The Georgetown Herald

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The Georgetown Herald

J. M. MOORE
Publisher and Proprietor
Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association

Canadian National Electric Railways

Toronto Suburban Railway

EASTBOUND Daily		WESTBOUND Daily	
Trains		Trains	
No. 2—	7.10 a.m.	No. 1—	7.35 a.m.
" 4—	9.57 a.m.	" 3—	9.35 a.m.
" 6—	11.57 a.m.	" 5—	11.35 a.m.
" 8—	1.57 p.m.	" 7—	1.35 p.m.
" 10—	3.57 p.m.	" 9—	3.35 p.m.
" 54—	4.57 p.m.	" 11—	5.35 p.m.
" 12—	5.57 p.m.	" 13—	7.35 p.m.
" 14—	7.57 p.m.	" 15—	9.35 p.m.
" 16—	9.57 p.m.	" 17—	12.06 a.m.
" 18—	11.53 p.m.		

Nos. 1 & 2 will run daily except Sunday.

C.N.R. TIME TABLE

Going East	
Passenger	7.23 a.m.
Passenger	9.33 a.m.
Passenger	10.18 a.m.
Mail	12.06 p.m.
Passenger	4.00 p.m.
Mail	6.22 p.m.
Passenger	8.25 p.m.
Passenger, Sunday	7.31 p.m.
Going West	
Mail	7.40 a.m.
Passenger	8.53 a.m.
Passenger	10.28 a.m.
Passenger	2.12 p.m.
Mail	4.50 p.m.
Passenger	6.02 p.m.
Passenger	7.08 p.m.
Passenger, Sunday	10.34 a.m.
Going North	
Mail	8.55 a.m.
Mail	4.55 p.m.
Going South	
Mail	11.23 a.m.
Mail	7.10 p.m.

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CLARK'S COOKED SPAGHETTI 2 lb. Tins 25c
STELNA CORNED BEEF Reg. 23c No. 1 Tin 18c

DEATH

Death and fear! Why link these two in one?
Say, rather death and joy! For then our work is done,
And rest is ours;
So long we've walked, a lifelong day 'Midst storm and stress, now find our way
Among eternal flowers.

'Tis but a passing on, from room to room,
Where His great light dispells all gloom
'Tis rays of purity,
Leaving the old, with all its fret and care,
To be with Him, whose love we share,
For all eternity.

There is no death; 'tis only sleep,
A trysting place upon the hillside steep,
And toil is o'er;
For on that fairer shore we wake again,
And with our loved ones there remain,
At peace for evermore.

—B. J. A.

HALTON RIFLES

SOUTH AFRICA—
SOME REMINISCENCES—
SOME PERSONALITIES—
—HORSES OF DISTINCTION

By Col. Ballantyne, D.S.O.
(Continued from last week)

Me that 'ave rode through the dark Forty mile, 'itten, on end,
Along the Maolisberg Range
With only the stars for my mark
An' only the night for my friend,
An' things runnin' off as you pass,
An' things jumpin' up in the grass,
An' the silence, the shine, an' the size
Of the 'igh inexpressible skies.....
I am taking some letters almost
As much as a mile, to the post;
"An' mind you come back with the change! !"

Me! ! ! !

Kiplings old soldier again makes comparisons between the free life on the Veldt in Africa during the Boer War, and the cramped, narrow existence he was forced to live on discharge from the Army; and certainly it was a great fall, and one that broke the heart of many men who could not adjust themselves to civilian life, with all its conventions and restrictions, after the service on the plains of Africa, and through the passes of the Drakensburg Mountains, where the scenic effects beggar description.

One of the greatest tragedies of the tragedy of War is Demobilisation—the great disintegration of companies of men, hitherto marching one way, and bonded together by the mortar of experience and mutual sacrifice. Men on service, lean on one another, and on their officers; and, it is doubtful if there is any finer spirit than that which animates a well organised command on Active Service.

The old soldier who expresses his disgust in Kipling's words, misses the thrills that belong to service; but the thing that he misses the most is his old comrade, the odd number who marked two paces; along with the other odd numbers, in order that the rest might form platoon.

But the subject of this is the service of the Halton men who were fortunate in being included in the three Canadian Contingents that left for Africa during the Fall and Winter of 1899-1900; and in the Constabulary force that went out to police the country during the latter days of the War.

Robert Cunningham from Campbellville was the only member of the first Infantry Contingent under Colonel Otter; and he accompanied the force as far as Paardeberg, at which place he contracted Interic Fever and after passing through the routine of Hospitals and Convalescent Camps, was invalided home to Canada.

On the Second Contingent, which was mounted there were four Halton men, namely: R. S. Hope, W. J. Gould and W. J Moore of Acton; and the writer from Georgetown.

On the Constabulary Force that went later was Joe Lynn, also of Acton.

The service of the First Contingent is written into the records of the march of Lord Roberts' vast army from the Modder River to the Vaal, terminating at Pretoria, the Capital of the then Boer Republic, known as the Transvaal.

The service of the Second contingent is written into the records of the Army of Sir Ian Hamilton, and the smaller flying columns that marched Eastwards from Pretoria; and whose operations terminated at the Portugese Border. These operations covered hundreds of miles in the saddle, over a terrain that is well watered and interesting and beautiful in the extreme.

Hope had a very interesting and colourful trip with O Battery, when they made a detour covering about three thousand miles in order to effect the relief of Mafeking, a small town that the Boers expressed such a liking for, that they sat down around it for some three months.

There were many interesting personalities, and probably my own Section Commander, Lieutenant John McCrae, belongs to the first rank of these. In later years he became known to the world as the author of that challenging poem "In Flanders Fields" but to us in those days he was just our officer, and one in whom we all trusted; and for whom every soldier in the section, and every horse too, had profound respect and love. He spent hours in the horse lines, calling every horse by his first name, and taking care to show no favouritism; for horses are quick to sense favoritism, and favoritism had no part in McCrae's official life.

Yes; horses in a Battery have first names, and in our Battery they all began with the letter A, the designation of the Battery when on peace service in Canada.

We had Ability, Acronium, Alderman, Apathy, Abbigy — a bad rascal that last—and a host of others all beginning in A; and the list is a catalogue of honorable soldiers of the Empire, a list that no real A Batteryman could scan without tears in his eyes; for they all stayed in Africa, having contracted the various diseases peculiar to the country. We had one little mare called Allegro, and she went to pieces under the strain of the march up the Crocodile Valley, in Hamilton's Column, and we were ordered to dispose of her. We turned her loose, for no one could shoot her, and marched on without her. Two days later she staggered into her place in the lines, having followed the Battery that she could no longer serve, guided by the knowledge that though she was officially struck off the strength, there was no driver in the outfit that would not see that she was fed watered and bedded, and no horse who would not whinney his satisfaction and pleasure when she stumbled into the lines. She died that night, and in a few weeks Alderman and Acronium and most of the Canadian horses had followed her, leaving a few acclimated native horses and the personel to drag the guns out of the Crocodile Valley, that had swallowed so many of our long faced chums.

Up to the time of our march along the Crocodile Valley, the Canadian horses had stood the marches very creditably, though many had succumbed to the strain, and the suffering from sore withers and saddle galls was distressing.

Our remounts were mostly from Argentine, though we had a few Boer ponies and some English horses; though the latter were if anything more susceptible to the native diseases than our own Canadian horses. The Boer ponies were beautifully broken, and very docile; though the Canadian horses always seemed to regard them with suspicion and dislike.

But whether from Canada, Argentine, England or Africa, McCrae loved them all, and a whinney of delight passed down the line as he appeared at the head of Alderman, who because of his position as the high horse of the lead team of Number one Gun, was on the right of the line—an honour of which Alderman was fully sensible and proud.

There was no mechanical transport wagons that formed our second line transport, were hauled by oxen, arranged in teams of twenty-four; and probably no memory is more vivid than that of these miles and miles of trek wagons, with their groaning, straining oxen, and their Kaffir drivers with their great whips thirty feet and more long, and their increasing cries to the oxen of Hike, Hike. The trails were lined with the carcasses of the unfortunate animals who died from exhaustion, and fell by the way side; and interspersed were those of horses and mules—all sacrifices on the red Altar of War.

The question of supply and transport is a great one in any war; but in Africa, with the poor roads, and the aggressive Guerilla bands of the enemy, it was a tremendous problem.

On one occasion, when on the march East of Pretoria with Sir Ian Hamilton's column, the transport of the whole force was stuck in the mud during the downpour that lasted for a week, and for nearly three days the blankets, rations or feed of any sort. In the Regiment next to our bivouac, The Connaught Rangers, eight men died from the cold and exposure the second night. It was during those terrible nights that many of our men took the colds that sent many of them to the Hospital, and invalided many to Canada, when they were fit to travel.

Colonel Sam Hughes was one personality with whom we made contact out there, and we recall a pleasant morning he spent in our lines when we were on the lines of Communication in Cap Colony, during the early months of the War. I have never held out there, but I do know that wherever he found a Canadian in trouble, he girded his loins for battle, galloping full till to the rescue.

Our first march had been to a place called Kenhardt in Cape Colony and while there, some of our men had imbibed copious draughts of Usher's Scotch Whiskey, which on the empty stomach that every man carried under his waist belt, had a distressing effect on discipline.

The Court Martial awarded eighty four days detention, and three perfectly good and now sober Canadians were left in the Dutch jail, while their comrades trekked back the two hundred and fifty miles to the railroad.

The sequel should be dramatised, or at least set to music. Colonel Sam Hughes, with a small escort rode that way two weeks after, and heard that a Canadian column had been there, and had deposited three of its number in the whitewashed Dutch jail, under the custody of a Dutch jailer. Great Cazocks! Here was action; and I suspect that the mounted party led by the Colonel broke all records to that jail; and as we all know, Sir Sam Hughes untied no Gordian knots. He cut them: and the net result was that a few days later, three weary but happy Canadian wayfarers, dressed in Boer trousers and civilian coats and wearing high black head conical headgear, such as the Boers affected, turned up in front of the Battery in Bloemfontein, as the Commanding officer was putting the finishing touches on our appearance preparatory to an inspection by Sir Kelly Kenny.

Sir Sam, always took the shortest line between two points; while others followed the arc, he followed the chord: and this was one of the qualities that placed the First Canadian Division in France in the minimum time, with the Second and Third and Fourth treading on their heels.

Sir Sam told that story a great many times, and my own interest centered in the fact that one of the malefactors was my own batman, and one of the others a Georgetown man, of earlier days.

We were inspected by Lord Roberts at Pretoria, just before joining Sir Ian Hamilton's column, and while we saw and knew more of other Generals than of Bobs, it is doubtful if any of them took a larger part in the operations than he did.

When he went out there, there was little co-ordination between the force of Buller in Natal, and that of Methuen in Cape Colony; and he brought this all about, and by his movements in the west made it possible for Buller to advance in the East.

(Continued next week)

LEPER MISSION MEETING

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Leper Mission held last Thursday in the Baptist Church. Mrs. Kenneth MacLean presided. Mr. Boyd read the scripture lesson and Mr. Frith took the prayer. Dr. Dickie introduced the speaker, Dr. Murdock McKenzie who has spent 40 years in Honan, China. He spoke for a little while on general condition in that and other countries where leprosy is so prevalent and then told of several cases in particular. Dr. McKenzie's address was vivid and to the point. One realised the great amount of suffering that the lepers have to endure and the splendid efforts of the medical missionaries also the still greater need of more.

Rev. MacLean spoke a few words of appreciation of Dr. McKenzie's address. Mrs. A. Black sang a solo "My Task", which was much appreciated. The offering taken amounted to $23.60.

The officers for 1929 are:—President, Mrs. Kenneth MacLean; Vice-President—Mrs. A. Watson; Secretary, Mrs. Feller; Treasurer, Mrs. C. B. Dayfoot. The meeting closed with the hymn "At even when the sun was set The sick, oh Lord, around Thee lay." and prayer and benediction by Dr. McKenzie.

Stanley Randall, aged seven years, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Randall, was severely scalded last week. The little fellow was lifting a kettle of boiling water from the stove when the handle broke and the water ran over his hands and legs.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

SECTION 91 of the Liquor Control Act permitting guests of a hotel, duly registered in the office of the hotel, to have liquor in their rooms, is evidently not working to the satisfaction of the hotel proprietors. A deputation from the Ontario Hotel Association had an interview with Hon. W. H. Price, Attorney-General last week, "to discuss the present unsatisfactory condition in hotel rooms, destruction of furniture, and damage to decorations resulting from drinking parties." The hotel men asked that the hotel be made an illegal place for the consumption of liquor.

THE SENATE bill to establish a separate divorce court in Ontario met with defeat in the House of Commons by a vote of 99 to 65 and the province must continue, as in the past, to rely on action by the Federal Parliament to obtain annulment of marriage. Ontario members voted about two to one against the bill, and the Quebec Liberals, mostly of the Roman Catholic faith and not recognizing the principle of divorce, voted solidly against it. The bill was supported chiefly by Westerners, particularly Progressives and Labor members, but the vote was entirely "go as you please" party lines being abandoned.

OFFICIAL figures of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario as tabled in the legislature reveal that sale of all liquors in Ontario for the last fiscal year reached the astounding sum of of liquor is revealed in the fact that the sale of all liquors for the last five months of the fiscal year of 1928 was 34.5 per cent. higher than the corresponding period of 1927. Sale of domestic beer registered at 50 per cent. increase; Canadian wine a 234 per cent. increase; Imported wines a 77.2 per cent. increase; and spirits a 21.3 per cent. increase. Undoubtedly this contributes in no small degree to the financial stringency felt so keenly by business men. Money spent in liquor cannot be spent in our industries nor in the regular avenues of trade and commerce.

THE total benefits awarded in February by the Workmen's Compensation Board were $626,148.46 which included $102,002.06 for medical aid. These figures are lower than in January when the total benefits were $673,776.22 including $106,399.82 for medical aid.

During February there were 6,640 accidents reported to the Board including 40 fatal cases. Both of these items are higher than for January when there were 6,180 accidents reported including 37 fatalities.

Speaking of these figures, R. B. Morley, general manager, Industrial Accident Prevention Associations calls attention to the need for more personal care. He points out that a high percentage of accidents can be prevented by proper instructions of the individual in safe methods of working. As it is also fairly evident, from the data collected, that safety and efficiency go hand in hand, the Associations look for an increased interest in the whole problem. Mr. Morley states that an increasing number of plants in the membership of the Associations are operating for long periods without lost time accidents. This is an indication of results that can be secured if proper attention is given to industrial safety.

HALTON RESIDENTS BANQUET AT REGINA

The third annual banquet of former residents of Halton County was held at the King's Hotel, Regina, on Feb. 26th, which was largely attended by a larger number of Halton residents than either of the previous functions. Dr. S. H. Corrigan, Lampman, was made honorary president; D. R. Lamont, vice-president; Mrs. Lamont, secretary; Mrs. A. C. Shaw, treasurer, and the members of the executive committee are: Mrs J. J. Wilson, Mrs. R. J. Moffatt, L. Spence, B. F. MacGregor, Mrs. George Speers, Mrs. V. G. Mason, and L. C. Stephens.

V. G. Mason, retiring president, gave a short review of the history of the association. Dr. H. M. Stephens spoke appreciatively of the time and thought expended on the association's interests by Mr. Mason, by Miss Winnifred Wilson, secretary, and to other retiring officers and the thanks of the members were offered to them. The entire company was photographed before the evening's proceedings were over. Among the instances of renewal of former friendships remarked upon during the evening, outstanding was the case of Arthur Reid, who was present from Balcarres, and Charles Reid, Swift Current. The two are cousins, but have been separated completely since 1882, and met at the banquet for the first time since that date.

The guests represented Milton, Georgetown, Nassageweya, Cooksville, Ash, Palermo, Acton and several other Halton spots. Following the banquet in the grill-room, where the decorations were of white and purple the guests repaired to the large dining-room where Klondike whist was played for a time and later dancing was enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Francis had charge of the program of community singing, and Miss Crawford and Mr. Hoover also contributed musical numbers.

The guests who registered were: Mr. and Mrs. McCargar, Moose Jaw; Mrs. H. Gamble and the Misses Daisy and Lorraine, Gull Lake; Mrs. Howard Lawrence, Woodrow; Mrs. Milne, Balcarres; Arthur Reid, Balcarres; Chas. Reid, Swift Current; M. McTavish, Truax; and the following from Regina; Dr. and Mrs. H. M. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Lamont, Mr. and Mrs. Wm Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Cartwright, Miss Winnifred Wilson, Miss Christena McQueen, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Weaver, Percy Reed, Mrs. H. A. Reed, Miss Evelyn Reed, Mrs. Tracy Curry, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Petrie, Mr. and Mrs. L. Spence, Dr. and Mrs. W. D. Cowan, Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Henry, Mrs. Chas. McGregor, B. F. McGregor, Mrs. R. J. Moffatt, Miss Mary Moffatt, Miss E. M. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McGregor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Speers, Mr and Mrs. N. Latour, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Miss Crawford and Messrs. Hoover, McDonald and Leslie.

The metal sheathed frame barn of the Grant farm, Erindale, was destroyed by fire about 6 o'clock on March 13th.

Provincial Officer Butler, of Orangeville, and County Constable S. Stewart of Melancthon, located a still and 25 gallons of mash in the house of Levi Allen, northeast Melancthon, Monday of last week. Allen appeared before Police Magistrate Falconer in Orangeville on Thursday, and was found guilty and fined $300 and costs or six months in jail.