

The Canadian V.C.'s

How Men From Canada Earned the Empire's Highest Tribute for Bravery in the Field of Battle.



SERGEANT ZENGEL

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when protecting the battalion right flank. He was leading his platoon gallantly forward to the attack, but had not gone far when he realized that a gap had occurred on his flank, and that an enemy machine gun was firing at close range into the advancing line. Grasping the situation he rushed forward some 200 yards ahead of the platoon, tackled the machine gun emplacement, killed the officer and operator of the gun, and dispersed the crew. By his boldness and prompt action, he undoubtedly saved the lives of many of his comrades.

Later when the battalion was held up by very heavy machine gun fire he displayed much tactical skill and directed his fire with destructive results. Shortly afterwards he was rendered unconscious for a few minutes by an enemy shell, but on recovering consciousness he at once continued to direct harassing fire on the enemy.

Sergeant Zengel's work throughout the attack was excellent, and his utter disregard for personal safety and the confidence he inspired in all ranks, greatly assisted in bringing the attack to a successful end.—Official Record.

BY CAROLYN CORNELL

The 5th Battalion Canadians had reached a point beyond Caix, in the

valley of the Luce, by nightfall of Aug. 8th, 1918. It had been a day of wonderful sensation for the troops. The buoyancy of victory was in their blood, and they rushed on in spite of weariness from the forced night marches of the week previous. They went through the deserted town of Cayeux. They crossed the shrunken stream of the Luce, passed shattered homes of Caix and the untenanted farmsteads of the French peasants. When at last they halted they had completed seven miles advance in the day. It had been easy going. The Boche was busy in the fields harvesting the crops of his stolen territory, never dreaming in his unimaginative soul, but that the allies were settling down to submission to his thieving aggression.

But by Aug. 9th the Boche was awake. His machine gunners on this day made a determined effort to check the advance. There was little artillery work on either side. The vast preparation of the previous day was impossible for the Canadians, and many of the enemy guns had been captured. It was the steady fire from machine guns which hampered the progress of the second day of the advance.

The 5th Battalion moved over to the right of the position taken up the night before. Much of the country over which they had to go was open. The men sought shelter behind trees in the way and in the sunken roads. But in many parts the road rose to the surface and at these points the enemy machine guns directed their fire with disastrous results. The men would run a piece, fall fat, rise and make another dash, and in this way reached their new position about 10 o'clock that morning. Ahead of them stretched the open country over which they had to go. A bluff was directly in front of them in which machine guns were stationed. The battalion was accompanied by several tanks when it left cover.

Sergeant Raphael Zengel was in charge of Number One platoon, A company. As the battalion advanced, Zengel became aware that a gap had occurred in the right flank of his platoon. This he discovered was caused by the fire from a machine gun at close range on the right. He rushed forward alone and killed the officer and operator of the gun, the crew then scattering in all directions.

He rejoined his platoon and they were advancing towards their objective when one of the tanks lost its direction. Zengel rushed in under fire and gave the necessary information so that the tank was able to use its guns with destructive effect on the enemy. Later one of the large Ger-

man guns setting the range landed a shell in the midst of the line, knocking Zengel down and rendering him unconscious. The force of the percussion was such that his face became swollen and dark, and his comrades thought that he was gone. But this gallant non-commissioned officer was not to die on the Amiens fields. He recovered consciousness, and again took command of his platoon, leading it on to its objective. The battalion reached Warvillers this evening at 6 o'clock.

In recognition of the valuable part played by Sergeant Zengel in the day's victorious ending, his officers recommended him for the highest military award in the British army, the Victoria Cross.

Raphael Louis Zengel was born in the city of Fairbault, Minn., U.S.A. He is the youngest of seven children. He attained his twenty-fourth year on the day the armistice was signed, Nov. 11th, 1918. His father, Louis Zengel, having died when he was small, his mother came to Canada and took up her home there. Raphael received most of his education in Minnesota, and attended school in Saskatchewan for a term after the family came to Canada. During his school days he was a baseball enthusiast, organizing a nine of his own, known as the Whirlwinds. Their red flannel suits, with the white lettering were known in many parts of Minnesota where the young captain led them to victory. Another characteristic of the future V.C. was knowledge of the habits of the wild animals living near his home, many of which he caught and tamed.

Sergeant Zengel was working on a farm near Virden when war broke out. He signed up with the 45th battalion in December, 1914, com-

pleting his training in Winnipeg. He was drafted into the 5th Battalion in France.

Zengel's marksmanship won him a place as sharp shooter. He frequently went out in charge of scouting raids on enemy trenches, in which he showed undaunted fearlessness. "He was out in No Man's Land almost every night," a comrade said. Before the Amiens offensive last August he was with the Canadians in the Arras line and took part in raids in that sector which were part of the plan of the British high command to deceive the Germans as to the location of the shock troops of the Dominion. After winning the V.C. at Amiens he returned with his battalion to the Arras front, where he was slightly wounded in the head from anti-aircraft fire. He returned to England, where on Dec. 13th he was invested with the Victoria Cross by King George at Buckingham Palace.

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Newest Notes Of Science

One mile of a country road in Oregon is surfaced with borax.

The first coal mine in the Malay peninsula has been placed in operation.

Rubber rings have been invented to prevent thimbles slipping from fingers.

Experiments are being tried in France of ageing wines with ultraviolet rays.

One of the newest dolls moves its head from side to side as its body is pressed.

Venice has planned a technical school to teach boys various arts and handicrafts.

Coiled springs to stretch the wrinkles out of sleeves feature a new garment hanger.

A factory to make paper from rice straw has been established in China by Japanese.

There are enough telephones in the United States for every ten persons to have one.

Cotton has been raised successfully by Italian experimenters on the coasts of Tripoli.

Folding paper tees have been invented for golfers, bound in book form for easy carrying.

Copper is the leading mineral product of South Australia, followed by salt and iron ore.

Missouri has joined the list of states which maintain night schools for adults in rural regions.

The Brazilian state of Bahia produces a third of the world's cacao and as much tobacco as Cuba.

A lemon squeezer operated by a small electric motor is a novelty designed for public places.

To save the miners' time a canteen has been installed 500 feet below ground in a coal mine in Europe.

A new attachment for beam scales permits articles to be automatically counted as they are being weighed.

Nicaragua expects to produce 30,000,000 pounds of coffee this year, 5,000,000 pounds more than last year.

In the year ending with March,

Head Office and Factories: TORONTO
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2,056 merchant vessels of 3,225,521 gross tons were built in the United States.

A medicine has been invented in Denmark for mixing peat and brown coal into fuel briquets of high heating value.

An inventor has attached an adjustment measuring rule to the foot of a stool used for trying on shoes in stores.

Stray electric currents from a railroad are supposed to cause trees on one side of a Brussels street to bud again and sometimes blossom after they have shed their leaves in the fall.

A new garbage incinerator also heats water in a spiral grate made of pipes through which the water circulates, garbage being placed on top of it and falling through as it is consumed.

In model form an English inventor has succeeded in operating a railroad car that is raised above the track by the repelling force of electricity and drawn forward by magnets above it.

An electrical device to start the motors of automobile fire apparatus when alarms are received is the idea of an Ohio inventor.

An English inventor has patented a method for lighting covered with translucent glass without interfering with darkened stages.

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