





October 18, 1917

Camp Notes of Interest to All Ranks

The Clansman

VOL. I. No. 36

Thursday, October 18, 1917

Price 2d

MANY CHANGES MADE IN CAMP ARRANGEMENTS

FOOTBALL TEAM OFF TO

GOOD START IN LEAGUE

The past week has seen many changes in the arrangement of the camp and severa Reserves have gone out of existance through amalgamation. New faces have appeared in various parts of the camp and we find that many of our old friends who were recently sent to the Boys' Brigade are again within shouting distance. Gold bars are in greater evidence than ever before and, in fact their wearers easily predominate.

The Nova Scotia Reserve and the Seaforths have been cast together under the Seaforth rule and the two units which had been strong rivals in musketry, football and baseball, are now one. A regrettable feature of the amalgamation, however, is in the breaking up of Lieut. Arenburg's band, in the organisation of which he has worked so strenuously for the past several months. A number of his men have been taken on the strength of our band, filling vacancies made by a recent draft.

Similar changes were made in the north camp and another band, one of the best in the camp, went out of existence.

The changes, heavy as they were and involving the moving of whole Reserves on the shortest possible notice, were carried out without the least confusion and within a remarkably short time the camp had settled down to regular training as though not a change had occurred.

As we predicted in the last issue our football team is "coming into its own" and in the first two games of the league season they tied with the Saskatchewan Reserve and defeated the Headquarters team.

In the first game both teams played under the most disagreeable circumstances. A strong wind blowing across the field made accurate kicking an impossibility and so thick was the dust at times that the players were invisible from the side lines. In the first period our lads, with the wind in their favour, scored two goals and easily held their opponents scoreless. In the second half, with conditions reversed, the Saskatchewan lads came back strong and kept Steed on the overtime list, scoring one goal in two minutes of play and their second at the end of the game.

In the game with the Headquarters Staff our lads had the best of the argument from the very first and used the old time combination with telling effect. The defense of the Headquarters was penetrated almost at will and when the smoke cleared away the score stood, Seaforths 6, Headquarters 1.

It is probable that the amalgamation of units will cause many changes in the league schedule since several of the teams automatically cease to exist, though no announcement has as yet been made.

Theatre is Popular

The Garrison Theatre is more than popular this week and from the first evening it has been almost impossible to get seats unless they were booked several days ahead. "Seven Days' Leave" is on for the entire week and it is certain that a new attendance record will be made before the end of the week.

The management is certainly fortunate in the class of entertainments being sent here. The drama and comedies have been exceptionally good, while the music hall programs have been up to the usual standard of camp production. Several of the coming plays are now running at the large London theatres and will be produced in the same manner here as near as conditions will permit. The theatre orchestra, in attendance at every performance, continues to earn unstinted praises and adds the finishing touch to the pleasant evening camp entertainment.

Off For France

The Divisional Concert Party will soon be on its way to France, we are informed. The party has given any number of concerts in this and the surrounding districts and have raised several hundreds of pounds for various charities. In addition to this they founded the Happy Valley concert grounds and during the favourable weather of the past few months the gave entertainments to many hundreds of men in uniform and free to all. They appeared at many of the field day sports and other events in which the soldiers were interested.

Their farewell concert was held this week and many scores of their friends were present to see; them for the last time and to wish them success on their trip overseas. The program on the last evening was all that could be desired. The concert was a complimentry one to the members of the company. We wish them every success in France.

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When You Have a Registered Letter

Once upon a time we made a few remarks about the regimental barber, but we believe the postal corporal has him beat a mile. We were told there was a registered letter at the post office for us and we made 200 yards to A13 in ten seconds even-for we were broke and were expecting money. We hoped it would be a pound. The corporal made us go to the company orderly room for our notification card-and while we were gone he beat it to the officers' mess with their mail. When he came back he started to open the desk-then looked at his watch and said he would have to hurry to

catch the outgoing mail. I would have to wait until he got back-I thought I would get at least two pounds. He came back in half an hour and opened the desk. There was my letter on top of the pile and I could just smell that three pounds. Then I had to wait until he entered up the new lot. He next had to go to the orderly room with the official mail-could it be possible that I was to get four pounds? He came back and sat down at the desk with a sigh. Slowly he reached for the registry drawer, quietly inserted the key and skillfully gave it a turn. Cautiously he took out the letters and gave me a suspicious look as he handed mine to me. I tore it open on the double and-my wife wanted three pounds to get the doctor for my mother-in-law.

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ceived an introduction to the pretty daughter? The barber with the funny name may tell us.

How many times is it necessary to go to Grayshott to win another fellow's girl from him—and why did the successful suitor come home with a black eye? Eddie Mc-Isaacs may volunteer information.

Where did the many handsome little presents come from? Sergt. McDonald and Private Antsel both think they were from a sweet little Budd.

Where did the new chair come from in the barber shop and is it true that Sergt. Atkinson uses it for a bed while the rightful owner takes to the bare boards?

Who are the buglers who do their practising in a near-by tea room?

What happens when our own mess is dry and who knows the shortest cut to the hospital mess? The foot tracks look familiar.

Who tried to trade his hat badge for a half penny stamp at the sergeants' mess? What a Lyon of a trade.

What did the sergeant say when he had to mount gard on the evening his best friend went to France? You will have to ask him—the censor wouldn't let us print it.

Did the sergeants think they were dining at some big hotel last evening when nice French-fried potatoes made their appearance on the table? Good thing Sparrow wasn't there.

They Say-

That if hot air was honey a bee hive wouldn't be in it with the barber shop.

That Pte. Bayley hopes to hit the target at the ranges before he comes home—even if he has to stay there till the war is over.

That the army ration does not agree with Sergt. Reid—he lost a pound in three months.

That Sergt. Rhind is looking ahead to another escort duty trip.

That another of our lads is soon to be married. The only thing lack sent of the girl and her parents.

That the pipe band is having a great old time at Epsom. Scotch, boys?

That Sergt. Holland's brother wants to know why Murdock doesn't wear the kilt,

That this rainy weather is h- when place to go.

you have a date with a peach and no where to go but to the show—and you're broke.

That if patience bought a pass to heaven Bandmaster Williams would have been an angel years ago.

That Sergt. Rainford has regained his reputation of getting more letters than any man in the unit.

That Roy Travers seems down hearted these days.

That the tailors were busy for a whole week making dresses for water bottles.

That Stanley Steed has lost some of his "pep" on the foot ball field—but we don't believe it.

That "Bill', wishes there would be another wedding.

That the Garrison Theatre is a good place to go.

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Stories Overheard

One of our prominent N. C. O.'s is said to have been the partner of a winsome little lady at a whist drive recently and together they won the consolation prize. Seizing her partner by the hand the fair one drew him across to where her mother sat. "Oh, mummy, I got the booby," she cried. "Well, my daughter, come and kiss me—both of you."

A young corporal, whose name it would hardly be fair to mention, was recently on week end pass at the home of some friends near here. Sunday evening there happened to be a scarcity of chairs, so he seated himself and took the friend's little brother on his lap. Presently the entire gathering was brought to attention by the younsdter saying to his partner on the cnair, "Am I as heavy as Mabel is?"

The profound truth that to-morrow never comes, and yesterday, although it is always passing, has never been with us, has led one of brilliant minds to express himself thusly:

"Although yesterday today was to-morrow, and to-morrow to-day will be yesterday, nevertheless yesterday tomorrow would be the day after tomorrow, because today would be tomorrow yesterday, and tomorrow will be today tomorrow. or would have been the day after tomorrow yesterday."

A private once stepped up to the paymaster's desk and, being on restricted pay was handed a single ten shilling note which was rather the worse for wear. "Afraid of microbes?," asked the paymaster. "No, sir. No microbe could live on this pay," came the ready answer.

An old lady, walking in a garrison town with her soldier nephew. was startled by the sound of the sunset gun. "Dear me, what was that," she exclaimed. "Oh, only the sunset," replied the nephew. "Well, well, I never knew it went down with such a bang as that," she said, "but then I live in London and there are so many other noises."

One man's definition of a dry subject— A mummy.

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THE CLANSMAN

Published weekly in the interest of the Canadian Highlanders in England and France, by the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada.

Captain C. E. MILLER, Censor Sgt. H. F. Davis, Editor and Manager

EVERY LITTLE MOVEMENT

"Every little movement has a meaning of its own," and the words of the popular song are probably better illustrated in the army than most of us realise. The salute, used by us a hundred times daily, is a simple little motion, yet behind it lies a meaning so broad and important that it has come to be regarded as one of the most important of disciplinary training. Through it we pay compliment to the authority of those above us and, through them, to the King and the Country which we serve.

The many little movements which we go through each day in our physical training seem of no consequence, yet they serve to keep us fit and to harden the muscles for the work which they will be called upon to do when we enter the firing line. The long route march, so tiring at first, becomes easier with each succeeding journey until at last we forget the fatigue of the early days and return to camp with the same easy stride with which we leave.

The work in the preliminary musketry may not be impressive, yet through it we are taught the care and the handling of the rifle. This is further enhanced by the work at the ranges, where the actual use of the weapon is brought to an efficient stage.

Our platoon drill, regarded often as the most monotonous of all army training, has a deeper meaning than most of us can appreciate, for it is in this branch of the work that we get our first lessons in discipline

through which a straggling mob may be turned into a highly effective fighting force. No one of these branches will win the war, yet each is essential to the other and plays a highly important part in the combination which is out for victory. The good soldier is the man who takes these departments of military taaining to heart? and who tries to excell in each.

We cannot but appreciate the good work being done by the Navy and Army Canteen Board in providing the different camps with high-class amusements. Their efforts along this line will all the more highly commended during the approaching winter months, when the boys in khaki will be only too glad to remain in camp during the long, cold evenings. The system of running two performances each evening aud of issuing late passes for the last show is also to be highly praised, for with but one performance a night few would be able to find accommodations.

Sir Douglas Haig has been giving Fritz music lessons on the Western front with startling rapidity recently. A man just home on leave tells us that things are looking top hole and that the spirits of the men were never better than they are today. A long list of successful advances with but few minor reverses have given the lads no end of confidence and they are going ahead by leaps and bounds.

While in Aldershot last week we met a number of American troops, breaking their journey to France by a few days of sight-seeing. The Sammies are more than anxious to get into the firing line and, from the way we sized up the few we met, they will a good account of themselves. They are most enthusiastic over the reception they are getting over here.

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Some of our "Weisenheimers" have had the nerve to spring the following one day recently: If there was an eight cornered room, with a cat in each corner, seven cats in front of each cat and a cat on each cat's tail, how many cats would there be in the room? Perfect silence and then the answer, "Eight cats." We suggest twelve years F. P. No. 2.

Another wag has said that the only ready-made article Sergt. Saunders can get to fit him is an umbrella. The cruelty of some people.

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Personal Notes of Interest

Captain Thompson was delighted yesterday when he received a souvenir extraordinary through the post in the form of a Canadian flag which he had found in a captured German dug-out. The relic had evidently fallen into German hands during an attack but was retaken by the captain's party.

Captain Kent, for some time acting as second in command of this unit, has been appointed chaplain. Lieut. Rae has been made chaplain of another well known unit.

We met Cadet McFee in Aldershot recently. The former C. S. M: of D company has evidently been living on the fat of the land for we never saw him looking better. He has been rejected for the flying corps but is now waiting for his commission in the infantry.

A fair maiden of Haslemere informs us that CSM Candaline is in France and retains his rank. Congratulations to our old sporting editor. We wonder what he thinks of the fair ones of France and if he has yet staged a ladies' football game.

R. S. M. McCorkindale, who we sent to France in the last issue, made us a prevaricator by staying in camp another fortnight. Had evidently not fully forgiven us for the words we printed some months ago.

Several of our lads have transferred to the RFC. May good luck attend them and may they never descend too rapidly. For these kind words, however, they will probably some day look down on us.

Quartermaster - sergeant Johnson enjoyed a week-end pass last week. When we saw him hitting for the train we wondered what use he had for the railroad anyway. The pace he was setting had the London & Southwestern beat a city block.

Our censor, Captain Miller, is again on command at the ranges. He seems to like the range work and surely knows the road to the targets by this time.

The pipe band is playing an engagement at Epsom this week. It is their first engagement for some time and we may be assured they are making up for lost time. If is also the first time since he landed in England that Pipe Major Hosie was not on hand to play the draft away.

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The Clansman can be sent to any point in Canada for a halfpenny stamp. When you have read you copy, send it home and let the friends read it. Lieut. Sutherland, officer in charge of musketry of this unit, won honours for the battalion last week when he made a record showing in the officers' revolver competition. The musketry staff, under his coaching, has won no end of honours this year and it was the first to win the flag presented by Col. Gunn, D. S. O., for supremacy in their part of the training.

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Miscellaneous Comment

Does Sergt. Bob Albrough know a nice little widow who once resided at Farnham but who is now at Aldershot? He seems to be rather popular at the latter place—and many a fair maid asked us as to his well-fare last week.

What would happen if the long legged cyclist should hit Sergt. Saunders on one of those lightning trips of his? They say he goes so fast he leaves his own shadow behind. True, Pierce.

Some job for the pay staff next week when they will have twice the usual number to hand out shillings to. You have had more though, haven't you Brook—last Christmas for instance?

The battalion post office certainly is a busy place these days. "Amalgamation" is a word the postal clerks always fear. We might add that this is the seventh change each of the forces have faced since coming to this camp.

Who said he never had missed a parade

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Here and There

The war pictures being run at the Haslemere Cinema are far better than we had dared to hope and the men from camp are taking the keenest interest in them. The Prussian guard certainly looked good in the mobolisation scene—but they had nothing over the British Tommy either in the pictures or the actual fighting, as events have proved since the pictures were made.

Our old assistant printer, W. A. Brown, condescends to send greeting to his many friends in camp. From the way he writes Walter is going strong.

Another old pal who sends word that he is still on deck is Stenog. Cobbledick, of Lethbridge Highlander fame. He is with a battalion headquarters at the front and writes to say that the man who thinks an orderly room clerk in the front line is on a bomb proof job has another think coming. His letter would make fine copy, but we certainly would be shot at sunrise if we should print it.

Saskatchewan soldiers have cast their ballots for representatives in Parliament and the result will probably be known in a few days. A neighboring unit is closely watching the outcome of their commander, Lieut.-Col. Cross.

This cold weather is putting a crimp into the tennis players these days.

The Nova Scotia Regimental Depot has once more moved its quarters and is again back in this block. They are harder to keep track of than a flock of fleas, but we'll have them back in line for the next issue.

A certain of our sergeants tells a story of a "tough guy" who punched a hole in a red hot stove with his fist and challenged anyone to beat it. "I beat him though," says the sarge. "I got into the stove and punched the hole out the other way."

Pte. Mullings, formerly on The Clansman staff, is back in the unit again through the amalgamation scheme. We knew he couldn't stay away from our happy home.

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