

# The Weekly Monitor

VOL. 43

BRIDGETOWN, ANnapolis COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1915

NO 23

## LIFE IN THE TRENCHES

Contrasts Coincidences and Experiences

(Free Press, Newfoundland, July 6)

In the Trenches,

June 9th, 1915.

Dear—

It is a strange life, this. We have just spent a day in this trench and have done nothing but eat and sleep and look out for "gas." It is hard to believe we are at war, hardly a shot has passed over our trench, and yet the Germans are only 150 yards from us. Our artillery has been active. I have not fired a shot out of my rifle for a long time. We had a 10 days' rest before we came up here. Tonight we go back to the reserve trenches. The hard part of it is those at home think we are hard at it and in danger all the time. These trenches are fine the best we have been in, dry and deep. The dug-outs are comfortable, in fact we are quite sorry to leave. Everything is green and lovely at the back of the trench, flowers and oats growing together. I am enclosing some flowers, the little flowers are forget-me-nots, I believe. I suppose we have been given an easy position because we are not up to full strength just yet. In the last mix-up we lost three officers, one being Major Shaw. He was hit by shrapnel. I was near him at the time. Later I heard he had joined us again, and I thought he was not hit badly. He spoke to several, and they warned him that he was running a great risk by wandering about in front, the German trench being very near. He said he was going to look for the trench the Guards were in. We had been ordered to join the Guards, but we had come too much to the right and were lost for a time. Major Shaw walked straight towards the German trench. One plucky chap went out to try and stop him, but the shrapnel had done its work, for the Major had lost his reason! This was the last that was seen of him. The chap who went out to stop him was shot, and so it is likely he, too, was killed or taken prisoner by the Germans.

To-day we are, strange to say, enjoying all the latest songs and music on the piano. No, we are not in Paris or Berlin, but so close to the firing line that we could get there in fifteen minutes. It is a quiet place we are in. I wish I could keep a diary of the unlikely things which happen in war. Talk about "fish stories," they would be put in the shade. I remember when we were all dug in a field and the Germans were shelling us. One landed on the roof of a dug-out not ten yards from us, and exploded inside, where two men were asleep. We ran up to dig them out. They were almost buried out of sight, yet one

man was unhurt, the other only slightly wounded. In another case a shell landed in a dug-out where two men were, exploded, buried both, and caused the ammunition on one man to go off, 150 rounds; yet the man was unhurt, and soon as he could get out, stood up, and "talked hard" at the Germans.

A funny thing happened to me. I was in a trench. I had just made myself comfortable by digging out the bank, making a hole in the front bank of the trench. I was asleep with the blanket over me. A shell hit the trench behind me. The shock caused the bank to fall in. I awoke to find myself fixed, the earth being wet and falling in on my blanket fixed me as securely as if I were encased in plaster paris. I could hear voices which seemed a long way off, saying, "Look out for his face!"

Yes, it is a strange life out here, and most of the time not an unpleasant one. I thought at one time August would see the end, but for the life of me I can't see how it can end so soon now.

Since writing the above I have come out of the trenches, and had to spend a night sleeping on rails—a track is not the softest place for a bed I can tell you. I am finishing this letter in a cemetery, and a lovely one it is, flowers and trees making it very beautiful. In front of me there are rows and rows of pine wood crosses, marking the place where some of England's best men are sleeping, and not only England's, but men from Canada, India, France, yes, and those from Germany as well. I see one cross put up to H. Jeffrey. I suppose it is not Harold, Uncle Jeffrey's eldest son? I know he is serving somewhere, but I have not heard he had been killed. I should like to find Jack Holland's grave, but we are miles away from that place now, and not likely to go back. I was able to send his father his son's Prayer Book and Testament. Ernest says the medical officer will not permit him to leave for the front yet, as he is not quite fit. A man certainly needs to be fit, very fit. I have never felt better. We often have to sleep out in the open, in some field, and even if it rains we seem to be the worse for it. I sent Auntie a German helmet and several buttons lately. I have just received the parcel from Messrs. Haddon. Fondest love. Don't worry, even the worst is but a little longer parting. I think I should be very thankful to be spared so long to serve my country when better men have gone.

Your very affectionate son,

E. J.

The initials of the writer E. J. will be readily recognized by his many friends on the Bay of Fundy shore. In a later letter he tells of being in the trenches 16 days on end the first half of July.

## METHODIST NOTES

The delightful Camp Grounds at Berwick were open for over two weeks during the month of August. First came the 44th Annual Camp Meeting with an attendance, on Saturday and Sunday, of at least 2,000 people. The lectures of Prof. Bland and sermons of Rev. C. A. Williams, were both inspiring and practical. "Get Right with God" was the key note, and testimonies at the close proved that the messages had not been unheeded.

From the 12th to the 19th the Summer School of Sunday School Methods was in session. This is no mere Methodist or Presbyterian or Baptist, and needs but to be better known to secure a larger attendance. Experts from the United States and Canada—Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptists, Methodists—gave of their best and the Sunday Schools represented can but be greatly helped. On the register of students were 19 from Kings County, 4 from Annapolis County, and altogether less than 70, but probably at best three times that number attended some of the sessions. The school is now an established annual event and should be looked forward to and planned for by all Sunday Schools and Churches, especially by those in Kings, Annapolis and Digby Counties.

A garden party on the grounds of Mrs. James Rice at Parker's Cove on August 12th, netted \$41.00 and the material for a barn near the church at that place for the minister's horse has been secured.

The membership of the Methodist Church in Canada, Newfoundland, and Bermuda is now 376,761, an increase on the last year of 1,769. All the 12 Conferences reported an increase, the largest percentage being in Newfoundland where the membership is 14,028, the increase 1,107.

At the Panama-Pacific Exposition, in a competition open to all, the Methodist Book-Concern of New York won a gold medal for the most comprehensive, up-to-date and widely-distributed International Uniform and Graded Sunday School lessons. It also won a grand prize, the highest award given by the Exposition, for the printing and binding of books and general book-making.

Rev. E. E. Graham of the Nova Scotia Conference and Chaplain to His Majesty's forces, is now on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Rev. H. B. Clarke, last year of Springhill, has received his commission as Lieutenant and is doing recruiting work in Nova Scotia. Two sons of Rev. James Allen, Senior Missionary Secretary, are Lieutenants at Niagara and one of them is immediately proceeding to the front.

The annual convention of the United Baptist Churches of the Maritime Provinces convenes with the First Baptist Church, Truro, on October 16.

## THE EUROPEAN WAR

### Violent Fighting in the Argonne

PARIS, September 11—The violent fighting in the Argonne Wednesday and Thursday was the result of an effort of the German Crown Prince to break through the French lines. The attempt was made with powerful artillery and a large number of troops. It apparently has had no appreciable result. The Germans were able to penetrate the French trenches on a portion of the front, but were checked immediately. They renewed their attacks again and again, but with such severe losses that they gave up the effort.

This offensive movement, it is said, on good authority, has not modified the situation in the Argonne. In making it, the Germans have had greater losses, according to the French official figures, than they have inflicted.

The army of the Crown Prince has attempted several times in previous months to break through the French front, but so far has scored no definite success. The statement is made here that this army has lost upwards of 100,000 men, one corps alone losing 49,000 from the ranks, which are being continually depleted and refilled.

PARIS, September 12—The following official communication was issued by the War Office tonight:

"In Artois artillery actions, similar to those of the preceding days, have occurred. They were particularly violent in the sector of Neuville. In the region of Roye, and in front of Anchechy, conflicts have taken place between patrols.

"To the north of the Aisne the Germans directed against our positions between the plateau of Paisy and Godat an intense and prolonged bombardment with shells of all calibres. Our artillery replied with an effective fire against the trenches and batteries of the enemy.

"Cannonading on both sides has been in progress in Champagne, in the environs of Auberville and St. Hilaire, between the Meuse and the Moselle, in the forest of Montmare, on the Lorraine front, in the environs of Nomeny and Nouse, as well as in the region of the Ban-de-Sapt.

"In the Dardanelles the last period of five days has been very calm. In the north zone the Turks, on different occasions, have opened a violent infantry and artillery fire, but without leaving their trenches. In the south zone there is nothing important to report, outside the efficiency of our trench mortars, which have destroyed two small forts and caused sensible losses to the enemy."

### Naval Battle in Adriatic Sea

ROME, Sept. 13—A battle between Italian and Austrian naval forces, the former assisted by a French submarine, occurred on Thursday last in the Adriatic Sea. The Ministry of Marine announced today that one Austrian torpedo boat had been damaged seriously.

The statement follows: The French submarine Papin, assisted by our naval forces torpedoed on September 9, in the Adriatic near Cape Planka, a group of Austrian torpedo boats, one of which was damaged seriously.

## WAR BRIEFS

Official figures show that on June 1st, there were 5000 young women employed in the Krupp works at Essen, as compared with 1,329 on January 1st. The latter date the total number of employees in other places were also busy.

The rest of the world will welcome the day when Europe is confronted by the serious question of what to do with its ex-trenches.

The requisition by the German Government of all cotton in the country, and that all cotton mills must work exclusively for the army has meant ruin to many firms.

The three Canadian hospital units formed for the Dardanelles have arrived safely. No Canadian nurses were lost when the "Royal Edward" was torpedoed, as at first reported.

The War credit asked by the German Government in August was granted by the Reichstag; but, during the debate was accompanied by speeches which expressed hope for the greater freedom of the German people.

Allied torpedo destroyers have bottled up a German submarine on the coast of Asia Minor, supposed to be the one which destroyed the Royal Edward, with the loss of a thousand lives.

Two German Americans were arrested at a picnic, charged with complicity in the dynamite explosions at Walkerville two months ago. One of them on the steamer returning threw over a letter written in German which was taken out of the water and retained for his trial.

The German submarine which torpedoed the "Arabic" is believed to have been caught in a steel net and lost.

The German Government has ordered that women economize by wearing narrow skirts.

Of 136 articles mentioned in a food list of Berlin co-operative societies, 27 have increased in price more than 100 per cent. Sausages, bacon, cheese, peas, beans, rice, cocoa, potatoes and lemons are included among the latter.

Father and eleven sons, by the name of Goulding, of Lancashire, are at present in active service. The Father an old service man rejoined his regiment at the beginning of the war. That is a wonderful record.

Already an organization have been formed for the purpose of sending Christmas boxes to the front.

Quebec Province has donated to Great Britain and the Allies more than \$993,000 for war purposes, and yet had a surplus for the last financial year of \$194,000.

It is against the law in Germany for any person, native or foreigner, to pay debts due to persons in any country at war with Germany.

The recent bombardment by the British fleet of Zeebrugge, Belgium, was very damaging. Ninety wounded soldiers were taken to Ghent, a number were killed, a submarine shed and some submarines were destroyed.

Springhill takes the cake for recruits in Nova Scotia. More than 600 men from this town have enlisted since the War began.

Since the imposition of the war tax on letters and post cards, the number posted in Canada has diminished 30 per cent.

Subscribers to the British War loan of small sums now number 1,000,000. Bombay has subscribed to the War loan \$3,330,000, and Calcutta about as much.

Several Canadians, with the approval of King George, have received honors from the Emperor of Russia.

Great activity is reported in Japanese shipyards. The employees are kept at work both day and night.

It is reported that more contract scandals have been discovered in Germany since the war began than in Great Britain or Canada. But, this is no credit to Great Britain or Canada.

## CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH

Statement to August 31st, 1915	
Contributions to July 31	\$150,780.80
Receipts during August	9,703.37
Total contributions to date	\$160,484.17
Disbursements to July 31	\$113,955.31
Disbursements during Aug.	20,123.05
	\$134,078.36
Cash Balance Aug. 31	\$26,405.81
Estimated payment on subscriptions due Sept. 1	35,000.00
Total amt. now available	\$61,405.81
Estimated requirement for Sept.	\$19,500.00
Estimated requirement for October.	20,500.00
Estimated requirement for November	21,000.00
	\$61,000.00
Balance available Dec. 1st.	\$405.81

H. A. FLEMMING,  
Honorary Treasurer.

The foregoing statement shows that the Canadian Patriotic Fund, Nova Scotia Branch, on December first, next, will have to its credit only \$405.81 with which to meet the requirements of dependents of soldiers who have gone overseas. The disbursements for the month of August were made only to families whose representatives are in overseas regiments. The average monthly disbursement per family was \$15.40.

It is absolutely essential that contributors should not only speed up their payments, but that additional contributions should be forthcoming to meet the legitimate demands upon the Patriotic Fund. By December first the disbursements will exhaust the available resources of the Fund unless strenuous efforts are made by the local committees in the several counties to secure additional contributions. The recruits now volunteering, and whom we are making every legitimate effort to secure, will impose increasing obligations upon the Fund. On the first of December it will be necessary either to acknowledge our inability to provide for the dependents of those who have gone from Nova Scotia, or to make further demands upon the generosity of the people of the Province. Our soldiers are fighting for us in the battle line. Surely we at home should willingly assume our share of providing for the families of those who have gone in our stead.

The great task of restoring our soldiers expeditiously to civil employment is now beginning to confront the people of Canada. With this in view the scope of the activities of the Patriotic Fund is being usefully broadened. Arrangements are being made whereby the Fund will endeavor to secure suitable employment for all returned soldiers. A depot has been established at Quebec where a representative interviews all invalided soldiers and furnishes confidential reports to the respective branches of the Fund. By this means the organization ascertains the kind of work for which the soldier is fitted, and at the same time endeavors to provide such employment as quickly as possible. In no more thoughtful way could our people express their gratitude to the preservers of our liberty than by making sure that every returning soldier shall be cared for and watched over until he is restored to his fitting place in civil life, and that the dependents of those still on the firing line shall be maintained comfortably at home.

By direction of the Executive Committee.

ARTHUR S. BARNSTEAD,  
Secretary.

"Rough on Rats" clears out Rats, Mice, etc. Don't Die in the House. 15c. and 25c. at Drug and County Stores.

## EUGENE TROOP DROWNED IN LINN

A telegram received here on Monday from Linn, conveyed the sad intelligence of the death through drowning accident, of Eugene Parker Troop, which occurred on Sunday last. No further particulars have as yet been received by his family residing here. The deceased was fifty-three years of age and was born in Bridgetown, a son of the late Abner Troop. For the past nine years he has been employed by the General Electric Company at their Linn plant.

To mourn their loss there remain a widow, two daughters and two sons, Mrs. Appleton Jackson of Paradise, Miss Flossie of the Bridgetown Telephone Exchange staff, Joseph of Regina, and Clarence of the Canadian Royal Artillery, St. John, besides an aged mother and three sisters, all residing in Massachusetts.

The remains will arrive by the east bound express on Friday, and funeral services will be held at his home here immediately after arrival of the train.

## LETTER FROM SERGT.-MAJOR GILL TO REV. E. UNDERWOOD

Digby Camp,  
Shorncliffe, England.  
August 29, 1915.

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Just a line to let you know that the boys from Bridgetown and vicinity are all in the best of health and spirits. We are just home (back to camp) after a test march of three days in full marching order in a broiling sun, and not one of the boys fell out. They are second to none. We do not know when we will be sent to the front, but we are all ready. The boys are very much impressed with the old English scenery. Most of the Canadian boys I have spoken to yet say the same—all of them, and the people are more than good to us. It would be nice to let this be known through the press. Our friends will be pleased.

Trusting all in Bridgetown are in good health as this leaves us at present.

Very truly,

GEORGE GILL,  
Sergt.-Major, 6th C.M.R.

## LAWRENCETOWN RED CROSS SOCIETY

On September 8th, Lawrencetown Red Cross Society sent another box to headquarters in Halifax, consisting of the following:

18 face clothes, 12 towels, 66 bandages, 10 comfort pads, 54 surgical handkerchiefs, 36 hospital shirts, 17 pyjama suits.

From Clarence, 20 prs. socks.  
Donations:—Mrs. Henry Beals, 6 prs. socks, Mrs. Milledge Beals 3 prs. socks.

The sum of \$50.00 was collected in Lawrencetown for a cot in a hospital in England for our soldiers. Also money for extra comforts for the cot.

## DEATH OF MISS CORNING IN INDIA

The death of Miss Edna Corning who died in Samitotta, India, Sept. 3, has saddened the hearts of many in our community. Miss Corning, a Yarmouth lady, was teaching music in Clarence when she decided to become a missionary. Although obstacles stood in the way of her desire she surmounted all and many years have been spent in India.

## H. PRICE WEBBER ILL

H. Price Webber, the veteran actor, has been seriously ill at his home in Augusta, Maine. His condition is reported as slightly improved. He was just about to start out on his regular fall and winter season which had been fully booked, when he became ill, necessitating the cancellation of all engagements.

## Royal Bank of Canada

INCORPORATED 1869.

Capital Paid up - - \$11,560,000  
Reserve Funds - - 13,575,000

Savings Department Accounts may be opened with an initial deposit of One Dollar. Interest is credited half yearly.

Joint Account An account in the name of two members of a family will be found convenient. Either person (or the survivor) may operate the account.

A. F. LITTLE MANAGER, Bridgetown  
F. G. PALFREY MANAGER, Lawrencetown  
E. B. McDANIEL MANAGER, Annapolis Royal

## I Can Sell You

54 GENTS' SILK SCARVES

No Two Alike 23 cents

—OR—

Any One of Them for 23 cents

THE NEWEST COLORINGS, THE LATEST STYLES

Penman's Fleeced Shirts and Penman's Fleeced Drawers

ONLY 45 CENTS PER GARMENT

Boy's Sweaters 45 cents up. Men's Sweaters to arrive Men's Shirts 47 cents up

## I Have Bought

For April 1916 Delivery

30 Dozen Men's and Boys' Straw Hats

Regular Prices cut in two May 1916

WALTER SCOTT, The "Keen Kutter"

Granville Street The Royal Bank Building (Next Door to Public Telephone Station) Bridgetown