

FORMER COURIER REPORTER AT FRONT WRITES HOME TELLING OF EXPERIENCES

Sergeant Jennings Says Boys at the Front Kept Posted on Brantford Doings by the Courier, and That Pictures of the 125th and 215th Adorn Their Dugouts—Story of a Man Who Tried to "Flop" When Suffering From Lumbago.

The following interesting letter has been received by the Courier from Sgt. Jennings, who was for some time on the reportorial staff of this paper. He enlisted as a private and has now won his three stripes. "Reg" is a son of Mr. Hudson Jennings, a prominent resident of the County.

In the Field. Although it is a long time since you last saw me, no doubt you will remember me as one of your former "Cubs" for it was with the Brantford Courier I made my "debut" in newspaper work. For the past sixteen months I have been in the service and of that time five months in action at the front. The Brantford Courier comes regularly and its columns give many an hour's enjoyment when things are quiet and time passes slowly.

Sixteen months in the service—five months in action has almost made me a soldier. I enlisted as a gunner with the 25th Battery, C.F.A., Ottawa, and have been with the same Battery ever since. Since coming over here I have received first one, then two and finally three stripes. I am in charge of the Battery staff of 21 men, including Signallers, range finders, direction men, telephonists and linemen. My work has been very interesting taking me from the first line as far back as the horse lines—with the Battery my headquarters.

I doubt if there are any men in any branch of the service, now at the front, who see and hear more, or who have many more exciting experiences than the signallers, linemen, etc., attached to field artillery batteries. They go everywhere, in the trenches and out of them and are always on the lookout for new observation posts. Quite often they have to dodge whizzbangs and if the "Yuks" think they can make a good bag, they toss one a "coal-box" or a "rum jar". Very often we have to take cover in a mighty big hurry. Direct hits are few but it is the shrapnel and flying pieces of shell cases that get a fellow.

To actually see a shell whizzing through the air is rather hard to believe, I suppose? Of course it is not always possible. On a real dark night the nose of a shell looks just like a head of fire speeding through the air. In daylight I have seen shells against a red sunset.

The other evening a couple of us were out "calling on" a couple of old friends in a small town near here. We hadn't seen these chaps for quite a while. Everything was quiet but we had no sooner exchanged greetings when we heard a rumble, then a swish-whizz and looking up we saw

a big black fellow coming. I could have sworn, straight for me. In a fraction of a second we had "flopped" except for one fellow, who has been suffering from lumbago. Now I don't know if you have ever had lumbago, but this fellow, who by the way, was one of the N. H. A. Ottawa hockey stars, claims it the worst yet, and he has considerable difficulty getting up and down. It took him about two seconds to "kiss the ground" and by that time, our friend, the "coal box," had bit the dust and was throwing mud and stones in all directions. For the past sixteen months I have been in the service and of that time five months in action at the front. The Brantford Courier comes regularly and its columns give many an hour's enjoyment when things are quiet and time passes slowly.

At the place where we met our friends, there were probably four hundred infantry men within a radius of thirty yards, lounging around waiting for dusk. I saw the "Yuk" coming," says our lumbago chap, "but for the life of me I couldn't get down. I looked around, not a man in sight, everyone was as flat as soap on a plate. Then, before I knew it, I was down. A big piece of sod just missed my head by inches. In another second everyone was up and going like lightning. I guess I was last, but I got up somehow. I didn't take many seconds until I was at least two hundred yards away. I remember passing two other fellows, also a rabbit!" This, of course, is only one of the many little experiences which we have and which make things brighter and more lively.

Space and time will not very well permit me to tell you all about life over here with the artillery men. We have no complaints to register. The Canadian Corps has served us well. If there is one man in Canada the boys over here admire, he is "our Colonel," Sir Sam. If he ever comes to see the boys of the 2nd Division he'll get the warmest welcome he ever got in his life.

It might interest some of the Brantford boys with the 125th and 215th to know that their pictures, clipped from the Courier, help to adorn the walls of my dugout. We all hope they will be with us soon to help settle with the grey jackets who throw "coal boxes" and "rum jars" at us.

I have met quite a few Brantford old boys. Among others, Lieut. Leonard Bishop, who was well the last time I saw him.

We have had July weather for the past six weeks. For a while there has been only the usual activity. Now, with very best wishes to yourself and my old friends on the Courier staff, I am,

Yours sincerely,
REG. H. JENNINGS.

ACADEMY RECITAL AGAIN SCORES A FINE SUCCESS

Piano and Vocal Selections
Given by Advanced
Pupils.

The second of the series of Closing Recitals of the Academy of Music was held last night in Victoria Hall. The piano solo part of the program was in the hands of more advanced pupils and the teachers of the Academy, and seldom has a more beautiful selection of piano numbers been given in Brantford than the program so well rendered last night. Mention might especially be made of the work of Misses Z. Perry, Gertrude McCombe, Mary Cooper, Leone Bremner, Mary McIntyre and Grace Chave for well rounded technique and artistic finish of their playing; the ensemble quartette numbers were exceptionally well given.

The Misses Edna Kay and Iola Daniels of Paris and Miss Kathleen Keen of the city gave the vocal part of the programme and as all three are the possessors of bright soprano voices, their numbers gave great pleasure and added lightness to the evening.

Miss Margaret Hargreaves in her reading gave a very dramatic and realistic representation of the pathos and grief of an Indian chieftain's daughter. Miss Hargreaves gives much promise as a coming elocutionist.

The last of the series will be given to-night.

The programme in full was as follows: "The March of the Priests" (Mendelssohn), Misses M. O'Grady, B. Brigham, P. Keen and Mr. Wright. "The Two Larks" (Tschetzk), Miss Gertrude Ebb. Violin, "Allegro Brillante" (Ten

ST. ELOI IS STRONGER THAN EVEN VERDUN

Soldier Writing Home Says
Germans Will Never Get
Through.

CANADIANS ARE
SOME FIGHTERS

Germans Dropped Them a
Note, "We Will Wipe You
Off the Earth."

Trooper Chas. Dowling, 22 Lorne Crescent, has written home from Somewhere in France and tells some of the life at the front. Trooper Dowling enlisted with the 4th C.M.R. but subsequently was transferred to the Tunnelling corps. He probably is near the big fighting taking place now. His letter follows:

Somewhere in France. Dear Mother: Well here I am away down at the base far from harm. We draw our envelopes from our own unit and I found difficulty in getting one here, which accounts for not writing sooner.

I ran into a shell hole up near the line nearly two weeks ago and have been laid up for repairs. May be here for a week yet and I won't be sorry, as this is better than dodging German shells up at the front. The people here are French and very hospitable. Two of us go over to a farm house every morning with a rum jar and get a gallon of fresh buttermilk for three cents, which does us for the day.

It has got very warm here now, but is better than the cold wet weather. Since writing you last two more of our drivers have gone brightly so I have just enjoying myself fine away down here. We are about half a mile from a large city, and about twice a week walk in for the evening.

I was in the military cemetery there last Sunday and saw over 2,000 graves—British, Canadian, French, Belgium and a few Germans. Quite a few weeks ago, was up in trenches at a place called St. Eloi and saw a terrific bombardment. I had no idea artillery could do such damage. The German trenches were knocked to pieces and one could not see by them for dust. There has been a lot of fighting in this section, one Canadian battalion from the west, losing 671 men in one night. I saw the roll called next morning and they looked just about all in, but after a few days rest went back in as usual.

There are an awful bunch of Canadians here and also Australians and New Zealanders. The Canadians are on the warmest part of the line. The Germans dropped a note from an aeroplane about a month ago, saying that in a few days they were coming over to wipe the Canadians off the map.

If they make an offensive here it is for Calais and they will be met by the boys who ask or give no quarter. There is not one chance in a million of them getting through. They could not get through at Verdun, and that place is nothing to this. If we ever open up on Germany tries to break for Calais, it would be the biggest slaughter in the war, and would, I believe, end it.

Obituary

JAS. B. HOLT

An old and widely known resident of Brantford passed away suddenly last evening in the person of James B. Holt, 151 Dalhousie Street, aged 78 years. He leaves to mourn his loss a widow, two sons, Ernest and Edgar, at home, and one daughter, Mrs. Spedding of this city. The funeral, which will be private, will take place to-morrow afternoon at Mount Hope Cemetery.

MARGARET MIDDLEMISS. The death took place in Mitchell, Ont. on Saturday of Margaret Jane Middlemiss, aged 75 years, aunt of Mr. Robert Middlemiss of William Street. The funeral took place this morning from the G. T. R. station to Greenwood cemetery. The pall bearers were: W. D. Schultz, F. B. Shaver, S. Woodside officiating. The Rev. C. A. P. Pitcher, Dr. Frank Britton. The deceased was at one time a resident of Brantford.

215TH RETAINS ITS IDENTITY

In the London Free Press there appeared recently an announcement to the effect that the 215th Brant County Battalion was to be amalgamated with the 133rd. This report is absolutely refuted by the officers of the 215th, who state that there is no foundation in such a rumor. The foundation was said to have only 300 men, whereas its present strength is approximately 500. The 215th will not be amalgamated, it will remain a Brant County battalion, provided 600 men are obtained by Aug. 1st, a number which from present showing will be reached before July 1. During the three months that the 215th Battalion has been engaged in recruiting, a total of 820 men were examined by the medical officer. Of this number 58 per cent. were accepted and 42 per cent. rejected. In the past two weeks over 100 rejection buttons have been issued.

Arthur D. Brandeis, president of the J. B. Brandeis Company of Omaha, Neb., the biggest department store west of Chicago, is dead.

Social and Personal

The Courier is always pleased to use items of personal interest. Phone 276.

Mr. John Durno and party have returned from Michigan after enjoying a delightful fishing trip.

Miss Margie Junor returned to Hamilton this afternoon, after visiting Mrs. G. A. Duncan.

Mrs. Nellie Ashton, 1 Hart Street, will receive on Thursday. Mrs. Locke Richardson will receive with her.

Mr. N. R. Thompson, manager of The Trus Con Laboratories, Toledo, Ohio, was in Brantford, over the week end, visiting relative.

Mrs. B. J. Wade and daughter, Doris, leave next week for Moosejaw, Sask.

The members of the Congregational choir presented Miss Marion Veigh with a silver-mounted clothes brush and address after choir practice. Miss Veigh, who has her parents, is near the big fighting taking place now. His letter follows:

Wedding Bells.

PELLING-M'CAFFREY

A very pretty June wedding occurred at four o'clock yesterday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents, 27 Park Ave., when Miss Laura McCaffrey became the wife of Mr. Fred Pelling, of the staff of the Watrous Engine Works.

Dr. Henderson, of Wellington St. Church, officiated at the marriage, assisted by Rev. E. Robinson, brother-in-law of the groom.

The bride looked lovely, gowned in white voile with veil and carrying a shower bouquet of orchids and roses. Mrs. Robinson, sister of the groom, played the wedding march. The bride was unattended.

After the guests had expressed their good wishes to the popular young couple, a delicious luncheon was served, and at 7 Mr. and Mrs. Pelling left for a two weeks' wedding trip to Montreal and other points.

The bride's going away suit was brown with white panama hat. Many beautiful gifts evidenced the good will of a host of friends.

On their return to the city, Mr. and Mrs. Pelling will reside at 71 Arthur St.

With the City Police

The charge of conversion against R. H. Robbins, which has received weekly hearing for four months past, was finally disposed of this morning, when the defendant, having made restitution of the money appropriated, was allowed to go on suspended sentence, after paying the costs of the case, \$7.85. Charges of breach of the carrier's by-law against Geo. Yake and Jno. W. Hull were adjourned for a week.

PAY AND ALLOWANCE FOR PROBATIONERS

With reference to Camp Order No. 3 G. S. dated 29-5-16: School of Infantry, pay and allowances, the following is the mode now adopted for paying officers, probationers and N. C. O's, attending Schools of Instruction.

Qualified officers qualifying for higher ranks, N. C. O's, qualifying for N. C. ranks, will remain as heretofore on pay sheet of their unit for pay and field allowance.

Probationers of C. E. F. units of whatever rank, qualifying for Lieutenants' certificates will from the 25th of May, remain on the pay sheets of their units for pay and field allowance and will receive the rates of pay drawn by the O. C. of the C. E. F. units to which they are attached, stating that they are not on the pay list of the unit.

All officers, probationers and N. C. O's of the C. E. F. units will be struck off their units for rate of subsistence allowance while in attendance at the school, and will receive rations and quarters at the school as long as there is accommodation. If there is no accommodation they will receive subsistence allowance from the school.

Soldiers Not Dying.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Kingston, Ont., June 13.—A rumor having been started that several soldiers had died at Barrieffield camp, inquiries have been pouring in from all over the province. One report stated that 18 soldiers had died last week and that several had been poisoned. These stories are emphatically denied at the camp. There has not been one death since the camp opened; the health of the camp is excellent and the sanitary work could not be better.

HOOD'S PILLS

Best for all liver ills. Try them.

COLONIAL THEATRE

ALL THIS WEEK

A Refined Musical Comedy
of the Better Class

20-A Company of 20

GOOD SINGING — FUNNY COMEDIANS
SPECIAL SCENERY



- SWORD PLAY -
MIKE HOGAN & JAKE CROUSE
- MUSTARD KINGS -



MONSIEUR NIBLOW
IN LOVE WITH
FIFI

GRACE WOLFE
SINGING &
DANCING
SPECIALTY.

NELLIE KILLEN

- FIFI SINGING -
"I'M GOING BACK TO CAROLINA"

THE MUSTARD KINGS
ENCOUNTER A REAL "TOP LADY"

THE ROSE CITY
TRIO

THE DUMB
WAITER

THE ROSE CITY
TRIO

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MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY "A NIGHT IN A PARISIAN GARDEN"

Musical Comedy Par Excellence

THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY
Big Double Bill

"A Midnight Cabaret" and "College Days"

MOVIE FEATURES:
MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

"PEG O' THE RING"

Featuring Frances Ford and Grace Gunard, who starred in the "Broken Coin" and "Lucille Love," also "Graft."

Big Attractions Are Always on at THE "COLONIAL"

PRICES: Night, 10 and 20 cents; Matinee, 10 cents.

ATTACK ON MEXICO

Zapata Has Large
Men Thirty Miles
the Capital.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

New York, June 12.—Zapata, considered by Mexicans as the midable factional leader in the Carranza Government, camped with a large body of men within thirty miles of Mexico City, and the capital is expected at any moment to be in the hands of the Carranza Government, recently connected with the Mexican City Tramway, who arrived here to-day.

Mr. Francis said that he was "in a hurry" to avoid a picture being directed against account of his activity to release of H. A. Dunn, chief of the Tramway Company, controlled organization, seized and thrown into weeks ago. He added that against Mr. Dunn was public.

Mr. Francis described conditions in Mexico as chaotic.

EXECUTIVE OF U.W.W. M

Considers All
Grievances and Va
Special Matter

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Indianapolis, June 13.—The executive board of the United Workers of America met today to consider all appeals and various special cases.

John P. White, national president at the sessions, who will continue a week. A delegation from the district, which has expressed satisfaction with the wage scale this year, is expected before the board this week. He has been reports that the district has threatened to from the national organization though President White at President Frank J. Hayes is no probability that such a loss is taken.

LOSS OF VITALITY is loss of life, and is early indication of disease, and by diminishing vitality it acts on all functions and builds up system.

COURIER AGENTS

The Daily Courier can be found at the following:

CENTRAL:

STEDMAN'S BOOK STORE, 10

Street.

ASHTON, GEORGE, 72 Dalhousie

Street.

PICKELS' NEWS STORE, 72 C

Street.

WICKS' NEWS STORE, cor.

and Queen Streets.

HARTMAN & CO., 220 Colborne

Street.

MOORADIAN, N. G., 181 Dalhousie

Street.

EAST WARD

SHEARD, A., 433 Colborne St.

ATLIEFE, H. B., 230 Colborne

Street.

BURKELL, GEORGE, corner

Murray St.

FREDERICK, A., 105 Erie St.

HIGHBOTHAM & CAMERON

corner St.

LUNDY, J. B., 270 Darling St.

MILBURN, J. W., 44 Mary St.

NORTH WARD

HARRIS, MAX, 31 Perth St.

ALANBAUGH, J. W., 130

LISTER, A. A., 73 William St.

McKENNEDY, J., corner Pearl

mond St.

PAGE, J., corner Pearl and W

FOURTH ST.

PICKARD, R., 120 Terrace Hill

Street.

EAGLE PLACE

MARX, MRS., 30 Bath St.

WILLIAMS, N. S., Emily St.

KEW, M. & J., 100 Bath St.

HOLMEADE

SCRIVNER, W., corner Spring

and Ave.

THIS YEAR, NEXT

TIME, N

—B