

~ LIEUTENANT JOHN ROWAND GEDDES ~

Last week Mr. and Mrs. Alex Geddes of Arran Tp. received word that their son, Lieut. John R., of the Royal Flying Corps, had been killed in France.

They had just received a letter from him and dated October 21st, that he was leaving for France in his plane. The next news was a cablegram that he had been killed. Apparently he had been in France not more than a week.

Lieut. Geddes was using one of the light, swift fighting planes capable of travelling at 130 miles an hour and could drop at the rate of 300 miles an hour.

Lieut. Geddes had been wounded in a previous encounter in France, had recovered and had taken a special course in England. Just before he wrote his last letter he said he had been run into by an auto but not hurt very much.

The announcement of his death gave no particulars.

Lieut. John R. Geddes was born Sept. 15, 1894. He got his first education in Gowanlock school, then in Port Elgin High School, where, as a young lad, he established a record for having secured his matriculation, under Principal Bald, in two years. Being too young for Normal school, he went back to the farm until he was old enough to go to Normal. Then he went to Stratford, secured his teachers standing and taught first at Sang's school. Then he taught near Woodstock, enlisting in September 1915 in the 71st. While in England, he took up a course in the Royal Flying Corps.

No finer type of young man has given up his life in this great war, for liberty and justice, than John R. Geddes. He was clever, ambitious and a Christian gentleman. A leader of young men in all the higher things of life, and a man of fine athletic training.

Acknowledgment - copied from a clipping from the Port Elgin Times.

