

Mentioned in Despatches

Frank Cobb.—The press in the United States is playing a big part in the controversy as to whether that country should be pro-Ally or pro-German. Practically all the big papers take the side of the Allies. One of the most influential pro-Ally editors is Frank Cobb, chief editorial writer of the New York World. Cobb started life as a \$6.00 a week newspaper reporter on the Detroit Press. He soon worked his way up until he became one of the best editorial writers on that paper. Several years ago Joseph Pulitzer, the blind erratic genius who owned the New York World, was on the lookout for an editorial writer and picked on Cobb. To-day Cobb is a powerful factor in American journalism, being probably the nearest approach in the United States to the "leader" writers on the best English journals. Cobb believes in carrying his repertorial manner into his editorial work, and mixes with all classes and conditions of people in order to get their viewpoints and opinions.

"Name and Number" Holden.—Some of the most curious characters in the world enlist in the army and make good. A case in point is told of a Newfoundland named Holden, who was known as "Name and Number" Holden. Holden was asked for his name and number by officers about every second day in order to enter his misdeeds on the crime sheet. He was guilty of practically every offence against military discipline that is known in the decalogue of warfare, but redeemed himself in the fighting at Gallipoli where he bravely picked up a Turkish bomb and hurled it back at the enemy before it had time to explode. A monocular officer who witnessed the brave deed said, "Ah, my good man, what is your name and number?" meaning to recommend him for a medal. "What in H— have I done now?", inquired Holden in an injured tone. It was the first time in his army experience that he was not called down, and the surprise was almost too much for him. Out of 1,107 Newfoundlanders who went to Gallipoli only 171 returned.

Frank Slavin.—The 67th Battalion Western Scottish from Victoria, B.C., is a worthy rival to the Princess Patricia's. The Battalion was recruited from all over British Columbia, and contains hundreds of men who roughed it in mining camps, the Yukon and Northern British Columbia, lumber jacks, prospectors, fishermen and other pioneers. One of the members of the battalion is Frank Slavin, well known to the sporting fraternity of a generation ago in Australia, England and America as a champion pugilist. Slavin was the last of the pugilists to fight with bare fists. The old veteran still carries the scars of many fistic encounters on his features. When the battalion was inspected in Ottawa on its way east by the Duke of Connaught, he noticed the ribbons which Slavin wore referring to a period in the early seventies. "How old are you, my man?" inquired His Royal Highness. "Forty-five, Sir," was the prompt reply of the ex-pugilist. The Duke smiled and turning to the Colonel of the regiment said, "It shows a fine spirit when men will tell lies about their age in order to get overseas." Slavin has a son twenty-four years of age who is going over with the next lot from Victoria.

James J. Hill.—It is said that the King of Belgium has asked James J. Hill, the famous railroad magnate, to take charge after the war of the re-building of Belgium. In many respects this choice is the best that could be made. King Albert has first hand knowledge of "Jim" Hill's capabilities because he visited him and travelled for a time over the Western States covered by Hill's railroads. Hill is one of the railroad men Canada sent to the United States in exchange for the half dozen or so outstanding transportation men we secured from our neighbors. He was born on a farm near Guelph, Ont., 78 years ago. As a young man he went to St. Paul, Minn., where he engaged in the steamboat business. He soon saw the possibilities of railroad transportation in the West and organized a syndicate which secured control of the St. Paul and Pacific Railway, then in the hands of a receiver, and the bonds of which were largely held in Holland. In this work he became associated with Lord Strathcona, Lord Mount Stephen, and Mr. R. B. Angus. Hill is not only a great railroad man, but is a keen student of economic and industrial conditions. The development in the Northwestern States is due very largely to his efforts and for this reason and also owing to the fact that he is an able organizer, a shrewd judge of men and to an unusual extent has the affection of all his subordinates of the re-building of devastated Belgium.

Mr. George W. Kyte, M.P., whose sensational charges against the Shell Committee have brought about the appointment of a Royal commission, is member for Richmond, N.S. He was born at St. Peters, N.S., some thirty-two years ago and educated at the University of St. Francois Xavier, Antigonish. Kyte is one of the ablest of the younger members on the Liberal side of the House. He was only elected to the House of Commons some eight years ago, and has already made a prominent place for himself.

Private Lennox Robertson, a seventeen-year-old Bishop's College student, joined the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles a year ago. At Valcartier last summer he saved a comrade from drowning. A few days ago at the front he repaired wire entanglements under heavy fire, and in other ways so conducted himself that he has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. He is a son of Dr. Robertson, of Lennoxville, P.Q.

Osler and Hammond.—The firm of Osler and Hammond, brokers of Toronto and Winnipeg, have made a remarkable contribution to the fighting forces of the Empire. From the Winnipeg office thirty-two members of the staff have donned the khaki, while over half of the head office at Toronto are also doing their bit. The list of men who have gone to the front includes Lt.-Col. G. T. Chisholm, a partner; Capt. Franks, another partner; Majors E. F. and Hugh F. Osler, sons of Sir Edward Osler, M.P.; Lieut. George Lynch, and also Lieut. Frank J. Smith, who is now a prisoner in Germany. The remainder of those who have enlisted held minor positions in the employ of the firm.

Lt.-Col. J. A. Dansereau, in command of the 69th Battalion (French Canadians) now stationed at St. John, N.B., has just had his battalion brought up to strength by securing a draft from another French Canadian regiment in Montreal. Lt.-Col. Dansereau has already done his bit at the front. He went over with the first contingent as an officer of the 48th Highlanders of Toronto, and was wounded at the Battle of St. Julien. Some time ago he returned from the front and was given command of the 69th. He is a son of the managing editor of La Presse, was born in Montreal and educated at the Royal Military College, Kingston. He is one of the youngest officers in Canada in command of a battalion.

The Kaiser is evidently determined to be his own Chancellor. According to the latest rumors he has quarrelled with Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg and the Chancellor is shortly to retire. When the Kaiser came to the throne Bismarck was the Imperial Chancellor, but the hot-headed Kaiser found the man of blood and iron to have a mind of his own, so he got rid of him at the earliest possible moment. Others more pliant succeeded Bismarck until Prince Von Buelow held the reins of power for a few years. He, too, found it impossible to work with the Kaiser and quit, and for the past few years Von Bethmann-Hollweg has been in charge of the German ship of state. He is an old college friend of the Emperor's and possesses considerable ability, but he is now going the way of his predecessors. The probabilities are that the Kaiser will now be looking for scapegoats on whom to place the blame for the German defeats and will prefer to sacrifice his chancellors and advisers to his own head.

Lt.-Col. Lorne Ross.—While the warmest praise should be showered upon men who enlist for overseas service the real praise should be reserved for men who have been overseas, who have been wounded and then go back to have another "go" at the Huns. Lt.-Col. Lorne Ross, in command of the 67th (Western Scottish) Battalion of Victoria, B.C., is a case in point. He went overseas with the first contingent as second in command of the 16th Highland Battalion from Victoria. He was wounded twice in one day, the last time having his right arm badly shattered. On his return to Canada last summer he was given command of the 67th and recruited it to full strength in less than five weeks. Col. Ross was born in Montreal, educated there and spent the greater portion of his life in the Canadian metropolises. Some half dozen years ago he went West and settled first in Saskatoon and later in Victoria. He obtained his first military experience in the 13th Scottish Light Dragoons, a cavalry regiment in the Eastern Townships. He is a keen soldier and one of the most likeable chaps that ever donned a uniform.

It is only a few years since the Rhodes Scholarship was inaugurated, and consequently only a comparatively few men have been able to take advantage of the course, but there have been no fewer than one hundred and sixty-seven scholars and ex-scholars who have enlisted in the present war. Of this number six have been killed in action, the men being from South Africa, New Zealand, Western Australia, Rhodesia, and two from Jamaica. Another Rhodes Scholar man from Australia has won a D. C. M., while several others have been wounded and are prisoners. Forty-two Rhodes Scholarship men from Canada are now serving at the front.

Major-Gen. Sir George Younghusband.—It used to be said that South Africa was the graveyard of military reputations. It now looks as if Mesopotamia would usurp that place. Major-Gen. Sir George Younghusband has just been given command of the British forces operating in the Valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates succeeding Sir Percy Lake, who was only appointed to the position a few months ago. Lake in turn succeeded Sir John Nixon. The new head of the British forces in Mesopotamia comes of a distinguished family. He was born in India and, like his brother, the explorer, is thoroughly familiar with Britain's Oriental possessions. Both his father and grandfather distinguished themselves as generals in Indian warfare. Sir George himself has seen service in the Afghan War, the Egyptian War, the Sudan War, the Burmah War, and a half dozen Indian frontier wars. He was severely wounded in South Africa.

At a time when the United States is looking for presidential timber additional interest centres around the part played by the various states in providing the country with presidents. Virginia in the olden days held first rank as a recruiting ground for presidents, but in recent years it has been supplanted by Ohio. That state now claims the additional honor of being the birth-place of more railway presidents and high transportation officials than any other state in the Union. At the present time four presidents of big railroads were born in Ohio. These are W. A. Gardner, of the Chicago and Northwestern; A. H. Smith, of the New York Central; E. B. Thomas, of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and S. M. Felton, of the Chicago Great Western. The last four presidents of the New York Central, namely, S. R. Galloway, W. H. Newman, W. C. Brown, and A. H. Smith, were all from Ohio. Ohio must correspond to the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

Mr. G. G. S. Lindsey, who was recently commissioned by China to draft up a new series of mining laws for that country, is a well known lawyer and mining man in Toronto. He was born in the Queen City in 1860, and educated at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall. After practising law for a few years he became associated with the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, later becoming general manager and eventually president. When he is not engaged in legal mining matters Mr. Lindsey is playing cricket or writing about the subject. At one stage of his career he went across to England, where he showed the natives how the game should be played and afterwards told all about it in a book entitled, "Cricket Across the Sea." He is also the author of a book, "William Lyon McKenzie," a subject he should know something about as that individual was his grandfather. It is expected that Lindsey's work in connection with the new laws for China will fully occupy his time for the next year or two.

Mr. Thomas Bradshaw.—Toronto has picked a "winner" in securing the services of Mr. Thomas Bradshaw as her city treasurer and financial adviser. Mr. Bradshaw, who has been a member of the stock and bond house of A. E. Ames and Company, is one of the best informed financiers in the country. He was born in England in 1863, and educated at the Manchester Grammar School as an insurance actuary. He came to Canada as a young man and entered the insurance field, specializing in actuarial work, in which he became recognized as an authority. In turn he has been with the North American Life, the Imperial Life, of which he was vice-president and managing director, and lately with A. E. Ames and Company. Mr. Bradshaw, however, does not confine his activities to finance. He is one of the broadest-minded and most progressive citizens Toronto possesses and no movement in the city, social, educational or religious, has a warmer friend than Mr. Bradshaw. One of the Toronto papers in speaking of his qualifications said, "They are those which are blazoned in the city's crest: industry, intelligence, integrity."