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EDITORIAL

To horse! To horse! The sabres gleam;
High sounds our bugle call
Combined by honour's sacred tie,
The word is 'laws and liberty.'
March forward, one and all.

Sir Walter Scott.

"The Listening Post" is one year old to-day, the first number having been issued on the 10th of August 1915.

"The Listening Post" has an unique and distinguished existence, with many historic features, not the least among them being the fact that, as far as we are able to learn, it was the first regimental newspaper to be written, edited, printed and circulated wholly from the fire zone.

Starting with a circulation of 1,000 copies, its growth has been rapid and its circulation world wide, until with No. 14 issue we had reached the limits of our press capacity with a circulation of 15,000 copies, twice monthly. But the demand is still growing, and in order to meet this demand we have decided to acquire our own printing plant with up-to-date facilities for a circulation of 20,000 copies.

We therefore pass on our greetings to our many readers and friends, and trust that in the future we may continue to diffuse a little cheerfulness into the hearts and lives of our soldiers at the front, who in turn will pass it along to the folks at home who are keeping the "Home Fires Burning".

"Niemeyer proves thriller to crowd".

Billy Sunday of *Recruiters* startles theatre-full of people, announces a Toronto daily paper. And we stand absolutely rooted to the spot—shades of Kitchener and Ye Gods—what amusement!!!

It is time this kind of "coaxing" able bodied men to defend their country stopped. It is silly, costly, and unpatriotic. The idea of coaxing a man to defend his own hearth and home is so ridiculous that we have to laugh. Let the Government bring in an "Organisation of defence and Army Bill" in order that all able bodied men who can be spared from Canada for Army purposes will be picked at once, ticketed, and called up in "Classes" as required—this is only simple business method, which will be easier on the tax payer's pocket book and less worry to the military authorities. We have urged this action before—we respectfully urge it again.

Mentioned in Despatches.

Our beloved leader and friend, Lt. Col. (now Brig. Gen.) V. W. Odlum D.S.O., has been compelled, through the course of deserved promotion, to leave his old unit, of which he was so proud, the 7th Canadian Inf. Battalion.

No words can express the regret experienced by all ranks of the battalion when it became known that the Chief was going, but all knew that only the call of duty alone could take him from us. Where ever General Odlum may be he may rest assured that in endeavouring to follow and live up to the high standard he has set, our hearts are with him still and his success will be our joy.

The following message to the battalion has been received from Lt. Col. V. W. Odlum D.S.O. and is published for information:

"On leaving the 7th Battalion for other duties, I desire to express to all officers and all other ranks my deep appreciation of the continuous loyal support that has been accorded me since I first assumed the command on April 23 1915. We have passed through trying times together, and we have worked hard. But thro' it all I have been sustained by my unwavering confidence in my officers and my men. That confidence has never been misplaced. You have borne the hardships and performed your ceaseless duties uncomplainingly and to the spirit of self sacrifice and endurance which you have shown, the Battalion owes its present proud position and I owe the recognition I have received. I have always asked much of you and you have always given it. I am proud of you, and proud of the Battalion, and I part from you and it with deep feelings of sincere regret. We have a common interest in our memories of those who were once with us and are no more. Through them we are bound with indissoluble ties. No matter where I may be sent, or what I may be asked to do, the 7th Battalion will always stand first in my

heart. I want every officer and man to feel that he has a personal claim on me, and to come to me at any time in the future, when in need of assistance of any sort whatsoever, as with perfect right. I can never repay you for what you have done, but I can always be to you a friend".

(Signed) Victor W. Odlum.

The following reply has been forwarded:

"All Officers, N.C.Os., and men of the 7th Battalion wish to tender to

you their heartiest congratulations on your appointment as Officer Commanding the 11th Brigade. Their gain however is our loss, we feel that we have not only lost our Commander, but our best friend.

We can best show our loyalty to your successor by constantly endeavouring to live up to the high standard and example you have at all times set us.

We thank you for the very kind sentiments expressed in your letter, and wish you from our hearts "All Success".

W. F. Gilson. Capt.

All Officers and other ranks join in extending a hearty welcome to Capt. S. D. Gardner on his return to the 7th Battalion, and to congratulate him on his appointment to the high position of Commanding Officer, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Lt. Col. Gardner is known and respected not only as a fighting man and successful officer, but also a true friend to the soldier who does his duty as it should be done.

We hasten to assure Col. Gardner that he will receive

On this, our first anniversary, our thoughts are with those of our comrades who have made the great sacrifice: Who have laid aside pack and rifle and answered the last roll-call.

Their faces are absent from our midst and their voices are forever still, but to us they will remain an inspiration and an example.