

"Fighting 26th" Has Suffered Nearly 500 Casualties to Date

Is Report Sent Home by St. Stephen Boy Who Visited the Battalion—Men Showing Strain of Long Period of Fighting in the Trenches—Woman Heard Husband Calling Her When He Was Killed in France.

Lieutenant William McFarlane, of St. Stephen, who is "Somewhere in Belgium," recently wrote to his father, in part as follows:

"Yesterday, Captain Agnew and I were going to ride to the front, where the men go to have a bath, but he was out from 2 a. m. to 7 a. m., he did not feel like going, so I took an orderly and I rode off in search of the 26th. I found them, and believe me, I enjoyed the afternoon very much. I saw about all of No. 3 platoon, or at least what is left of them. Cassin was looking fine and doing good work in the trenches. Guy Pierce, I understand, is back for a commission. Major McArthur did not turn up until just before I left, but I had quite a chat with him. The colonel, I believe, is going to get me and get me back to St. Stephen. I saw both Major McKinnon, Sandy McMillan, Fairweather, Percy McAvity, Mowatt, Morrison and Geo. Keefe 'Booster' Woods was on pass. I also saw Edgar March and Nesbitt. It seemed like old times. They are a great bunch. I did not know Major Belyea and Lieutenant Ferguson were killed, and Lieutenant Lockhart missing. All three are from 'C' company. Mr. Winters is the only original 'C' company officer left now. I also saw Cox from home. Lieutenant Basson, of Fredericton, and Lieutenant Marsden are there now. Captain Elliott is over for a month's instruction. They were in some pretty heavy fighting lately and lost quite a few.

Heavy Casualties.

"They told me all that had happened since I left. There were nearly 500 casualties. The colonel is the same as ever. He claims he is getting better where he was. In some, I think, I can see the strain of seven months over here, while others show no sign. Captain May is in St. John. Major Brown and Lieutenant Sherman are at St. Martin's Plain. I wish you could take a peep in my dugout. You would be surprised how comfortable we are. The 26th are in tents for the first time."

Lieutenant McFarlane went over with the 26th, but was recovering from an operation for appendicitis when his battalion went to France, and was unable to accompany them. He was with the 3rd Pioneer Battalion, 48th Canadian.

"Some day I will be able to tell you how the front of the front means a lot in this business. I saw Captain Ralston, of the 60th Battalion, in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Ralston, of Amherst, from the Front of the Front, April 9. Some of the boys, of course, would not permit Captain Ralston to give more definite information as to the precise meaning of his phrase describing the front, but he wrote, 'The front of the front' means what it would indicate, justifies the opinion that it was the most advanced positions on that part of the firing line."

Commanding a Section.

"We have been here since Wednesday night," Captain Ralston's letter said, "and it has been my first experience in commanding a section of the front line. Taken all in all, it has been quiet as our friends across the way have been very busy. However, we have a few lively moments and they do come suddenly. Of course, one doesn't get much sleep here. The night is by far the busiest time, and we have to be on the alert then."

"We will be relieved tonight, and go back into 'support' about a mile and a half back, into the trenches but within range of shell fire. It will be a rest for the officers although the men will be employed on working parties. We will have a period of rest, but it will be a rest, which will pass only too quickly. We have been very fortunate this week as the company hasn't suffered a casualty, but getting into it is a very tricky part of the business and, therefore, we can never consider ourselves immune."

"The fact that I am in a cheery mood and not worrying about anything but when I am going to get a real night's sleep," says Captain Ralston, in closing his letter, "makes it all seem very easy. I do not bother us. Anyhow, it doesn't help any if you do tell worry you further than to give you the instinct to keep your head down at the right time."

His Fine Record.

Captain Ralston's many friends will be interested to know, too, that he was one of three Canadian officers to distinguish themselves especially in an officers' course at the Canadian Military School at Shorncliffe, a short time before his letter was written. The three officers are described in a London despatch to a Montreal paper as having "specially distinguished themselves in obtaining nearly the full percentage marks." He is a brother of J. Laton Ralston, M. P.

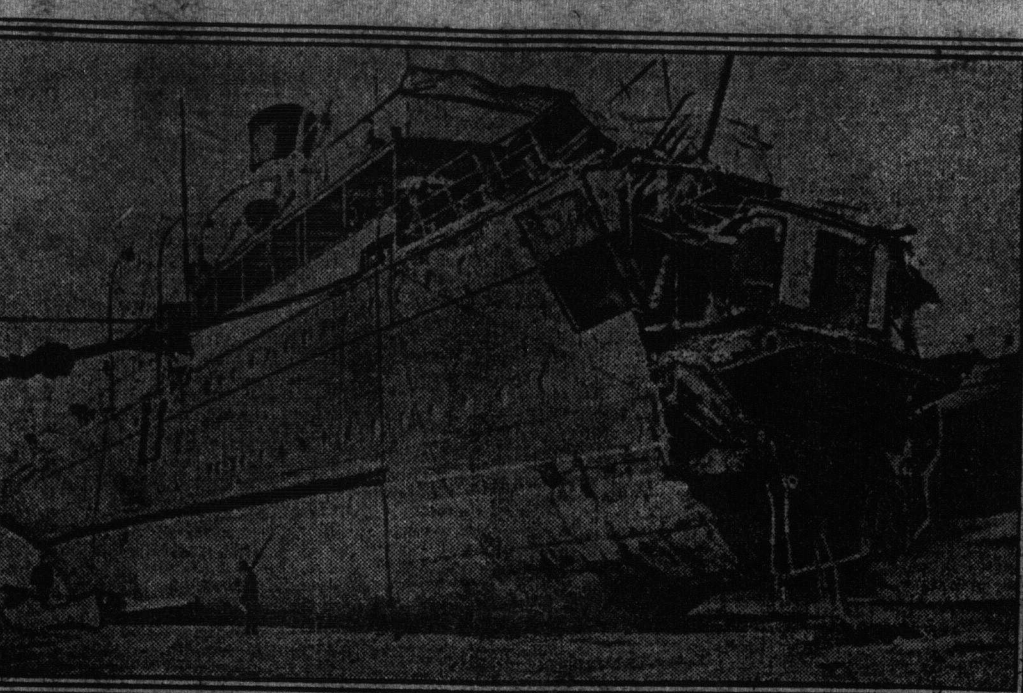
Heard Husband Calling.

To hear her husband calling to her three times distinctly on the same night he died of wounds in France is the strange experience of Mrs. James E. Gillard, of Montreal. Private Gillard, who was in Friday's list, succumbed to gunshot wounds, which penetrated the abdomen and shoulder, on Palm Sunday, April 16. At 9 o'clock Sunday morning Mrs. Gillard said she was reading in her bedroom when clearly and distinctly she heard him call "Laura, Laura." Just as she realized that it was her husband calling she heard it again, less distinctly calling "Laura." She jumped up and turned around, only to find herself looking out of an open window into the night. Then her nerves, strung by the sleepless nights of worry, gave way completely, and the other members of the family found her calling out wildly to her husband.

Marked Date and Hour.

Next morning she was inclined to view the occurrence as a coincidence, although marked down the day and hour, and as the days passed bringing another cheerful letter from her husband, she gradually thought less of the "coincidence" and more of the fact that her husband's telegram from Ottawa arrived "between" six o'clock and six o'clock, at all dealers, 777 Ferris. Do it today.

WHAT THE GERMAN TORPEDO DID TO THE SUSSEX



The Channel steamer Sussex after the explosion on March 24, which killed or injured about 150 passengers. The Sussex was beached at Boulogne and the great damage done to her by the German torpedo is clearly seen in the photograph. All her forward parts were blown away as far as the bridge, and only her watertight bulkheads kept her afloat.

CARNEGIE'S WORD LAW WITH OLD SHELL COMMITTEE

Sir Alexander Bertram Denies Having Even Suspicion of Graft

SURPLUS PAID DOWN BY GOVERNMENT COUNSEL

Fact of Having More Money on Hand Than First Order Cost Caused No Reduction in Prices—Kept Secret From War Office.

Ottawa, May 2.—The second witness before the Meredith-Duff royal commission of inquiry into the shell contracts, Sir Alexander Bertram, chairman of the old shell committee, and present deputy chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, followed Colonel David Carnegie, who was wounded at that time. He says in part as follows: "I was wounded on January 21, and am now just able to get up and walk a few steps with a cane. I had an awful time of it for awhile, going under three operations, and in the last one I nearly 'kicked the bucket.' The doctor said I was in a bad way, and I was kind to me as I am the youngest man in the ward. I think quite a lot of her, too, she has been so good to me. I was taken to the ward as good as dead. I was lying on so much blood, but with good care I came around all right. This hospital is built on the grounds of the Astor estate. It is a lovely place, close to the River Thames. Some of the boys took me out tonight in an invalid chair and I had quite a drive. I think I deserve a rest now as I have been out in France for more than a year."

General Bertram's evidence covered three essential points, the doing of the shell committee and a surplus for which the committee was responsible, the circumstances attending the contracts, and the fact that the committee was not aware of the surplus until after the fact.

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WARM TRIBUTE TO ALBERT CO. BOY AT FRONT

Officer Writes Concerning Lance Corporal Silas Wright—Still Complaints About the Mail at Hopedwell.

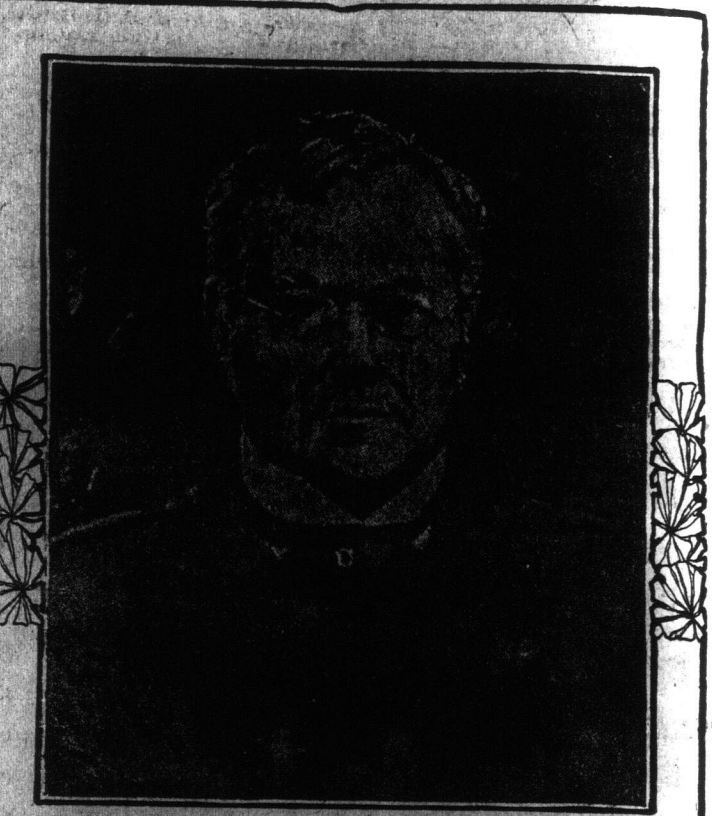
Hopedwell Hill, April 31.—Friends here of Lance Corporal Silas C. Wright, who is at the front, will be pleased to know that the fine record given him by Captain J. W. Margeson, M.P.P., who, in a recent letter to Corporal Wright's mother here, praises Wright for his good habits and soldierly conduct, and without faulting him in any way, says that he is a very serious illness, from which, however, he is now convalescing. He hopes to return to the front about July 1. Captain Margeson, who is a resident of Hopedwell, was on a mission for the army, in Mrs. Wright's cousin, and was a frequent visitor to Hopedwell some years ago. His friends here were sorry to hear that he was suffering from a very serious illness, from which, however, he is now convalescing. He hopes to return to the front about July 1.

Three other signers of the proclamation were sentenced to three years imprisonment. Another of the rebels found guilty and shot this morning was James Connolly, who was styled "commandant-general of the Irish Republican Army."

The other signatories of the republican proclamation found guilty and shot were Thomas J. Clark and Thomas MacDonald.

Hon. A. Birrell Has Resigned; Four Irish Leaders Shot

Provisional President Pearce and Three Other Signatories of Proclamation Get Swift Justice—No Delay in Cessment Trial.



THE RIGHT HON. AUGUSTINE BIRRELL

London, May 3, 3.10 p. m.—Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, has resigned.

Mr. Birrell indicated his resignation from the cabinet by taking the corner seat behind the treasury benches when he entered the house of commons this afternoon.

Premier Asquith announced in parliament that Sir Roger Casement would be tried with the utmost expedition.

LEADERS HAVE PAID PRICE.

London, May 3.—Four signatories to the republican proclamation in Ireland have been tried by court martial and found guilty and were shot this morning. Peter H. Pearce, the "provisional president of Ireland," was among those shot.

Three other signers of the proclamation were sentenced to three years imprisonment. Another of the rebels found guilty and shot this morning was James Connolly, who was styled "commandant-general of the Irish Republican Army."

The other signatories of the republican proclamation found guilty and shot were Thomas J. Clark and Thomas MacDonald.

Canadian Casualties

Ottawa, May 2.—The midnight list of casualties follows:

INFANTRY.

Killed in Action.

Charles Crossman, Lunenburg (N. S.); Thomas Jos. Martin, St. Gerald street, Charlottetown (P. E. I.); Pioneer Thomas Mercer, Newfoundland.

Alexander Morrison, Main street, Sydney Mines (N. B.); Wounded.

Joseph Monette Douglas, Spanish Ship Bay (N. S.); James Lester Doncaster, 88 Willow street, Halifax (N. S.); Clarence Robinson, kin at Dalhousie (N. B.); Wounded.

ARTILLERY.

Corporal Lewis Fraser, Box 51, Trenton (N. S.); Wounded.

Ottawa, May 2.—The midnight casualty list includes: Infantry. Killed in action, Bernard Hervey, Round Hill, Annapolis county (N. S.); Douglas Langille, Pugwash (N. S.); Donald J. MacVail, Sydney (N. S.); James L. Marshall, Covehead road (P. E. I.); Stephen McGillivray, Cape Breton (N. S.); Percy King, Newfoundland; Pioneer Richard Clark, Glace Bay (N. S.); Aubrey Fisher, Newton Mills, Colchester county (N. S.); Wilfred P. Gunn, New London (P. E. I.); John Donald McPhee, Georgetown (P. E. I.); wounded, George Allen, Glace Bay (N. S.); Vincent Brunt, Halifax (N. S.); Pioneer Ronald James Dalton, Whitney Pier (C. B.); Harry Stanley Dewar, East Wallace (N. S.); Corporal John Raymond Hall, West Harby (N. S.); Pioneer Arthur Hatfield, Dominion (C. B.); Harry S. Johnson, Truro (N. S.); William Ramsey, 627 Main street, St. John's; artillery, wounded, Sergeant Major Angus Kenneth McDonald, Glace Bay (C. B.); Wounded.

Ottawa, May 2.—The noon list of casualties follows:

INFANTRY.

Suffering from Shock.

Major Henry John Hughes, Halifax (N. S.); Wounded.

Herbert Lester Doncaster, Halifax (N. S.); James Lester Doncaster, Halifax (N. S.); Wounded.

ANNUAL MEETING NEW BRUNSWICK BIBLE SOCIETY.

Gagetown, May 2.—The annual meeting of the New Brunswick Bible Society was held in the Methodist church here this afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. Hon. J. G. Forbes was in the chair. In the election of officers for the ensuing year Hon. J. G. Forbes was re-elected president, as was George Henderson secretary and R. T. Hayes treasurer. A strong executive committee was also appointed. The report of the officers and delegates showed that the past year had been from every point of view the best in the history of the society.

Mr. Jones (completing her fourth hour at the cinema)—I used to stay only two hours, but one has to make three hours go further these days—Punch.

AGENTS WANTED

RELIABLE representative to meet the tremendous fruit trees throughout New Brunswick. We wish to see four good men to represent our agents. The special agent in the fruit-growing New Brunswick offers excellent permanent position to the right men. Stone, Toronto, Ont.

THERE is a boom in the New Brunswick. Reliable Agents now in every district. Pay weekly. Peltus-Nursery Co., Toronto.

WANTED—Cook and housemaid for general work. Standards plain cooking. Must go to go to Westchester, N. Y. Mrs. Frank L. Peters, 2100 St. John.

LUMBER WANTED—Sawmill and pine boards. Immediate. Best prices. J. F. Gerrity, Maine.

WANTED—Young ladies for employment. Good school teachers (approx. \$4000). Address Employment, care of Hamilton (N. B.).

WANTED—A middle aged capable girl for general housework. Write Mrs. J. W. Hampton (N. B.).

FOR SALE—Farm for sale, three miles. Bellville station, Appleton, Benson, Shannon post office.

FOR SALE—General Store Business, Hampton, N. B.

The business conducted by T. G. BARNES, for sale, including stock, etc.

For anyone understanding this is a grand opportunity. Business for sale, including stock, etc. Address E. A. SCHOFIELD, N. B.

Women must to a great extent be men in banks, offices, but why should they do so without the training they have had?

We equip women for the work as the men.

Our Catalogue gives the particulars. Sent free to you.

Richards, wife of W. E. Horsfield street, a son.

MARRIAGES.

NORTHUP-FRASER—A Methodist paragon, street, St. John, N. B., by BarracloUGH, B. A., on Wed. May 3, 1916, at 10 o'clock, of Quispamsis, N. B., to daughter of Thomas J. Fraser, Quispamsis, N. B.

DEATHS.

MACQUEY—At Passes on the 30th inst., John Macquey, aged 82 years, son of the late John Macquey, of this city.

CHRISTIE—At Montserrat, on the 25th inst., W. A. Christie, aged 82 years, son of the late John Christie, of this city.

DUNN—In this city, on the 25th inst., Albert T. Dunn, son of the late John T. Dunn, of this city.

SIMPSON—On Saturday, after a lingering illness, V. Simpson, in the 70th year of his age, entered into rest. He was born in Scotland, and was a member of the Methodist Church. He was a devoted husband and father, and was highly respected in his community. He is survived by a wife and several children. The funeral will be held on Sunday, May 7, at 10 o'clock, at the residence of the deceased, 123 Main Street. Interment in the cemetery.

HERVEY—Killed in action, Bernard Hervey, Round Hill, Annapolis county (N. S.); Douglas Langille, Pugwash (N. S.); Donald J. MacVail, Sydney (N. S.); James L. Marshall, Covehead road (P. E. I.); Stephen McGillivray, Cape Breton (N. S.); Percy King, Newfoundland; Pioneer Richard Clark, Glace Bay (N. S.); Aubrey Fisher, Newton Mills, Colchester county (N. S.); Wilfred P. Gunn, New London (P. E. I.); John Donald McPhee, Georgetown (P. E. I.); wounded, George Allen, Glace Bay (N. S.); Vincent Brunt, Halifax (N. S.); Pioneer Ronald James Dalton, Whitney Pier (C. B.); Harry Stanley Dewar, East Wallace (N. S.); Corporal John Raymond Hall, West Harby (N. S.); Pioneer Arthur Hatfield, Dominion (C. B.); Harry S. Johnson, Truro (N. S.); William Ramsey, 627 Main street, St. John's; artillery, wounded, Sergeant Major Angus Kenneth McDonald, Glace Bay (C. B.); Wounded.

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HOSPITAL GRADUATE RECEIVE

Seven graduates of the General Post Office School of Diplomas in Closing Courses, conducted by School assembly hall, delivered the address to the young nurses, emphasizing the importance of the great possibilities of the profession, and the high standard of the graduates who receive the diploma.

The graduates who received the diploma from Dr. Thomas J. Macpherson, were as follows: Misses Alma F. Law, M. Orlie, McIntosh, Emily Fox and Cecelia Gleason.

Many invited guests were present, and the program was a most successful one. The program included a prayer and an appropriate address by Dr. J. Macpherson. The graduates were then presented with their diplomas, and the ceremony was a most successful one.

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