

Letter from Brig.-Gen. R. P. Clark, D.S.O., M.C.

THROUGH the kindness of your Commanding Officer, I have the privilege of circulating in the forthcoming number of the excellent LISTENING POST a letter from myself to my old friends in the Brigade and to my new friends in the Brigade.

A long time ago, in 1914, when the Brigade was in the making, I was General Currie's Staff-Officer. I am glad to say that there are still in every Battalion a number whom I knew then. During the long interval which has elapsed, old friendships have only grown dearer to me. New friends, officers and men, whom I have so often heard of, but never met, seem now to me to be old friends too. For through their deeds I know them well.

Our first Brigadier—our present Corps Commander—thought in the old days that this Brigade was the first Brigade in the Division. Your old Staff-Officer, and your present Brigadier knows that this Brigade is the best Brigade, not only in the Division, but in the Canadian Corps. And, although he does not say so, I feel sure that the Corps Commander believes alike with me. So you have good reason to be proud, and it is your duty and my duty to take great care that he shall never have reason to change his opinion of us.

I do not intend to take up space in the old LISTENING POST which might better be used. What I have to say you must surely know already. But I take this opportunity to tell you again how glad I am to be back with you once more, and how proud I am to command the Western Canadian Infantry Brigade.

Great things are happening. The Germanic Alliance is disrupted. The enemy, against whom you have fought so long and well, is breaking. This Christmas, I believe, will be your last in France. That the next may find you Home again, safe and happy, and with your loved ones, is my most earnest wish.

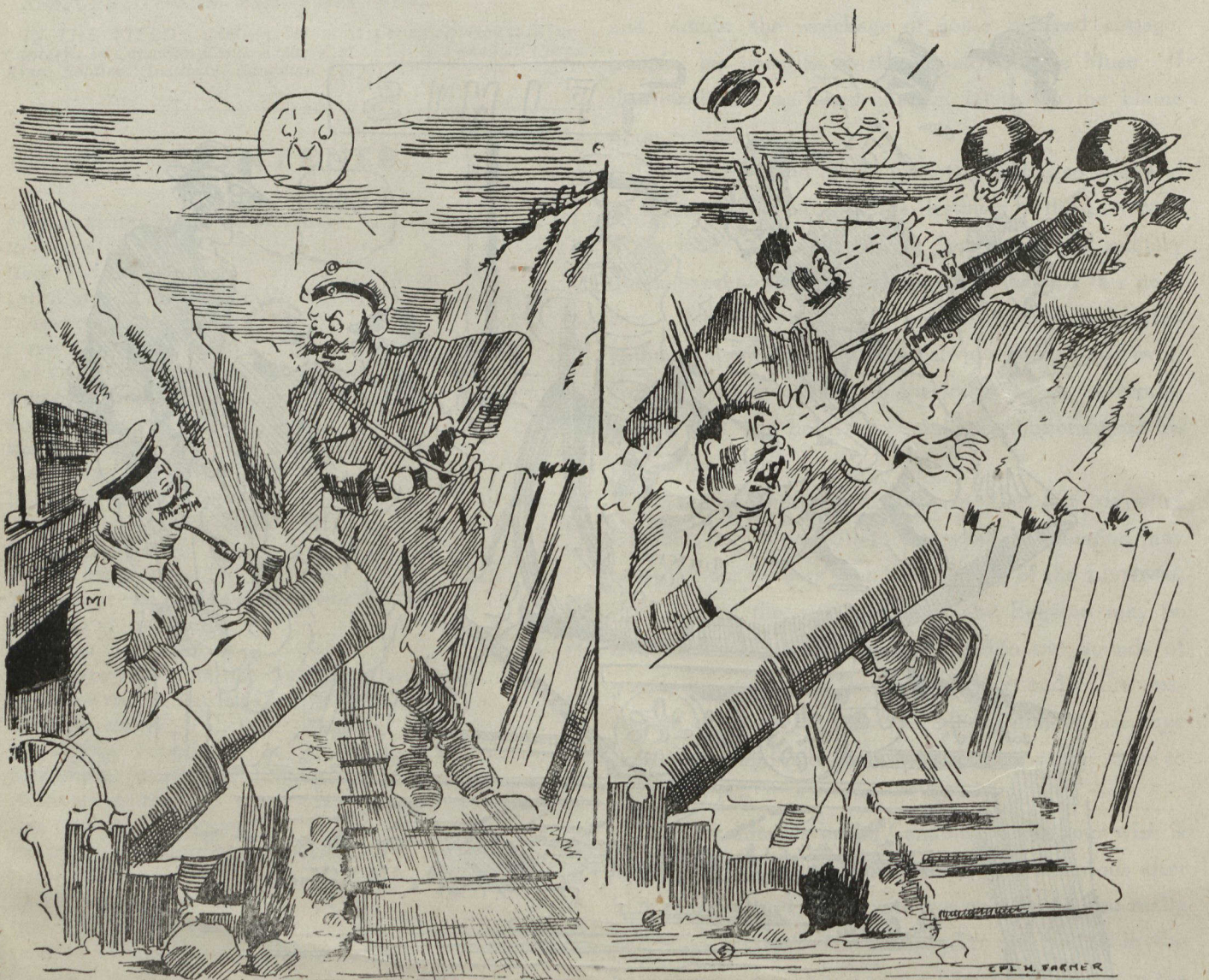
The war is drawing to a close. Your many trials and privations will soon be forgotten. The horrors of this war will soon become to you a memory, dimmed by happier things to come. But the glory of this war, though some day a memory too, can never fade. And the glory of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade you will keep with you and cherish, and pass on to the generations to come. For it can never die or be forgotten.

At this Christmas time our thoughts turn back to other Christmases spent together, and to old friends who have gone from us. In this fight for Freedom and for Right, you have given freely, and of the best you have. When we go Home there will be great gaps in our ranks, for many brave men who crossed the ocean with us lie on a hundred battlefields along this Western Front. But the memory of them, too, we shall take home with us. They have not died in vain.

A Happy Christmas to you all—happy in the consciousness of work well done, and freedom made secure.

R. P. CLARK,
Brigadier-General,

Commanding Western Canadian Infantry Brigade.
November 2nd, 1918.



Heinie: "Hermann, I go in to the front line to-night. You already haf experience against der Canadians. Gif me some points."

Canuck: "Here's a couple, bo'. Hop out here toute suite!"