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He that comes first to the hall may sit where he will.

## "THE GREAT WAR AS I SAW IT."

By Canon F. G. Scott, C.M.G., D.S.O., of Quebec, Senior Chaplain of the First Canadian Division.

### "Beside The Still Waters."

The Brigade was quartered in the little village of Steenje. It was a pretty place, and it was delightful to be back in the peaceful country again. May was bringing out the spring flowers and the trees wore fresh green leaves. There was something about the exhilarating life we were leading which made one extremely sensitive to the beauties of nature. I have never cared much for flowers, except in a general way. But now I noticed a great change. A wild flower growing in a ditch by the wayside seemed to me to be almost a living thing, and spoke in its mute way of its life of peace and contentment, and mocked by its very humility, the world of men which was so full of noise and death. Color too made a most powerful appeal to the heart. The gleam of sunlight on the moss that covered an old thatched roof gave one a thrill of gladness. The world of nature putting on its fresh spring dress had its message to hearts that were lonely and anxious, and it was a message of calm courage and hope. In Julian Grenfell's beautiful poem "Into Battle," he notes this message of the field and trees. Everything in nature spoke to the fighting man and gave him its own word of cheer.

Of course all the men did not show they were conscious of these emotional suggestions, but I think they felt them nevertheless. The green fields and shining waters round Steenje had a very soothing effect upon minds that had passed through the bitterest ordeal in their life's experience. One morning I held a service of Holy Communion in the open air. Everything was wonderful and beautiful. The golden sunlight was streaming across the earth in full radiance. The trees were fresh and green, and hedges marked out the field with walls of living beauty. The grass in the meadow was soft and velvety, and, just behind the spot where I had placed the altar, a silver stream wandered slowly by. When one adds to such a scene, the faces of a group of earnest, well-made and heroic young men, it is easily understood that the beauty of the service was complete. When it was over, I reminded them of the twenty-third Psalm, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters." There too was the table prepared before us in the presence of our enemies.

At Steenje, as no billet had been provided for me, the Engineers took me in and treated me right royally. Not only did they give me a pile of straw for a bed in the dormitory upstairs, but they also made me an honorary member of their mess. Of the work of the "Sappers," in the Great War one cannot speak too highly. Brave and efficient, they were always working and co-operating enthusiastically with the infantry. Every week now that passed was deepening that sense of comradeship which bound our force together. The mean people, the men who thought only of themselves, were either being weeded out or taught that there was no place for selfishness in the army. One great lesson was impressed upon me in the war and that is, how wonderfully the official repression of wrong thoughts and jealousies tends to their abolition. A man who lets his wild fancies free, and gives rein to his anger and selfishness, is going to become the victim of his own mind. If people at home could only be prevented, as men were in the war, from saying all the bitter and angry things they feel, and from criticizing the actions of their neighbors, a different temper of thought would prevail. The comradeship men experienced in the Great War was due to the fact that everyone knew comradeship was essential to our happiness and success. It would be well if all over Canada men realized that the same is true of our happiness and success in times of peace. What might we not accomplish if our national and industrial life were full of mutual sympathy and love!

Our rest at Steenje was not of long duration. Further South another attack was to be made and so one evening, going in the direction whether our troops were ordered, I was motorol to the little village of Robecq. There I managed to get a comfortable billet for myself in the house of a carpenter. My bedroom was a tiny compartment which looked out on the backyard. It was quite delightful to be in a real bed again, and as I was enjoying the luxury late in the morning I watched the carpenter making a baby's coffin. Robecq then was a very charming place. The canal, on which was a hospital barge, gave the men an opportunity for a swim, and the spring air and the sunshine put them in high spirits.

### A Word With Haig.

It was at Robecq, that I had my first sight of General Haig. I was standing in the Square one afternoon when I saw the men on the opposite side spring suddenly to attention. I felt that something was going to happen. To my astonishment, I saw a man ride up carrying a flag on a lance. He was followed by several other mounted men. It was so like a pageant that I said to myself "Hello, here comes Joan of Arc." Then a General appeared with his brilliant staff. The General advanced and we all saluted, but he, spying my chaplain's collar, rode over to me and shook hands and asked if I had come over with the Canadians. I told him I had. Then he said, "I am so glad you have all come into my

Army." I did not know who he was or what army we were in, or in fact what the phrase meant, but I thought it was wise to say nice things to a general, so I told him we were all very glad too. He seemed much gratified and rode off in all the pomp and circumstance of war. I heard afterwards that he was General Haig, who at that time commanded the First Army. He had from the start, the respect of all in the British Expeditionary Force.

A sudden call "to stand to," however, reminded us that the war was not yet won. The Brigadier told me that we had to move next morning at five. Then he asked me how I was going and I quoted my favorite text "The Lord will provide." My breakfast at 3:30 next morning consisted of a tin of green peas without bread or other adulterations and a cup of coffee. At five a.m. I started to walk, but it was not long before I was overtaken by the car of an artillery officer, and carried in great glory, past the General and his staff, whose horses were nearly pushed into the ditch on the narrow road. The Brigadier waved his hand and congratulated me upon the way in which Providence was looking after me. That afternoon our brigade was settled in reserve trenches at Lacouture. There were a number of Gurkha regiments in the neighborhood, as well as some Guards battalions. I had a service for the bomb-throwers in a little orchard that evening, and I found a billet with the officers of the unit in a particularly small and dirty house by the wayside. Some of us lay on the floor and I made my bed on three chairs—a style of bed which I said I would patent on my return to Canada. The chairs, with the middle one facing in the opposite direction to prevent one rolling off, were placed at certain distances where the body needed special support, and made a very comfortable resting place, free from those inhabitants which infected the ordinary places of repose. Of course we did not sleep much, and somebody, amid roars of laughter, called for breakfast about two-thirty a.m. The cook who was sleeping in the same room got up and prepared bacon and coffee, and we had quite an enjoyable meal, which did not prevent our having a later one about nine a.m., after which I beguiled the time by reading Leacock's "Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich." Later in the day, I marched off with our men who were going into the trenches for the battle of Festubert. We passed the place called Indian Village and went to the trenches just beyond.

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(To be Continued.)

### AN UPWARD TENDENCY.

Reported in Connection with the Un-

listed Stock Market.

March 13.—The Unlisted Market according to A. J. Pattison, Jr., & Co's., report was fairly active with slightly upward tendency. Investment buying of the steady dividend paying issues and better class Industrial Bonds was of the best type seen for months. Buyers of Bonds are now turning to stocks which at present levels show a high yield. Prices are slowly but steadily improving and there does not appear to be any doubt but that the upward movement now started will continue for many months.

Following the improvement in New York Funds the G.T.P. issues moved up, the 4's of 1955 gaining two points to 69 1-2 bid afterwards easing to 68.75 bid. C.N.R. 4's 1930 narrowed 1-4 to 86 3-4-87 1-2. Lake Superior Paper 6's continue in demand at 88 1-2 with no offerings obtainable. Dominion Iron & Steel 5's 1939 improved 1 1-2 points to 73 1-2-75. Eastern Car 6's were asked for at 87 with no offerings obtainable. Dominion Iron & Steel 5's 1939 improved 1 1-2 points to 73 1-2-75. Eastern Car 6's were asked for at 87 with the nearest offering at 90. Robert Simpson Preferred showed considerable strength at 79 1-2-80 1-2 following the report of last year's issues. Can. Wolvens Preferred improved a point to 69 bid, none offered reflecting the better conditions in this line of industry. Imperial Oil was practically stationary at 104-106. Cuban Sugar Preferred at 14 1-2-16 was dull and unchanged. Alberta Pacific Grain Preferred rose to 81 bid, none offered while the Common eased to 108-120. English Electric Preferred with bonus of Common was in demand at 100 with none offered—the excellent placing of the issue. The Common alone was traded in to some extent around 25. Bank shares were in better demand than for some months and considering the present yields should work to much higher figures. Nova Scotia Steel 6 per cent. Deb. remain unchanged at 72 1-2-73.

### Gentle Spring.

A foolish young fellow named Bert who scarce could afford a new shirt went and bought a fine ring for a trifling young thing. With bobbed hair and a very short skirt.

(Guess he had the fever!)

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