

# ST. JOHN SOLDIER WRITES FROM TRENCH

## ROYAL MOUNTED RIFLES IN BELGIAN TRENCHES SEE SOME REAL FIGHTING

### Private Layton Colborne Writes of Canadians' Work on the Firing Line—Trenches Within Ten Yards of German Lines.

A letter received from Pte. R. Layton Colborne of the 14th Royal Mounted Rifles to his brother, F. C. Colborne of the C. P. R., gives a vivid description of the life in the trenches in Belgium.

Dear Fred:—Belgium. I have just received your parcel of papers at six p.m. as I came off duty. Have just finished reading them and can assure you I was glad to get them.

Well, I have been here in the firing line since September first and just about know what it is like. Say, I can't begin to tell you, and we are at present in the quietest part of the western front. We landed in Havre, France, about the first (I guess, as you cannot keep run of the days) and were sent from the Canadian base there to the front, a two-day and one night journey by train, then about a five-hour march. We went right into the firing trench. Say, maybe I was a little shaky, a continual fire of rifles, machine guns and heavy artillery. It sure is a case of "keep your head down."

We are in the trenches for fifteen days at a time, five days in firing trench, five in the supports and five in the reserves. Then we go back about a mile to the billets for a five days' rest. If we didn't get this rest I think some of the fellows would go nuts sure. It is so nerve racking. We are shifted along the lines to different places every now and again. This last time we only had one day's rest. The Allies are advancing all along the line at this front, and we expect to move at any time. Then there will sure be something doing. I hope and pray, and wish you would all do the same, that I will come through all right. We all sleep in dug-outs in the side of the trench and cook our own meals. The grub is O. K. and most of the dug-outs roomy and dry. We sleep with the whole equipment on, boots, hat and everything. Only chance to remove them is when we go back to the billets and bath. That means a bath every month.

### Saw 26th Battalion

I saw the 26th Battalion coming in the other day and we were sent along the line to help them to get used to the rough stuff. I am with the 14th Battalion now, 1st Canadian division, and they are the 5th division. We are not with them now. I cannot tell you where we are as all letters are opened and read. I saw Rollie Kingston. He blew in with the 4th from Edmonton, Alberta, and looks fine. Was at the 26th Battalion the night they arrived with Capt. Keefe of St. John. Had a long talk

## DARING FEAT OF FRENCH AVIATORS

### Thrilling Air Battle one of incidents of Allied offensive in Champagne.

Paris, Oct. 14.—A battle between a French aeroplane, loaded with ninety millimetre bombs, and a fast double engine German aeroplane was one of the incidents of the battle in the Champagne when the allied offensive was at its height. The French machine had set out to destroy a line of railroad back of the German lines, when the German craft emerged from a cloud.

The air battle began immediately. Almost as soon as it started the machine gun on the French aeroplane jammed.

"Dive, dive!" shouted the observer to the pilot. The machine plunged in a swift curve, but the German, no less promptly dived and continued to fly around the French machine, which was hampered by the weight of the bombs it carried. After firing his carbine until his supply of cartridges was exhausted it occurred to the French observer that an abrupt landing would be fatal to him and to his pilot unless the fuses were removed from the bombs. He coolly set about taking out the fuses and had just finished the task when a bullet struck him in the back and a moment later another shattered one wrist.

The pilot was hit in the eye by a piece of the propeller which had been knocked off by a bullet. Again he was wounded in the abdomen and fainted. Then the observer seized the levers and guided the machine into the French trenches. Both the observer and pilot have survived their wounds, and their names have been proposed for the Legion of Honor.

The destruction by Lieutenant of the Aviation Corps, in the Champagne, of a German captive balloon of the type known as "sausage," which has been mentioned in a French official statement, is declared to have been a particularly brilliant and difficult feat, for these balloons are guarded carefully.

Determined to get rid of this particular balloon, by means of which the Germans had been enabled to obtain valuable information regarding the movements of French troops, Lieutenant ——— experimented for two months with five balls. When he was convinced he had an explosive which met all his requirements he started out for the attack on the balloon. The aeroplane guarding the balloon, moored fifteen miles behind the German lines, was so vigilant that the lieutenant had to try four times before he could rise above it. On the fourth attempt he swooped down in a giddy flight from a height of 10,000 feet and placed his missile accurately before the balloon could be hauled down. In dropping his fire bombs the Frenchman came near enough to the earth to be in full range of German anti-aircraft guns, but he managed to rise safely and escaped in a hurricane of bursting shrapnel.

## BERLIN STORY OF ZEPPELIN RAID, AS USUAL, DOES NOT ERR ON THE SIDE OF MODESTY

### Big Fires at Woolwich, Explosions at London Docks result of Zeppelins' visit, Germans report—British Press Bureau, however, reports 55 deaths, 14 of whom were military, a few small fires and no damage to military material.

London, Oct. 14.—Fourteen of the fifty-five persons killed and thirteen of the 114 wounded in the air raid were military casualties, according to an announcement made by the official press bureau this afternoon.

The text of the announcement follows: "The press bureau of the war office announces that a fleet of hostile airships visited the eastern coast and a portion of the city of London and dropped bombs.

"Anti-aircraft guns of the royal field artillery attached to the central force, were in action and airship was seen to heel over on its side and to drop to a lower altitude. "Five aeroplanes of the royal flying corps went up but owing to atmospheric conditions only one aeroplane succeeded in locating an airship. This aeroplane, however, was unable to overhaul the airship before it was lost in the fog. "Some houses were damaged and several fires were started but no serious damage was caused to military material. All fires were soon got under control by the fire brigade. "The following military casualties in addition to the one announced last night have been reported: "Fourteen killed and thirteen wounded."

The home office announces the following casualties other than the military casualties reported above: "The Casualty List. Killed—Men, 27; women, 9; children, 5; total, 41.

Injured—Men, 64; women, 30; children, 7; total, 101. Totals—Men, 91; women, 39; children, 12; total, 142.

Of these 32 killed and 9 injured were in the London area and these figures include those announced last night.

## URGE GERMAN TOWNS BE BOMBARDED AS REPRISALS FOR ZEPPELIN RAIDS

London, Oct. 14.—The policy of replying to German air raids by bombing their sleeping towns as he bombs ours, received an enthusiastic endorsement at a mass meeting held today in the great hall of the Cannon Street Hotel, in the financial district of London.

Lord Willoughby de Broke and William Joynson-Hicks, member of parliament, were the principal speakers at the meeting. "We have come here," said Lord Willoughby de Broke, "to urge upon the government that they have got to take steps to stop the kind of thing that happened last night. The only way to do it is to treat them as they treat us. Otherwise they will continue in their policy while we sit still and suffer and become the laughing stock of Europe."

Mr. Joynson-Hicks made a demand for reprisals which was couched in more lurid language: "Let the Kaiser be made to realize what it means for his own people to be subjected, as we have been subjected, to cold-blooded butchery in the dead of night, and there will be a demand from one end of Germany to the other to stop the butchery in England, in order that they themselves may be safe," he said.

"We must be prepared to send two hundred machines, at the very least, circling over Cologne, Coblenz and other German towns, in order that the Germans may be made to realize the destruction they wrought last night and on other nights in our midst."

The resolutions passed at the meeting called upon the government to adopt a systematic policy of reprisal, "as the only effective method of putting a stop to Zeppelin raids on London and other towns."

## SEVEN MORE RECRUITS FROM NORTH SHORE

### Newcastle, Oct. 14.—Recruits are coming steadily, Capt. L. D. Jones has received seven the last few days.

P. Rowan and H. Warren, of the wireless have gone to the 64th. C. F. Hibbert of the Bank of Nova Scotia here and Roy Johnston, of Loggieville, to the 85th.

Edmond and Amadee Richard to the 88th. Miss Mary Ann Arseneau, of Nelson, was married yesterday in St. Patrick's church to Edward Curran, of St. John, Rev. N. Power performing the ceremony. John Richardson and Miss Annie Arseneau attended the couple.

## COL. E. W. WILSON IS PROMOTED

### Montreal, Oct. 14.—Col. E. W. Wilson, O. C. Fourth Division, Montreal, has been promoted to a brigadier-generalship, the announcement of this coming to him today by telephone from Ottawa through the adjutant-general, Brigadier-General W. E. Hodgins. Amongst those who congratulated him on his promotion was the Duke of Connaught, a visitor in Montreal at present.

Miss Warner at Dunkirk. Letters from Miss Warner, dated September 23, announce her arrival at Dunkirk, France, where she expected to take further instructions as to her new work. Miss Warner at the time of writing was uncertain whether she would be with a flying column attached to the British or the French army, but thought her work might bring her into touch with both.

## AMOUNT THE FUNDS

### Edmond fair produced \$200—Thanks to who assisted.

A patriotic dance held in connection with the Loch Edmond Fair yesterday, the sum of \$186.10 was collected to present \$280 to the soldiers' tobacco fund and \$150, will go for soldier's comforts. The committee wish to thank the following for favors received: The Edmond and Hoyt, T. McAvity, Mrs. T. A. Stephenson, Mrs. Waterbury and Rishig, Anshlups, Thomas Boyle, Harry M. and H. Gallagher and Co., Jackson, and all others who made the dance and drawing successful. Winners in lotteries were: For the pumps, W. an, ticket 75; for box of cigars, slomer Wigmore, ticket 20; for plate and knife, ticket 412, unknown; bean guess, W. who guessed 5,785 beans in the number in the jar being 5,787. C. H. Smyth guessed six and pounds which was the exact

## Soldiers' Comforts.

Officers of East St. John met yesterday at the home of Mrs. John for the purpose of organizing a Soldiers' Comfort Class. Mrs. H. B. who is provincial president, acted chairman. The election of officers resulted as follows: Mrs. James Key, president; Mrs. John Pinch, vice-president and buyer; Mrs. Peck, secretary, and Mrs. Anna treasurer. It was decided to hold a public meeting in the Edith Mission on the 21st inst., when the officers of East St. John, Red Head River will be given an opportunity to become members. At this some decision will be made regarding the filling of Christmas for the Soldiers' Comfort Association.

## Fish Market.

There was a good supply of fish in the market yesterday. Fresh fish has been rather scarce during the week, but other fresh fish has been in hand in sufficient quantity. Prices in prices have taken place, and had dock selling at five cents; halibut, eighteen cents; veal, smelt, fresh herring and fish were sold at the prices quoted. Retailers report that business has been quite brisk during the week.

## Carleton Meeting.

The recruiting meeting to be held in City Hall, Carleton Place, on the 21st inst., will be presided over by the Mayor, H. A. Porter, Colonel Armstrong and "Bud" will be among the speakers. Carleton Cornet Band will be in attendance and other musical features have been arranged for. A large attendance is expected.

## Some Collisions.

At 8:40 o'clock last night a coach driven by Harold Cronin collided with an omnibus driven by John A. Dible in Waterloo street. The horses were thrown and one of them was badly injured about the hind legs. Cronin was violently thrown and received a painful laceration to one of his hips. The front car was quite badly damaged.

## Commission Appointed To Take Stock of The Resources of Canada

### Will Make General Inquiry Into Development and Industrial Policies of Dominion, Transportation Question and Marketing of Agricultural Products

Ottawa, Oct. 14.—The composition of the commission which will make a general inquiry into the resources, development and industrial policies of the Dominion is practically complete and an official announcement regarding the work it contemplates will be made shortly. It will embrace such questions as transportation by road, rail and water, marketing agricultural production, the safeguarding of natural resources, forestry, immigration of soldiers after the war is over, etc. In short the commission will take stock of the country.

## WANTS KELLY CASE SUBMITTED TO AN ARBITRATION BOARD

Winnipeg, Oct. 14.—A proposal that the civil suit taken by the province of Manitoba against Thomas Kelly be referred to an independent board of arbitration was made this morning by E. D. Anderson, counsel for Kelly. He was arguing before Justice Curran for an adjournment of the civil action until the criminal

## STOP REMITTANCES BY P. O. ORDER FROM U. S. TO BULGARIA

Washington, Oct. 14.—Suspension of postal money-order services between the United States and Bulgaria was ordered by the Post Office Department today, upon receipt of notice from the Italian Postal Administration that it no longer would forward remittances intended for payment in Bulgaria.

## NO ACTION IN REGARD TO MEXICO AT PRESENT

London, Oct. 14.—Great Britain will await final action by the United States in reference to the recognition of General Carranza before deciding upon its attitude. In the House of Commons today Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs, said the government would defer consideration of this question for the present, in view of the fact that the American government had not yet granted the expected recognition.

Mrs. H. E. Wardrop, and three years ago made a long visit in this city. Mr. Melrose, a graduate in forestry at the University of New Brunswick in 1914, is now resident at Vernon, B. C., and has a responsible position on the forestry staff of the British Columbia government.

## THE VICTROLA AND THE COMMUNITY—NO. 3

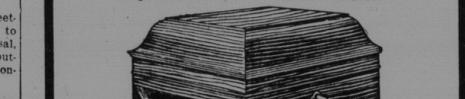


## Mrs. Book-keeper

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