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The Beaver: A Live Weekly for Canadians Overseas.

LONDON: FEBRUARY 1st, 1919.

EDITORIAL OFFICES:
49 Bedford Square, W.C. 1.

THE MINISTRY.

The creation and organisation of the Overseas Military Forces of Canada stands as an example of the aptitude of Canadians to rise to the highest occasion. When war broke out there was only the frame work of a military machine in existence in Canada, the Militia being organised on a peace footing. It was not exactly the kind of Army which would disturb an enemy. In one of England's little wars a general who saw the troops which he was to lead, remarked, "Well, I do not know what effect they may have upon the enemy, but they terrify me." The very raw recruits who donned red coats and went to camp at Niagara and elsewhere must frequently have had the same effect upon the officers who were to conduct the yearly manœuvres. When camp broke up, however, it was carefully noted that this raw stuff was the stuff of which real soldiers are made, and military experts carefully collated and tabulated information, pigeon-holing it for "The Day." Bernhardt's idea was that this Militia "which is sometimes only in process of formation" could "be completely ignored so far as concerns any European theatre of war." Germany's contempt for Colonial troops was as stupid as her attitude toward the old "contemptibles," and her inability to appreciate either the silken ties of kinship which bind the whole English-speaking world together, or the spirit of idealism which goes with it, was one of her biggest blunders. Germany knows now, and it must be a bitter reflection to Bernhardt to see Canadian troops across the Rhine and in possession of Bonn. But ties which bind and spirit which animates would have availed little had there not been behind it organising ability, soldierly instincts, dashing chivalry, and dauntless courage. It was the development of these qualities which made the Canadian Corps so formidable a fighting force. Nor does it detract from the striking achievements of the men in the field to say that the Ministry helped to make their successes possible. Perfectly equipped, well paid, splendidly clothed and fed, all their immediate needs satisfied, the Ministry was careful to see that no "kick was coming." Contented men fight better than those who have a "grouch," and if the boys had anything approaching one it was effectually "washed out" by the recent decision regarding Post Discharge Pay and Free Repatriation for dependant families in this country.

FOR REFLECTION.

Why don't you show us a statesman who can rise up to the emergency, and cave in the emergency's head?—Artemus Ward.

A Letter from the Chief of General Staff.
CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS, ARGVLL HOUSE,
LONDON, W. 1. 23rd January, 1919.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I have read with great interest the first numbers of your new paper, and wish you the best of success and a large circulation during the period of demobilization.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

R. E. W. TURNER, Lieut.-General.
Chief of the General Staff, O.M.F.C.

Information for Returning Canadians.

SOLDIERS AND DEPENDENTS.

The following schedule of points applicable from the time of embarkation until final discharge in Canada has been issued for the help and guidance of returning Canadian soldiers :—

1. (a) On arrival on board ship every soldier is given an advance of \$5.00 for boat expense money, and on arrival in Canada he is given an advance of another \$5.00 for train expense money.
- (b) During the voyage to Canada a cheque is made out in favour of each soldier, providing for Pay and Allowances, to approximate date of discharge, and including \$35.00 Civilian Clothing Allowance, and also the first instalment on account of Post Discharge Pay or War Service Gratuity. This cheque will be handed to the soldier when discharged at his Dispersal Station.
2. On arrival in Canada everything possible is done to facilitate entrainment in order that troops may be conveyed as quickly as possible to the respective destinations. A special Railway Committee has been appointed, representing all Canadian Railroads, to deal with this matter.
3. NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL.—Immediately on arrival of troops a telegram is sent, at Government expense, to the Secretary of each Provincial Soldiers' Aid Society, giving the soldier's name, number, and rank, and name and address of person in Canada whom the soldier wishes notified of his arrival. These secretaries, on receiving this information, telegraph to the relative or friend specified by the soldier, notifying them of the approximate time of the soldier's arrival at his home.
4. RECEPTION ON ARRIVAL. As far as is possible, arrangements are made by each Municipality to meet all troop trains and welcome the returning soldiers.
5. AT DISPERSAL STATION. Immediately on detraining, all troops are taken to Dispersal Station, where they—
 - (a) Hand in their equipment.
 - (b) Sign and receive their final Discharge Certificate.
 - (c) Receive their cheques for Pay and Allowances to the approximate date of discharge. In order to assist the soldier in getting away quickly this cheque was made out on board ship, as explained in paragraph 1 (b). The date to which payment is made may be a few days under or over actual date of discharge, and if the soldier is therefore underpaid or overpaid by a few days the necessary adjustment will be made on his next payment of War Gratuity.
 - (d) Each soldier will receive a railroad ticket or warrant direct to his ultimate destination.
6. LEAVING THE DISPERSAL STATION. The soldier, if in receipt of his Discharge Certificate, is now free from military service, and is entitled to take up civilian occupation, and in this respect he will be given every possible assistance by other departments of the Government.