

**FILE 143**

**MILITARY**

**MESSAGES**

*Mil mess*

March 27th, 1924.

Lieut.-Colonel D. W. Spry,  
The Alberta Military Institute,  
C/o. M.D. No. 13,  
230 - 7th Avenue West,  
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Colonel:-

In the brief acknowledgement of your letter of the 18th, which I mailed you the other day, I said that later on I would send a message. While what I am about to write can hardly be dignified as such, I have no objection to you reading this letter to those who will join in the celebration of the anniversary of Vimy. In fact, I welcome the opportunity of sending my good wishes to all old comrades of mine who may there be present.

I am thinking about them more than usual to-day because I am reminded of the events of six years ago. On the 27th of March, 1918, I felt so impressed with the seriousness of the situation that I wrote a special order, which you may remember. In it I endeavoured to express the grave nature of the events then transpiring and my firm confidence in the ability of our fellows to overcome every difficulty and surmount every obstacle. To-day, when we must face the tasks that sometimes make the spirit quake, I am sure we all draw inspiration from thoughts of those darker days when we met undismayed more irksome burdens and more terrifying duties.

Lt.-Col.D.W.B.Spry - 2 -

I believe that before another ten years have elapsed Canada will be called upon to make a decision just as momentous as any she faced in the troubled days which ended on November 11th, 1918. In my confidence that her action will be as true to British traditions as they ever were in the war I am again placing my trust in the members of the Canadian Corps, and in those who stand for freedom, political and otherwise, and tolerance and justice to all. I believe that if the fellows we left behind in France could speak to us to-day, they would charge us to keep faith with them and with our fathers who lived and died for liberty and all the British Empire implies. If we keep that faith Canada will emerge with honour from the clouds which now dimly darken our horizon, but which seem to grow more menacing as the days go by.

There is work for us all to do and a duty to perform, in peace as in war. In the performance of that duty let us not forget that,-

"Not once, nor twice, in our fair country's  
story

The path of duty was the way to glory"

At the dinner which our old Chief is giving in Ottawa I am sure all of you will be remembered.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

INSPECTOR J. W. SPALDING  
PRESIDENT  
PHONE M 6102

LT.-COL. G. H. WHYTE  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
PHONE M 3693

LT.-COL. D. W. B. SPRY  
HONORARY SECRETARY  
PHONE M 3692

MAJOR L. W. MILLER  
TREASURER  
PHONE M 4955



## The Alberta Military Institute

(INCORPORATED 1920)

EXECUTIVE OFFICES:  
C/O H. G. MILITARY DISTRICT No. 13, 230 - 7TH AVENUE WEST  
CALGARY, ALBERTA

March 18th., 1924

### DIRECTORS

LT.-COL. D. L. REDMAN  
LT.-COL. E. J. RENAUD  
LT.-COL. H. C. A. HERVEY  
MAJOR D. G. L. CUNNINGTON  
MAJOR C. W. DEVEY  
CAPT. N. D. DINGLE  
CAPT. R. K. MCLEAN

General Sir Arthur Currie, K.C.M.G., K.C.B.  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

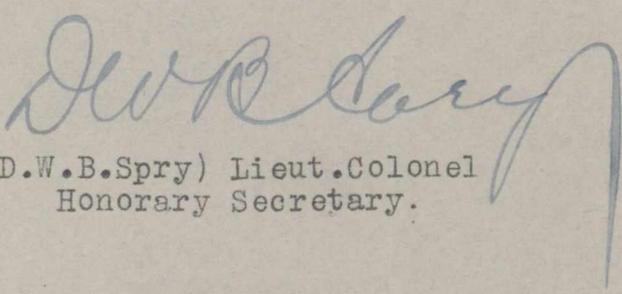
### Personal

My dear Sir Arthur Currie;

In the event of you not being able to be present at the Vimy Dinner, at Calgary, on 9th. April, would you write me a message which could be read to the guests?

We are expecting fully 500 guests at our Dinner, and a message from you would be the next best thing to your actual presence.

Yours sincerely

  
(D.W.B. Spry) Lieut. Colonel  
Honorary Secretary.

December 18th, 1924.

Captain F. B. Bagshaw,  
Temple Building,  
11th Avenue,  
Regina, Sask.

My dear Captain Bagshaw:-

Your letter in which you ask me to send a message for your Year Book brings vividly to my mind the days when I contributed to the Fifth Battalion Annual.

My connection and association with the soldiers of Saskatchewan was a long and, to me, a very happy one. It began when the train on which I was proceeding to Valcartier Camp in August, 1914, was boarded at Regina by a contingent of gunners going to the same place. As I happened to be the senior officer on board they came under my command until we reached the camp. When we arrived there I found myself in command of the Second Brigade, which, among other very worthy troops, contained the Fifth Battalion. Until the end of the war I had the honour to command an increasing number of the men of the Western Plains, and

I can say without effort or exaggeration, without throwing any bouquets whatever, that there were no finer men nor better soldiers in the Canadian Corps.

Though we do not talk overmuch of those days, the remembrances of them can never become shadowy; they are a part of life itself; they shall not vanish this side of the grave. It is well that this is so, and in all the urgings addressed to us about the necessity of winning the peace, the conviction becomes more and more deeply rooted in my mind that this can only be done by the evidence and the display of those very qualities which gave us the victory in war. We hear much talk of rival claims of East and West; Over There, men did not care whether their comrades came from British Columbia or from Ontario, whether the cook that served the maconochie was a French-Canadian from Quebec or an Irish Canadian from Toronto. What mattered to us all was that we were men from the same country, bound by a common bond, with the same duty and the same objective, on the same great quest, and ready to give all, if need be, for the same ideal.

That's it! That's what matters to-day. We are still all Canadians with the same duty and the same objective, each with a man's part to play and we must play it in a man's way,- no shirking, no skrimshanking, no provincialism, all for each and each for all must ever be our motto. Canada is having a hard struggle to-day but we are not down-hearted. Courage, faith in each other, team play, a stern sense of duty and a strong determination to win will give us the victory again.

I think I should say no more, Bagshaw, although there is so much to say. The fellows might think that the General is preaching again, but I am as earnest about Canada's welfare and Canada's advancement as ever I was about a Corps victory. Let me add that I am just as confident too, but I plead for team play and esprit de corps. No one knows better than we, the returned soldiers, just what that spirit of co-operation, of mutual trust, of confidence in our cause and in each other means. Let us set the example.

Captain Bagshaw

- 4 -

With this letter goes an  
expression of good will and best wishes to all old  
comrades.

Yours ever,

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

# CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM



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REGINA SASK 8

SIR ARTHUR W CURRIE

2738

MCGILL UNIVERSITY MONTREAL QUE

CONTRIBUTION NOT TOO LATE IF NECESSARY WILL HOLD UP

PUBLICATION RATHER THAN MISS MESSAGE FROM YOU

F B BAGSHAW.

5<sup>th</sup> Dec 1944

East of you on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec  
board has got your  
letter with the 6<sup>th</sup> Dec.

W. 12 Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Dec

mainly 1 - 1/2

By with effort on exercise -  
in budget with the  
Corps. Great there just  
as much of fear. United States  
No thought of provision - quite  
of dis-orientation, cooperation -  
man part to 1/2. We are  
agree - a kind of low bit.  
any - with 1/2 part. regions  
take - but, do that we can  
warrant amount on part projects.

December 1st, 1924.

F. B. Bagshaw, Esq.,  
Temple Building,  
11th Avenue,  
Regina, Sask.

My dear Bagshaw:-

I am this morning in receipt of your letter with enclosure of your letter of October 16th. I cannot imagine where that letter went because I never saw it, nor has anyone in the office any recollection of its arrival.

Please let me know when you want my contribution. Perhaps it is now too late. If it is, I would be only too glad to promise to contribute something for next year's edition.

With kindest regards to Colonel McAra, to yourself and my other friends out there, I am,

Yours faithfully,

**H. B. Bagshaw**  
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR  
REGINA - CANADA

November 27th, 1924.

Lt. General Sir Arthur W. Currie, K. C. M. G.,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear General:

I wrote you on October the 10th at the request of Colonel James McAra, President of the Provincial Command, G. W. V. A., but I have not received an acknowledgment to my letter and it has occurred to me that you may have mislaid my letter or overlooked it owing to pressure of work, or else my letter may not have reached you, so I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of my former letter and I would ask you if you would be good enough to let me have a reply by wire at my expense, if you can contribute anything, as time is growing short and the great bulk of our copy is already in hand. I may say that the Saskatchewan Veterans, who are numbered among your warmest friends, would heartily appreciate a few words from you.

I beg to remain,

Yours sincerely,

*H. B. Bagshaw*

FBB/S

**H. B. Bagshaw**  
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR  
REGINA - CANADA

October 10th, 1924.

Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
K. C. B.,  
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear General:

At the request of Colonel McAra, President of the Saskatchewan Command of the G. W. V. A., I am writing to you for the purpose of obtaining a contribution from you to our Year Book.

Each year we publish a Year Book and distribute approximately four thousand copies throughout the Province. In the past we have dealt with the various problems that confront the soldiers, and have endeavoured to explain to them the regulations governing pensions and the manner in which treatment is obtained under the S. C. R., and the rules and regulations of the Soldier Settlement Board, and we have generally reported on the activities of the Association throughout the Province and explained the work of the Federal Command of the G. W. V. A. This year we hope to make the book more interesting, as a great many of the problems have been settled and, aside from the pensions, there is very little adjustment work devolving on the Association. I feel sure that an article by you, on whatever topic you would care to treat of, would be a valuable contribution and would be well received by the Boys.

As you are doubtless aware, the state of the returned men in this Province has been happier than that of men in other Provinces, and this is due largely to the fact that Saskatchewan, being an agricultural Province without any large centres, has not attracted the large number of returned men whose vocations take them to Cities, consequently the unemployment problem has not been difficult to handle, and there has been very little trouble experienced here.

Colonel McAra has been President from the beginning of the Association and this in itself indicates the close cooperation that has subsisted since the War between the officers and men. At one time, out of an Executive of eleven in Regina, there were two Colonels, two Majors, three Captains and a Lieutenant, representing the Boys, so that the best of feeling has prevailed, and I think there is a much healthier tone now throughout the whole Dominion, although, of course, the membership in the organization has been

**H. B. Bagshaw**  
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR  
REGINA - CANADA

October 10th, 1924.

Lt.-Gen. Sir A. W. Currie. # 2.

greatly reduced. Perhaps the time is coming when it will be possible to re-organize the various organizations of ex-service men into one group, in which the true spirit of fraternity will dominate.

Trusting that you will be able to send us something at your earliest convenience, and with very best wishes to yourself and Lady Currie, in which Mrs. Bagshaw joins, I beg to remain,

Yours very sincerely,

*Sgt  
H. B. Bagshaw*

FBB/S

incl messages.

March 26th, 1924.

Major M. Kirkpatrick Crockett,  
322 Robertson Street,  
Victoria, B. C.

My dear Major:-

It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge your letter of March 18th conveying to me the good wishes of the present members of my old Company No.1, 5th Regiment C.G.A. It was kind indeed of them to pay me this tribute and I hope you will convey to them my warm appreciation.

The mention of Sergt.-Major Bowden brings back to my mind very vividly that splendid coterie of good soldiers and fellows through whose efforts No.1 was raised to the proud position of premier company in the old 5th. I am quite sure I could name at least fifty of them without effort. It is no surprise to me to learn that the old spirit still prevails and that they make up in efficiency what they lack in numbers. No. 2 was our great rival in those days, and there comes to my mind now the rhyme of Jack Sweet's,-

"'Tis said by some that Winsby had a fleeting  
dream one day

That he could muster men enough to take the  
shield away.

On going to press, I must confess, no courier  
hath run

To intimate or to relate the death of No.1."

Major M.K. Crockett - 2 -

Many of the fellows must remember 'old Jack', who, after giving promise of a splendid career in the field lost his life at Vimy Ridge.

But I must not allow myself to begin to reminisce, because I can go on seemingly forever.

Be sure and thank the fellows for their good wishes, which I most cordially reciprocate. I hope that the best of luck attends you in the competitions this year.

Yours faithfully,

322 Robertson St.

Victoria B.C.

March 18/24.

Dear Sir Arthur,

On Feb. 6th last my  
Battery held a dinner to  
celebrate the successes obtained  
at last years C.A.A. Competitions.

During the course of  
the evening Batty Sgt Major  
Bowden moved that a  
message of best wishes from  
his old Company (No 1) be  
sent to General Sir Arthur  
Currie -  
Through a misunderstanding

for which I must accept  
full responsibility the  
message was not sent to you.

This I deeply regret &  
I trust that you will  
forgive my neglect.

The boys of the battery  
are very enthusiastic  
in their work for the  
ensueing year & given  
a fair chance will  
make a good showing.

Recruiting is slow  
but much more encouraging.  
I have now 31 on whom

I can rely - Good types all  
of them.

The old Fifth is slowly  
but surely coming again into  
its own -

Kindest regards to Lady  
Bernie & yourself.

Yours very truly

W. Kirkpatrick Crockett

Assoc. No 1 Pathy, S. C. A.

December 15, 1924.

Lt. Col. F.B. Bagshaw,  
Great War Veterans Association,  
Regina, Saskatchewan.

*Draft prepared by someone  
not sent*

My dear Bagshaw:-

Your letter in which you ask me to make a contribution to your year-book brings vividly to mind the days when I contributed to the Fifth Battalion Annual.

My connection with the soldiers of Saskatchewan was a long and to me a happy one, from the time when, while I was on my way to Valcartier, a battery of gunners boarded the train and were under my command, until they reached the camp. It was not long before I was entrusted with the Fifth Brigade, and from then on I had under my command an increasing number of men of the Western Plains.

I can say without effort or exaggeration, without throwing any bouquets, that there were no finer men or better soldiers in the Canadian Corps. The qualities shown in those days are needed today for the work of peace. There was no thought of provincialism. Disinterested and loyal co-operation was the primary object of all. Every man had a man's part to play and he played it as best he could. We may agree today on an objective: the progress and the prosperity of Canada, but if that objective is to be reached every man must do his part earnestly and cheerfully. We must carry on without grousing, and take an active interest in our country's affairs, put aside any racial animosity, any party prejudice; we must do all we can to advance the cause of Canada.

Yours faithfully,

*Inv.*  
*Mill. Mess.*

February 9th, 1925.

S. B. Dundee, Esq.,  
Secretary, Fifth Battalion,  
Regina, Saskatchewan.

My dear Mr. Dundee:-

I was greatly interested and delighted to learn by your letter of the 5th that some of the old members of the 2nd Brigade intend to hold a Re-union next Friday night. It will be impossible for you to be with you in person as I have an engagement to be in New York that evening.

The names of your Committee bring back very vividly the days when I had the good fortune to command the 2nd Brigade,- always a very happy family. I cannot tell you how pleased I was on arriving at Valcartier to learn that I was to command the western brigade, and time most amply justified my satisfaction. I think I could at this present moment name hundreds of non-commissioner officers and men whom I knew in 1914-15. I think even at Valcartier we began to show that appreciation of responsibility of the necessity of preparation for the job in hand and of team play which formed the foundation of that splendid esprit de corps which characterized the brigade throughout the war. It would be impossible for me to express adequately in words the sentiments of affection and pride I felt in the brigade, my appreciation of their wonderful fighting ability and my gratitude

S. B. Dundee, Esq.,

- 2 -

for what they meant to me personally.

With all good wishes for  
the success of Friday's function and kindest  
remembrances to all, I am,

Yours faithfully,

2nd Brigade

1st Division, C.E.F.

# RE-UNION

AT

❁ REGINA ❁

COMMITTEE:

LT.-COL. K. C. BEDSON, D.S.O.,  
CHAIRMAN  
CAPT. F. B. BAGSHAW, 5TH BATTN.  
W. GREAVES, 5TH BATTN.  
J. LYNE, 7TH BATTN.  
G. H. ARMOUR, 8TH BATTN.  
J. A. KIRCALDY, 8TH BATTN.  
G. E. TOMSETT, 10TH BATTN.  
W. C. CURRIE, 10TH BATTN.  
CAPT. R. H. MATTHEWS, M.C.,  
MACHINE GUNS  
CAPT. G. R. CHETWYND, M.C., D.C.M.,  
ENGINEERS  
W. BREWIS, ENGINEERS.  
S. B. DUNDEE, 5TH BATTN.  
SECRETARY.

INFANTRY  
ARTILLERY  
ENGINEERS  
MEDICALS  
A. S. C.  
MACHINE GUNS  
TRENCH MORTARS

February 5th, 1925.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, C. C. M. G.,  
K. C. B., LL. D.,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Sir Arthur Currie:

From the heading of this paper you will notice that it is proposed to hold a Re-Union of the Second Brigade at Regina. The date is to be Friday, February the 13th. It seems too much to expect or hope that you can be with us on that occasion, but we want to invite our Old Brigadier, and nothing would please us better than to have him with us once again, recounting some of the things and recalling old experiences of the very earliest days. If you cannot be with us, however, in person, you will we know be with us in spirit, and if you would care to send any greeting at all, care will be taken that your message will be read to the Boys on the day, which is approximately the Tenth Anniversary of our landing in France.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

*S. B. Dundee*  
Secretary.

*Mill. memo*

November  
Eighth  
1921.

J. G. Elliott, Esq.,  
The British Whig Publishing Co.,  
306 King Street,  
Kingston, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 5th, in which you ask me to send a message to be published in a special section of the BRITISH WHIG, with reference to the Memorial Service at the Cenotaph in Kingston on Armistice Day.

I hope the attached will meet your requirements.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

# The British Whig Publishing Co., Limited

PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS  
AND BINDERS

306-8-10 KING STREET  
KINGSTON, ONT.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
McGill University.

November, 5th., 1921.

Dear Sir,-

With reference to the Memorial Service at the Cenotaph in Kingston on Armistice Day, the 11th, of November we propose to run a special section in the BRITISH WHIG containing messages from the leading Canadian Officers.

We shall be extremely grateful, if you will write a short message for this purpose, and forward it to us at the earliest convenient date.

Your kindness in furnishing this message of tribute to the courage, heroism and sacrifice of the personnel of the Canadian Corps would be a comfort to the bereaved ones, and a source of inspiration to those who are now trying to restore Canada to its former prosperity and maintain its prestige as a nation.

With kindest regards,

Yours very faithfully,

J. J. Elliott  
V.L.

*Phil m/s*

April  
Twelfth  
1923.

Colonel W. W. Foster,  
C/o. Evans, Coleman & Evans,  
Vancouver, B. C.

My dear Colonel:-

I cannot tell you how sorry I am that I did not comply with your request contained in your telegram of the 6th. It came as I was leaving the office and after reading it and sticking it in my pocket I never thought another thing about it until I ran across it this morning. I feel very much ashamed of myself for this oversight. I hope the fellows will forgive me.

We had a splendid evening at Ottawa with the Governor General. I saw only two there who came from west of the Lakes - Hennessey from Winnipeg and Leask from Moose Jaw. There were 170 present and the very best of good fellowship prevailed. It was an evening long to be remembered. The Governor General was deeply affected by his reception and I know that everyone was particularly pleased.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



CANADIAN PACIFIC R'Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH  
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FORM T. D. 1

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GENERAL SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

MONTREAL Q-

VIMY DAY DINNER VANCOUVER APRIL ELEVEN AND VICTORIA ON NINTH

CHAIRMAN BEING SELF AND COLONEL PECK RESPECTIVELY REGRET VERY MUCH

YOUR INABILITY BE PRESENT AND WOULD APPRECIATE MESSAGE FROM YOU

KINDLY REPLY VANCOUVER

W W FOSTER

6A7-

*Hilmes*

November 6th, 1926.

Major G. G. Aitken,  
P. O. Box 608,  
Victoria, B. C.

My dear Aitken:-

I appreciate very much indeed your letter of October 22nd, in which you told me of the Annual Dinner of the Victoria Fourandex to be held in Victoria on Saturday next, and in which you also are good enough to express the hope that it may be possible for me to be with you.

Nothing would please me better for the sake of being in Victoria and for the sake of being with you, my old fellow townsmen and my old comrades, but I am afraid it is not possible.

We, whose association was so close in days gone by, cannot meet, as you will next Saturday night, without feelings of deep and sincere emotion. While I cannot be with you I am going down next week to have dinner with the officers of the Maritime Provinces, who are dining together in St. John on November 11th. One glorious thought is that with them too I shall be very much at home and very happy. The Corps knows no provinces as such. All wore the same badge - Canada, and so whether we dine in Victoria, British Columbia, or in St. John, New Brunswick, we are first of all Canadians, wearing the same badge and cherishing the same ideals.

Major G. G. Aitken - 2 -

One often hears these days pleas for a less~~er~~ Provincialism and a greater nationalism amongst Canadians. We had all that in the old Corps and I think there would be less necessity for such a plea today if the spirit of the old Corps had always actuated returned soldiers since we came home.

Please give my love to all my old friends. I hope good fortune always smiles upon them.

Yours faithfully,



P. O. BOX 608

VICTORIA, B. C.

Oct. 22, 1926.

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

My dear General,

Upon behalf of No. 6 Company, Fourandex of Canada, I have the honour to advise you that the Victoria Fourandex Annual Armistice Dinner will be held on Saturday evening, November 13th next, and to respectfully extend to you, Sir, a most hearty invitation to attend.

The membership of this organization in Victoria is composed almost entirely of your old fellow townsmen who had the honour of serving under you in France.

The principal aim and object of the Fourandex is to perpetuate the "Corps Spirit" of Good Fellowship, Discipline, and Devotion to duty, which inspired us whilst serving in France under such leaders as yourself. As briefly put in the words of our slogan -

"To perpetuate the Corps Spirit of unity and service which inspired our men in War, that it may be preserved in peace as the chief impulse in the upbuilding of Canadian nationality, and in the defense of Canada and the British Empire."

We endeavour to attract to our ranks the type of exservice man who, for various reasons, cannot take an active part in the work of other returned soldier organizations. We do not duplicate in any way the splendid work already being done by those other organizations which, happily, now give promise of organising nearer to one compact body.

Our qualifications for membership include the provision that applicant must have an honourable record of service, well and truly performed, within some fighting zone during the Great War. He must also have an equally honourable record in civil life.



P. O. BOX 608

VICTORIA, B. C.

Oct. 22, 1926.

(2)

Periodically, we hold dinners or smokers to commemorate battles or particular incidents which occurred during the progress of the War, and many times in meeting we have discussed the possibility of having yourself as our Guest of Honour. Standing as our organisation does for the "Corps Spirit", it would be the greatest possible inspiration to our members could we again meet with, and listen to a few words from, our old time Corps Commander.

If you are unable to be with us on November 13th next, might we dare to hope that perhaps at some future date, convenient to yourself, we could have the pleasure of entertaining you as our Guest of Honour?

Assuring you, Sir, of the continued love and respect of all ranks in the Fourandex of Victoria,

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*George G. Aitken*  
C.O. No. 6 Company,  
Fourandex, Canada.

*Major (late) 5th Regt. Ca.*

# REUNION WEEK ENCAMPMENT

"VANCOUVER OR BUST"—JUNE 30 TO JULY 7, 1923

## CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES:

### SPORTS:

LT.-COL. A. LESLIE COOTE

### FINANCE:

LT.-COL. JACK LECKIE, D.S.O.

### ENTERTAINMENT:

T. M. HARNETT

### RECEPTION:

E. A. QUINN

### TRANSPORTATION:

FRANK WATERS

### TROPHIES:

MAJ. P. H. SMITH

### AUDITOR:

H. A. LEES



"Vancouver or Bust"

## ADVISORY EXECUTIVE:

BRIG.-GEN. V. W. ODLUM, C.M.G., D.S.O.

LT.-COL. W. W. FOSTER, D.S.O.

LT.-COL. C. E. EDGETT, D.S.O.

CAPT. IAN MACKENZIE

R. ROWE HOLLAND, R.N.V.R.

J. J. BANFIELD

H. S. ROLSTON

### SECRETARY:

WALTER DRINNAN

### ORGANIZER:

DAVID LOUGHNAN

PHONES: SEY. 7815-1443

304 CREDIT FONCIER BUILDING  
VANCOUVER, CANADA

May 3rd, 1923

Sir:

I have delayed acknowledging your very kind letter of April 13 in order that I might be able to give you some further information as to the progress of our Reunion. But may I first thank you both for your interest in The Fourandex and the undeserved confidence you express towards myself.

We have this day received word from Ottawa that the Annual Dominion Convention of the G.W.V.A. will be held in Vancouver during Reunion Week. We also expect a special railway rate so the gathering should be one of a unique character and include men from all parts of the Dominion.

Since success seems now assured, may I be permitted to add to Brig.-Gen. Odlum's invitation on behalf of the Vancouver C.O.'s, that of our G.W.V.A. members and the ex-service men of the province generally that you honour us with your presence during Reunion Week. The reunion spirit is very much in evidence now and the attendance of our Corps Commander at this meet in his own province would afford immense satisfaction and pleasure to us all.

Sincerely trusting that you will be able to be with us.

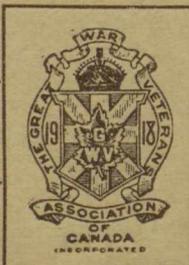
I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

General Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

*David Loughnan*  
Organizer Reunion Week.

"AS YOU WERE"

IS THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF REUNION WEEK. COPIES  
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REUNION WEEK HEADQUARTERS  
GREAT WAR VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA,  
901 DUNSMUIR STREET, VANCOUVER, CANADA



CANADIAN PACIFIC R'Y. CO.'S  
**TELEGRAM**

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD  
J. McMILLAN, General Manager of

2198 FY 13 RUSH

STJOHN NB APL21.

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

G C MB MONTREAL.Q.

FIRST CONTINGENT VETERANS ASSEMBLED TONIGHT WISH YOU MANY HAPPY RETURNS  
OF THE DAY

MAJOR MORGAN

545P

*585*  
*up 1911*  
*(out of train)*  
*sent*

*mil messages*

2

May  
Second  
1923.

Major Morgan,  
St. John, N. B.

Dear Major Morgan:-

I am heartily ashamed of myself for not acknowledging before this the kind telegram received from the First Contingent Veterans on April 21st.

It so happens that I was away in Hamilton and Toronto that week end and did not see your telegram until several days after my return. I hope when the opportunity next presents itself you will convey to all who are gathered there my warm thanks for their kindly thoughtfulness and my best wishes to them.

Of course, every one is entitled to their own opinion of battles, but we never fought one quite like the 1st Battle of Ypres. The history of the Canadian Corps might have been very different had not those Ypres veterans established a tradition of stick-to-itaviness and grim fighting determination unsurpassed in the annals of war.

With best of luck to you and all old comrades, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

*mil mes.*

December 23, 1924.

Sergeant A.G. Morry,  
Sergeants' Mess,  
5th Regiment, C.G.A.  
Bay Street, Victoria, B.C.

My dear Sergeant Morry:-

Thank you very much for the good wishes expressed in your letter of the 15th, and these I most cordially reciprocate to yourself and all the members of the Messregiment.

The photograph you mention arrived last night, and I was indeed very glad to get it. I gave myself an honest test, and I was able to name practically every old member of the Mess, without any reference to the legend below! Old Frank Hatcher does not appear to be a minute older.

It was a very kind thought on the part of my old friends to send me this reminder of our former association, and I assure them through you that their courtesy was much appreciated.

I hope you have good news about the Governor General's Cup.

With best wishes,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

*mil ms.*

May 5th, 1924.

Albert G. Morry, Esq.,  
The Armoury,  
Victoria, B. C.

My dear Sergeant Morry:-

Thank you very much for  
your letter of April 25th conveying the good  
wishes of the Sergeants of the old Regiment.

It is very kind on your part  
and very gratifying to me to know that you think  
of me at all at your meetings.

The names you mention recall  
very pleasant associations and I am sure I wish  
all of you every blessing fortune can bestow.

Yours faithfully,

The Armory Victoria B.C. 191  
April 25<sup>th</sup> /24

General Sir Arthur Currie K.C.M.G. C.M.B.  
Mc Gill University.

Dear General Currie.

After the toast to our Honorary  
Colonel, during a Re-union of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment  
C.G.A. Sergeant's Mess. - The present and past  
members of the Mess, were unanimous in con-  
-veying to you their Greetings and best wishes.

We remain

yours truly

Sgt Mess 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment C.G.A.  
Albert G. Morry. O.R.S.

Hon Sec. Treas.

P.S. Dear General, all the old members, such as

Capt. Lorrain, Hollins, McDougall,  
Boydshaw, Ross, Kinloch, Thomas  
Henry, Holland. & others  
yours truly A.G. Morry

Colonel Ross Napier,  
Victoria

All good wishes  
and kind remembrances  
to old comrades of Ypres day.

May the tenth anniversary  
find our spirit as courageous,  
our faith as serene, our  
determination as firm, in  
all that concerns our Country's  
welfare as in those listless  
days of anguish and trial.

A. W. Murray

Phil  
Murray

## CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY'S TELEGRAPH



## TELEGRAM

RECEIVED AT UPTOWN BRANCH  
 COR. PEEL & ST. CATHERINE  
 PHONE UPTOWN 7069

All Messages are received by this Company for transmission, subject to the terms and conditions printed on their Blank Form No. 2, which terms and conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message. This is an unrepeat message, and is delivered by request of the sender under these conditions.

J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

46RANR24 5 EX FONED

U VICTORIA BC APR 17TH

GENERAL SIR A W CURRIE

241 DRUMMOND ST

MONTREAL

NO SIX COMPANY FOURANDEX HOLD YPRES COMMEMORATIVE BANQUET TOMORROW NIGHT  
 WOULD APPRECIATE WIRE FROM YOU ON OCCASSION IF POSSIBLE

COLONEL NAPIER

O C NO 6 COMPANY

348PM

Nickle & Farrell  
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

J. M. FARRELL

W. M. NICKLE

Mail <sup>has</sup>

TELEPHONE: W. F. NICKLE, 23

J. M. FARRELL, 709

W. M. NICKLE, 893

Kingston  
Canada

September 12th, 1924.

General Sir Arthur Currie, K.C.B. &c.  
Principal McGill University,  
MONTREAL, Quebec.

My dear Sir Arthur:-

On Friday Evening, September 19th,  
at 8 P.M. the 21st Canadian Infantry Battalion, which was  
mobilized in Kingston, is having a re-union dinner.  
Would you be kind enough to send us a telegram of good  
wishes, addressed to Lieut.Col. H.E. Pense, D.S.O., Hotel  
Frontenac, Kingston.

With kind personal regards,  
Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Lt Col H.E. Pense DSO  
Hotel Frontenac Kingston  
W.M. Nickle  
All good wishes to my old comrades of  
the twenty-first battalion on the occasion  
of their annual re-union dinner. It is  
worth while to foster the old traditions  
and keep alive the old traditions  
and keep alive the old traditions

**DOCKET STARTS:**

PANET, ETC.

*Trul mess*

August 17, 1923.

Major General Henri Panet, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Dept. of National Defence,  
Ottawa, Ont.

My dear General:-

Thank you very much for your letter of the 16th telling me something about your trip to Sault Ste. Marie. I was sorry I could not go; as a matter of fact Colonel Jones advertised that I would be present without any authorisation on my part. I told him I might go, but more than likely I could not. In the end I found it absolutely impossible to go. I have no doubt that many people thought I was casual or indifferent about the Celebration, and it is extremely embarrassing for me.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



CANADA

Department of National Defence

(Militia Service)

Ottawa, Canada, 16th August, 1923.

My dear Sir Arthur,-

I returned on Tuesday from my trip to Sault Ste. Marie, hence my delay in writing to inform you that I had delivered your message. Your letter was handed to me as I boarded the train on the 3rd instant.

I delivered your message on Saturday evening at a reception and concert held in the Arena. The place was jammed; your message was very well received and appreciated very much by Colonel Jones, the Mayor, and the Citizens of Sault Ste. Marie.

The celebration was a great success, but rather disappointing in the number which attended. No doubt they would clear expenses, but will not likely make any money for the Returned Men's Club Rooms at Sault Ste. Marie.

The organization undertaken by Colonel Jones was perfect in every detail. The returned men worked very hard. Their reproduction of Snargate Trench at the Vimy Ridge Battle was very well carried out. Fifty of the returned men had undertaken to reproduce this work, and they worked every evening for a month. It was complete in every detail and they deserve a great deal of credit. We were very well looked after by the citizens, who did everything to make our stay enjoyable and pleasant.

I returned on Tuesday, the 9th instant, and spent the week-end in Kingston.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Lieut-General Sir A.W. Currie,  
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
The Principal, McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

August 3, 1923.

Major General Henri Panet, C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O.  
Ottawa, Ont.

My dear General Panet,

I am so glad to learn that you are going to Sault St. Marie to participate in the celebrations held there next week. I am particularly happy that you have consented to deliver a message from me. In the first place, will you convey to the citizens of Sault St. Marie and their guests my profound regret at my inability to join in the reunion of Returned Men and the Celebration commemorating the Battle of Amiens and the three-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the Sault Rapids and Lake Superior. In the second place will you say to them that I know of no officer in the Canadian Corps whom I would prefer to yourself to represent me in any reunion of returned men.

It is not a difficult matter to establish a connection between the discovery of Lake Superior and Canada's participation in the Great War. The very qualities which carried our pioneer forefathers to success in their early explorations of what is now Canada were the same qualities which enabled the Canadian Corps to triumph over every difficulty, to surmount every obstacle, and to

Aug. 3, 1923.

win imperishable glory for themselves and their country. Both required physical strength, an indomitable will, a strong determination and an unbending faith in the mercy and justice of God.

Such celebrations as will be initiated on next Saturday night (the anniversary of the declaration of War) are in an especial manner sources of inspiration. Our minds at once go back to the early history of our country and we travel once more the road our forefathers trod when, from the wilderness of Canada, they made a land rich in resources, rich in promise, rich in opportunities. Of this country of whose history we may well be proud is to reach the high destiny marked out for her our people must continue to be true to those traditions of liberty, justice, <sup>righteousness</sup> ~~religion~~ and the sanctity of the law on which our foundations were so firmly established. On that score I, for one, have no fear. In the vitally testing days of the Great War abundant proof was given that Canada and Canadians were true to the ideals and traditions of the past.

The Celebration should be a period of grateful appreciation of the importance and value of our heritage. We should remember the great souls whose influence in the up-building of our country we are unable to estimate and only imperfectly appreciate. We should remember the great bequests they have made and which are now ready for our use and for our enrichment. We should think of the mighty set of circumstances we find at our disposal, the inventions, the discoveries and the materials all shaped and ready for our use. We should ponder upon the huge mountains of thoughts, ideals, standards and traditions which our forefathers have bequeathed us. They have left something of their

Aug. 3, 1923.

vitality behind them; they have enriched us beyond the power of calculation. Herein is the saying true "One man soweth and another reapeth. Other men labour and ye have entered into their labours". So from our storehouse of memories today we must draw and apply first a reverence for tradition. I do not mean that we should call our country to build in the past but rather on the past. Sometimes one would almost think it were the custom today to sneer at traditions and to attempt to make all things new, to produce a mushroom growth in a night. One fears at times that our world is getting too rapidly away from traditions instead of slowly broadening down from precedent to precedent. If we lose or forget the traditions of our forefathers, the traditions that made and peopled this country when it was still emerging from a wilderness, the traditions that called the Canadian Colonies into virile and optimistic being, if we forget or ignore the traditions for which Canada has stood as a mighty bulwark against all the shock of time, then our splendour will soon fade and our usefulness will be no more. I would appeal to all to be true to those great traditions of simplicity, justice, righteousness and faith in the local and national life. For when traditions are neglected in war or peace there can no longer be glory upon the earth. Old Omar was probably right when he wrote -

"I sometimes think that never blows so red  
The rose as where some buried Caesar bled;  
That every hyacinth the garden wears  
Dropped in her lap from some once lovely head."

Aug. 3, 1923.

Another lesson out of the past and one which Canadians must not ignore is the lesson of work. Our ancestors were men of virile toil. The whole history of our country should have taught us this lesson and the world needs it today. Any man who does not, with his brain or his muscle, perform useful work is unworthy of citizenship in a civilized land. Work is enjoyable and beautiful, as all who work well know. Most of the ills of society would disappear if men worked more and talked less about theories of reform. All great and good work is religion. I do not mean that our work should ever make us slaves or hinder us from enjoying the beautiful, or even that it should be performed merely for the amassing of wealth, yet it is possibly better, as old Falstaff said, "to be eaten to death with rust than to be scoured to death with perpetual motion", But honest labour should not mean a feverish haste after business. It means, as Thomas a Kempis said, that "joy will always be thine in the evening if thou hast spent the day well". Life without work would be a series of unintelligible accidents,--a truth that is sometimes forgotten in modern days.

I would like to say to the people of Sault Ste. Marie that I know something from personal experience in another land and in another sphere of the ideals which animate the men of the Sault district. I know that hundreds of them laid down their young and promising lives for the protection of the weak and in the cause of justice and righteousness and truth five years ago when the trumpet of freedom blew and

"Here is no need of pity; died the heroes still  
Strong and triumphant till the last brave breath.  
Fronting the battle, heart and soul and will,  
They died the Splendid Death."

Aug. 3, 1923.

They sleep today in the peace that is unending beneath the Poppies of Flanders or the Roses of France. They wore their "Canada" badge without a blush and they met the challenge of death with a smile, for they were young Canadians of our founder's vision, and they justified our fathers' faith. They are separated from us today by the cold obstruction of the grave, but their sacrifice remains with us, a sacred possession until the end of time.

"No whisper from that far and silent land  
Where now they dwell can reach your longing ears,  
But it may be they see and understand  
All you achieve in thought and action here.  
Deep in their debt you stand. The name you bear  
Is glorious with the honour they have won.  
So hold it all your days, that you may dare  
To meet them proudly when your work is done."

In conclusion let me recall to the minds of some old comrades the custom of the old ladies of France who used always to say to those who were going to the battle line after their training or their rest "Bon chance, mon ami, Que la bon Dieu vous protege." - "Good luck, my friend. May the good God protect you." And so I say to all assembled tonight, do to the end the duty that lies nearest wherever the pathway of life may lead you, and may, not the God of Mammon, or even the God of Comfort, but may the God of Love be with you always.

With my sincere good wishes to all, I am  
dear General Panet,

Ever yours faithfully,



*Int*

# CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH

# TELEGRAM

1034 FORM T.D. 1

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

X252 RN MA 148 *[Handwritten initials]*

TORONTO ONT JULY 27/23

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

*595 Sherbrooke W*

MCGILL UNIVERSITY MONTREAL QUE

*My 1911*  
*send up immediately*

SINCE TELEPHONING YOU TODAY HAVE SEEN COL JONES HE ASSURES  
ME THAT SPEECH DESIRED FROM YOU ON SATURDAY EVENING SHOULD NOT TAKE  
MORE THAN TEN MINUTES AND CAN BE QUITE PERFUNCTORY IN CHARACTER STOP  
THE UNVEILING OF TWO MEMORIALS CAN BE THREE MINUTE SPEECHES STOP THIRTY  
TWO PAGE PROGRAMME WITH YOUR PICTURE AND BIOGRAPHY IS ALREADY PRINTED  
AND WHOLE MILITARY PROGRAMME IS CENTERED ABOUT YOU STOP JONES FEELS  
CELEBRATION WILL BE A FAILURE WITHOUT YOUR



# CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH

## TELEGRAM

FORM T.D. 1

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

X252. RN MA SHEET 2

PRESENCE STOP YOU CAN LEAVE MONTREAL FRIDAY NIGHT ARRIVE SOO SATURDAY  
AFTERNOON LEAVING SOO FOR MONTREAL MONDAY NOON ARRIVING MONTREAL

TUESDAY MORNING STOP I WOULD PERSONALLY GO TO MONTREAL TO COME THROUGH  
WITH YOU OR MEET YOU AT NORTH-BAY SATURDAY MORNING I PERSONALLY KNOW  
THAT PEOPLE OF SOO AND THEIR VISITORS ARE ABSOLUTELY LOOKING FORWARD  
SEEING YOU THERE AND THAT THE CELEBRATION IS PREDICATED UPON YOUR  
PRESENCE AS FORMER HEAD OF CANADIAN ARMY

T GIBSON

453P

TELEPHONED  
At 5:20 P.M. by *Only*

*send*

*5:20 P.M.*

C.P.R.

Col. T. Gibson,

Aug. 3, 1923.

c/o Spanish River Pulp & Paper Co.  
707 Bank of Hamilton Bldg.  
Toronto, Ont.

General Panet leaves Ottawa tonight and will read  
letter from me.

A. W. Currie.

July 18th, 1923.

Colonel T. Gibson,  
707 Bank of Hamilton Bldg.,  
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Colonel:-

Now that I am writing to you it seems to me that I should say something about the Sault Ste. Marie celebration.

When Colonel Jones visited me in May or June I told him that I might go. I think I even went so far as to say that probably I would go, but at the same time I told him that it was impossible for me to give him a definite promise. I was quite surprised when I saw it advertized in the Press that I would be present at the celebration next month. Frankly, I do not see how I can be there. I have been unable to get away from the University yet, on account of troublesome appointments that must be filled. I have been bothered some by my boy's operation, which, I am glad to say, has turned out all right, but I would like to take him somewhere to give him a chance to recuperate as quickly as possible. Furthermore, my mother is in very indifferent health and is very anxious to me to spend some time with her at the old home in Strathroy.

On top of this the Colonel wants me to make a couple of speeches at different functions to be held in connection with the celebration, a proceeding for which I am in no great humour. I have decided to write to him and tell him that it will be impossible for me to go.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

GIBSON & GIBSON

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.

THOMAS GIBSON J. G. GIBSON

TELEPHONE MAIN 5780

CABLE ADDRESS "SONGIB"

ROOMS 707-11  
BANK OF HAMILTON BUILDING

TORONTO, CANADA

May 9th,  
1923.

General Sir Arthur Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

My dear General:-

Referring to my previous letter to you regarding the Reunion at the Soo in August, I quote the following paragraphs from a letter just received from Col. Jones:-

"We are getting under way very well with our Reunion and it is developing into something really large. It is really going to be a great show. It is to be a Reunion of all Returned Men in the North Country from North Bay to the Manitoba boundary line and from the International boundary North, and coupled as the Reunion will be with the 300th. anniversary of the discovery of these parts by Brule the whole matter will have very strong significance. There certainly is going to be a big crowd and I think the celebration will be one of peculiar importance to the returned men in that it will be the greatest Reunion that has been held in Canada since the war.

There will be a number of Memorial Monuments unveiled, probably three, in addition to about twelve tablets marking historical events."

You will see from his letter that it is going to be a really big show. It has already been noised about in the District that you are coming and everyone feels that the Celebration will not be complete without your presence. I am taking the liberty, therefore, of writing you again and asking you if you will not make a special effort to come. You will

(2)

General Sir Arthur Currie (continued)

appreciate of course, that the earlier you can speak definitely  
the more use they can make of it up there.

With personal regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Simon

TG/ML.

**DOCKET ENDS:**

PANET, ETC.

*J. W. Paul Mrs*

March 27th, 1924.

Captain George E. Cole,  
Box 356, South Porcupine,  
Ontario.

Dear Captain Cole:-

I am in receipt of your letter of March 20th conveying to me the invitation of the returned soldiers of the Porcupine Mining Camp to attend the dinner at South Porcupine on April 9th, in celebration of the anniversary of Vimy Ridge.

I am very sorry that I cannot be with you all on this occasion, but I have a long-standing engagement to attend a similar function at Government House on the same evening. I welcome this opportunity, however, of sending my good wishes to all old comrades of mine who will be present at your dinner.

I am thinking about them more than usual to-day because I am reminded of the events of six years ago. On the 27th of March, 1918, I felt so impressed with the seriousness of the situation that I wrote a special order, which you may remember. In it I endeavoured to express the grave nature of the events then transpiring and my firm confidence in the ability of our fellows to overcome every difficulty and surmount every obstacle. To-day, when we must face the tasks that sometimes make the spirit quake, I am sure we all draw inspiration from thoughts of those darker days when we met undismayed

Captain George E. Cole - 2 -

more irksome burdens and more terrifying duties.

I believe that before another ten years have elapsed Canada will be called upon to make a decision just as momentous as any she faced in the troubled days which ended on November 11th, 1918. In my confidence that her action will be as true to British traditions as they ever were in the war I am again placing my trust in the members of the Canadian Corps, and in those who stand for freedom, political and otherwise, and tolerance and justice to all. I believe that if the fellows we left behind in France could speak to us to-day, they would charge us to keep faith with them and with our fathers who lived and died for liberty and all the British Empire implies. If we keep that faith Canada will emerge with honour from the clouds which now dimly darken our horizon, but which seem to grow more menacing as the days go by.

There is work for us all to do and a duty to perform, in peace as in war. In the performance of that duty let us not forget that,-

"Not once nor twice in our fair country's story  
The path of duty was the way to glory".

At the dinner which our old Chief is giving in Ottawa I am sure all of you will be remembered.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Box 356,

South Porcupine, Ontario.

March 26th., 1924.

Sir:-

The returned soldiers of the Porcupine Mining Camp have organized to hold a dinner at South Porcupine on April 9th. at 8.30 p.m. to celebrate the anniversary of Vimy Ridge.

The undersigned has the honour on behalf of the Committee in charge to extend to you a hearty invitation to join with us in renewing acquaintances and of keeping in memory that glorious though strenuous day.

This area has much to offer the visitor in the way of its mines. It is felt that in honouring us with your presence, you will not fail to appreciate this great Northland which gave freely of its able bodied men, when the call came in the years between 1914 and 1918.

The writer is a graduate of McGill University in Arts and Science.

We would appreciate your reply saying whether you can be with us on April 9th.

General Sir Arthur Currie G.C.M.G.,  
K.C.B., LL.D.,  
Principal of McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

Your obedient servant,

*Geo. E. Cole*

( formerly Captain & Adjutant  
3rd., Tunnelling Co., Canadian  
Engineers ).

**DOCKET STARTS:**

ROBERTSON

## CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY'S TELEGRAPH



## TELEGRAM

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

P 104 VR S 48 NL

VICTORIA BC MAR 21-24

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

MONTREAL QUE

AT ENTHUSIASTIC DINNER GATHERING OF FORMER AND PRESENT OFFICERS  
 FIFTH REGIMENT LAST NIGHT YOUR LETTER WAS READ AND WARMLY  
 RECEIVED WE DRANK YOUR HEALTH IN TRUE HIGHLAND STYLE YOUR OLD  
 COMRADES REGRET YOUR ABSENCE BUT EXTEND THANKS FOR YOUR MESSAGES  
 AND BEST WISHES TO YOURSELF AND LADY CURRIE

F. A. ROBERTSON

1407A

Am

*5th mess*

March 13th, 1924.

Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Robertson, D.S.O.,  
B.C. Returned Soldier Commission,  
Victoria, B. C.

My dear Colonel:-

Your letter of the 6th of March, supplementing the kind invitation personally extended by you in Montreal to dine with the officers of the 5th Regiment on the 20th instant, brings to my heart a feeling of homesickness and a longing to be with you all again. Yet I know that a dinner in the 5th Mess is not an occasion for regretful feelings of any kind. Some of the most joyous evenings in my life were spent as you will spend the 20th,- an excellent dinner, with something suitable to wash it down, good fellowship and good comradeship, recollections of happy far-off days and battles long ago. What more could a soldier want?

No doubt my old chief, Colonel Gregory will recall the day on which I was a very awkward and timid orderly to him on the occasion of an annual inspection. Colonel Scotty Jones can, if

he will, tell the younger officers how well-off they are in these days contrasted with the days when he was accustomed to be Army Service Corps officer, Army Ordnance Corps officer and Paymaster all in one. If Major Hibben becomes confidential get him to relate the valuable services Sikh servants can render Charlie Bennett I first saw when he was acting as a Range officer nearly thirty years ago, but I recall more vividly his leading of his Company in the attack on the Quadrilateral on October 8th, 1916.

Do not let Nobby Clark serve any of the famous R.P. cocktails,- they are not good for young fellows like Wooly, Wimsby and Harry Graham. If Ridgeway and Stern and J.C. Newbury insist on playing poker see that the mess limit is observed. I am told that Major Drake is more than usually enthusiastic when describing the virtues of the younger Drake, and I also noted in a recent 'Colonist' that Pete Lampman is playing par golf these days. His form was always exemplary and I advise those who have not noticed it to take the first opportunity of observing him in action. I am glad to see that Doug McConnam, the fierce-tongued Adjutant, whose virtues poor old Jack Sweet was wont to extol in verse, and those other

Adjutants, Harry Pooley and Alexis Martin, and Captain Jameson are expected to be with you. George Jay will be there, also Major Sargeson, who was my first Company Commander, and good old Dr. Hart, but where is Colonel Peters? No function of the 5th will be quite complete without his genial presence.

Give my love to all of them. I haven't mentioned Bobby Roberts, Chester, Monck, Corbett, Crocker, Aitken, Billy Langley, but I assure you that I have not forgotten anyone. I believe I could name hundreds of the boys who make up the rank and file.

I cannot tell you how proud I have always been of the old 5th Regiment, nor of my association with it. I have had peculiarly good opportunities of observing most of the Militia regiments in Canada and I am firmly convinced that the 5th is one of the most efficient of them all. I am glad that it still maintains its proud position and I am sure that with its allegiance to its old traditions, its high standard of training, the inspiration and guidance it receives from its present officers, its fame will grow greater as the years pass by. On many occasions in Canada's brief history the worth and usefulness of the Militia have been strikingly demonstrated. All patriotic

citizens should give it the fullest measure of support. It is their duty to do so, while it is the duty of those who belong to our forces to take their work seriously and make themselves efficient and ready to play a man's part if the need should ever again arise.

Let us not forget that not once nor twice in "our fair country's story, the path of duty was the way to glory".

With all good wishes to the old Regiment, and to all its members and well-wishers, I am,

Yours ever,

HON. J. D. MACLEAN, PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,  
HON. CHAIRMAN.

LIEUT.-COL. F. A. ROBERTSON, D.S.O.,  
CHAIRMAN.



THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE.

YOUR REFERENCE.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA RETURNED SOLDIER COMMISSION

VICTORIA, B.C..

March 6th, 1924.

General Sir Arthur Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear General:-

The Officers of the 5th Regiment request the pleasure of your company at a reunion Dinner to be held in their Mess Rooms, Armouries, on the 20th instant. Amongst the old timers whom we expect to be present on that occasion are the following:- Col. A.W. Jones, City Magistrate George Jay, Major A.J.Sargison, D.B.McConnan, Col. Gregory, W.A.Jameson, Major Hibben, Col. C.C.Bennett, Major B.H.T.Drake, R.H.Pooley, Dr. Hart, Alexis Martin, Judge Lampman, Major Langley, Col. Hall, Col. Ridgeway Wilson, Col. Winsby, J.C. Newbury, Major C.M. Roberts, Major Cobbett, Major Woolison, Major Stern, Gen. R.P.Clarke, Harry Graham and John Hart. In addition to these we will have representatives from District Headquarters, the Navy and other Militia units in the City and there will be about twenty officers of the present strength of the Regiment. We will have a total of about sixty so we anticipate a pleasant evening.

If you find it impossible to be present we would like to have you send a letter which can be read at the Dinner as a message from the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and its most distinguished commanding officer will be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

*F.A. Robertson*

Lt.Col.  
O.C. 5th Regt. C.G.A.

FAR/VC

**DOCKET ENDS:**

ROBERTSON



CANADIAN PACIFIC R'Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH  
TELEGRAM 1136

FORM T. D. 1

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J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

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VICTORIA BC APR 28

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

MCGILL UNIVERSITY MONTREAL QUE

OFFICERS SIXTEENTH BATALION HONORARY MEMBERS OF MESS AND

GUESTS ASSEMBLED AT REGIMENTAL DINNER ANNIVERSARY SECOND

BATTLE OF YPRES SEND GREETINGS TO THEIR COMMANDER IN THE FIELD

& TOP WISH YOU WERE WITH US

URQUHART

1250

W

*mil news*

COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT BY  
**Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph**

*Night letter April 30/23*  
Col. H. M. Urquhart CMLC RSC  
1030 Cook St. Victoria B.C.

Your kind & thoughtful message much appreciated. The 16th Bn. Canadian Scottish established at Ypres 1915 - traditions of inestimable value to Canada. Good luck to all old comrades & to the Regiment in the Canadian Militia perpetuating 16th traditions.

*Alister*

