

# The Lorne Scots in World War 1

(This is the third of a series of articles dealing with the history of the Lorne Scots. In October, the Peel Dufferin Halton militia unit will be presented with its colors by the presentation of Her Majesty during the World Flowering Match at Major Conn Smythe's Caledon Farm.)

## THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

On the outbreak of the First World War in August, 1914, Canada decided to send an Expeditionary Force to the aid of the Mother Country. It is important to note that the custom-adapted raising of the various Canadian Divisions for overseas service took little account of county affiliations.

As overseas battalions were authorized, militia units were asked to contribute drafts to ward their formation. Thus, for instance, the 20th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force was composed of personnel from the 12 rural corps in Military District No. 2. Later in the war, to assist recruiting, militia units were called upon to recruit and train overseas battalions, however, the units which were broken up on arrival in England, to reinforce battalions already in France. The militia regiments

throughout the war were used mainly as depots for recruiting. Expeditionary Force On August 5, 1914, instructions were received directly from the Ministry of Militia to recruit personnel towards the formation of the First Division Canadian Expeditionary Force. The 5th Peel Regiment and the 20th Halton Rifles provided an initial draft of 100 officers and 404 other ranks.

After a short period at local headquarters, the two contingents proceeded to Valcartier where, along with detachments from other militia units, they were formed into the Fourth Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. All of this contingent could not be absorbed into the Fourth Battalion. A number of officers secured appointments in other units and a number of men joined the Royal Canadian Regiment.

## Call for Overseas

It is interesting to note that in 1914, service khaki was not a general issue to militia units, so that many drafts arriving at Valcartier wore the traditional scarlet, buff and green Highland dress. After the short period spent in organizing, equipping and training, the 19th Canadian contingent embarked for overseas. The movement was spectacular. The transports, 33 in number, were concentrated in Gaspe Bay and on October 3, 1914, set sail.

## Organized Association

He organized the Lorne Scots Officers' Association following World War II, and has been an annually re-elected president.

Colonel Barber is widely known throughout Canada in military, business and civilian circles. He is a director of the Municipal Bankers' Corp. (1931), Ltd., 26 Balmoral Ave., Ltd., Halton and Peel Trust and Savings Co.

He is a past president of Georgetown and District Insurance Agents' Association, a past president of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, and is a patron of Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Association.

His other memberships include the Arts and Letters Club, Hart House, University of Toronto, Georgetown Industrial Community, Canadian Passenger Agents' Association, Toronto Passenger Club, Ontario General Insurance Agents' Association, Royal Canadian Military Institute, North Halton Golf and Country Club.

The primary industries — agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mining, printing and electric power — now employ only about 16 per cent of all working Canadians.

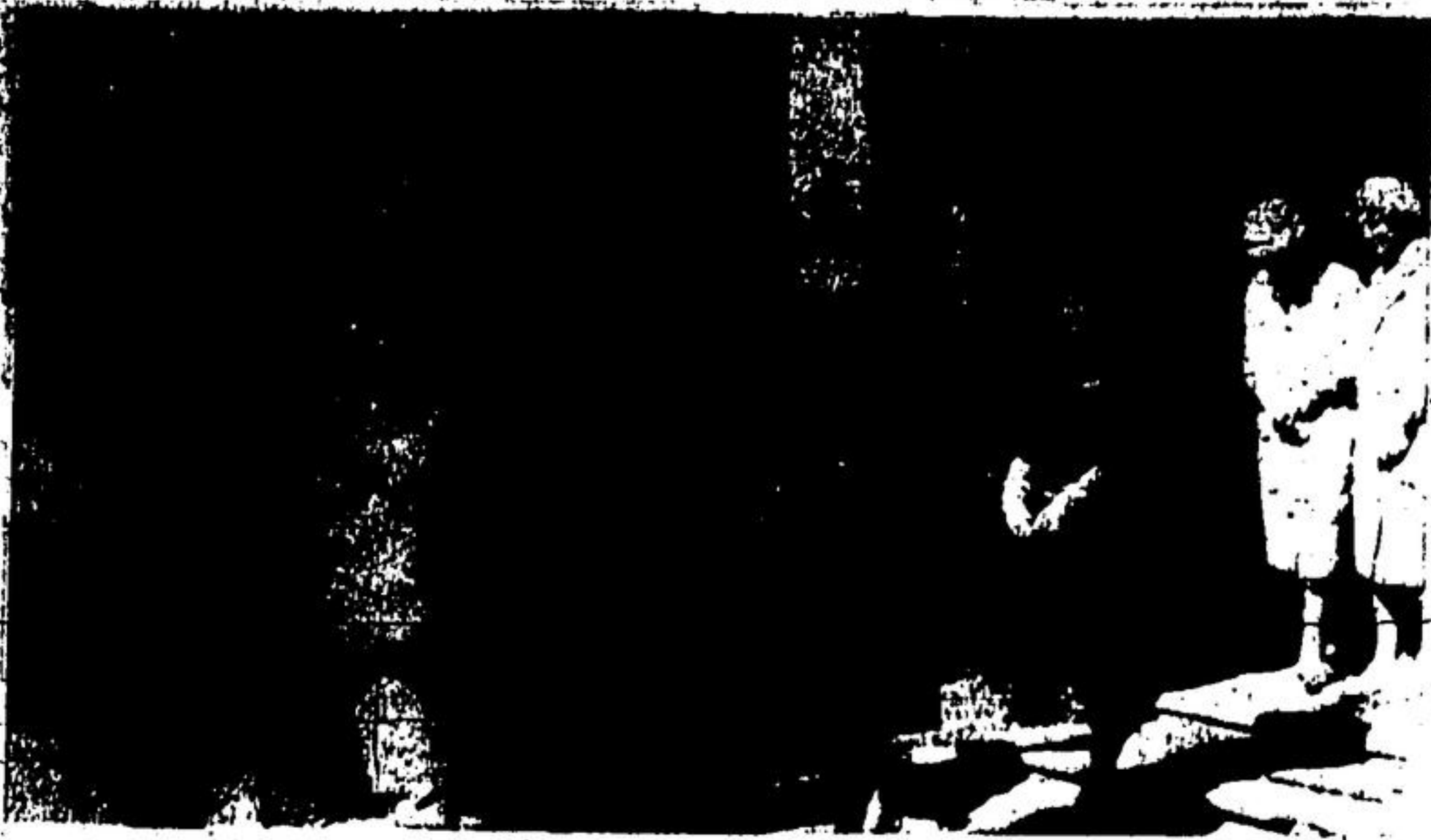
## Hard Training

After a month of hard training, with emphasis on rifle shooting, the Fourth Battalion embarked on the "Islander" on September 21 and proceeded to Gaspe Bay, there to await the arrival of the other transports. The arrival at the harbor, congested with Canadians, with the result that it was not until October 22 that the new ship, away fourth set foot on British soil.

Bustard Camp, 3 miles from the town of Gaspe, was the early home of

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PARISHIONERS at St. Alban's heard the Right Rev. H. A. Stanstreet preach here Sunday morning and met him at the church door after the service. The Bishop comes from County Clare, southern Ireland, and was attending the third Anglican Congress in Toronto. He came to Acton Saturday from Niagara Falls and was the guest of the Rev. Donald West and Mrs. West that evening. He was a dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Bennett Sunday before going back to Toronto that afternoon. Mr. West also attended sessions and six members of the church choir joined an impressive mass choir at Maple Leaf Gardens one evening.

## Mr. Maple Leaf

# Lorne Scots Name Honorary Lt.-Col.

One of the most colorful figures in Canadian hockey circles, Major Conn Smythe, M.C. (retired) of Toronto and Caledon, has been appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment) Militia. At the same time, it is announced by Army Headquarters that Lieutenant Colonel John R. Barber of Georgetown, a former Commanding Officer of the Lorne Scots, has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the unit. The presentation of colors for the Lorne Scots will take place at Lieutenant Colonel Smythe's farm on October 12.

Born in Toronto in 1905, Col. Smythe was educated at Jarvis Collegiate Institute, Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto. He graduated in 1920 with a bachelor of science degree. Owned Bluebirds. A former owner of the Toronto Maple Leaf hockey team, Conn Smythe is widely known for his work with crippled children, and since 1945 has been treasurer and director of the Ontario Society for Crippled Children. He is also a trustee of the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre and director of Variety Vocational Guidance School for crippled boys.

Col. Smythe enlisted as a punner in the Canadian Expeditionary Force with the 25th Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery in 1915 and was commissioned the same year. While overseas in 1916, he was awarded the Military Cross. In 1917 he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps as a Flying Officer, was shot down and taken prisoner of war. He was mentioned in dispatches for his service in the Royal Flying Corps. In 1941 Col. Smythe was instrumental in the activities of the 30th Battery, R.C.A. This battery became part of the 6th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment and served in the United Kingdom and Northwest Europe during the Second World War. To other punners in the corps it was fondly known as the "sportmen's battery".

Col. Smythe was severely wounded in 1944 and returned to Canada in 1945. Residing in Caledon and at 68 Baby Point Road in Toronto, Conn Smythe is still active in the world of sport and business. He is the president for Smythe-Sand Limited and is a director of the Ontario Hockey Club.



A. Smythe, M.D., all of Toronto and Mrs. Smythe have 12 grandchildren.

Colonel Barber has had a long and distinguished record with the Lorne Scots, beginning his Army Service with the Canadian Officers' Training Corps at the University of Toronto in 1924, receiving his commission as second Lieutenant in 1925. By 1935

# THIS SUNDAY'S Church Calendar

**ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Convention of Ontario & Quebec  
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon  
144 Tildy Ave. Phone 853-1615

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship  
Mr. Bryan Harris, Milton, Ont.  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service with drawn during August.  
Wednesday — 7:30, Prayer meeting and Bible Study; 8:00, Choir Rehearsal.  
Drive-In Church, Saturday, Aug. 24, 8:45 p.m.—Tith's Welcome to All

**BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
Student Pastor, Jerry Hostema

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
10:00 a.m.—English Service  
2:30 p.m.—Dutch service  
3:45 p.m.—Sunday School  
Everyone Most Welcome

**TRINITY CHURCH**  
(The United Church of Canada)  
Acton, Ontario  
Minister  
The Rev. Dwight L. Engel, B.A., B.D., Organist  
Mr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
10:00 a.m.  
Combined service of Knox Presbyterian and Trinity United in Knox Church  
Nursery during service for young children

**EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
All Services in Y.M.C.A.  
Pastor: J. H. Wilson  
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
9:45 a.m. — 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.  
"Divine Healing" will be the West Aug. 25th, 8 p.m. subject J. D. R. O. Brewster at 12 John Street

Visitors Welcome  
P.S. — Drive-In Service — Sat. Aug. 24th — 8:45 p.m. — C.B. M.C. men of Toronto — B. Tith's Service Station.

**ROCKWOOD IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH**  
(Associated Gospel Churches of Canada)  
Main St. Rockwood  
Pastor: Ray Wiseman

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
10:00 a.m. — Sunday School  
11:15 a.m. — Morning Service  
7:00 p.m. — Evening Service  
You Are Welcome

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN**  
Corner Willow and Bower  
Rector  
The Rev. D. H. West, B.A., L.S.T.  
185 Jeffrey Ave., Phone 853-2094

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
9:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. — Choral Eucharist  
4:00 p.m. — Congress Evening  
The Cathedral Hamilton

**ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**  
33 Churchill Road  
P.A.O.C.  
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor  
853-2715

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Bible Study and Prayer  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors

Don't forget the Community Drive-In Church at Tith's Shell Service Station, Saturday, August 24, at 8:45. You Are Cordially Invited

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA**  
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON  
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D., Minister  
Mr. E. A. Hausen, B.A., Organist and Choir Master

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1963  
10:00 a.m.—Combined service with Trinity United congregation in Knox Church preaching Rev. D. L. Engel  
Everyone Most Welcome



he had won his Majority with the Non-Permanent Active Militia. In June 1940, he went on active service with the Lorne Scots, serving overseas from June 1941 until 1947. He supervised the patriation of Canadian troops during the two years following the end of the war. In 1948 he resumed service with the Lorne Scots militia, becoming a non-commissioned officer in 1949. He was awarded a suspension of service in December, 1945. His medals and decorations include: Defence Medal, DWSM and Campaign War Medal (1945), King George VI Coronation Medal (1953), D.C.B. (1953), and the Canadian Forces Long Service Medal (1953). He was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Lorne Scots in April, 1957.

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The First Canadian Brigade for the next four months. Early in February, 1915, as part of the First Canadian Division, the Fourth Battalion proceeded to France and after a short period of training, with some experience of trench warfare, on March 4, they took over part of the front line in the vicinity of their Base.

On April 22, the first major engagement of the Canadians was the Second Battle of Ypres, when the Germans launched their first gas attack. The next day the Fourth Battalion suffered very heavy casualties in a counter attack at St-Julien (Ypres).

Three Divisions in 1915 Draft after draft was called from the counties of Peel, Halton and Dufferin. These men were reinforcements turning part of the 20th, 5th, 74th, 76th and 81st Battalions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

By mid-July, 1915, Canada had three divisions in the field, with a fourth and fifth division planned. Casualties had been heavy and it was becoming increasingly difficult to supply replacements and new units by the volunteer system. In order to stimulate recruiting, the government changed the policy and determined that the future battalions would be raised on a county basis.

On November 12, 1915, the 36th Peel Regiment was authorized to recruit the 126th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force. An intensive recruiting campaign was carried on throughout the winter and by spring, the battalion was up to strength. The new two company armory in Brampton, built in 1912, was utilized as quarters and also an old school in the west end of Toronto.

Further Training Early on the summer of 1916 this unit was concentrated at Niagara Camp for further training, later moving to Camp Borden. The large new camp, just completed in Simcoe County and on August 1, embarked for overseas. Unfortunately for this

splendid Peel Battalion, the severe casualties suffered by the Canadians during the Somme battle made it necessary to break up the unit for reinforcements. Four hundred and 116 men were transferred to the 199th Battalion. The band and 30 men joined the 116th Battalion.

On January 1, 1916, authority was given to raise the 164th Battalion in the counties of Halton and Dufferin. The battalion was split up into small detachments scattered throughout the recruiting area until June 5, when it was mobilized at Orangeville remaining there under canvas until July 2, when they were moved to Camp Borden to continue training.

Move Quarters On October 29, the battalion commenced the move from Camp Borden to Hamilton by route march to take up winter quarters in the Westmounse Barracks. During the stay in Hamilton, the ladies of Halton and Dufferin counties presented the mental colors. These colors were subsequently deposited in St. Jude's Church, Oakville, for safe keeping.

On April 11, 1917, the battalion some 900 strong, moved overseas to become part of the 15th Canadian Division. Eventually, the 164th was broken up as a reinforcement for Canadian units already in France.

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The urgent call for reinforcements demanded a further effort on the part of the Peel Regiment. On April 4, 1916, authority was given to recruit the 24th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force; after an intensive recruiting campaign and training at Niagara Camp, the battalion was moved overseas and was broken up as reinforcements.

Many Decorations Among the many decorations awarded to men from Peel, Halton and Dufferin counties was that of the Victoria Cross awarded to Lieutenant Wallace Lloyd Algie.

Lieut. Algie was born in the village of Altun in 1884. He enlisted in the 198th Battalion in Toronto. After a period of service, he proceeded overseas to the 20th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was killed in action near Cambrai on October 11, 1918.

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2. Auto Mechanics II (Thurs.)	17. Home Sewing (Tues.)
3. Electricity I (Tues.)	18. Millinery (Tues.)
4. Applied Electronics I (Tues.)	19. Hostess (Thurs.)
5. Woodworking I (Tues.)	20. Oil Painting I (Tues.)
6. Mechanical Drafting I (Tues.)	21. Oil Painting II (Wed.)
7. Mechanical Drafting II (Thurs.)	22. Physical Fitness (Women) (Wednesday)
8. Bookkeeping-Begin. (Tues.)	23. Conversational French (Wednesday)
9. Bookkeeping - Senior (Tues.)	24. Basic English (Tues.)
10. Machine Shop Practice I (Tues.)	25. Jewellery (Tuesday)
11. Machine Shop Practice II (Thurs.)	
12. Shorthand I (Tues.)	
13. Typing I (Tues.)	
14. Typing II (Thurs.)	
15. Business Machines (Thurs.)	

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Fees for courses 1 to 15 \$10.00. Courses 16 to 25, \$4.00. Payable on registration. Registration Night ALL CLASSES Wednesday, October 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the School Office

Courses 1 to 15 start Tuesday, Oct. 8. Courses 16 to 25 start Tuesday, Oct. 22. First term for Courses 16 to 25 will end the week of December 3. All second term classes will resume the week of Tuesday, January 7.

No class will be given unless there is a reasonable number of registrations. Requests in sufficient number for any class not included above, including regular students, will be given consideration. Make your requests directly to the School Office 877-6866.

D. LATIMER  
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A. M. BAXTER  
Night School Principal