

LETTERS FROM THE BOYS IN KHAKI

LETTER FROM DAN McDOUGALL

The following letter has been received by Mr. Howard McDougall from his cousin, Dan, at the front.

Belgium, Sunday night, October 31, 13

Dear Howard,

It is so long since either of us have written that I have forgotten who wrote last. I haven't received any German news or papers for months so I don't know if you are still in town or not. How- ever I guess this will find you any- where. We left our old home in England on the fifth of September, and after a few days of heavy travelling on train, steamboats and marching over stone roads we landed in our pre- sent billets, one mile behind the firing line. Censor laws forbid us giving our location, but I may say we are right up in the district where that heavy stuff was pulled off last April. We have had lovely weather ever since we arrived, but the last week has been very wet and raw: rain every day and mud just like mortar. Our company is at present engaged in training and superintending the repairing and strengthening of the front line trenches. They come back to camp every night. We are allotted on a farm. The men and officers are in very comfortable dugouts, or under- ground dugouts. I have my office and bed in the parour of the farm house, a real bed in one corner and all kinds of old fashioned furni- ture and easy chairs, so it they only leave us here for the winter everything will be fine, but we are liable to move at any time. It is not the roaring of the big guns you would never know there was a war going on. The farmers carry on as usual and work in the fields with the old men whizzing over their heads, up to within a few hundred yards of the back trenches. All the villages and towns around are shattered to pieces, however the people do not seem to mind it it is nothing unusual to see a storekeeper carrying on business in one corner of a building that has been practically blown down. The artill- ery is scattered all around here, and when those big guns do loose you would think it was an earthquake, but it does not take one long to get used to it. This was a lovely country before the war, much like Ontario only more level. The farmers seem to be a lazy lot, the women doing all the work. They slouch around in wooden shoes and are anything but attractive looking. I am kept pretty busy in the office here, I have all the details of working parties to look after, and there are about twenty reports to be sent in every day. I also censor all the outgoing mail of the company, and believe me it is some job reading over one hundred letters every morning. However I get a nice little drive everyday of five miles to the Field Post Office. We are being fed better over here than any place since joining, the quantity and quality is ex- cellent. In the morning we have bacon, bread butter, and tea, beefsteak, potatoes and vegetables for dinner, and of course we never run short of jam and cheese, bully beef and biscuits. I often take a trip up through the front line trenches of our area and have a look at Fritz through a periscope. In some places the enemy's trenches are only about 60 yards from ours. My Ottawa room mate is station- ed about a mile away. I see him almost every night and have tele- phoned right to his office. Our company have been very lucky, only having two casualties so far. Lizzie is nursing in Moore Barracks Hospital, where I spent the mumpy month of May. I spent a few days in London with her before leaving England, and did the whole town. Well how is Durham getting along? I suppose it is just the same old place, the war will not make much difference there except raise the prices for the farmer. In one more week I will have finished my first year in uniform, the time has sure passed quickly. I wonder how much longer I shall have to wear it? It like the life alright, but won't be sorry when it is all over and I am back in Canada again. I am getting very fat, and weighed 195 before leaving Eng- land and have gained ten pounds since then. The men are issued with rum every night, and as I have charge of it I manage to keep a little extra for myself. I had a letter from home to-day, I guess they had great crops this year, father is going east for the winter. Well Howard, there is little work to be done, so will ring off at pre- sent. Will be glad to hear from you any time. Letters look mighty good over here, Yours, etc., Dan

FROM TORONTO TO BARRIE

Dear Editor,— The great route march is over, and I wish to jot down a few notes which may interest your many readers. Our battalion did not leave Ni- agara until Friday, November 5, although we were supposed to leave on November 4. On account of the rain some of the battalions on the road did not move and so held back all behind them. The rain also prevented us from tak- ing down our tents. To outsiders, removing the tents may seem a big job, but the 58th battalion had Continued on page eight

EYE-WITNESS TELLS OF MORE CANADIAN DOINGS

Sir Max Aitken Gives Further Details of Our Boys at the Front—Many Successful Onslaughts

The Minister of Militia, Major-Gen- eral Sir Same Hughes, at Ottawa has received a communique from Sir Max Aitken, the Canadian Record Officer now serving with the Canadian Army Corps in France, which says in part: "In order to gain information a minor operation was undertaken by our 2nd Brigade on the night of November 16-17 against two points on the enemy's front line. Small parties of our 5th Western Canada and 7th British Columbia Battalions were selected for the enterprise, and for several days previously underwent special training and preparation. On the afternoon of November 16 our artillery cut the German wire opposite the points of attack. The wire was cut in other places also in order to mis- lead the enemy. Trees interfered somewhat with the wire-cutting op- erations in front of our 7th Battalion, and scouts were sent forward after dark to complete the work. These scouts, under command of Lieut. W. Holmes, 7th Battalion, remained out for several hours, and succeeded in cutting three lanes through the Ger- man wire without attracting attention.

Bombed Enemy's Trenches "The 7th Battalion party, consisting of brigade bombers under Capt. C. T. Costigan, and riflemen under Lieut. Wrightson and McElroy, reached the enemy's parapet unobserved under cover of a heavy rainstorm and entered his trenches. A telephone was carried with the party, and touch was maintained throughout with Lieut. Col. Odium in our front trenches. The party bombed its way down German trenches and communicating trenches. Many Germans were bayoneted or killed by bombs in their dugouts. Twelve prisoners were taken. Retaliation by the enemy's artillery was weak. The prisoners taken afforded useful information as to the composi- tion of the forces opposing us. Field Marshal Sir John French sent a message congratulating our troops on the success of this enterprise. The health and spirits of our troops remain excellent.

Patrol Work Hindered "A bright moon and the marshy condition of the land between the op- posing trenches have added to the dif- ficulties of night patrol work. The enemy has displayed little inclination to leave his trenches, and our patrols have been hampered in their work by prevailing conditions. Owing to the poor state of his communicating trenches the enemy has been forced to show himself in the open more frequently than usual. Full advantage has been taken of this condition by our snipers, with good results. Retaliation by the enemy snipers has been generally ineffective. There has been considerable artillery activity on the part of the enemy during the period, but on each occasion prompt retaliation by our artillery, with its superior weight of fire, has reduced the hostile batteries to silence."

Child Allowed to Die

Chicago Doctor Refused to Perform Operation to Save Crippled Child

Six physicians, composing a Coroner's Jury at Chicago, held that Dr. H. J. Haiselden, who permitted an infant, John Bollinger, to die, when an operation might have saved him to a life of unhappiness as a defective, was morally and ethically justified in refusing to perform the operation which his conscience did not sanction. An implied disapproval of a course wherein a physician might determine if it was or was not desirable for a patient to live was contained in the concluding paragraph of the verdict: "We believe that the physician's high- est duty is to relieve suffering and to save or prolong life." Dr. Haiselden in his testimony said he did not reach his final decision not to operate until he had consulted fifteen practising physicians, fourteen of whom ap- proved his course of letting the little life expire. The mother of the child, wife of a workman and the mother of three other children, all physically and mentally normal, also agreed that the baby would be better off dead, he declared.

"Billy" Sunday Arrives

Evangelist's First Canadian Appearance—Enemy to Liquor

Billy Sunday, much praised and much abused American evangelist, whose spectacularly original methods have attracted monster gatherings in various cities of the United States during the past year or two, made his first public addresses in Toronto. In the afternoon and again at night big crowds came to hear him hurl fire and brimstone at the liquor traffic and all its works and pomps. This he did in true Sunday style, lashing the "demon" without mercy and in language new to local temperance advocates except as they had read it in reports of Sunday meetings on the other side of the border. Neverthe- less he can scarcely be said to have lived up to the lurid accounts of these gatherings which have trickled across through the medium of the American reporters. The lectures were under the auspices of the "Citizens Com- mittee of One Hundred," which has taken as its motto "Ontario dry by Dominion Day, 1916."

A royal welcome was accorded 148 wounded soldiers at Toronto yester- day.

Rev. Dr. W. Jamieson, Presbyterian missionary in Trinidad, and a Can- adian citizen, is dead.

The exportable wheat surplus in Canada will be 228,132,000 bushels.

Another Zeppelin was destroyed by dropping a lighted cigar in the gas tank.

The village of St. George, Quebec, has been destroyed by fire.

Radium is selling in New York at \$27,000 a gram.

MUNITION PLANT BLOWN UP AT PARRY SOUND

Canadian Factory Smashed to Atoms—Town Shaken as if by Earthquake—Casualties Are Uncertain

The whole town of Parry Sound has been in a ferment of excitement owing to two terrific explosions which rocked the town like fierce earth- quakes. At once it was known that the explosions occurred at the Nobel plant of the Canadian Explosives, Limited, situated 7 miles from the town. For a time the greatest apprehension was felt by the people owing to the large number of men from here em- ployed at Nobel. Telegraph and tele- phone communications are intact, and the latest and most authentic news from the works is to the effect that two or more magazines have been blown up, probably designedly. The buildings were literally blown to atoms. The magazines are located from a mile and a quarter to a mile and a half from the works proper, and as no men are at work in the magazines after dark the only loss of life, if any, may be one or two night watchmen. Major Storey, in charge of the overseas contingent in training there, is sending 150 soldiers to Nobel, and will throw a cordon around the entire works to keep them from further entry.

Alarm Sounded in Toronto

On receiving word of the explosion at Toronto Exhibition headquarters a general alarm was sounded, and im- mediately all troops in the camp fell in on their alarm posts with rifles and bayonets, while preparations to serve them with ball ammunition at a moment's notice was made. At the same time an emergency call to the Soldiers' Club sent all men from this point back to camp post haste, and all officers on leave were communi- cated with by telephone, ordering them to report back at camp im- mediately. In anticipation of a call being made to send troops by special train to the scene of the explosion, double companies of the 74th and 75th battalions were ordered to secure their equipments, and were lined up to be ready to entrain as soon as a special train could be secured. Lat- er advices indicating, however, that an ample number of troops from near- by points could be secured without bringing men from Toronto, the men were dismissed to their quarters at about 11.15 p.m.

OUR WAR LOAN

Canada's Domestic Loan Commences—Chance For Everybody to Help

Subscriptions have begun for Can- ada's domestic war loan. The issue is to total \$50,000,000 of 5 per cent. bonds maturing Dec. 1, 1925 and repayable at par. The issue price is to be 97½ and a full half year's interest will be paid on June 1, 1916. Appli- cations accompanied by a 10 per cent. deposit of the amount subscribed must be forwarded through the me- dium of a chartered bank and such may be had at any bank or the office of the Receiver-General. Ten per cent. must be paid on application, 7½ per cent. on Jan. 3, 20 per cent. on Feb. 1, 20 per cent. March 1, 20 per cent. April 1 and 20 per cent. on May 1, 1916. All payments are to be made to the banks to the credit of the Minister of Finance. The bonds with coupons will be issued in denomina- tions of \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Fully registered bonds without coupons will be issued in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000 or any authorized multiple of \$5,000. Subscription lists will close on or before Nov. 30. Hon. W. T. White has issued the following appeal in connection with the war loan: "The Canadian war loan is now offered for public subscription. The Government confidently appeals to the Canadian people to support this loan and thus further demonstrate the strength, unity and solidarity of the empire and our invincible determination to prosecute the war to a victorious conclu- sion."

More Hun Beastliness

British Prisoners of War Treated Like Dogs in Camp, Says Ambassador

The British press bureau has pub- lished the reports of James W. Ger- ard, the American Ambassador to Germany, and members of the Em- bassy Staff in Berlin, relative to the condition of British prisoners of war in the camp at Wittenberg, Prussia. Lithgow Osborne reported that his whole impression of the camp authori- ties was utterly unlike that which he had received in every other camp he visited. Instead of regarding their charges as honorable prisoners of war, he stated, they apparently re- garded them as criminals whom a re- gime of fear alone sufficed to keep in obedience. All evidence of kindly hu- man feeling between the authorities and the prisoners was lacking," said Mr. Osborne, "and I, no other, camp have I found signs of fear on the part of the prisoners that what they might say to me would result in suffering for them afterwards."

Russian Fleet's Success

The Daily Chronicle has the follow- ing from Petrograd: "In the Baltic Sea, near Windau, a flotilla of Rus- sian torpedo boats sank a German cruiser of 3,000 tons. The cruiser had an armament of 4-inch and 3½- inch guns. The Russian deadly artil- lery fire made the action a short one. Only twenty out of a crew of 200 were saved."

German Dreadnought Sunk

A despatch to The London Daily Mail from Rotterdam says: "One of Germany's newest Dreadnoughts struck a mine Friday in the Baltic Sea and went to the bottom. All the members of the crew were saved ex- cept thirty-three, who were drowned."

Sister's True Devotion

At the Kingston General Hospital last week the sister of Lieut. Donald McCargar of Belleville, who suffered severe burns on his arm at Barrie- field Camp, gave up portions of skin from her body to the doctors to graft on her brother.

GREECE IS BLOCKADED BY ALLIED WARSHIPS

Greece is Now Forced to Show Her Hand—Kitchener Sees King Con- stantine—Further Successes

A despatch dated Athens says: Greece concedes that if the allied troops are forced to retreat into Ger- man territory Greece will prevent the Germans from following them. On the other hand, Greece maintains that the allied troops must not remain or re- form or receive reinforcements to at- tack the Bulgarians and Germans again. London says the Entente al- lies have demanded that Greece either join with them and fulfill her treaty obligations to Serbia or demobilize, and to impress King Constantine that they mean what they say, the allies have declared a commercial blockade of the Hellenic Empire. It is very certain that Lord Kitchener, the Brit- ish War Secretary, who had confer- ence with the Greek King, and after- wards saw Premier Skouloudis, took a firm stand, and told them what the allies could and would do unless the demands were conceded. Lord Kit- chener left Athens after his series of interviews.

Germans Lose Ground at Dvinsk

Fighting on the northern and south- ern flanks continues without interrup- tion. The Russians have driven the Germans out of their positions west of Dvinsk, the enemy abandoning arms and munitions in their precipi- tate retreat from the trenches. On the left bank of the Styr the Austro- German forces were compelled to abandon their positions, the Russians occupying villages in the neighbor- hood. No important change is re- ported elsewhere along this front.

Serbs' Great Triumph

The Serbian Legation at Rome re- ports an important Serbian victory at Leskovic, in the Nish district, after a battle lasting several days. The Bul- garian losses, the Legation adds, were enormous. Important news comes from the south, where it is reported British forces have arrived at Mon- stir. Deep mystery has cloaked the situation in this region for several days, the Bulgarians in the last de- spatches being reported in possession of the town. A strong defence by the remnants of the imperilled Serbian force is now expected with the help of their allies. On the French front the situation is quiet.

French Artillery Score

Paris says: "There have been steady, violent artillery actions around Loos and near Hulluch, in Ar- tois. Our fire has caused great dam- age to the German works. In the Ar- gone, at Boland, we successfully blew up two mine chambers. At Va- quois there has been very violent can- nonading. On the heights of the Meuse, at Bois des Chevalliers, a Ger- man mine chamber was blown up without causing any damage to our lines."

Gorizia is Doomed

It is reported unofficially in de- spatches from Laibach, Austria, that the fortifications of Gorizia have been almost destroyed by the Italian artil- lery. Intense bombardment of Aus- trian positions in the Goritz zone by Italian artillery continues, says Rome. A successful attack was begun north- west of Oslava, and Italian Infantry obtained a firm footing on part of the summit of Monte San Michele. This is the most important Austrian posi- tion on the east bank of the Isonzo south of Goritz.

Hospital Ship Sunk

"Anglia" Strikes a Mine and Many Wounded Soldiers Are Drowned

The hospital ship Anglia, with about 300 wounded men aboard, in addition to the crew, nurses and at- tendants, bound from France for Dover, struck a mine in mid-Channel last week and sank in a very short time. Eighty-five men, most of them seriously wounded, and therefore in their cots lost their lives. The collier Lusitania, which was nearby at the time of the accident, immediately went to the assistance of the Anglia, and her boats had just been lowered when she also struck a mine and foundered. All her crew was saved. A patrol vessel succeeded in rescuing 800 of the Anglia's passengers and crew, including some nurses. A number of bodies were recovered. The Press Bureau issued the following re- port: "The hospital ship Anglia struck a mine in the Channel last week and sank. There were on board at the time about 13 officers and 372 men, making a total of 385. Of this num- ber about 300 were saved by a patrol boat." The Anglia had 200 cot cases aboard. When the rescuing vessels reached her she was badly down by the head and her propellers were rac- ing. Her stern was so high above

the sea that she could not be ve- hicles was able to pass under her and 40 men dropped aboard.

Roumania on the Brink

Country to Join Allies, Says Native, on Completion of Preparations

Roumania is only waiting the few weeks necessary for Russia to com- plete military preparations along her frontier before she throws in her lot with the allies, according to a declar- ation of Count Ati Tanagasso, a Rou- manian nobleman. "It is only a mat- ter of a few weeks before Roumania will be in the war," he said shortly before he sailed for the Russian Em- pire, Espagno. "No one has been

any indecision on the part of my coun- try as to what she intended to do. From the outset the minds of the Roumanian people have been set on entering on the side of the allies. All this talk we have been hearing about Roumania maintaining a friendly atti- tude toward the Teuton has been cooked up in Germany."

British Commander Escapes

The British Admiralty have issued the following statement: "Lieut- Commander Layton, who commanded Submarine E-13, which was destroyed in Danish waters, has escaped from the Nanel Barracks, where he was interned. He was not on parole."

Advertise It in the Chronicle

FARMERS' INSTITUTE

Meetings of South Grey Farmers' Institute will be held in the following places on res- pective dates:

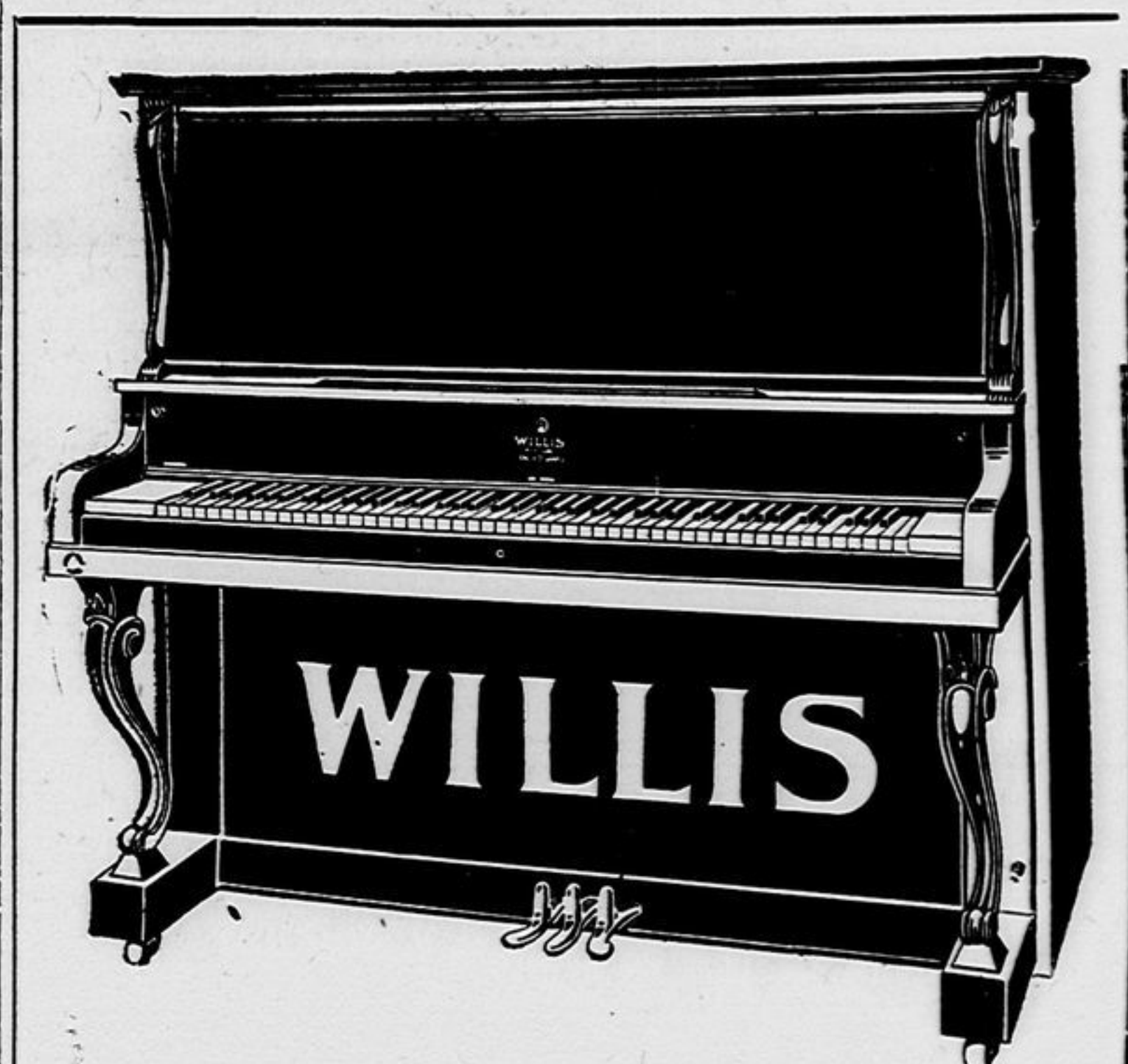
Table with columns: Date, Location (Hanover, Dromore, Durham, Dornoch), Location (Ayton, Holstein, Varney, Twp. Hall, Glenelg)

All Afternoon Meetings at 2 p.m., Evenings at 8 p.m.

PROGRAM

MR. GEO. GIER, Waldemar, at Hanover, Holstein, Durham, Varney and Glenelg Township Hall, will talk on; "The Economic Production of Beef." At Dromore and Dornoch, "The Breeding of Shorthorns." At Ayton, "The Drainage." MR. H. C. DUFF, District Representative, at Dromore, Holstein, Donoch and Glenelg, a selected subject. MR. JNO. R. PHILP, at Hanover, Ayton, Durham and Varney: "Alfalfa or Corn." MRS. W. J. HUNTER, Brampton, will speak to the Women's In- stitutes at all Afternoon Meetings and at the General Meetings in the Evenings. A Practical and Entertaining Speaker. Other Speeches and a musical Program will be provided by local talent for the evening meetings. All are cordially invited to attend and take part in the discussions.

J. W. BLYTH G. BINNIE President Secretary



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