

# THE \* LISTENING \* POST

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7th Canadian Infantry Battalion

(1ST BRITISH COLUMBIA REGT)

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## EDITORIAL

"The British soldier has always been a marvellous man but in no period of British history, in none of Britain's wars, has there been shown greater heroism, pluck, devotion, and courtesy than in this war. The whole Empire can be proud of those boys". This is the tribute paid by General Sam Hughes, our Canadian Minister of Militia and Defence, to the British Troops in general after an eight day visit to the British Front. "The spirit which seems to inspire them is not merely a desire to thrash the Germans, but to thrash them to preserve the principals of liberty. They "plug" the Germans every time, of course, but it is not because of hatred of the men themselves, but through hatred of the horrible principles that the Germans are fighting for". We are proud of the organiser of our great Canadian Army — a force undreamt of in Canada a year ago, and the greater portion of the credit is certainly due to the untiring energy and strenuous work of General Hughes. He must have felt a great amount of pride in seeing the first portion of the King's Canadian Army at work holding their link in the great trench chain. We hasten to assure General Hughes that Canadians will continue to do their "bit" in a manner befitting the men from the "Land of the Maple".

During his recent visit to France Sir Robert Borden, Prime Minister of Canada, planted Maple seeds around a number of the graves of Canadian heroes, and he wrote to the hon., secretary of the Overseas Club;

Dear Sir; — I have learned with much interest of the idea of some Canadian Members of the Overseas Club to plant Canadian Maple Seeds over the graves of Canadians in Flanders and France, where practicable, and of your intention to arrange to plant an avenue of Maples at Langemareke after the war.

The idea seems to me, a very pleasing one, and I have no doubt that the relatives of all those who have fallen, will appreciate our attempt to beautify the graves of those who have given their lives to the Empire. I have had much pleasure in planting some of the seeds myself. — Yours faithfully, (signed) R. L. BORDEN.

The Overseas Club now proposes to extend the idea to the Dardanelles and other battle - fields, where ever practicable, as a memorial to our heroes of the Australian and Newzealand Forces, substituting in their case the Wattle for Australia and the Te Tree for Newzealand.

A Hospital for the wounded from France is to be built by the Ontario Government at Orpington, (where the chickens come from), Kent, at cost of 50,000 pounds, Colonel, the Hon., A. R. Pyne the acting Premier of Ontario, has selected the site, which is only 15 miles from London. The Hospital will contain 1,050 beds.

What does a war loan of a thousand millions mean? How can we get a thousand millions into our minds? We have never had any - thing so big since the world began. It is equal to;

- The National revenue for five years.
- All our gold coinage for twenty-five years.
- Eighteen months exports.
- Total national revenue of the six Allied Nations.
- All the British investments in America.
- Gross receipts of all American railroads for 3 1/2 years.
- It can buy one - third of Italy and pay for thirty - five Panama canals, and in the States they thought paying for one Panama canal an expensive job. It is equal to: Profits of Monte Carlo for 700 years. (If there is a gambler here willing to talk about gamblers he will know that at Monte Carlo they are pikers compared to the people floating this War Loan).

One hundred steel plants as large as Krupp's.

Nearly all the gold coin in the world.

Fourteen shillings for every human being on earth.

Nine hundred car - loads of silver, twenty tons in a car.

As much as seventy clerks can count in eight years, counting four shillings a second and working eight hours a day.

Enough gold, if beaten out, to cover a million acres - 1560 square miles - a field of the cloth of gold.

To carry this gold, from the nation to the war chest would take 200,000 men, each staggering under seven stone of gold, 5,000 pounds each.

Marching four abreast, two yards apart, it would take a procession of thirty - eight miles long - from Vancouver to Nanaimo.

That's the War Loan.

### Robinson's roll call.

"Sergeant Robinson, call the roll"

The officer said to Pat,

And in salute the sergeant's hand

Flew upward to his hat;

He called the roll and counted all

The men he'd got in line,

Then said, "There should be forty, sor—

There's only thirty-nine."

Sergeant Robinson scratched his head,

And counted all again,

He murmured, "Forty can't be made

From thirty-nine, that's plain;

One rascal is an absentee,

Some scum not worth his salt;"

"Find out", the Captain sternly said,

And tell me who's in fault."

Sergeant Robinson in two twos

All smiling in delight,

Came running to his officer,

"If ye please, sor, it's all right;

There's no one missing, not at all,

And no one's bruk the rules,

But I forgot to call myself —

It's you and me's the fools."

### The Private's Litany\*

From three days fatigue under the name of rest; from parcels on the last day; from fog till 8 a.m. or after, and from all things that prolong stand-to; from flies; from sentimental songs an from "Tipperary"; from trench inspection by staff officers and the Colonel from French beer; from people that refuse to lend and from people that borrow; from listening patrols and from dead Germans; from the lady who takes your money and says "no compris" Deliver me.

### No pleasure in it

M'Tavish and M'Pherson sat solemnly in front of the fire, and slowly puffed away with one eye on the fire and the other on the end of the pipe to watch if any tobacco fell out. After a long pause M'Pherson removed his pipe and remarked gloomily: - "There's no muckle pleasure in smokin' after aw'."

"An' hoo dae ye mak that oot, mon?" inquired M'Tavish, drawing up a huge mouthful of smoke and nearly choking himself.

"Weel, ye see," replied M'Pherson, still more gloomily, "if ye're smokin' your ain' bacca ye're thinking o' the awfu' expense aw the time, and if ye're smokin' some ither body's yer pipe's rammed so tight it winna draw."