

VICTORIA CROSS AWARDED TO SEVEN CANADIANS

London, Sept. 28.—The *London Gazette* announces the award of nine new Victoria Crosses to seven Canadians, one Australian, and one New Zealander. Four of the recipients are dead. The names and achievements of the Canadian recipients follow:

Lieut. James Edward Tait, M. C., late of a Manitoba regiment, for conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack. An advance having been checked by intense machine-gun fire, Tait rallied his company and led it forward with consummate skill and dash under a hail of bullets. A concealed machine gun, however, continued to cause many casualties. Taking a rifle and bayonet, Tait dashed forward alone and killed the enemy gunner. Later when the enemy counter-attacked under intense artillery bombardment, this gallant officer displayed outstanding courage and leadership, and, though mortally wounded by shell fire, continued to direct and aid his men until death intervened.

Lieut. John Brillant, M. C., late of a Quebec regiment, for conspicuous bravery and outstanding devotion to duty, when in charge of his company, which he led in an attack during two days with absolute fearlessness and extraordinary ability and initiative, the extent of the advance being twelve miles. On the first day of the operation and shortly after the attack had been begun, the left flank of his company was held up by an enemy machine gun. Brillant rushed and captured the machine gun, killing two of the crew. He was wounded whilst doing this, but refused to leave his command. Later on the same day his company was held up by heavy machine-gun fire. Subsequently this gallant officer detected a field gun firing on his men over open sights. He immediately organized and led a "rush" party towards the gun. After progressing about 600 yards he was again seriously wounded; nevertheless he continued and advanced about 200 yards more when he fell unconscious from exhaustion and loss of blood. Brillant's wonderful example

throughout the day inspired the men with an enthusiasm and dash that largely contributed to the success of the operations.

Lieut. John Brillant, born at Assanetunathau, Quebec, 1890, enlisted in 1916, leaving Canada three days later. He was wounded in 1918. His father lives at Rimouski.

Corporal Herman Jones Good, of a Quebec regiment, for the most conspicuous bravery and leading in attack his company, which was held up by a heavy fire from three machine guns, which seriously delayed the advance. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Good dashed forward alone, killing several of the garrison and capturing the remainder. Later Good, while alone, encountered a battery of five-point-nines which were in action. Collecting three men of his section, he charged the battery under point-blank fire and captured the entire crew of three guns. Despite his wound, this gallant non-commissioned officer continued with his platoon to the final objective, and only left the line when it had been made secure and he had been ordered to do so.

Corpl. Herman Good, son of Walter Good, of Bathurst, New Brunswick, aged 25, went to France in April, 1916, and was wounded two months later. He was a farmer.

Corpl. Alexander Brereton, of a Manitoba regiment, for the most conspicuous bravery. During an attack, when a line of hostile machine guns opened fire suddenly on his platoon, which was in an exposed position with no cover available, this gallant private immediately appreciated the critical situation and realized that unless something was done at once his platoon would be annihilated. On his own initiative, without a moment's delay and alone, he sprang forward, reached one hostile machine gun, shot the operator and bayoneted another who attempted to take his place. Nine other men surrendered to him.

Corpl. Alexander Brereton belongs to Winnipeg. He was born at Oak River, Manitoba, and went to France in February, 1917. His father lives at Strathlefer, Manitoba. He was a farmer.

Corporal Frederick George Coppins of a Manitoba regiment, for the most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when during an attack his platoon came unexpectedly under the fire of numerous machine guns. Coppins unhesitatingly, on his own initiative, called on four men to follow him and leaped forward in the face of an intense machine gun fire. With his comrades he rushed straight for the machine guns. The four men with him were killed and Coppins was wounded, but he reached the hostile machine guns alone, killed the operator of the first gun and took four others prisoners.

Corpl. Frederick Coppins, born in London, Eng., where his mother now resides, originally belonged to Calgary. He was wounded a year ago and served for a time with the West Kents.

Private John Bernard Croak, late of a Quebec regiment, for the most conspicuous bravery in attack when, having become separated from his section, he encountered a machine-gun nest, which he bombed and silenced, capturing the gun and its crew. Shortly afterwards he was severely wounded, but refused to desist and rejoined his platoon at a very strong point where there were several machine guns. Croak seeing the opportunity, dashed forward alone and was almost immediately followed by the remainder of the platoon in a brilliant charge. He was the first to reach the trenches, into which he led the men, capturing three machine-guns, bayonetting or taking prisoner the entire garrison.

Private John Croak belongs to Sussex, New Brunswick, and was born at Glace Bay. He was 20 years of age. He has been in France over two years. He was a laborer prior to enlisting.

Lieut. James Tait was born at Dumfrries,

Scotland, in 1888, and enlisted in February, 1916. He was a civil engineer in Winnipeg and already held the Military Cross, had been wounded three times and was killed on August 11 last in a deed which earned him the Cross. His next of kin is Jessie Tait, Chelmo Apartments, Burnett St., Winnipeg.

Sergeant Raphael Louis Zengel, M. C., of a Saskatchewan regiment, for the most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when protecting the battalion's right flank. He was leading the platoon gallantly to the attack when he realized that a gap had occurred on his left and an enemy machine gun was firing at close quarters into the advancing line. Grasping the situation, Zengel rushed forward some 200 yards ahead of his platoon and tackled the machine-gun emplacement, killing the officer and operator of the gun dispersing the crew. By his boldness and prompt action he undoubtedly saved the lives of many of his comrades. Later, when the battalion was held up by very heavy machine-gun fire, he displayed most tactical skill and directed his fire with destructive results.

Sergt. Raphael Zengel, aged 24, was born at Fairbault, Minnesota, and enlisted in July, 1915. He won the Military Medal last March and has been in France fifteen months. His mother lives at Woolford Station, Alberta.

POTATO SEED SELECTION

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Like begets like in the potato field as elsewhere, but judging by the quantities of inferior tubers used for seed purposes, the importance of this law is not appreciated by many. The use of small potatoes taken from the bulk of the crop, year after year, and used for seed will eventually lead to yields of inferior potatoes.

At potato digging time the great opportunity for seed selection is offered. With the product of each plant spread on the soil it is an easy matter to select out those plants that have given the largest yield of the most desirable type of potato and are free from disease. The potatoes from such plants only should be gathered and saved for use as seed the following year. This saving of seed at digging time may seem to many as an extra burden during a rush of work, but it is not.

There is less actual labour attached to selection at the time of the potato harvest than there is by practising any other method of seed selection. Furthermore, the results from hill selection are reasonably certain, while with other methods there is some speculation. Potato growers would do well to watch closely for exceptionally good plants. These, harvested and saved apart from the main crop, may become the grand-dads of fine potato fields in the future.

FERTILIZERS FOR 1919.

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Now is the time for the farmer to plan his croppings for 1919, and in doing so to decide upon what fertilizers, if any, he purposes to use. Last spring there was considerable disappointment among farmers, especially among those who delayed placing their orders till a few weeks before the season opened, as there was not only a shortage of material but transportation facilities were such that quick deliveries could not be made. There is no prospect that conditions will be better next spring, and it therefore behooves the farmer this fall carefully to consider his needs, scan the prices, and having made his selection to place his orders, stipulating an early delivery. Co-operation in ordering may effect the saving of a considerable amount in purchasing and freight rates.

During the last ten years there has been considerable increase in the number of farmers in British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario, and the Maritime provinces using fertilizers, but unfortunately but a small percentage of them have any definite knowledge of the profit that may have resulted from their application. There will always be a degree of uncertainty as regards results from fertilizers, chiefly owing to the fact that seasonal conditions can not be predicted, but with close observation from carefully planned work, a very great knowledge may be gained as to the kind and amount of fertilizer which will prove profitable. A series of adjacent plots on fairly uniform soil, each with a different amount or combination of fertilizer and sown to the same crop, furnishes the most reliable means of learning the most profitable application, but if time and labor do not permit of the adoption of this plan, a strip of the field, well staked, should be left unfertilized and its yield weighed against that of a similar sized strip on the fertilized area. From the results so obtained the profit or loss from the application of the fertilizer may be readily obtained.

A considerable saving may be usually effected by buying fertilizer ingredients—nitrate of soda, sulphate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate, basic slag, etc.—than by purchasing ready mixed fertilizers, and this course also furnishes valuable information for future guidance obtainable in no other way.

Information and advice regarding the use of fertilizers will be gladly given as far as may be practicable, by the Division of Chemistry, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

HARVESTING NUTS AS A PATRIOTIC PASTIME

(Experimental Farms Note)

Throughout Canada there is a generous supply of nut-bearing trees which yield an abundance of edible nuts rich in food value, as the butternut, black walnut, the hickories, hazelnuts, and beech nuts. Nuts are more nutritious than milk, eggs, bread, and meat, one ounce of nut kernels being equal in food value to a pint of milk. Nuts are ready to eat without the labor and cost of cooking. They may be served in the form of delicious sandwiches, in salads, in fruit jellies, and cakes, or a handful may be kneaded into a loaf of bread before it goes into the oven. A few kernels put through the nut chopper and scattered over the breakfast cereal adequately supply the place of bacon.

This important food crop is waiting in the woods to be gathered in. A few afternoons spent nutting in the woods during the bright autumn days will supply the home with nuts for the winter and will save the meat supply for our country's defense. After gathering, the nuts should be spread on the attic floor or on shelves in a dry place to allow the surface moisture to escape. They may be cracked at leisure by the boys and girls in dull weather and stored in air tight glass jars.

A few of the finer nuts should be saved for planting nearer home. Nothing will give the children greater pleasure than to choose and plant their own nut trees. If space allows, a future nut-orchard might be planned or young trees transplanted as shade trees. The beech is a very beautiful tree, both in winter and summer and the butternut, walnut, and hickory make good garden shade trees and their wood is very valuable.

The butternut occurs from New Brunswick to Ontario, while the black walnut is found in the southern part of Ontario. The shagbark hickory ranges from Quebec to the north shore of Lake Huron, the mockernut hickory occurring in Ontario only. The hazel nut extends from the Maritime Provinces to Saskatchewan; the beaked hazel nut has an even greater range extending into British Columbia. The beech ranges from Nova Scotia to Ontario.

THERE'S A WARNING IN TRADE FIGURES

Our Unstable Financial Position Indicated—Thrift Will Make Canada Secure.

For those who understand Canada's financial conditions there is a significant lesson in the trade figures recently issued from Ottawa.

For the first five months of the present fiscal year there was a decrease in Canada's foreign trade of \$270,000,000, or about 20 per cent. There was a great falling off alike in manufactures and agricultural products exported. The

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trade was \$875,000,000, compared with \$1,146,000,000 a year ago.

These figures tell in potent terms of the instability of present conditions. Our trade, though still large and healthy, is on an insecure and unending foundation. War conditions have created a fictitious prosperity. There may be no reason for alarm but there is reason for caution. The Government must watch and prepare, so should the individuals. Few Canadians but are affected in some way by the present conditions. The wise way will prepare by practising thrift now.

The nation can be no stronger than its individual citizens.

"I'd like to look at some dog muzzles," said the man entering the store. "Yes, Sir," replied the clerk with the incipient moustache. "There's a very good muzzle sir." "And can a dog chew with this muzzle on?" "Oh, yes sir." "But can't bite?" "Oh, yes, he can bite, but he can't bite off more than he can chew, sir."—*Yonkers Statesman.*

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Your work is heavy, and sore, tired muscles are a common occurrence. Each time your back aches you blame it on your work, and just there the danger lies—for that pain in the back may not be from strain, as you suppose, but the forerunner of Kidney or Bladder trouble.

For your own interest, it is best to trouble inevitably pull you down and destroy your earning power.

Take note of these symptoms. Do you get dizzy and have repeated headaches, painful urination, brick dust deposits, or feel drowsy and, generally, good for nothing? If so, it is your kidneys that are bothering you—not work—and Gin Pills are necessary.

No person can work properly when they feel sick, tired and dizzy all the time. The more they try, the more energy they use up; and this only tends to aggravate their condition, as the kidneys are already tired out with their endeavor to relieve their congested state and perform their function properly.

The kidneys are delicate and vital organs; once they become affected through any cause—you suffer until the congestion is relieved and the cause remedied.

Don't let your system become run down. A box or two of Gin Pills will relieve those kidney complaints and restore your old-time health and strength.

Your health is priceless. Don't risk losing it. Keep your kidneys in order always by taking Gin Pills. Sold everywhere for 50c a box. Write for free sample to The National Drug & Chemical Co., of Canada, Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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