

UNDYING DEEDS OF HEROISM MARK CANADIANS' DEFENCE OF ST. ELOI

18th, 19th and 21st Battalions Win Glory Under Intrepid Young Officers.—Bomb and Block Trenches of Enemy While German Patrols are Quickly Sighted and Dispersed.—Extraordinary State of Ground Prolongs Battle, Not Yet Over.

Under Most Difficult Conditions, Ontario Units Held Ground and Occupied Enemy Trench

Ottawa, April 23—Desperate fighting on the St. Eloi salient, participated in by the three Ontario battalions, the 18th Eastern, 19th Central and 21st Western, occurred during the week of April 11-18.

The Canadian general representative at the front in his weekly communique tells of battles under unprecedented difficult circumstances, in which the Canadians held their ground and in addition occupied a portion of an enemy trench.

Many instances of individual heroism are recounted. The account does not carry the reader to the conclusion of the St. Eloi battle as the British official statement of Thursday last reported the loss of two craters at this point, and the carrying on of heavy fighting.

Sir Max Aiken's Story. The Canadian communique follows: Canadian General Headquarters in France, via London, April 23.—The struggle for position in front of St. Eloi was again the dominant interest on the Canadian front. The still weather of the previous week gave way to high winds, brilliant sunshine to a sky overcast with clouds. Occasional downpours of rain added to the burden of a water-logged soil.

By day and night the German guns pounded the narrow confines of the St. Eloi salient, the volume of their fire swelling every now and again into bombardments of extraordinary violence. Great shells tore fresh holes in the already mutilated ground, obliterating the landmarks of previous explosions. Shrapnel splashed over the fields. During the night the German shells fell in a hail, and the air was filled with the whistling of shells as they fell.

CANADIAN OFFICER HONORED IN THE FIELD.



Lieut. Kent, decorated with the Military Cross. Official photograph issued by the Press Bureau.

During the period that our troops held the line in front of St. Eloi the circumstances of the fighting afforded a wealth of opportunity for deeds of daring and several members of each battalion greatly distinguished themselves in the eyes of their comrades. The following are but a few of the instances.

Private Tom Jones, a member of the 16th Battalion, sanitary section, distinguished himself by repeatedly volunteering for dangerous duty. Although untreated as a stretcher bearer he dressed the wounds of many men under heavy fire and assisted in bringing out the wounded officers.

During the night of April 11-12, Lieut. J. Gordon Wier, of the 19th Battalion, in charge of a machine gun crew in a detached position. During this period his post was attacked by a party of about thirty Germans. The enemy flung bombs at our men, but Wier and his crew were not disturbed.

On the following night a reconnaissance was undertaken and an attack delivered. Before the covering squads could be placed in position, shells from the enemy landed in his trenches and our guns taking alarm, large numbers of bombs were thrown by the Germans while the hostilities were quickly concentrated on this section. Intense bombardment which lasted until the night.

MORE MARITIME MEN APPEAR IN CASUALTY LISTS

Ottawa, April 20—Maritime men in the midnight casualty list follow: INFRANTRY. Killed in Action. Keith Bruce Crosby, Carleton (N. S.). Pioneer, Norman Stewart Fowler, Newfoundland.

Wounded. Grey Kinsman Adams, Deep Brook (N. S.). George Bartlett, Dominion No. 4 Glace Bay (N. S.). Arthur Richard Batson, Newfoundland. Arthur Richard Batson, Newfoundland.

Missing. Pioneer Frank Glover, Water street, Dartmouth (N. S.). Wounded. Grey Kinsman Adams, Deep Brook (N. S.). George Bartlett, Dominion No. 4 Glace Bay (N. S.).

Private W. S. Lawson, of the 11th Battery, was awarded the Military Cross for gallant conduct. He was in the front line when the area of our first Infantry Brigade was being subjected to a severe bombardment.

Ottawa, April 23—Canada's battle glory won and made unassailably supreme a year ago in the second great battle of Ypres, was commemorated at a public mass meeting here today, during which eloquent tribute was paid the Dominion's soldiers.

Ladies' New Easter Footwear

High Cut Laced Boots in Kid and White Reinskin. Blucherette Button Boots in Dull Kid and Patent. Cloth Tops in All Styles and Choice of Heels.

Francis & Vaughan

19 King Street. Liberal Protest on Soldiers' Behalf Wins Reduced Rate. Ottawa, April 19—Hon. Dr. Reid announced that the government has decided to grant a single fare rate on all government railways to all soldiers visiting their homes.

British Columbia's Way. (Montreal Journal of Commerce). In nearly all parliaments and legislatures under the system of responsible government, the public accounts committee is an important body, the services of which are available for the procurement of information respecting the public expenditure.

Friday April 21. MIDNIGHT LIST—INFANTRY. Killed in Action—Pioneer Allan Duncan, Leitch (N. S.). Pioneer James William Boyce, Toronto.

St. Stephen, N. B., April 19—Albion Harmon, an esteemed resident of Milltown (N. B.), aged seventy-five years, committed suicide by drowning this morning. Mr. Harmon was St. Croix Log years boom master for the St. Croix Log Driving Co., but has been in poor health for some time past and was subject to mental trouble, requiring the attention of his family.

Lieut. J. M. Hazen, Son of Minister, Gives Life at Front

Popular Young Artillery Officer Mortally Wounded and Never Recovered Consciousness. There will be widespread sympathy in the city for Hon. J. D. Hazen, minister of marine and fisheries and representative of St. John city and county at Ottawa, in the death of his son, Lieutenant James Murray Hazen, who was reported "died of wounds" last night.

Yesterday, at Ottawa, Hon. Mr. Hazen received the following telegram from Major Malcolm McAvity of the Fifth Infantry Brigade staff, who is located about two miles distant from the battery in which Lieutenant Hazen was serving.

Only a few days ago he celebrated his twentieth birthday 'mid the shot and shell of the battlefield and in a recent letter to his father he said he was greatly pleased with the life on the front line, was getting along splendidly and was glad that he was doing his "bit" for the empire.

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AGENTS WA

RELIABLE representative meet the tremendous fruit trees throughout the present. We wish to go to Westfield for Mrs. Frank L. Peters, street, St. John.

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