

The WESTERN SCOT

VOL 1

BOAT EDITION APRIL 10th. 1916

NO. 27

Passed by the Censor on board.

AFLOAT AT LAST.

The train journey is over, the long, irksome ride across the continent complete and as we go to press H. M. Transport No. 2810 is on verge of the submarine area. What waits us? Quien sabe?

To continue where we left off last week on the morning of March the 30th. reveille was sounded at 5.30 and we awoke to find ourselves at the Broad street station, Ottawa. There the order of the day was a royal review and as the party on train No. 1 fell in on the spacious platform they found the parties from train No. 2 and from train No. 3 awaiting them. At this point we finally overtook the 61st. Battalion which left Winnipeg six hours ahead of us.

After an hours wait in the station the 61st. headed by their fine brass band, and led by Lieut. Col. Murray, moved off and we with our pipe band to the front, followed by our brass band, received the order to march from Lieut. Col. Ross a few minutes later.

The streets of the Capital City were at their worst owing to the effect of the early spring sunshine and the men deserve particular credit for the splendid showing they made under such circumstances.

After several blocks had been covered the route led us past the once stately pile of the parliament buildings now partially defaced by the ruins of the portion destroyed by fire recently. The reviewing stand was not far from here, immediately in front of the Chateau Laurier, from the steps of which the Royal Standard flew. H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, attended by his staff, had taken post at this point and both battalions marched past smartly and soldierly, in column of route.

Continuing without a break the 61st. and the 67th. moved on to the Central Station where they were drawn up in battalion line for inspection. His Royal Highness made a very careful inspection questioning a large number of the men in the ranks. Afterwards he addressed the officers of both battalions, each of whom was presented to him and also to the prime minister, Sir Robert Borden, who attended.

In his address to the officers of the Western Scots, His Royal Highness said that the battalion had a name that connected it with the highest military ideals and gave it splendid precedents to follow. In the duties that would fall to the Western Scots in days to come His Royal Highness felt sure they would conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the high standard set by Canadians who had gone before.

At 11.30 a.m. the 67th. battalion re-entrained and continued towards Halifax. At Dorval there was a one hour wait