

VICTORIA CO. BOY WRITES FROM FRANCE

Gunner J. L. Hawkes of the 28th Battery Relates His Experiences.

Gunner J. L. Hawkes of the 28th Battery, who is now on active service, writes to his parents at Plaster Rock, as follows:

Dear Father and Mother:

Your letter received and as usual, was glad to get it. A person appreciates letters over here, because news is so scarce.

It's not so bad over here when a person is here for a while, but at first one thinks it's awful. One soon gets used to the bullets and shells bursting about them. You never take any more notice of them than somebody throwing beans at you. It's pretty bad sometimes.

The only thing I wouldn't like is to be taken prisoner, for my part I would rather die.

Well, it's fall in line now and I have to go, will finish later. Am on picket tonight. They detach six men for picket and they go on two at a time for four hours on and eight hours off. Am off now till nine p.m.

I am lying down writing this letter by candle light in an old barn. I often think of home, although I don't dislike this life.

I got a box of cold tablets from a friend in London, which I am very thankful for.



GUNNER J. L. HAWKES.

They used us Canadian boys O.K. in England but not so good in France but I suppose they see so many troops that they are not the least bit interested.

My light has gone out; will finish tomorrow.

We have been issued with gas and smoke helmets, two gas helmets and one smoke helmet. We have to carry them all the time and if we are found without them it's a serious offense. We don't do much work here. Some people seem to think we are being fired on all the time but that is not the case.

One thing seems funny, you can hear everything but can't see anything, although you know thousands of guns are firing shells.

Our dug-outs are fixed up very good. Three men to one dug-out. They have a little stove in them and a small table.

You can stretch your rubber sheet so as to make a very soft bed.

Some artillery has been known to stay in the one place for months. We get fed better at the firing line than we do when we are resting, that is, we get more of it. Our issue of cigarettes and tobacco is not sufficient to keep a smoker like me going. We are staying in the same barn that the Germans stayed in last fall.

Well, Mother, I hope to get home safe. To my mind it will be a long time before I do but I feel confident that I'll be back again.

Give my regards to everybody.

Your loving son,

JOHN.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

"Ring on" said the telephone girl who cancelled her engagement.

Umbrellas are great bluffers; it's a case of "put up or shut up" with them. In order to join the great silent majority a man must either die or get married.

Some people know too much to believe anything.

Just the same, we enjoy the praise of men whom we despise.

RHEUMATISM A MYSTERY

Unless Rooted Out of the System It Grows Worse And Worse.

Some diseases give immunity from another attack, but rheumatism works just the other way. Every attack of rheumatism invites another. Worse than that, it reduces the body's power so that each attack is worse than the one before. If any disease needs curing early it is rheumatism, but there are few diseases physicians find more difficult to treat successfully. Wet weather does not cause rheumatism as was once thought, though weather conditions may start the aches and pains. Rheumatism is now known to be dependent upon the blood condition and medical authorities agree that the blood becomes thin with alarming rapidity as rheumatism develops. Maintaining the quality of the blood is therefore, a reasonable way of preventing and curing rheumatism. That it works out in fact is shown by the beneficial results which follow a fair use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These pills actually make new, rich blood which drives out the rheumatic poison and while the blood is kept in this condition there is no danger of the trouble returning. Mr. W. T. Pell, Palermo, Ont., says:—"I was attacked with a trouble which was ultimately pronounced rheumatism. Often I was barely able to crawl into bed and seldom able to do a full day's work. In this condition I doctored for a year, absolutely getting no better. Then I consulted another doctor whose chief consolation was that unless I could get rid of the trouble I would be a cripple for life. He prescribed dieting and I doctored with him for at least six months but instead of getting relief I became weaker and less able to get around. Then I decided to try a doctor in Toronto and was under his treatment for about four months with no better results. I gave up the doctors and tried other remedies which were equally futile. Then one day our storekeeper sent me a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, saying that if they did not help me I need not pay for them. I took them and then got some more and found they were helping me. I probably used \$10.00 worth before I felt fully cured, but they did cure me and were cheap as compared with the other treatments which did not help me. The cure was made several years ago and I have not had a twinge of rheumatism since. Today I am well and strong and I believe I owe it all to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

You can get these pills through any medicine dealer or by mail, post paid, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Co., Brockville, Ont.

ABERG GUARANTEED \$15,000 FOR MATCH

Duluth, Minn., March 9—Alexander Aberg today accepted a guarantee of \$15,000 to wrestle Joe Stecher of Dodge, Neb., in Omaha or Chicago, any time after May 1. Aberg recently won the New York wrestling tournament.

The only way to head off a chronic borrower is to beat him to it.

Throw Away Your Eye-Glasses!

A Free Prescription

You Can Have Filled and Use at Home.

Do you wear glasses? Are you a victim of eye-strain or other eye-weaknesses? If so, you will be glad to know that there is real hope for you. Many whose eyes were failing, say they have had their eyes restored through the principle of this wonderful free prescription. One man says, after trying it: "I was almost blind; could not see to read at all. Now I can read everything without any glasses and my eyes do not water any more. At night they would pain dreadfully; now they feel fine all the time. It was like a miracle to me." A lady who used it says: "The atmosphere seemed hazy with or without glasses, but after using this prescription for fifteen days everything seems clear. I can even read fine print without glasses." It is believed that thousands who wear glasses can now discard them in a reasonable time and multitudes more will be able to strengthen their eyes so as to be spared the trouble and expense of ever getting glasses. Eye troubles of many descriptions may be wonderfully benefited by following the simple rules. Here is the prescription: Go to any active drug store and get a bottle of Bon-Opto tablets. Drop one Bon-Opto tablet in 1/4 glass of water and allow to dissolve. With this liquid, bathe the eyes two to four times daily. You should notice your eyes clear up perceptibly from the first start and information will quickly disappear. If your eyes are bothering you, even a little, take steps to save them now before it is too late. Many hopelessly blind might have been saved if they had cared for their eyes in time. The Valium Drug Co., of Toronto, will fill the above prescription by mail, if your druggist cannot.

A prominent City Physician to whom the above article was submitted, said: "Bon-Opto is a very valuable remedy. Its constituent ingredients are well known to eminent eye specialists and widely prescribed by them. It can be obtained from any good druggist and is one of the very few preparations I feel should be kept on hand for regular use in almost every family."

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SURPRISING STATEMENT FROM MINISTER OF LABOUR

Hon. T. W. Crothers Tells Parliament That He is Not Sure The Allies Will Win The War

Ottawa, March 10—Amazing reasons were advanced in Canada' parliament tonight by Hon. T. W. Crothers, minister of labor, for government inaction in preparing for industrial and economic conditions after the war.

The minister of labor declared, amid the stricken silence of his supporters, and the scornful derision of the Liberals, that he was "not sure" that Britain and her Allies would win the war. He announced that "a German victory would mean a German Canada" and he was not ready to make any preparations for technical training for returning soldiers. He "didn't approve of everything done by the British House of Commons" when F. B. Carvell directed his attention to the steps being taken in Britain for this purpose.

Hon. Mr. Crothers practically suggested that parliament should shut up shop and send its members home. Sir Wilfrid Laurier of the Liberal party, had, he maintained, passed a complete vote of confidence in the present administration when they allowed the resolution for the extension of parliament to pass unanimously. That was why Sir Wilfrid Laurier had said "there would be no criticism."

"He never said anything of the kind," commented E. M. MacDonald.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley, who was leading the opposition at the time, expressed his amazement at the conduct and comments of the minister of labor. He had been staggered to hear him announce that the government doubted the war issue and the ability of Britain and her Allies to win.

Hon. Mr. Crothers stated he was speaking for himself.

LIBERALS HAVE NO DOUBT.

Dr. Pugsley was glad Liberals had no doubt as to the outcome. They believed the British empire and its gallant Allies would win and win gloriously, (cheers), but the minister had no right to state that in granting the extension of parliament Sir Wilfrid Laurier had expressed confidence in the administration. The reverse was the fact. But Sir Wilfrid was a patriot and sooner than see Canada disrupted by a general election at that time, he had taken the position he did.

"It was a choice of evils," observed Dr. Pugsley, "and Liberalism would not shut its eyes to wrongdoing or cease from criticism of grave public improprieties."

Hon. Mr. Crothers stated that he was not prepared to consider plans for technical training at the present time. Dr. Pugsley, during the course of his general criticism arising out of Mr. Crothers' claim that the extension of parliament, signified an assurance of confidence, declared the negligence or waste of the shells committee meant and could be proved to mean an additional expense of \$80,000,000 to the British government.

TECHNICAL TRAINING.

Government establishment at convenient and appropriate centres of technical schools for training and equipping returned soldiers, was the patriotic and practical project which Liberalism urged upon the administration when parliament went into committee of supply on the labor estimates.

Mr. E. W. Nesbitt, North Oxford, who formally submitted the suggestion, was followed by Hon. Frank Oliver, Mr. E. M. MacDonald and other opposition members all in earnest advocacy of the enterprise. Mr. MacDonald stated that a number of returned soldiers had already been admitted to the Halifax technical school, and urged that a substantial

appropriation be set aside out of the war expenditure for the establishment and operation of technical schools. Even apart from the patriotic duty to men who had served the flag such action would have profound industrial importance. The Germans, he pointed out, were the possessors of many valuable trade secrets simply because of the young men of that country had been educated along technical lines.

Mr. MacDonald reminded the House of the warning of Sir George Foster to prepare for the difficulties of the future and the great economic struggle which was to come. Thousands of the very flower of the country would come home with bodies and health shattered, imposing a task on the rest of at least partially caring for them.

The Nova Scotian urged that the whole trade question be thoroughly considered and the capacity of the dominion industrially to supply its own needs and get its proper share of trade in the world's markets.

"We can afford to lay aside many of the petty squabbles in which we have been engaged, and devote undivided attention to these great problems," commented Mr. MacDonald.

A strong plea was also entered today by Hon. Dr. Pugsley, E. M. MacDonald and by Frank Carvell for energetic government action to rehabilitate and encourage the ship-building industry in Canada.

Sir George Foster introduced a bill to amend the Canada Grain Act in order to provide that the board of grain commissioners may, in the event of a blockade as a result of which farmers' grain remains in the fields during the winter months, order special cars to move the crops.

RUSSELL AND RECRUITING.

Capt. J. H. Burnham of West Peterboro, asked if the acting minister of militia had heard that "a propaganda had been established or was about to be established for the suppression or partial suppression of recruiting." He had read in a newspaper that Pastor Russell, an American, was about to enter Canada "with some conscientious scruples" with regard to recruiting. He had, moreover, received a telegram from the colonel of the 93rd Battalion at Peterboro, asking if it would be possible to prevent any interference by Pastor Russell, who was going to hold a meeting there on Sunday afternoon next to tell the people that it was unnecessary for them to enlist and how to satisfy their consciences in that regard.

Hon. A. E. Kemp, acting minister of militia, said that he had not seen the newspaper articles to which Captain Burnham had alluded. He added that "the government was not retarding recruiting but was doing everything in its power to encourage recruiting."

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The blood is richly nourished by Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Appetite increases, weakness and secret ills give way to surplus energy and reserve vigor.

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