



THE WAR IN EAST AFRICA

MARCHING ON JANGA. By FRANCIS BRETT YOUNG. London: Collins. 6s. net.

CAPTAIN Brett Young has here recorded his experiences when acting as a medical officer under General Smuts in the recent fighting in East Africa. The German in this campaign is the picture painted, but he is hardly visible. The real enemy in this campaign is the country itself. Beautiful exceedingly, it has the uncomeliness of fairyland; man cannot live in it, nor the beasts who minister to him; and it affects Captain Young as a land without human history, and therefore without a soul. It is given up to big game and their guardian insects. In one small patch of sand could be seen the spoor of lion, leopard, waterbuck, and rhinoceros; the mud close by had been trampled by a great buffalo, and at the edge of a river a wallowing hippopotamus had sunk great pits: the trees were gay with butterflies, dragonflies, and beetles, and everywhere flitted the less conspicuous winged creatures which breed fever and make the doctor the real combatant officer. Their potent ally was the sun—the sun which rose triumphantly, as though he were conscious of the invincible strength which would enable him to climb to the very centre of the sky in the space of six hours. Moreover, there was a perversion about the conditions; the parching days were followed by nights that were bitter cold; and while the column was hampered with the material for bridging rivers it suffered continually from lack of water.

Here, surely, is a tract of land where the German may safely be left to his own devices. Unfortunately it constituted a barrier between the British and German colonies, and as such had to be forced. Just inside their own northern boundary the Germans held a railway running some two hundred miles inland from Tanga on the coast along a high wooded ridge. From this they had to be dislodged before the central district could be effectively occupied. A frontal attack would, however, have been too costly; and the British plan was to send a flanking force round the western extremity of the railway, with orders to march seawards parallel to the line and on the farther side of it. It was hoped to cut off the Germans at some gap. To achieve this purpose, the British force with animal transport would have had to move more quickly than the enemy down his railway; and this dash was to be carried out through a country about which nothing certain was known except that it was unhealthy. At best the expedition would have to make its way through virgin bush; at worst, it might encounter insurmountable natural obstacles. It is not surprising that during the period covered by the narrative the booty consisted of little beyond an odd German or two. But a section of the line was cleared; and that this was achieved without a serious military disaster comes as an increasing surprise to the reader as he learns of the absence of co-ordination between the advancing columns; of horses being left for long periods of inactivity in places marked "fly-infested" on German charts; of direction being lost; of transport breaking down, and of unending hardships—for he has no means of estimating the difficulties against which the Germans on their side had to contend. The Germans seem to have been determined not to risk a decisive action. Well supplied with ammunition from a blockade-runner and able to outrange their pursuers with the guns taken out of the cruiser Königsgberg, they were content to let the British exhaust themselves and then to retreat. They knew what toll fever took of the pursuers for every day the chase lasted. The transport animals perished in droves. Convoys of infected horses and mules were driven to Korogwe to die, just because it would be easier there to get rid of their poor wasted bodies. "Ninety sick men in a single day from a brigade of less than four thousand—this was the price we paid for our nights by the Pangani."

Captain Young always writes with restraint, but he claims that the troops he served with suffered hardships unequalled in any other campaign. Some of the night marches along the pitted roads of Flanders seem to reach the limit of the endurable; but the men of the East African force had to march day after day under a burning sun and short of food and water through a jungle where there were no roads at all. Nor was "a Blighty one" a way of escape.

The first time I was sent in our mule waggon they had been retained by the divisional medical authorities, so that we were now without the transport to take our sick with us when the order to advance should come. We couldn't carry them with us, and yet, how could we leave them behind? Captain Young does not leave them behind; indeed, the chief episode in the book is an account of how a party of wounded under his charge were cut off in a forest by German soldiers and chased all through the night. It will be gathered that we are back again in the period when war had not become the standardized product of the General Staff, in East Africa the individ-

THE WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

October 13.—Translation of King Edward the Confessor. Roger Williams banished from Boston for heresy, 1633; General Thomas Harrison, one of Cromwell's officers, executed, 1650; The Parliament of Scotland convened for the last time, 1705; Admiral Nicholson took Port Royal, 1710; Corner Stone of White House, Washington, laid by General Washington, 1792; Napoleon Bonaparte landed at St. Helena, 1815; Antonio Canova, Italian sculptor, died, 1822; Lily Langry (Lady De Bathe), actress, born, 1822; Sir H. Montagu Allan born, 1860; Marquess of Queensberry born, 1868; First Aeroplane flight in United States, 1893; Sir Henry Irving, English actor, died, 1905.

October 14.—Hastings, 1066. Jena, 1806. Austerlitz, 1806. James II of England born, 1633; William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, born, 1644; Sir William Harcourt, English statesman, born, 1827; Sir Edmund Walker, President of Canadian Bank of Commerce, born, 1818; James S. Neill, Fredericton merchant, born, 1849; Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, wife of the President of United States, born, 1872; Marquess of Lothian appointed Governor General of Canada, 1878; Peace Treaty between Russia and Japan signed, 1905.

October 15.—Virgil, Latin poet, born, 70 B.C.; The Gregorian Calendar introduced, 1582; Evangelista Torricelli, Italian, inventor of the barometer, born, 1608; Champlain arrived in Canada as Governor, 1612; Allan Ramsay, Scottish poet, born, 1686; Napoleon Bonaparte began retreat from Moscow, 1812; Hon. Martin Burrell, Canadian Minister of Agriculture, born, 1838; John L. Sullivan, American pugilist, born, 1838; Rt. Rev. E. A. Le Blanc, Bishop of St. John, born, 1870; Dedication of Lincoln Monument at Springfield, Ill., 1874; Completion and dedication of Cologne Cathedral, 1880.

October 16.—Bishops Ridley and Latimer martyred at Oxford, 1555; Roger Boyle, Earl of Orrery, died, 1679; Noah Webster, American lexicographer, born, 1758; Robert Ferguson, Scottish poet, died, 1774; Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, guillotined, 1793; John Hunter, Scottish surgeon, died, 1793; Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Polish patriot, died, 1817; Oscar Wilde, Irish author and dramatist, born, 1854; Captain of Harper's Ferry, 1859; Rt. Hon. Austen Chamberlain, English statesman, born, 1863.

October 17.—St. Elizabetha, Saratoga, 1777. Sir Philip Sidney, English soldier and poet, died, 1586; F. F. Chopin, Polish musical composer and pianist, died, 1849; Siege of Sebastopol began, 1854; Lord Selborne, English statesman and administrator, born, 1859; Great Fire in Quebec, 1866; Austrians evacuated Lombardy, 1866.

October 18.—St. Eusebius, Evangelist. Matthew Henry, Welsh divine and commentator, born, 1662; Richard ("Beau") Nash, famous Welsh dictator of fashion, born, 1674; American Army disbanded by proclamation, 1783; Union of Norway and Sweden, 1826; Nikola Tesla, American electrician, born in Serbia, 1857; Lord Palmerston, British statesman and Prime

Minister, died, 1865; Charles Gounod, French musical composer, died, 1883. October 19.—Yorktown capitulated, 1781. Leipzig, 1813. Sir Thomas Brown, English physician, author of Religio Medici, born, 1655, and died same day, 1682; John Adams, American statesman, born, 1735; Dean Jonathan Swift, author of Gulliver's Travels, died, 1745; Leigh Hunt, English essayist and poet, born, 1804; Henry Kirke White, English poet, died, 1806; Thomas Wildey, founder of L.O.O.F., died, 1801; King Louis of Portugal died, 1889.

MINIATURE ALMANAC

Table with columns for Day of Month, Day of Week, Sun Rises, Sun Sets, H. Water a.m., H. Water p.m., L. Water a.m., L. Water p.m.

TRAVEL

Fall and Winter Time Table

Table with columns for Grand Manan S.S. Company, Grand Manan Route, Season 1917-18, After October 1st, 1917, and until further notice.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

Table with columns for CUSTOMS, THOS. R. WREN, Collector, D. G. HANSON, Prev. Officer, Office hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., PARADISE, 9 to 1.

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NOTICE

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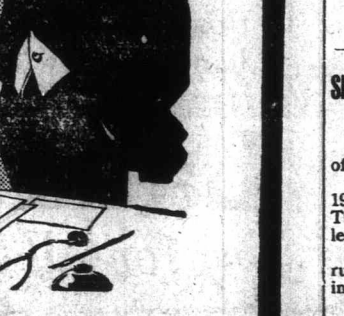
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The Annual Meeting of the Grand Manan Silver Black Fox Company, Limited, will be held at the Office of Frank Ingersoll, North Head, Grand Manan, on Friday, October 26th, at two o'clock in the afternoon, or on the arrival of steam-Grand Manan.

TO LET

Furnished. Season 1918. Commodious Brick Dwelling, Corner King and Montague Streets, opposite English Church. Eight Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Water and Acetylene Lights. F. H. GRIMMER, agent.

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ST. ANDREWS, N. B. George F. Hibbard, Registrar. Office hours 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., Daily. Sundays and Holidays excepted.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE ST. ANDREWS, N. B.

R. A. STUART, High Sheriff. Time of Sittings of Courts in the County of Charlotte: CIRCUIT COURT: Tuesday, May 8, 1917, Chief Justice K. B. D. McKeown; Tuesday, October 2, 1917, Justice Chandler. COUNTY COURT: First Tuesday in February and June, and the Fourth Tuesday in October in each year. Judge Carleton.

The First Week in September

Is the beginning of our busy season, but you can enter anytime. Send for new Catalogue containing tuition rates and full information. S. Kerr, Principal.

Tuesday, September 4

is the day on which classes will be resumed at FREDERICTON BUSINESS COLLEGE. Write for information as to our courses of study. We must have a large number of graduates next year to supply the great demand for office help. W. J. OSBORNE, Prin. Fredericton, N. B.

ST. ANDREWS POSTAL GUIDE.

ALBERT THOMPSON, Postmaster. Office Hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Money Orders and Savings Bank Business transacted during open hours. Letters within the Dominion and to the United States and Mexico, Great Britain, Egypt and all parts of the British Empire, 5 cents per ounce or fraction thereof. In addition to the postage necessary, each such letter must have affixed a one-cent "War Tax" stamp. To other countries, 5 cents for the first ounce, and 3 cents for each additional ounce. Letters to which the 5-cent rate applies do not require the "War Tax" stamp. Post Cards one cent each to any address in Canada, United States and Mexico. One cent post cards must have a one-cent "War Stamp" affixed, or a two-cent card can be used. Post cards two cents each to other countries. The two-cent card does not require the "War Tax" stamp. Newspapers and periodicals to any address in Canada, United States and Mexico, one cent per four ounces. Arrives: 12:30 p.m. Closes: 4:45 p.m. Mails for Deer Island, Indian Island, and Campbell—Daily. Arrives: 11 a.m. Closes: 12:30 p.m. All Mails for Registration must be Postpaid and sent previous to the Closing of Ordinary Mail. Readers who appreciate this paper will give their friends the opportunity of seeing a copy. A specimen number of THE BEACON will be sent to any address in any part of the world on application to the Beacon Press Company, St. Andrews, N. B. Canada.

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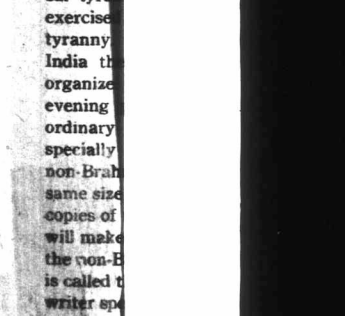
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