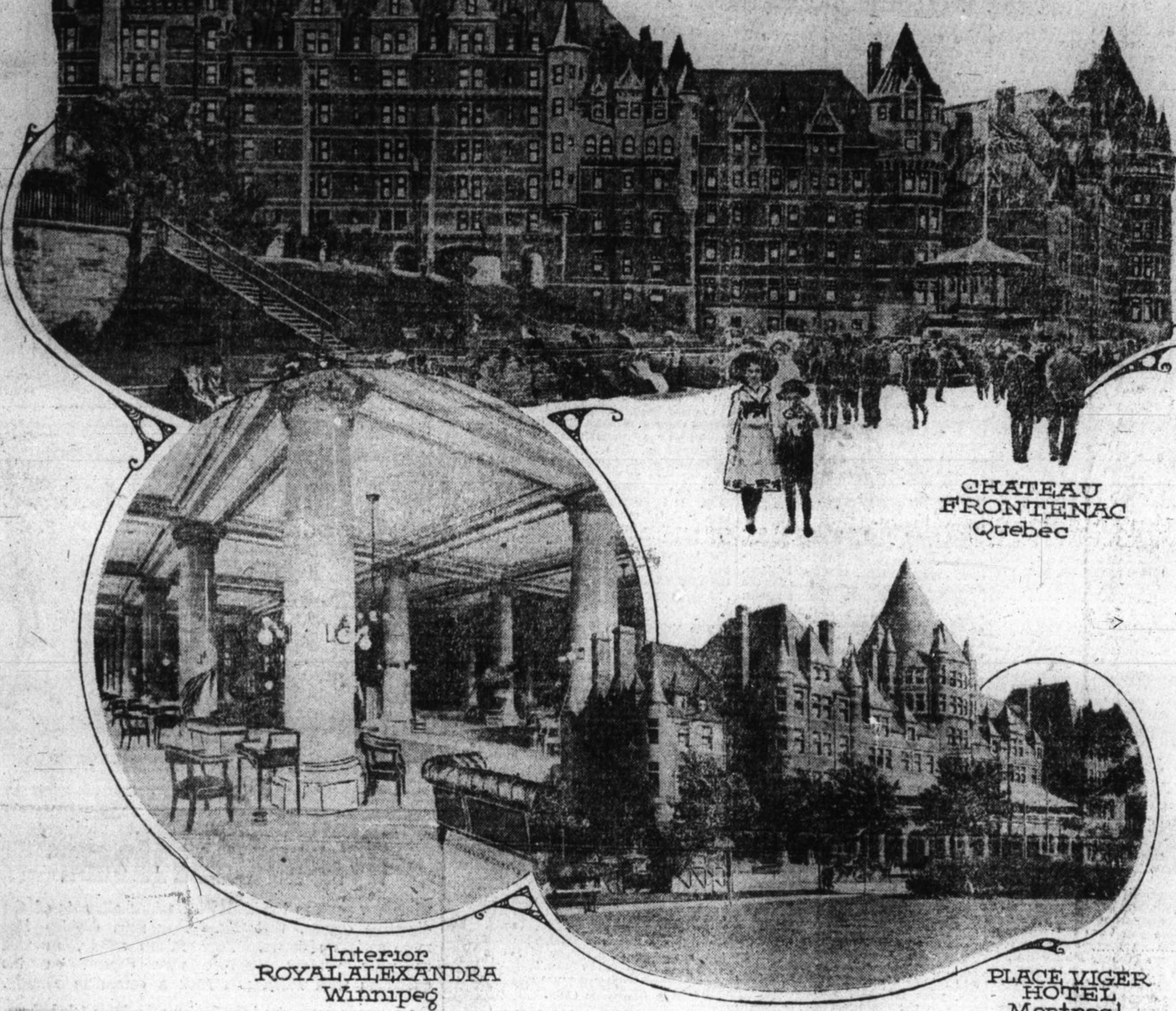


# HOTELRIES of Eastern Canada



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HOTEL  
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Interior  
ROYAL ALEXANDRA  
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In the great chain of hotels which stretch from ocean to ocean to accommodate the hundreds of thousands of tourists and travellers who visit Canada every year from all parts of the world the hostels portrayed in this picture figure amongst the most prominent not only in size but in comfort and convenience. The C.P.R. has spent millions of dollars in the building of these palaces of comfort and so successful have they been that every year it is found necessary to spend further huge sums on enlargements. The Chateau Frontenac will in all probability be the next in line for improvements, the work at the Royal Alexandra which is involving a sum of over one million dollars is still proceeding, while only recently the extensive alterations to the Place Viger were completed at a cost of almost a similar sum.

## COUNTRYSIDE TIDINGS

### WHAT WEIG CORRESPONDENTS HAVE TO TELL.

**From Villages and Farms Throughout the Adjoining Counties — Rural Events, and Movements of the People.**

**Bell Rock Budget.**  
Bell Rock, Dec. 11.—Business has been dull here for the past two weeks on account of bad roads. Messrs. Wilson and Emmons shipped a large drove of cattle from this neighborhood. Rev. J. Leach preached an impressive and helpful sermon here last Sunday. Many of the farmers are cutting wood and timber to be hauled out later.  
Visitors: Joseph Timmons, Mrs. Enterprise, at John Timmons'; Mr. R. Martin, Kingston, at D. A. York's; M. Roach, Kingston, at W. Brock's; Mrs. James Meeks and Mrs. E. James are spending the day in Kingston.

**At Lower Lavant.**  
Lower Lavant, Dec. 21.—The roads are in much better condition after the heavy fall of snow on Saturday. Robert Robertson is ill. Robert McInnis met with what might have proved a serious accident on Friday. While drawing poles one struck him unconscious. His father found him lying in the snow some time later. However, he is recovering nicely. Messrs. W. and M. Reid visited Lanark last week. James Umpherson has a game of men working in the bush. A few of the men from here and Poland went out on a hunt after a big bear last week, but Bruin succeeded in evading them.

**Westport Lady a Winnipeg Trustee.**  
Westport, Dec. 20.—Don A. Currie was a week-end visitor in Kingston. The ladies of St. Edward's church cleared over \$300 as a result of their bazaar held on Turkey fair day. C. G. Huffnagel, of Jasper, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Derbyshire Sunday and Monday. William Bradley, of Kingston, but formerly of Barriere, is spending the week in town. Mrs. Charles Devine who has been dangerously ill at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. McKee, is somewhat improved to-day. Mr. Devine arrived from Hallowbury on Tuesday. Mrs. J. K. Brown, daughter of Mrs.

William Kennedy, Westport was recently elected a member of the school board for the city of Winnipeg, defeating her male opponent by 200 votes. Mrs. Brown who was formerly of Westport, is the only lady member of the board.

**Notes From Sangster.**  
Sangster, Dec. 22.—Many from here attended the annual poultry fair, held in Westport. Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Cochrane paid Kingston a visit last Thursday. Miss Ferguson, Bedford Mills, and Miss G. Babcock, Glendower, at N. Murphy's; J. Mulville, Rideau Lake, at T. Barrett's; Mrs. John O'Connor, at M. Kelly's; Glendower; J. Jennings, at James Murphy's; Miss N. Barrett, at M. J. Cochrane's; Miss M. E. Murphy, Miss Ferguson, James Murphy, at T. Young's; Miss K. Daley and Rosie Young, at P. O'Connor's; J. Murphy, at John Goodheart's; Alexander Bennett, at Patience Egan's.

**News From Plevna.**  
Plevna, Dec. 19.—The box social and Christmas tree, held in the school house on the 16th inst., was a success. The proceeds amounted to \$28, the greater portion which will go to the Belgian relief fund. Born to Mr. and Mrs. H. Elkington, on December 1st, a daughter, Mrs. Smith, has received a good supply of knitting which she is sending to the Red Cross Society. The lumber men were glad to see the snow, which was badly needed. Master Clifford Davy was the guest of Joseph Card recently. A number of young people from Ardooch and Fernleigh attended the social on the 16th inst.

**Mallorytown Matters.**  
Mallorytown, Dec. 21.—Mrs. A. P. Geild is visiting at L. A. Guild's, Kingston. The annual Christmas tree entertainment will be held on Christmas night in the Oddfellow's Hall. Miss Laura Jordan, who has been attending the Normal School at Kingston, is now home. Rev. Mr. Henderson, of Gananoque was the minister for the morning and evening services at the Methodist church as Rev. W. G. Bradford is kept at home because of rheumatism. Miss Dollie Mallory, who has been at Rockport for some time is now home for the Christmas holidays. There is to be a special meeting of the quarterly board at the parsonage on Tuesday, December 22nd. Nomination for the township council takes place on December

28th. Election of officers of McCoy Lodge is on the evening of the 28th December.

**Bloomfield News Budget.**  
Bloomfield, Dec. 21.—John Chalmers has opened a flour and feed store. Ernest Smith has started a garage in the basement of Garfield Sheppard's shop. Mrs. Clayton Barr and children leave on Wednesday for Toronto to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. James Thom. Mr. and Mrs. Kenney, of Kenora, will spend Christmas at John Clinton's.

The neighborhood of East Lake is saddened by the death of Mrs. Bruce McDonald on Sunday evening. She had been dangerously ill all last week from an internal disease, but previous to that had been in good health. Mrs. McDonald was the daughter of the late Sidney Stanton and was born in thirty-nine years ago. Her mother resides in Pictou and Harry Stanton and Frank Stanton, brothers, East Lake and Detroit. The funeral was held on Tuesday from her late residence to Glenwood cemetery, of Outlook, Sask., arrived home on Saturday. Sherman Werden, of Outlook, Sask., arrived home on Saturday at the wedding of his sister, Miss Gladys Werden, daughter of Malcolm Werden, to Ray Carman this week.

**CAPTURE OF VERMELLES.**

**Park Wall Blown Up — Bayonet Charge Puts Enemy to Flight.**  
Paris, Dec. 23.—A graphic account of the capture of Vermelles is published. The battle was fought from house to house and farm to farm, step by step. The French on one side of the main street and the Germans on the other fired at each other without stopping all day and night all around a chateau park. At eleven o'clock in the morning a terrific explosion destroyed the park wall. A company of Frenchmen and Algerians rushed with fixed bayonets through the breaches and stormed the chateau. The Germans, who had lost heavily, did not expect the assault, and were demoralized.  
Five days later another violent attack drove them out of a restaurant building, constructed of iron and reinforced concrete.  
A reasonable doubt is often made as to quite an amount of unreasoning ingenuity.

**A GERMAN'S VISION.**

**Outlines Country's Economic Measures After the War.**  
London, Dec. 23.—Translating from the German press, the London Daily News says that Professor Wygodzinski, lecturer in economics at the Cologne Gaette and imaginative sketch of Germany's economic measures after the war.  
"England's intention to drive us permanently out of the world's markets or even greatly to diminish our trade will be ineffective," he predicted.  
Germany's trade, he says, will take other routes. Primarily she will favor the neutral countries which have been friendly, or, at any rate, not unfriendly, such as Sweden, Spain, Bulgaria, a part of the Americas and China. Horrible things, however, are to be taken against the United States of America. Professor Wygodzinski is furious because America has not insisted on petroleum permitting the shipment of petroleum. Therefore, after the war Germany is to be made independent of the American oil supply. Benzol is to replace petrol gas and denaturized spirits will supplant petroleum for lamps, and gas again will be used instead of oil for heating.

**NOT CLEAR TO OTTAWA.**  
Speculation As to What New Year Honors May Mean.  
Ottawa, Dec. 23.—The statement from London that two announcements of New Year honors for Canadians will be made has caused considerable speculation here. The information is not in any sense official and its meaning is not altogether clear, it is taken, however, to mean that in addition to the list confined to the dominion itself, there may be another list including the names of Canadians who have given and are giving distinguished service of one kind or another outside of Canada.

**ALL PASSAGE FORBIDDEN.**

**Geumans Cancel Passports on Danish Frontier.**  
Copenhagen, Dec. 23.—The German authorities have, according to a message from the frontier, forbidden all passage from Germany via the Danish-German frontier. They refuse to give passports, and demand that all persons in possession of passports shall give them back to the local authorities.

**FUNDS LOW IN AUSTRIA.**

**War Loan Incomplete—Relief Subscriptions Small.**  
Berne, Dec. 23.—The Austrian war loan is still not subscribed fully, and the subscription lists for the Red Cross and the Soldier's Widows and Orphans are strikingly small. The Neue Freie Presse, has since the beginning of the war raised only about \$105,000 for the Austrian Red Cross and about \$12,500 for Soldier's Widows and Orphans. Discontent among the suffering poor is increasing.

**LOST GERMAN DEPUTY**

**Was Found Fighting With the French Army.**  
Paris, Dec. 23.—Georges Weill, the long-lost deputy for Metz in the German parliament, has been found, or rather he has revealed himself. Nothing more dramatic or sensational has appeared in print than the first two sentences of his manifesto to his friends of Alsace-Lorraine.  
"Since the outbreak of the war," he writes, "I have let the German press circulate all sorts of stories about me, and have neither protested nor denied that I owed complete silence to my aged parents, who were still at Strasbourg, and I preferred to leave even them in ignorance as to what had happened to me rather than expose them to the anger of those who are still masters in that city. Now that they are in safety my liberty of speech is reconquered. On August 5th I enlisted in the French army. In joining the army of the republic and thus continuing the struggle against militarized, Prussianized Germany I am conscious of having well fulfilled by duty a socialist deputy and representative for Alsace-Lorraine."

**WAR LOAN INCOMPLETE—RELIEF SUBSCRIPTIONS SMALL.**  
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**B.C. GIRL OFF TO FRONT.**

**Millicent Dunsmuir's Daughter Wants to Drive Motor Ambulance.**  
Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 23.—Miss Kathleen Dunsmuir, youngest daughter of James Dunsmuir, former premier of British Columbia, who sold his coal mines to Mackenzie & Mann for eleven million dollars, has decided to serve her country at the front. She left yesterday for London, where she will take a course in ambulance work. She is an experienced motor-car driver and is anxious to drive a motor ambulance in France.

## ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

### Three Scenes In Connection With the European War.

**Queen's Journal.**  
Christmas eve at Salisbury Plain! A goodly number of the Canadians were congregated in one of the shacks; some were chatting in low tones, some painstakingly writing long letters home while others consoled for the hundredth time the last instalments from over water which by this time had been thumbed over so often as to be scarcely legible. To some appeared in vision the roaring traffic of a busy city street, to others a quiet country road, a winding lane, the merry ring of sleigh-bells, while to others came the memory of the wind-swept, snow-clad prairies and the cold piercing winds from the north. All thoughts of old London, of the screaming thrapple, of the sunken trenches, of the prospective hardships, tests of endurance and possibly even death were temporarily forgotten. To the back-ground and each one thought of a mother of a sweetheart in the land of the maple on Christmas eve.

Christmas even in Paris! But what a contrast to the Paris of other years! No cheering street-bags, no jostling crowds, no shouts of "Noel! Noel! no shops gay with all the festive displays of the yuletide season but a quiet sober Paris, all its frivolity cast aside, its former cloak of gaiety discarded for a stern mantle of seriousness. A city, served by an army of women, women street-cleaners, women cab-drivers, women postmen, for while Jean and Baptiste fight the invader, Blanche and Marie must fill the places left vacant, which may never be filled by their former holders again.

Christmas eve in the trenches! A lull came to a close and the little Belgian gunner pulled from out the pocket of his tunic a picture of a fair-haired Flemish maiden in a nurse's suit. "Thank God she's safe now," he assured himself as he stowed it away again. "The Germans don't make war on the Red Cross," and even as he spoke there lay under a pile of wreckage and masonry in the nearby city—a memento of the visit of the last Zeppelin—a still white-clad figure with a red emblem on her arm.

And to the great cathedral went the kaiser, and acknowledged the salutes of the cheering multitude, and bowed his head at the word of prayer and blessed the name of the prophet of Nazareth who many centuries before had preached the doctrine of peace on earth and good will to all.

## WARRIORS ON STAGE.

**Allies' Music Hall Is a Barn At Dixmude.**  
Dixmude, Dec. 23.—The "allies' music hall" is half a mile behind the French firing line near Dixmude, in the first barn on the right. It is devoted to variety exclusively, but the performances are not guaranteed to be continuous. The directors reserve the right to interrupt or to change the programme and substitute artists without notice. Reasons for this precaution are obvious to anyone who has heard the German shells go screeching through the air over the barn.  
A candle here and there, stuck on a bayonet, does as well as it can in the place of calcium lights, and ammunition boxes, when one knows how to arrange them, make a very good stage.

The performance begins soon after the relief of the guard in the trenches. The troupe, as well as the audience, is composed of "allies" of all colors: British, French, Moors, Sikhs, Hindoos, Algerians, Senegalese—generally covered with the mud of the trenches of Flanders. The programme consists of songs, monologues, recitations and dances.  
One performance concluded with the singing of popular choruses in French and English.  
The chorus of the last song was interrupted by different regimental bugles, and the audience and performers dispersed precipitately to join their detachments for a despatch to the trenches.  
Dear in mind that none of us, at the end, can claim real estate only to grave size.  
It often happens that the jolly, good-natured man is so at your financial expense.

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