

FEAT OF LITTLE BODY OF CANADIAN TROOPS WILL LIVE IN HISTORY

Gallant Lieutenant and Fifty Men Hold Important Point Till Supports Come up and Victory Over Huns Then is Won

(Special cable to Times by F. A. McKennie, copyright.) With Canadian Corps in Field, Oct. 31, (via London).—The full story of Friday's fight, which I have obtained from men engaged in it, modifies some details as first received. Our men were not wholly driven back to their original lines before rallying and recovering the position. Several groups gallantly held the advanced posts the whole time. The deeds of one of these parties will, I venture to predict, live immortally in Canadian history.

An advance against Bellevue Spur consisted of three main sections. One of these performed expeditiously and thoroughly the comparatively minor task of clearing Wolf Copse on the left. The Ontarians attacked a formidable enemy trench on the right and they were considerably hampered by mud and storm which made progress difficult and made it almost impossible to maintain touch or carry out observation. Immediately our barrage lifted the German troops showed out from concrete shelters in the trenches with numerous machine guns. Other troops in pill boxes on the flank opened a withering enfilading fire upon our men who pushed on through up to the edge of the trench, fighting in isolated units. Then, faced by heavy losses, they fell back. Three officers, however, remained right forward and one of these captured sixty-three prisoners in this first advance. Before the men retired numerous prisoners were taken.

Our central battalion advanced straight against the main height, Bellevue Spur. This strongly fortified point previously had repulsed attempts to capture it, but now our men swept over three strong pill boxes immediately over to the edge of the spur. One of these knocked out full of dead men by our artillery. The Canadians captured the second and third. Twenty men with one machine gun found themselves up against two parties completed German strong points. They wiped the Germans out and were joined by a lieutenant who rallied them. Gradually other men came up with a second machine gun, making about fifty men in all. Slightly to their right another officer

with four men also made the top. Right flank and central attack were unable to observe what the larger group was doing and received a report that every man was killed there. Seeing that the Ontarians on the right had retired also, they fell back. Thus we had a small body upon the crest of the spur and a few isolated groups around the trench. A remarkable light now followed.

A Gallant Stand. The lieutenant in command discovered that he had absolutely the commanding position and the Germans were attempting to enfilade him and advance behind him while others attempted to creep round in front. He directed his infantry and machine guns shooting every German so soon as he showed himself. One machine gun was put out of action, but the lieutenant himself apparently bore a charmed life. His fellow officers, all praising him, told me he was shot three times. The first shot went into his pocket, the second in his gas mask chamber, and the third struck him on the back, going through a tin of fudge he had placed there and producing a slight surface wound.

The battle waged now one way, now another on the spur of the crest. "I've never witnessed such fighting before," said one man who had been through many battles, "I never dreamed such fighting was possible." Leaving his men for a time, the lieutenant rushed down the line to battalion headquarters. "I've fifty men holding the hill top," he called, "you can send supports up on the left side of the hill." A fresh move was immediately arranged. Those who had repulsed after retirement promptly moved forward again on the right. They showed most splendid gallantry under very difficult circumstances. Many men seriously wounded refused to quit the ranks, but fought on despite the wounds. The rest of the Ontarians was irresistible. The Germans seemed to have the heart knocked out of them by the tremendous rifle fire punishment they had received from the men on the hill top. A lieutenant and four men captured one pill box, another battalion sent in fresh support moved up dead ground to the left spur, swung around and moved behind the Manitobans on top of the spur. Then both sides joined forces. Pill box after pill box yielded Germans

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ing down on the inhospitable marshlands, rendering the work of consolidation much easier for the men who had laid out all night in the cold in their drenched uniforms. Heavy artillery fire continued at various points, the German gunwork being especially intense in the region between Schaepp Baillie and Poelcapelle, to the north of yesterday's attack. Here, in the valley of a little river, the British were shelled from two outposts in fortified farms and without drawing slightly to the west of these places.

A captured German officer of considerable intelligence and individuality, has made some interesting statements, among which was one to the effect that he expected the Americans next spring to continue the offensive in the Ypres area. He added that he was looking to America to build 100,000 airplanes. He declared that there would be no general withdrawal of the Germans in Belgium, but that they will fall back fighting for each position. He said significantly that there had been a decrease in the morale of the German troops and that the men were losing respect for their officers.

Quiet Night for Canadians. British Front in Belgium, Oct. 31.—(By the Associated Press)—The Canadians passed a comparatively quiet night in their new positions near Passchendaele, the Germans apparently being content to let well enough alone after their series of costly counter-attacks yesterday.

Money earned on family footwear and rubber wear.—Bassett's, 14-16-18 Charlotte street. No branches.

I have received from the Toronto Fair an assortment of jewelry, all prices. See our window display. D. McArthur, 84 King street. 10-80

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A Case of Smallpox. Dr. B. M. Mullin of Devon, N.B., reports a case of smallpox at Douglas, N.B. The victim of the disease is Roy Hawkins, aged eighteen. The matter was reported on Tuesday to Dr. R. H. McGrath, secretary of the provincial board of health.

Great News. We were to tell you of all the wonderful values offered tomorrow by this, St. John's leading grocery store, it would take a page of type talk.

We have, therefore, culled the following specials as typical of the host of others awaiting your picking:

- FLOUR: Five Roses, Royal Household and Robin Hood. Barrels, \$12.50; 1/2 bbls., \$6.40; 98 lb. bags, \$6.15; 24 lb. bags, \$1.65.

E. R. & H. C. ROBERTSON. Phones 3461 and 3462. COR. MAIN AND DOUGLAS AVE. All at Reduced Prices.

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POTATOES: Choice White Potatoes, 43c. peck, \$1.65 bushel, \$4.50 barrel.

Sore Eyes. Granulated Eyelids, Eyes inflamed by exposure to Sun, Dust and Wind.

RECENT DEATHS

Leonard T. Nase. After a short illness the death of Leonard T. Nase occurred yesterday at his late residence, 180 Main street. Mr. Nase was sixty-four years of age.

Mrs. David Low. Kincairdine, Oct. 30.—The death of Mrs. David Low, of Kincairdine, occurred Thursday, October 25, after a short illness, aged ninety-two years.

Charles S. Humbert. The death of Charles S. Humbert occurred yesterday at his late residence, Riverside, Kings county. He was a son of the late F. C. Humbert, and has been in poor health for some years.

VERDICT FOR DEFENDANT. In the Supreme Court yesterday afternoon, Judge Barry presiding, the case of Eleanor Elizabeth Cunningham vs. William T. Cunningham had an unusual ending.

CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN. Halloween was observed last night by many of the young people of the city. While many celebrated the occasion by attiring themselves and parading in fancy costumes, others celebrated in their own homes with halloween games.

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Out Today New Victor Records for November. John McCormack Sings a Soldier Song "Send Me Away With a Smile," a song that will please the soldier—also his sweetheart. Elman plays Drdla's "Souvenir" a wonderful reproduction. Alma Gluck's "The Prayer Perfect" by James Whitcomb Riley, is admirable and beautiful.

LOCAL NEWS. Bargains! Bargains! Real bargains in ladies' and misses' fall and winter coats at Bassett's, 14-16-18 Charlotte street. No branches.

LOCAL NEWS. A successful tea was held in St. James' church last night by the Young Women's Chancel Guild.

LOCAL NEWS. Commissioner H. R. McLellan was elected Exalted Ruler at a meeting of the Elks in their rooms last night. William R. White was elected secretary.

As Arthur Lynch was trucking some apples of the steamer Champlain one of the barrels fell on his foot and badly bruised it.

Senor Cesar Barranco, consul for Cuba in New Brunswick, yesterday telegraphed of condolence on behalf of his nation to Mrs. G. W. Ganong, wife of the late lieutenant-governor.

Joanna Leonard, widow of W. H. Leonard, aged eighty-three years, and Aileen Frances Beveridge, widow of Isaac Beveridge, passed away at Yarmouth yesterday.

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