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CANADIAN BATTLE-FIELDS TO-DAY

TRENCHES ARE FAST CRUMBLING TO RUINS.

Canadian Soldier Re-Visits Scenes Where He Fought—War-Scared Ground Brings Sad But Proud Memories.

Struggling French peasants are attempting to restore a miserable resemblance to what they formerly lived in, in the war wrecked neighborhoods of their country, according to what Major W. M. (Billy) Nickle, M.C., son of W. F. Nickle, K.C., M.P., of Kingston, says. Major Nickle has just returned from a visit to the old battle lines in France. Having gone to France as a private in the Princess Pats, been promoted to the rank of officer, and having been wounded three times whilst bearing that rank, Major Nickle gives a vivid story of the country as one who sees it from the view of a veteran.

"The thing which impressed me most," says Major Nickle, "in passing through the areas familiar to Canadians, from Douai to Vimy, from Lens to Loos, to La Bassee, Hazebrouck and Passchendaele, was the way the peasants came back to the shell shattered villages which they left in the dark days of 1914, only to find their homes and surroundings absolutely wrecked and ruined by enemy gunfire and other means of destruction. These peasants are coming back to such towns as La Bassee, where there is not one wall of a house standing, bringing with them a pick and shovel and a few other crude tools, intending to gather together a few whole bricks, bits of wood, etc., left behind by the advancing army, to build a roof over their heads, and once again settle in the district where they were born and raised.

"Until you see for yourself the success that the peasant has in making a new home for himself out of the destruction of war you have no conception of how well he gets on. Being a soldier myself, and knowing the hardships of the trenches, I was able to understand the tremendous hardship and sacrifice and discomfort they must go through during the time they are constructing their meagre domiciles.

"They are a gallant people. In one instance I called to a peasant, "Vive la France." He replied, "Merci Monsieur. Vive la Belle France." The people of France indeed love their country dearly.

"The soldier at home, who has not seen the old line for a great while, is likely wondering what it looks like now. In the sector around Kemmel and Armentieres there are large numbers of German prisoners clearing the country. About Passchendaele Chinese laborers are doing the same.

"Those who know pill boxes will appreciate how difficult it is to remove what the Germans considered their impregnable fortresses. In this sector there are no railways, few roads, and bad transport, so therefore it is hard to collect railway rails, barrels of cement and other war materials.

"The soldiers at home may be wondering how the old trenches are. Whether they have fallen in or not? Practically all of them have. The grass-hidden mouth of a dugout is occasionally to be seen, but even though they were occupied as late as last summer, they are now musty and out-of-date looking. The trenches are sliding in, and in the wet districts, like Ploegsteert and the Ypres sallient, are only ditches now. Down about the chalk country some of them are standing the wear of weather fairly well. But on the whole, the old front and reserve lines promise to disappear in a few seasons of the heavy Flanders rains.

"At St. Eloi I stood at what was once the lip of No. 2 Crater, and looked back over the country which was so familiar to us in the spring of 1916. It was beyond recognition. Dickebusch was gone. Its church spire, and even the walls of the church could not be seen. Reninghelst, where Gen. Mercer and many another Toronto man lies buried, and which nestled so cosily on the plain among the poplars, was barely the skeleton so often seen in the war zone. Voormezeele, of course, was as much obliterated as St. Eloi, and such familiar points to us as Shelley Farm, White Horse Cellars, Bus House and R6 were washed out as completely as heavy artillery can wash out small parts of the landscape.

"At Vimy the trenches are best preserved. Teddy Gerard, Billy Burke, Vesta Tilley and the other lines in that system, are very slowly decaying. One fall and one winter have placed their mark upon them, but even now they could be returned to condition as a strong line of resistance."

Major Nickle was impressed with the sadness of many scenes at the front. The flicker of hope seemed to show in the lives of the poor people returning to lands that are of no use, and will not be during their lives. Skeletons haunt every acre, and unexploded shells threaten death to the cultivator of every yard of ground.

On practically every thousand yard frontage of the old line, or at least on every brigade front, there is a graveyard. Hundreds and hundreds of Canadians lie still in their last sentry duty, a peaceful duty at last, may it be said, but sad to the person who stands above their silent sentry post and ponders upon what they yielded up in order to obtain this last "cushy job."

"Those of us who remain are in honor bound," says Major Nickle, "to protect the fruits of victory that the sacrifice of gallant men made it possible for us to obtain.

Wash black silks in water in which pared potatoes have boiled.

Egypt's population may be taken roughly, as composed of Egyptians 98½ per cent. and foreigners 1½ per cent.; of the total, 92 per cent of the people are Moslems, 7½ per cent. Christians, and ½ per cent. Jews. Of the Christians 83 per cent. are Copts.

The effect of war conditions upon the marriage rate is apparent from the quarterly summary of the Australian statistics. In 1914 the marriage rate was 8.80 per cent. of the mean population. In 1915 it advanced to 9.14, but fell successively to 8.21 in 1916, 6.87 in 1917, and 6.79 in 1918.

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for this tasteful blend of wheat & barley is ready-cooked.

Not a bit of waste.
Usable to the last crumb

Usual price 15¢ per package.

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EXILED MONARCHS OF TO-DAY

VAGRANT SOVEREIGNS PAST AND PRESENT.

Whereabouts of Europe's Dethroned Rulers—England Affords Asylum to Many Unfortunates.

"It is a privilege to live in this age of rapid and brilliant events. It is one of infinite romance. Thrones tumble down, and Crowns are offered like fairy tales."

These words of Disraeli, true enough at the time they were written, are still more true to-day, when almost half the thrones of Europe have been dramatically emptied, and their late occupants have scurried to safety like a flock of panic-stricken sheep.

Ex-King Constantine is skulking fearfully in Switzerland, which is also the asylum of the Grand Duchess of Luxemburg and the sister who was allowed to take her place for a few turbulent weeks.

Ludwig of Bavaria is racing and doubling like a scared rabbit through the forests about Munich, sleeping in a different place every night. Ferdinand of Bulgaria is said to be hiding under an assumed name, and disguised, in a vienna slum. The ex-Kaiser and his cub are eating out their black hearts in Holland.

And so on through the long list of fugitive and vagrant Sovereigns whom the world-upheaval has flung from their thrones.

Some Black Lists.

And so it has ever been. Uneasy, indeed, lies the head that wears a crown.

In France for the last century and a half of monarchy but one King—Louis XVIII.—finished his reign with his life. During the last hundred years Russia has seen the abdication of one Tsar—Constantine—and the dethronement and murder of three others—Paul I., Alexander II., and Nicholas II. Spain has rid herself of five rulers in the same period. Italy (including Sardinia) has had two abdications; and every ruler of Serbia has ended his brief reign in eclipse or tragedy.

Napoleon's downfall in 1814 emptied seven thrones, from Warsaw to Spain; and the wave of revolution in 1848 swept eight Sovereigns, including the Pope himself, into exile.

It was in that year of cataclysm that a shabby, elderly couple landed, one bleak March morning, at Newhaven, from the steamer Express, to resume their journey as "Mr. and Mrs. Smith." They were no other than Louis Philippe, ex-King of France, and his Queen, come to seek sanctuary on Britain's shores.

Twelve years later the Empress Eugenie was flying from Paris for her life, in the carriage of her dentist, Dr. Evans, on her way to the yacht of a friendly Englishman, bound for exiled safety at Chislehurst.

Britain's Royal Guests.

One September day in 1868 Isabella of Spain was whirled away in a special train from her lost throne and her infuriated subjects, in company with her feeble consort and her lover, Marfori, strolling player and cook's son.

With her round, heavy face swollen from sleeplessness and tears, surrounded by a little straw hat with a nodding red feather, with her dress in disorder, her hands gloveless, and her skirts distended by a swinging chinoline, "she presented," we are told, "a spectacle too pitiable for comedy."

Wood Norton, a palatial house near Evesham, has been the home of the exiled kings of France of the House of Orleans ever since the Duc d'Eumale made his home there seventy years ago. And among other fugitive Sovereigns for whom England has provided a home, not the least welcome are King Manuel of Portugal and his charming mother, Queen Amelie.

Perhaps the most pathetic of all these exiled rulers was Ranavolo, Queen of Madagascar, who, when she lost her crown, was taken to Paris to spend a sordid life "in a mean apartment in a third-rate hotel."

"I am a beggar," she once sadly remarked to a friend; "but one that receives no sympathy. Instead of a throne I am given a dinner, and instead of the allegiance of my people the ridicule of my conquerors."

Minard's Liniment used by Physicians.

WHERE MINERS ASCEND TO WORK

In the Rich Mountain Mines of Western Canada.

Miners working at a coal-mine in the Cascade Mountains of Canada do not descend a shaft, but have to climb up a mountain to a height of nearly a mile.

The mine is rich in coal, which occurs in many seams, and five of these are now beng worked at three different levels, the highest being 5,244 feet above sea level. The high altitude makes the means of approach a big item of expense, but it also makes the cost of transporting the coal correspondingly low, as each loaded truck runs down the incline from coal seam to ground level under its own weight, and at the same time pulls up an empty truck on the other side by a cable.

The coal obtained is anthracite, and this is the only anthracite located so far among the vast stores of coal in Canada.

The mine has an average yield of a thousand tons a day.

FREE

We give a beautiful gold locket and neck chain or two lovely rings absolutely free of cost to you. Send your name and address for 20 of our jewelry novelties to sell at 10c each. When sold send us the amount due, and we will immediately send you post paid the premium you select. Write today.

Best Premiums, Ltd., Amherst, N. S.

The Weekly Fashions

A combination worthy of praise is this figured Georgette and plain. McCall Pattern No. 8946, Misses' Dress. In 4 sizes, 14 to 20 years. Price, 25 cents.

On cool summer evenings one needs some sort of a wrap. This blouse coat would serve that purpose most admirably. McCall Pattern No. 8960, Ladies' Blouse-Coat Suit. In 8 sizes, 34 to 48 bust. Price, 25 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

Minard's Liniment Co., Ltd.

Gents,—I have used your Minard's Liniment in my family and also in my stables for years and consider it the best medicine obtainable.

Yours truly,
ALFRED ROCHAV,
Proprietor Roxton Pond Hotel and Livery Stables.

Witty Toasts.

Here are a few witty and amusing toasts given at banquets:

One rather cynical toast ran thus: "Woman—she reguires no eulogy; she speaks for herself."

At the wedding breakfast of a deaf and dumb couple, one guest, in the speech of the evening, wished them "unspeakable bliss."

At another gathering were toasted: "The Bench and the Bar; if it were not for the bar, there would be little use for the Bench.

The following was proposed at a shoemakers' dinner: "May we have all the women in the country to shoe, and all the men to boot."

A young man referred to one member of the sex he eulogised as "a delectable dear; so sweet that honey would blush in her presence, and treacle stand appalled."

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend.

Fourteen per cent. of the soldiers Canada sent overseas were farmer boys. Forty-three per cent. of the soldiers who return will become farmers. These facts, given out by the government, furnish an interesting sidelight on the changes war has made in soldier psychology.

It is always well to look a little ahead. Instead of deploring the dark clouds, let us anticipate the fruits and flowers that will follow the descent of the needed showers. We might be always wretched if we lived only in the present, for our brightest time is yet to come.—Spurgeon.

BITS OF HUMOR FROM HERE & THERE

Shades of Byron!

Customer—I'm looking for a copy of "Childe Harold."

Clerk—Juvenile books second aisle to the right.

Worked Fast.

"What references have you?"

"Thirty, sir; and all of them excellent."

"Good. And how long have you been driving a car?"

"Nearly a year now, sir."

Too Much For the Judge.

The chauffeur had been haled into court for speeding and running down a pedestrian. "Your Honor," said the chauffeur, "it was all my fault. The pedestrian was not to blame." And the poor judge never recovered.

Not So Fast.

The registrar was filling in the marriage certificate.

"Let me see," he mused, forgetting the date. "This is the fifth isn't it?"

"No, indeed, sir," responded the bride, blushing furiously, "only the third."

Poor Prospects.

"Propinquity is what brings about marriages," declared the father of three single daughters in didactic mood.

"Yes?" murmured his wife.

"It works this way. From among the men who call most frequently at a house the daughters of the house naturally selest husbands."

"In that case," said the mother sadly, "I fear our girls are doomed to marry bill-collectors."

Explaining the Story.

A visitor to a Sunday school was asked to address a few remarks to the children. He took the familiar theme of the children who mocked Elisha on his journey to Bethel—how the young ones taunted the prophet, and how they were punished when two bears came out of the woods and ate forty and two of them.

"And now, children," said he, "what does this story show?"

"Please, sir," came from a little girl in the front row, "it shows how many children two bears can hold."

In Vain.

He had fairly puzzled the good village folk, had that clever ventriloquist, and now he was going to perform his last and greatest feat.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he announced, with a grand bow, "I will proceed to sing that famous ballad, 'Good-bye,' in a lady's voice, which will appear to proceed from the empty air above your heads."

The minutes passed. Looks of strain and agony, doubt and anger, chased one another across the performer's face; but there was no song.

Then a voice certainly broke the silence.

"'Tain't no good, guv'nor," it said. "I've bin an' lost the gramophone needle."

Conservation for Consideration.

It is a fact admitted by thinking farmers that through negligence or misplaced frugality in not providing covering for implements of agriculture, when not in use, they get about half the years of service from them they should. The loss from exposure is greater than the deterioration that follows through legitimate use.

We will assume that the necessary equipment required to work a farm costs $1,000 and that with care the equipment may be used for ten years. Without care these implements would be scrapped in five years. The deduction to be made from these figures is that an implement shed built and in use in five years is equal to $500. It does not cost half that sum to build a good implement shed, but how many farmers, otherwise up to date and progressive, fail to provide proper care for the tools with which they work?

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

Victory is not an achievement of the intelligence but of the will. The battle is gained when one refuses to admit defeat.—Foch.

LEMONS MAKE SKIN WHITE, SOFT, CLEAR

Make this beauty lotion for a few cents and see for yourself.

What girl or woman hasn't heard of lemon juice to remove complexion blemishes; to whiten the skin and to bring out the roses, the freshness and the hidden beauty? But lemon juice alone is acid, therefore irritating, and should be mixed with orchard white this way: Strain through a fine cloth the juice of two fresh lemons into a bottle containing about three ounces of orchard white, then shake well and you have a whole quarter pint of skin and complexion lotion at about the cost one usually pays for a small jar of ordinary cold cream. Be sure to strain the lemon juice so no pulp gets into the bottle, then this lotion will remain pure and fresh for months. When applied daily to the face, neck, arms and hands it should help to bleach, clear, smoothen and beautify the skin.

Any druggist will supply three ounces of orchard white at very little cost and the grocer has the lemons.

TEACHERS WANTED

PROTESTANT TEACHER FOR School Section No. 2, Hislop, at once; state salary expected. A. M. MILES, Sec.-Treas., Vimy Ridge, Ontario.

LIVE POULTRY WANTED.

50c. PAIR OF PIGEONS AND UP. Any fancy poultry to sell? Write for Prices. I. Weinrauch & Son, 18-18 St. Jean Baptiste Market, Montreal, Que.

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A 1 Men for an A 1 Empire.

Two million of our men joined up voluntarily at the beginning of the war.

Six million didn't.

One million couldn't, largely owing to physical defects from preventable causes.

"You cannot maintain an A 1 Empire on C 3 men," said Lloyd George, and although he referred mainly to the health of the body it is equally true regarding the health of the mind. —Sir Robert Baden-Powell.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house.

"Lost for want of a word,
A word that might have been spoken;
Who knows what eyes may be dim,
Or what hearts may be aching or broken?
Go, scatter beside all waters,
Nor sicken at hopes deferred;
Let never a soul by thy dumbness
Be lost for want of a word."

MONEY ORDERS.

When ordering goods by mail send a Dominion Express Money Order

---

Women physicians were admitted to practice in Serbia long before they enjoyed similar rights in England, France, Italy and most of the other European countries.

Sure! High Heels Cause Corns But Who Cares Now

Because style decrees that women crowd and buckle up their tender toes in high heel footwear they suffer from corns, then they cut and trim at these painful pests which merely makes the corn grow hard. This suicidal habit may cause lockjaw and women are warned to stop it.

A few drops of a drug called freezone applied directly upon a sore corn gives quick relief and soon the entire corn, root and all, lifts out without pain. Ask the drug store man for a quarter of an ounce of freezone, which costs very little but is sufficient to remove every hard or soft corn or callus from one's feet.

This drug is an ether compound and dries in a moment and simply shrivels up the corn without inflaming or even irritating the surrounding tissue or skin. Clip this out and pin on your wife's dresser.

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A Dyspepsia Cure

M. D. advises: "Persons who suffer from severe indigestion and constipation can cure themselves by taking fifteen to thirty drops of Extract of Roots after each meal and at bedtime. This remedy is known as Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup in the drug trade." Get the genuine. 50c. and $1.00 Bottles. 1

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Antiseptic, prophylactic, deodorizing, fragrant and refreshing, Cuticura Talcum is an ideal face, skin, baby and dusting powder. Convenient and economical, takes the place of other perfumes for the person. A few grains sufficient. One of the indispensable **Cuticura Toilet Trio** for keeping the skin pure and sweet.

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