

SIR MAX AIKEN DESCRIBES PART CANADIANS PLAYED IN RECENT FIGHTING IN FLANDERS

Performance of The Soldiers From Canada Was Remarkable

As Long as Brave Deeds Retain Power to Fire Blood of Anglo-Saxons Stand Made by Canadians Will be Told by Fathers to Their Sons.

London, April 30.—The following communication is from Sir Max Aiken, the Canadian recording officer now serving with the Canadian division in France, and its publication is authorized by the war office:

"The recent fighting in Flanders, in which the Canadians played so glorious a part, cannot, of course, be described with precision of military detail until the time has made possible the co-ordination of relevant diaries, and the piecing together of a narrative both lucid and exact of much, which, so near the event, is confused and blurred. But it is considered right that the mourning in Canada today for husbands, sons, or brothers who have given their lives for their Empire should have, with as little reserve as military consideration allow, the rare and precious consolation which, in the agony of bereavement, the record of the valor of their dead must bring, and indeed the mourning in Canada will be very wide spread, for the battle which raged for so many days in the neighborhood of Ypres was bloody, even as men appraise battles, in this callous and life-engulfing war. But as long as brave deeds retain the power to fire the blood of Anglo-Saxons the stand made by the Canadians in those desperate days will be told by fathers to their sons, for in the military records of Canada this defence will shine as brightly as in the records of the British army the stubborn valor with which Sir James Macdonnell and the Guards beat back from Hougomont, the decision of Foy, and the army of Reille.

"The Canadians have wrested from the trenches, over the bodies of the dead and maimed, the right to stand side by side with the superb troops who, in the first battle of Ypres, broke and drove before them the flower of the Prussian Guards. Looked at from any point the performance would be remarkable. It is amazing to soldiers when the genesis and composition of the Canadian divisions are considered. It contained, no doubt, a sprinkling of South African veterans, but it consisted, in the main, of men who were admirable raw material, but who, at the outbreak of war, were neither disciplined nor trained, as men count discipline and training in these days of scientific warfare. It was, it is true, commanded by a distinguished English general.

"His staff was supplemented, without being replaced by some brilliant British staff officers. But in its higher and regimental commands were to be found lawyers, college professors, business men and real estate agents, ready with cool, self-confidence to do battle against an organization in which the study of military science is the exclusive pursuit of laborious lives.

"With what devotion, with a valor how desperate, with resourcefulness how cool and how fruitful, the amateur soldier of Canada confronted overwhelming odds, may perhaps be made clear, even by the narrative so incomplete as the present.

"The salient of Ypres has become familiar to all students of the campaign in Flanders. Like all salients it was, and was to be, a source of weakness to the forces holding it, but the reasons which have led to its retention are apparent and need not be explained.

French Did Their Duty Well.

"On April 22, the Canadian division held a line of, roughly, five thousand yards extending in a northwesterly direction from the Ypres-Roulers railway to the Ypres-Poelcapelle road, and connecting at its terminus with the French troops. The division consisted of three infantry brigades, in addition to the artillery brigades. Of the infantry brigades the first was in reserve, the second was on the right, and the third established contact with the Allies at the point indicated above.

"The day was a peaceful one, warm and sunny, and except that the previous day had witnessed a further

Says They Are The Very Best

Mr. J. A. Hill Tells What Dodd's Kidney Pills Did for Him.

He Suffered For Four Months From Kidney Trouble, But Found Quick Relief When He Used Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Sixty-Nine Corners, Ont., April 30.—(Special).—"I know that Dodd's Kidney Pills are the very best of medicines." Such is the statement made by Mr. J. A. Hill, a well known resident of this place.

"I was sick for six months," Mr. Hill continues. "My troubles started from a cold that seemed to settle in my back. My joints were stiff and I had cramps in my muscles, my appetite was fitful and I was heavy and sleepy after meals. I had a bitter taste in my mouth and I was always tired and nervous."

"I used four boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills and the great benefit they did me is what makes me say, 'They are the best of medicines.' Dodd's Kidney Pills cure sick kidneys, and Mr. Hill's symptoms are the symptoms of kidney disease, consequently he found quick relief in Dodd's Kidney Pills. They always cure kidney disease."

Lieut. Col. Watson and the Toronto Regiment, Queen's Own, (Third Battalion), under Lieut. Col. Rennie, both of the First Brigade, brought up much needed reinforcements, and though not actually engaged in the assault, were in reserve.

"All through the following day and night, these battalions shared the fortunes and misfortunes of the Third Brigade.

When One Fell Another Took His Place.

"An officer who took part in the attack describes how the men about him fell under the fire of the machine guns, which, in his phrase, played upon them 'like a water-pot.' He added quite simply 'I wrote my own life off.' But the line never wavered. When one man fell another took his place, and, with a final shout, the survivors of the two battalions flung themselves into the wood. The German garrison was completely demoralized, and the impetuous advance of the Canadians did not cease until they reached the far side of the wood and entrenched themselves there in the positions so dearly gained. They had, however, the disappointment of finding that the guns had been blown up by the enemy, and later on in the same night, a most formidable concentration of artillery fire, sweeping the wood as a tropical storm sweeps the leaves from a forest, made it impossible for them to hold the position for which they had sacrificed so much.

"The fighting continued without intermission all through the night, and to those who observed the indications that the attack was being pushed with ever-growing strength, it hardly seemed possible that the Canadians fighting in positions so difficult to defend, and so little the subject of deliberate choice, could maintain their resistance for any long period. At six a. m. on Friday it became apparent that the left was becoming more and more involved and a powerful German attempt to outflank it developed rapidly. The consequences if it had been broken or outflanked need not be insisted upon. They were not merely local.

"It was therefore decided, formidable as the attempt undoubtedly was, to try and give relief by a counter-attack upon the first line of German trenches, now far advanced from the positions originally occupied by the French. This was carried out by the Ontario First and Fourth Battalions, of the First Brigade, under Brig-General Morcer, acting in combination with a British brigade. It is safe to say that the youngest private in the rank, as he set his teeth for the advance, knew the task in front of him, and the youngest subaltern knew all that rested upon its success.

"It did not seem that any human being could live in the shower of shot and shell which began to play upon the advancing troops. They suffered terrible casualties. For a short time every other man seemed to fall, but the attack was pressed even closer and closer. The Fourth Canadian Battalion at one moment came under a particularly withering fire. For a moment, not more, it wavered. Its most gallant commanding officer, Lieut. Col. Birchall, carrying, after an old fashion, a light cane, coolly and cheerfully rallied his men, and at the very moment when his example had infected them, fell dead at the head of his battalion.

"With a hoarse cry of anger they sprang forward (for indeed they loved him) as if to avenge his death.

The astonishing attack which followed, pushed home in the face of direct frontal fire made in broad daylight by battalions whose names should live forever in the memories of soldiers, was carried to the first line of German trenches. After a hand-to-hand struggle the last German who resisted was bayoneted, and the trench was won.

Looked Death Calmly in the Face.

"The measure of this success may be taken, when it is pointed out that this trench represented in the German advance the apex in the breach which the enemy had made in the original line of the Allies, and that it was two and a half miles south of this line. This charge, made by men who

Casualties Are Much Heavier Than Was At First Anticipated

List Issued Yesterday Brings Number of Officers Up to 200— Fifty-five in the List.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, April 30.—Another long list of Canadian casualties was received by the Militia Department from the British War Office this evening. It includes the names of 55 officers, 14 of whom are killed, 4 wounded and missing, 12 wounded and 25 missing. This is the most serious list of losses that has been received on any one day and indicates that the casualties are heavier than was at first anticipated. Officers killed, wounded or missing not total over 200 and it is feared that when all the lists have been received it will be found that nearly half of the Canadian officers with the first contingent are among the casualties. In the list received today Toronto, Winnipeg, Victoria and Vancouver officers have suffered heavily.

OFFICERS.

FIFTH BATTALION.

Wounded.

Lieut. J. M. Currie, (slightly), 16th Light Horse, Regina.

Lieut. W. Ellis, (slightly).

SEVENTH BATTALION.

Killed.

Captain R. V. Harvey, 88th Victoria.

Lieut. C. C. Holmes, 88th Victoria.

Lieut. H. A. Bromley, 88th Victoria.

Lieut. N. A. Jessop, 88th Victoria.

Lieut. R. P. Latta, Sixth Vancouver.

Wounded.

Captain J. W. Warden, Sixth Vancouver.

Lieut. G. H. Leslie, Sixth Vancouver.

Wounded and Missing.

Captain T. V. Scudamere, Sixth Vancouver.

Lieut. J. C. Thorn, 11th Vancouver.

Missing.

Major P. Byng, 88th Victoria.

Captain P. J. Locke.

Lieut. E. Bell, 11th Vancouver.

Lieut. H. E. V. Macdonald, 88th Victoria.

Lieut. R. F. Steeves.

EIGHTH BATTALION.

Killed.

Lieut. J. E. Reynolds, 90th Winnipeg.

Wounded.

Major H. H. Matthews, 31st British Columbia.

Lieut. G. Durand, 90th Winnipeg.

Lieut. G. M. Harris, 90th Winnipeg.

Wounded and Missing.

Lieut. W. D. O'Grady, Winnipeg.

Missing.

Captain G. W. Northwood.

Lieut. J. K. Bell, 90th Winnipeg.

Lieut. G. F. Andrews, 90th Winnipeg.

Lieut. W. A. MacKenzie, 90th Winnipeg.

Lieut. H. E. Owen, 96th Port Arthur.

Wounded.

Lieut. L. S. Dear (fumes), 96th Port Arthur.

TENTH BATTALION.

Killed.

Captain H. A. C. Wallace, 106th, Winnipeg.

Captain F. Pott, 31st, Medicine Hat.

Lieut. J. T. H. Nasmyth, 46th Port Hope, Ont.

Lieut. G. A. Coldwell, 12th Brandon.

Lieut. R. Hoskins, 106th Winnipeg.

Lieut. D. C. McColl, 21st Medicine Hat.

Lieut. A. L. Bell, 10th Toronto.

Wounded.

Major D. M. Ormond, 18th Portage La Prairie.

Lieut. D. H. Sinclair, 2 Signal Company, Toronto.

Major W. W. Nasmyth (seriously), 46th Port Hope, Ont.

Captain C. J. Arthur (slightly).

Missing.

Hon. Captain D. W. Irwin, W. M. C. A. attached.

Lieut. C. Fryer.

FOURTEENTH BATTALION.

Killed.

Lieut. C. W. Stairs, 66th, Halifax.

Wounded.

Captain G. McComb, 3rd Montreal.

"Ebony Swells Minstrels."

looked death indifferently in the face, for no man who took part in it could think that he was likely to live, saved the Canadian left. But it did more, up to the point where the assaults conquered or died. It secured and maintained, during the most critical moment of all, the integrity of the Allied line. For the trench was not only taken, it was thereafter held against all comers, and in the teeth of every conceivable projectile, until the night of Sunday, the 25th, when all that remained of the war-torn but victorious battalions was relieved by fresh troops.

Marr Hats Are Always Just a Little Newer

Arriving today are New York Sailors in Milan, Tagel, Hair and Hemp.

From our workroom come New Trimmed Hats to be sold today at \$3 each, actually worth \$5 and \$6 each.

New Flower Trails and Wreaths, good value at \$1 and \$1.25, each for 50c. Cheaper ones at 25c. each.

Heavy Corded Ribbon in Black, White and every wanted color.

Colored Velvet Ribbons in all widths.

The House Famed for Millinery.

Marr Millinery Co. Ltd.

the "Ebony Swells" Minstrels will make their first bow to the St. John public. Two end men, six end women, a mixed chorus of 50 voices, a big band and everybody black—who will fail to attend.

Entire proceeds for patriotic purposes. Tickets are selling rapidly and may be had from Imperial, Nelson's, Gray & Ritchie's and from members of the Loyalist Chapter. O. D. E., under whose auspices the show is being held. Don't forget then and buy your tickets early, for the "Ebony Swells" (the first ladies' colored minstrel show in fifteen years).

Private Leon Archibald, Wolfville, N. S.

Dangerously Wounded

FIFTEENTH BATTALION

Pte. Henry McNeil (formerly of 17th Battalion) April 22nd. Post office box 253, Westerville, N. S.

SIXTEENTH BATTALION

Wounded

Pte. J. H. Kane, 27 Albion street, Amherst, N. S.

Driver Fred Myers, Engles street, Sydney, N. S.

Ottawa, April 30.—The following is today's casualty list:

FIRST BATTALION.

Wounded.

Private Ames Winterbottom, Colville, England.

Private Wm. Guiney, Glasgow, Scotland.

Private Ernest Gates (formerly 9th Battalion), London, England.

Private Vecko Evanoff (formerly 9th Battalion), Preslav, Bulgaria.

Private D. Hill (formerly 9th Battalion), Sussex, England.

Private Lionel Exelby, (formerly 9th Battalion), York, England.

Private Edward Jones (formerly 9th Battalion), Herts, England.

Corporal Charles Alfred Waller, Cheltenham, England.

Lance Corporal Harvey H. Loveland, London, England.

Private Alexander Hawthorne, Glasgow, Scotland.

Private Cecil Welch, Twyell, Eng.

Private Albert Smith, Liverpool, England.

Private Henry Whitfield, Cowie, Scotland.

Private Robert Fouracre, Salford, England.

Private Maurice Snook, North Cavan, England.

Private George David Allen, Liverpool, England.

Private Alexander Hawthorne, Glasgow, Scotland.

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