

BERT DICKS DESCRIBES LIFE IN TRAINING CAMP

Setting Down to Business and the Newfoundland Volunteers Can Hold their Own With Any

SALISBURY PLAIN
VERY BUSY PLACE

Our Lads Are Camped Near the Canadian Contingent Amongst Whom Are Many Newfoundlanders

It is not easy to dissociate the name of Bert Dicks from the Church Lads' Brigade. Ever since its inception here he has been a leading member, and of late years no event in connection with the corps would be carried on without his assistance.

An indefatigable worker he was a whole team in himself in such matters as bazaars outings or camp.

Many of his friends who attended the big bazaar this week realized that if he were not present his thoughts were there.

Bert is now at Salisbury Plain with the Newfoundland boys and his many friends will be pleased to know that he is well.

Letter Received.

The following letter was received from him yesterday by a member of our staff.

We publish it because we know that hundreds will be delighted to read it.

Pond Farm Camp,
Salisbury Plain,
England, Oct. 23, '14.

Dear R.—Thought I would scribble you a couple of lines.

We had a lovely run over. The weather was grand also during our stay at Devonport.

The Color Sergeants and Sergeants had an afternoon off at Devonport. We put in a few busy hours. Had not much time to see the place. It is a nice spot and I think would be delightful in summer.

At Devonport.

The Sunday afternoon we were at Devonport the Contingent landed and had a march round the town.

We left the ship about 3 p.m. on Tuesday last and marched to the G. W. Ry. station at Milbay.

We were ahead of our time so the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the 5th Battalion Devonshire Regiment (Territorials) gave us the use of their quarters and served tea and refreshments.

We entrained about 7 p.m. and the run up country was most enjoyable.

At all the stations we stopped numbers of people were on the platforms and gave us fruit, sandwiches, chocolates, etc.

Were Very Kind.

They were very kind and gave us a hearty greeting indeed. As the train ran through the towns the people cheered and waved their handkerchiefs, etc., from streets and houses.

We reached Putney station about midnight and started right off for the camp, where we arrived about 2.45 a.m. The men of the territorials had prepared us a meal and after rubber sheets and blankets were served out we turned in about a quarter to five, and were awake again about a quarter of ten.

The next day was splendid and warm.

Surprise Visit.

We were paid a surprise visit by the Rev. J. Bell who happened to be in this direction and came and looked up the boys. He was a welcome visitor to many of his old friends. He looks well and seems as keen as ever.

We are gradually settling down to business and I am pleased to say I believe our boys can hold their own with any of the others.

I am enclosing a map of the district. You will see some of the camp sites marked.

The Plain is a great place for this game. It is a busy spot just now.

Supply Base.

Yesterday and today I had to go to West Down North for rations. The Army Service Corps have their supply base established there and it is a busy spot. A constant theatre of motors, traction engines, and transport wagons are on the move there. It is about four miles from our camp.

Just off to our right and separated by a large clump of trees, there is a large camp of Canadians. It is also a part of the Pond Farm Camp.

Sunday, Oct. 25th.—You will notice I have had to have a second go. I was interrupted as I was at this on Friday night, when we had to turn out a picket to go down to one of the nearby villages. This is about the first chance I have had to get at it again.

Some Visitors.

We have had several of the Newfoundland boys, belonging to the different Canadian Regiments over to see us. Jack Ash, Jim Adams, Ted Tur-

FOUND BRITISH FOLK THE BEST OF FRIENDS

Ladies Gave Our Volunteers Many Little Gifts and Promised to Send Them More

Private John Readigan writes another interesting letter to his parents from Salisbury plain. He says they are getting on fine. Time goes quickly there.

While on the way to the Plain they received many kindnesses from the British people, especially the ladies.

They asked for the names and addresses of the soldiers and promised to send them socks and other little necessities which would be helpful.

"Jack" promised to correspond with three, so that his spare time will likely be fully taken up.

He also tells of the inspection of Lord Roberts. He had the pleasure of seeing one of the greatest dreadnoughts afloat, the Tiger, built this year.

The Plain is 10 miles square. It is a pretty place with bunches of trees dotted here and there. Two hundred and seventy thousand men are in training at present.

The next letter he writes, will be from London, as he is going there when he obtains leave.

Tom Carroll is in the camp with him still. They have mattresses and floors in the camps and have been supplied with extra blankets, so they are comfortable.

Walsh (of the West End), and this afternoon Gus Snow and Billy Skeans are over. The two latter are in the Grenadier Guards (Montreal), and are camped at West Down South.

Jim Adams is in the Reserve Park Mounted Infantry. Jim's Uncle (Charles Adams) you remember he was in St. John's about eight years ago, is Major in the same corps. Several others whom I don't remember have been over.

Some Distance Apart.

The camps are quite a distance apart and the weather has been so beastly wet that one can not with any pleasure squeeze in a trip. As far as the Color Sergeants are concerned they generally have enough to do.

We are attached to the 4th Infantry Brigade and are known as the 1st Nfld. Battalion.

Our Commander (that is Battalion Commander) is Lt.-Col. Clegg, of the Canadian Forces. The whole is under the Command of Major-General Alderson.

Lord Roberts There.

He had us on parade one afternoon and made a speech to the men. Yesterday at 12.30 all the Pond Farm Camp troops were drawn up to the left of our camp and Lord Roberts and Col. Sam. Hughes paid a visit.

It was peeling rain at the time so the inspecting officers could only run slowly past the lines and the officers were introduced. I suppose we shall see more of them before we are finished.

It is hard for me to write as Sam is at my elbow rasping out "Tipperary" on the accordion and Stan Penny, Roland's brother is here at the present and Ned Jeffrey has just left us.

Have Khaki Uniforms.

I guess if we get a bit of fine weather we will get into shape in a hurry. We have had our khaki uniforms issued and the bunch look two hundred per cent better.

The officers and N. C. O.'s are the same as at home. Capt. Alexander was in charge during the trip across and was a most popular C.O. with officers and men.

Captain Franklin was ahead of us, spent a busy time here making arrangements for us, and, just as at Pleasantville, the Contingent is indebted to him for his work.

I will close up now. Excuse the scrawl. It was written under most unfavorable circumstances. Tell all our folks we are O.K. and they need not be afraid.

As far as I can see the Nfld. Contingent is as good as the best of the others. It is certainly another score for the Brigades.

BERT DICKS.
The "Sam" referred to at the accordion is of course Sam Ebsary, another C. L. E. Non-Com., who has rendered valuable aid to his Corps.

The Fogota arrived at Seldom at 9.30 and left at 10.

WEATHER REPORT.

Toronto (noon).—Strong winds and gales, verging to west and north, rain and snow today. Sunday fair and colder.

Good Programme For The Patriotic Concert Monday Night

The following excellent programme has been prepared for the Concert which will be given by the members of the C. of E. Cathedral Choir in the Grenfell Hall, Seamens' Institute, on Monday night. Proceeds go to the Patriotic Fund.

- Part One.**
1. Recitation.—Mr. Tom O'Neil.
 2. Song.—"The Scottish Blue Bells"—Miss Gertrude Strang.
 3. Song.—"The Minstrel Boy"—Old Irish air.—Mr. Fred Cornick.
 4. "I hear you calling me"—Miss Marjorie Rennie.
 5. Recitation.—Miss Mary Doyle.
 6. Song.—"Turn ye to me"—Old Highland air.—Miss Marguerite Mitchell.
 7. Violin Solo.—Miss Sybil Johnson.
 8. Song.—"What will you do for England?"—Miss Jean Strang.

- Part Two.**
1. Song.—"To Music" (Schubert)—Miss Myrtle Williams.
 2. Recitation.—Mr. Tom O'Neil.
 3. Song.—"The May Night (Brahms)"—Miss Marguerite Mitchell.
 4. Violin Solo.—Miss Sybil Johnson.
 5. Song.—"Come sweet Morning"—Old French air.—Miss Gertrude Strang.
 6. Recitation.—Miss Mary Doyle.
 7. Song.—"Ma Curly-Headed Baby" (Clutsum).—Miss Jean Strang.
 8. Song.—"A True British Sailor"—Mr. M. A. McCarty.

THREE FUNERALS AT R.C. CATHEDRAL

There were three funerals at the R. C. Cathedral at the one time on Thursday afternoon, namely, Mrs. Caul, John Walsh and Wm. Langmead. Rev. Thos. Nangle officiated. Interments took place at Mount Carmel Cemetery. The funeral directors were Messrs. Laurence, Myrick and Nash.

'Very Severe Attack' of Germans Against British Lines Failed

The Very Flower of the German Army, Including the Prussian Guard Corps, Was Launched at the British and Repulsed With Terrible Slaughter

London, Nov. 14. (Official).—The Press Bureau issued the following tonight: "A very severe attack against the portion of the line held by our first army corps before Ypres was delivered on the eleventh by the Prussian Guard Corps.

The enemy made an effort on this occasion to break our line, which they hoped had already been weakened by attacks on the infantry line.

The facts briefly are as follows: "Our troops were subjected to the heaviest bombardment we have yet experienced, from dawn, for three hours. This was at once followed by an assault in force, carried out by the first and fourth brigades of the Prussian Guard Corps.

It is understood these picked troops had been brought up specially to act against us in order to force their way through points where previous efforts, made by the infantry line, had failed.

The attack was pressed with great bravery and determination, but owing to the gallantry of our troops and their splendid resistance against great odds the attempt to penetrate Ypres was repulsed, but the weight of the enemy's advance enabled them to break through our lines at three points. They were, however, hurled back, and prevented from gaining further ground.

Immense German Losses.

An immense loss has been inflicted on the Germans, seven hundred of their dead having been found in the ground behind our front trenches alone. The casualties suffered by them advancing up our line under a direct enfilade fire must have been enormous.

Casualties Heavy.

Our casualties are also heavy. The action of our troops on this, as well as on previous occasions, cannot be praised too highly."

ARE GROWING USED TO HARD WORK NOW

Says "Bob" Grieve, Writing From Salisbury Camp to His People Here

Very interesting letters have been received from R. C. Grieve by his wife, Mrs. Grieve, and his father W. B. Grieve, Esq.

Before the contingent left St. John's "Bob" was considered by officers and men as one of the hardest workers of all the Volunteers.

He now says that nearly all their time is spent at training. At first the work was hard, but practice makes perfect, and it is now easy.

"Bob" is very anxious to get to the front. Endowed with great strength, as brave as a lion, the word fear being eliminated from his dictionary, he is the class of man who behind a gun would strike terror into the heart of the enemy.

Everyone who knows "Bob" is confident that if he ever gets to the front, he will give a good account of himself.

The Earl of Devon sailed at 1 p.m. taking a full cargo and one passenger.

Goodridge's Rosina, Capt. Sinclair, has sailed for Pernambuco with 3600 drums containing 4114 qtls. fish.

W. E. DAVIDSON,
Lieut. Colonel.

JIMMIE COOK WRITES FROM TRAINING CAMP

Newfoundland Lads Doing Well and Getting High Praise From Superiors

"Jimmie" Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tasker Cook, writes his mother an interesting letter from Salisbury Plain. "Jimmie" is one of the youngest of the Newfoundland bunch. He is under the regulation age, but he is such a big, strong, healthy lad, that he could easily be mistaken for a few years older.

He was one of those called out to quell the disturbance in the village a few miles distant.

A number of houses capable of accommodating about forty men, each are now being erected on the training camp.

Everything is going along satisfactorily. The Newfoundland boys are doing well. They pay strict attention to their work. When they receive an order it is carried out promptly and to the best of their ability.

"Jimmie" has enjoyed the best of health since leaving St. John's. He wishes to be remembered to all his friends.

Acknowledgement

The Secretary of St. Patrick's Church Completion Committee acknowledges receipt of two thousand dollars, bequest of the late Edward Cummins, per James F. Parker, Esq., executor.

"Octoroon" Proved Great Attraction

"The Octoroon" was the great attraction at the Nickel Theatre, yesterday, and large audiences attended to see it and were charmed.

The other pictures were splendid also and Mr. Huskins made another big hit.

This evening the pictures will be repeated, and this will be the last opportunity to see them.

The Smart Set everywhere are wearing Checks and Plaids

more this season than for many years.

When a Suit is made like the one we illustrate the effect is very striking, and the wearer feels that she is **JUST ALL RIGHT.**

We show a good assortment of *All Wool Checks and Plaids*, including *Tartans.*

\$1.20, 1.60, 1.80



Ayre & Sons LIMITED.

ROUTINE WORK CHIEF FEATURE

Of Last Night's Session of the Civic Commission—Prescott Street Labor Bill Considered Too High For Work Done

The weekly meeting of the Civic Commission took place last evening.

Mr. Gosling presided and there were also present Commissioners Withers, Morris, Bradshaw, McNamara, and Harris.

The labor bill for repairs to Prescott Street was considered too high for returns given. The opinion of the Council was that proper supervision was lacking.

In future, expenditure in this connection will be considered by the departments to which they refer before being submitted to the full board so that a more intelligent discussion of the matter can be had.

Prospective Purchase.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the purchase of Ryan's property for the purpose of improving George Street reported that they had consulted with Mr. Ryan. They were asked to interview Mr. Trelligan, who has also property that will need to be taken, and will further report next week.

Rev. H. Uphill and others complained of the condition of the road leading from Job Street to the South Side. The matter as to the liability of the R. N.C., whose railway track passes through the street will be referred to the Solicitor, while in the interim, the Engineer will see what can be done to put the road in better condition.

Complaints of Dumps.

The Secretary of the C. of E. Cemetery Committee wrote that the Sanitary staff were dumping matter too near their grounds. The Sanitary Supervisor will be instructed to attend to the complaint.

J. R. Johnson informed the Council that he did not own the building on Knight Street, which was being used as a stable. It was the property of the Country Laundry Co., and had only been built by him. The owners will have to comply with the law and will be notified by the Secretary.

J. F. Calver wrote re a sewer that leads to his house, to repair which he

Lured Enemy On To Bridge Then Blew It Up With Bomb

Instrument of Destruction Was Dropped From French Aeroplane—The few Germans who Crossed the Bridge Were Driven Into the River by Bayonet Charge

Paris, Nov. 12.—The story of an exciting incident that took place near an important bridge over the Oise, not far from Simpnigny, has been received here.

The French were ordered to hold the bridge at any cost. They placed quick-firers, which played havoc for twenty minutes in the German ranks and prevented the German advance. Suddenly the bugle sounded for a French retreat, and the Germans

quickly pursued them over the bridge. A moment later a French aviator, who had been hovering overhead, dropped a bomb which completely destroyed the bridge.

The French then delivered a bayonet charge, forcing the enemy into the river. A pontoon bridge was quickly constructed and the French crossed. They succeeded not only in regaining the lost position, but in establishing themselves in an advanced position at Tracy.

H. J. Stabb & Co. asked permission to lay a narrow sidewalk between their premises and A. J. Harvey's. They will be given permission to lay a sidewalk ten feet wide, as is called for under the Act.

John Calver, Secretary Poultry Association, asked that attention be given the lane leading to the Prince's Rink, as the Association will hold a show at the latter place next week. Referred to the Engineer.

R. Shortall, Waterford Bridge Road made a claim for \$40.00 damages, which had been caused by his cellar overflowing from the city water service. Referred to the Solicitor.

Plans Approved.

G. R. Johnson, submitted plans of two houses to be erected in Fleming Street. Approved, subject to City Ordinances.

J. and F. Davey were given permission to repair house 310 Water St. W. F. Butler submitted plan of new dwelling for Jas. Haw to be built in Topsail Road. Approved.

With the adoption of different regulations and granting requirements to the departments the meeting adjourned at 10.30.

NOTICE

Persons requiring their Books written up and Accounts collected can get same satisfactorily done by addressing all correspondence, "LEDGER," this office.

nov14,31

GRAND CONCERT!

In aid of the PATRIOTIC FUND, By the C.E. Cathedral Choir. Conductor: Mr. A. H. Allan.

IN THE GRENFELL HALL Monday Evening Next (Programme on Saturday.)

General Admission, 30 cts.; Reserved seats, 50 cts. Doors open at 7.30. Lecture to begin at half-past 8 o'clock.

Tickets at Hutton's or on the door.

ALEX. A. PARSONS,
n11,13,16 Sec. Lit. Com.

ports and granting requirements to the departments the meeting adjourned at 10.30.

TO LET

The office lately occupied by Mr. John Syme, Commission Merchant, situate on Water Street West, next to premises occupied by J. J. Mullaly, Coal Merchant. Apply to BAIN JOHNSTON & CO., Agents.—nov14