

Stirring Bits From Letters Of Soldiers at The Front

BULLET WENT THROUGH HAT.
"That Was Close Enough for Me,"
Writes Pte. McArthur.

Rev. Dr. McArthur, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, has received the following letter from his son, Private Horace H. McArthur, of the 48th Highlanders, dated March 16:

"On February 21, we went into the trenches and have been taking our turn there ever since. We go into the trenches for four days, then out for four days. This time we are in the reserve trenches. Our duties are to carry food to the rest of the battalion from 8 p. m. to 11 p. m. After we get through carrying food, we dig trenches from 11 p. m. to 8 a. m. Then we stand for an hour. After this we get our breakfast, and it is about 8 o'clock or 8:30 in the morning when we get to bed. At 8 p. m. we do fatigue work around our dugouts and quit at 7 p. m. when we begin to carry food to the rest of the battalion.

"The Germans send up lights which last for fifty-five seconds. You have to fall down and keep quiet until they go out. Sometimes they are very thick. We had a machine gun turned on us the other night, and the sergeant, who happened to be beside me, kept saying all the time 'Keep down! Keep down!' The way he said it made me laugh, although the shots were flying over us.

"About a week ago I was out hunting firewood, and a German shell fell four feet to my right. In the explosion it covered me with dirt, but I was unhurt. The nearest I have been to being hit was by a bullet going through my cap. That was close enough for me. The Canadians are doing splendid work. The artillery have got their name up."

In a later letter dated March 24, he says: "We have just come out of the trenches. Yesterday a 'shrapnel' fell within twelve feet of me. It did not explode until it struck the ground. I did not get hurt, but it made me jump some and covered me with dirt."

A TERRIBLE BATTLEFIELD.

Sights After Neuve Chapelle Will Never Be Forgotten.

Rev. Dr. McArthur, of St. Adams Avenue, has received the following letter from his brother, Sergeant Samuel Redpath, A. Co., 2nd Royal Scots Fusiliers:

"You will have read about our big victory at Neuve Chapelle. I tell you it was pure slaughter. The German loss is estimated at 18,000 men killed and wounded, and 1,780 prisoners. We have never seen a battlefield like it. The Germans were lying on the top of one another and the sights were something terrible. But it was a glorious victory. We expect to have another go at them in a day or two. My division (the 7th) is known as the Y. C. Division in England, and they deserve the name. You can follow the officers with confidence, and the men are of the highest breed."

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

D's Man Was Cleaning Revolver.

Writes Officer.

An officer in the 1st Canadian Brigade writes:

"Colonel M— is very much alive. If you please, is now a brigadier-general. Captains G— and W— are both ill in hospital, the water and exposure was

too much for them. Colonel H— is in hospital too—has not been with us for about three weeks. Poor D— got shot and has gone to the base hospital. His man was cleaning his revolver and let off, hitting poor D—. I have command of the machine guns of the brigade now and take my orders from the brigadier-general. Am kept pretty busy. We are losing men every day, but our course, we must expect that sort of thing."

Two Chins Shot Down

"My mate, who was on sentry duty with me, got a bullet in the throat just about daybreak," writes Private Herbert Brown to his parents. "He was instantly killed. Then another of my friends got shot through both legs."

WANT ACTION ALL THE TIME

Canadians Do not Like Sniping and Trench Warfare

Another officer, writing a week later, mentions that the colonel had rejoined the previous day, and says:

"I regret to tell you that we lost our first officer by death on Saturday morning—Lieut. Galagher, who came to Valcartier with the Chesham (or 24th) Contingent. He was shot in the trenches, having evidently been put in the head over the parapet in order to see what was going on. It had been quiet on both sides all night and that morning, but perhaps a little carelessly, took a chance, and unfortunately got hit in the head and died instantly. Naturally we all feel his death keenly as he was well liked in the battalion. He was a fine-looking big fellow, six feet tall.

"We have had seventeen deaths in our brigade since we landed in France—one officer and sixteen men," he continues.

"We have just come out of the trenches. The health of the men is good, and they take their part like brave soldiers. The Canadian Division have taken over a section of the line themselves, like the other British regiments. We hardly expected to see so soon after landing here, but evidently we were thought capable of doing so—and there you are. We supported a division in a recent engagement as you will have noticed and got commended for it. We are now in getting line, and trenches are being dug. Our men all get baths and clean underclothes when they come out. Food is plentiful and good. We get issues of tobacco, cigarettes, matches, etc., and everything possible is done to make life as bearable as possible. We Canadians want action though, all the time. We do not like the standing still. This trench and sniping business, we don't like."

COUNTRY SHOT TO PIECES

Soldier Picked Up Shell, But Was Chased Out of House.

Corp. E. G. Meadows, formerly of St. Catharines, but now with the 16th Battalion, writes:

"The country here is shot to pieces; farm houses, some blown flat, others riddled with shell and rifle bullets. Last Sunday a high explosive shell fell about eight yards from the house in which we were billeted. One of our fellows picked it up and put it in a ditch. It came probably four miles. The private brought it in, and we all went to see it. I saw the young fellow out of the decoration department the other day. He is all right."

Message of Hope For All Women

MISS MARY SABOURIN TELLS
HOW SHE FOUND HEALTH

Suffered For Three Years and Could Find No Lasting Relief Till She Used Dodd's Kidney Pills

Thurso, Que., April 20th—(Special)—Tired, run-down women can read a message of hope in the statement of Miss Mary Sabourin, an estimable lady living here. In a statement to the public Miss Sabourin says:

"I was a sufferer for three years. I was always tired and nervous. My sleep was broken and unrefreshing. I was troubled with headaches and pains in my back. I had heart flutterings to add to my anxiety."

"I was treated by a doctor and a specialist, but nothing seemed to do me any lasting good till I started to use Dodd's Kidney Pills and I took just three boxes of them."

Nine-tenths of women's troubles come from sick kidneys. Sick kidneys fail in their duty of straining the impurities out of the blood. That means that poison and disease is carried to all parts of the body. The remedy is to cure the kidneys with Dodd's Kidney Pills. If you haven't used them ask your neighbor about them. Nearly every family in Canada is using or has used Dodd's Kidney Pills.

CANADA IN THE WAR

The total Canadian deaths with the overseas forces thus far is 800, including some seventy-five from illness or accident at Salisbury Plain. Of the Princess Patricia's officers, only three have evaded bullets up to the present.

Major General Hughes may visit the Canadians on the firing line this summer if there is no election in Canada.

Two Rhodes scholars from St. John, Arthur N. Carter and Frank Smith, are officers in English regiments, the latter being in the Lancaster Fusiliers, and the former having been recently promoted to a first lieutenancy in the York and Lancaster Regiment.

A New Discovery.

Father Morarty's Remedy for Rheumatism and all Kidney troubles, purely vegetable. No Cure—No Pay. All drug stores. Price 50c.

THE POLICE COURT

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell and their son were taken before the police magistrate again yesterday afternoon on charges of acting disorderly and breaking windows in a house in Chapel street. The magistrate fined Mrs. O'Dell \$40 or three months in jail but allowed it to stand against her. The father and son were further remanded.

James Peck, charged with keeping a disorderly house; Daniel Duggan, charged with drunkenness and resisting the police; James Shaw, charged with stealing a pair of boots; James Moore, charged with assault, and some others, were also taken in and further remanded.

The case against Hop Lee, charged with keeping an opium joint in Mill street, was to have been heard, but owing to absence from the city of Daniel Mullin, K. C., his counsel, it was put off until this afternoon.

HAMPERED BY LACK OF COPPER

Germany Reduced to Necessity
of Picking Up Shells

STEEL IS TOO COSTLY

German Cartridge Cases Are Not Adapted to Being Reloaded—Some Interesting Figures

How long will 5,000,000,000 cartridges last in a war of the size of the present one? How much copper has Germany on hand from which to make new cartridges for the infantry rifles and machine guns, and driving bands for the shells of all sizes? Great Britain has declared copper contraband of war, and is trying to stop its going to any port whence it might reach Germany. Other things might end the war more speedily, but when the supply of copper cartridges then the war will be long.

The Germans were reported to have had nearly 5,000,000,000 rifle cartridges, or 100 rounds per soldier, excluding the machine guns and the 5,000,000,000 cartridges are gone. We are not sure of the figures, but they are already picking up the first cases when it is feasible to do so. Trench fighting is particularly well adapted to this purpose, while from a machine gun the ejected cases are thrown so uniformly that a basket would catch practically all of them. The German cartridges are not well adapted to being reloaded. The American government reloads the fired rifle cartridges, and the requirements specify that each case must stand 20 full reloadings without splitting or giving away at any spot. Hundreds of thousands of fired cartridges are reloaded by the United States army each year, and the economy thereof is great, because while the complete loaded cartridge cost 2½ cents the case itself costs nearly 1½ cents, a saving of 60 per cent through reloading.

Steel Too Costly.

Both the German authorities and Sir Charles Ross, the designer of the Canadian army rifle, have experimented with the manufacture of steel cartridge cases. Ross produced them, but they were too costly to be commercially practicable.

One part of the brass cartridge case is a flat disk of copper-silver alloy. It goes through a battery of draw presses until it has been drawn to a brass cylinder of the length of the complete shell. Then the head is formed from the brass cylinder by a drawing operation. The brass cylinder is then drawn through a series of dies, the powder is inserted before the case is necked down. Every shell has to be gauged to make sure it will fit in the rifle, for a bad one might jam a rifle or tie up a machine gun for a day.

Brass instead of pure copper is used, being thrust against the chamber walls in the rifle by terrific pressure. If resistance to the back of the bullet is not extracted, the temper of the finished shell is very important. If it is too brittle it will split at the neck or break off at the base, disabling the weapon. If it is too soft, it will upset or swell into the chamber's most minute rough spots and cannot be extracted.

Signs of High Pressure.

The other pressure of the rifle used in the war ranges from 40,000 pounds to 50,000 pounds per square inch on the head of the bolt holding the shell in the Mauser rifle is 9,000 pounds. With the high pressure, brass has not always proved entirely sufficient to hold the strain. The cartridge case is the part of the instrument that is under the first sign that the chamber pressure is too high is the "flowing" of the head of the cartridge out into the unsupported space around the extractor, cut, and over the head of the bolt. In very high pressure the case is literally "swallowed" over the head of the bolt, flowing back like butter. The steel case is not so pliable, but steel refuses to be jammed at high speed through a series of dies.

Military bullets are made in much the same fashion as the cartridge. Disks of the metal are drawn into the shape of the bullet, and then run through presses to make the jacket. In American and British armaments this metal is a copper-nickel alloy about 75 per cent copper and 25 per cent nickel, making roughly. The jacket is sheet steel plated to guard against rust. The presses finally turn out the complete jacket, just the shape of the finished bullet, but of course, hollow. Then lead or lead alloy in the form of wire on great reels, the wire is about the diameter of the finished bullet, is fed into a machine that cuts it off to the right length and pushes the slug down into the jacket.

THE ROTHSCHILDS AND WATERLOO

London Chronicle—It seems hard to kill the legend that Nathaniel Rothschild, grandfather of the late peer-war in Belgium when the battle of Waterloo was fought, and hurriedly crossed to Dover taking a fishing boat so as to take full advantage of the news on "Change. Yet Leopold de Rothschild, speaking some years ago at the Newspaper Press Fund dinner, said that the news of Napoleon's defeat first arrived here through the medium of a Dutch journal. Dutch published it in a single line, "Great Victory of the English." Nathaniel Rothschild, who once was a member of the Dutch parliament, said that, whenever they touched a port, they were to buy the latest newspapers for him, and this was how he received the paper in question, which he at once took to the Treasury. Lord Liverpool soon-pooled the information, as the previous day he had heard of the defeat of the English.

Henry O'Shea has been unanimously elected Lord Mayor of Cork. It is the third successive year and fifth time in all that he has taken office.

Why not Pay the Trifle?

No one knows where the fog-shrouded iceberg is floating till, perhaps too late, it is seen under the vessel's bow. Most vessels escape, only a small percentage are lost, but to the owners concerned the loss is overwhelming—unless it is spread over all vessel owners through insurance. Then it means only a trifle to each.

No one knows when a death will occur in the business world. But it is sure to come occasionally, and it may hit your firm next. Why not pay the trifle now and make absolutely sure that your business will continue no matter what happens?

The Canada Life Partnership Protection Policy

is the ideal means of securing safety and permanence for your business. Our paper, Canada Life Echoes, for April has an illustrative article on the subject which will interest you. It's free for the asking.

Herbert C. Cox,

President and General Manager.

J. M. QUEEN, MANAGER FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

St. John

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IN THE LEGISLATURE

Liquor License Law Amendments—Inquiries by Opposition Members

Fredericton, April 20—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Dugal gave notice of inquiry with regard to the purchase of potatoes for the patriotic fund.

Mr. Pelletier gave notice of inquiry as to fees paid by municipalities and towns on bonds issued by them.

The house went into committee with Mr. Young in the chair, and agreed to a bill relating to a loan for the Normal school annex, and a bill to establish a home for girls and women at Moncton, for the counties of Westmorland, Kent and Albert.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Munro in the chair, and agreed to bills to amend the act relating to New Brunswick Railway, and relating to the Government of certain crown lands by New Brunswick Company, Limited.

The bill to amend the act respecting coroners was then taken up. This bill provides for the taking of evidence by stenographers, of the filing by a necropsy examination with the nearest hospital, makes provision for burial of unidentified persons, and provides for a revised scale of fees.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Munro in the chair and took up the bill to consolidate and amend the liquor license act.

Mr. Carter, on the section allowing objection being made to granting of a license, thought that the petitioners should be compelled to state specifically what their grounds of objection were and unless the petitioners had stated their grounds of objection, the petitioners had no standing.

Mr. Tilley said he could not see why it should be necessary for petitioners to prepare a brief and take other form of proceedings on objections. When an application was made for a license any person who had bona fide objection to it was at liberty to object to it, and he did not think petitioners should be bound by any hard and fast rule.

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