

# Government Should Set at Rest Disquieting Rumors

**The Mystery Concerning Canada's Lost Army Should be Explained---Nearly 100,000 Men Enlisted for Overseas Service Cannot be Accounted For---Parliament Should Not go After Things in 'the Dark.'**

(By H. G. Gadsby)

Ottawa, June 30. — Now that conscription is well on the way the best friends of the Borden Government are hoping that some time during the debate on the second reading or during the discussion in committee a full explanation will be made of the military necessities of the case.

Premier Borden's latest statement of figures was that 421,000 had been enlisted from Canada. According to a return brought down by Sir Edward Kemp the Canadians in France now number 136,400, in the Near East, 747, in St. Lucia, 130, and in England 108,736. Total, 246,013 overseas. In Canada there are 17,353. Total at home and abroad 263,366. To this total must be added the 50,000 units, who were dropped either before the troops sailed for England or shortly after they got there. Grand total, 313,366.

## Our Lost Army.

In other words, while the Government's figures account for 313,366 men they have the difference between 421,000, the number enlisted, and 313,366, the number accounted for, still to explain. No doubt the Government, at some stage of the debate will clear this matter up satisfactorily, and explain where the 107,634 men not accounted for by their figures have disappeared. It is only fair to do so because the wildest rumors are circulating, all of them detrimental to recruiting or conscription. A very persistent story is that over eighty thousand men have deserted. This figure, which is alarming enough in all conscience, becomes swollen to one hundred thousand in an article on Our Neighbor's Business, which appeared in the "Saturday Evening Post," last week. As the "Sunday Post" has over two million subscribers and ten million readers the story will carry very far. It is up to the Government to set these disquieting rumors at rest either by denying them or telling the whole truth.

## Clear Statement Needed.

What is needed above everything is a clear statement of the number of men in the battle zones, the number in England, the number at home, the number of units struck off the roll, the number of dead and the number of casualties that will not be able to take their place in the fighting line again. So far the Government has issued no such statement. Conscription may be

highly needful but so far as authentic information is concerned, Parliament is doing things completely in the dark.

Meanwhile there are four Canadian Army divisions fighting in France, which is one division better than we were expected to do. Also there is a fifth Canadian division being formed from the reserves in England which will provide jobs for a number of high officers hitherto superfluous. As the pressure of the war increases the flanellette generals and colonels are being gradually squeezed out, but Canada still litters the landscape of England with quite a few of them. If all the Canadian "safety razors" now in England were sent to the firing line there would be a complete new brigade on active service.

The Pay and Record Office, for example, employs two thousand men, fierce fellows in khaki, with fountain pens instead of swords who add up figures and write letters with great courage. The Canadian Army Service Corps in England — the A. S. C. is another boom-proof job — was composed up to October, 1916, of eleven officers and one hundred and sixty-six men. It has since been increased to 4,636 officers and men to take care of the wants of the 108,736 Canadians in England.

## Separated from Money.

Another thing the Government will no doubt explain is the leniency with which peculating paymasters have been treated here and in England. One very flagrant story deals with a Canadian paymaster who took his bag of money with him up to London. A paymaster must take his bag of money with him wherever he goes. In London this particular paymaster met Gaby Deslys, the dancer, and made quite a hit with her. When he and King Manuel's favorite finally separated Gaby had had a good time, and so had the gallant captain but there was no bag of money. What did they do with the captain? Cashier him? Tear off his shoulder straps? No, at all. His was a family that had wealth and political pull and he himself had been proven a high-flyer. So they compromised by making him a colonel.

## Another Case.

Another paymaster at Salisbury explained a shortage of £600, by blaming it on a wind storm that came up and swept the notes away. As Jupiter

once visited Danae in a shower of gold, and as the English gentlemen who constituted the court martial had not forgotten their classics, the paymaster's explanation was regarded as satisfactory and he was acquitted. The paymaster did not blow the money in, it was a wind storm that blew it out. Curiously enough not one single pound note was ever picked up again. The wind had made a clean job of it.

Sometime during the debate, the Government will also explain why they have persistently refused to send our Bisley marksmen to the front. For twenty years Canada has been sending sharpshooters to Bisley. Some of the best shots in the world are here in Canada right now. They are here against their will because they have offered time and again to go to the front. Not as infantrymen, that does not appeal to them — but as snipers. These Bisley graduates of ours, whose services are spurned, could account for a good many Germans. Why don't they get a chance? Perhaps the Government refused them as volunteers so that they could conscript them afterwards. Out of four hundred and forty Bisley men in Canada only five have succeeded in getting to the front.

## Bill Will Pass.

The Military Service Act will pass the House with a strong measure of support on both sides which makes it all the more incumbent on the Government to treat the supporters of the bill fairly and tell them why "safety first" now in England and Canada are not mobilized for war as a guarantee that conscription is urgent. There are many strong conscriptionists in Parliament who cannot help asking — how is it that a Government that let our soldiers carry the Ross rifle a year and a half after it was condemned should be in such a hurry to help them now?

Another thing the Government will doubtless explain is just what effect, moral and physical, another hundred thousand Canadians will have on a five hundred mile front which is now guarded by six million men.

The best friends of conscription and likewise the best friends of the Borden Government are confident that the Government can explain everything, even the Premier's buffalo-headed remark that he hated to think what would happen to the anti-conscriptionists when the soldiers came marching home.

# THE BLESSING OF A HEALTHY BODY

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August 9th, 1916.

"I think it my duty to tell you what 'Fruit-a-tives' has done for me. Three years ago, I began to feel run-down and tired, and suffered very much from Liver and Kidney Trouble. Having read of 'Fruit-a-tives', I thought I would try them. The result was surprising. During the 3½ years past, I have taken them regularly and would not change for anything. I have not had an hour's sickness since I commenced using 'Fruit-a-tives', and I know now what I haven't known for a good many years — that is, the blessing of a healthy body and clear thinking brain".

WALTER J. MARRIOTT.

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teen hundred and sixteen our team was not as successful as it had been the previous year and was defeated by both St. John and Rothesay teams. During the visit of the St. John team they were entertained at a banquet prepared by the young ladies of the class, which repaid them for the pleasant time they had given us in St. John.

Our hockey team this winter was more successful but failed to win the championship which was carried off by the Sussex team which fully deserved the honor as the best team in the league.

During the last year the Cadet Corps has received its usual training under the direction of Mr. Page and, at a very early inspection held in May of this year was complimented on its good appearance by persons in position to judge.

A very important event in the recent school year was the gift by Miss Thorne to the school of two beautiful pictures and a bust of Shakespeare. Up to this time the only pictures which had been given to the school were the historical pictures presented by the late Mr. Leonard Johnston; now, through the generosity of Miss Thorne the school has, in addition two beautiful pictures of the magnificent and historic Rheims Cathedral, and a very lifelike, well finished bust of the greatest poet of any age or country.

## Greater Production.

The campaign for greater production touched our school this spring, and the students of the High School showed their patriotic zeal by planting, under the direction of Dr. Foster, a large field in University Avenue. Both boys and girls took part in this work, and after a week's work out of school hours, the field was planted with potatoes, onions, beans and peas.

Another effect of the greater production campaign is the decrease in the number of boys now attending the school. Many of the boys, when they were informed that, on condition they worked during the summer to aid in planting and caring for the crops, they would be advanced to a higher class on their return, left school to take their part in the campaign.

## Farewell.

After this review of our school life comes a difficult task — to bid goodbye to our teachers, those who for the past three years have guided us in our studies and, by their example, in our lives outside of school. I cannot speak in fitting terms of your care in guiding us, or of your patience in bearing with us in our faults. Only now, when we realize that in future we must work without your guidance and with the training with which you have so carefully furnished us, do we appreciate the true value of your help. For all the efforts which you have made in our behalf — and they are innumerable — we offer our most sincere and grateful thanks, and assure you that we will always endeavor to live up to the high ideals which you have urged upon us, and taught us by your example. We feel sure that if we, through your efforts have been enabled to live lives which will reflect credit on our school and training, you will consider yourselves well repaid for your unstinted efforts.

To the schoolmates whom we leave tonight we can say only "good-bye" and urge you to uphold the traditions of the school. We feel sure that when you in turn are graduated, you will be

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**Chocolate-Sponge Roll**

1½ cups flour	2 tablespoons melted shortening
1 teaspoon salt	¾ cup hot water
1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs	2 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
2 squares melted chocolate	

The old method called for 4 eggs and no baking powder

**DIRECTIONS**—Sift flour, baking powder and salt together three times. Beat whole eggs. Add slowly sugar, then boiling water slowly; add next vanilla, melted chocolate and melted shortening, without beating. Sift in dry ingredients, and fold in as lightly as possible. Pour into large baking pan lined with oiled paper, and bake in slow oven twenty minutes. When done, turn out on a damp, hot cloth, spread with white icing and roll.

Booklet of recipes which economize in eggs and other expensive ingredients mailed free.

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# STRENUOUS WORK SOON TELLS ON YOU

When worry is added to overwork men soon become the victims of nervous exhaustion — neurasthenia — the doctor calls it. Some have no reserve strength in their systems to bear the strain; other overtax what strength they have. If you find that you are nervous and not sure of yourself, that you sleep badly, and wake up tired and aching, your nerves are out of order. Other signs are inability to take proper interest in your work; your appetite is fickle; your back feels weak, and you are greatly depressed in spirits. One or more of these signs mean that you should take prompt steps to stop mischief by nourishing the nerves with the food they thrive on, namely the rich, red blood made by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These pills have cured thousands of cases of nervous disorders, including nervous prostration, neuralgia, St. Vitus dance and partial paralysis. Here is an example: Mr. P. H. Callan, a well known business man in Coleman, P. E. I., says: "I owe my present health, if not life itself, to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I had always been an active man, and when I began to run down in health paid little attention to it as I thought it only a temporary weakness. As time passed, however, I found myself growing worse, and consulted a doctor, who said that I was not only badly run down, but that my nervous system was badly shattered. I lost flesh, my appetite was poor, I slept badly and notwithstanding the doctor's treatment grew so weak that I had to leave my house. Time went on and I was steadily growing worse, and my friends were all greatly alarmed for my condition. In this condition I was strongly recommended to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and as the doctor's medicine was not helping me I decided to do so. By the time I had used three boxes I could tell that they were helping me. When I had taken eight boxes of the pills I felt able to attend to my business again, and people were surprised to see me out. I continued the use of the pills until I had taken twelve boxes, by which time I was feeling as well as ever I did, and was being congratulated by all my friends on my full restoration to health. I feel now that if I had used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills at the outset, I would not only have saved much money spent in doctor's bills, but would have had renewed health sooner. I cannot speak too highly of this medicine, and would recommend it to every man who feels weak, nervous or run down."

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

# VALEDICTORY DELIVERED AT HIGH SCHOOL CLOSING

**Murray Kane Reviews in an Interesting Manner the History of the Class of 1916---Good Work by the Members in the Line of Athletics---Praise Bestowed On Instructors.**

The valedictory address of the Fredericton High School class of 1917, delivered at the closing exercises on Thursday night, ranked high in comparison with similar efforts of past years. The valedictory, which was by Murray Kane, was as follows:

## THE STORY OF OUR CLASS.

On the twenty ninth day of June, nineteen hundred and fifteen, we who are graduated here tonight seated on this platform, beheld for the first time the closing exercises of the Fredericton High School, as members of the school. Then and there we began to realize what graduation night means to one of the graduating class, to understand the feelings of pupils on being graduated from a school, which during the previous three years they had grown to love and respect, and the remembrance of which all knew they would cherish ever in their memories. At the closing in June, nineteen hundred and sixteen, we were more deeply impressed than before, as we then realized that when we returned in school in August, we would be entering upon our last year at this school. Now, after what seems a very short space of time comes the night on which we, the class of nineteen hundred and seventeen, must bid good-bye to our school, our teachers and our schoolmates and with this night comes full realization of the feelings of the classes we have seen graduate in former years. On this occasion it is fitting that we briefly review the events of the three years spent within these walls.

## First Year.

We entered this school as a class of seventy-nine pupils in August, nine-

teen hundred and fourteen and, after a mild initiation became recognized members of the school. Our first year passed quickly and pleasantly. All was at first new to us, but after a few months we became more at home at High School than we had ever been at any other school. After an unbelievably short time as it seemed to us, came June and closing exercises, and then the summer vacation, which passed more quickly than life in any school.

## Second Year.

We returned to school in August, not glad to return to school, but rather glad it was the Fredericton High School to which we were returning. Our number at the beginning of our second year of high school life was forty-eight, of which number thirty-one were with us at the close in June, nineteen hundred and sixteen. One of those who left us during our year in "B" Class was Claude T. Olmstead who, we are all sorry to hear, has been seriously wounded at the front while serving his country. The whole class retains pleasant memories of Olmstead and sincerely hopes for his recovery.

## Senior Year.

After the holidays of nineteen hundred and sixteen we returned to take our places as the "A" Class of this school which, we were proud to learn, has a splendid reputation for "playing the game." Such a reputation as this, it should be the resolve of all pupils ever to sustain.

## Athletic Record.

During the football season of nine-

able to say that you have done nothing which would reflect shame upon your school.

Classmates, this is the last time that we may assemble as pupils of the Fredericton High School. For three years we have studied here, and during that time have formed the strongest bonds of friendship. Tonight we come to the parting place, from which the paths of our lives lead in different directions. At this time, the greatest occasion so far in our lives, let us remember that this High School and its predecessor, the Collegiate School, have graduated during their years of existence, many hundreds of pupils. Many of these pupils have since become famous and have rendered important services to their country and to mankind. Many others have never come into prominence among their

fellowmen and have never aided their country by any signal service, but have always done their duty as good citizens and served their country to the extent of their power. Let us therefore, resolve tonight to make of ourselves worthy citizens of Canada, and worthy graduates of F. H. S. We may never attain prominence among men, but we may always honor our school by conforming our lives to the principles which we have learned here.

And now, Classmates, we must say farewell re-echoing in our hearts the sentiments expressed in these lines:

"Alma Mater, fondly we bid thee adieu,  
Alma Mater, our hearts to thee are true.

Loyal, faithful children we,  
Always loving, honoring thee,  
Alma Mater Salve."

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