

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1925

GRIM DAYS AT PAARDEBERG RECALLED BY ST. JOHN MEN

This Is 25th Anniversary of Crushing Defeat of
And Surrender by Conge in
The Boer War

CANADIANS IN FOREFRONT OF COMBAT

Veterans Celebrate In Montreal—General Otter's Story of Battle
Re-Told—Names of St. John Men Who Fought
The Boers In 1900

TWENTY-FIVE years ago tomorrow, the series of actions called Paardeberg in the South African war culminated in a crushing defeat for the Boers and on that day Conge surrendered. The South African Veterans' Association plan to observe the day with a banquet in the Queens Hotel tomorrow in Montreal and it is expected that a few of the local members of the association will attend.

The Canadian forces under command of Colonel, now Major-General Sir William Otter, K. C. B., took a prominent part in the Paardeberg fight and several local men were through it. Their names were published a few days ago in The Times-Star. Major W. A. Weeks, of the local Customs staff here, served throughout the campaign as a captain on the staff of Colonel Otter and was through the Paardeberg engagement.

General Otter's Report

"The Battalion arrived near Paardeberg Drift with the 19th Brigade at 6 a.m. Feb. 18, 1900, having formed the rear guard to the brigade in its march during the night from Klip Drift, a distance of 22 miles. "Within half an hour of the arrival of the battalion, orders were received to be ready to parade at 7 a.m. and at 7:30 a.m. the battalion moved out to support the artillery about one-half a mile away. The men, in the meantime, had had a biscuit and a cup of tea.

Crossing Made

"Hardly had the battalion reached the place designated than it was ordered to move to the drift and cross the river. This was done and the crossing began at about 8:30 a.m. The current ran 9 miles an hour while the water was sufficiently deep to reach up to the men's armpits. Two crossings were used about 50 yards apart, over one of which a rope stretched by which the men crossed over by holding on to it. At the other, the men crossed over in fours with linked arms. The companies as they passed over were pushed forward and at 10 a.m. were in the firing line.

Intense Fire

"The fire of the enemy from their concealed and entrenched positions was intense. To rush their positions over a level and unsheltered ground was not possible. The firing was maintained until darkness set in about 7 p.m., when orders were given to collect the dead and wounded and retire to the bivouac at the drift. The Boers also retired from the Dugas and river bed to their laager.

"On the 20th, the Canadians were advanced to within 1,000 yards of the Boer laager with the Shropshire Light Infantry on their right and the Gordon Highlanders on their left. An intermittent fire was kept up all day until about 4 p.m. when the firing of the enemy increased with their Vickers machine or pom-pom—the moral effect of this gun being greater than its destructive powers.

Rested Several Days

"Until the 26th the battalion had a rest. At 10 p.m. on that evening the Canadians were advanced to trenches along the river with a small party of 30 engineers on their right on the river with the wagons about 1,000 yards in the rear. The plan of attack was for six companies in the main trench to advance on the Boer trenches at 2 a.m., the front rank of each company to advance with fixed bayonets and not to fire until fired upon by the enemy, while the rear rank carried shovels and picks with which to entrench.

"At 2:15 a.m., the six companies with the engineers moved forward. The line advanced about 450 yards when it was met by a terrific fire from the enemy. Our men threw themselves on the ground but the effect of the fire was disastrous—H. Company, being in the wood on the river, did not suffer, but A and F companies being in the open, lost heavily. G. Company was within 65 yards (actual measurement) of the advanced trench of the enemy when fire was opened upon them.

Congre Surrenders

"On receiving the enemy's fire, the line at once lay down and returned it.

while the rear rank began to entrench. "Daylight found A. and H. companies well entrenched with the Royal Engineers still pushing the work on. At about 6 a.m. one of the enemy advanced with a white flag, when the firing ceased and Conge surrendered unconditionally. Our dead were buried close to where they fell. The various actions beginning on the 18th and ending on Feb. 27, have been called 'Paardeberg.'

St. John Men

The men from St. John who served in the Boer war campaign are as follows: Frederick Caverhill Jones,

Charles Wesley Weldon McLean, John Henry Kaye, Alfred Simpson, Frederick A. Kirkpatrick, Frederick McCain, Edward A. Craig, William J. Raymond, William O. Swatridge, David J. Fabre, John Walsh, John Rawlins, John Scott, William W. Donohoe, George Polkinghorne, Andrew Doyle, Arthur Roberts, William Bryant, Arthur S. Hatfield, Henry Austin Morley, Charles Leonard Jenkins, James M. Burnside, Frank W. Sprague, J. Benson Pascoe, Ambrose Pelky, John H. Williams, Frederick Williams, Walter Downing, Joseph Monteth, William C. Unkuf, Minard A. Foster, J. Harry Robertson, Alexander Globe, Louis

Smith, Joseph P. Addison, William A. Chisholm, Joseph Letsen, James Greca, James McDermott, John A. McElhinney, Charles T. Redmond, Walter J. Cooper, Arthur Hayden, Walter H. Irving, John J. Carney, Ernest A. Strange, William L. Hunter, James Johnson, Frederick W. Coombs, Richard Penny, Robert M. Turner, Allan McL. Schofield, George F. Adams, Russell C. Hubley, William E. McMullin, Leigh Stanton, Frederick T. Chesley, C. W. Cunard, Roy A. Harrison, A. G. Howard, George P. Kirk, George F. McLeod, Samuel J. Withers, Beverley R. Armstrong, John H. Parks, Jr., Ralph F. Markham, Daniel A. Morrison, Walker H. Bell, John T. Ryan, Frederick W. Lawson, E. Stanley Morrison, J. R. McCulley, H. Irving Stevenson, W. E. Anderson, Frederick E. Bettie, A. Leavitt, Edwin P. Mallory, Robert McIntyre, John Nilant, A. L. McIntosh, Walter E. Venning, J. Frank Hawkins, F. L. Doyle, Harry Metzler, John H. Lockhart, A. H. Moorehouse, W. Edwards, P. R. L. Fairweather, Henry E. Phillips, Duncan R. Robertson, H. V. McKinnon.

Given Freedom of City

On July 18, 1901, the Common Council of the City of St. John conferred the freedom of the city on these men "in recognition of their patriotism and devotion in leaving their homes and occupations in the interests of the Queen and Empire and their gallantry in maintaining British supremacy in South Africa."

ENJOY RADIO

Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Patruquin entertained the members of the Young People's Society of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Fairville at his home in the Manawagonish road on Tuesday evening. About 35 were present. A radio concert was much enjoyed by everyone and the evening was passed very pleasantly with games and music. Rev. F. J. LeRoy, the rector, was present and contributed much to the evening's enjoyment. Delicious refreshments were served.

One scientist holds that probable rainfall on Mars would necessitate the Martians having long noses. Ten tons of explosives were recently set off in one place in France to observe the speed of sound.

TILING CONTRACT FOR THE HOSPITAL

St. John Firm is to do The
Work at Price of
\$4,700.

A \$4,700 contract for tiling in the General Public Hospital has been awarded to the W. Nonnenman Tiling Company, of St. John, and the necessary tiles will be ordered immediately and the work of laying will probably be commenced in about five or six weeks. The tiling is for the floor of the new out-patient department, for the floor, walls and ceiling of the sterilizing room of the operating theatre and for the walls of the kitchen.

The floor of the out-patient department was at first covered with linoleum which proved entirely unsatisfactory, and broke off in large pieces. The contractors refunded the money expended on the linoleum and it was decided to put tiles in its place.

French Grey Tile


A one-inch hexagonal tile in French grey has been chosen for the out-patient department floor and as a finish a sanitary base of white tile will be placed along the walls to meet the tiles. The sanitary base is rounded off so that there is no sharp corner at the junction of the base and the floor. The curving base is very easy to clean, while with the sharp corner in ordinary bases it is practically impossible to prevent the dirt from lodging.

In Sterilizing Room

All of the tiling in the sterilizing room will be white. The floor will be four-inch hexagonal tiles and on the walls and ceiling tiles three inches by six inches, brick shape, will be used. It will be necessary to make temporary installations of the sterilizing apparatus for use while the room is being tiled.

The same tiles as will be used on the walls and ceiling of the sterilizing room will be used on the walls of the kitchen, where paint and enamel have proved quite unsuitable. The kitchen walls are already tiled up to four feet from the floor and the tiling will be continued to the ceiling.

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SECURES MEDAL

A. Selwyn Coster, M. A., of St. John, now taking a divinity course at King's University, Halifax, was among the four who received the Quincentennial Debating Society's medal for representing the college in intercollegiate debate, presented at a recent meeting of the society. The others receiving the hon-

or were H. Boardman Jones, B. A., who led his team against Mount Allison, Dalhousie and the visiting Oxford debaters; C. deW. White, B. A., and Henry P. Ross, of the 1924 class. Professor W. D. MacFarlane made the presentations. The medals were designed by C. W. Jones, of the '26 class.

Your doctor advises
internal cleanliness

HE WILL tell you that the first results of constipation—headache, sleepless nights, biliousness, backache, etc.—warn that the body is flooded with intestinal poisons. In time these poisons may cause the breakdown of health and lead to serious disease.

Laxatives and cathartics do not overcome constipation, says a noted authority, but by their continued use tend only to aggravate the condition and often lead to permanent injury.

Why Physicians Favour Lubrication

Medical science has found at last in lubrication a means of overcoming constipation. The gentle lubricant, Nujol, penetrates and softens the hard food waste and thus hastens its passage through and out of the body. Thus, Nujol brings internal cleanliness.

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How Canada Benefits from Canadian Pacific Financing

ONE reason why Canadian Pacific traffic charges are low is that its capital charges are low.

Surplus earnings have been reinvested for betterments and improvements without being capitalized.

Surpluses of \$31 per share of all its common stock have gone back into the railway, a total of \$80,600,000.

This was a contribution, without interest, by the shareholders, otherwise the Company would have been forced to borrow this amount, thus adding to its bonded debt and permanently increasing its capital charges.

In addition to this the shareholders have contributed as premiums on the purchase of shares the sum of \$31,200,000, equal to \$12 per share on the whole common stock, which has been similarly employed, and costs neither the Company nor the public one dollar in capital charges.

If other amounts similarly appropriated were added to the surpluses and premiums, an increase of not less than \$240,000,000 might properly be made in the capital of the Company, the interest on which would form a permanent charge on the Company's traffic.

The Canadian public has profited by the Company's ex-

penditure of \$68,000,000 for immigration, settlement and irrigation projects.

Moreover, the Canadian Pacific is the largest individual taxpayer in Canada. Its contribution in taxes to the public treasury in a period of only five years (1919 to 1923, inclusive) being \$31,666,000.

Thus the Canadian Pacific, which directly and indirectly has been the greatest force in building up the country, has cost Canada nothing.

The Canadian Pacific is in the widest and truest sense a national institution, in the success and progress of which every citizen has a direct interest.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

It Spans the World