

# The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance



ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. XXXVIII. No. 17.

MONTREAL, APRIL 26, 1918

Single Copy 10c.  
Annual Subscription \$3.00

## A NEW LANDMARK IN CANADIAN HISTORY

### Anniversary of the Second Battle of Ypres, April 22nd

*The first Canadian Division made a new landmark in Canadian history; they brought unperishable glory to Canada; they died for an ideal.*

*Yet those who died are not dead. Today their voices call to us, above the turmoil and din of the world, and they demand of us that we do not turn our backs, and forget the great sacrifice which they made for us, but fight until peace based upon justice shall reign upon the earth.*

The afternoon of April 22nd, 1915, proved to be one of the most famous in Canadian history.

On a quiet sunny afternoon, the German army, after silently concentrating large numbers of men and guns against the colonial troops in the Ypres salient, launched their great offensive which was to give them the Calais coast and the key to England.

Their attack was preceded by suffocating clouds of gas—the most diabolical weapon that could be devised by German science.

Coming like a bolt from the blue, this unknown terror, so deadly in its effect, drove the demoralized and panic-stricken Moroccan troops from their trenches. Be it to their everlasting glory that the Canadians alongside of them "stuck it".

Blinded, choking and dying from the effects of the caustic fumes, with throats and lungs seared by the burning chemicals, our Canadian sons and brothers hung on.

For four days, in spite of all that the enemy could do, they held the line. With little water and food, under avalanches of shells streams of machine and rifle bullets, continuous infantry attacks and clouds of gas our boys beat back the great German army, until finally, weary, bruised and battered, the remnants of that immortal First Canadian Division were withdrawn from the line.

It was then that the name of Canada blazed forth with a new meaning, over the whole world. The country that had been famous for her resources, became illustrious for the valour of her manhood. The despised "Clodhopper", as the German soldiery had contemptuously called them, had beaten the flower of the German army.

The lesson taught the Germans that day by the first Canadian Division, has since been repeated by all Canadian Divisions. The Canadians have

shown their superiority over the enemy at all times and under all circumstances.

To-day the enemy is in our midst. Insidiously he is issuing his propaganda to depress us and show that Germany cannot be beaten. But we know that Germany is already beaten, provided our people at home stand firm. Our men in the field know that they are good for three or four Germans a piece in fighting qualities; they have supreme confidence in the final results.

But the front line has now moved back from the trenches to the civilian population—, to the workers responsible for turning out the sinews of war and producing food for Britain and her allies. Germany knows this, and is doing her utmost to make the world believe she is unbeatable. The men in the front line fear only the people at home.

It is worth recalling the cable General French, then Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Force, sent on April 23: "The Canadians undoubtedly saved the situation."

(Written by one who witnessed part of the battle)

### CORRESPONDENCE TO PERSONS IN ENEMY TERRITORY.

We are advised by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, that with regard to the arrangement instituted whereby correspondence of a private and family nature can be forwarded from individuals in Canada to persons in enemy and enemy occupied territory through the medium of Thos. Cook & Son, 530 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal, difficulty is being caused owing to persons remitting by the charge for forwarding these letters (35c) by postage stamps instead of by means of a Postal Note for 30 cents with five cents in postage affixed thereto.