

Lieut. - General Charles Dobell

A CANADIAN OFFICER WHO
HAS DONE GOOD WORK

Recent British successes in Palestine have again emphasized the important part which is being played in the conduct of this war by Lieut. - General Sir Charles Dobell, son of the late Hon. R. R. and Mrs. R. R. Dobell of Kingston, and brother of W. M. Dobell, who is at present doing good work with the Military Hospitals Commission, and of A. C. Dobell, the well known Quebec lawyer.

The fact that General Dobell is not with the Canadian forces in France brings it about that we do not hear quite so much about him as we do of our other Quebec generals. But the work which he accomplished in the conquest of the Kameruns in Western Africa and which he is now entrusted with in the Holy Land has brought him to a prominence that no other Canadian general has yet attained.

General Dobell's military record is as follows:

Lt. Gen. Sir Charles M. Dobell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., was educated at Mr. Von Inland's Private School, Quebec High School, Charter House (England), and the Royal Military College, Kingston, graduating from the college in June, 1890, and joining the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in November of that year.

He saw fighting with the Hazara Field Force in 1890-91 (mentioned in despatches), Medal and Clasp.

Later he took part with the International Forces in the occupation of Crete (noted for his brevet-majority for services there). In the South African War he joined the First Canadian, subsequently commanding the Second Mounted (mentioned in despatches), won D.S.O., also the Queen's Medal, and six clasps, taking part in the relief of Kimberley and, amongst others, in the following actions: Paardeburg, Poplar Grove, Driefontein, Tloaba Mountain and Zand River.

Afterwards he saw service in the Boxer uprising in China and was in the international occupation of Peking.

Following this he commanded a battalion of the Northern Nigerian Regiment, seeing service there, and was given his brevet-colonelcy and medal. He was then appointed to the War Office in the African Intelligence Department and was also appointed A.D.C. to His Majesty the King.

Next he was Gazetted Inspector-General of the West Field Force, with the rank of brigadier-general, which position he held at the opening of the present war.

He commanded British (Indian) and French troops amounting to nine thousand seven hundred men in the conquest of the Kameruns; a territory of three hundred thousand square miles.

On January 1st, 1916, he received the order of C.M.G., and at the successful close of the Cameroon expedition received the order of K.C.B., and the Legion d'Honneur Croix de Commandeur from the French Government, besides being gazetted a major-general.

At present he is commanding the coast forces from the Suez Canal into Palestine with the rank of lieutenant-general.

Writing in the London Pictorial, Mr. McCleure Stephens gives General Dobell a position of honor in his series of articles on "Men Who Are Making History." Canadians, he says, are proud of the fact that the "Conqueror of the Kameruns" is one of themselves. And they have every reason for this pride when they consider and appreciate the success which he achieved there.

Of the Cameroons' operations Mr. Stephens says:

"With his seemingly altogether inadequate little army he succeeded in completely conquering a country which is over 300,000 square miles in area, or roughly one and a half times the size of the German Empire, defended by well led and well trained native forces, plentifully supplied with machine guns."

"It was a clean job cleanly done. August, when hostilities began, is the rainy season in West Africa, and the campaign had to be fought out in a titanic of roads and sodden with malaria. Nevertheless by the end of September, Duala, the capital and principal port, had been captured with eight great liners belonging to the Woermann and Hamburg-American Companies; Japara, the railway terminus was in our

hands; the great wireless station had been seized; and the German troops were forced to retreat into the hinterland.

"Here they carried on a defensive guerilla warfare for over a year longer, but in this first stage of the campaign, lasting above four weeks, and carried out on our side with a native force numbering less than 5,000 effectives, the Cameroons, so far as it was of any value to Germany, was virtually captured."

"General Dobell may also be pointed out as the maker of North ern Nigeria, for although he was not among those who 'conquered' this vast territory and annexed it to the British Empire, he did splendid service in the years immediately succeeding these events—a period of almost incessant fighting and skirmishing in difficult and dangerous country."

For more than a year after his initial successes in West Africa, General Dobell fought the Germans in a region splendidly adapted by nature for defensive fighting. But on November 6th, 1915, his men stormed and captured the rocky fortress of Banyo Mountain, a position which the German garrison evidently thought to be impregnable. The fall of Banyo practically ended the campaign and by the middle of February General Dobell was able to cable to the Secretary of State for War in London, as follows:

"There are now no Germans left in the Cameroons and the conquest of the country is completed."

Today General Dobell is winning fresh laurels for his country in the land where Richard Coeur de Lion and other valiant crusaders fought for Christianity. That the career of this distinguished Quebec soldier may continue to be attended with success and renown is the earnest wish of his friends.

IS CALLED AKCH TRAITOR

Notorious Russian Protests That He is Innocent.

Vladimir A. Soukhomlinoff, no longer a general, for he was publicly degraded, is now awaiting trial for high treason in Russia, it is said. The trial is not now under way. The former Minister of War protests his innocence, but enough evidence has already appeared to damn him in the eyes of loyal Russians. He protests also that he believes in the innocence of his wife who has been publicly accused of being his go-between in his dealings with Germany. She disappeared immediately upon his arrest and may be now in Germany or Austria, where she will be treated with all the consideration due a lady of high rank and a first-class spy. Soukhomlinoff is a member of an old Russian family of nobility. It is not suggested that there is German blood in his veins. The theory advanced for his treachery is that he was bought up. Yet even this theory does not wholly satisfy. A man in his position could have made millions in 'honest' graft while still playing fairly by the army. Insanity would seem to be the most reasonable excuse for him.

Soukhomlinoff was born in 1848 and at the age of 13 entered the Alexanderovsk-Bretsky Corps of Cadets, at 18 became a Life Guardsman of the Czar, and at the age of 23 entered the Academy of the General Staff. In 1878 he saw service against the Turks, and in the War of Liberation is said to have displayed fine soldierly qualities which won him several medals. He was next made Administrator of the Nicholas Academy, and at the early age of 38 he became governor of the cavalry school for officers. In 1898 he was made lieutenant-general, and the following year went to Kiev as chief of staff, and when Dragomir of retired Soukhomlinoff succeeded him as commander-in-chief of the Russian military districts. In this most responsible office he is said to have manifested great administrative ability, and when in 1909 he was appointed Minister of War it must have appeared to the outsider that he had fairly won his way to this reward.

There is something grimly humorous in the light of recent events, to read now what was written about Soukhomlinoff in the spring of 1915

by A. A. Knaap, a same which has a Teutonic look, by the way. Mr. Knaap wrote a little book about Soukhomlinoff and it was translated into English by V. D. Doubadash. It represented him as a military genius and a man of passionate devotion to the cause of the Allies, a hater of red tape, a man who neither smoked nor drank, and the keynote to whose character was a simple piety. As a writer in the Boston Transcript, Mr. James Walter Smith, suggests it would be interesting now to learn who financed the publication of this work, for at the very time that Soukhomlinoff was being lauded as the very saviour of his land he was deep in the plot to defeat the Russian armies of the Grand Duke Nicholas and Brusiloff. Was Mr. A. A. Knaap simply a fool, or did he write his book for the purpose of creating a sort of camouflage to conceal the operations of Soukhomlinoff?

There is some evidence that the latter end was in view, for throughout the book the former minister is spoken of as a man who had to fight countless enemies. He is represented as a bluff soldier, who was impatient with the delays of the chancelleries, intolerant of mere routine, and one who set the interest of the army above everything else. "He rises at 7 o'clock," says Mr. Knaap, "and at once goes into his study to look over correspondence. At 9 o'clock he dresses, drinks a glass of milk, and if there is no urgent work goes out for a half-hour's walk. From 10 to 1 and from 2 to 3 he is busy with reports, audiences, sittings in the Imperial Duma, in the Imperial Council, the Cabinet of Ministers, in the Military Council or with work in his own study. His free time, from 3 to 7.30, Vladimir Alexandrovitch consecrates to the perusal of the written reports sent to him from various departments, the details of which he examines minutely and carefully. At 8 o'clock he dines, and from 8.30 to 9 or 10 he looks through the reports which he daily submits to His Imperial Majesty."

If this account is accurate it must have been some unearthly hour of the night that he got in his looks for the Kaiser. At any rate his tremendous activities in the daytime might well tend to convince the Kaiser that he was an indefatigable worker. The truth seems to be that Soukhomlinoff got very close to the Czar, and that he kept others from getting near. Any protest about the shortage of ammunition could not reach the Czar without going through the War Office channel, and here was the arch-conspirator to intercept it. The Grand Duke Nicholas, by virtue of his rank and relationship to Nicholas Romanoff, might get the imperial ear, and it may be that he did so with the unfortunate result of being removed from supreme command in the army. It would be easy for Soukhomlinoff to blame the results of his own treachery upon the supposed incompetence of generals in the field. If he was in the employ of Germany the Kaiser had certainly the most valuable man in Russia for his purposes.

MEMORIES

I know you are thinking of me, dear
You know I am thinking of you,
Although weary miles lie between us
With no end of the journey in view.
And sometimes the sky has been sunny,
But more often heavy and grey;
Yet still there's a joy in our hearts,
That Time itself can't steal away.
The joy of a love that was perfect,
The joy of a love that was true,
The gift of the gods through the ages,
The story so old, yet so new.
Then we were happy as childhood,
The slip of our dreams in full sail;
We laughed and we sang in the sunshine,
We laughed and we sang in the gale.
Our course was the ocean of life, dear,
Our guide star shone brightly above,
As we sailed away from the pillows,
For our beautiful harbor of love.
Bright isles the beyond held for us,
All visioned in splendid array,
While the song of our hearts, sang in rhythm
To the joy of our own perfect day.
Thus our boat bounded out on the billows,
Over the wide, sparkling main;
Oh! memories of days that were perfect—
Thank God that the memories remain!

Out in the storm of the blast, dear,
Is the wreck of the ship of our dreams,
Nothing is left us but memory,
As we wander the path where it gleams.
Long years lie between you and I,

love,
Long years and new lives and old
creeds,
As we grope for the rose of our love,
dear,
In the garden of life choked with
weeds.
You're where?—and I'm here; yet
today dear,
There comes a sweet sound on the
air,
And I know it's your voice that is
calling.
To me, as of old, and—you care.

You care! Let Time bring its worst
now—
Somewhere there's a harboring
where
Lost lives are united and happy,
And our own we will end ever there.

We parted! I know it, yet somehow
This soul dies away from its clay,
And deep in the Holy of Holies
Is a power that the world cannot
stay.

Thou! Life must preserve its conven-
tions,
And to Caesar full tribute be due,
Yet soul speaks with soul in the si-
lence,
And nothing can sever "we two"

From the joys of our childhood so
happy,
When we sailed on the wild, restless
sea,
And the sky held a rainbow splendor
A promise of fair days to be.

Our lives?—yes they're parted by
earth space,
But our souls are triumphant and
free,
And that's why I'm thinking of you,
dear,
And I know you are thinking of me!

(Written for The Ontario by Hazel
Alvya Asselstine.)

CLEVERSHOOTING LED TO VICTORY

German Blockhouse Demolished
and Garrison Killed

(By Henry Wood, United Press Staff
Correspondent)

With the French armies in Flanders, Oct. 30.—Three fifteen inch shells, fired from a distance of seven miles, struck squarely on the target of a German blockhouse at Papegoed Wood, and permitted French soldiers, fighting like mad for glimpses of their own homes slightly behind the German lines, to cut their way to a victory in the latest Franco-British advance in Flanders.

It was this marvellously accurate shooting, last Friday which opened the way for the French smash. A great eight chambered concrete blockhouse in the centre of Papegoed Wood had long held up further French advance. Finally French aviators "ranged" it. The first missile was close to it; the second shattered the solid concrete; and the third passed inside. Practically all of the garrison in this formidable defense were killed.

The few forlorn crazed men who did survive of the sixty German soldiers of the 181st infantry, staggered into the French lines dead and dumb from shell shock. Their clothes had been stripped from them; some were fearfully mangled. The stamp of an inexpressible horror was on their drawn faces.

Reduction of the blockhouse enabled the French engineers, working neck deep in St. Janasbeck and Coverbeck river, to throw up bridges and trestles along which French infantry charged to a brilliant victory.

These charging troops were borne along with the irresistible force of men fighting like fiends to throw back an enemy and see their own homes just beyond. Most of the French regiments now on this line are from Lille and other cities close to the present fighting lines. Many left their loved ones behind to answer mobilization calls—and have not heard from them since.

These men performed superhuman fighting feats. Hand to hand, in bloody fighting, they beat back the Germans, half swam through morasses, and held tenaciously to their gains despite every effort German counter-attackers made. On Saturday just such an incident as this occurred. The French had cut their way for a deep gain. The whole 8th Bavarian reserve division was thrown into the fray to check them. It failed. The victorious polus literally cut it into shreds.

A military hospital may be built on the north side of the river at Prince Albert.

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Lost lives are united and happy,
And our own we will end ever there.

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(Written for The Ontario by Hazel
Alvya Asselstine.)

LOYD GEORGE PAYS TRIBUTE TO ARMY AND NAVY

Prime Minister Moves Resolution
in British House—Soldiers
Thanked

London, Oct. 31.—(Via Reuters's
Ottawa Agency.)—Premier Lloyd
George, in moving the resolution ex-
pressing the thanks of the govern-
ment to all branches of the forces,
said that even had he leisure in these
terrible times, especially during the
anxiety of the last few days, he felt
he could not do justice to this great
theme.

The deeds referred to in the resolution had won the admiration and gratitude of every subject of His Majesty and he felt no words were needed to commend the acceptance of the resolution to any body of Britons throughout the world.

Referring to the navy he said it was like a vital internal organ of existence of which we are unconscious until something went wrong. The navy was taken for granted. The navy was the anchor of the Allies' cause. If it lost hold the hopes of the Allies would be shattered. To understand the great part of the navy one had only to imagine what would happen if the navy had been defeated on a year ago.

LETTER FROM OVERSEAS

Edinburgh, Oct. 14, '17.

I suppose you will be wondering at me not writing you sooner but being on ten days' leave I am trying to cram as much pleasure and sight-seeing into these few days as I can to kind of make up for the past sixteen months of fighting.

I am at present in Edinburgh, Scotland, after having spent a few days in London. This sure is some grand old city and is full of old curios. This morning we took a bus out to Forth Bridge, which is a large and stately bridge. We walked out on the pier and stood for a few moments enjoying the grandeur of the scene. Just where we stood and as far as one could see there was every evidence of Britain's might, consisting from the big warships down to the small torpedo boats and gunboats.

We did not have long to stay as we had to catch the next bus back to town or miss our lunch. We were just turning to go when I caught the eye of a Canadian and recognized

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the farm labor and increase your
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transported thirteen million men, two million horses, twenty-five million tons of explosives and supplies, fifty-one million tons of coal and oil fuel for the fleet, armies and needs of the Allies. Out of these thirteen million men only 3,400 have been lost (cheers) of which only 2,700 had been lost through action by the enemy. All that was apart from the prodigious quantity of food and other material, totalling a hundred and thirty million tons which had been transported in British ships. This indeed, had been a triumph for the navy (cheers).

him to be one of my High School friends. Rayfield was his last name and he was wounded at Lens and is over on sick leave, but he is getting on fine and looks in the best of health. He does not expect to go back for quite a while and I hope the war is over before he does have to, for he has done his bit.

Well, I only started out to write a short note just to let you know that I am well and enjoying myself, so will close with best love. I remain your loving son,

P. G. Palmer.

ABSENTEES TO ANSWER CALL

Men in United States Must Report in Person or Through Friends

Numerous enquiries are made by class one Canadians in the United States as to their position in regard to the Military Service Act, and asking just what course they should pursue to protect themselves against future punishment should they not return to Canada within the time specified by proclamation. Such enquiries are referred to the Military Service Council, Ottawa, 139 Sparks Street, for decision.

It is also advised that, as any class 1 Canadian who has resided in U. S. for any period since the beginning of the war is liable to the present draft, all such men should write personally to the above address stating their cases and getting a ruling on their point or should have some of their relatives in Canada take up their case for them.

Otherwise their future is apt to be a trouble to Canada. The authorities recognize, that there are many class 1 Canadians now in the States for bona-fide reasons, and they are willing to do their best to help them out, but they also recognize that there are others who, during the past three years, have deliberately left the country with the intention of avoiding military service with the Canadian army.

MUST REPORT IN CANADA
No matter for what reason—business or otherwise—a Canadian in the United States finds it inconvenient to comply with the proclamation to the letter, he has until Nov. 10th to report for service or claim exemption in Canada or have a relative or friend do so for him. If he fails to do this he makes himself liable to the extreme penalties of the Act for not complying with the regulations, if he ever returns to Canada and is found here, the penalties being immediate military service or anything up to five years' imprisonment.

ASKING HARD QUESTIONS
Why should war restrict the earning power of our husbands and our sons to \$1.10 a day and that same war enlarge the earning power of Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart., to \$3,000 per working day? The question that speaks in the eloquence of sacrifice was not silenced by the evidence of Sir Joseph Flavelle. The distinction between the business as usual procedure of Sir Joseph Flavelle and the "business as usual" procedure of R. J. Farris is not sufficient to justify a difference between the subsequent proceedings of Sir Joseph Flavelle and the subsequent proceedings of Mr. R. J. Farris. The ideals that Sir Joseph Flavelle accepts, the procedure that Sir Joseph Flavelle follows are honestly accepted and sincerely followed. God forbid that Canada in war time should publicly accept such ideals or approve of such procedure!—Toronto Telegram (Con.)

Restriction of unessential commodities for the duration of the war is contemplated by President Wilson.

George W. Watts, a millionaire tobacco manufacturer, recently married Miss Sarah Ecker, his late wife's niece.

Drastic action on the part of postal employees in Winnipeg unless the Government promptly pays the war bond provided in the supplementary estimates is foreseen.

Capt. Archie Brown of Winnipeg, has been promoted to the rank of major, according to recent despatches.

THEY SLEEP AS THEY MARCH

Retreating From Mons Soldiers
Had Extraordinary
Experiences

An article "Sleep for the Sleepless" the author quotes an eminent surgeon, who made a study of sleep in the French army, as follows:

"In the retreat from Mons to the Marne we have an extraordinary human experiment, in which several hundred thousand men secured little sleep during the nine days, and in addition made forced marches and fought one of the greatest battles of history."

"How, then, did these men survive nine days without apparently an opportunity to sleep? They did an extraordinary thing—they slept while they marched! Their fatigue slowed down their pace to a rate that would permit them to sleep while walking. When they halted they fell asleep. They slept in water, and on rough ground, when suffering the pangs of hunger and thirst, and even when severely wounded. They cared not for captives, not even death if only they could sleep."

"The unvaried testimony of the soldiers was that every one at times slept on the march. They passed through villages asleep. When sleep deepened and they began to reel they were awakened by comrades. They slept in water, on stones, in brush or in the middle of the road as if they had suddenly fallen in death. With the ever-oncoming lines of the enemy no man was safe who dropped out of the ranks, for no matter on what pretext he fell asleep he was captured. That the artillerymen slept on horseback was evidenced by the fact that every man lost his cap."

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A Moose Jaw,
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