

FOURTH CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES (Continued).

Gordon succeeded Col. Ussher, and the battalion remained in this vicinity until the end of August, when, with other Canadian units, they moved to the Somme. Among those on whom honors were conferred were Major W. W. Dennison, the D.S.O.; Captain (now Major) W. E. L. Coleman, who was severely wounded, the Military Cross; Sergt. C. K. Hoag, the D.S.M. and recommended for a commission.

Since going to the Somme the battalion has been engaged in several severe engagements, which is best covered in the text of an address to the 4th C.M.R. Battalion on the 23rd Sept., 1916, by Major-General Lipsitt, C.M.G. and G.O.C. 3rd Canadian Division, who succeeded General Mercer. His speech, altered to meet with the censor's mercy, was as follows:

"What I wish to say is how pleased I am with the work the brigade—and especially this battalion—did during the big attack that was pulled off last week. Both the corps commander and army commander have expressed their great appreciation, and are entirely satisfied with what you did.

"The attack that is going on down here is extended over a large frontage, so that the enemy cannot concentrate his artillery on any particular point as would be the case if the advance was only on a small frontage.

"It was on Sept. 15th that the brigade got orders to attack, and in the morning the 5th C.M.R. were ordered to attack and successfully accomplished their task. Later, the brigade got orders from divisional headquarters that we had to make an attack on a large frontage, taking the German trenches before they had time to settle down after their morning set-back.

"The —th brigade were at —, and had to be moved up, they taking up a position on the —; the —th brigade, which was represented by the 4th C.M.R. only, were given the — position. We know now how well they did their work, and how one company practically did the whole brigade work. At first we had reports that the — company could not get into position, and had been nearly cut to pieces by machine gun fire.

"Had we known then what the 4th C.M.R. could do we would not have been so dubious about their success, as shortly afterwards word came that the company on the — had gone on and had taken and cleared all the trenches allotted to the brigade. Not only did you take your objective, but successfully bombarded a considerable way down the enemy's trench to the left and erected some very good blocks. The remainder of the — company arrived later, and the consolidating work done was wonderful.

"Later, Colonel Gordon sent up another company, which took over another part of the old German front line on the — and did some very good work consolidating under heavy fire.

"The work of Major Patterson, Major Coleman (W. E. L. Coleman, of Toronto), Sergeant Lavton, and a dozen others. I know, deserve special recommendations, and I only regret that all cannot get decorations; but a soldier should always remember that he should find his reward for his work in the fact that he is held in high esteem by his comrades.

"I am glad that the 4th C.M.R. have had this opportunity of wiping off an old score—that of the pounding they got on the 2nd of June.

"This brigade now need have no fear of ever having to take second place to any brigade in the whole of the Canadian contingent."

THE CADET NOTES (Continued).

break of the war a large number of our Cadets went overseas and so decreased the roll that disorganization for a time was unavoidable. Major Beckett (now Lieut.-Col. and O.C. of the 75th Battalion) came to our assistance and helped us to obtain some good officers, N.C.O.'s and a number of fine recruits. This meant the reorganization of the Cadets and the training of boys who would sometime soon take a more serious part in military life. Two of our officers, Capt. Yates and Lieut. Leslie Harling, have made the supreme sacrifice.

Since the reorganization we have had many more leave, but we have successfully kept on recruiting. At present we have eighty Cadets, and lately have received permission to recruit to the strength of a cavalry squadron, which is 146 all ranks. We give the Cadets cavalry training and act as a source of recruiting to the regiment. We are putting through a re-

cruiting campaign that will no doubt help us in our effort to succeed in our plan.

Our officers and N.C.O.'s have acquired a high standard in the training of the boys in the corps. Our N.C.O.'s have qualified as N.C.O.'s in the regiment—this means they must be capable.

Through the kindness of Mr. McMurtry, of the Gold Medal Furniture Co., the Cadets are opening club rooms at 215 Dundas Street.

Our recruits must be 5 ft. 3 in. or over and must come to us with the idea to learn and willing to attend drill regularly.

NOTES FROM THE BANDS.

The strength of the brass band is 35, and is ably conducted by Bandmaster S. Douglas.

This organization has reached its present degree of efficiency during the last eighteen months and is one of the best.

The brass band was chosen as duty band at the concert for returned soldiers recently held at Massey Hall, and has also provided music at the Spadina Military Hospital.

The trumpet band has a strength of 25, under Trumpet Major Chessel, an old soldier, who has trained buglers and trumpeters at the depot.

The demand for trumpeters and buglers has rendered the maintenance of efficiency difficult and only hard work has brought them to their present standard.

FIRELIGHT FANCIES

Of a Lad of the 75th.

When the bugles have sounded "lights out" through the park,

And the sergeant has switched off the "glim,"

And the laughter and chatter and noise in the dark

Has subsided, the great hall seems grim.

There's a thin slanting moonbeam comes through the glass dome,

And then joins in the canvas o'erhead,

Straight on to my bunk near the stove, red and warm,

These set me a-thinking in bed.

Do these wonderful fellows of Beckett's command,

Who bunk by my side through the night,

Hope, like I, to be named with the best of the brave

When the story is told of the fight?

There's the fire before us and light up above,

To test us and guide us through all,

Will we shrivel like driftwood or harden as steel?

Will we look to the light, stand or fall?

My blanketed comrades have answered the call,

And the time for the testing draws nigh,

But the brave hearts sleep on and reck not if the cause

Means glory or calls them to die.

And I gaze at the fire in the quiet and I hear

The voice of my mother—my love—

"God bless my young boy. Keep him brave. Keep him true.

Keep his trust in Your light up above."

She knew the secret, the fires tried her;

And I love the boys by my side,

So I look at my moonbeam and lengthen my prayer,

Oh, God, keep up all true when tried,

Let the name "Mississaugas" ring over the world.

And be cherished by ages to come,

Let each blanketed boy deem his duty a joy

Till Peace brings us Freedom and Home.

—Matthew Wayman.

The Regiment is indebted to its many friends who enabled them to produce this "History of the 9th Mississauga Horse" by their support in using its advertising pages.