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THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1917.

"INCREASED AERIAL ACTIVITY" AND WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

Stirring Story of the Achievements of Flying Men With the British Armies in France

With the British Armies in France Jan 27.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—The announcement that "Improved weather conditions permitted increased aerial activity along the entire front" is the laconic and prosaic way in which the official communique dismisses some of the most spectacular episodes of the war.

To those who have once witnessed this "increased aerial activity" such an announcement confuses up at once a picture of countless aero-planes in the air—scouting, fighting, diving, spinning, hovering over enemy targets and calmly sending wireless signals through the fountains of enemy fire, photographing the army lines, bombing his ammunition dumps and sheds and supply columns, and otherwise "carrying on" in the sky in a manner wholly bewildering to the onlooker but typifying in supreme degree the indispensable part aviation is playing in this war.

With a candor often uncommon in times of strife, the British communique may end from day to day with the simple statement that one or two or three or four "of our machines have not returned." This means they have either been hit and forced to land in the enemy lines, or have been shot down to a fate more certain. It is no child's play to circle above a German battery observing for half an hour or more, tortured by exploding shells and black shrapnel putballs coming nearer and nearer like the extending finger tips of some hand of death. But they are little more than children—these mere boys who are bringing the lustre of everlasting fame to the British aviation service. Some are scarce eighteen. It is rare to find a flying man over twenty-five.

In the aggregate, however, the losses in the flying corps are as nothing compared with the useful and vital work the "wings" accomplish. Without them and the hundreds of photographs they daily take, the map makers could not trace each detail of the trench positions. Without them the general staff could not accurately know just what is going on by day and night behind the enemy lines. Without them modern war would lose its most fascinating phase.

The "good flying" of a single day on the British front alone may represent a day of a hundred fights, a day of four score aeroplanes in wing-to-wing combat—a day of a thousand personal incidents and deeds of daring in the once strange strata of high thin air.

It might tell, for instance, of how Lieutenant A. in a fast-flying scout machine, encountered a squadron of twelve German Rolands. The odds were one-sided enough, but the young Britisher decided to take a chance. He climbed swiftly and surely until he got far above and to the rear of the hostile craft. Evidently the Germans were intent upon some errand which they proposed to carry out in force, for they paid no heed to the khaki-clad airman until he deliberately dived into them, firing as he came. This threw the twelve Germans into a panic and their formation was entirely broken up. Meantime Lieut. A. got beneath the nearest machine and fired an entire drum of cartridges into it at fifteen yards. The hostile machine collapsed and "crashed." That is a supreme word in the lexicon of the flying corps. A machine may fall, or dive, but until it is actually seen to "crash," it is not counted as an enemy "casualty."

After seeing his particular enemy "crash" Lieut. A. drew off to think things over. He was somewhat amazed to see still more hostile machines coming up in formation. But he dashed at the leader of the newcomers and sent him in a spiral nose dive to a "crash." This led to still more complications and the intrepid

little pilot soon found himself engaged with three machines. His fight with these was indecisive. "For," says the official record, "having expended all his ammunition, Lieut. A. set off for home." A few days later, it is related, he took a running dive into a formation of twenty hostile machines with all the self-assurance an eagle might have in the midst of a flock of sparrows. Before he was through he had sent three adversaries "crashing."

"This time," says the record, "he returned to one of our aerodromes for more ammunition and returned to the scene of battle where he engaged and dispersed such enemy machines as remained in the vicinity. One was seen to crash upon a house-top."

This same little Lieutenant A. seems to persist in the records of the service. One day he was crossing the enemy lines at 11,500 feet when he found himself directly above a German kite balloon, sent up for artillery observation. Pretending to be in trouble, and thus avoiding fire from the anti-aircraft guns, he fell in side-stalls to 1,500 feet, suddenly righted himself and dived at the balloon. He opened and continued firing until he almost touched the big gas bag. Just as he passed over it, the thing burst into flames and was destroyed in a few seconds. The Germans lately have adopted the ruse of "stalling" and shamming a fall out of control. It is a thrilling, but not uncommon thing, to see a German machine, when closely pressed, turn its tail straight up in the air and dive toward earth for a distance of two or three thousand feet, and just as the uninitiated onlooker would expect a "crash" it flattens out and starts pell-mell for its own lines. One does not always get away with this bit of aerial strategy, however, as is shown by the record of Capt. B. A. attacking three hostile machines, he saw one of them going down in a spinning nose dive. He suspected the honesty of that dive and decided to do a little diving "on his own." This dramatic downward duel continued for full five thousand feet, until the German was driven into a spin "and seen to crash."

CAINSVILLE.
We regret to report that Miss Fraser our senior teacher is very ill at Mrs. Coles. Her mother from Glen Morris is attending her.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Roy, very pleasantly entertained a sleigh load of friends from the city last Tuesday evening.

Mr. Lorne Cole Lansing, Michigan, was calling on friends and relatives in the village on Wednesday.

Miss G. Benedict, of General Hospital staff city was on Monday the guest of Mrs. H. Foulger.

Congratulations to our New Warden, A. B. Rose. His unanimous election to the honor shows the high esteem in which he is held by the representatives of the county.

Wednesday with Mrs. S. Cole.

The Women's Institute will hold their next meeting at the home of Mrs. C. Wilson, on February 6th. A patriotic program is being arranged and a good attendance is expected.

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Agent for Jaeger's pure wool Fabrics
Agent for Ely's Neckwear.
Agent for Aertex Underwear.
"Borsalino" and other high grade Hats.
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FUNERAL OF CANADIAN GENERAL—REMAINS OF W. C. MACDONALD BORNE TO THE GRAVE. Gun carriage bearing the body of Brigadier-General William Campbell Macdonald, who was managing director of the Confederation Life, and at the time of his death commander of the First Brigade, Second Division, North West Rebellion, and very widely known as both civilian and soldier. He was killed by a light engine in the Toronto Union Station while bidding good-bye to a draft leaving for overseas.

Brantford Public Library Completes Its 33rd Year

Annual Report of Librarian For 1916 Shows Clearly the Progress Made

The following report upon the year's work of the Public Library is to be submitted at the inaugural meeting of the board by E. D. Henwood, Librarian and secretary.

To the Chairman and Members of The Brantford Public Library Board.

Gentlemen,—The by-law establishing a free Public Library in Brantford was voted on and carried in the month of March 1884, and immediately afterwards the Brantford Public Library came into existence, taking over the Mechanics Institute. The Library has just completed its 33rd year, and I respectfully beg to submit, for your consideration, the annual report of the work accomplished during the year 1916.

It would be most interesting if it was possible to make a comparison with the year 1885 that being the first complete year of the Library's work.

Although our Empire is in the midst of the most frightful war in the history of the world, and this community has been depleted of nearly 4000 of its population who are fighting with the armies of Great Britain, naturally diminishes the number of our readers and patrons; yet, from the following records, the work of the Library has been well up to normal.

The receipts and expenditures for the year 1916 are as follows:

Receipts	
Grant from the city for the year 1916	\$6386.00
Grant from the Ontario government, 1916	260.00
Petty cash, fines	105.50
Cards	86.75
Subscriptions	16.50
Sundries	15.55
Bank interest	6.75
	\$6877.05

Expenditure	
Salaries	3395.65
Books	1058.14
Bookbinding	147.97
Newspapers and Magazines	372.39
Heating	455.15
Lighting	241.63
Library maintenance	619.45
Balance of 1916 receipts on hand, which is due for books ordered during the year still undelivered	586.67
	\$6877.05

May I be permitted to draw your attention to one or two of the above items. The cost of heating exceeded that of the year 1915 by \$183.59 caused by the extra furnace which was installed when the late building was extended, and the late spring. An extra ten tons of coal was purchased in March at a cost of \$65.00 and the gas rates were used very frequently. The lighting of the building was \$108.23 less than in

1915, the Hydro-Electric account (using a meter) was exactly \$100.57 less than the flat rate charged in the preceding year.

On account of war conditions, the delivery of books that have been ordered for the library has been greatly interfered with, so much so that, of the books ordered during the year, some 447 volumes are still undelivered. Many of these books were ordered as far back as July. These books at an average of \$1.15 per vol. amount to \$514.05 to be paid for out of the appropriation for the year 1916.

The new books purchased and placed in circulation are herewith classified under their classes.

Adult—

Fiction	428
General Works	11
Philosophy	1
Religion	1
Sociology	15
Natural Science	23
Useful Arts	53
Fine Arts	7
Literature	35
History	32
Biography	36

799

Juvenile—	82
Fiction	8
General Works	20
History	3
Travel	13
Literature	2
Nature Science	13
Arts	13

The following is the circulation of books classified under their classes:

Adult—

Fiction	53002
Philosophy	236
Religion	479
Sociology	441
Philology	135
Natural Science	602
Useful Arts	519
Fine Arts	332
Literature	332
History	1303
Travel	450
Biography	772
Magazines	1434
Reference	9081

69955

Juvenile—	12010
Fiction	2037
Literature	1741
Nature Study	1579
History	311
Travel	929
Biography	633
Magazines	19245

Making the total circulation for

the year 89,240 vols. as compared with 85,593 vols. for the year 1915.

I am extremely pleased to make special mention of the excellent work accomplished in the Juvenile Department under the able charge of Miss Middlemiss. The Story-Hour conducted by Miss Middlemiss is a great success and the attendance has been very large. The work being done here is bound to produce excellent results, not only creating a desire in the children for good reading, but is a great factor in their education.

The Reading-rooms have been well patronized, and are supplied with an excellent assortment of the leading Canadian, British and American newspapers and periodicals, viz, 34 daily; 26 weekly, and 93 monthly publications. The rooms are open to the public every week-day of the year for 12 1-2 hours; on Sunday afternoons for eight months of the year, three hours. The only holidays during the year that the library and reading-rooms are closed to the public are Christmas Day and Good Friday.

During the year the work of writing Catalogue cards, the essays, collective poetry, and collective bibliography has been in progress. The essays are practically completed, and that of poetry and bibliography will be completed during the coming year. This entails an immense amount of work, but is well worth the labor.

In concluding, permit me to mention the very able, obliging, and tentative manner in which the members of the Library Staff have at all times performed their arduous duties and to thank the members of the Board for their courtesy and help during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. HENWOOD,
Librarian.

SWEDISH VESSEL SUNK
By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Jan. 26.—The Swedish steamship, C. A. Brodri, 1,832 tons gross, is reported to have been sunk according to a Lloyds announcement.

The Weitzen farm of 10,000 acres situated 80 miles from Saskatoon on the Elrose (C.N.R.) Line, has been sold to the Scottish Wholesale Co-operative Society for \$300,000 cash.

Catarth Cannot be Cured
with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh remedies, Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surface. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in the country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surface. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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SEVEN YEARS TORTURE

Nothing Helped Him Until He Took
"FRUIT-A-TIVES"



ALBERT VARNER
Buckingham, Que., May 3rd, 1916.
For seven years, I suffered terribly from Severe Headaches and Indigestion. I had belching gas from the stomach, bitter stuff would come up into my mouth after eating, while at times I had nausea and vomiting, and had chronic Constipation. I went to several doctors and wrote to a specialist in Boston but without benefit. I tried many remedies but nothing did me good. Finally, a friend advised "Fruit-a-tives". I took this grand fruit medicine and it made me well. I am grateful to "Fruit-a-tives", and to everyone who has miserable health with Constipation and Indigestion and Bad Stomach, I say take "Fruit-a-tives", and you will get well!.

ALBERT VARNER.

60c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

News Notes

London Conservatives, on advice from Ottawa to name a candidate without delay to succeed the late Wm. Gray, M.P., will call a convention. J. P. Moore was elected president of the association.

Prof. G. M. Wrong, of Toronto, addressing Hamilton Canadian Club was opposed to coalition government, but considered whatever government was in power should have undivided support in such a time as this.

Addressing the banquet of the Canadian National Clay Products Association at Hamilton, Justice Riddell, of Toronto, said Canada would not be doing her full duty until every eligible man was at the front or in training.

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