

very real danger. They even helped to rescue thousands of people, many of whom were sent to safety in Canada. Some remained permanently.

The Great War was officially over by November, 1918, but some allied forces were just beginning their role in a conflict where the surroundings were totally unfamiliar and where they were preparing for a harsh winter with the assumption that both sides would remain on the defensive. This was not to be.

Parts 1 and 2 deal with the problems faced by the Canadian troops. Like most outsiders in a civil war, they were met with opposition and hostility on all sides, from both enemies and alleged friends. Dissension became prevalent on all sides, and the question of "... why were they there?" was on everyone's mind. There was even the odd mutiny.

Why were they there? MacLaren says that shortly before the end of World War I, the Bolsheviks seized control of Russia and withdrew from the war on the Eastern Front. This naturally caused a great deal of concern among the Allies who now saw that hordes of German soldiers would be released from the east to fight on the Western Front. Lenin had given in to the demands of the Central Powers, and an Allied defeat seemed a distinct possibility. The White Russians, however, had promised to reopen the Eastern Front and the Allies decided they would help all they could. Chances are that had the Great War not been in progress, the Allies would never have intervened.

On the political level, Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, was convinced that the Eastern Front must be reopened in order to relieve pressure on the Western Front. He also saw this as an opportune time to aim for possible later trade opportunities, he believed existed in Siberia. Furthermore, he wanted Canada to be recognized as a distinct entity and not as an extension of Britain in a post-war world. He, like Laurier, wanted Canada to

have a voice of her own in matters concerning the defence of the Empire. Despite this, he was never really able to give a justifiable or reassuring answer to the people as to why Canadians were fighting and dying in Russia.

MacLaren has done an enormous amount of research into this chapter of Canadian history. He has written a very readable, interesting and enlightening book on a topic, surely, that will appeal to many readers, particularly Canadian history buffs. T. K.

ADVENTURES WITH WILD ANIMALS:

By Andy Russell, Hurtig Publishers, Edmonton, Illustrated, pp. 183, price \$9.95 (cloth).

The book screams it: "Understand me, if you will only understand me, you will protect me."

Andy Russell probably needs no introduction to readers who have read animal stories and stories of the Canadian Rockies. He is renowned for taking the place of the animal as if it were a human, and setting out a very interesting and plausible story of the animal as it looks at us humans and at the environment in which it lives and hunts.

Adventures with Wild Animals is also such a book, but the characters are some of the more threatened species, such as the cougar, the otter and the wolf. There are stories about the Grizzly, the elk, a horned owl, and others. We immediately recognize some of these species with revulsion. The author instead has the reader look at the world through the eyes of these animals, and by this method our understanding will become more tolerant, and hopefully, more protective against those who go out merely to slaughter.

The book is a pleasant adventure, especially for anyone who likes the outdoors and has lived or passed through the scenic beauty of the Canadian Rockies. The whole family will enjoy it. T. K.

promotions

The following members of the RCMP have received promotions since publication of the Winter, 1978 issue:

Headquarters Division

D/Commr. — A/Commr. J. R. R. Quintal.

C/Supt. — Supt. J. L. P. Mantha.