

NOT THE FAULT OF THE OFFICERS

That They Remain in England and Do Not Go to the Front.

Kent, England, June 26, 1916.
The Editor,
The Daily Ontario,
Belleville, Ont.

Sir—I take the liberty to write in answer to a clipping from a paper, which is supposed to have been taken from a Belleville paper. In this clipping it states that the officers in this country who belong to Canadian Reserve Battalions are just putting in the time here in loafing and drawing their money. In fact it puts the officers in a position that a stranger would think that they were all cowards and did not want to go to the front. I would like to refer to the N.C.O.'s who are retained here for instructional purposes in the same light. In that same clipping the writer had to refer to the 33rd Battalion in a manner that would lead people to think that they were the worst of the whole Reserve Division in which they form only a unit.

Now, Sir, of all the officers in this division, in which the Headquarters is at Sherbrooke, I would be very foolish to try to touch for but I can honestly say that they were men who were not afraid to don the khaki and take their chances in going to the front and doing their bit, when they were in Canada. Now, I know a number of officers here, who are not using any political pull to keep them here and are not refusing or afraid to go to the front. But contrary to what they are fighting all the time to be allowed to go to France. Sir, I must emphasize that they are not cowards, nor are any of the Canadian officers here that came over with the first, second or third contingents. If any of the officers, N.C.O.'s or men of these contingents are still in England, without having been in France, the Editors of Canadian papers should not write articles like this one. I am referring to was, if they have to write such articles to fill up space in their paper let them go higher, and see where the fault lies and not attack officers and men at home enjoying comforts where there is no possible chance to be sent where they will get a fighting. Now, Sir, have you a few reasons why all the reserve battalions are over-stocked with officers?

First—In the first and second contingents that went to France, there were a number of these battalions left behind to furnish reinforcements to them. The majority of reserve battalions here now were these same units. All the surplus officers of these contingents were transferred to them. Secondly, when these reserve battalions were sent to France, they were from Canada there were always a full complement of officers and N.C.O.'s with them. Some of these reinforcements were complete units. Now, Sir, come the point that the writer of this article did not know or is not anxious to understand. These drafts or reinforcements were broken up into small drafts and sent to the front as they needed them over there, the officers and N.C.O.'s were left behind to wait their chance to be called over there. Can you wonder at an over-plus of officers in any of these battalions? Another thing that gentlemen would have better known, is that at least half of the officers in those units are the result of casualties from the front. In regard to the N.C.O.'s of these units, I know of very few that would not give up their rank to be allowed to go over to France and see the fun as they call it.

Now, Sir, to the 33rd battalion, that the writer had to pick as an example, all honor is due for the work they have done here in turning out drafts and for the quality of men they brought over with them when they came to England. Now in regard to this particular subject, nobody can accuse me of not knowing that I am talking about, for I am as well acquainted with the working of being a Belleville boy myself I have been in contact with the Belleville boys of the 33rd almost constantly when not on duty. I will tell you a few things about the 33rd that may make the writer change his opinion of the battalion and its officers. The 33rd came over here with the promise of being sent to the front as a complete unit, as several other units were promised, they were soon broken up into a reserve battalion. Since that time to the present they have put about three thousand men through their hands for the trenches out of that number there was not one man returned as unfit in regard to his training. Now such work as this is not done by the journalists of Canada. Another thing that that writer should have known is that there are only six officers of the original battalion left in camp and of these four have been to the front. Of the

remaining officers in the battalion, which are few at the present time, I know there are seven of them who have been warned for the front and are leaving shortly, if they have not gone while I am writing this. Now this battalion is known as a unit having one of the best organizations and one of the best instructional cadres in England.

In regard to that portion of the article where it said that the officers had nothing else to do but lounge around and put their feet on mantel shelves and sit around loafing in the hotel sitting rooms. I would ask if officer gets a pass and goes to London for a holiday and enjoys himself as the people at home are doing do you think it is wrong? As far as visiting hotels when he has not got leave, it is an utter impossibility before the hour of six p.m. and if he does it then whose business is it, when he is off duty? I would like to ask you which looks the better, a man loafing around with his feet on the mantel shelf, who is in khaki and trousers in 24 hours or the man in civies who can be called and be there in an hour, or the man who is there in no comparison at all there.

Now, Sir, I would like you to think if it would not be a lot better for the papers of Canada to exert their efforts in helping to win this war by finding something in favor of the soldiers of Canada instead of being like old women always looking for scandal. I hope you will find space in your paper for this little criticism for the benefit of the boys here who are trying to get the chance to do their bit. I know it is against your principles to print anything that has not been signed but I hope that you will think there are there are reasons why I do not wish for any publicity at the present time. I might say in conclusion that Belleville can never be ashamed of the record that her sons have made for her.

Made from an Old Belleville Boy.

Editor's Note.—The article of which "Old Belleville Boy" complains was, if we remember correctly, from the military notes of one of the Kingston papers. We would strongly recommend "Old Belleville Boy" get to get all set over any expression of opinion that has its origin in a Kingston paper. Nine times out of ten the opinions there given forth are pretty sure to be absolutely wrong and the balance of the time they may be classed as doubtful or open to question. From long experience we have learned to take these things like the duck takes its shower bath.

The officers of the Thirty-ninth battalion need no defence from "Old Belleville Boy" or from anyone else. The record made at the front by such men as Captain Roscoe Vandewater and Captain William Hudson forms a testimonial more enduring than if written in letters of brass.

We think "Old Belleville Boy" is scarcely just in his remarks about the journalistic profession. We ask him what would have been the status of recruiting in Canada were it not for the body of favorable public opinion created by the newspapers, working to that end, six days out of the week, without money and without pay. This sort of thing has become so much a part of the general service rendered and unrequited. It passes unmentioned and unwarded. It is an exaggeration to say that the newspapers have done more than all other forces combined to make possible the enrollment of our great volunteer army of 350,000 men.

Canadian newspapers have at times been sparingly critical of the grosser forms of extravagance, governmental and otherwise, in connection with our expeditionary force. But, if so, it was because they were jealous of the welfare of the man who really should be looked after, the man at the front, and not because they were hesitating for petty scandale.

It is not our practice to boast of what the Ontario has done or to find excuses for what the Ontario has not done. Like that of the officers of the Thirty-ninth, our record should be such as to speak for itself. Since "Old Belleville Boy" throws out some peculiar insinuations, however, let it be stated, once for all, that this particular office has furnished far more than its share of recruits, and, at times, it has been a matter of extreme difficulty to issue our paper from the press. Still other members of our staff have thrown aside family and business responsibilities and tendered their services to the nation, but have been rejected because of physical unfitness. It is because of any person, therefore, whether in khaki or out of it, to throw out against such men the imputation of cowardice. We have no brief for those who ought to be in the ranks but who are regarding this war from the standpoint of spectators. But on the other hand there is too much of a disposition in certain quarters to pass indiscriminately, ignorant and mischief-making remarks about those who have not already enlisted. Every man in uniform is not necessarily a poltroon. We have in this case waived the very essential rule that correspond-

33RD BATTERY ARE BEST SHOTS

Is Best Trained Unit Inspected by General at Lark Hill.

After the inspection at Lark Hill, Salisbury Plain, General Drake made the statement that the 33rd Battery was the best trained battery he had ever seen at Lark Hill, either British or Canadian artillery.

The 33rd Battery is also credited with the best shooting among the batteries in the 8th and 9th Brigades. They dropped 11 shells on a two-foot trench at a range of nearly three miles, only four misses being recorded after they found the range.

There are a number of Belleville boys in this battery.

MAYOR ELECTED DIS. DEPUTY C.M.

Mayor Ketcheson Receives Honor from Masonic Grand Lodge.

Mayor H. F. Ketcheson of this city past master of Moira Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 11, has received further honor from the hands of his brethren of the Grand Lodge now in session at London. At yesterday's session he was unanimously elected District Deputy Grand Master for Prince Edward, district number 12. This district comprises sixteen lodges extending from Port Hope on the west to Kingston on the east and including Campbellford, Madoc and Bancroft to the south.

R. W. Bro. Ketcheson was inducted into Moira Lodge in February 1884 and while R. W. Bro. John Newton was district deputy, Mr. Ketcheson was secretary of Moira Lodge. Accordingly he has had a long Masonic experience, which qualifies him for his new office.

HYDRO TO GET EXPORT POWER

Will Have First Claim for All It Requires—Contract Price \$12.

Negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily to provide an adequate supply of power to meet all demands upon the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, and I am assured there need be no cause for further anxiety on the part of the customers of the Commission.

The price has been agreed upon, namely, \$12 per horsepower. "The Commission will connect up at once, probably tomorrow, with the lines of the Canadian Niagara Power Company, when a block of 12,500 horsepower will be available to meet the present emergency, and the agreement will apply provide for all further requirements of the Hydro-Electric Commission. The people's system must be amply taken care of and no steps will be omitted to see that this is done."—Premier Heaton.

The price of \$12 per horsepower is not the price anticipated, and it can be justified only if the terms and conditions are those now governing the sale of power in Ontario under similar conditions and in similar quantities."—Sir Adam Beck.

ALD DEACON HELD COURT.

Ald. W. B. Deacon presided with dignity over police court today in the absence of Mr. S. Masson. A number of dog cases were adjourned for hearing.

Edward Titterson, Thurlow, was fined \$5 or 15 days on a charge of being drunk. He was given one week in which to pay up.

William Morrison of Faraday has been doing the town for some days. Early in June he fed on some liquor with the resultant "land" in police court. This morning again he appeared in the penitentiary road, blamed himself for imbibing and was fined \$5 and costs or 21 days with a month in which to pay.

PICTON.
Mrs. (Dr.) Whitman is visiting friends in Belleville. Miss Wallace, Belleville, spent a couple of days the guest of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. John Earl, Ferguson street.

Mrs. James Worrell visited friends in Belleville on Friday and Saturday of last week.

Mrs. H. H. Whitney, Picton, Ont., announces the engagement of her daughter, Lila Keitha, to Mr. John Roland Balton, of Hamilton, Ont., the marriage to take place the latter part of July—Saturday Mail & Empire.

Mr. John Fox announces the marriage of his daughter Mary Louise to Mr. Arthur Murray-Smith on Tuesday, July 11th, 1916, Lucas, Ont.

Mr. W. T. Ross, Collector of Customs, Picton, exhibited at the Gazette Office the other day a very fine specimen of a full matured and almost perfectly ripened lemon which he had succeeded in growing in Picton. This was planted and grown by Mr. Ross. It is now some years old and is producing other fruit beside the sample exhibited.

The annual Vallois picnic was held at Twelve O'Clock Point on June 26, when the following officers and directors were re-elected for 1917:—President, Grant Vallois, Concession; Vice-Pres., Darwin Vallois, Rosemore; Sec.-Treas., B. C. H. Becker, Brighton; Directors—Stanley Vallois, J. A. Vallois, Toronto; David A. Vallois, Oshawa; Robert Hazard, Rosemore; D. C. Stuart, Coburg; Herbert Brason, Allisonville; Frank Lent, Belleville; John Gibson, Avelingburg; Charlie Goodfellow, Coburg.

At a special meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday evening of this week a by-law was passed levying the Picton tax rate for the current year at 24 mills on the dollar.

The rates for the last eight years have been as follows: 1909, 19 1/2 mills; 1910, 18 27 mills; 1911, 21 mills; 1912, 21 mills; 1913, 24 mills; 1914, 22 mills; 1915, 22 1/2 mills and 1916, 24 mills.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has decided to re-organize the agricultural work throughout the province, and in conformity with this scheme a meeting was held at the office of the Department of Agriculture recently when a county board was formed to take over the work formerly done by the Farmers Institute and other agricultural organizations throughout the county.

All agricultural educational work such as Farmers Institutes, Fruit Growers' meetings, Agricultural Short Judging courses, etc., will now be undertaken by this new board.

The Farmers Institute as an organization throughout Ontario will in the future have ceased to exist, but the educational work begun by this very useful organization will be carried on along other lines.

Quite a number of delegates were in attendance at the organization meeting and officers were elected as follows:—
President—Clarence Mallory.
1st Vice-Pres.—Royal Munro.
2nd Vice-Pres.—Fred Chase.
Sec.-Treas.—A. M. Platt.
Executive—Peter Collier, John Walker, Lawrence Kearney, Mr. W. B. Brown, Mrs. W. R. Munro, and Mr. A. F. MacVannell.—The Gazette.

TWEED.
Mrs. (Dr.) Farrell and children are visiting Belleville friends.

Miss Flo Adams of Belleville is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Geo. Clark.

Miss Louisa Hinds, of Belleville, is spending a few weeks holidays with her aunts, Mrs. E. M. Juby and Mrs. W. T. Hinds.

Mr. and Mrs. Juby, who for some time past, lived in Belleville, have moved to town, taking up their residence on North Main street.—The News.

Miss Mabel Kerr of Belleville, is the guest of Tweed friends.

A delightful afternoon was spent at the home of Miss Myrtle E. W. Fawcett on Monday last, when about twenty-five young ladies met and gave a linen shower to Miss Faye Heath, a bride-to-be.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Collins and Mr. and Mrs. Felix Hasbottle were in Belleville on Friday attending the funeral of the late Miss Catherine Lally.

The hay crop is being harvested and is a bumper yield. A spear of timothy measured 5 feet 5-2 inches taken from Mr. Louis Cournoyeva's farm has been left at our office which is an excellent sample of the growth this year.

On Wednesday morning Drummond Natel and Hugh W. Stewart left town on a tour by bicycle, their destination being Stevensville, Niagara Peninsula. On the route they purpose touching Belleville, Trenton, Cobourg, Port Hope, Oshawa, Toronto, Hamilton, and St. Catherine, thence to Stevensville where they will visit the latter's relatives for a short time.

A native of Hungerford in the person of Michael Cassidy of Edmonton, passed away at the home of his brother Mr. John Cassidy, Bogart, on Tuesday last week, July 11th, after an illness extending over several years. About 23 years ago he removed

from Hungerford to Kansas where he lived for 7 years after which he crossed the border into Alberta settling at St. Albert, near Edmonton, where he prospered as a farmer until four years ago when he retired to Edmonton.

Lieut. Nurse of the 155th, Barrifield camp, was a visitor to town for a few days this week. During his stay he rounded up several trunks from the battalion who had taken the liberty to absent themselves without leave.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Turcott, who were summoned to Buffalo about a month ago owing to the illness of their son, Lee, who was confined to the hospital, returned home on Saturday. They report Lee to be improving nicely and able to walk about.

Mr. and Mrs. James McAvoy, who were recently married at Erinville, have since been enjoying a honeymoon, and left on Thursday last for their home at Fardus, Sask. They take with them the best wishes of their large circle of acquaintances.

Miss Elsie Green, operator at the Bell Central has received the sad intelligence that her brother Pte. Will Green, who enlisted with a St. Thomas battalion and went overseas a year ago last Feb., died of wounds on July 1st in France. Private Green was wounded about 6 weeks ago while in action, being struck with a bullet through the kidneys which resulted fatally on the date above mentioned. About 6 years ago he was employed on Mr. J. L. Newton's farm near Tweed. He was about 24 years of age and a native of England.

The obituary of Victoria St. was completed last week and it is the consensus of opinion that this system of coping with the dust nuisance—which has become popular in so many places—destined to meet with the general approval of the ratepayers. The old system of alaying the dust with the water wagon is now classed with the "better than none—the badness" and the obituary, we believe, has come to stay. In this reference we must congratulate our village legislators for the spirit of enterprise in introducing in Tweed this latest and most popular method of dust extermination.

Thursday night last, July 13th, The Right Rev. Dr. Bidwell, Lord Bishop of Kingston, administered the sacrament of confirmation to a class of candidates at St. James' church in the presence of a large gathering. The altar was decorated with beautiful bouquets of white carnations which lent pleasing enchantment to the surroundings.

Then followed the induction of the Rev. Chas. Ryan to the charge of St. James' church parish after which the new choir seats and honor roll of the church were officially dedicated and consecrated.

Rev. A. E. Smart, Rector of Madoc, read evening prayer and Rev. R. H. Butcher read for the lesson Acts VIII, 5 to 17; Rev. Mr. Smart acting as Bishop's Chaplain.

They followed the impressive and solemn service of Confirmation, the candidates coming forward in turn and receiving the sacred rite.—The Advocate.

CAMPBELLFORD.
Another Campbellford man, Pte. Jas. T. Dutton, has been wounded while on active service in France. Pte. Dutton enlisted here in October, 1914 and was attached to the Scouts section of his battalion—News.

The annual district camp meetings under the auspices of the Free Methodistists which began on July 11th were well attended. Many came from a distance, put up their tents and remained throughout the whole series of meetings.

On Thursday morning last about three o'clock a severe electrical storm passed over this section. The barn of Mr. Ed. Fleming, in Percy township east of Hastings, was struck and with its contents was destroyed.

Four horses, three hogs perished in the flames and all his implements were destroyed. Mr. Fleming's loss is not nearly covered by insurance.

Pte. Fred Mott, No. 113419, 4th C.M.R., 3rd Canadian Division, reported missing since 2nd of June, is now reported prisoner of war at Stuttgart. Word to this effect was received by his parents on Monday of this week.

Pte. Mott enlisted with the 33rd Battery, Kingston, last August, was drafted to the 8th C.M.R. in October and went overseas to Bramshot Camp in January. He was drafted to the 4th C.M.R. and sent to France, thence to Belgium. He is nineteen years of age and only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Mott, formerly of Belleville, now of Campbellford.

The problem of transmitting power from Crom Bay to the users is becoming a serious problem owing to the limited capacity of the present transmission line. The Dickson Bridge Co., are now using about 200 horsepower and the Northumberland Paper and Electric Co. will, it is expected, require from 150 to 200 horse power in addition to the amount for which their contract calls. This with the amount already in use will total from 500 to 700 horse power, or practically the capacity of No. 1 unit.

The matter is engaging the attention of the Electric Light Commission. The opinion prevails that with the present high and almost prohibitive price of copper the erection of a new line is for the present inadvisable. An effort will be made to supply the consumers by using the present line so as to avoid the excessive outlay of putting in a new transmission line.

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R. D. Ponton.

1200 MASONS WILL ATTEND

What Grand Lodge Means to Belleville—Dr. Potts Honored by Election.

R. Wor. Bro. W. N. Ponton, and H. F. Ketcheson, Very Wor. Bro. A. R. Walker, and Wor. Bros. Dawkins R. A. Backus, H. W. Ackerman, and A. L. Lott, have returned from London, where they attended the Masonic Grand Lodge.

The securing of Grand Lodge for Belleville in 1917 means that 1200 delegates will be here next year. These visitors will tax all the accommodation that Belleville can provide. This year there were 1,005 delegates at London.

A signal honor has come to Hastings County in the election of R. Wor. Bro. J. McO. Potts as one of the ten members of the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge.

Prince Edward District now extends from Brighton to Deseronto. All signs point to the election of a prominent Belleville Mason, Wor. Bro. Col. W. N. Ponton, at next Grand Lodge to the position of deputy grand master from which the step to the Grand Master is but a matter of two years.

MISS HAMBLEY IS RETURNING

Hidden Face at Noon Today, Has Been Spending Furlough Home.

Nursing Sister Hambley, daughter of Lt. Col. Hambley, left at noon today to return to her duties at the front after an extended furlough since May. Col. W. N. Ponton, K.C., president of the Veterans' Association and Col. Stewart, Secretary, represented that organization and bade farewell to Miss Hambley. Col. Stewart presented her with a bouquet of roses. Miss Hambley has spent her leave of absence quietly in her home town.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION

One of the most successful Sunday School excursions ever held in connection with St. Thomas' Church, Belleville, was that per St. Brockville to Twelve O'Clock Point yesterday.

After providing for all expenses and distributing nearly 300 free tickets to those connected with the Sunday School, a small amount remained to be added to the funds of the school.

As usual Captain Christie and his officers were most courteous and attentive to the excursionists and thus added greatly to the pleasure of the day's outing.

FUNERAL OF CHILD.
The funeral of the late Frederick Sandell, infant son of Private and Mrs. Sandell, 79 South Church street, took place this morning from the family residence. Venerable Archdeacon Beamish, officiating. Interment was in Belleville cemetery.

CREATED DISTURBANCE.
Friday morning at two-fifty o'clock a police officer while patrolling upper Front Street heard loud talking and on investigation found that two well known young men were singing and swearing to the annoyance of various people. The young men were warned but after the officer moved off they started up again. They will likely be brought to court for the offence.

STIRLING.
Mr. Beverly Gribble, of Belleville, spent Monday in town.

Mrs. McCroden and daughter Margaret of Belleville, are spending the holidays here guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Cook.

Mrs. Greenleaf and daughter Muriel, of Belleville, spent the week-end visiting the former's mother, Mrs. Demmill, and returned home on Sunday by motor.

Rev. S. E. Morton, Belleville, accompanied by Messrs. Harry Smith and Jack Harryett, motored to Maynooth, where they will spend the vacation.

The Trent Valley League Trap Shooting Association have their next shoot in Stirling on Wednesday, July 26th, Belleville, Cobourg, Port Hope, Peterborough and Stirling clubs will compete.—The Leader.

LEGAL.
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DR. M. J. O'CALLAGHAN
Has taken over the practice of Capt. J. M. Wilson, starting May 1st. Office corner of Bridge and Front Streets.

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NECESSARY

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RIA
Children 30 Years