

DASH AND WILY TACTICS DISPLAYED BY CANADIANS IN GREAT ORCHARD FIGHT

Sir Max Aitken Gives Detailed Description of Memorable Encounter—Gallantry of Highlanders Praised by British Regiments—Clever Ruse Annoyed Teutons.

LONDON, July 13.—The intelligence branch at general headquarters of the British army in the field authorizes the publication of the following narrative by Sir Max Aitken, Chief of the record office, serving with the army in France:

"At the Canadian battlefront—things have transpired which from me learn the size and meaning of the same. I don't know more than others did, I don't know where the change began; I started as an average kid, I finished as a thinking man."

"I send you here a bald record of work in the trenches by our own people. It is couched almost in official phrases, but now and then, I have interpolated some personal anecdote which may help to show you what triumph and terror and tragedy lie behind the smooth, impersonal stage directions of this war."

After St. Julien.

"The great battle of St. Julien, the Canadian division, worn out but not shattered, retired into billets and retrained. The British line in readiness for new operations. During that time reinforcements had poured in from the Canadian base in England, where were gathered the Dominion troops, whose numbers and efficiency we owe to the large vision and untiring energy of the minister of militia and defence. His direct and comprehensive methods are an example which the empire might follow with advantage. On May 17th, the re-made infantry brigades advanced towards the firing line once more. The attack followed:

Plan of Attack.
"It must be understood that on the afternoon of May 18th the 3rd Brigade occupied reserve trenches. Two companies of the 14th Royal Montreal Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. Meighen, and two companies of the 16th Canadian Scottish, under Lieut. Col. Leckie, were ordered to make an immediate advance on the Laquenne, due northwest of an orchard which had been placed in a state of defence by the enemy. One company of the 16th Canadian Scottish was to make a flanking movement on the enemy's position in the orchard by way of an old German communicating trench, and as this attack was to be made, of course, in conjunction with a frontal one, little time was available to make dispositions, and as there was no opportunity to reconnoitre the ground, it was very difficult to determine the proper objective."

Lacked Covering Fire.
"The flanking company of the 16th Battalion reached its allotted position, but after the advance of the remaining company of that regiment and the 14th, under very heavy shell fire, the proper direction was not maintained. The detachments reached their objective, but owing to the lack of covering fire it was undesirable at the moment to make an attack on the orchard. The companies were told to dig themselves in and connect up with the Wiltshire Battalion on their right and the Coldstream Guards on their left. They had then gained 500 yards. Lt. Col. Leckie sent up the other two companies of the 16th Canadian Scottish to assist in the digging and to relieve the original two companies at daybreak. During the night the companies of the 14th Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, were also with-

drawn and the trench occupied by these was taken over by stretching out the Coldstream Guards on one flank and the 16th Canadian Scottish on the other."

Cutwitted Germans.
"On the morning of the 20th orders were issued for an attack on the orchard that night. A reconnaissance of the position was made by Major Leckie, brother of Lt. Col. Leckie. Patrols were sent out, one of which very nearly succeeded in escaping cut off by the enemy, and another suffered a few casualties. This showed the Germans were in force and that an attack on the orchard would be no light work. That night the Canadian Scottish occupied a deserted house close to the German lines, and succeeded in establishing there two machine guns and a garrison of 30 men. The enemy were evidently not aware that we were in possession of this house, for although they bombarded all the British trenches with great severity throughout the whole of the next day, this little garrison was left untouched."

48th Directed to Attack.
"The attacking detachment under Major Rae consisted of two companies of the Canadian Scottish, one commanded by Capt. Morrison, the other by Major Peck. The attack was to take place at 7.45 p.m. and at the same time the 15th Battalion 48th Highlanders, were directed to make an assault on a position several hundred yards to the right. During that afternoon the orchard was very heavily bombarded by our artillery, increasing in severity up to the delivery of the attack. Promptly to the minute the guns ceased and two companies climbed out of their trenches to advance."

Under Terrible Fire.
"At the same instant, the two machine guns situated in the advanced position opened on the enemy. As the advance was carried out in broad daylight, the movements were at once seen by the enemy and immediately a torrent of machine gun, rifle fire and shrapnel was directed upon our troops. Their steadiness and discipline were remarkable, and were greatly praised by the officers of the Coldstream Guards nearby. When they reached the edge of the orchard, an unexpected obstacle presented itself in the form of a deep ditch, and on the further side a wired hedge. Without hesitation, however, the men plunged through the ditch, in some places up to their necks in water and made for some previously reconnoitred gaps in the hedge."

Germans Beat Retreat.
"Not many Germans had stayed in the orchard during the bombardment. The bulk of the garrison, according to usual German method under artillery fire, had evidently retreated to the support trenches in the rear. A few had been left behind to man machine gun redoubt near the centre of the orchard, with the idea of holding up our advancing infantry till the enemy, withdrawn during the bombardment, could return in full strength. These machine guns retreated when the Canadians came."

"On the far side of the orchard the Germans, following their system, came up to contest the position, but the onslaught of the Canadians forced them to beat a hasty retreat. Although double our numbers they could not be induced to face a hand-to-hand fight. Three platoons cleared the orchard, while a fourth platoon advancing towards the north side were hampered by a very awkward ditch which forced them to make a wide detour, so they were another wired ditch."

"The Germans could be heard in

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did not arrive in the orchard until its occupation was complete.

Foe Showed Timidity.
"The men dug themselves in on the far side of the orchard, where their trench about fifty yards away chattering and talking to one another; the officers, too, were heard giving commands and apparently trying to force their men to attack. But nothing would persuade the German troops to expose themselves. One company did not go into the orchard, but pushed forward and occupied an abandoned German trench running in a south-westerly direction to prevent any flank counter attack being made by the enemy. They found themselves in a very exposed position and consequently suffered heavily. The casualties in proportion to the number employed in the attack were heavy for all engaged, but the position was a very important one, having twice repulsed assaults by other regiments."

"Had our advance been less rapid the enemy would no doubt have got back into this position and our task might have been impossible. They argued, as I have said, that any attack might be held up by the machine guns in the redoubt and in the fortified positions on the flank for long enough to enable them to return to the orchard after our bombardment had ceased and throw us back."

"The drawback to drill book tactics is that if one side does not keep the rules the other suffers, and a citizen army will not keep to the rules. For example, not long after the affair of the orchard a Canadian battalion put up a little arrangement with the ever-adaptable Canadian artillery in its rear. The artillery opened heavy fire on a section of the German trenches, while the battalion made a rather ostentatious parade of fixing bayonets, rigging trench ladders and whistling commands as a prelude to an attack. The instant the bombardment should cease, the Germans, who are experts in these matters, promptly retired to their supporting trenches and left the storm to rage in front, ready to rush forward the instant it stopped and meet the Canadian attack."

Enemy Lost Temper.
"So far all went perfectly. Our guns lifted from the front trenches and shelled the supporting trenches, as is laid down by the best authorities to prevent the Germans coming up. The Germans nevertheless came and crowded into the front trenches. But there was no infantry attack whatever. That deceitful Canadian battalion had not moved. Only the guns shortened range once more and the blast of their fire fell on the German front trench now satisfactorily filled with men. Next day German wireless announced that 'a desperate attack had been repulsed,' but the general sense of the enemy was more accurately represented by a 'hyphenated' voice that cried out peevishly next evening, 'Say, Sam Slick, no dirty tricks tonight!'"

"The 16th Battalion, Canadian Scottish, includes detachments from the 72nd Seaforth's of Vancouver, the 75th Camerons of Winnipeg, the 50th Gordons of Victoria, and the 51st

Highlanders of Hamilton, so nearly all Canada was represented there that day.

A Brilliant Triumph.
"At 7 o'clock in the evening of the 20th, the 15th Battalion, Royal Highlanders, of the Third Brigade, under Lt. Col. Loomis, advanced across the British trenches under heavy shell fire with severe losses, in support of the 16th Battalion, Canadian Scottish."

"The attack on the orchard having succeeded, three companies of the 15th Battalion, Royal Highlanders, immediately marched forward."

"As four officers of one company, including the officers commanding, had been severely wounded, the company was taken over by Major Buchanan, the second in command of the regiment. A fourth company marched to a support trench immediately in the rear. The position was then consolidated, and the 15th Battalion, after its hard work and brilliant triumph, withdrew."

At Heavy Cost.
"Next afternoon the enemy in their trenches made a demonstration fifty yards north of the orchard, but our heavy fire soon drove them off the parapets. During the night the regiment ground between the trenches was brightly lit by the enemy's flares and snivelled by the rattle of continuous musketry. None the less our working parties went on with this improvement and left the position in good shape for the Third Canadian Toronto Regiment of the Second Brigade, which relieved the Royal Highlanders on Saturday."

"During these brilliant but costly operations of the Third Brigade, the Second Brigade heavily engaged the enemy against a fortified position a mile to the south, held by the enemy, and known to our intelligence department as Bexhill. A British brigade had recently captured some trenches in the face of heavy fire from Bexhill, and on the night of the 19th the position was taken over by the Second Canadian Brigade."

Tenth's Attack Failed.
"On May 20, at 7.45 p.m., the Tenth Canadian Battalion, under Major Guthrie, who joined the battalion at Ypres as a lieutenant, after the regiment had lost most of its officers, made an attempt to secure Bexhill. This attack was a failure, as no previous reconnaissance had been carried out, and the preliminary bombardment had been quite ineffective."

LESSON OF WAR.
Canadian Associated Press Cable. LONDON, July 13.—The Canadian record officer's story of the fighting around Festubert towards the end of May appears in the English press today. The Daily Mail remarks: "It may truly be said that this war is setting up new standards of courage and valor, so close is the competition of bravery between the dominions and the motherland, and between the British forces and their gallant allies. There has been no fault to find," adds the Mail, "with soldiers at the front. If courage could have decided the war the British armies would long since have been over the Rhine."

The Canadian eye-witness emphasizes the fact that bombs and machine guns carry the brunt of the day's work more and more as time goes on. The Mail, "with soldiers at the front," so there should have been time to provide these requisites and high explosive shells in abundance."

ELECTION IN MANITOBA FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST

Norris Expected to Make Announcement—August Fourth May Be Date.

WINNIPEG, Man., July 13.—There is good reason for believing that Manitoba general provincial elections will be held the first week in August, and an announcement to that effect, setting a definite date, is expected at any moment.

Nineteen or twenty days must elapse after the writs are issued, and thus August 2nd is the earliest possible date. Harvesting operations would be complete by August 10th, and so the date practically narrows down to the first week in August. Last year elections were held on Friday, but at almost any day but Saturday is as likely. One report definitely names Wednesday, August 4.

SCORE'S CLOTHES.
The hint contained in our ad on page 8 is worth consideration and may lead to action.

HAMILTON BY BOAT, 50c RETURN; NIAGARA 75c.
Wednesday afternoon special, low fare tickets will be issued by the Canadian Steamship Lines to Hamilton and return, 50c. Hamilton steamers leave both cities daily at 8 a.m., 11.15 a.m., 2.15 p.m., 6.15 p.m., and a special boat Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock from both Hamilton and Toronto.

The usual Wednesday afternoon return fare of 50c to Niagara often a delightful outing at low cost. Niagara steamers make six trips every week-day, and four Sunday trips. Tickets—40c age street or Yonge street wharf.

FOE'S LATEST VANDALISM.

LONDON, July 13.—The famous old bronze and copper lion that stood on the battlefield of Waterloo has been pulled down and is being converted into German shells, according to Holland advices today.

SAFE AT SHORNCLIFFE.

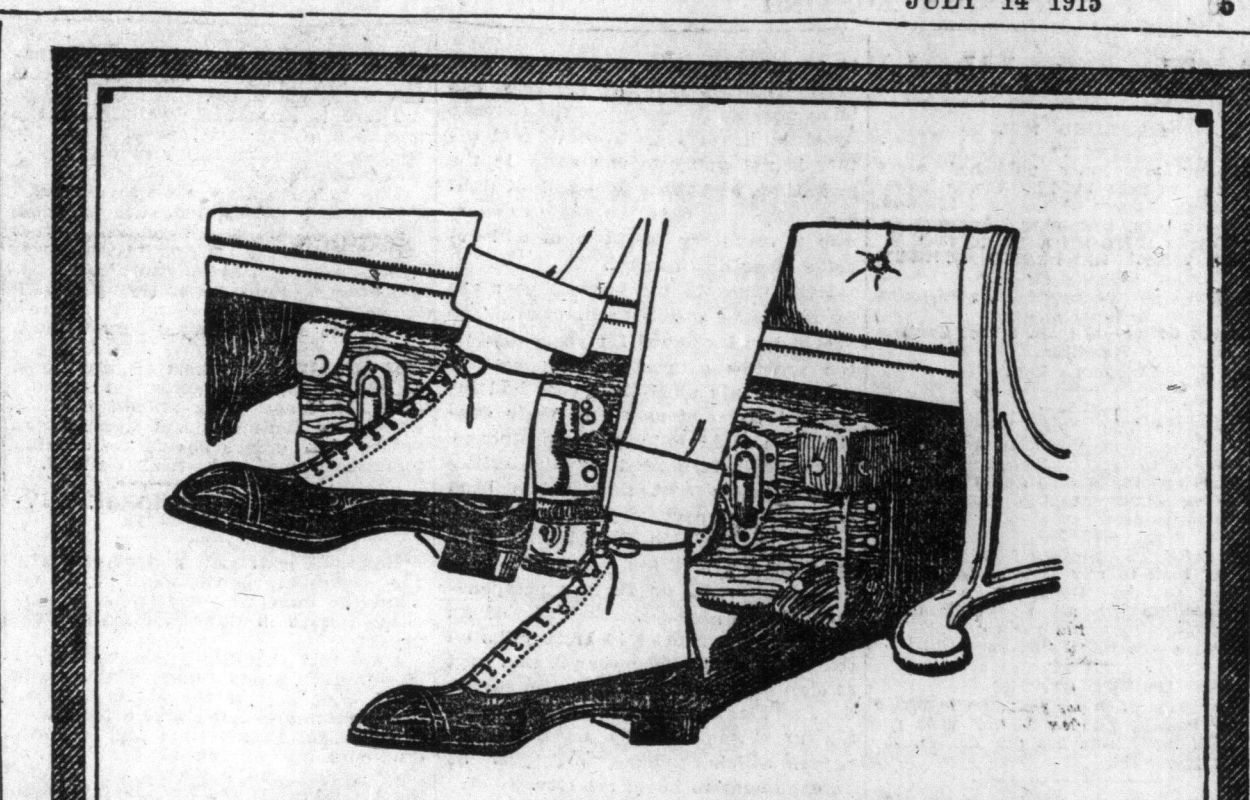
The following cable message has been received by his parents from Joseph A. Simmers of the Toronto University Officers' Training Corps: "At Shorncliffe safe and well."

SUEZ CANAL KEPT OPEN.

LONDON, July 13.—A report was in circulation in London today that the Suez Canal had been blocked and that traffic in the waterway had been stopped, but on inquiry being made at the offices of the canal company, an official said that the report was groundless.

Kingston Old Boys.

Kingston Old Boys will hold their annual excursion to Kingston on Saturday, July 24, when a splendid reunion of former residents of Kingston will take place. The party leave on the steamship Toronto, which sails from the Yonge street wharf, at 5 p.m.



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Mississauga Horse Determined to Do Utmost in Campaign.

ON TOUR FOR RECRUITS

Stouffville, Newmarket, Milton and Other Centres Already Visited.

The old saying that "Nothing succeeds like success" was never better exemplified than by the recruiting campaign which the 9th Mississauga Horse has been carrying on during the last ten days. Headquarters asked the regiment to supply 99 men toward the battalion, which was to be commanded by Major (now Lieut.-Col.) Beckett.

The regiment, however, got in behind the campaign with a vigor which secured their quota of 99 men inside of two days, and the recruiting machinery, having been once put into operation, has been doing better work day by day, until at the present time recruits are being passed by the doctor at the rate of between 50 and 60 per diem.

Have Done Well.
The figures show that the Mississaugas up to date have enlisted nearly half the men who have been secured in Toronto since the recruiting campaign commenced. Their officers now think they can raise a whole battalion themselves, and are pushing the work vigorously with that object in view.

Headquarters apparently has not been consulted about this, but Col. Logie, who was in Toronto recently examining into the recruiting situation, evidently regards the Mississauga's performances with a complaisant eye and is not expected to interpose any red tape barriers.

The touring parties of recruiting officers sent out by the Mississaugas are running to schedule, and yesterday had offices open at Stouffville, Newmarket, Uxbridge, Streetsville, Wood-

Summer-Spoiled Skin Removed by Absorption

As undue summer exposure usually leaves an undesirable surface of tan, redness or roughness, often freckles, too, the sensible thing to do is to remove such surface. There's nothing better for this than ordinary mercurized wax, which actually absorbs an unwholesome complexion. The thin layer of surface skin is itself absorbed, gently, gradually, so there's no inconvenience, no detention indoors. Spread the wax lightly over the entire face at bedtime and take it off in the morning with warm water. If you will get one ounce of mercurized wax at the drugstore, use it for a week or so, you may expect marked improvement daily. When the underlying skin is wholly in view your complexion will be a marvel of spotless purity and beautiful whiteness.

Don't let these summer wrinkles worry you; worry breeds more wrinkles. Banish them by bathing the face in a solution of powdered salolite, 1 oz., dissolved in half pint witch hazel. Used daily for a while this will be found wonderfully effective.

bridge and Milton. Today they push on to other recruiting centres. The Mississaugas claim that they are ready to scour the whole province if necessary in their search for recruits, but they expect to have their battalion.

TO REPRESENT THOSE INTERESTED IN WRECK
Many Lawyers Will Be on Hand at Queenston Inquest Next Monday.

Many lawyers will be present at the inquest into the wreck of the International Railway's car near Queenston Heights. The city, the

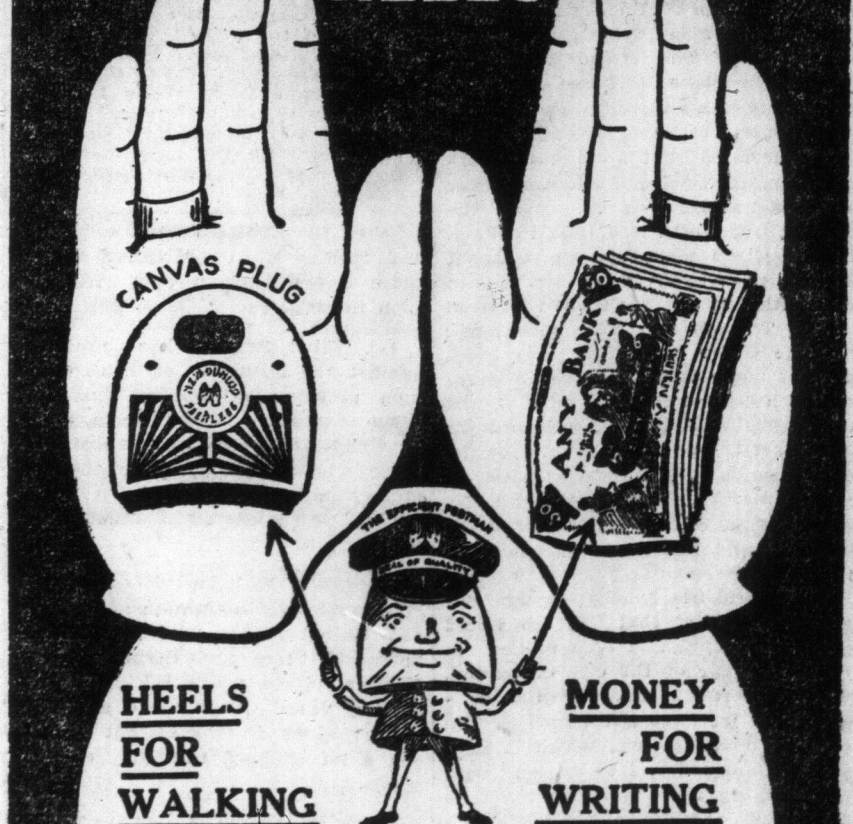
provincial government, Woodgreen Methodist Tabernacle, St. John's Presbyterian Church and private parties will be represented next Monday evening, when the inquest will be held.

The matter of the inquest came up before the board of control yesterday morning. Mayor Church said many of the families of the victims were poor and the city should look after their interests.

WILLIAM BEATTY DEAD.

William Beatty, 187 Sumach street, a descendant of a pioneer Toronto family, died yesterday from bronchitis. He was 55 years of age, and is survived by a widow and four children.

NEW DUNLOP PEERLESS HEELS

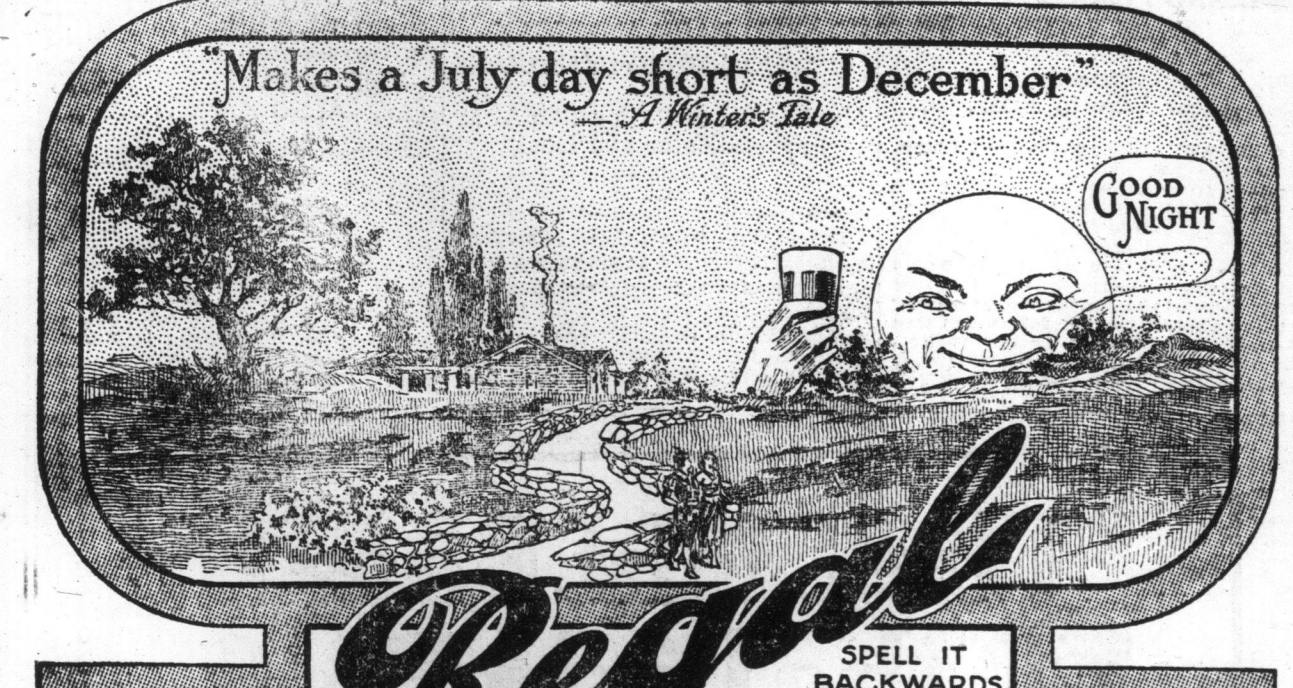


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