

Headquarters of Canadian Corps Entertained the Visiting Editors Overseas

South of England Full of Canadian Soldiers. Newspapermen Have Lunch With Major General Odum. Second Division Demonstrates. Conference With General McNaughton.

This is the tenth in the series of articles written exclusively for the weekly newspapers of Canada by Hugh Templin, of the Fergus News-Record. Mr. Templin flew to Great Britain as a guest of the British Council and was given an opportunity to see what is being done in Britain in wartime.

The South of England is full of Canadian soldiers. One is apt to see Canadian military uniform in any part of the countryside south of London as in Trafalgar Square itself—and Trafalgar Square is the meeting place for all Canadians on leave.

I was up early on the morning of Friday, September 26th. Breakfast in the Savoy consisted of tomato juice, excellent rolls, tea, butter and marmalade. Breakfast was always a difficult meal. There were no eggs. The coffee didn't taste like coffee and probably wasn't. The butter was cut in pieces the diameter of a shilling but about half as thick. The waiter said the supply of marmalade was just about done. Next month, there would not be any.

The Humber car was waiting at the door, with a Canadian flag over the radiator. The driver crossed Westminster bridge, skirted a noted cricket ground and drove through a part of London where there was about one building destroyed in every block. The great Croydon aerodrome showed less damage than might have been expected, for it was one of the first targets in London to be bombed.

Troops on the Move
It was not long till we were in the area where Canadian troops were on the move. That was the time when most of the Army in Britain was engaged in manoeuvres, trying out the plan to repel invasion. In theory, the Germans had landed in the Southeast but had been repelled. Then it was supposed that another landing had been accomplished south of Hull and the defenders were moving up to the East Coast.

In order to leave the life of the metropolis undisturbed, the Canadian Corps was working its way around behind London, crossing the Thames between London and Reading and then heading northeast.

The day before, we had passed the artillery and the tanks, hour after hour on the broad roads north of London. On this fine morning, we saw the infantry on the move, truck after truck. The fine car in which I was riding developed ignition trouble in a little English village. A Chevrolet station wagon picked me up. The driver was a chap from Hamilton, Laurie Audrain, official photographer, sat in the back seat, with his cameras and his light meters draped around his neck. He hoped to come back to Canada after the war and edit a weekly newspaper. I answered all his questions as well as I could.

Captain Gillis Purcell waved to us and we stopped at a little park. The other Canadian editors were there already.

Down the narrow street, a steady stream of Canadian-built motor trucks passed towards the west. A soldier in uniform directed traffic, keeping it moving, and motorcyclists buzzed up and down the lines, watching that everything was in order. Evidently the Canadian Army had done this kind of thing before, for there was never a hitch.

On the corner stood a little bakery, but there wasn't a sign of anything to eat in the windows or on the counters. Two girls stood inside the door and an occasional soldier, riding with his legs over the back of an army truck, saw them and waved.

Lunch With Major General Odum
At noon, I was one of the six editors who climbed out of cars in front of the fine old house which was then the headquarters of the 2nd Canadian Division. I heard later that it was at one time a summer home of Queen Victoria. There I met Major General V. W. Odum, who has since gone to Australia as Canada's commissioner to that country. Many of his staff officers were with him, in spite of the fact that they were more than busy with the manoeuvres. No doubt they liked to talk to a group just over from Canada.

The meal tasted good. After the exotic cooking at the big hotels, this was like Canada again. There was soup, followed by steak (the only beefsteak I saw in England), mashed potatoes, carrots, jam, cheese, crackers, rolls and apples. More marvelous, there was a half-pound of butter in each of the dishes. The officer beside me told me it was margarine but I wouldn't have known the difference. Later, there was a discussion about paint. Somebody said the English paint didn't last any more, the oils were all being used for making margarine. Another remarked: "Oh, well, you can't eat your paint and have it too."

Second Division Demonstrates
That afternoon, I saw a demonstration of the work of the Canadian Corps in the Aldershot area. There was a formal inspection of the Royal Canadian Regiment, drawn up with its motorized equipment in the background. In nearby fields, I saw the soldiers using trench mortars, a wide variety of weapons including Tommy guns, once the favourite weapons of American gangsters, now useful in close-range fighting. There were portable wireless units, some small enough to be carried on a man's back, others mounted on trucks. The regiment had plenty of Bren guns and larger anti-tank weapons. Even the rifles, with their shorter bayonets, have several uses now.

About one quarter of the Canadian troops were living in houses at that time. Some of these were nearby. They seemed to be quite new and were certainly modern. They were used for sleeping only and every room, except the bathrooms, had blankets and equipment neatly piled up where soldiers had slept.

There were other things I saw that day. The Canadians have been building roads to eliminate hazards and obstacles that might slow up an army speeding towards the coast. We drove along the wide Ridge Road with broad valleys and chalk hills on either side. There was no speed limit. Then we came to an ancient town with narrow, winding streets. The effects could be imagined.

To eliminate the worst of these, two sweeping by-pass roads have been built around English towns. They lack the picturesque of the old roads but they do speed up the through traffic.

Finally, Colonel Mann gave us a demonstration of the efficiency and speed of the Reconnaissance Battalion. He stepped over to one of the wireless units and said a few words. Inside of three minutes, a stream of universal carriers and armoured cars was tearing down the road past the spot where we stood, slowing down for a corner and turning out of sight. I don't know how far away it was when that wireless call went out, but that battalion would be trained to standards that would do credit to a city fire brigade.

Conference With Gen. McNaughton
It was in the late afternoon that our cars filed up a driveway bordered with hedges clipped in fancy shapes and stopped in front of another large mansion, this time the headquarters of General McNaughton—Lieut.-General A. G. L. McNaughton, to be more precise. The ensuing two hours were among our most interesting in England.

While we ate tea and sandwiches, standing around a table in a room whose windows looked out on what must have been wonderful gardens in peacetime, General McNaughton moved from one to another. He was particularly interested in relatives and friends in Ottawa, for he had been head of the National Research Council there. As a noted scientist, as well as a soldier, I believe that the General has a right to place almost the whole alphabet after his name to indicate degrees and decorations. He did not look well at that time, and since then has been forced to take a month off to rest and recuperate. I have never met anyone who knew him, who did not characterize him as "a fine fellow." After that day I could understand.

Having fed us the customary English afternoon tea, General McNaughton took us upstairs to his own office. It was large and airy. Maps hung on all the walls. A dozen editors and a few staff officers sat down at tables, with the General in the centre of the horseshoe, and he gave a short address and he answered every question. There was no hesitation and no evasion. Occasionally, having told us something, he would say that was not for publication, but that was the only restriction. He kept no secrets from his visitors.

Of all the editors present, I seemed to be the only one taking notes that afternoon. They were fairly complete. Looking over them now, some months later, I find that they are still timely and valuable. At that time, Moscow and Petrograd were both threatened by the enemy. Since then, that situation has changed, but without altering what General McNaughton said of the Russians and of the war in general. It was in this talk he coined the famous phrase about the Canadian Corps being "a dagger pointed at the heart of Berlin." More valuable, perhaps, were his remarks on equipment, training and reinforcements.

Feeling that the important message which he asked us to give Canadians should not be condensed, I will devote a separate article to the things which General McNaughton said that day. It will be the next in the series.

On other days, during my visit in Britain, I met members of the Headquarters staff in London. One evening I had dinner with Major Charles Stacey, whose task is to write the official history of the part which the Canadian Corps takes in the war. He is a nephew of Mrs. Perry, formerly editor of the Elora Express. Before he took over this present work, he was a professor of history. He will do a good job. Photographically, the story of the corps is also being well looked after, but there seem to be no Canadian painters on the job. That is a lack that should be remedied. I believe two young painters are with a unit in Canada, but apparently there are none in England or Scotland.

Captain Gillis Purcell, our guide that day, is back in Canada. He met with an unfortunate accident a few weeks after our visit, losing a leg, when a canister, being dropped from a plane, broke away from its parachute and struck him below the knee.

Five Persons Are Charged Following Theft of Coal
Four juveniles charged with the theft while one man charged with receiving.

Arnel Beauchamp, 101 Hollinger ave., will appear in police court Tuesday afternoon to face a charge of receiving stolen goods as a result of an investigation that was completed by the Timmins police department yesterday. Four juveniles are charged as well with theft of coal from the Ashdown Coal Company.

Police say that the amount of coal was very small with the total value not exceeding a dollar but they are determined to stop any outbreak of juvenile crime before it gets well organized. Police are also holding a soldier at

the police station waiting for an escort to arrive and take him back to his unit. He is charged with desertion and was arrested by the R. C. M. P. He is said to have been missing from Joliette, Quebec, for the past six months. George Zoba was arrested yesterday afternoon on a warrant sworn out by Mrs. Blanche Mayer, of 66 Mountjoy street south. Police say that Zoba owed a room and board bill and failed to return to pay it. He now faces a charge of fraud. Police raided the premises of Mrs. Isobel Rice, 366 Spruce street north, about three o'clock on Monday morning and they found a bottle of liquor in the house for which Mrs. Rice had no permit. She will now face a charge of illegal possession of liquor. The charge was laid yesterday afternoon.

Thirteen Timmins Men Left to Join Army Last Week

Figure is Below the Weekly Average Since Beginning of Year But Ahead of Last Year's Average.

Thirteen men left Timmins in the past week to join the Canadian Active Army. This number is a little under the regular weekly quota that has been despatched from Timmins since the beginning of the year but it is still ahead of the weekly average of the past year. All of the men were despatched to Toronto where they will join units of their own choosing shortly after their arrival. Five of the men left on Tuesday while six more were sent to Toronto on Monday and the other two men left on Thursday last week.

The following are the men who left on Tuesday: Leo Aklaire, Real Allaire, Gordon Facette, Peter Nastajuk, and Francis Pilon.

On Monday the following men left: Vincent Edward Babcock, Armand Demers, Alexander Nichol Greychuck, Oli Kobzick, Arthur Murray Piro, and Roger Joseph Rumpel.

On Thursday of last week the following men were despatched to Toronto: James McNeil, William Rudd Stevens.

Medical boards are still held at the Armouries every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and the recruiting officials are pleased to interview prospective recruits at any time.

Considerable Damage in Fire Tuesday Afternoon

Estimate Damage to Building at \$500 While Furnishings are Ruined and Damage to Furniture is Considerable.

A fire which broke out in a building owned and occupied by W. Dedock, at 109 Birch street south, a little after eight o'clock on Tuesday evening did damage that will amount to considerably more than five hundred dollars before the firemen were able to extinguish it. The alarm was sent in by box and when the firemen arrived they found quite a blaze in progress in the kitchen of the house.

Firemen claim that some clothes had been hung around the stove to dry and they had ignited. From that start the blaze spread quickly and soon the kitchen bedroom and bathroom were blazing. Four hundred feet of hose was used by the firemen to fight the fire and the damage is said to amount to about five hundred dollars to the building while the damage to the furniture is said to be considerable. Most of the furniture was in the front room of the house at the time and it suffered severe blister damage. The whole thing is covered by insurance.

Yesterday afternoon the firemen were called to an apartment house at 26 First Avenue where considerable smoke was seen to be pouring out of one of the apartments and a passerby rang in the alarm. When the firemen arrived they found that the smoke was coming from apartment 9 in the building, and immediately forced their way in. Inside the apartment they located the trouble in the oven of the electric stove. It appeared that Mr. C. Cole, the occupant, had left some beans in the oven and had gone to work without shutting off the stove. The beans dried up and started to smoke but no damage was done except the loss of the beans and the soiling of the stove.

Six calls for chimney fires were answered during the week and a small fire was extinguished on Thursday evening of last week when ashes in a cardboard box ignited.

Kathleen Hale is Guest-of-Honour at Shower Last Night

Friends from South Porcupine, Dome and Timmins Honour Bride-Elect.

A popular bride-to-be, Miss Kathleen ("Kitty") Hale was honoured once again on Wednesday evening at a cup and saucer shower held at her home, 72 Maple street south, with her sister, Miss Lillian Hale, as hostess. The friends who were present enjoyed several games, and a delicious lunch was served.

Many lovely cups and saucers were presented to the bride-elect, who will become the bride of Ralph Webber of the R.C.A.F. in the near future, and she expressed her delighted surprise and thanks to her friends.

Among those present were: Mrs. T. Kelly, Mrs. M. Bruce (both of South Porcupine), Misses Margaret Burton, Elsa MacDonald and Marie Thomas, all of the Dome property; and Mrs. L. Potyok, Mrs. L. Chenier, Mrs. R. Butler, Misses Rita Mitchell, Hilda Tetlock, Lalia Webber, Mrs. Geo. Hale and the hostess, Miss Lillian Hale.

Leamington Post and News: Wars are won by enthusiasm, sacrifice and leadership. Who can name one Canadian embodying all these characteristics?

TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files

Emerging from two victories in the three close contests with Leo Racicot's Chapleau rink, A. E. Stephenson's New Liskeard quartet Saturday won the right to represent Northern Ontario in the Dominion curling championship contest at Toronto this week. The Stephenson rink took the first game played at Sudbury, by a one-shot margin, 12 to 11; lost the second, 12 to 16; and clinched the playoff berth by winning the third, 12 to 10. The second and third games were played at Copper Cliff.

In the Advance ten years ago: "For several years past, A. J. Transom, who this week took over the Central public school, has been principal of the Mattagami public school. His work at the Mattagami school won him the regard of all and it would seem that not only has he been unusually successful, but he has also earned the high regard of the pupils. The pupils at the Mattagami school say that it has been a common habit of Mr. Transom to treat the boys and girls to skating parties and wicker roasts, and last Friday the pupils turned the tables by a similar procedure on their part. On Friday last the pupils of the Mattagami school held a skating party and a wicker roast at which Mr. Transom was the guest-of-honour. The pupils expressed their sincere regret that Mr. Transom was leaving the Mattagami school, though they assured him that he would be followed to his new position as principal of the Central public school with the sincerest good wishes from the pupils at Mattagami and from the ex-pupils and the parents as well. Mr. Transom was presented with a handsome alligator-club bag as a token of the esteem in which the pupils hold him and the appreciation held for his earnest interest and his kindly effort and patience with all the pupils."

The funeral of the late Mrs. A. P. Grant ten years ago was very largely attended, the large number present and the profusion of floral tributes speaking of the high esteem in which the late Mrs. Grant was held by wide circles and the sincere sympathy extended to the family in their loss. The funeral service at St. Mathews Anglican church was conducted by the Rev. R.S. Cushing and interment was made at the South Porcupine cemetery. The pall-bearers were:—Dr. H.H. Moore, G. S. Lowe, H. Dunsfield, R. Robson, R. Tracey, and R. Anderson. An interesting fact about the meet-

week: "J. E. Newton is on a visit to the south." "Dr. J. A. E. Wright of Kapuskasing, was a visitor to the camp this week." "Her many friends will be pleased to know that Mrs. H. Hutton is recovered from her recent illness." "Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Brownwell, of Chicago, Illinois, were Timmins visitors this week." "Mrs. J. O. Belanger and son, Arnold, of Halesbury, visited friends in Timmins last week." "Charles Alton who has been stationed at Englehart, has been transferred to Swastika this week."

LIMITATIONS

The missus was in a pet shop and she saw a parrot that was advertised as a good talker. "How many words can it say?" she asked the bloke. "Oh, twenty-five or thirty, roughly speaking." "I meant not counting the swear words."—Globe and Mail.

Victory Loan Drive Among C.N.R. Men Very Successful

Canadian National Railway Employees canvas is reported by Victory Loan Headquarters as being highly successful. The C.N.R. canvass was under the guidance of Mr. J. A. Trudel, Superintendent, of Cochrane. Victory Loan officials say that orders have come in to them from places in the District of Cochrane that they had never known to exist and also that the size of some of the orders is truly astonishing.

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