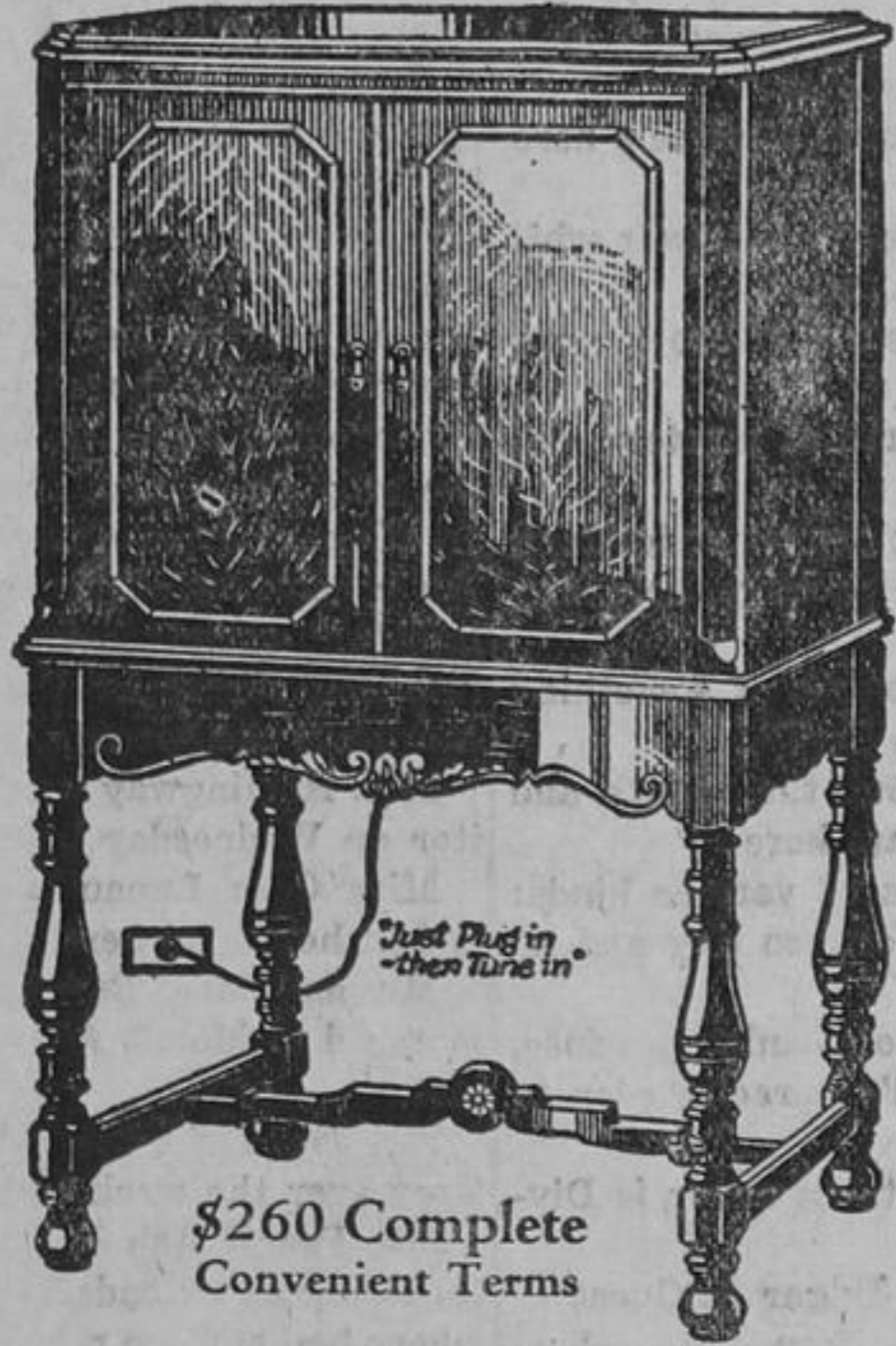


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Won Undying Fame 14 Years Ago in
Glorious Feat of Arms Against
Terrific Odds—First Gas At-
tack—Greenish Wall of Vap-
or Swept Over Troops as
They were "Standing-To"

It is just fourteen years ago this week since that terrible, that glorious battle of St. Julien in which through the sheer courage and undying determination of a mere handful of her gallant sons Canada came into her own among the nations of the world.

Against vastly superior numbers and terrific odds on which was piled the stark terror of that first awful gas attack the 2nd Canadian Brigade, the 5th and 8th Battalions, held the line, and saved the channel ports.

Undying glory is the reward of the valiant men who during that epic fight laid down their lives for King, for Country and Humanity.

Striking memorial today marks the spot, Surmounting a stately column of granite a steel helmeted figure gazes across the vista of battle glory. A lonely, silent, constant sentinel he watches over that glorious company of stalwarts in their last resting place. Emblematic of courage and constancy the memorial is an expression of gratitude, of pride and of honor to the gallant sons of Canada who there laid down their lives.

The epic battle of St. Julien opened with the effect of a thunderbolt out of a clear sky on a warm sunny spring afternoon. A tornado of bursting shells crashed on the inadequate German thrust for the channel ports was entered between the flank of the Canadian and French Colonial contingents.

"The Eighth Battalion can hold its own," was the confident report its commanding officer had sent back to headquarters earlier in the day before the terrible ordeal started. Modestly given, it was gloriously fulfilled, not only by the Eighth, but by the whole contingent of Canadians on that front.

The German infantry assaults on the afternoon of that eventual day were twice repulsed.

Thwarted in their purpose, the German forces then restored to the use of a device which up to that time had been thought to be forbidden under the rules of civilized warfare.

Early Friday morning, tear gas started drifting across the Canadian trenches adding discomfort to an already trying situation.

Sometime between three and four a. m., a corporal who had just brought in a listening party and who was watching from the parapet, saw a heavy mist break out from the German front line about a quarter of a mile to the left. Then immediately it swept out all along the line and there came rolling slowly with the wind "the mysterious terror of this uncanny greenish wall" as a German expert has described it. It moved to the parapet and monstrosly hurled itself over into the trench where it caught the men just as they were "standing to." In a moment they were coughing, gasping, strangling, nearly blinded, their faces contorted, their bodies wilting in agony. They were in the deadly grip

of the deadly fumes of chlorine gas, used for the first time against allied troops.

But it was the Germans themselves who brought a measure of relief, because as their attack was launched the Canadians sprang to the parapets, and by so doing they lifted themselves above the worst of the vapor.

Before the deadly chlorine fumes reached them the Canadians saw their comrades in arms, the "Turcos" holding the line on their left, gripped by the terrible agonies of the deadly fumes; throwing down their arms they began crawling away from terror of the unseen death. They saw this gap in the line just as the deadly fumes reached them.

With the crackle of rapid fire, the Canadians welcomed the assault and rushing into no-man's-land they met the attack with the Bayonet. Time and again the gallant little band drove the German attack back to its own line and beyond. They simply could not be brushed off Gravenstafel bridge.

But it was on Saturday when the greatest losses came. The retaking of the lost guns of the Second London Division in the woods of St. Julien is one of the outstanding feats of reckless daring of military history.

With all odds against them the Second Brigade, commanded by General Turner, under a terrific barrage from the enemy, charged over the shell-torn ground in the almost impenetrable darkness and retook the guns. It was here that the Tenth Battalion under Lt. Col. R. L. Boyle, of Calgary and the Sixteenth under Lt. Col. R. G. E. Lockie earned undying fame.

This noble sacrifice later in the day proved to have been made in vain, as with greatly superior numbers the enemy counter-attacked and again took the woods, Lt. Col. Boyle being mortally wounded during the fighting.

Reduced to one-fifth of its normal of terrific fighting the glorious Second Brigade had covered themselves with undying glory. The channel ports had been saved. The Canadians, despised of the enemy, had proved their mettle.

Newtonbrook

Mrs. Fettick, of Hillsdale, is visiting with Mrs. Joseph Soden, of Greenwood Avenue.

There was a splendid turn out to the meeting of the Home and School Association in the Newtonbrook Public School on Thursday evening, April 18. Mrs. Nuttall, the President, occupied the chair. The programme of the evening was given by the pupils of the Earl Haig High School. Songs and readings, a short play, folk dancing, club swinging and wand drills made up a colorful entertainment, not to mention the school calls and yells that filled the interstices of the numbers. All the scholars acquitted themselves with honor. A hearty vote of thanks to Principal Purdy and his clever pupils was presented by Mr. G. R. Goulding. This was seconded by Mr. Robert S. Moore and enthusiastically endorsed by the Newtonbrook people. Refreshments were served and a pleasant social hour was enjoyed.

Mr. Johnson, the popular teacher of the Men's Bible Class of Thornhill, was the principal speaker at the Newtonbrook Young People's Society on Monday evening. He gave a fine address upon Citizenship emphasizing the way in which young Canadians can build up their country. Miss Doris Soden, citizenship Vice-President, occupied the chair.

Next Monday evening the Oriole Young People will visit Newtonbrook, and give the programme. The Rev. F. T. Grafton will give an illustrated Travelog, "Through Palestine."

Between four and five thousand bags of Garnet wheat are being shipped from Fort William to be tested by millers in Great Britain. Reports of the reception given these samples will be available before this year's crop is ripe, government officials expect. If these prove favourable the future of this early ripening variety should be assured.

Beef grading in Canada will be established shortly under regulations framed by the Dominion Government, R. S. Hamer, chief of the cattle division of the Department of Agriculture, announced at the annual meeting of the Ontario Cattle Breeder's Association in Toronto the other day. The proposed system will be a voluntary one and will be confined to municipalities with facilities for inspection and grading at the time of the slaughter. The aim in view is the stabilizing of the market and the breeding of better cattle.

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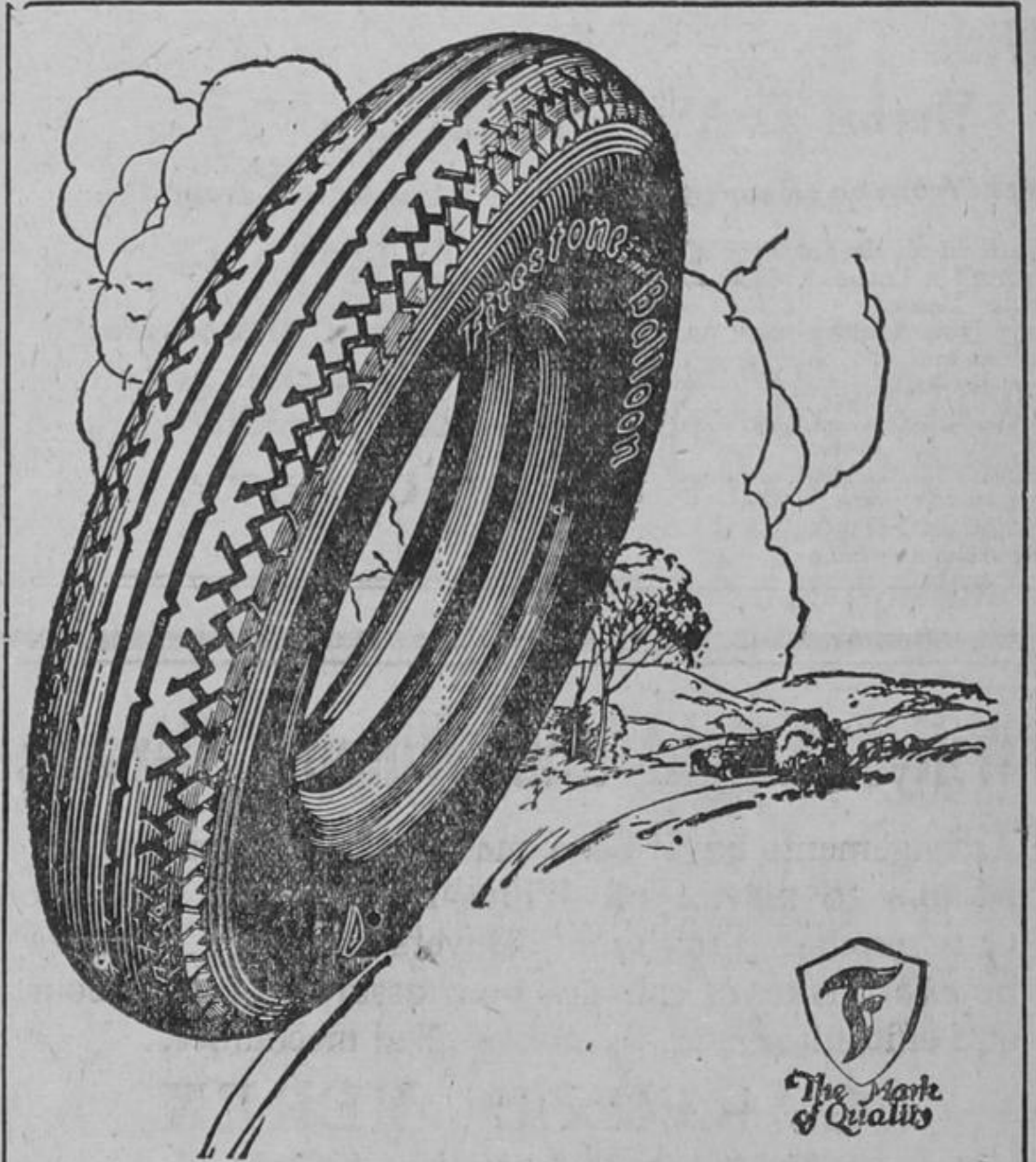
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