

# The Liberal.

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**Letter from Pte. John Ellis**

The following is taken from a letter, dated November, "Somewhere in France," to his son in Richmond Hill:  
Dear Billie,—I got your letter the last day we were in England and have not got around to answer you till now, but hope you will excuse delay for this time.

I have not got the box yet but will likely get it soon as the mail has commenced to come here now. I have not got any mail yet but am looking for some any time, as it is 10 or 12 days since I left England and I used to average 4 or 5 a week besides papers.

Well Billie this is "Somewhere" in France alright, but it is not the way I supposed it would be for we are as comfortable here as we were in England and I feel more contented. The weather is warm and we are under canvas. Not much work so far and plenty to eat.

The place where we are here is supposed to be used as a base and we will go out from here to do construction work. I am down for railroad work as you know that is in my line. I cannot tell you how far we are away from the firing line, but we must be a long way for I cannot hear any sound of the guns, but some say they can.

We are issued with tobacco and matches and cigarettes here, so do not send any more after you get this letter as I have all I need.

The people here work on Sunday as well as week days. I see them hauling in roots to-day.

I will write to Hilda next, but do not look for too many letters for we have not the same chance to write here that we had in England, but will try and answer all I get.

I hope you keep working and do as well as you have been doing till I get back to Canada, which I hope will be before many months.

From your loving father.

Maple

A very impressive memorial service was held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday morning for the late Mons W. Gardner who was killed in action on Nov. 10th. The sermon was preached by Rev. S. C. Robinson, and part was taken in the service by Rev. J. W. Morgan of Woodbridge and Rev. H. S. Lovering. Suitable music was rendered by the choir.

The annual entertainment in connection with the Sabbath School of the Presbyterian Church was held last Friday evening. After tea was served a program was given by members of the School, and an address on "The First Two Years of the War," illustrated with views, was given by Rev. S. C. Robinson.

Rev. Mr. McKee of Richmond Hill preached in the Methodist Church last Sunday evening.

A pretty event took place on Wednesday of last week at the home of Mrs. H. Thomas when the marriage of Miss Gertrude Thomas and Mr. Wm. Orr was solemnized. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. S. Lovering, in the presence of the immediate relatives. The young couple left on the evening train south for a short trip.

Maple School report for November. Names in order of merit. For honors 75 per cent is necessary.

St. IV.—S. Rose 73, A. Lawrie 77, C. Kinnee 57, M. Ball 54.

St. III.—G. Killough 77, M. Ball 75, M. Beck 70, I. Downey 67, I. Montgomery 65, H. Rowland 63, Geo. Camp 50.

St. II.—J. Hearn 75, B. Rose 73, M. Manning 71, E. Pilsen 67, G. Groombridge 66, W. Graham 66, D. Cooper 59, I. Line 42.

John S. Newton, Principal.

**Inter-County Stock Judging Contest**

Winter Fair—Guelph

In 1915 the Winter Fair, Guelph, instituted what is known as the Inter-County Stock Judging Contest. This contest is among teams composed of three young men from each county, chosen and trained by the District Representative of the Department of Agriculture. Before a young man is eligible he must be under 25 years of age and must have attended one of the Annual Winter Courses in Agriculture given by the District Representative.

The contest comprises the judging of two classes of Heavy Horses, two classes of Dairy Cattle, two of Beef Cattle, two of Sheep and two of Swine. Individual cash prizes are given in each class of stock, and for the team winning the highest number of points a very handsome Silver Cup, donated by the late Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, Hon. Jas. Duff, and Silver Medals for each member of the winning team.

The team sent from York County this year was composed of Harry Hill, Aurora; James Hope, Pine Orchard, and Charlie Boynton, Dollar. These men all did excellent work and not only succeeded in winning the Duff Trophy and Medals, but won a large share of the individual cash prizes besides, thus winning a great deal of honor for themselves as well as the County of York and Mr. J. C. Steckley, Newmarket, who selected and coached the team. There were twenty-one counties entered in the contest. The following is the standing of the four counties standing highest in the contest.

York . . . . .	2,357
Durham . . . . .	2,289
Simcoe . . . . .	2,241
Waterloo . . . . .	2,211

Besides the honor, these young men received valuable experience which will be of use to them in after life. This should be a great incentive for other young men to take a Winter Course in Agriculture and try for a place on the team for next year. The Course this winter will be held at Unionville and will be worth while for any young man to make a special effort to attend.

**A Promising Campaign**

The Christmas Seal Campaign of the National Sanitarium Association, now in full swing, promises to be a greater success than ever before. Already thousands of seals have been sold, and a large number of repeat orders are being received.

Buying these little seals is such an easy way to help. They may be had in any quantity from ONE up. Every seal sold aids in the maintenance of Needy Consumptives. Surely you can spare a few cents for this great cause.

Leave your order at The Liberal Office for any books you may require for Christmas gifts. A good book is always an appropriate gift for a friend.

**Cigarettes For The Boys.**

The boys at the Front from Richmond Hill and vicinity, to the number of 79, have each been forwarded a parcel containing 50 cigarettes, the funds having been provided from the proceeds of a sale of refreshments held at the Plowing Match by Master Gerow Van Wart and others to the amount of \$20; donation from Red Cross \$4.10, and the balance from voluntary subscriptions.

## XMAS & NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS

**SINGLE FARE**  
XMAS. For the round trip. Good going Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Dec. 23rd, 24th and 25th. Good for return until Tuesday, Dec. 25th.

**NEW YEARS**  
Good going Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Dec. 30th, 31st and Jan. 1st, 1917. Good for return until Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 1917.

**FARE AND ONE THIRD**  
XMAS. Good going Thursday, Dec. 21st to Sunday, Dec. 24th, inclusive. Good for return until Wednesday, Dec. 27th.

**NEW YEARS**  
Good going Thursday, Dec. 28th, to Sunday, Dec. 31st, inclusive. Good for return until Wednesday, Jan. 3rd, 1917.

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