

No. 14.

Vol. 1.



Canadian Section.

General Headquarters, 3rd Echelon

14	<h1 style="margin: 0;">La Vie Canadienne</h1> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold;">SOUVENIR NUMBER</p>	14
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A MAGAZINE PUBLISHED BY
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« LA VIE CANADIENNE »

CANADIAN SECTION
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It is far from easy for an Editor to always please everyone in the matter of fiction, but however as long as the majority are satisfied I personally do not worry.

The last issue, even though handicapped by the Hoodoo number 13 met with so good a reception from the majority that I feel quite justified in again bucking the minority by publishing Number 14.

In the first place let it be distinctly understood that I refuse to apologize for anything that appears in the pages of this magazine.

It has been a favorite practice of some, after past issues have come out, to say that certain articles were not as they should be. "It should have been written like this" and "This and that should have been mentioned" are favorite sayings of this class of people.

I would draw the attention of these few, yes I am thankful to say there are only a very few, misguided ones, to the notices which have appeared from time to time on the Section Bulletin Board and the requests that appear in every Number of "La Vie" asking for contributions. If these would-be critics thought they knew so much about the subjects why didn't they write the articles

themselves instead of leaving it to some one else, who although not infallible was at least willing to lend a helping hand.

I wish to thank the Members of the Section who have come forward most loyally to help me produce this number. I believe the number will be the best that has yet been published and think that my readers will agree with me.

The leading features are, an article on the "Great War" with an accompanying Map by Major Sir Charles Piers Bt. and "The History of the Canadian Section", illustrated. The remainder of the Magazine needs no special mention as it speaks for itself.

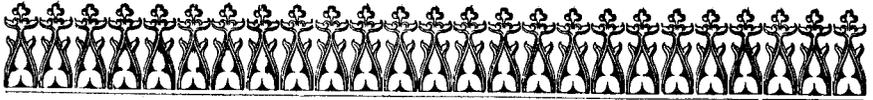


After this issue there will have to be a new Editor for "La Vie" as I am leaving for parts unknown. But I hope that my successor will make a better job of it than I have, anyway he won't have to buck up against the number 13. I always knew that 13 was a Hoodoo number, and now have proved it. for no sooner was number 13 published than the Editor got sent up the Line-so.

Good---by---e-e-----e.

EDITOR.





SYNOPSIS

OF

THE WAR ON THE WESTERN FRONT

August 1st 1914 — September 30th 1918

In July 1914, unknown to the rest of the world, the German War Party gained the upper hand, and in August led the infatuated German people into what they then believed to be, a war of easy conquest. Now, however, that the war is going against them the War Party would fain make the German public and the outside world believe that it was a war of defence into which Germany was forced by the Entente Powers who were jealous of German trade.

The lie, however, is nailed to the mast, still-born at its birth, when it is remembered that it was Germany who put every difficulty in the way of a peaceful solution of the Austro-Serbian difficulty in July 1914, and making an excellent excuse of Russia's mobilisation in defence of Serbia against Austria, issued an ultimatum against Russia on account of her mobilisation, as if it was a *casus belli* against herself.

It was Germany who later forced France to declare war on her, and later still forced Great Britain to take the same action by her wanton violation of the neutrality of Belgium, to which neutrality she herself, with England and France, had been a guarantor in 1832.

Lastly, it was Germany who, two years later, not content with having raised the enmity of most of the civilised world against her self, by her barbarous conduct of the war, forced the United States of America into the contest against her.

AUGUST. — On the 1st of August 1914, the German General Staff, intent on crushing France before her allies England and Russia could come to her assistance, invaded the neutral Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, and the neutral Kingdom of Belgium; for to attack France on her strongly fortified Eastern frontier would have taken too much valuable time.

A pretense was made of asking Belgium leave to march through her territory and a promise was tendered to make good all damage.

In the face of her all-powerful neighbour, all honour be it to little Belgium that she stood up to the great Prussian bully, and at Liege gained invaluable time for the French and British concentration within her borders.

On the 16th of August 1914, the British Expeditionary Force —

toughly 80,000 strong — landed in France. Deducting Line of Communication troops and non-fighting Units, the British put into the Field at Mons, on August 23rd, about 60,000 fighting men.

This little army was commanded by General, Sir John French, and its Corps Commanders were the present Commander-in-Chief, now Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig, and General Smith Dorrien.

The Germans in overwhelming numbers attacked the British and French positions at Mons and Namurs on August 23rd, but owing to the fall of Namurs and consequent retreat of our Ally, the British Force was compelled, after resisting continuous German attacks all day, to fall back, and on the 24th was in full retreat into France.

During the retreat the Germans used every method to turn the British left flank, but were successfully countered on each occasion, notably at Le Cateau, where General Smith Dorrien and the 2nd Corps fought a memorable battle which undoubtedly saved the Expeditionary Force; for he imposed such a check on the Germans that the British wing was able to retire on Compiègne.

The fight at Landrecies by the 1st Corps under Sir Douglas Haig also severely checked the onrushing German hordes. Compiègne, however, was found untenable, so was evacuated on August 31st, and the British and French Armies fell back across the Marne to positions north-east of Paris.

SEPTEMBER. — The Germans occupied Amiens on September 1st and then, blindly imagining that the " contemptible " little British Army — as the Kaiser in his blatant folly termed it, was hors de combat, prepared to smash through between the British and Fifth French Armies, on to Paris.

This move, resulting from their overwhelming contempt for the fighting value of the British Army was the first, and possibly the greatest mistake they have made in the war.

In accordance with this plan, on September 4th, the German right wing under General Von Kluck, changed the direction of its advance and turning east exposed its right flank to the waiting and eager British Force.

There was also another element of danger of which the Germans seemed to have been unaware, or willingly disregarded, namely, that a freshly formed French Army, the Sixth, had come up on the British left.

Le Père Joffre — the Generalissimo of the French Armies and afterwards Marshall of France — seized the opportunity and the British, and the French 6th Army struck at the exposed German flank and commenced to drive it back north-east of Paris. On the 9th the British crossed the Marne and the Allies forced the Germans to retreat.

In the meanwhile the 1st, 5th, 9th, 4th and 2nd French Armies were fighting hard to the north-east of Paris, and valiantly held the Crown Prince and his hordes in check while the German right and centre

were forced back on the Aisne, across which river they were driven on the 14th September, and fighting on a front of about one hundred and seventy-five miles, still continued to fall back. The German retreat stopped on a strongly prepared line beyond the Aisne extending south-east, and the Allies dug themselves in. On the 15th the French relieved Verdun and the Crown Prince's Army was forced to retreat. On the 29th the Germans attacked the Antwerp forts.

OCTOBER. — On October 2nd the enemy laid siege to the City of Antwerp, and on the 7th they bombarded it. On the 8th the Belgians and British evacuated the City which fell into the hands of the Germans. Lille was occupied by them on the 13th and Ostend threatened, and the Belgian Ministry moved to Havre. On the 14th, the First Canadian Division landed in England.

The position on the Aisne had now become a deadlock so the British Force was transferred to Flanders, and on the 14th the race to the north was in full swing. Ypres was occupied by the French and British troops, who were trying to turn the German right which was being pressed backwards into Flanders.

The Germans now commenced their dash for Calais. On the 15th they occupied Ostende and advanced on Dunkirk and Calais, but were held by the Allies. The 20th saw the commencement of the battles for Calais and the Channel ports. Heavy fighting took place near Dixmude and La Basse, and the Germans occupied Roulers. On the 25th they crossed the Yser, but at Ypres were driven back after five days desperate fighting by the British in the first Battle of Ypres. On the 30th the French drove the Germans out of Lorraine and the Allies occupied Lille. On the 31st the Germans unsuccessfully resumed the Offensive in Flanders.

NOVEMBER. — On November the 4th, the Germans made an enormous concentration between Ypres and the River Lys, which resulted on the 9th in a renewed offensive which was repulsed by the Allies. Fighting continued till the 18th, when the Allies remained in possession of their positions in Flanders, thus ending the first Battle of Ypres.

In the middle of November Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry landed in France and were soon engaged in the fighting in the Ypres area, where they distinguished themselves at St. Eloi.

DECEMBER. — On December 5th the Germans retired to new positions east of Vermelles. The 11th and 12th saw unsuccessful German attempts to break the allied position at Ypres. On the 15th the Allies assumed the Offensive and captured the German positions from Hollbecke to Wyteschaete, and south of Ypres drove the Germans back on Klein Zillebecke.

Between the 19th and 30th, the Allies gained ground and strengthened their positions around Ypres. On the 31st the French gained a success in Alsace. The war in the West now entered on the stage of regular trench warfare.

1915

The winter of 1914-15 was a dogged struggle for the Allies with too few men to hold their water-logged trenches, not only against the inclemency of the weather, but against the enormous superiority of the Germans in men and munitions.

JANUARY.— On January 4th the French gained a success in Alsace, and on the 8th there was renewed heavy fighting a near the coast in Flanders, which ended in a success for the Allies on the 17th near Nieuport.

On the 26th — the Kaiser's birthday — the Germans made desperate attempts against the Allies at Ypres, La Basse, in the Argonne, and in the Woeuvre, but without success.

FEBRUARY. — On February 6th a conference was held at Paris at which Great Britain, France and Russia agreed to pool their financial and military resources. On February 9th the Canadian First Division landed in France and proceeded into the Ypres Area.

On the 28th Germans first used liquid fire against the French.

MARCH. — March 10th the British assumed the offensive and fought the Battle of Neuve-Chapelle in which they stormed that village and came within an ace of breaking through the German line. Here the Indian Division which had landed in the previous Autumn, distinguished itself.

APRIL. — On the 9th of April the Allies opened their summer offensive and stormed Les Eparges. On the 19th the British captured Hill 60 near Ypres. On the 21st the Germans made a surprise attack at Ypres, known as the Second Battle of Ypres, in which they used poison gas for the first time. Here the Canadian First Division received its baptism of fire, and laid the foundation of its future reputation as a fine fighting division. The Allies were forced back on the Yser Canal where they took up new positions.

MAY. — On the 5th May, the Germans by the use of gas recaptured Hill 60, but the position was regained by the British on the 6th. On the 8th the British First Army attacked between Bois Grennier and Festubert and advanced towards Fromelles. The French also advanced towards Carnoy. On the 10th the French and British assumed the Offensive north of Arras and north-east of Neuve-Chapelle. On the 13th the German made desperate counter attacks against which the French lost ground slightly, but the British retained their positions around Ypres.

On the 15th The British and Canadians attacked at Festubert and captured the German line over a two mile front. On the 28th the French gained a great success in the Souchez District.

JUNE. — On June 3rd the Canadian First Division captured the German trenches at Givenchy. On the 6th the French captured the famous " Labyrinth " north of the Aisne. On the 13th the Germans

carried three lines of French trenches south west of Arras. On the 16th the British captured the German trenches on a thousand yard front at Hooge, and also made an advance at Festubert. On the 30th the Germans attacked in the Argonne, but were repulsed by the French.

JULY. — By July 2nd the Crown Prince's attacks on the French in the Argonne had completely failed.

AUGUST. — On August 9th the British gained a success at Hooge.

SEPTEMBER. — September 18th, the Second Canadian Division landed in France, and joined the First Division in Flanders. They took over a section of trenches from Wulverghem to Le Clytte.

Early in September 1915 the Canadian Corps was organized, with an establishment of two Divisions, Corps Artillery, etc., and Corps Troops under Lieut.-General Alderson. The Divisional Commanders were Major-General Currie and Major-General Turner, V. C.

On September 25th the British fought the Battle of Loos and gained further success at Hooge. At Loos, the British captured the village and gained ground near Hulluch.

Commencing on the 25th the French attacked in Champagne on a twenty-five kilometre front from Souain to Beausejour. The hard fighting, which lasted until October 3rd resulted in the re-occupation of forty square miles of territory and the capture of 25,000 prisoners.

OCTOBER. — On the 15th the French captured the heights of the Hartmannsweilerkopf in the Vosges. Desultory fighting continued to the end of the year, resulting in a renewal of trench warfare.

DECEMBER. — On December 15th 1915, Field-Marshal Sir John French resigned the command of the British Armies in France and was succeeded by General Sir Douglas Haig.

1916

On January 28th the Germans assumed the offensive and carried two miles of French trenches at Frise on the Somme, but failed in their attack on the British at Carnoy. In February, the Third Canadian Division, under command of Major-General Lipsett, of which Units had commenced to arrive in France in September 1915, was completed by the arrival of the 9th Brigade.

FEBRUARY. — On February 15th the British lost the trench International near Ypres. At Verdun on the 23rd, after a two days violent bombardment, the Crown Prince launched his great attack. After the first two days, the Germans only made slow progress in the face of the French tenacious resistance, and it was not till the 26th that they managed to penetrate into the fort of Douaumont. It then became apparent that Verdun could not be rushed as the Germans had hoped, so towards the end of April their furious attacks died down. From the 4th to the 30th of May they again attacked with about twenty divisions,

and succeeded in cutting off the fort of Vaux which they finally took on June 7th. They then pressed into the breach made by the fall of Douaumont and Vaux, and advanced on the second line positions of the fort of Souville and the work of Thiaumont. This latter work was stubbornly defended by the French and it was not until the 4th of July that the Germans held it, after capturing it for the fourth time. Two months of bitter fighting for this second position practically ended the German offensive on Verdun and on the 29th September the Crown Prince gave up the attempt. On 24th October the French counter attacked and retook Thiaumont and Douaumont, and finally finished the Battle of Verdun on November 2nd by recapturing the fort of Vaux.

MARCH. — On March 2nd the British, near Ypres, retook the International Trench. Early in March, the Canadian Corps, with a strength of three Divisions and Corps Troops, moved into the Ypres Salient and took over the trenches in front of Hooge to St. Eloi.

On the 27th, the British captured the 1st and 2nd German trenches at St. Eloi.

MAY. — On May 21st the Germans captured 1,500 yards of the British trenches on Vimy Ridge.

JUNE. — On June 3rd, the Germans, by a surprise attack, captured the trenches held by the 3rd Canadian Division in front of Hooge and Mount Sorrel. These trenches were recaptured on the 13th by a composite Brigade of the 1st Canadian Division.

In the middle of June, Lieut-General Sir Edwin Alderson resigned the command of the Canadian Corps and was succeeded by Lieut-General Sir Julian Byng.

On the 29th there was a renewed activity all over British Front.

JULY. — On the 1st July, the British, in order to relieve the German pressure on Verdun, in liason with the French, commenced the Battles of the Somme, and advanced on a 25-mile front, the French at the same time advancing south of the Somme. On the Somme, the allies with varying successes, gradually pushed the Germans back and on July 16th broke through the third German line, capturing many prisoners. The French on the 20th widely extended their gains north and south, taking many prisoners.

AUGUST. — About the 11th of August the Canadian Fourth Division under command of Major-General Watson, landed in France and joined the Canadian Corps in the Ypres Salient. On the 15th the King ended his visit of about a week to his Armies in France. At the end of the month, the Canadian Corps, less the 4th Division, which remained in the Ypres Salient, moved down to the Somme, and was soon engaged around Poziers, where they sustained their fine reputation for hard fighting.

SEPTEMBER. — On September 5th the British made a further advance on the Somme, and on the 9th were strongly counter attacked

by the Germans, who were repulsed, and sustained heavy losses. From the 21st to the 26th the British and French advance was renewed on the Somme.

OCTOBER. — October 1st, the British attacked on the Somme, and captured all the German positions on a 3,000 yard front. From the 8th to the 21st the French and British advanced their positions. The Canadian Fourth Division joined the Canadian Corps on the 10th October, and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions moved up to the Arras Front, leaving the 4th Division, where it remained until the middle of November, when it rejoined the Canadian Corps north of Arras.

NOVEMBER. — The battle of the Somme lasted until the middle of November. In the beginning of the month the Germans with fresh divisions, unsuccessfully resumed the fight. The British had captured the town of Combles, and with the aid of tanks the German stronghold of Thiepval which had for so long defied them.

The Allied line now ran roughly east from the old line north west of Serres, passing south of Miraumont, from there to north of Le Sars on the Bapaume-Albert-Bapaume road, again east passing south of Sailly-Saillisel where the French were fighting, then turned south along the North canal to Biache a suburb west of Peronne, from there south again along the canal to Eterpingy, then turning west passed east of Ablaincourt and Chaulnes and rejoined the old line at Chilly.

The Allies in these series of Offensives, which constituted the Battle of the Somme, recaptured roughly 112 square miles of territory and took about 40,000 prisoners, over 200 guns, besides a great number of machine guns, trench mortars, and other war material. Two novelties were used in these offensives, the Artillery barrage, and tanks by the Allies.

1917

FEBRUARY. — In February 1917, the British advanced up the valley of the Ancre, and by the 24th had turned the Germans out of strong positions from Gommecourt, just east of the old line, east to Puisieux-au-Mont, Irlles, Warlencour and Gueudcourt.

MARCH. — Early in March, as the result of the Somme offensives, Hindenburg decided to shorten his front and fall back on the famous Hindenburg Line. The Noyon-Roye salient was abandoned, and the German retreat on the positions of Vimy, Cambrai, Saint-Quentin and Laon began on the 17th of March. The Allies immediately followed up and meeting with little resistance, Bapaume, burnt and in ruins, was occupied by the British, as also were Peronne and Chaulnes. By the 21st, the last day of their retreat, the Germans had abandoned more than 54 villages, which were occupied by the British, who were now held up by the German defences west of Cambrai and north west of Saint-Quentin. The French, in the meantime, had recaptured Roye, Lassigny, Ham, Chauny, Nesle, Noyon and Guiscard, and by March 19th

were within four and a half miles of Saint-Quentin. They crossed the Saint-Quentin Canal, but on the 21st were held by the Germans who were firmly established on a line from Croisilles through Bestincourt, Roisel, Vermand to La Fere and thence south east to Vailley on the River Aisne.

APRIL. — On April 9th the British fought the Battle of Vimy Ridge which was gallantly stormed by the Canadian Corps. This offensive lasted till the 14th by which date it had extended to the southeast, where General Horne captured the German positions along the River Scarpe up to the defences connecting Athies and Fenchy, and advancing east captured Flampoux. Further south, General Allenby had captured Tilloy and Neuville-Vitasse, Bullcourt, Wancourt, and Henniel. Vimy village was captured, and to the north, the trenches of Loos had been taken and progress made towards Lens by the occupation of the suburbs of Lieven and Saint-Pierre. Here they enemy stopped our offensive by strong counter attacks. In this offensive over 11,000 prisoners were and about captured 100 guns, as well as many machine guns and trench mortars, besides a vast amount of territory.

On April 16th the French commenced an offensive in the Valley of the Aisne, stretching from Soissons to the east of Reims, and forced the Germans to retire on the Chemins des Dames, in which position the French established themselves on the 4th of May.

JUNE. — On June 7th and 8th, The British Second Army assumed the offensive in Flanders and captured the famous Messines Ridge, as well as a considerable stretch of Belgian territory, which was progressively enlarged by driving back the Germans in successive offensives on July 31st, August 16th and September 26th.

On June 9th General Sir Julian Byng gave up the Command of the Canadian Corps, and was succeeded by Major-General, Sir Arthur Currie, with the rank of Lieut-General.

Brigadier-Generals (now Major-Generals) MacDonell and Burstall were given command of the First and Second Canadian Divisions respectively.

JULY & SEPTEMBER. — At Verdun in July and September the French assuming the offensive, finally retook the most advanced positions they had lost.

OCTOBER. — In October the Canadian Corps moved up into the Ypres area and again distinguished itself by capturing the Passchendaele Ridge and Village in the face of determined enemy resistance, and under the worst climatic conditions. On October 23rd the French drove the Germans back on they right bank of the River Ailette, and gained possession of the Plateau of Craonne.

On the 20th General Sir Julian Byng, who had taken over the command of the Third British Army — by a surprise attack, without a preliminary bombardment, but with the use of hundreds of tanks, broke

through a sector of the Hindenburg line to a depth of five miles and to within two miles of Cambrai. Unfortunately, however, the British were unable to hold all the territory gained as the Germans on the 27th counter attacked on both sides of the salient made by the British advance, and by surprise broke through the British positions.

DECEMBER. — By December 5th the Germans had, in the face of stubborn resistance, penetrated three miles in depth on an eight mile front. It now became necessary to retire further in order that the British salient should not be cut off; so a strong position was taken up, which however, unfortunately abandoned over two thirds of the territory previously gained. On this line the Germans were successfully held. In December the Canadian Corps returned to the Arras front.

1918

The positions reached by the Allies in December 1917, were held during the winter of 1917-1918, and until the great German offensives in 1918 which commenced on the 21st March with a drive from east of Arras to La Fere on a sixty mile front in overwhelming force, and in the face of heavy losses, succeeded in advancing about four miles. The objects of this offensive were the separation of the French and British Armies and their defeat before the Americans could arrive in sufficient numbers to influence the course of the war, the capture of Amiens and its lines of railways, thus cutting off the British Lines of Communication. By the 23rd the Germans had broken through the defensive system west of Saint-Quentin and the British had retired about ten miles. The French had now come up on the British fight and were heavily engaged with the Germans near Noyons. Paris was shelled for the first time by three 8-3/4" German long range guns from near Crepy-en-Laonnois, a distance of about seventy miles. On the 26th the British, French and American troops fighting together, checked the German advance west of Roye. To the north, the Germans entered Albert. To the south, the French held the Germans on the south bank of the Oise, east of Noyon. Here the Canadian Cavalry Brigade distinguished itself by holding the road through the wood from Suzoy and Scaucourt. The Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade further north took an important part in the battle on the Amiens-Roye road, and just west of Perone, where they held the Germans at bay, while the British tanks and heavies were retiring from Maricourt. On the 28th the Germans unsuccessfully renewed their attacks on a front of fifty-five miles from south of the Somme to the north east of Arras. South of the Somme the French gained two miles in the Montdidier area. By the 31st the German offensive had been held and all the British positions on the Somme maintained. The French on the Oise repulsed all local German attacks, and held their positions.

The Canadian Corps in the meantime had been holding Vimy Ridge, which, although heavily bombarded, was not attacked. About this time the 1st and 2nd Canadian Divisions went into G. H. Q. Reserve South of

Amiens. This offensive cost the Germans about 525,000 men, and although they gained a vast amount of territory, they completely failed in their objectives. The Kaiser, in order to thrust himself more into the lime light made it known that the German offensives on the Western Front were to be known as the "Kaiser's Battle" thus connecting the present conflict indelibly for all time with his dynasty. A lull now occurred in the battle in which both sides worked to make good their losses in men, guns and munitions.

APRIL. — On April 8th the French withdrew in the Coucy Forest Region. On the 9th the Germans transferred their attention to the north and launched an attack on a front of roughly 20 miles from the La Basse Canal north to Armentières with the Channel Ports and the British Lines of Communication as their objectives. This offensive soon extended north to the famous Messines Ridge and St. Eloi. On April 15th it was definitely announced that the British and French Governments had decided on Unity of Command, and that General Foch had been appointed with the title of Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in France while General Petain was Commander-in-chief of the French Armies of the North and North-east. This important decision was the turning point in the war, though for the moment, its results were not apparent.

By the 16th, our troops, fighting hard and making the Germans pay a heavy price for each mile of territory gained, had fallen back on a line west of St. Eloi, Wytshaete, Messines, and north of Neuve-Eglise and Bailleul, which place fell into the hands of the Germans after a desperate resistance. The line south-west passed through Meterem south west of Vieux-Berguin, west of Merville and Locon, and finally joined the old line near Givenchy. The Germans tried hard to advance west of Merville, but were held on the outskirts of the Forest of Nieppe.

The Allies, conforming to plan, shortened their line in Flanders and abandoned the Passchendaele salient and straightened their line in front and south-west of Ypres.

The Germans turned their attention north, and by the 26th had captured Kemmel Hill after a magnificent resistance by the French. This proved to be the limit of their advance in this Offensive, for although they captured the village of Locon they were soon driven out again by a French counter attack. By the 30th, along the line as stated above, the German offensive was finally held, and this ended the last great German Drive on the Channel Ports.

About the end of April, the Germans, through one of their military writers, admitted a loss of 2,604,961 men on the Western front alone. From the figures given, the Paris "Journal" therefore, estimated that their total losses, from all causes on all fronts, was, now, over 5,000,000 men.

The Germans, exhausted by their two terrific drives, now paused in their Offensive and devoted themselves to concentrating 140 Divisions

or about 1,200,000 men between the North Sea and the Oise. In the meantime the losses in men and guns in the British Armies was made good, and American troops were being landed in France, one convoy alone consisting of 45,000 men. The American Secretary for War stated that there were already 500,000 Americans in France, which number, according to the U. S. A. programme would be increased to 1,000,000 men by the middle of the summer, and 1,500,000 by the end of the year. The Germans, therefore, were compelled to renew the battle while they still maintained the numerical superiority in men ; so on the 27th of.

MAY. — May the Crown Prince, using some 25 divisions, suddenly struck at the French on a twenty-five mile front from Vauxillion north of Soissons to Brimont north of Reims in what was known as the Laonnois Battle. The French Fifth Army under General Berthelot, with whom were the 21st, 25th, and 50th, British Divisions, was forced back from the east end of the Chemin des Dames on Reims. In the centre General Degoutte's Army fighting hard retired on the river Vesle, while to the west of the line General Mangin's Army with some British and Scottish divisions was forced back on Soissons which the Germans occupied.

On May 29th the second bombardment of Paris took place, this time from Guiscard by two 9 1/2" Guns, a distance of 105 kilometres. The Crown Prince's drive was temporarily checked.

JUNE. — On the River Vesle, but by the 4th the Germans had advanced south west towards Villers-Cotterets, and south to the Marne, which river they subsequently crossed but were only able to gain a narrow strip of territory south of the River between Chateau-Thierry, which they occupied, and Dormans, further east. These battles, known as the Marne Offensive finally ended the Crown Prince's drive, as his armies were held east of Villers-Cotterets, south of the Marne, and north west of Reims until the commencement of the Allied counter offensives in the following Month. Thus failed the second German attempt to cross the Marne, with Paris, as previously in 1914, as their objective.

On the 9th the Germans bombarded Paris for the third time, on this occasion from Soissons, a distance of about fifty miles, with long naval 12,6" guns. On the same date the Germans attacked on a 22-mile front from Montdidier to the River Oise, but without much success, except in the centre at Ressons-sur-Matz, where under great pressure the French line was slightly driven in. On the 19th the Germans made their last attempt on Reims with three Divisions, or about 30,000 fighting men, but were everywhere repulsed. Here the Italians, fighting with the French, distinguished themselves. This unsuccessful attack ended the series of German offensives in 1918. On the 23rd it was announced that the Americans had 800,000 men in France, of whom 550,000 were on the battle front, and it was known that reinforcements were daily flowing

into this country. As soldiers, they had already proved their metal, and had forced a wholesome respect of their fighting qualities on the Germans.

The situation at the end of June was an interesting one, for although the Allies had held the terrific German offensives, the first of which had brought them to 8 miles from Amiens, and the last 39 miles from Paris, two of their main objectives, General Foch had scarcely touched his strategic reserves, and further the American forces were daily increasing; still it was known that the Germans were largely reinforcing their Armies, not only with their 1920 class, but owing to the defection of Russia, with released prisoners from that country. The expectant world therefore waited wondering when the next furious drive would come, and where; for it was realised that Germany was compelled to fight on if she wished to gain a satisfactory conclusion before the daily arriving American Forces turned the numerical scale against her.

JULY. — At the beginning of July the Allied line, starting from the North Sea, was held by the Belgian Army, under supreme command of King Albert, from the Coast to the North of Ypres. From Ypres to opposite Peronne, four British Armies were in line, the Second under General Plumer being in touch with the Belgians, with the First Army under General Horne on its right. Then came the Third Army under General Byng with the fourth Army under General Rawlinson on its right in touch with the French Left Army under General Debeney who joined General Humbert's Army opposite Chauny. His right, opposite Ham was in touch with the Army under General Mangin, who extending from the River Oise to the Aisne north of Soissons, was in touch with the Armies of General Degoutte and Berthelot, stretching around the Marne salient to the north-east of Reims. Here they joined General's Gouraud's Army in Champagne who had on his left the First American Army under General Pershing stretching from Verdun around the Saint-Mihiel salient to Pont-à-Mousson.

This, then, was the situation when suddenly, on the 18th July General Foch electrified the World by seizying the initiative and forestalling the threatened German offensive, attacked on the Villers-Cotteret side of the Marne salient. The Germans have never regained the initiative lost on that date and are now never likely to, for the French counter offensive, begun on the 18th July 1918, a date which should ever be dedicated to the Liberty of Mankind, has so developed that the German armies, fighting desperately to avoid disaster, are now, scarcely three months from that eventful day, in full retreat along their whole front; while their Government and those of their allies are whining for peace, to be discussed on the Basis of the 14 Points enumerated by President Wilson in January 1918. The French counter offensive at once proved successful, and the Germans were driven back, endangering their communications with the Marne. The offensive then extended southeast around the Salient to Chateau-Thierry and Dormans, where the Americans and French drove the Germans in full retreat across the Marne.

AUGUST. — Further pressure on their right flank and the capture of Soissons by General Mangin hurried their retreat.

On the 7th after his victory in the Marne salient General Foch was made a Marshal of France.

The Germans by the 8th were back on the River Vesle and their line extended from east of Soissons along the Vesle to north west of Reims. The French then extended their counter offensive north west from the River Aisne to the River Oise with General Mangin's and Humbert's Armies and the Germans were gradually driven back towards Noyon. In the meantime, from Sailly-le-Sec east of Amiens and north of the Somme to Menil-St-Georges on the River Avre north west of Montdidier, the French and British, by minor counter offensives, had improved their positions and occupied a line between these points. On the morning of August 8th the Canadian Corps was on this line with its left just north of Marcelave and its right in touch with the French on the south side of the Amiens-Roye Road which was included in the Corps boundary. On this date the Fourth British Army attacked on a 20-mile front and captured thousands of prisoners, as well as their objectives. On the 10th General Humbert in command of the Third French Army joined in the offensive, and advancing east of Montdidier, captured the Lassigny Ridge. On the 18th the French under General Mangin, attacked on a 16-mile front between the Oise and the Aisne, capturing 10,000 prisoners. This attack was extended on the 20th and resulted in the capture of a dozen villages and a further 8,000 prisoners.

On the 21st the British Third Army assumed the Offensive on a ten mile front between the River Ancre and Arras, and made an advance of between two to three miles in depth. On the same date General Mangin advanced to within 1 1/2 miles of Noyon, while General Humbert captured Lassigny. By the 25th the British Third and Fourth Armies had taken more than 17,000 prisoners and a large number of guns. The Allied line ran from Neuville-Vitasse, just south of Arras, west of Croisilles and Bapaume to Lihons where they were in liaison with the French.

SEPTEMBER.— Between August 25th and September 1st, the Allied counter offensives had extended North, and on the latter date fighting was in progress along a front of nearly 120 miles, and from Ypres to Soissons the Germans were being pressed back by the Allies. The British had captured Bapaume, Peronne, and Mont Saint-Quentin. North of Arras the Germans had been compelled to fall back at Lens, and in Flanders they had retired. There the line now ran from south east of Ypres. Through Lindenhock to west of Estaire, and from there to Festubert, where the old line was reached. The French First Army had crossed the Somme Canal at Epancourt, south of Peronne, Noyon had been captured and General Mangin's army had been slowly gaining ground north of Soissons, in the face of a desperate German resistance to his advance eastwards, towards the Chemin des Dames which would

endanger their position from the River Vesle. On the 5th, this pressure forced the Germans to abandon the line of the Vesle and they fell back on the Aisne closely pursued by the French and Americans. The Germans were now in retreat on the whole front from Ypres to Reims, fightingly desperately to maintain their second line defence positions. On the 12th, Marshal Foch struck another blow at the harassed Germans, for the First American Army under General Pershing attacked on two sides of the Saint-Mihiel salient east of Verdun, and by nightfall had obliterated it from the map.

The French at the same time attacked at the base of the salient, and captured the town of Saint-Mihiel. This attack resulted in the capture of over 15,000 prisoners, and more than 200 guns. By the 15th the Germans pursued by the French and Americans were in retreat on a thirty-three mile front on Metz and Conflans, and the Fortress guns of the former place, came into action. West of the Chemin des Dames, General Mangin had pressed on, capturing the village of Allemant and Laffaux Mill with over 3,500 prisoners. To the North, the allies maintained their pressure and the Germans fell back on Saint-Quentin and Cambrai. On the 25th the Canadian Corps was on the Cambrai front between Sancourt north of Cambrai and the town itself. Here a fresh offensive was launched which resulted in the Germans being driven back on Cambrai and the rupture of this section of the Hindenburg line. Further south the British in liaison with the French were closing on Saint-Quentin, and the French were pressing on to La Fere, and south again on the Saint-Gobain Forest, while General Mangin maintained his pressure towards the west end of the Chemin des Dames Ridge.

On the 26th Marshal Foch extended his offensive and struck on a 40-mile front from the middle of Champagne across the Argonne Forest to the River Meuse, east near Verdun. The French Army under General Gouraud on the right advanced to a depth of several miles and captured the famous Butte de Tahure, while the Americans under General Liggett on a front of 20-miles penetrated the German lines to an average depth of seven, capturing more than 5,000 prisoners and the important towns of Varnnes and Montfaucon. Adhering to the principal of striking the enemy where least expected the Allies Generalissimo now struck a blow at the other end of the line. On the 29th the Belgians in co-operation with the British Second Army, attacked from Dixmude south to Ploegstreet.

The Belgians captured Dixmude, Zarren, Moorslede and the Forest of Honthulst, which Marlborough always maintained was the Key of Flanders, while the British regained the Messines-Wyschaete Ridge, and pushed the Germans back from around Ypres. The Belgians advanced to the Roulers-Menin Road and to a mile from Staden.

On September 30th, the end of an eventful month, the situation was briefly that the Germans were in retreat or fighting desperately to extricate themselves all along the line from Dixmude to the Meuse. In

Flanders the Belgians were close to Roulers, the British had captured Ghelwelt, and were two miles from Menin, an important German Railway centre. Further south the Germans had been pushed back on a line east of Ploegstreet, just west of Armentieres and Fleurbaix to west of La Basse where the Fifth British Army under General Birdwood was pressing them hard. Lens was encircled and from Arleux-en-Gohelle which had been captured by the British, the Hindenburg Line had been broken through and passed as far south as Banteux, south of Cambrai, which town was in flames with the Canadians and British Troops in possession of its western suburbs. The British and French were encircling the western defences of Saint-Quentin, which the Germans might have to evacuate at any time. The French were accros the Canal between Saint-Quentin and La Fere, and close up to the latter town. In the Saint-Gobain Forest the French were pressing the Germans hard, while north of Soissons General Mangin had advanced on the Western end of the Chemin des Dames ridge and was threatening the Germans on the Aisne. Further east, Vailly had been captured and the Germans pushed back to Revillion. In Champagne, General Gouraud had extended his advance to the north east of the River Aisne, and was only a few miles from the railway connection of Challerange, and approaching the town of Monthois. East of the Argonne, General Ligget's Second American Army had advanced and was getting within a reasonable distance of Dun-sur-Meuse, while the First American Army had also advanced, capturing Frenes and Haumont and was progressing towards Chambley, and its heavy artillery had bombarded the German fortress of Metz. Germany, with her morale gone and her armies defeated, was beaten.

September 30th proved to be an eventful day for the Entente Allies, for it marked the beginning of the end and the first break in the unholy alliance of the Central Powers. At noon Bulgaria capitulated. Although this capitulation does not strictly come within the scope of the synopsis, still its bearing on the Western position was all important, and therefore should not be overlooked. Germany had several times in the course of the war been forced into the position of having to decide how far she could strain the breaking point on the Western front to save herself in the East.

On the West she was faced with prospective failure and could but hope to recoup her vast expenditure in lives, material and money from her Eastern conquests. Thus the capitulation of Bulgaria was a double blow, for not only did she stand to lose in the West, but was now threatened with disaster in the East, for Bulgaria's defection cut her off from Turkey, and brought her chances of assisting her Ottoman Allies in their distress down to a minimum. She feared, also, that Turkey, after her defeats in Palestine with Bulgaria as an example would be the next rat to leave the sinking ship. The problem, therefore, before the Imperial Council was which to throw over, the conquered Kingdom of

Belgium and the occupied Provinces of Northern and Eastern France, or her grandiose Eastern Schemes.

Her own position in the West was fast crumbling to pieces, and now she was also faced with defection of her eastern Allies. Her losses were enormous, and according to the French newspapers she admitted a loss of two millions dead.

OCTOBER. — The 1st of October therefore, saw her in difficulties on either front, but her most pressing need was the withdrawal of her Western Armies before the threatening pincers of the Entente Allies could close on them. Her military position in the West was delicate for in the north east of France she only had two converging lines of retreat into Belgium from the pockets into which the Allied offensives had forced her. Her object therefore, was to prevent the Allies from breaking through before she could get back the strong line of the Meuse, and generally to wear out their efforts in continued attacks, as she fell back on positions of which they knew neither the weakness or strength. Could she gain the line of the Meuse in Belgium from the French frontier to the Dutch border, she would shorten her line by 110 kilometres and thus nearly double her estimated reserve of about 30 Divisions and would, with the inclusion of about 150,000 wounded who would return, be able to dispose of about 1,000,000 fighting men, if not more, for the defence of her new line. The adverse factors were her straightened lines of retreat owing to the difficult country to the north and east, and owing to her great loss in motor transport, which made her greatly dependent on the railways, she still held. These lines of retreat in the north east were bounded by the difficult country north of the Scheldt (l'Escaut), cut up by rivers and canals and difficult for the manoeuvring of large bodies of troops which compelled a line of retreat through the open country by Valenciennes and Maubeuge on the Sambre to Namur on the Meuse. Further south, her centre and armies west of the Meuse, were dependent on the lines of railways through Hirson and Meziers to Namur and the line of the Meuse in Belgium. Here on the north east she was shut in by the Forest of the Ardennes with few railways and difficult roads. Tho the east of the Meuse, her line of retreat into German Lorraine, north of Metz, was also bounded to the north by the Forest of the Ardennes and the Neutral Duchy of Luxemburg. The pivot of her line was Metz, already threatened by the American First Army. In addition she was menaced by the rapid advance of the Belgian and British Second Army in Northern Belgium.

Her immediate danger therefore, was the advance of the British Third and Fourth Armies in the region of Le Quesnoy and Solesmes, and of the French and Americans in the Argonne and on the Meuse, which should it succeed in breaking her defence, would cut off the mass of her armies in the centre. She was therefore compelled to resist to the utmost the advance of these Armies which were pressing her hard, in order that her armies in the centre might extricate themselves. To resist the

British advance, the Germans were forced to make a stand on the line of the Escault, for between that line and the Meuse, a distance of 100 kilometres, there was no position on a large scale capable of defence. Besides the abandoning of the line of the Escault meant the loss of Brussels and the mining district of Charleroi of which the coal was all important to Germany in the manufacture of munitions, while at the eastern extremity of her threatened line, the iron mines of Briey and Longwy were also all important. That Germany realized her desperate position and feared she would not be able to withdraw her armies by force of arms is shewn by the peace trick she attempted in October 5th, by which she hoped to gain time, under cover of an armistice, to retire to the line on which she intended to stand. Happily President Wilson, to whom the appeal was made, was not to be influenced by specious arguments, but left the making of an armistice to the Allied military leaders, and so frustrated Germany's peace offensive, and left her to extricate her armies as best she could by the skill of her military leaders.

The position on the 15th was as follows: — The Belgians had pushed their advance to the borders of Thourout, had taken Iseghem, and the British Second Army was within a short distance of Courtrai. The line then bent back to the east Armentieres with the British Fifth Army approaching Lille and closing on Douai. Further south the line ran just west of Solesme and east of Le Cateau, and turning south, joined the French who were close up to Ribemont and had taken Moy and La Fere. Laon had been entered and passed by General Mangin's Army; while further east on the Aisne the French were just west of Rethel. Vouziers had been captured and the American Second Army was fighting in Grand Pre. On the 17th the Belgians, the British Second and Fifth Armies again made a substantial advance. Our airmen reported Ostende to have been evacuated, so a British fleet under command of Admiral, Sir Roger Keyes, steamed in close to the coast, while our airmen landed on the beach at Ostend as the last of the Germans were retreating. A Naval Patrol was sent in and landed Blue jackets and Marines. These, however, had subsequently to be withdrawn so as not to give the Germans an excuse for shelling the town. Later in the morning the Belgians marched along the coast and occupied Ostend, and at 2. P. M. the King and Queen of the Belgians arrived in a British Destroyer and received a great acclamation from their liberated subjects. The Belgian patrols then pushed on to the gates of Bruges, while the French were on the outskirts of Thielt. The British Second Army had captured Courtrai and pushed on to the west of Tourcoing and Roubaix. The Fifth Army had entered and encircled Lille, while further south Douai had been captured and passed. South of Le Cateau, the British, in the face of a stubborn resistance, had advanced towards Wassigny and the French towards Guise. The Americans had cleared Grand Pre and were fighting north east of the town.

On the 20th the Belgians had cleared the whole of the coast line up

to the Dutch frontier, had taken Zeebrugge, thus wiping out Germany's last submarine base on the Belgian Coast. With their left on the Dutch border they had taken Eccloo on the Schipdonck Canal and were up to the outskirts of Ghent. The French had forced the Lys south of Ghent and established two bridgeheads, one between Crammene and Peteghem, and the other at Cyghem. The Second British Army in the face of strong resistance, had crossed the Lys all along its front, and its right had reached the outskirts of Pecq in the Scheldt Valley. Since October 1st, this Army had captured 6.509 prisoners and 169 guns. The Fifth British Army was just west of Tournai, and further south the British had captured Denain and Solesmes, and were nearing Le Quesnoy. Wassigny also had been taken, and the French had captured Ribemont and Sissonne and were approaching Guise and Rethel, while further west they had advanced beyond Vouziers ; while the Americans on the Argonne-Meuse front were slowly, step by step, forcing their way forward in the face of a desperate resistance.

The British Armies alone in August and September 1918 had captured 122.618 prisoners and 700 guns, and our Allies had done as well, if not better. Such was the situation on the 20th October 1918, three months from the commencement of the Allied counter offensives. The change from the black outlook on July 18th was magical. So much had Unity of Command and Unity of Purpose, combined with the pluck and perseverance of their fighting men, done for the Entente Allies. Like them, Germany has made many mistakes in the course of the war, but few as great as her pre-war conception of the stability of the British Empire. She persuaded herself it lacked cohesion and that the Dominions would not support Great Britain in an European War. How great this misconception was, is, alone, shown by Canada's share in the help given to the Mother Land by her Great Dominions and Dependencies, as stated in a well known British Newspaper :

« Canada entered the war with a Regular Army of 3.000 men. At the » beginning of last month (September 1918) it had sent 390.000 soldiers » overseas and 60.000 were in training. Canada has had 43.000 killed, » 113.007 wounded and sick, 2.224 prisoners and 384 missing. Of the » wounded some 40.000 have been returned to the front, and 50.000 have » been sent to Canada. Of 10.000 decorated 30 have the Victoria Cross. »

A magnificent record.

C. P. P.

22-10-18

“ To be concluded ”





HISTORY OF THE Canadian Section G. H. Q. 3rd Echelon



Early in January 1915, when the 1st Canadian Division was making final preparations to proceed overseas, many rumours were afloat at Bustard Headquarters as to what Staff should be allocated to the "3rd Echelon", and who should fill it. Up to this time the term "3rd Echelon" had been almost unheard of, and up to the last moment nobody seemed to have the least idea as to where it was, or what such a formation or place was supposed to do.

Lieut.-Col. G. T. Hamilton, D. S. O. — then Major — was chosen as the Officer to be in charge of this unknown something, and he at once set to work to ascertain what esta-

blishment, staff, equipment, and hundred other things would be required for this work.

Having selected his staff, all were patiently waiting for the time to come "to move", when, to the disgust of all, orders were received from London for an officer only to proceed, which upset all arrangements. From this, it was evidently not intended, at that time, that the Canadian 3rd Echelon should be a unit by itself, but should be incorporated in the British 3rd Echelon.

Colonel Hamilton, knowing that some staff was an absolute necessity, and not being beaten by any reverses, commenced to figure out how his staff could be transported to France, as time did not permit of his obtaining the proper authority. The difficulty was surmounted, however — we will not say how — and a staff of 5, together with a batman and chauffeur, crossed with the Division as the Headquarters Staff of Canadian Section, G. H. Q., 3rd Echelon.

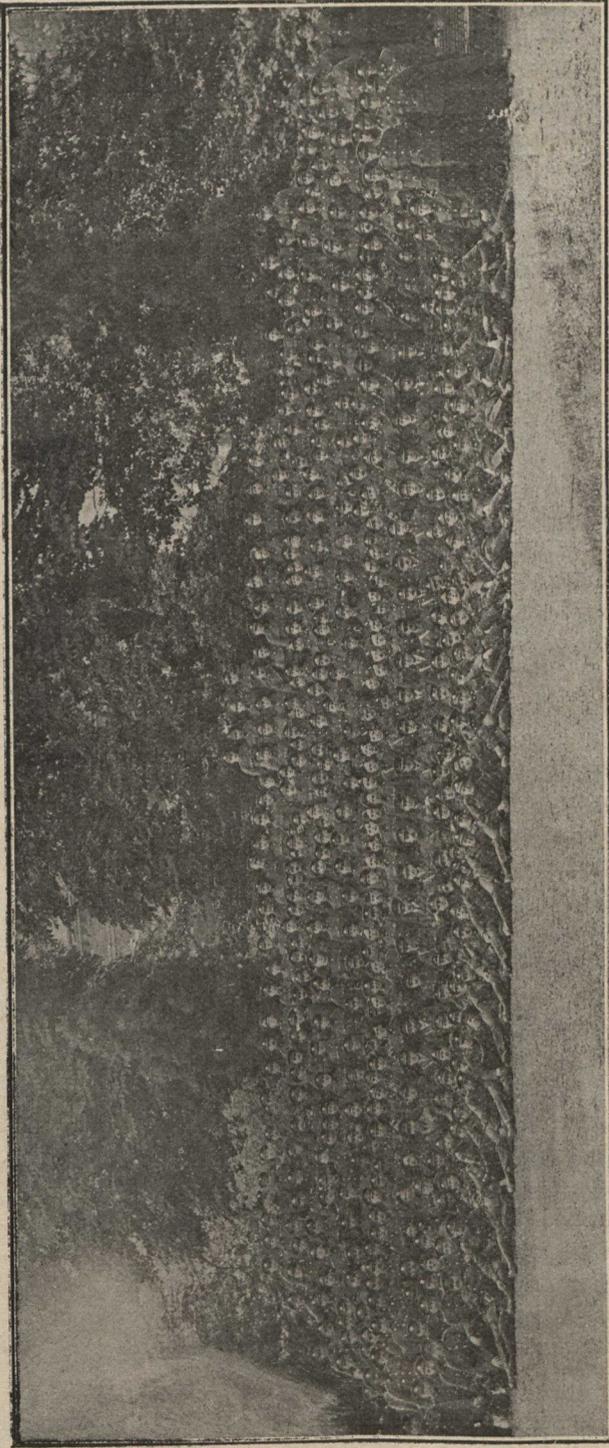


Photo Belleville.

PERSONNEL.

Canadian Section, G. H. Q., 3rd Echelon. 1918.

After disembarking at St. Nazaire on February 12th, 2 days were spent in travelling by train to Rouen. Lieut.-Col. Hamilton arrived by motor car on Feb. 15th, and from that date it may be said that the Canadian Section, G. H. Q., 3rd Echelon, commences, and from that time this Section has always retained its individuality as a self-contained unit.

Orderly Room Sergeants soon began to arrive with the records, and everything else that units did not want, or did not know what to do with, until the total section numbered one officer and 24 other ranks, and these numbers have continued to grow, until today they are something like 23 officers and 400 other ranks, including a padre, doctor, and dentist.

Immediately on arrival the duty of each man was to report to the Adjutant and Quartermaster of the Imperial Echelon and receive a palliasse, a couple of blankets, and an entrance Ticket to the billet in the Rue des Emmurées, and to the dining hall in the Archeveche.

The first scene of activities of the Canadian Section was in a building now used by the Imperials in Rouen, where two rooms were set apart for the Canadians. Smoking was strictly "defendu" as it was feared that some of the highly prized paintings on the walls might be damaged. The first comers will long remember these two rooms where they toiled day and night to put the office on a substantial basis, and where many a laugh was called forth by the numerous funny incidents which always occur in the initial stage of any new undertaking. The fact that the various Field Units had had no previous experience under war-fare conditions, and had a profound contempt for what they termed "red-tape", created an enormous amount of correspondence, which added greatly to the difficulties which are naturally the lot of a new formation. However, the reward for the labour so unselfishly expended, is the Canadian Section as it at present exists, a complete office firmly established on a sound basis, with definite procedures clearly outlined to cover all cases.

At first everybody was quite content with the billet and the bill of fare at the dining hall, but somehow or other the then two Sergeant Majors learned that private billets in "La Ville de Rouen" were much superior to military ones, and by supplication, argument and persuasion, were successful in being released from the billet, and given an allowance of \$1.00 a day in lieu. They were fortunate enough in securing a comfortable room, quite close to the office. However, as it became increasingly difficult for the others to see why the Sergeant Majors should be so favoured, and application after application came up, it was not long before all were in billets of their own.

Many were the devices and systems introduced to cope with the work and to make things easy. It was not an uncommon occurrence for a system, and the arrangement of the whole office, to change in a

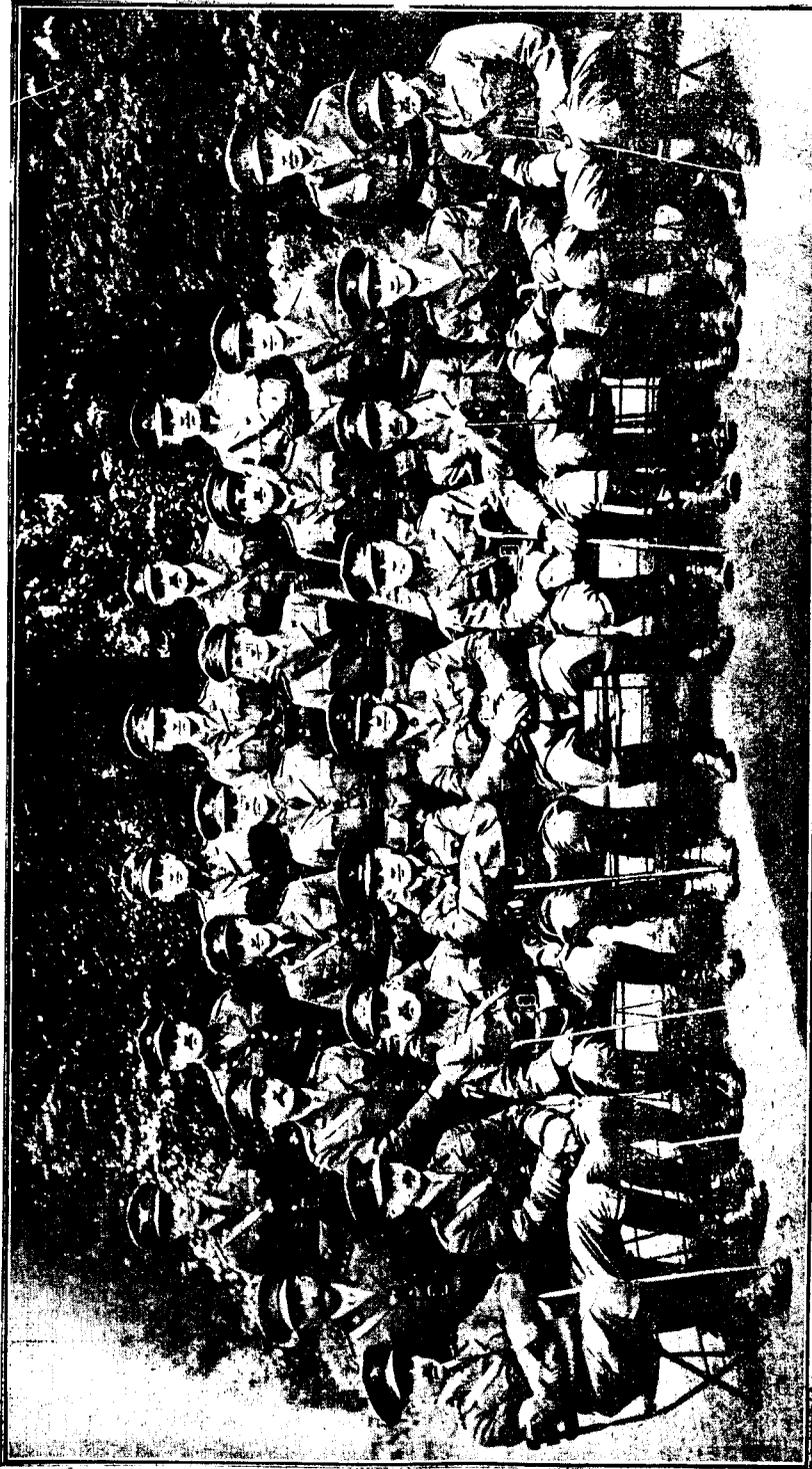


Photo Belleville.

OFFICERS. — Canadian Section, G. H. Q., 3rd Echelon.

FRONT Row (Left to Right) : Capt. C. V. Winch, Major D. Mc Gugan, M. C., Major J. W. Logan, Major G. G. Archibald, Lieut.-Col. A. L. Hamilton, C. M. G., Major F. W. Utton, Major Sir Chas. P. Piers, Bt. Major C. K. C. Martin, D. S. O., Capt. D. C. Skinner, O. B. E. — SECOND Row : Capt. H. A. Christie, Capt. G. K. Ashby, Capt. H. N. Walters, D. C. M., Capt. A. D. Reid, Lieut. C. A. Hewitt, Lieut. W. V. Ross Winter, Capt. C. B. Johnson, Capt. J. B. Walker. — THIRD Row : Lieut. C. B. Maxwell, Capt. B. J. Johnston, Lieut. J. P. Knowlton, Lieut. J. M. Anderson, Capt. K. F. Woodbury, Lieut. G. E. W. Crowe.

night, and in the morning a very perplexed look would be found on all faces in an endeavour to locate their own nominal rolls, B. 103's, etc., and ascertain where they themselves were supposed to be. Although the fundamental principles remain the same to this day, there were one or two little schemes, now forgotten by all except a few, which should not be lost to posterity. One of the earliest systems of keeping track of men was the "Skalliwag" board. Now, a Skalliwag was any man who was not actually with his unit; no matter whether he be dying in a hospital, fretting his life away in a Field Ambulance, or whiling away his time at a Base Camp, he was a Skalliwag. The board itself was about 12 feet long by 4 feet wide. It was divided lengthwise into three inch grooves, running from top to bottom, into which small cards, containing regimental particulars of soldiers, could be placed. Each groove was labelled with the name of a Medical Unit, so that the cards in each particular groove showed the names, etc., of the Canadians in that particular hospital. Moreover, each Canadian Unit had a different colour paper on which to put the regimental particulars, so that at a glance you could not only tell how many Canadians were in each Hospital in France, but you could tell the numbers from each unit. For instance by counting all the pink cards in any particular groove you knew how many men of the 1st Battalion were in such and such a hospital, and by counting all the pink cards on the board, you knew how many men of the 1st Battalion were in Hospital in France. As men moved from one Hospital to another it was the duty of O.R.Cs. to notify the man in charge, known by his comrades as "Creecy", and his card was changed accordingly. The grooves did not hold the cards sufficiently well to prevent them falling out, and it was usual to find them all on the floor each morning. It was a heavy tax on a man's mind to allocate all the cards to their respective grooves, and in case of doubt reference to the O. R. C. was necessary. Certainly the worry of keeping the board in order and continually picking up slips of paper caused Creecy to fall from grace many a time, and some mornings after a restless night, when he did not feel inclined to go around to the O.R.Cs., he just arranged the cards to suit himself, or gave them an extra "shuffle for luck". Shortly after the battle of Ypres, April 22nd 26th 1915, the Skalliwags commenced to be numerous, and the board proved inadequate to accomodate them all. The Canadians not only saved the situation at that time, but unknowingly killed the Skalliwag Board.

On the start all casualties of whatever nature to officers and men were telegraphed to London, which made the telegrams very numerous. In order not to receive complaints from Signals, a man was left on duty to continuously despatch the telegrams every half hour instead of sending them all at once. Finally, however, the signals became aware of the number of telegrams from the Canadian Section, and from then on only officer casualties were wired.

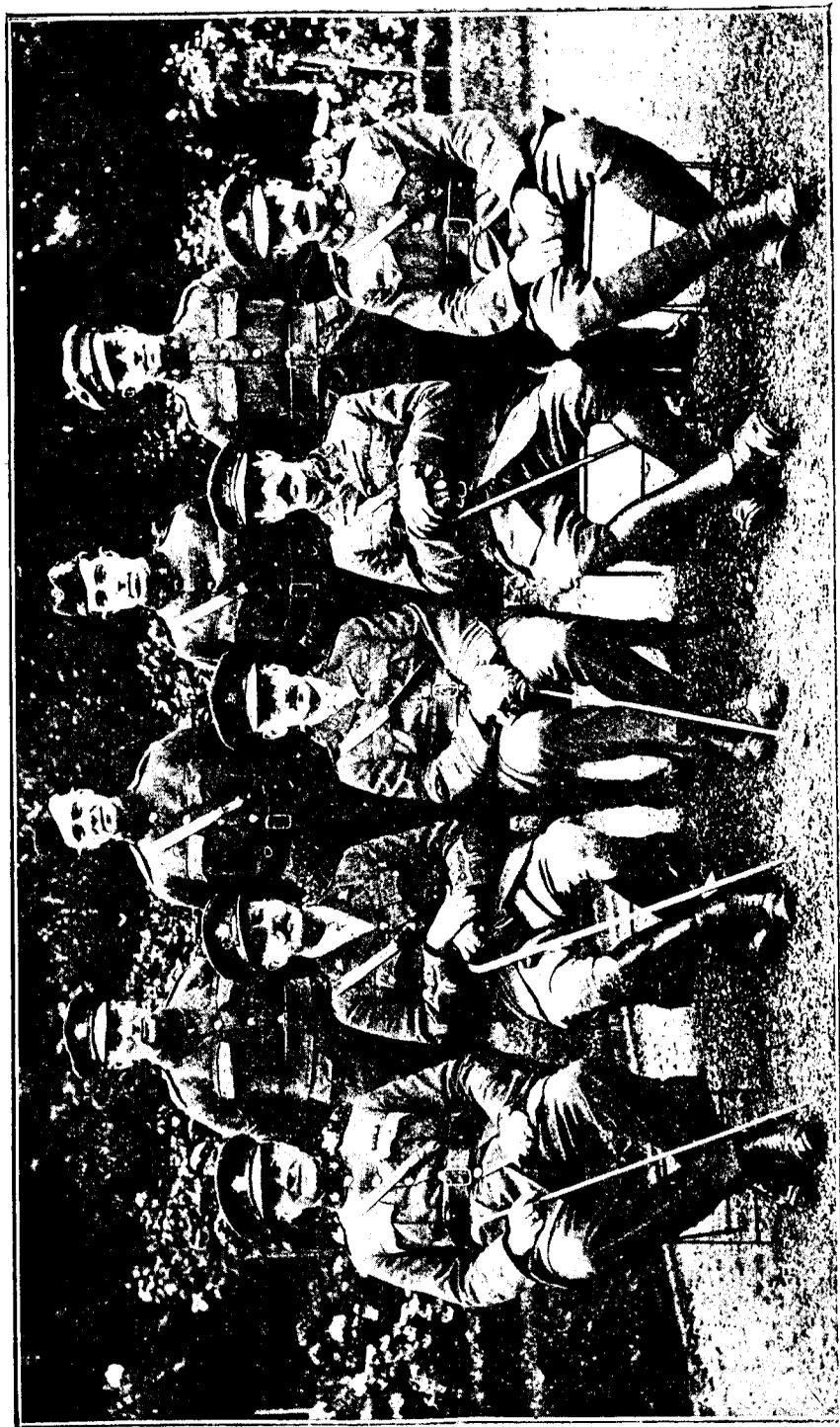


Photo Belleville

"THE OLD GUARD."

FRONT Row : (Left to Right) : Sgt.-Mjr. S. H. Baker, Capt. G. K. Ashby, Major D. Mc Gugan, M. C., Lieut. E. B. Davies, Sgt.-Mjr. H. Litolf.
BACK Row : Sergt. H. R. Smith, Sgt.-Mjr. G. W. Steele, Sgt.-Mjr. H. W. Waller, Pte. Prettyman, P. A.

After a couple of months in this office, the numbers grew so rapidly that the accomodation was inadequate, and the Canadians then moved to 22 Rue de l'Hôpital, which was their abode } until after the 2nd Division arrived. The Rue de l'Hôpital will long be remembered by all who ever entered its portals.

It was here that physical jerks and route marches were first instituted. The route march was generally referred to as the "Tourist Club" as the line of march was along the Boulevards of Rouen, and every endeavour was made to make it as pleasant as possible, and free from Military strictness. The use of Military terms was restricted, consistent with clearness, and expressions such as "Whoa", "Stop", "mark time all the way home" were employed. A band was always in attendance, consisting of one tin whistle played by a youthful artilleryman.

It was while in the Rue de l'Hôpital that the Canadian Division first suffered heavy casualties, and when the reports began to come in, the war was looked upon as over, and that the Canadians were marching victoriously to Berlin. It was then that the Canadian Section learned the value of a "scrap of paper".

After the arrival of the 2nd Canadian Division, Rue de l'Hôpital, in turn, became crowded; the O.R. Clerks were moved to 116 Rue de la République, the balance remaining in the Rue de l'Hôpital. After the arrival of the 3rd Canadian Division Records were divided into Infantry and General Records, the General Records moving to 46 Rue de Crosne.

The spreading out of the Section in this manner, however, proved very unsatisfactory, and search was continually being made for a place large enough to accomodate all Canadians. This was found a short distance from the city, and the whole Canadian Section was moved to these premises. Many alterations, additions, and improvements, have been made since then (the latest being the rapid communication system between K. R. & K. X.), until we have the perfect organization of today.

Shortly after the arrival at the new abode the much-needed and too scanty billeting and subsistence allowance was reduced from \$1.00 to .75 c. per day. This overzealous move, however, was quickly taken care of by Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, whose slogan was "nothing too good for a Canadian", and always looked after the interests of those under him.

The physical condition of the Section had, as already stated, been taken care of by a little "Swedish Drill" and Route Marches, not too strenuous, but quite enough so for those called upon to perform. One day in September, 1916, however, a change of Adjutants came to pass, and this blissful state of affairs came abruptly to an end, and what some called the "Reign of Terror" began.

The new Adjutant's famous address delivered the morning after he arrived will be handed down to even the third and fourth generations of the valiant warriors who survive the bloody battle of Rouen.

Never were fours formed in smarter or more approved military

style, and the dazzle of burnished brass on the 7.55 a. m. parade caused several well known members of the Echelon to invest in "B" ensurers, or for the information of the uninitiated, spectacles.

Barbers immediately put up the price of a hair-cut, and Canteens bought "Soldier's Friend" in ton lots to meet the requirements of the Canadians. By his untiring efforts clean buttons, shaves, etc., are treated as a matter of course, and the 7.55 a. m. is now a pleasure for the Orderly Officer to inspect.

The morning double to No. 4 Terminus and back again was much appreciated by the "boys" as it was a very material help in clearing their heads, and reducing them to their natural size, "the morning after the night before".

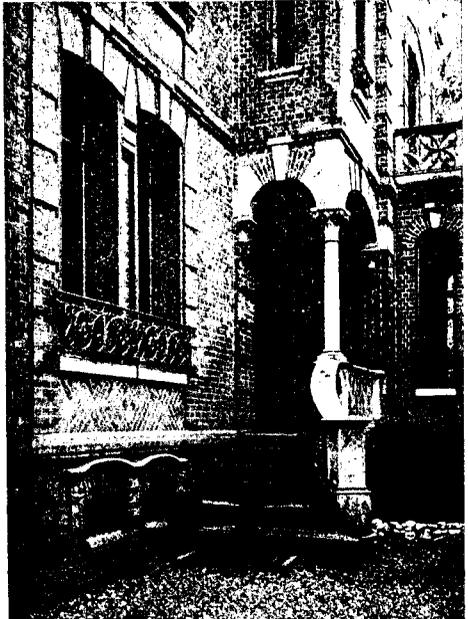
It is sincerely hoped that a wrong opinion of our worthy Adjutant will not be formed by the unsophisticated, for we can assure you in times of trouble, take your troubles to him and he will smooth them over like a father. Verily, Freddie, is a man of many parts.

In March, 1917, Lieut.-Col. G. T. Hamilton, D. S. O. severed a long and successful connection with the Canadian Section, to take up the appointment of Director of Personal Services, O. M. F. of C, London. Major G. G. Archibald, D. A. A. G., temporarily took over command of the Section, pending the arrival of the new A. A. G., Lieut.-Colonel A. L. Hamilton, C. M. G., who was well known to all in the early days of Valcartier, and all were glad to welcome him here.

The new Building finally became crowded, consequent upon the arrival of the 4th Canadian Division, 5th Canadian Divisional Artillery, Forestry Units, Railway Troops, etc., and in order to make ample accomodation, the Postal and Effects Branches were moved to an old School house nearby the middle of march 1918, the remaining portion of the building being used as a billet.

Up to this time the Canadians enjoyed private billets, with the exception of a short time, when a number were billeted, over the offices of the Canadian Paymaster.

The present billets accomodate about 150 men, chosen according to rules laid down by the Adjutant. From all accounts the men in this billet are quite content and happy, and with the exception of a stray



rat playing hop scotch on any exposed portion of a man's anatomy while he sleeps, and the discomforts of Wednesday and Saturday nights (Orchestral practice nights) they are unmolested.

Through the medium of the Chaplain Services, a piano has been installed, and one can hear at any time the strains of that wonderful old ballad " In Jungle Town " floating through the open door. It is not known whether this particular piece is played on account of the number of wild beasts in the neighborhood or not.

The Section has always taken a great interest in Sport, and has always done itself credit. As a good deal of space has already been devoted to this subject in previous issues, it is unnecessary to say anything here.

On page — is a photo of the complete Section and on page .. — the officers who are now with the Section are shown.

The Photo on page .. — represents the " Old Guard " being the remaining original members of the Canadian Section and regular " Old Soldiers they are too.





SHORT STORIES

The following stories are written by the Officers of the Section at my request. Whether there is a second Jack London in their midst, I cannot say, but after reading their articles I think my readers will agree with me that there are several good understudies to Annanias.

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

In the following story the Author has taken a mythical personality in the form of "King Tellemal" and endowed him with supernatural powers. Yea he has even given him the power to make a *Soldier* tell the truth. Editor.

.....

King Tellemal was absolute monarch of Euranglia in the year of grace 1918. He got his absolutism from his father who was Chief of the Intelligence Bureau, and the Department of Falsehood and Honesty. He was suffering from the deadly disease of Tellemitus. Many a man in Euranglia had developed this malady through family connections, it being hereditary. Its first symptoms are generally easily detected, a rather peculiar star shaped growth appears on the shoulders or wrist. This monoform is found only in Euranglia and is not dangerous. In its later stages the disease develops and another like growth breaks out. When you see two of these stars together, Tellemitus is developing rapidly and the victim should be avoided at all costs. If the disease is not curbed at this stage, yet another spot will appear. This last crucial stage is known as Tellemofus, and the victim is absolutely incurable, even Padre's are sometimes seized with this three star variety and paroxysms of it may be witnessed any Sunday morning. It seizes hold of Paymasters under the name of Paytitus, and when contracted by M.O's is called Curitus. By the Huns this hideous form of Euranglian disease is known as Camaraditus and is greatly feared by them.

King Tellemal, desiring to be a worthy successor of his illustrious parent was seized by a deadly hatred of falsehood, and beholding the dishonesty of certain Euranglians, he issued an edict that in future all of the exalted and chosen ones, yea and the humble and abased also should tell nothing but the truth, or undergo Court Martial, hoping by this order to chain the Devil of untruth.

Little did his Majesty realize the shocks that were in store for him when he descended from his throne into Euranglia to view the results of his proclamation.

The first victim was one, Bohunkus, a Rouenian, and a youth of massive physique. At a certain Bureau Militaire he appeared before one Christi-Incuritus a sage and worthy student of medicine and the French language. King Tellemal perched behind Christi, all unseen and waved his magic wand of truth over the Pill Dispensary.

“What’s the matter with you my man” quoth Christi? “that you come while it is yet morning for healing?”. The youth responded, prompted by the King, “Nothing, fair Sir, but I am much wearied of “Penpushing” and would fain spend the day at La Bouille with Jeanette. Therefore I would bluff the Troops and simulate that strange malady “Fluenzia” Christi cast his professional eye over the youth, and extracting two huge tablets from a glass jar marked “Number 9s” he commanded Bohunkus to swallow them forthwith. “But Sir, will they do me good?”. The King waved again his magic wand and Christi replied, “Not the slightest bit, but it will teach you to keep away from me in future. The King smiling serenely betook himself to the Jardin des Plantes. Here one, Romantus Canucto sat on a bench in a silvan glade whispering sweet nothings to a French Servant girl. Behind him and just over the Rue, others of his Tribe looked on. They too had had like experiences, but without the King’s interference. “I love you Genevieve avec tout mon cœur, je vous adore.” Suddenly Genevieve looked up and releasing her hand said. “Combien des autres girls avez-vous dit la même chose?” Again the magic wand, and Canuto replied. “Only four Genevieve.” “Who vere they?” asked Genevieve. “Madeleine Higeelio, the kitchen mechanic at the Hotel de Mugwump, Yvette Falsehaireo, wine slinger at the Estaminet de Annyville, Emeline de

Buzze my landlady's daughter and another girl whose name I have forgotten, but Genevieve You do love me don't you?" (Enters the King).

"No vous pauvre simp, mon fiancé est à la Guerre, et vous Canadiens sont très amusants. Buzzy of the noo et coupez the love dope toute de suite". The King quite satisfied took wing for Dominion Hall where divers carnivorous bipeds scramble for their daily bread. There one Groucheo was loudly complaining. "This bread is stale, this bacon is wormy, these pickles are bad, this tea is dishwater, and whats more there's a tin of Brasso in the Machonacie's. (Outside of that everything seemed to be O.K.) One Checric seated across the table interjected. "Do you realize that theres a War on, and by the way what did you get to eat in Civil life that makes you so particular now?" Again the influence of the King. "To tell you the truth I was a Hoboe and many a time went supperless to bed, or if lucky found a crust of bread in the odd garbage can and if less fortunate the business end of a boot where the patches were most needed." King Tellemall stifled with difficulty an outburst of laughter. "Truth", he whispered to himself "Is ludicrous in the Army". Overcome by these strange truths, never before heard in Dominion Hall the King fell asleep under the table. Towards ten O'clock he was disturbed by several voices and was amazed to hear mighty economic and philosophic problems under discussion. One, Loudnoiseo of some thirty Summers was bemoaning the fact that he was'nt getting a living wage. When someone asked, "Were you ever so well paid before, taking into account the fact that food and clothing are found, not to mention housing?". Under the influence of the King he was forced to answer. "No never, I never made more than twelve dollars a week in my life." "Why you said you were an Engineer, was that true?" "No I was on a Railway Construction Gang and this Army is about the cushiest job I have yet come across." Now how about the rest of you chaps who are grouching about your pay. demanded his Majesty, but the crowd had suddenly melted away. The King winked and smiled knowingly "I want to get up the Line" cried one Quittereo "I am fed up here" this for the fourth time in fifty seven minutes "Look here Quittereo, if you could get up the Line tomorrow morning would you go?". "No I'd go sick, in fact I'd give every

sou I own to stay here for the Duration, and I'm hoping that the whole ghastly thing will be over before I have to leave here. Believe me I know when I'm well off, but as everyone pretends that he wants to go back I'm just one of the ordinary bluffers."

King Tellemall finally arrived at the commodious editorial chambers of "La Vie", where the Editor and the Sub-Editor were chatting confidentially with the Business Manager. "Tell me quoth the Sub-, to that master of Journalistic art the Editor, dont you think we had a nerve to charge a Franc for "Number 13?" I sure do replied the Editor." Here the Business Manager rose up on his hind legs and shouted. "Not on your life; dont you know that we're in the Court for Bankruptcy and we havent even had one centime of salary yet either." The Editor to seemed to disagree with his Sub- as he also got upon his high mule and cried "Why I overheard two or three Generals down in the Club the other night discussing "La Vie" and saying that it was the best magazine for the money ever published in France." King Tellemall had been waving his wand vigorously all this time but without the slightest effect so he got up and left in disgust. "Hump" quoth he "This outfit would make Annanias look like a George Washington and no mistake".

" ERDAP. "

WHAT A HOPE

A man was staying in a Hotel in Paris and one morning was just stepping into his bath when there came a knock on the door when he enquired what was the matter a voice from without said that the Military Authorities wanted to see his Pink Form.





APOLOGIA

It can't be done you know, — and besides, oh well, there are a thousand reasons.

Even if under a mixture of dire threats and sweet words I am weak and promise to write an article, I do not immediately become an Author. If this were the case I would promise you a fortune and in so doing become a millionaire.

I can hear from every side a chorus "What a Hope"; Very well then let us treat the article in the same way.

C. B. J.

EQUALITY OF MAN — QUERIES

Have you stood on a cliff by the sea, looked across the shingled shore and watched the ceaseless action of the winds, the sands, the waves? Have you gone closer and examined the pebbles which tile the shore and noted whether the action of the elements, so uniform in appearance, is equally uniform in its effect? Are the pebbles alike in form, in color or consistency?

Have you strolled into one of the beautiful pine forests of France, planted and cared for by the hand of man with scrupulous uniformity? Have you watched the trees swayed by the wind, washed by the rain and lured by the sun — symbols of uniformity of action? Yet, are the products of the care of man and the play of the elements consistent in strength, in size, in form?

Have you visited an isolated community in our own Canada where nature and not art seems to regulate the life, untrammelled by traditions and unfettered by customs? Have you noted the individuals in their interacting relations with nature, with man and the Eternal? Is the product the same, in physique, in intellect or in spirit?

Man was born free and equal! Was he? Does he so remain? Is it desirable that he should?

" D. E. E. "





Review of the Canadian Section

Musical and Dramatic Society.

There is no doubt a large number of the members of this Section who will remember the "harmony" inflicted upon them when they returned to do some work in the mid-day interval, by a few disturbers of the peace in K. T. Section. From those small beginnings large things have been the out come when one reviews the work of the Canadian Section Musical and Dramatic Society.

We were content to call it a "Glee Club" in those days, for such was our decision at a meeting held in the chamber of one the members towards the latter part of September 1917-just one year ago. We had great difficulties to overcome, but one step in the right direction was the election of a temporary committee to carry out the ideas that were brought forward during the discussion of what we were going to do. Perhaps it would be as well to state the reasons why the "Glee Club" was formed. Firstly, winter was approaching and it was found desirable to create an interest that would help the fellows to pass away the long evenings. Secondly, there were several concert parties in town that had been formed by other record sections and our Section was not going to be left out of the running : and thirdly, it was the natural outcome of events, most soldiers like singing and we wanted to sing to advantage.

The first general meeting was held a few days afterwards to which all who were interested were invited. Major G. Archibald was elected as our President, a position he has filled admirably, and a permanent committee were elected also. A small hall was rented in which to practice but owing to the fact of our funds running low we had to give it up before three weeks had passed. It was soon foundt that if singing is on the schedule of work the ability to read from music, together with a theoretical knowledge of it is absolutely necessary. One of the members of the Section, Pte. G. Palmer, offered his services and things have gone ahead from that day. We received our first music lessons in an office that was not occupied during the evenings. With our music master explaining things on a blackboard and waving his baton it somehow reminded us of days long passed. After receiving several lessons we gave a show on the 21st. December 1917 in a small

gymnasium rented for that purpose, admission being free. Previous to that however, our Director had rounded up a few members with instruments who formed the nucleus of our orchestra, and accompanied the choir in their first success — “Who Sails with Drake”. Lieut.-Colonel A. L. Hamilton, Major G. Archibald and other officers were present and were favourably impressed with our first attempt at entertaining. We were given the use of a room in which to practice and to store our instruments, which was a great asset to us. We had financial troubles at this time so asked the support of the entire section to which they nobly responded, and so enabled the club to hire more instruments and buy music. Permission was given for us to use the postal Section department, a large hall in the Section annexe, and to were enabled to build a stage, fix some scenery and invite our friends to a concert in a place that holds over 300.

By this time the membership of the Society had grown, so additional members were elected to the Committee representing the Choir, Orchestra, and Dramatic artistes, and the name was changed to The Canadian Section Musical and Dramatic Society and a fee was intituted of 1 Franc to cover all working expenses, so that it would be self-supporting.

Every Sunday morning a church parade is held in the Circus (one of the departments), at which the Orchestra and Choir assist during the service, so giving the Section a reputation of being the only records section in town who have a musical service. Several concerts have been given in Dominion Hall as we call our theatre, up-to-date with lighting and stage and drop curtain etc., besides others given at different canteens and Soldiers Clubs in the town. During the past summer the orchestra has played to large audiences in the Park adjoining the offices, and were responsible for the amusements by the comedians on Sports Day held on June 30th.

The society has every reason to be proud of it's record in the first year and it's ability to overcome several obstacles, one of the chief being the loss of several members who have left us for other parts, and who are replaced by the willingness of new arrivals to help us carry on with the good work.

TED.

*The man who hath not music in his soul
Who is not moved by concord of sweet sound
Is fit for treasons, stratagem, and spoils
Let no such man be trusted.*

BACON.

NOTE. — Bacon evidently had never heard our Orchestra practising in the Billet in the dark hours.

Had he done so he would have written the above verse sans negative

(SUB EDITOR.)

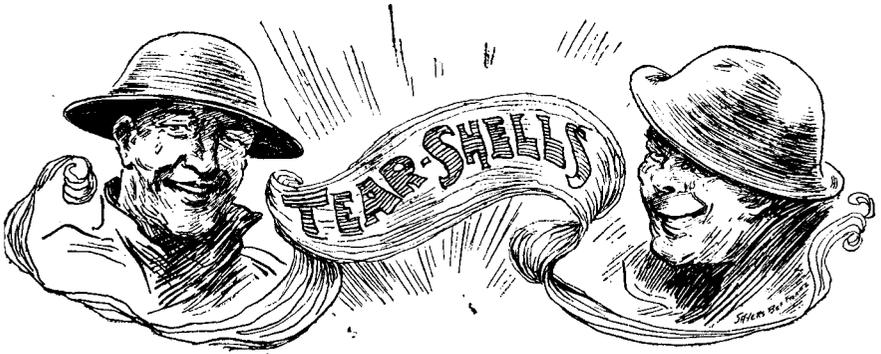




IT IS SAID THAT :

- (1) A certain O. R. Sergeant invariably checks each of his five carbon copies of Part II Orders with the original, for in France he says, even carbon paper will go astray.
- (2) An unusually strong affection appears to exist between one of our gallant Officers and his inseparable canine companion, but can it be true that in reality they are the keenest rivals.
- (3) The indignation felt by another of our superiors on seeing the use to which his blackboard had been put during his sick leave, was inexpressible. The perpetrator will get Trower(n) out if he doesn't watch himself.
- (4) Dally pulled in 15 bucks a day for peddling the bull during his leave in the States. Who said Smithy of the Pats would have made a fortune.
- (5) As the result of our Fire Chief having to more frequently exercise his vocal organs his inimitable word of command is becoming " wusser ", but he still hopes to regain that standard of perfection which was his when leading the gallant C. A. S. C. into action years ago.
- (6) The Echelonite after ardently wooing Gladys (star of our 4th Division Concert Party) has not yet recovered from the effect of the shock he sustained on discovering that beneath, the powder, delicate perfumes and dainty frills, was not a charming feminine form, but just an ordinary soldier.
- (7) Canadian Cities are considering the adoption of the Rouen Sanitary System. Can't you already hear the throb, throb, of the engine in Yonge Street, Toronto, or St. Catherines, Montreal ?
- (8) Shep's Pool is fast becoming a Lake.





Pat had engaged a room in a large Hotel in Winnipeg and during the night the building caught fire. Pat scrambled out of bed in the dark and in his haste put his trousers on back to front, then rushed to the window and jumped out. When he landed on the street, some one came up to him and said, "Are you killed Pat"? Looking down at himself Pat replied, "No, but I'm fatally twisted."

It had been raining very heavily. Two soldiers were walking down the street behind a young lady who was holding her skirts rather high. After exchanging a few words with one another, one of the soldiers stepped up to the young lady and tapped her gently on the shoulder. "Say Miss", he said, "Aren't you holding your skirts rather high?" "Haven't I a perfect right", she replied snappishly. "You sure have Miss", said the soldier, "and a peach of a left too".

A young lady was standing watching a number of soldiers on the range. Suddenly there was a volley of rifle fire, and with a little cry of fright the young lady fell back into the arms of a soldier who was standing behind her. She recovered herself quickly and turning to the soldier said very timidly, "I beg your pardon". "No need for that", replied the soldier, "let's go over there and watch the Artillery".

Pat was working on a ship on which an epidemic broke out. Quite a number of the crew died and were immediately wrapped up and thrown overboard. One day the Captain came up to Pat and said, "Pat there is a dead man in room No. 4, I wish you would wrap him up and throw him overboard". Off went Pat and after hunting for some time he could not find room No. 4. At last he came to No. 22 and said. "Be jabbers, two and two make four", so in he went. It happened that there was a Scotchman in this room who was very sick, so after looking at

him for a minute or so, Pat said " You're dead ". " No I'm not ". Yes you are, the Captain told me you were ". The sick man was promptly thrown overboard. A couple of days later the Capt. went into No. 4 and saw this dead man still there so he called Pat and said " I thought I told you to throw this man overboard ". " So I did " replied Pat. " No you didn't, said " the Capt. " he is still here, show me where you went ". On reaching No. 22 the Capt. said " This is No. 22 ". " No ", said Pat, " two and two make four ". " Well there was a sick Scotchman in here ". " Well I told the devil he was dead ", said Pat, " but these Scotchmen are such infernal liars, you can't believe a word they say ".

SOLDIER. — Why do you always shut your eyes when you drink a glass of beer ?

SAILOR. — Well, I reckon as 'ow you lose 'arf the enjoyment when you sees it disappearin'.

One day Jones was walking along one of the old fashioned board side-walks and came across Pat pushing a dollar bill down one of the cracks. " Wath in the world are you doing that for Pat ? " " I just dropped a nickel down here ", said Pat, " and I want to make it worth my while to tear up the side-walk ".

PRIVATE. — Gee, I've got the neuralgia good.

M. O. — In the head, eh ?

PRIVATE. — Yes, but how did you know ?

M. O. — Why man, neuralgia always attacks the weakest spots.

CANUCK. — What's your figure boss for a course in this gibberage of yours ?

PROF. OF FRENCH. — 30 francs first month, Monsieur, 20 thè second, and 10 the third.

CANUCK. — Jake, shove my name on your list, month number three.

SERGEANT (*On a wiring party*). — " Put that dod-whizzled light out ! "

PLAINTIVE VOICE. — " T'aint a light, sarge its' the blinking moon.

SERGEANT. — " Don't you talk back to me. Put the blinking thing out !!!

(*Loud silence.*)

SPORTS

Continuing our success at previous Sports Meetings this Summer, we more than held our own in the open events of the A.O.D. Workshops Sports held at Quevilly on Sunday September 1st 1918.

In these events there were entries from the Imperials Royal Air Force, Army Service Corps, Royal Engineers, New Zealanders, Australians, South Africans and our own entries.

Our chief opposition, Sgt. Eastgate of the New Zealanders in the open 100 yards was eliminated by Pte. Tucker in Heat No 1., and as both Pte. Mayson and Cpl. Barrie won their Heats, we were well represented in the Final which after a good race was won by Pte. Mayson, second and third places respectively being taken by Pte. Tucker and Cpl. Barrie. Sgt. Hertell was second at throwing the cricket ball. The Relay Race, needless to say, was won by our team, we consider ourselves invincible in that event, and we have good cause to think so, as the team as yet to be beaten this Season. It does not seem to matter whether the Relay Race consist of 4—220 yards or whether it is run in a half mile, a quarter and 2—220 yards as was the case in these Sports — our boys seem to excel in this particular event, and always bring home the bacon.

All four of the team ran well in this event, and we won by a large margin.

We have often seen our worthy Adjutant shin down the tapes in Officers Handicap Races previously, but it was a sight for the Gods, to see him win, and by the way, starting from Scratch, the Officers 100 yards Flat (Open). He got a great reception from the Grandstand and Side lines.

Sgt. Thorpe, running a good race, obtained second place in the Open Mile, Pte. King and Pte. Pearson making a hot pace for two laps.

Lt.-Colonel C. C. Blackburn. D. S. O., A. O. D., who made the presentation of prizes at the close of the meeting, drew attention to the special feature of the meeting, i.e., the Canucks running and that the Relay Race was the finest he had seen — also drawing attention to our fine record this Summer at various other Meets,

At the invitation of Lt.-Colonel H. Kirby. D. S. O., A. V. C., we were asked to enter competitors for the two open events in the Sports Meeting held at Petit-Quevilly Football Ground by the No. 6. Veterinary Hospital on September 7th 1918.

Pte. Tucker, although having a little difficulty to obtain 1st Place

in his heat in the 220 yards, cinched the final, with Cpl. Barrie coming a close second to him.

In the other open event, Sgt. Thorpe again got second place in the one Mile after a good race.

Visitors and Competitors were very well received and entertained by the Promoters.

CHALLENGE EVENT

Sgt. Ashton-R. A.V.S. — Pte. Mayson. Canadians.

Our friends, the Royal Artillery Section, thinking they had a better man than we at 220 yards, challenged with Sgt. Ashton against Pte. Mayson of our Section.

We accepted, and the race was run on September 8th on the No. 1. Football Ground before the Football Match commenced, with quite a crowd in attendance, needless to say the blue and red cloth patches were well represented.

A neutral Judge was appointed together with one from each Section in case of a close finish, but the neutral was not necessary as Pte. Mayson was too strong a runner and romped home an easy winner, Sgt. Ashton falling down apparently exhausted twenty yards from the tape. To avoid dispute, a neutral starter was also appointed.

By C. A. H.





SECTION NEWS

We were rather interested to hear that Dr. Karl Woodbury and Lieut. Joe Crowe had gone to Italy for their leave. Knowing that neither can speak Italian and also the quantity and quality of their French We ask you.

If they are not locked up as spies they will be lucky indeed.

We would like to congratulate Lieut. Davis on his recovery and return to the Section.



She. Why arn't you in khaki my man?
He why arn't you a Waac?



FOOTBALL NOTES

By Cpl. J. EMSLEY

1st Game of the Season

Canadian Section vs. G. H. Q. 3rd. Echelon

Sunday the 15th. of September marked the opening of the Football Season for us, by the first game of the Inter Records Office Association Competition, when we played G. H. Q. 3rd. Echelon as the visiting team. There are several changes in our team, as the men who played on last seasons team are either not with us now or unable to play, but the Committee feels confident that with the new blood this year we can keep up the good record of the Canadian Section of past Seasons.

The weather was very hot on Sunday afternoon and as we lost the toss and had to play facing the sun it was rather a handicap, any wind there was blew across the field so was neither help nor hindrance to either side.

Major Archibald D. A. A. G. Canadians kicked off and the ball was at once returned to our half of the field. Our forwards at once got on the move and kept the G. H. Q. defence busy. Taylor the G. H. Q. left back proved a thorn in our sides and was mainly responsible for the breaking up of the combinations of our forwards. Fowlis one of our new men caught the eye of the spectators early in the game by some very clever foot work. We contrived to keep the ball in the opposing territory most of the game and when the G. H. Q. forwards did essay an attack on our goal they were well held by Lieut. Anderson and Daley both of whom were playing up to last year's fine standard We several times tested the mettle of the opposing goal keeper who brought off some fine saves. A good many corners fell to us and from one of these Fawcett drove the ball through a crowd of defenders and scored at close range. His play received a great ovation from the side lines.

At the end of the first half the score still stood at 1-0 in our favour

even though the visitors tried their utmost to break through our defence.

In the second half Steele, Fowlis, Stoker and Collier made some very fine plays and we again kept the opposing goal tender busy. Fowlis after a fine forward rush took a shot at goal : The goal keeper after saving it fell and the ball was shot into an open goal by Mac Donald thus making the score 2—0.

The rest of the game needs no special mention as the score remained the same till the end.

Park had to drop out towards the end and Barrie took his place as half-back making a greater success than in the forward line. Thus ended the first game of the Season with an easy victory to us.

Cpl. J. EMSLIE.

VAL HICKS AS A PILOT

No. SQUADRON T. D.,

R. A. F. England.

18-8-18.

MY DEAR OLD ROBBIE AND BRUCE:—

How are ye all? I got your long and interesting epistle Robbie, but as for yours Bruce, I think it's blocked on the wire at Bonsecours or somewhere.

Well I got my wings and "pip" this morning, having graduated as a pilot fully fledged in twenty seven days from the time I first flew a machine, "solo". It is a kind of a record here. I am the second F/Cadet to graduate from this place and they're giving me an instructor's job in order to make my life short and profound I guess.

I dont know whether I told you about my crash on a cross-country flight did I? To make a long story short I went to Northampton by mistake, having got lost in the clouds, ran out of petrol when the engine was on the point of stopping through three broken valve springs, came down "zonk" in a hedge, broke the propeller to blazes, strained my thumb and all the wires on the 'bus'.

The next spasm of the kind was three days ago. I was up taking photos at 1500 feet when the engine seized up owing to the "big ends" running out and various other things happening through lack of oil. Down we came "Swish". I managed to side-slip down over some telegraph wires and a barbed wire fence into a pretty decent field and landed without mishap. I found that I was three miles from any-where. I got a guard on the 'bus' and beat it home by train. When I did my height test (12,700 ft.) I was right above all the clouds and it was the

prettiest sight I've ever seen. I dodged right up through them alright without hitting any for longer than a minute, but coming down I wasn't so lucky and inadvertently did a spinning nose dive for 2500 ft. on a 'bus' that it is against orders to spin as the wings have a nasty habit of dropping of sometimes.

I got her out alright as soon as I saw the earth again though.

Well I guess all this is giving you a pain in the posterior so I will chuck it. Give my love to all the boys one of whom of course is Mr. Knowlton, and be good to yourselves you old sons-of-guns.

Y. T. H. F. O.

VAL.

Note.

For the benefit of those who do not know "Val", it may be stated that he is one of several old members of the Section who have taken to the Air, all striving to beat the record of a Canadian of whom all Canadians are justly proud namely, Lt.-Col. Bishop. V.C., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C.

A list of old Echelonites now Airmen, or Airmen in the making is appended in order of their departure from the Section.

Pte. A. H. Beach.	Sgt. A. R. Mc Farlane.
A/C. T. F. Naylor.	Pte. E. A. Seigris.
Pte. R. V. Curtis.	Pte. G. D. Robarts.
Pte. J. N. T. Spence.	Pte. A. J. B. Roy.
Pte. V. R. Hicks.	Pte. R. M. Edminston.
Pte. D. M. Mc Taggart.	Pte. T. A. Lawrence.
Pte. S. Burbridge.	Pte. J. H. Hall.
Pte. N. W. Wade.	L/C. E. H. Butler.
Pte. G. L. Robinson.	Pte. C. R. Rhodes.
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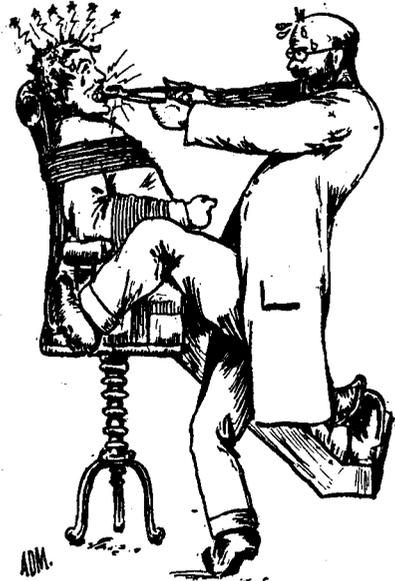
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who, when not busily plying his nefarious trade, may be found at
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NORTH SEA

SITUATION MAP

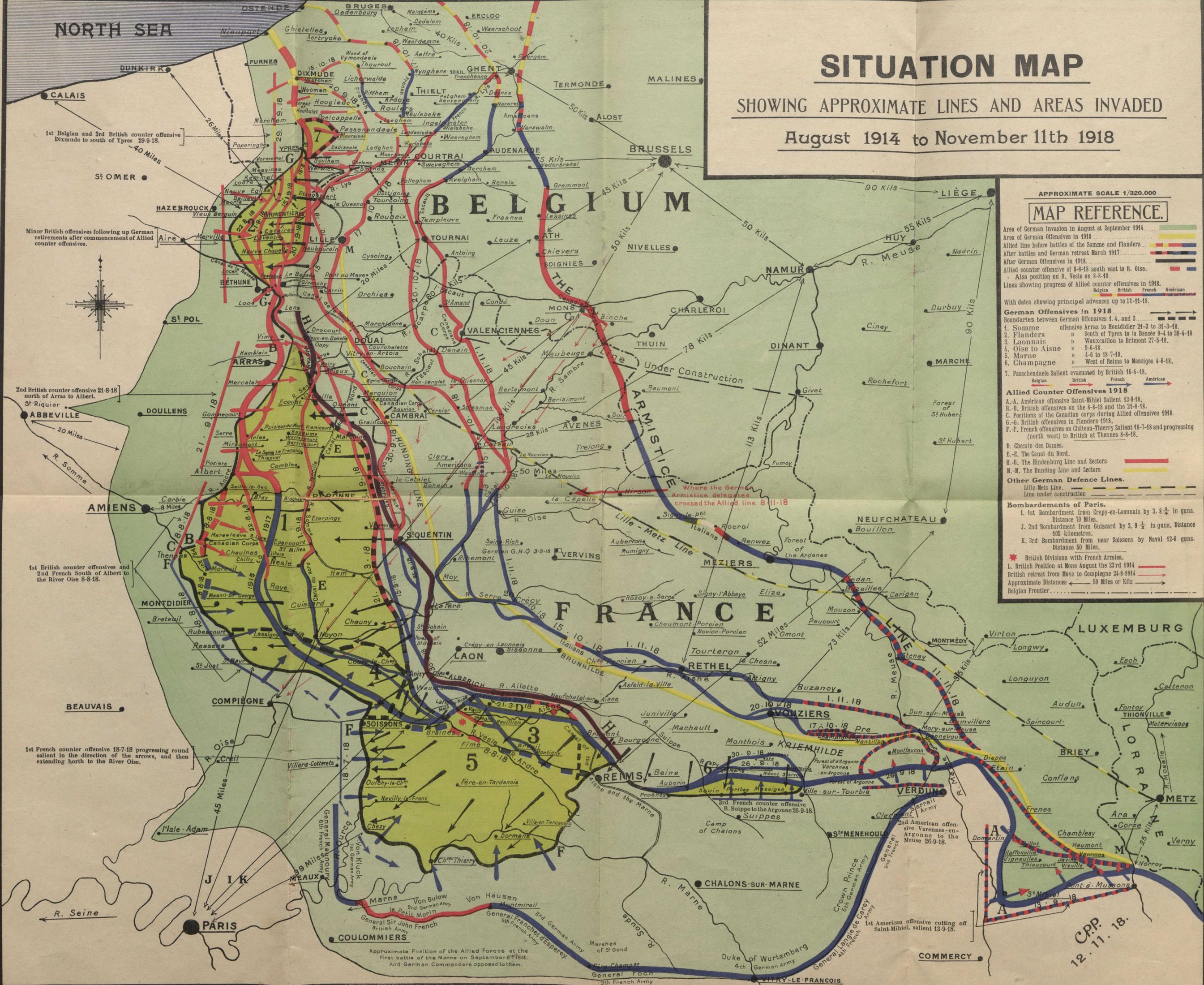
SHOWING APPROXIMATE LINES AND AREAS INVADED

August 1914 to November 11th 1918

APPROXIMATE SCALE 1/320,000

MAP REFERENCE.

- Area of German Invasion in August and September 1914
- Area of German Offensives in 1918
- Allied line before battles of the Somme and Flanders
- After battles and German retreat March 1917
- After German offensives in 1918
- Allied counter offensive of 8-8-18 south east to R. Oise
- Also position on R. Vesle on 8-8-18
- Lines showing progress of Allied counter offensives in 1918
- Belgian British French American
- With dates showing principal advances up to 11-11-18.
- German Offensives in 1918**
- Boundaries between German Offensives 1, 4, and 3
- 1. Somme offensive Arras to Montdidier 21-3 to 31-3-18.
- 2. Flanders " South of Ypres to la Bassée 9-4 to 30-4-18.
- 3. Laonnais " Wauxcailion to Brimont 27-5-18.
- 4. Oise to Aisne " 9-6-18.
- 5. Marne " 4-6 to 18-7-18.
- 6. Champagne " West of Reims to Massiges 4-6-18.
- 7. Passchendaele Salient evacuated by British 16-4-18.
- Allied Counter Offensives 1918**
- A.-A. American offensive Saint-Mihiel Salient 13-9-18.
- B.-E. British offensives on the 8-8-18 and the 21-8-18.
- C. Positions of the Canadian Corps during Allied offensives 1918.
- G.-G. British offensives in Flanders 1918.
- F.-F. French offensives on Château-Thierry Salient 13-7-18 and progressing (north west) to British at Thennes 8-8-18.
- D. Chemin des Dames.
- E.-E. The Canal du Nord.
- H.-H. The Hindenburg Line and Sectors
- M.-M. The Hindenburg Line and Sectors
- Other German Defence Lines.**
- Lille-Metz Line.
- Line under construction
- Bombardments of Paris.**
- I. 1st Bombardment from Crepy-en-Laonnais by 3.8 1/2 in guns. Distance 70 Miles.
- J. 2nd Bombardment from Guiscard by 2.9 1/2 in guns. Distance 105 kilometres.
- K. 3rd Bombardment from near Soissons by Naval 12-6 guns. Distance 50 Miles.
- British Divisions with French Armies.
- L. British Position at Mons August the 23rd 1914
- British retreat from Mons to Compiègne 24-8-1914
- Approximate Distances
- 50 Miles or Kils
- Belgian Frontier



1st Belgian and 3rd British counter offensive Dixmude to south of Ypres 29-9-18.

Minor British offensives following up German retirements after commencement of Allied counter offensives.

2nd British counter offensive 21-8-18 north of Arras to Albert.

1st British counter offensives and 2nd French South of Albert to the River Oise 8-8-18.

1st French counter offensive 18-7-18 progressing round salient in the direction of the arrows, and then extending north to the River Oise.

Approximate Position of the Allied Forces at the first battle of the Marne on September 8th 1914. And German Commanders opposed to them.

Where the German Armistice delegates crossed the Allied line 8-11-18

1st American offensive cutting off Saint-Mihiel, salient 13-9-18.

CPP. 12-11-18.