C. E. F. JOURNALS PUBLISHED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

BY P. F. G.

Primarily issued as a vehicle for regimental news and anecdote and reflecting in a large measure the enterprise and *esprit de corps* of the publishing unit the regimental journal or magazine has firmly established itself in the ranks of both Regular and Citizen Army. In the Canadian Expeditionary Force at home and abroad, many units have from time to time published journals which are cherished by members as souvenirs of the Great War. In some cases publication has been fairly regular and continuous, embracing Canada, England and the Front; in others it has been spasmodic, but more frequently after the initial issue it became "a casualty." Today in France only one journal per Brigade or one for three Field Ambulances in a division is authorized by G. H. Q. and since that order went into effect last Spring a number of papers had to take the official count. A reference to K. R. & O par. 1933 shows that the War Office takes cognizance of these journals and invites C. O.'s to send copies of all such magazines and newspapers which may be privately printed to the Librarian of the British Museum.

During the early stages of the war editors of papers at the front had a fairly free hand in being able to present to their readers the doings of their own units and could publish names of battalions, brigades etc. This however has been stopped and the news contents is now very closely censored. Few Canadian journals are actually printed in "the zone of fire" but the one the writer was manager of, The Brazier, issued by the 16th Battalion—The Canadian Scottish, 1st Canadian Division, was not only issued within range of the Huns artillery, but on more than one occasion was actually printed under shell fire. It was unique also in being the only journal at the time possessing a mechanical staff from the ranks of the battalion, who did the actual setting of type and printing. This staff turned out a considerable amount of job work, principally military forms etc.

To The Listening Post belongs the honor of being the pioneer regimental journal of the Canadians in France. Its initial number, if I remember correctly, came out in the summer of 1915 when the 1st Canadian Division held a frontage at Ploegstreert Woods. It was the official organ of the 7th Battalion (1st British Columbia) and was then edited by Captain W. F. Orr and Lance Corp. H. Maylor was news editor. In March of last year it became the journal of the 2nd Infantry Brigade, covering the 5th, 7th, 8th and 10th Battalions. It is stlll going strong and is printed in France.

The Dead Horse Corner Gazette was produced by the 4th Battalion in the late fall of 1915 and also published a Christmas number. After an interval of five months it reappeared as the official organ of the 1st Infantry Brigade, covering the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions, being printed in England.

PIPER GEORGE INGLIS, EDITOR THE BRAZIER" 16TH BATT. 1ST CANADIAN DIVISION

The 14th Battalion (R. M. R.) broke into the field of war journalism in January 1916 with the R. M. R. Growler, but only lasted one issue.

Next came the Brazier of the 16th Battalton. The greater part of the copy for the first issue was prepared by the writer while doing duty in the trenches opposite Messines. On February 15th, 1916, the initial issue was launched, the mechanical staff being Drummer A. R. McCreadie and Piper George Inglis. The first two issues of the paper were printed at Bailleul. The next two at Poperinghe and the fifth at St. Omer, the writer severing his connection with the Battalion when the 16th reached the Somme. In May the paper became the organ of the 3rd Infantry Brigade and covered the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions. Piper Geo. Inglis who succeeded as Editor, is not only a practical printer but a very clever cartoonist and publishes today possibly the breeziest and largest journal of its kind at the Canadian Front.

In the Second Division, the 27th Battalion (City of Winnipeg) issued an Easter number of the Trench Echo, printed in England, and the 20th Battalion (Northern & Central Ontario) also printed a journal in England entitled, the Twentieth Gazette. The Forty Niner was the name of the 49th Battalion periodical.

In the 4th Division the Western Scot issued by the 67th Battalion (4th Pioneer Battalion) is a typical example of a publication that travelled with its unit from the time of mobilization at Victoria, B. C. It published a train and boat edition while crossing to England and continued throughout its training in two camps in the Motherland and thence to France. It was capably edited by Lieut. C. L. Armstrong, recently invalided back to Blighty.

Representing the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Field Ambulances, 1st Division, is the "N. Y. D." incorporating the Iodine Chronicle, Splint Record and Now & Then. Cpl. R. O. Spreckley was the original editor of the Iodine Chronicle and between October '15 and February '16 published six highly interesting issues. In May he formulated an amalgamation of the three Ambulance papers and has been largely instrumental in making the "Not Yet Diagnosed" the success it is.

At the base in France the Canadians have two magazines La Vie Canadienne, a monthly for the Canadian Section, General Headquarters' 3rd Echelon, printed at Rouen, and the Rouelles Camp Magazine published for the Base Depot at Havre. Sergt. D. H. Tozer, now of the Kilties, was one of the managers of this interesting publication.