

**MOST INTERESTING LETTER FROM PTE. JOHN R. DAWSON OF AMBULANCE CORPS WRITTEN FROM BELGIUM.**

Belgium, Nov. 20th, 1918.  
Dear Mother,  
It is a week today since we left Le-wardre (6 Km. east of Douai) for a long hike through to Germany. We are now permitted to give more particulars of what we are doing and the country through which we are passing. The first day we marched from Le-wardre to a village 1-2 Km. west of Denaine. On Wednesday (next day) marched to Onnaing, through Valenciennes. The following day we made Hornu, 2 Km. east of Bosen. Here we remained two days resting ourselves; thence to Masny-St. Pierre, a small village 10 Km. N.E., of Mons. Since then we have rested, but expect to start off at any hour for a three or four days hike across Belgium.

We are marching with our full equipment on, which of course is much harder than going light.

You remember shortly after the war started, yes, for some time afterward there was a big cry of the Huns cruelty to the natives of France and Belgium, and I became rather skeptical about some of it, thinking it might be just paper talk to get up our indignation or anger against the Germans; but now I believe it all, for it is all true. The first three stops we made we lived in the homes of the people who were extremely kind to us, and we got through our broken French and French patois spoken on the Belgian border some idea of the terrible cruelties inflicted.

We have several fellows in our unit who speak French very well and we learn a lot through their interpretation. When Heinie passed through Hornu on the Marne they murdered over 200 children in cold blood, separating families and sending them to all parts of France, Belgium and Germany was very common. The stories we hear of men doing forced work in mines, etc. under abominable conditions are only too true.

So far the people have been very kind and open-hearted to us Canadians. They seem to think nothing is too good for us.

For instance we stopped at one place where there were a widow and her son (20), and in that home six of us were billeted. The old lady was going to (with her son) sleep on the kitchen floor so that we might have her bed and mattresses to sleep on, only after a vehement protest on our part did she keep her bed.

The next day when she learned we were not moving away, she washed all our dirty clothes we could give her to wash.

In another house where our fellows stayed were an old couple with two bright young girls. When our fellows left they actually cried, so sorry were they to see us leave. Passing through village after village or towns, we were all struck by a peculiar look in the eyes of the inhabitants, they all seemed to have a "dopy" look. We marched by thousands of released refugees and such pitiable spectacles would make any one's heart ache. Old women and men, with very young children pushing or

es, left by the roadside, were supposed to do the best they can with them, for instance, attached to one large donkey cart were a small pony with an Indian cow (yak), with a cow hitched to the end of the tongue in front of them.

The general impression among us is, that the farther we go into Belgium, the poorer the reception will be. The Flemish element are of a different class of people from those on the French border.

The other day I saw Douglas Dickie passing by with his regiment (85th Bn) He told me about Hugh Dickson being wounded also about Walter getting hit too. This was the first time I knew of it. Douglas was looking splendidly. I suppose you received my whiz-bang "hope to be discharged soon," which means anytime before Easter.

I hope I will be able to keep fit for the long marches which are before us to Germany, as I understand we are going to do. If any of us fall out, back to the C.C.S., we go and at the stage of the game that is the last thing I wish, for we are seeing the country and somehow I have a feeling that those who survive will see Canada first. Then again I wish to stay by the unit. After getting acquainted with it, it is not so pleasant to be shifted to other places or units. I must quit now but will try to write more interesting letters since the censorship is not so strict. We all are looking forward to 'Canada' with very keen interest. Don't let this stop you from writing frequently.  
Your son with love,  
JOHN.

**LETTER FROM CHAPLAIN A.J. McDONALD, 25TH BATT. FRANCE, TO MR. GEO. MANLEY, SOUTH MAITLAND, MOTHER OF CORPORAL GEORGE MANLEY WHO GAVE HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY ON AUG. 9, 1918.**

Nov. 17-1918.  
My Dear Mrs. Manley,  
In reply to your letter, I may say it is so impossible to send your son's remains home or any bodies that are buried in the field of battle. There are no coffins and the bodies are wrapped in a blanket and officers and soldiers are laid side by side and buried with due ceremony. If circumstances permit, the location of your son's grave, given officially as follows, Sheet 66E E4.C.7. 3  
It can be traced out after the war the name of the town or Village to the next of kin. The grave-commission will keep the grave neat



# Marven's Modern Biscuit Factory Visited by the Duke of Devonshire

## Governor General was Greatly Interested in the Home of White Lily Biscuits, and paid many deserved compliments to the President and General Manager, Mr. J. A. Marven.

Friday, December 6th, 1918, was an eventful day in the history of Moncton because of the visit of the Duke of Devonshire, Governor General of Canada. The day is to be especially remembered by the officers and employes of the J. A. Marven, Limited, who were greatly honored by a visit from His Excellency to the Home of White Lily Biscuits. The Royal Party was met at the main entrance by Mr. J. A. Marven, head of the Marven industry, who led the way over the splendid plant. Everywhere His Excellency expressed interest and delight at what he saw and such remarks as these fell from the Royal lips;---

**"The cleanest biscuit factory I ever visited"**

**"Certainly a magnificent plant"**

**"I had no idea that such a large biscuit factory existed in the Maritime Provinces"**

**"This plant and equipment are something of which Canada may well be proud"**

His Excellency followed every step of the process of biscuit making from the mill to the big flour room until the biscuits, cooked to a nicety by natural gas, are packed into boxes ready to be shipped. He showed keen interest in the modern mixers, the breakers, the big ovens and the hundred and one machines which to make the Marven Biscuit plant one of the largest and best equipped in Canada. His Excellency was delighted with the up-to-date method of accounting carried on in the Marven offices and his enthusiastic remarks left no room for doubt as to what he thought of the big Marven enterprise which has made such remarkable progress during the past few years. His Excellency was given many samples of White Lily Biscuits, which pleased the Royal palate.

The Marven Company have named in honor of the Duke of Devonshire a new line of cake which they are just putting on the market. The Devon Slab Cakes, which include the Devon Pond Cake, the Devon Sultana Cake, the Devon Genoa Cake and the Devon Fruit Cake will bear lasting testimony to the visit of our Governor General to the Marven Plant.

and trim for all time. The parcels that come to any who have been killed are distributed to the boys, who are his chums. All his belongings, turned in to Headquarters, are sent to his next of kin in the ordinary way. It may be a long time reaching you but some day it will and his back pay and all will be straightened out in time. The war is over and it will not be very long until we shall be heading for home. God grant it will not be long. God sustain and comfort you in your loss  
Yours,  
A. J. McDONALD,  
Chaplain.

**NEW PENSIONS IN FORCE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.**

Ottawa, December 23.—New pension regulations come into force on New Year's Day. They will follow, in the main, recommendations made by the special committee of the House of Commons, whose findings were published some months ago. But the recommendations have been supplemented in three important particulars:—  
1—The coming into force of the regulations is fixed for January 1st, 1919.  
2—All existing cases may be reviewed by the Board of Pensions Commissioners in the light of the pre-

**MESSAGE TO A VICTORIOUS CANADIAN ARMY.**

Ottawa, December 23.—Major General Hon. S. C. Mewburn, minister of Militia and defence, has sent the following Christmas message to the Canadian troops overseas:—  
"On behalf of your comrades in Canada, I have the proud privilege of sending Christmas greetings this year to a victorious Canadian army, occupying the territory of a conquered foe. Last year you looked back upon a year of desperate, if glorious fighting and forward to a doubtful issue for the enemy was known to have gained new strength and to be meditating a tremendous blow against us. Today you can look back upon a year in which the British arms bore adversity with fortitude, refused to despond when things were at their darkest, returned to the offensive at the critical moment, and in three months of fighting such as the world never had seen before, won a victory unexampled alike for the glory won and for the service rendered by it for humanity."  
"In this warfare of the giants you have borne a part which fills us with pride and gratitude which we cannot express. Amiens, Arras, the Quant-Drocourt line, the Canal Du Nord, Cambrai Valenciennes, and Mons are words which will inspire Canadians for centuries and you are the men who have done the resounding deeds. Our homage of love and pride is tendered to the men who fell in winning the triumphs."  
"We hope soon to welcome you home and you may rest assured that every effort is being made to ease the path of your return to peaceful industry."

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BREAKS WITH THEIR KING.**

Amsterdam, Dec. 23.  
The Belgrade newspaper, Samou Prave, prints an announcement by the chief of the Montenegrin mission saying: "In view of the recent communication to the press by the former King of Montenegro I declare that the Great National Assembly held at Podoribea was held by the will of the entire people. The former King by his insincerity and flight from the country, which he simply abandoned has flung away the country and crown, and we have broken off all relations with him."

**Lumbermen Wanted**

Have places for one good cook, for small wood's crew; also for one first class marker for mill.  
Apply to  
**Rufus E Dickie STEWACKE, N. S.**  
26-12-2w  
War Insurance and Reduced Ocean freights will enable us right away to quote all our imports fully ten cents on the dollar below pre Armistice prices.—C. E. Bentley & Co.

From Capt. (Rev.) W. A. White, comes a pretty booklet with the "Seaside's Greetings" Chaplain White, has our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year; and a safe return to his adopted Canada.

**LUMBER HAULING CONTRACT**

We are open to let a contract for hauling 700 to 900 feet spruce and hardwood lumber, from what is known as the Daniel McDonald lot at Mount Thom to Mount Thom Siding on the C. G. Railway.  
Apply to  
**ALEX G. FRASER, FOREMAN: MOUNT THOM**  
or  
Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company Limited, Lumbering Department, New Glasgow.  
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