CANADIANS RAID ON GERMANS BRILLIANT FEAT

TRIUMPH FOR MACHINE GUNNERS FROM CANADA

Germans Were Surprised By Daring Dash of Gallant Canadian Boys on Trenches Before Lens—Prisoners Captured.

London, Feb. 6.—The following communication is issued by the Canadian war records office:

The very successful raid of the Canadians upon the German trenches before Lens on the seventeenth instant, calls for more extended description than it has hitherto received. It was one of the most brilliantly planned and executed of these operations, of which the Canadians are the inventors and in which they peculiarly excel, and it possessed certain novel features in the manner in which the several forms of barrage smoke, gas, artillery and machine gun fire were worked in combination.

Barrage Continues.

This barrage was continuous and in tremendous volume, and it effectually walled up all the intervals between the bursting of shells.

It is perhaps not too much to say that the operation may be characterized as a special triumph for our machine gunners, though this, of course, in no way detracts from the praise due to all the other services involved.

For ten days immediately preceding the operations, our artillery and trench mortars had been steadily at work cutting the German wire in sections along a front of between 3,000 and 4,000 yards.

The actual raid was to be made on a front of some 750 or 800 yards, but the Germans were kept in tension all along the line, not knowing where the blow would fall. The wire here was very heavy and deep, but it was found everywhere completely blown to pieces, so well had our gunners done their work.

Darted Across Zone.

For all our precautions, however, the enemy was not caught napping. We exploded a mine and immediately put a furious barrage behind it. Immediately our raiding parties, which had been waiting in their trenches for the result of this manoeuvre, sprang out and darted across the zone of "No Man's Land" practically without opposition.

It was now 7.45 a. m., and broad daylight, but the Germans, who had been prevented from showing a head above their parapets by a continuous sheet of machine gun fire, were thoroughly taken by surprise.

Our men were into their trenches and around the doors of their dugouts with bayonet and hand grenade before they could organize any effective resistance. One hundred and one prisoners were gathered in and our parties set themselves to the work of blowing up the trenches, dugouts and machine gun emplacements. In this task they were not disturbed, as the area in which they were working was enclosed by the steady "carrumping" of our howitzers along the German communication trenches.

The time alloted them for the job was just one hour, and it was sufficient. At 8.56 our men were all back in our lines with their prisoners and their spoils.

Canadians Merciful.

The following incident of the raid will serve to illustrate how patient and indulgent our men can be toward ther enemies once they have them well beaten.

One of our officers with a handful of bombers stood at the mouth of a deep dugout crowded with Germans.

In his best German, such as it was, he ordered them to come out and surrender, as he was going to blow up the dugout.

A voice replied in excellent English: "Yes, we're coming."

He waited, but no one appeared and he repeated the order more emphatically. He got the answer: "Yes, yes, one minute, please."

Again he waited and still no one came forth, but time was short and he had more work to do. Once again he summoned them, adding that his next summons would be a bomb in their midst. Then at last and just in time the Bosches came clambering out, obviously much relieved and in a great hurry to surrender. Finally appeared their officer with dignity and deliberation.

"I had to wait to burn my papers," he explained apologetically.

The Canadian glared at him indignantly, then his face relaxed in approval.

"All right," he said, "we'll call it square, but two seconds more and you'd have been in kingdom come."

SOME cigarettes taste fine when they're just lighted—but by the time they're smoked half-way through, they begin to lose their goodness. They go flat.

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As one enthusiastic MURAD smoker said:

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Everywhere—Why?

NORTHUMBERLAND TO NOMINATE ON SATURDAY

R. A. Murdoch, ex-Mayor of Chatham, a Likely Candidate—Opposition Looking for Share of Grit Boodle Fund.

Special to The Standard.

Chatham, Feb. 6.—J. L. Stewart, M. L. A., president of the Government Association in Northumberland county has issued a call for the convention of Government supporters to nominate candidates to take place at Newcastle on Saturday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

The Government supporters were never in better shape than they are at the present time. Present indications are that ex-Mayor R. A. Murdoch will be one of the running mates for J. L. Stewart, M. L. A., and Frank D. Swim, M. L. A.

Mr. Murdoch is generally regarded as a strong candidate. He has been actively associated with all movements for the advancement of Northumberland and the North Shore generally.

A Newcastle politician it is said will not run himself on this occasion, but he is endeavoring to make arrangements to bring out a ticket. The name of Thomas Parker of Doaktown is mentioned as a possible candidate on this gentleman's ticket.

The Liberal Parish Association in session here last evening decided after considerable discussion to contest the provincial election on strict party lines. That would seem to indicate that Northumberland opposition leaders are anxious to get a share of the boodle fund which it is expected Ottawa leaders will put into the approaching contest.

Coughlan-Ashment.

The marriage of Pte. Walter Coughlan, returned hero, to Miss Margaret Ashment of Rye, Sussex, England, was solemnized at 8.30 on Monday morning in Chatham at the Cathedral by the Rt. Rev. M. A. O'Keeffe, in the presence of a large number of friends. Miss May Coughlan, daughter of Chief Coughlan, and niece of the groom, was bridesmaid, and Charles McEachern supported the groom.

Mr. and Mrs. Coughlan will reside in St. John, Mr. Coughlan having accepted a position on the police force.

Hon. J. A. Murray, premier of New Brunswick, was in the city yesterday, a guest at the Victoria Hotel.

Hon. B. Frank Smith, Minister of Public Works, was in the city yesterday, a guest at the Victoria Hotel.

DR. BRIDGES ADDRESSES SENIOR Y.M.C.A. BOYS

Boys' Work Committee Holds Annual Meeting and Highly Pleased With Progress Made.

At the regular Tuesday night supper of the High School and Senior Business Boys at the Y. M. C. A. last evening Dr. W. S. Bridges gave an interesting lecture on "The Life of Isaac Newson." An exceptionally large attendance profited by the lecture.

At 8 p. m. the regular monthly meeting of the boys' work committee was held, Chairman W. C. Cross presiding. Very encouraging reports were given of the work. The membership, 302, at the end of January, is the highest in the history of the association.

The annual Father and Son banquet will be held on February 15. Rev. S. S. Poole will deliver the address of the evening, and a strong toast list has been prepared. The committee is well satisfied with the work of the department, which is in a flourishing condition.

COL. FOWLER SENDS THANKS FOR XMAS GIFT

Letter Recently Received from Him on Behalf of Band of the 104th.

The following letter was received by F. T. Belyea from Lieutenant-Colonel George Fowler, acknowledging the receipt of £24 which was sent to the band of the 104th Battalion. The money was subscribed by relatives and friends of the members of the battalion:

Witley Camp, Surrey,
Jan. 12th, 1917.

F. T. Belyea, Esq., Sec.-Treas. 104th Battalion Band Fund, West St. John, N. B.,

Dear Sir,—On behalf of the 104th Battalion Band, I have been asked to reply to your very kind Christmas letter, acknowledging receipt of the bill of exchange enclosed therein.

It is certainly very gratifying, not only to the band, but to the battalion, to know that though gone, our band is not forgotten, and to know also that the memory of the good work performed by the band is still so green in the memories of the people of West St. John, that they are willing to contribute so handsomely to a Christmas present for the organization. You can rest assured that the money will be put to good use along the lines indicated in your letter.

Our band has had many pleasant experiences on this side. In the first place, coming over there were a number of other bands, yet ours was so far superior to the rest that they were selected to play every night at dinner, and previous to leaving the ship, the colonel of one of the other battalions, who had a band himself, presented our band with $104 as a slight recognition for the splendid entertainment the band had given during the voyage. At Shorncliffe, on the Leas at Folkestone, the band likewise won golden opinions, and since we have come to this camp, the same thing has been true. They have filled many outside engagements, and always with credit to themselves and the battalion to which they belong.

I may say to you that since coming to England the band has been outfitted with a magnificent set of new instruments, and is now second to no Canadian band on this side of the water, or the other side either for that matter. The battalion has spent a large amount of money on the band, and is very proud of the manner in which it is able to acquit itself.

Again repeating my expressions of gratitude toward yourself and committee, and the subscribers, I am, on behalf of the 104th Battalion Band,

Very sincerely yours,
GEO. W. FOWLER, Lt.-Col.,
O. C. 104th Battalion, Can. Inf.

Social Evening at Exmouth Street.

A splendid concert and social evening was held at the Exmouth street Methodist church last night, the occasion being a continuation of the celebrations being carried on this week in connection with the 60th anniversary of the church. A large number were present and very much enjoyed the following programme under the chairmanship of John Myles: Song by Geo. Currie, address by the Rev. R. Crisp, an amusing reading by Wm. Thompson, Miss Minnie Myles rendered two solos, and the Rev. G. F. Dawson gave a short address. W. Brock sang and refreshments were served.

Hon. A. R. Slipp, Minister of Lands and Mines, was in the city yesterday, a guest at the Royal Hotel.

Hon. H. I. Taylor of St. George was in the city yesterday.

INQUEST INTO DEATH OF FRED LIGHTS

Inquiry Begun Last Night and Will Be Continued on Monday, February 19.

The second session of the coroner's inquest into the death of Fred E. Lights, was held last night at the court house. The jury had previously viewed the body and last night the taking of evidence was begun. The jury is composed of the following: H. R. Roberts, foreman; J. D. Mitchell, Joseph Corkery, E. W. Rowley, W. W. Chase, C. A. Donald and W. P. Harrington.

Urban J. Sweeney appeared on behalf of the family of the deceased, and J. M. Brady was present in the interests of the C. P. R.

After a number of witnesses had been heard it was decided to adjourn until the evening of Monday, February 19 at eight o'clock.

The first witness was John R. Moores, who was acting as slingman on the day of the accident. He told of putting the parcels of oil cake in the sling and said he used every care that it was in solid. He had seen a sling with a board bottom and netting on the sides but did not know that it was any safer then the rope sling.

George H. Macaulay was hatchman on the day in question. Before starting this sling he had called out, under below, which was the usual warning when goods were coming down. He saw deceased when he called out the warning and considered that he had plenty of time to get out of danger. He placed the time of the accident at about 5.45.

William A. Ferris was winchman. He took his orders from the hatchman. None of the witnesses could give any reason for the accident. It might have been caused by the sling not being tight enough but they could not say such was the case.

Arthur J. Springer, George Steele, Joseph A. Arseneau, Charles S. Brown and William Gray who were in the hold at the time of the accident, had heard the warning called out and got out of the way. They heard the sling strike the bottom of the hatch and when they came out found that Mr. Lights had been struck. He was picked up by Messrs. Springer and Gray and was unconscious when they found him.

As the hour was getting late it was decided to adjourn until Monday evening, February 19, at eight o'clock when further evidence wil be taken.

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CENTENARY BROTHERHOOD.

There was a well attended meeting of the Centenary Brotherhood, held in the parlors of Centenary church last evening, at which E. J. Fleetwood presided. The speaker of the evening was A. M. Belding, who spoke on "Some Things the Social Service Council Must Aim to Do."

After the address J. Hunter White moved the following resolution:

"Resolved that this body of Centenary men desires to express its approval of the objects and aims of the Social Service Council, and pledges itself to support in every way possible all efforts of that organization for the social and moral betterment of the city and county of St. John. Especially would they emphasize the work on behalf of the children as being undertaken by the Children's Aid Society."

The resolution was seconded by Rev. W. H. Barracluogh and unanimously adopted.

A Good word for a Good Typewriter — "Remington." A. Mitchie Fraser, Jas. A. Little, Mgr., 37 Dock street, St. John, N. B.

In The Midst Of War's Alarms

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