

In the Spotlight



GENERAL PETAIN

The defender of Verdun, who has defeated the Kaiser himself, the Crown Prince, the veteran von Haesler and the best generals of which Germans can boast, is General Henri Philippe Petain. Those on the inside have known this for several days, but it was only Saturday that the public was allowed to know the name of the general who will rank in popular imagination with Denfert Rochereau, "the Lion of Belfort," of 1870. The official communication let it to be known that General Joffre was present in person, but under him was General Petain in active charge of the Verdun armies.

General Petain is on the verge of his sixtieth birthday. At the beginning of the war he was colonel of the 33rd Infantry, and was just about to retire voluntarily from active service. He has been constantly, since war was declared, in active command of various units at the front, and has risen rapidly through the successive grades of brigadier general, general of division and general of corps to the rank of army commander.

In the Artois offensive, in May and June last year, he was named with his entire corps in the orders of the day. General Petain represents the best traditions of the French army. During the Verdun defense his headquarters have been an armored automobile carrying mitrailleuses, and in it he has worked, eaten, and taken such sleep as he has had, mostly while going from one part of the battlefield to the other. It is said of him that he is so constantly covering in person his line of command that he had fourteen automobile drivers in two months. The general himself told the story of the last one, who said:

"No, thank you! No more for me. I would rather take my chance of being killed by a boche than drive the general. Me for the first line trenches." The general added sorrowfully, "The poor devil is dead in the trenches while I am still here."

He owes his great physical vigor to the care he has always taken of his health. He had the habit of weighing food and limiting himself strictly to a certain amount. "Cavalry horses are kept in condition by measuring food," he would say, "why not do the same thing for officers?" The physical strength of a commander is at least as important as that of a horse.

Also he took regular exercise, and every morning before breakfast spent a certain time jumping the rope. This was the occasion some years ago when in command of the depot of Arras of his being asked to move. "A skipping rope is doubtless very good for Colonel Petain," said the neighbors, "but some what annoying for those who have an apartment beneath him." The result was that Colonel Petain took a house with a garden where he could jump the rope all he wanted to.

To-day he and France are reaping the benefit of his diligence. He is, however, as active at sixty as he was when he graduated from St. Cyr.

Recently in the Champagne he went five kilometres at double time at the head of a reconnaissance party. He is never happier than when forced to spend the night with his men, without a blanket to cover him. This makes him especially loved by the soldiers because he knows how to share their life with a smile on his lips and a blague (pleasantry) of tongue. Two of the soldiers were recently in Paris on permission. They spent money with particularly lavish generosity, and when a friend remarked on it, "What do we care?" they said, "We are Petain's men."

A short time ago an officer asked to be attached to his staff and General Petain said: "As staff officers I can only use champion bicycle riders or foot racers."

General Petain first made himself remarked during the retreat from Charleroi, when he was made general of brigade, and it was after the Champagne offensive of last September that he was placed in command at

GOOD FOR CHILDREN

Mothers! Physicians agree that flavor and the body building elements of grains lie in the dark parts usually thrown away. So also do the lime salts which your child needs to harden bones and teeth. Children fed upon coarse dark cereals develop greater resistance. Witness the Bulgars and Serbs. Roman soldiers who conquered the world fed upon two brands of entire grain food a day. Dr. Jackson's Roman Meal is a scientifically balanced ration made from several entire grains. It's delicious, easily prepared in a variety of ways and nourishes better than meat. It's a natural laxative. Most grocers sell it.

Made by Roman Meal Co., Toronto, Canada.

Verdun.

Infantry has always been his favorite arm. A few years ago he said to a young cavalry officer: "Lieutenant, you will regret some day that you are not an infantryman, for in the next war it will be the infantry which will do the work and have the honor." He always objected to being photographed. "My face is too much like Count Zeppelin's," he says, and many times he has destroyed the films of a soldier who has tried to snapshot him.

Ever since the war began, it has been the German Crown Prince's ambition to take Verdun, and he will take his ill success with poor grace. He has surrounded himself with the best German strategists, and it is probable that they opposed the attack but were overruled by the Kaiser, who was anxious to gratify his son's desire. The latter said before the war, he thought a war with the French would be a jolly affair, and when he met with a better success at the outset of hostilities, when the French were totally unready, a hero's monument was erected in his honor at Berlin, on which he was prematurely proclaimed "the conqueror of France."

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

Mrs. Newt Newell returned last week from a short visit with relatives and friends in London.

Pte. John McCausland, of the 18th Battalion, is reported wounded while in action on the Ypres front. Pte. McCausland is a son of Squire John McCausland, for many years Elgin's esteemed county treasurer. Pte. McCausland has two other brothers at the front, who are still well so far as is known.

The many friends of Mr. George Skelding, of Toronto, formerly of North Yarmouth, will regret to learn of his death, which occurred in that city on Tuesday, March 14th. Deceased who was 82 years of age, is survived by two brothers and one sister, of this place, Messrs. Charles and Ephraim Skelding and Mrs. E. Copeland; also a sister, Mrs. Hall, of Kamrose, Alta., formerly of Aylmer, and a brother, Thomas, of Toledo, O.

Mr. E. A. Miller, barrister, is in Toronto this week and will ask the Legislature to ratify an agreement entered into between the township of Malahide and the township of Yarmouth, whereby each municipality undertakes to maintain the part of a road within its boundaries, used for many years in lieu of a townline. This road follows a most unusual and crooked route, and crosses the Catfish Creek no less than three times between Sparta, Jaffa and Port Bruce. The upkeep has always been a bone of contention between the townships, and Mr. Miller will endeavor to secure the passage of a private Bill which makes the duty of each party clear.

Albert Blashill, who grew up to manhood in Aylmer, now an expert employed by the Curtiss Aeroplane Co. of Buffalo, N. Y., in a recent letter to Councillor Fred. D. King, of this place, enclosed a couple of very interesting views of a batch of Curtiss fuselages in various stages of completion at the Buffalo factory. Another picture a German submarine being blown up from a shell dropped from a Curtiss machine. Mr. Blashill said in part: "A friend of mine who is in France now sent me a picture of a Curtiss flying machine blowing up a sub. He said he saw it happen himself. We are making the machine to do it. They travel 110 miles an hour. The other picture is a shop full of machines pretty nearly finished that I have to put the motors into. I haven't had a day off since I was home."

A pretty home wedding took place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Green of Bayham, on March 8, when their second daughter, Nellie Mae, became the wife of Obedt McGregor, son of Mrs. S. McGregor, of Detroit, Rev. Mr. Thompson, pastor of the Aylmer Methodist Church, performed the ceremony, assisted by Mr. Parr, of the Richmond circuit. While the wedding march was played by Lorne Laing, of Bayham, the bridal party took their places under an arch of evergreens and white ribbons. The bride, who was given away by her father, was gowned in white messaline silk, with chiffon overdress and satin trimmings, and wore the customary veil and carried white carnations. Mrs. Norman Stansell, of St. Thomas, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid, and wore pale blue silk and carried pink carnations. Little Willena Stansell, niece of the bride, was flower girl, and carried the ring in a pretty white basket. Norman Stansell supported the groom. After congratulations a dainty wedding dinner was served by young friends of the bride. Many beautiful presents were received, among them being a substantial cheque from the bride's father. Mr. and Mrs. McGregor left for Detroit and other western points, the bride travelling in a suit of navy blue broadcloth with hat to match. They will reside in Bayham.

The Big Store

Aylmer's Best Stores

The General Store

STRATTON & MARTIN'S MILLINERY LEADS

The Millinery Display Demonstrates Stratton & Martin's Style Supremacy

It leads because of the great diversity of Styles, because of the very newness and novelty of the Styles, many exclusively at Stratton & Martin's. Saturday Fashion's latest models will greet you. Hats for sport wear, Hats for street wear and Hats for afternoon and evening. Hats in all the exclusive shades of Spring and Summer Millinery that's different, that's distinctive, Stratton & Martin's Millinery. Please note milady that none of the Flowers or Plants wear last year's apparel. They are all "dressed up" in new Spring attire just as they should be, and just as women are buying new clothes at the Style Shop are "dressed up." It does not take a woman long to find spring clothes that suit her among the fine and good selection of pretty styles with which our store is blooming.

Another Blouse Event

Look the Count over a day you'll not find these equals either in beauty, variety or quality at the price.

Priced \$1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00 and 3.00 each.

At the General Store

Fashion's Newest Footwear. The finest footwear in the county. Black lace and Button Boots. Prices \$2.50, 3.00, 3.75, 4.00 per pair.

The Celebrated Williams School Shoes

Shoes that wear for Boys and Girls. Priced \$2.25, 2.50, 2.75, 2.85 per pair.

The Big Store

Dry Goods, Millinery, Ladies Ready to Wear, Gent's Furnishings, Clothing, House Furnishings, Hats and Caps

STRATTON & MARTIN

AYLMER'S BEST STORES

"Honest Goods at Honest Prices"

Highest market prices paid for produce, good to shop at both stores.

The General Store

Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots & Shoes, Hats & Caps, Neckwear



You have viewed the wonder beauty of Fashion's Art in our windows. You have revelled in the glories of the displays of new merchandise. You have seen how authoritatively the Fashion experts have selected the master pieces of world famed style creators, and do you realize that these grand fashion show display are only a small part of our great and comprehensive Stocks. Whether you have decided to pay \$16.50 or 100.00 there is just the Suit, the Coat, the Dress, just the Style you wish at the price you wish to pay.

LAMBERT & ALLEN

Furniture and Undertaking

Are offering exceptional values in Buffets and Leather seated Diners in quarter cut, golden or fumed finish.

Buffets from \$13.00 up to \$50.00

Diners \$15.00, 18.00, 20.00, 24.00, 28.00, 30.00 \$32.00.

Dressers 8.00 to \$40.00.

Extension Tables 8.00 to \$30.00.

A good range of Rugs, Oilcloths and Linoleums bought before the advance.

Intending purchasers can save money in placing their orders with us.

Lambert & Allen

Licensed Embalmers and Funeral Directors

RURAL PHONE : STORE 81a RESIDENCE 81b

Following is the Travel Club shipment on March 8th: Handknit socks 102 pairs; 25 washcloths, Springwater school donation; Mr. E. A. Miller \$5; Mrs. Hambridge, Miss Heiter, Miss McCausland, Mrs. Hicks, Miss Palmer and Miss Gunstone \$1 each; Mrs. Leslie Cole pr. socks; Mrs. Levi Young pr. socks; Mrs. Lamb 2 pr. wristlets.

After an illness extending over many months, Caroline A., relict of the late L. L. Sheldon, passed over to the silent majority on Thursday last, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. E. Martin, Water street, at the ripe old age of 90 years. Deceased was born in Martinsburg, New York State.

MRS. CLAYTON'S LETTER

To Run-Down Nervous Women

Louisville, Ky.—"I was a nervous wreck, and in a weak, run-down condition when a friend asked me to try Vinol. I did so, and as a result I have gained in health and strength. I think Vinol is the best medicine in the world for a nervous, weak, run-down system and for elderly people."—Mrs. W. C. CLAYTON, Louisville, Ky.

Vinol is a delicious cod liver and iron tonic without oil, guaranteed to overcome all run-down, weak, devitalized conditions and for chronic coughs, colds and bronchitis.

J. E. Richards & Co., Druggists Aylmer, Ont.

More than a quarter of a century ago, deceased moved with her husband to Aylmer, from Vienna, when he established the business which has now developed into the large concern now known as the Aylmer Pump & Scale Company. Mrs. Sheldon was an every day Christian. The beautifying influences of a pure religion were spread over a life and character as spotless and charming as was ever possessed by any of the noble women who have lived and died during the ages that are gone. No one was more willing to aid the suffering, cheer the desponding, sustain the weak and to throw over the faithless of our race the mantle of charity. She leaves two sons and three daughters: Henry, of Buffalo; C. A. Detroit; Mrs. E. C. Jenkins, Aurora; Mrs. Finch, Belmont, and Mrs. E. T. Martin, Aylmer. The funeral took place to Aylmer cemetery on Saturday.

Several Aylmer Masons go to Hamilton next week for the 36th annual reunion of the Rose Croix Chapter and the Merton Lodge of Perfection, to be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There will be a banquet Tuesday night, and receptions Wednesday and Thursday. Lodges from Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, Guelph and London will exemplify from the 4th to the 18th degrees.

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stein Breeders' assignment Sale, Barn, on Tuesday success. The Lindsay & Pound, buyers were not Elgin's choicest bargains. Cows would rather in at \$200, were \$195. Mr. R. G. Grace Rooker, of the sale, at 1 and consigned & Son. Byron's the most pro-back with him ie of the best in Pauline Walker ictoria Etheline ce heifers con-n & Son. Ed. E. H. Lindsay, McConnell, Lu- their already Miller, Cramp-hanna Merce-e a snap, a \$200 lded her to his two nice ones, sch, a 5 yr.-old, show cow.

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KLY territory and cialties. Our it in the busi-highest grade sonable prices eries in first-rsry stock is ar and good e in this dis- write Sales

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