

NICKLET THEATRE, KENTVILLE

Matinee Each Day at 3.00 o'clock

TWO DAYS

Evening : 7.30 and 9.00 o'clock

Friday and Saturday, December 29th and 30th

**Backed by
Imperial Authority**

"The public should see these pictures that they may have some idea what the army is doing and what war means."

—THE KING

"If the exhibition of these pictures all over the world does not end war, God help civilization. See that this picture, which is itself an epic of self-sacrifice and gallantry, reaches everyone."

—LLOYD GEORGE

War as it really is

THE Battle OF THE Somme

"THE GREATEST
MOVING PICTURE IN THE WORLD"

SYNOPSIS

Part 1

Preparatory Action, June 25th to 30th

Showing the activities before Fricourt—Mamez. Similar action took place along the entire British front in Picardy. Hidden batteries were pounding the German trenches for five days before the attack of July 1st. 4.7-inch guns were giving the enemy no rest. 6-inch Howitzers in action shelling the German first-line trenches of Mamez. Canadian 60-pounders added to the din of gunfire. Shrapnel bursting over their trenches kept Germans astir. Church service evening before attack. Firing "Plum puddings for Emperor Bill" from trench mortars. Bombing the Germans with 9.2-inch Howitzers. Shells tearing up the enemy's deep dugouts.

Part 2

A meal in camp on the evening of the great advance. Moving up the troops.

Operating a 15-inch Howitzer ("grandmother") by Royal Marine Artillery, firing shells weighing 1,400 pounds. Terrific concentrated bombardment of the German trenches the morning of the attack, July 1st, 1916. Fixing bayonets and passing through the communicating trenches to the first line. Just before the battle. Blowing up the enemy's trenches by a huge mine. Wiring the crater. Firing machine guns from parapet. Shrapnel bursting over first line German trenches.

Part 3—The Attack

At a signal, along the entire 16-mile front, the British troops leaped over the trench parapets and advanced under heavy fire. A sunken road in "No Man's Land." Advancing up the captured trench. Rescuing wounded British Tommies under fire. Bringing in British and German wounded on stretchers during height of battle.

Lauchshires, relieved from successful attack, bring in the first prisoners. Royal Field Artillery move up through dead and dying Gordons and Devons after their glorious charge at Mamez. An unsuccessful German counter-attack. Arrival of the wounded and the scene at the field hospital.

Part 4

Nerve-shattered German prisoners arriving. German curtain fire just outside Milden Post. Clearing battlefield of snipers.

Part 5—The Day After

The wrecked German dugouts. Views of shattered trenches and villages and effects of British shell fire. Clearing up. Advancing the artillery. Troops move up to continue advance.

We see helmeted soldiers fixing their bayonets and being passed round the corner of a trench like a footfall crowd going through a turnstile. We see a vast mine exploding. We see the earth ascending in a black globe like the dome of St. Paul's, and then falling through the white smoke that persists long after the last fragment has pierced it. We see the engineers hurrying to wire the crater. We see the Worcesters fixing wire-cutters to their rifles. We see all the gears and gadgets of the complex war-machine. It is cold business, iron science, hard routine, grim system, stark order moving men like machines and machines like men.

The drama suddenly becomes tense. We are hardly ready for the shock. We see a row of soldiers standing with fixed bayonets in a trench waiting for the signal to scramble over the parapet. Suddenly an officer is seen on the parapet with a gallant gesture of leadership. He is not there alone a second. The whole line lifts and goes over simultaneously. All but two. One on the right. One on the left. They slip back very quietly. They lie against the sloping face



British Infantry leaped German First Line Trenches and rushed on to Second and Third

of the trench. They lie upright with their face to the clay and—the enemy. The man on the right does not move a limb. The man on the left moves his arms a little and then is at rest. This is lightning death wrought before our eyes, and wrought before we recognize it.

Through our dazed grief we see the others running forward, one falling here, one falling there, until there is only one gallant figure visible, strolling dauntlessly into the storm. Bravery of our boys is past our imagining. "Every one of them," said a wounded officer to me who fought on the First of July, "every one of them is a hero." His eyes filled with tears as he spoke. I thought of his words as I saw our soldiers bringing in a dying comrade under shell-fire. He died half-an-hour after he passed on the back of a soldier. I shall not soon forget his good English face. Nor shall I forget the face of the dead German soldier who is lying there waiting to be buried by the British soldiers who are digging the graves on the battle field. These are dreadful sights, but their dreadfulness is as wholesome as Tolstoy's "War and Peace."

Matinee—Adults 25c., Children 15c.

PRICES

Evening—General 25c., Reserved 35c.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—Robert Borden is expected to return upon his return meeting of the session. At the opening of the session, the government is expected to present its legislative program. It is expected that the government will hold a special session on Jan. 1st.

The Allies' Christmas message, and it is the emblem of peace.

The Furness arrived at Liverpool.

The fund for St. Baptist Church has passed the \$100,000 mark. Among recent contributors are Gaspereau, \$10,000; and Baptist, \$5,000; and Fred Perry, \$1,000.

The marriage of Wednesday morning, Dec. 20, at the home of Fitz Randolph, of her daughter, Blanche, and her husband, A. McDougall.

The worst fire of Summerside ever that morning caused as much damage as the fire of 1906, when the business district was the damage done, \$325,000, with insurance, some different companies.

The marriage of Saturday, Dec. 23, at the home of Mr. W. Gorham, daughter of Dr. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. also of Halifax. Rev. Clarence, the 219th Battalion. Inmates of prisons and eat corn bread three days a week. Turnips and been substituted.