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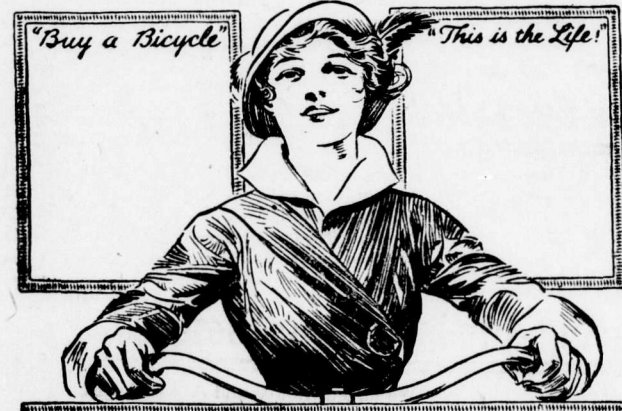
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CANADIAN SOLDIER OVERSEAS IS SURPRISED AT CANADA

STRONG PLEA FOR REINFORCEMENTS

Says Men are Badly Needed. Should Not be Travelling Streets with a Girl on Their Arm, While Men Overseas are Facing the Lead.

June 23rd, 1917
The Express Publishing House,
Dear Sirs:

The enclosed is a copy of a letter just received from a Canadian soldier written from England, he has since the writing thereof, gone to France. It looks to me like the best plea I have seen for adequate reinforcements being sent at the earliest possible moment and obtaining them by the quickest possible procedure.

I am sending a copy to each of the town papers, with a suggestion that the letter is of sufficient interest to merit publication.

Yours truly,

W. Harold Barnum

Westinghanger, England

Dear Mr. Barnum,

I am still in England, and do not know just when we will leave for France. It will not be long, I volunteered for a French draft. I am anxious to get there now. I have met many of my old school chums, and heard of some I never shall see again. They have done their bit, and gone to be rewarded, several relations of my own included, so that makes me hot after Germans. I think everybody else is the same. Many of our young Canadians, (I should not say many, I should say thousands) want to wake up and realize that this fight is theirs as well as ours, and our comrades that have given their best in the world for us. I have brothers myself in Canada, and would be delighted to see them help us out, and now is the time to prove their mettle.

We in Canada are simply sleeping as regards to war, although some of them have proved their steel. For example, M. S. Beotin, manager of No. 16 Colliery, on learning of his son's death in France, got a commission and came himself. He is a fine fellow, I must say. He was my first boss, I did time keeping under him. When that mine opened up, I also met Mr. McDaniel, another cousin of mine. I also met some of my old Western Ontario friends, and some more of them have left this cruel world of wars, and lie beneath the sod. I may mention a few, Bert Corbin and Bob Freeman, two excellent young men. When you come to England you begin to realize what war is, and we had an example of it this evening. I am sorry I cannot tell you all about it.

I am surprised that old Canada, a land dear to me, has not passed conscription. The men are needed here, and this is their place, and this is where they should be, not travelling

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the streets with a girl hanging on their arm, taking all the comforts of life, while the men over here are facing lead for freedom. Single men should make their appearance first, and I think it is up to every newspaper, business man, or any man with influence, to stimulate recruiting and also influence the government to get those slackers over here where they should be. Some may be needed to grow food for us, yet there are thousands who would scorn such a job. Canadians are respected very much here. A soldier friend of mine and I were invited out to tea, and were used like gentlemen. We are fed pretty well here and also used well. The English people are very sociable people and good sportsman.

Now, Mr. Barnum, please excuse bad writing and mistakes, I wish you, and the family and also Uncle Jimmie my best wishes.

I remain as ever,

A 509 Pte. Dan Coady

A RATION PARTY

The following humorous rhyme was written by Pte. Alex Carter, of the 54th Battalion, a former Aylmer boy, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carter, who enlisted at London, and his sergeant. Pte. Carter has been on active service for some two years, and he has been wounded twice, and is now back in the trenches. The poem was enclosed in a recent letter to his parents, and the "Nick," referred to, is of course (Nick Carter) himself.

The night was dark and dreary
The mud was deep and thick
But the rations and the mail both had to come up.

So it was up to me and Nick.
Nick said to the Sergeant Major,
Who was roaming around at large,
I'll need a party of twenty men, sir,
And a sergeant to be in charge.
Nick got his party of twenty-one men
I shouldered my bag of mail,
With the Sergt. gallantly plodding behind.

We hit the Claudot trail.
We had only gone one hundred yards
Oh! that mud it stuck like glue,
When the Sergt. yelled from the rear

Hold on, I've lost my high top rubber shoe.

The mud hung on, we fought it down
Giving nothing else a thought
'Till at last we all decided
We would travel over top.

The boys all scrambled up out of the trench

But Nick and I stayed behind,
For fear a few lone stragglers
It might be our luck to find
A straggler, well, not exactly.

But the Sergt. was stuck there fast,
So I scrambled up with my rifle,
And we used it for a staff.

We shoved and pulled like heroes,
And we got him out in time.

But when we landed him on the bank
He had left those boots behind.
Now, Mac, the company runner,
Was coming up the line.

And he volunteered to guide us out
Which saved us heaps of time.
The shell holes were quite numerous
And barbed wire strung up by the ton

And the Sergt. landed right into it all
I don't think he missed a one.

'Twas eleven o'clock when we reached the road.

Though we started at six-fifteen,
And at last we found our limbers,
We presented a sorry scene.

Our Quarter Master Sergeant
Was waiting there for us,
And when he looked at his time piece
There started up a fus.

He had waited four long hours for us
In that dismal mud and rain.
And the way he told it to us,
It surely caused us pain.

The troubles we had that dreary night
Outnumbered three score ten,
But we look back now and laugh like fun.

For we're ready to do it again.

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Frank Light

IN THE SURROGATE COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ELGIN

In the Matter of the Estate of Emma Lapham, late of the Town of Aylmer, in the County of Elgin, Widow Deceased

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to R. S. O. 1914, chap. 121, sec. 56, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased, who died on or about the 28th day of April, A.D. 1917, are required to send by post prepaid, or deliver to William Warnock, Esq., Aylmer, Ontario, the Executor, on or before the 31st day of July, A.D. 1917, their names, addresses, and descriptions, and a full statement of particulars of their claims, and the nature of the security (if any) held by them, duly certified, and that after the said day the executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.

Dated this 15th day of June, A.D. 1917.

William Warnock,
Aylmer, Ont., Executor.
By W. Harold Barnum,
His Solicitor.

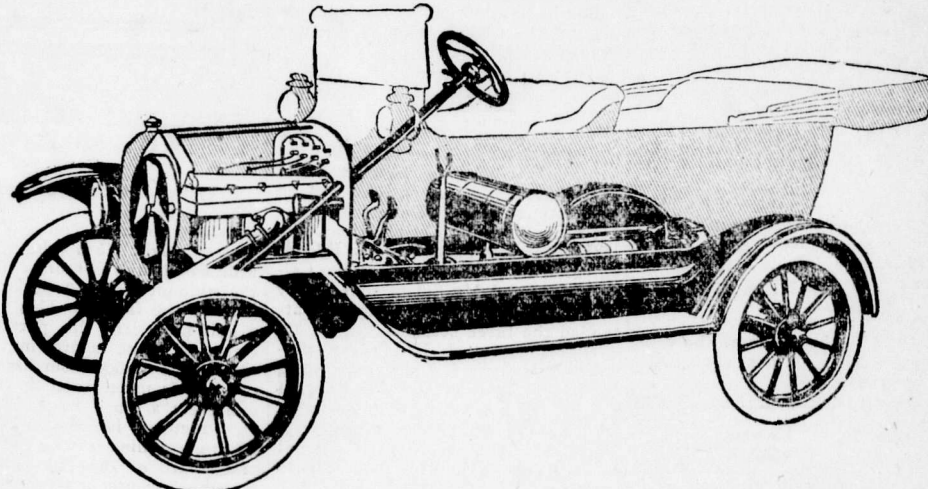
IN THE SURROGATE COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ELGIN

In the Matter of the Estate of Frederick W. Smith, late of the Township of Malahide, in the County of Elgin, Horseman, Deceased

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to R. S. O. 1914, chap. 121, sec. 56, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased, who died on or about the 16th day of April, A.D. 1917, are required to send by post prepaid, or deliver to William Warnock, Esq., Aylmer, Ontario, the Administrator, on or before the 31st day of July, A.D. 1917, their names, addresses and descriptions, and a full statement of particulars of their claims, and the nature of the security (if any) held by them duly certified, and that after the said day the Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.

Dated this 15th day of June, A.D. 1917.

William Warnock,
Aylmer, Ont., Administrator
By W. Harold Barnum,
His Solicitor.



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