to move about two feet and suddenly he sank out of sight. Mr. Marsh got his boat which was on shore and went to the spot and narrowly missing seizing Middleton as he was going down one time. When he did not reappear, Mr. Marsh gave the alarm and at once an alarm was sent to the police station, the coroner, and a search was instituted for a good diver. The Hydro Electric Power Commission received a call and at once sent its pulmotor to the island, for use in case the body should be recovered while there was yet hope of restoring life.

Mr. Marsh, Mr. Jos. T. Delaney, Mr. B. W. Brown, Mr. Bert Parks, and bathers who were nearby dove into the water at the spot where Middleton was seen to go down and grappled with hooks. Finally about four o'clock Messrs. W. Carter and Leonard Tisdale arrived with regular grapplings and learning the probable locality of the body, set to work. At about 4.35 the body was recovered.

Doubt seemed to be as to how long the body was in the water. Some said Middleton disappeared some time between two and three o'clock, but Mr. Marsh thought he could not have been at the bottom much more than an hour. The probability is that he was in the water about two hours.

The body was carried ashore and at once Mr. George B. Smith, superintendent of the Hydro Electric Power Commission and a member of its staff set to work at means of resuscitation. Efforts were made by first aid methods to get the water out of the lungs, at first without much result but finally with a little more success. The pulmotor was applied and oxygen was pumped into the mouth and nose cavity. Sergeant Naphin had meanwhile secured Dr. Robertson, Pinnacle St. The doctor aided in the work but finally after 45 minutes' work hope had to be abandoned as no signs of

life were revealed. The body was taken to Tickell's morgue shortly afterwards.

The deceased young man was born 26 years ago in Leeds, England; his father, Henry Middleton and his mother are still living. He came to Canada about six years ago. At one time he conducted a plumbing business in Preston, Ontario. For sixteen months he worked in Detroit and less than a month ago he came to Belleville, where he entered the employ of Mr. J. H. Demarsh.

Mr. Demarsh this morning stated that Mr. Middleton was a very fine plumber, being neat and rapid at his work. He deeply regrets the young man's untimely end. Yesterday afternoon the staff observed the half holiday.

Middleton was a member of the International Bible Students' Association. He stood about 5 ft 8 in. and was very robust. His build was athletic.

One of the most poignant features of the tragedy is that Middleton was shortly to have been married to a Belleville girl. His fiancée was on the island at the time of the drowning and stayed their broken-hearted until after all hope had been given up of resuscitation.

Every praise is due to those who aided in the recovery and the attempt at resuscitation, particularly to the Hydro officials and the police.

## PONIES SLAUGHTERED AT ATHLETICS

Twenty-eight to four! This is not a point of time but a score perpetrated in a baseball match at the Fair Grounds yesterday afternoon between the Ponies and the Athletics. The game holds the record for scoring in any city league and it is to be hoped that the record will never be challenged. The Athletics were out of condition, the Ponies running them to earth from the start. The defeated team was beaten in the first innings as the scoring shows:

Ponies—6,5,0,1,3,0,2,11—28

Athletics—0,0,0,3,0,0,1,0,0—4

The umpires were E. Lang and S. Symons.

The players:

Ponies	Catcher	Athletics
J. Casey	Pitcher	O'Neill
H. Smith	First Base	Meagher
Whalen	Second Base	Arnett
Cummings	Short Stop	Draycott
Lynch	Third Base	Burgess
Morden	Right Field	Canning
Hunter	Center Field	Cornell
Young	Left Field	Oliphant
B. Casey		Ross

## BRIDGE STREET PAVEMENT

To the Editor of The Ontario,

Sir:—

There are a few of us residing in the West-end, who think there is no pavement too good for Bridge St. West, but I cannot help being impressed with the idea that many are opposed to the best, feeling that it is too great a burden to be added to our present heavy taxes. Feeling that in this as in other expenses, economy should be practised, they appear to think that the road as it was before being torn up for sewer, will be satisfactory. Under such circumstances, the City Council, whose duty it is to look after our interest, should see that the street is placed in as good a condition as it was before broken up for sewer and that without local assessment.

Truly,

Albert L. Geen

## FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION ELECT OFFICERS

The annual convention of the Eastern Volunteer Firemen's Association was held in this city on Tuesday and the following officers were elected:

Hon. Pres.—R. Weddell, Trenton Pres.—F. J. Vanalstine, Napanee. Vice Pres.—H. Colbourn, Trenton Sec.-Treas.—W. H. James, Trenton.

Master Harold Millar of Brighton, made a short visit to his grandmother, Mrs. G. S. Vandewater, 234 Coleman St.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Irwin have returned from Ottawa, where they have been the guests of Mr. Irwin's parents for the past two weeks.

## HUGE RAILWAY SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE OF CANADA

Nationalization of C. N. R., By Gaining Possession of Entire Stock Issue, Announced by Finance Minister—Loan of Seven and One-Half Millions to Grand Trunk Pacific.

OTTAWA, August 1.—Sir Thomas, White electrified the house of commons this afternoon by announcing the immediate nationalization of the Canadian Northern system. This will add nearly ten thousand miles to the government system of railways in Canada, and in connection with the Intercolonial and National Transcontinental will establish a great national highway serving every province in Canada. The acquisition of the Canadian Northern involves the control of many subsidiary companies, including hotels, steamship and express companies, elevators and telegraph lines.

The government obtains possession of the road by acquiring all its capital stock. Forty per cent of the capital stock was acquired in 1914. Of the sixty per cent outstanding, five-sixths will be delivered on demand to the government, this giving it a ninety per cent. interest. The remaining ten per cent, by act of parliament, will be declared to be the property of his majesty. The owners of the stock will be paid its value, to be determined by arbitration. In his speech outlining the government's plan Sir Thomas intimated that the Grand Trunk Pacific would soon become part of the government railway system and possibly also the Grand Trunk. The Grand Trunk, at any rate, will not be released from its commitments in respect to the Grand Trunk Pacific. For the present, however, a loan of \$7,500,000 is to be made to the Grand Trunk Pacific to tide it over the coming year.

## WHAT GOVERNMENT GETS BY TAKING OVER C. N. R.

About 9,513 miles of railway.

Lake Superior terminals, with five elevators at Port Arthur with a capacity of ten million bushels.

Steamship lines on lake and ocean.

The Canadian Northern and Great Northwestern Telegraph Companies, with 1,500 offices in Canada, and direct connection with the Western Union and the big cable companies.

Thirty underlying railway companies.

Great terminals in all the cities of Canada, including the Mount Royal Tunnel.

With the government-owned railways it forms a big national system serving every province in Canada, with stations and terminals in nearly every city of the Dominion.

The government will now control a complete railway, telegraph and express service from ocean to ocean.

## CAN YOUR HENS FOR WINTER USE

(Experimental Farms Note)

"Canned chicken" may be made at home in your own kitchen out of the old hens that ought to be killed anyway.

The method of operation for what is known as "Straight Pack" by the trade is very simple and is given in detail as follows by Dr. Robt. Barnes, Chief of the Meat & Canned Foods Division, Health of Animals Branch, Department of Agriculture.

Clean and cut up the chicken.

Sort out the fleshy portions, such as the legs, thighs and breast. Break off the protruding portions of the bones in each piece. Pack these fleshy portions in a gem jar or other container, as closely as possible. Add salt and pepper—about a teaspoonful of salt and about one-eighth of teaspoonful of pepper. Fill to within three-quarters of an inch of overflowing with the liquid that comes from the balance of the chicken, process for preparing which is given below. Place in boiler or other vessel containing warm water and gradually bring to a boil. For pint jars, boil two and a quarter hours; for quart jars, boil three and a half hours.

## For the Balance of the Chicken

Place in kettle and boil until meat will strip free of bones. Strip off all meat and pack in jar. Pour thereon the balance of the liquid in the kettle that has not been used in the first jar. If there is not enough liquid to fill the second jar, add water.

Place in boiler as above and boil as follows:—For pint jars, one and three quarters hours; for quarts, two and one quarter hours. If desired, the whole of the chicken may be prepared the same as the last part.

In all cases take care not to expose the gem jars to a sudden change of temperature. Also, after the jars have cooled off, examine the tops to see that the covers are air-tight.

During the cooking of the product place the glass tops on the sealers but do not fasten them. Any steam or gas which may be generated will escape. As soon, however, as the process is finished, fasten the tops securely.

While describing the method of canning, something should be said about the poultry to be canned. What is preferred are good plump fowls, with a fair proportion of chickens, the bones of the latter

giving a firmer jelly and lessening the danger of a soupy or slushy product. As a precaution against this condition, where the pack is straight fowl, gelatine may be and often is used.

So much has been said and written about the "proper" methods of starving, bleeding and plucking poultry for market that it is useless to go over them again. One can only emphasize the necessity of exactness in carrying out the accepted principles in connection with these points, which are just as applicable to poultry to be canned as they are to those intended for market.

There is another point which is important, although possibly its carrying out may detract from the appearance and affect the sale to an inexperienced buyer, namely, that all poultry intended for food, canned or otherwise, after being properly starved, bled and plucked, should be left undrawn and kept in a suitable temperature for a day or two in order that the chemical changes which follow the killing of the bird may have an opportunity to take place.

## NILES CORNERS

The farmers are taking advantage of the fine weather to hustle in the hay crop.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Thompson and Mrs. Benj. Ellis motored to Oak Lake and attended the camp meeting on Sunday of last week.

Mr. H. M. Pettigals and his sister of Rose Hall were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Clapp at the dinner hour on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Avery and Mrs. Wm. Baird of Wellington, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ellis at the tea hour on Friday.

Miss Mabel McCartney of Rose Hall returned home on Friday after spending a few days with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ellis and other relatives.

Mr. Hilton Clapp is home from Oshawa.

The Pr. Ed. Co. farmers have a bumper crop with but little help to do the harvesting.

Mr. C. Ryan is confined to the house with bad eyes.

A good rain is badly needed at time of writing.