

From Industrial Agent To Flight Commander

Interesting descriptions of incidents in the lives of flying men in England are given in letters to friends written by Acting Flight Commander Graham Waters Curtis, formerly Industrial Agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Montreal, who is now a flying instructor in England. The school in which he teaches is a vast expanse of country close to a beautiful seaside resort. He writes: "The view from the air is superb, and we often fly out over the sea, and dive down near the British warships and wave to the sailors. When diving we only travel at the rate of about 175 miles an hour! I am kept very busy instructing, and am turning out a lot of expert pilots. The school I am connected with is one in which flyers finish their course of training. A lot of chaps from Borden come to us to get final lessons, and then they are sent to France. We do all kinds of fancy performances—loop the loop, roll, make spinning nose dives, side slips, and vertical turns."



ACTING FLIGHT COMMANDER G. W. CURTIS.

He describes how "little excitements" happen when one movement gets into the "wash, or slip-stream of air" made by a preceding navigator. The letters indicate that Acting Flight Commander Curtis is a lucky member of the high school in which he soars. He says: "We have a lot of accidents, but very few deaths, considering everything. None of my pupils has been killed yet."

Acting Flight Commander Curtis has lately been recommended by his commanding officer for a first lieutenant's rank, and expects to be sent to France at any time. He joined the Royal Flying Corps on November 15th, 1916.

MUST THWART HUN AMBITIONS.

Africa Must be Saved From Prussian Militarism.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—Lieutenant General J. C. Smuts, lecturing before the Royal Geographical Society on East Africa, last night, contrasted the British and German colonial views. Germany was not looking for homes for settlers and had no population, particularly farmers, for emigration. Germany's colonial aims, the General said, were dominated by a far reaching conception of world politics. Her real aims were military and in getting strategic positions for exercising world power. Germany's ambition, he said, was for a great East and Central Africa Empire, embracing the colonies now owned by the British, Belgium, French and Portuguese, lying south of Lake Chad and north of the Zambesi River.

This territory, General Smuts declared, was first to supply raw materials for the German Empire, but was mainly for raising a great African army to carry out her schemes of world conquest.

"Suppose that German East Africa remains a part of the British Empire after the war," said General Smuts. Cries of "it will and must" interrupted him, after which he continued: "Germany's colonizing methods really mean a policy diametrically opposed to that of the British Empire, which has found its symbol in the Union of South Africa. I do not want to speak about the disposal of Germany East Africa after the war, but the law of self-preservation must apply to that country where Prussian militarism must never be allowed to take hold."

"The East Africa campaign may be found to be a most important factor in developing the future and permanent peace of the world."

"Germany," General Smuts said, "proposed to have harbors on the Atlantic and Indian coasts of Africa for naval and submarine bases from which both ocean routes could be dominated and Anglo-American seapower brought to naught."

"The native armies would be useful in the next great war to which Germany already was giving attention," declared the General, who added:

"The untrained levies of the Union of South Africa will go down before these German trained hordes of Africans who also will be able to deal with Northern Africa and Egypt without any help from white troops from Germany. They will also mean a great army planted on the flank of Asia and whose force could be felt throughout the middle east as far as Persia, perhaps farther."

"Great Britain's objects in Africa are inherently pacific and decisive. Looking to the future from the broadest viewpoint, and looking further upon Africa as a half way house on the road to India and Australia, the British Empire asks every internal peace and the security of its external communications."

"It cannot allow a return to conditions which mean the militarization of the natives and their employment for a scheme of world power. It cannot allow naval and submarine bases to be organized on both coasts of Africa to the endangerment of the sea communication of the Empire and the peace of the world. It must insist upon through land communication from one end of Africa to the other."

"As long as there is no real change of heart in Germany, no irrevocable break with militarism, the law of self-preservation must be considered paramount. No fresh extension of Prussian militarism to other continents and seas should be tolerated and the conquered German colonies can only be regarded as guarantees for the future peace of the world."

SAYS SEVIGNY MAY BE ELECTED.

Because Leduc Withdrew Deposit Without Awaiting Soldiers' Vote.

MONTREAL, Jan. 30.—With reference to a statement in the Ottawa News, paper Le Driot, to the effect that Hon. Albert Sevigny may be elected for Westmount-St. Henry because Alfred Leduc who defeated the Minister on December 17 by a majority of 2,300 withdrew his deposit instead of awaiting the result of the soldiers vote, the Montreal Herald says:

"It is said by friends of Mr. Leduc that he offered to return the election deposit to the Returning Officer yesterday, but it was refused."

The Herald says: "Mr. Sevigny, the returning officer, is alleged to have reported to the Ottawa authorities that he had only one candidate in the field, the Hon. Albert Sevigny."

BRITISH DOWNED FOUR HUN PLANES.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The official announcement from the War Office dealing with aviation issued tonight says: "An airdrome south of Ghent, a large ammunition dump east of Roulers and railway sidings at Courtrai were heavily bombed Wednesday."

"In air fighting four hostile machines were brought down; four were driven down out of control and another was brought down by anti-aircraft gun fire. Nine of our machines are missing."

THE ALLIES HAVE WON.

It does not require much thought to show that the entente Allies have already won the war.

1st.—Three-fourths of the globe consists of oceans, all of which are under the control of the Allies.

2nd.—The opponents of the Central Powers comprise 16 nations, occupying 38,842,000 square miles and including 1,410,000,000 people.

3rd.—The Allies control all the neutral nations.

4th.—The Allies have already conquered 82 per cent of the German Empire and 66 per cent of the Turkish Empire—on area together of 1,733,000 square miles; while the Central Powers have conquered but 158,000 square miles—a net gain for the entente Allies of 1,575,000 square miles, an area more than seven times the size of Germany.

Expelled from the old Jerusalem, the Germans, says an exchange are by no means certain of ever reaching the new. And what is even more disheartening for them, their bombs won't be able to destroy it.

When our people are groaning about high prices it might be well for them to bear in mind that Russian people are paying \$325 for a suit of cloths, \$2.50 per pound of meat, \$8 for a pound of tea, \$2.50 for a pound of sugar and \$1.00 for an apple. Perhaps then they will realize that Canadians are getting off easy.

BRUTAL SENTENCES FOR BELGIANS.

THE HAGUE, Jan. 31.—Les Nouvelles reports that arrests by the Germans are increasing in Belgium and that recently forty-two prominent personages were taken into custody by the military at Brussels, including Paul Lambert, the French manufacturer, of Chauny, and Edouard Laguerre, son of the French Deputy. The Burgomaster of Alost has been sentenced to three months imprisonment because concealed arms were found in the town.

Ninety Ghent notables have been seized as hostages to guarantee the performance by the inhabitants of military work ordered by the Germans. At Liege, a Hollander named Paul Usen has been sentenced to death and his wife to twelve years' imprisonment. Two manufacturers have been sentenced to hard labor for life.

FOOD SCARCE IN EUROPE.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—A cablegram received today by the Food Controller from the British Ministry of Food indicates that the food situation in Great Britain, France and Italy is very much more serious than is generally realized. The message states that the import supplies are low, and an increase is urgently needed. The ration which the Ministry has intended to put into force will have to be reduced, however, because of the inadequacy of supplies.

SPRING-RICE SLATED TO GO.

Return Home on Leave Believed to Fore-shadow Retirement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, who has been British ambassador in Washington since May 6, 1913, called at the state department today to say that he was going home on leave of absence.

That was as far as the official statement on the subject went, but it is known that further information to be given out from London will confirm the reports that come through English newspapers of a general and sweeping change in the British diplomatic representation in most of the larger capitals.

Personnel Rather Than Policy.

The purpose of the reorganization, it is learned, touches the personal of the embassies rather than the policies of the British government in its relations with its allies, and it is expressly stated in an authoritative quarter that there is to be no change in these policies connected with the prosecution of the war.

Sir Cecil has desired for some time to be relieved of the heavy duties of the Washington embassy as soon as such a change could be made without a detriment to the service. It is known now that when Foreign Minister Balfour came to the United States last spring the ambassador tendered his resignation, to take effect at the convenience of the foreign office, and has been awaiting its acceptance since that time.

No statement can be made as to the time the change will take effect or as to the succession to the ambassadorship, but it is expected that this information will not be long deferred.

UNCLE SAM'S HELL FIRE.

New Liquid Flame Bomb Said to be Most Deadly Yet Invented.

DROPPED FROM AEROPLANES.

A new kind of liquid fire which can shells is being tested by the Government. The tests have proved satisfactory, and if they continue to do so the new chemical-flame may be introduced on the firing line by the American "Hell Fire division." Frederick C. Cook, of Seattle, and his wife are the inventors. Among the claims they make for their invention are:

It will cause greater loss of life and property than anything now being used in the war.

Costs only \$25 to construct.

Can be dropped from aeroplanes, and from siege guns or small ordnance.

Aeroplanes shells contain ten gallons of the chemical-fire, and gun shells 25 gallons.

Explodes automatically upon striking the ground, scattering its blazing death over a wide area.

Liquid fire was first introduced in war-fare by the Germans. It would be grim irony if this same weapon proved one of the most deadly used against the Kaiser's forces. At first the Germans used hose to spray the deadly chemicals into the ranks of the Allies. Later they hurled crude containers that spread the fiery liquid on the ground.

With the Cook invention an entire town can be destroyed in a few minutes, according to the inventors. Everything within an area of four city blocks can be destroyed by one shell. The shells can be shot to a comparatively long range, a wonderful stride in flame warfare.

Put It To The Test

Order a barrel of Purity Flour, and prove its superior quality in your home. Your success with bread, rolls, cakes, and pastry will be such that you will never be satisfied to use any other flour.

PURITY FLOUR

More Bread and Better Bread---and Better Pastry, too.

IMMORTALIZED IN VERSE FALLEN IN THE GOOD NIGHT.

Lieut.-Col. McRae, it is reported by cable from London, died on Monday morning in France from pneumonia. He dies as many another died, not by a foeman's bullet, though he has been wounded but from illness contracted during exposure caused by the war. He dies virtually upon the field of action. He will be best known as the author of the beautiful lines "In Flanders Fields" which read as follows:

"In Flanders Field."

In Flanders fields the poppies grow,
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; while in the sky,
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Unheard amid the guns.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset's glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch. Be yours to bear it high,
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies blow
In Flanders fields.

Were the lines prophetic? We are the dead," he says. Will the poppies grow around the cross over his grave? It is true that only a few "short days ago" he lived and he felt the dawn and saw the sunset's glow, but now he lies "In Flanders Fields." He throws down the torch for another to pick up with flame unquenched. Is a little bit of Canada, out there in France the poppies will bloom and die over his grave as over the graves of those whom in poem he immortalized. Was his poem but an expression of the advancing shadow of his own destiny?—Moncton Transcript.

MUST DISCONTINUE SENDING SOLDIERS FOODSTUFFS.

OTTAWA, February 1.—After conference with General S. C. Mewburn, Minister of Militia, the Food Controller has issued a statement pointing out that it is entirely unnecessary for additional food to be supplied by relatives and friends to Canadian soldiers while in this country, in view of the liberal and varied food ration issued to the troops by the Militia Department.

The statement adds that the aggregate quantity of food thus privately sent to the soldiers is very large and that much of it, having been conveyed long distances in heated express or mail cars, is more or less spoiled and consequently injurious to the health of the men. The public are, therefore asked to discontinue the practice of sending foodstuffs to the soldiers in Canada.

The situation overseas is so critical that every avenue of food waste

COMMISSION APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE HALIFAX PILOTS.

OTTAWA, February 1.—The personnel of the commission to investigate Halifax pilotage conditions will be: Thomas Robb, Montreal, manager and secretary of the Shipping Federation of Canada, Captain James M. Bales, Deputy Port Warden, Montreal; and Captain James W. Harrison, Marine Superintendent, Furness-Withy and Company, Halifax, it was announced from the Marine Department today.

THRESHOLD MACHINE FOR SAWN-WOOD.

wood saw, and thresher, will be soon made. Apply to Clyde MacDermott, Glasgow.

Minard's Lintment Cures Diphtheria.

Minard's Lintment Cures Diphtheria.

February 6, 1918.

loyalty to is important, of town for women and rious injury institutions thropy.

s and good. You will an see what d of after. t home.

WORKING OF CANADA'S MANPOWER.

February 3.—The main reference of the re-Organized Labor with the urging he past week has of Labor's consent to the compulsory national re-man and women power this measure of basic com-pletion of all available to meet war conditions up made by the withdra- for military ser- and Labor has consented. tion for the actual cor- for agricultural work, tion, for munition manu- the Labor leaders are opposed, and they are tically opposed to the Chinese or other Oriea- farm work, although they ction to the scheme for tional farm help from

tangible result of the agreement of the a system of Government replacing the individual agencies and insuring an for co-ordination, super- cation of the labor supply tion-wide demand. The now working out, in con- the Provincial Govern- of these Labor Bur- under Federal control. ureans will be established sort of general clearing mation directing the work ally controlled bureaus. d registration scheme will d with at once. Provi- along the same lines d under the National ration scheme of a year signing of the cards will plusory. It the case of ration the signing of the rely voluntary and, as a mation gathered was d inadequate, only about of the man power was ed Labor has consented. Any really definite idea supply available for meet- ments of essential in- consequently not obtain- the new scheme the Gov- have at its command the mation necessary as a mpting measures to meet war developments and

WHEAT BUT NO TONNAGE.

ON, Feb. 2.—Millions of heat are available in Aus- the armies of the Allies if an be obtained. Crawford er Premier of South Aus- told twenty-eight State he Public Service Reserve, ng he campaign to enroll ship-building.

need of the Allies is ship- ad:

today 800,000,000 bushels y country waiting for The workmen in the yards must realize that every aken up or take time off, just the same as if their France stopped the bar- ing a charge."