

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada



Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

To Hallie

With Very Best Wishes

From Dad

Christmas, 1935:

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada



Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Souvenir



COMPILED AND EDITED BY
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. D. SINCLAIR, V.D.

WINNIPEG, CANADA.
AUGUST, 1935.



*Dedicated in gratitude to and in honour of the Officers,
Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Cameron
Highlanders who have served with the Regiment in Peace
or in War, and in loving memory of those who have gone
beyond the veil and await the Great Consummation.*

"They will not grow old"

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada

(43rd Bn, (C.H. of C.) C.E.F.)

(Allied with The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders)

20th Infantry Brigade, Military District No. 10.

(Organized G.O. 1-2-10) (Reorganized 1-9-20 — G.O. 232-20)

Headquarters: Winnipeg, Man.

Uniform: Scarlet. Facings: Blue.

The Great War

"YPRES, 1915, '17," "Festubert, 1915," "MOUNT SORREL,"
"SOMME, 1916," "Fleurs Courcellette," "ANCRE HEIGHTS,"
"ARRAS, 1917, '18," "VIMY, 1917," "HILL 70,"
"PASSCHENDAELE," "AMIENS," "Scarpe 1918,"
"Drocourt-Queant," "Hindenburg Line," "CANAL-DU-NORD,"
"Cambrai, 1918," "Pursuit to Mons," "FRANCE AND FLANDERS, 1915-18."

Colonel-in-Chief: The King.

Colonel: Maj.-Gen. N. J. G. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., (R.O.) p.s.c., t.a.

Hon. Colonel: Lieut.-Gen. Sir A. C. Macdonnell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., (F) R.O.

Hon. Lieut.-Colonel: Colonel J. Y. Reid, E.D.

Lieut.-Colonel (Commanding): Lieut.-Col. R. Hunter Young.

BATTLE HONOURS

16th Battalion (The Canadian Scottish) C.E.F.

The Great War

"YPRES, 1915, '17," "Gravenstafel," "ST. JULIEN,"
"FESTUBERT, 1915," "MOUNT SORREL," "SOMME, 1916,"
"Pozières," "Fleurs-Courcellette," "Thiepval,"
"Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Arras, 1917, '18,"
"VIMY, 1917," "Arleux," "Scarpe, 1917, '18,"
"Hill 70," "PASSCHENDAELE," "AMIENS,"
"DROCOURT-QUEANT," "Hindenburg Line," "CANAL-DU-NORD,"
"Pursuit to Mons," "France and Flanders, 1915-18."

43rd Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) C.E.F.

The Great War

"MOUNT SORREL," "SOMME, 1916," "FLERS-COURCELETTE,"
"ANCRE HEIGHTS," "ARRAS, 1917, '18," "VIMY, 1917,"
"Hill 70," "YPRES, 1917," "PASSCHENDAELE,"
"AMIENS," "Scarpe, 1918," "Drocourt-Queant,"
"Hindenburg Line," "CANAL-DU-NORD," "Cambrai, 1918,"
"Pursuit to Mons," "France and Flanders, 1916-18."

174th Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) C.E.F.

The Great War, 1917.

179th Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) C.E.F.

The Great War, 1916.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

THE MARCH OF THE CAMERON MEN

There's many a man of the Cameron Clan
That has followed his chief to the field;
He has sworn to support him or die by his side,
For a Cameron neyer can yield.

I hear the pibroch sounding, sounding,
Deep o'er the mountain and glen,
While light-springing footsteps are trampling the heath,
'Tis the march of the "Cameron Men."

Oh! proudly they walk; but each Cameron knows
He may tread on the heather no more;
But boldly he follows his chief to the field,
Where his laurels were gather'd before.

I hear the pibroch, &c.

The moon has arisen, it shines o'er the path
Now trod by the gallant and true;
High, high are their hopes, for their chieftain hath said,
That whatever men dare they can do.

I hear the pibroch, &c.

March Past

PIBROCH O' DONUIL DUBH

(Written by Sir Walter Scott)

Pibroch o' Donuil Dubh, Pibroch o' Donuil,
Wake thy wild voice anew, summon Clan Conuil.
Come away, come away, hark to the summons!
Come in your war array, Gentles and Commons!

Come from deep glen, and from mountain so rocky,
The war pipe and pennon are at Inverlochy;
Come ev'ry hill plaid and true heart that wears one,
Come ev'ry steel blade and strong hand that bears one!

Leave untended the herd, the flock without shelter,
Leave the corpse uninterr'd, the bride at the altar,
Leave the deer, leave the steer, leave nets and barges,
Come with your fighting gear, broadswords and targes!

Come as the winds come when forests are rended,
Come as the waves come when navies are stranded;
Faster come, faster come, faster and faster;
Chief, vassal, page and groom, tenant and master!

Fast they come, fast they come, see how they gather!
Wide waves the eagle plume, blended with heather,
Cast your blades, draw your blades, forward each man set!
Pibroch o' Donuil Dubh, knell for the onset!



HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIFTH
COLONEL-IN-CHIEF



A Source of Pride

THE affiliation of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders is a distinction of which every Canadian Cameron is very proud. In brief it means that we are sharing in the illustrious record of brilliant achievement, great tradition, and unconquerable spirit of that distinguished Regiment.

For over 140 years the Cameron Banner has been an honoured emblem of bravery, courage, daring and high intelligence in Britain's Army. The Regiment's formation in 1794, in face of unfavorable circumstances, bespeak of that determination and loyalty that have been characteristics of the Cameron men from Scotland's earliest history. The creative genius behind the movement was Alan Cameron of Erracht, a soldier of wide experience whose adventurous spirit had at times led him far afield from his native Ross-shire. When he ventured on this onerous undertaking he was still physically incapacitated by injuries resultant on his part in the American War of Revolution. He conceived the idea that the Cameron name must find expression and be perpetuated in a Military unit that would carry on throughout the years. The authorities of the day did not at first display much enthusiasm over Cameron's proposal. The addition of another Highland Regiment did not make its appeal and the usual Government bounty for enlisting was not forthcoming. But nothing daunted he proceeded with his plans and associated with him a few Cameron officers who had fought with him abroad. By this small body the cost of enlisting was entirely borne, yet, it is not recorded that any of them were men of wealth but they were staunch Highlanders willing to sacrifice on behalf of their country and the honour of their race. Full Government recognition was not long withheld however, and shortly the Camerons were fighting the battles of the Empire in almost all parts of the world.

Thus the 79th Regiment of Foot (or Cameron Highlanders) as the Regiment was then known, were launched on their great adventure destined to give the Nation a service unsurpassed in gallantry and devotion.

Our affiliation with the Scottish Camerons came about in 1911, just one year after the formation of our own Winnipeg Regiment. It was granted by the gracious act of His Majesty King George, our Colonel in Chief, whose keen interest in our Regiment still continues. His Majesty's consent was asked for and secured by the officers of the Scottish Camerons, more especially by Lochiel, Major-General Sir J. Spencer Ewart, (afterwards general) and another distinguished Highland officer, General Sir Ian Hamilton, a name dear to all Scots and who still holds honoured positions in the service of the State including that of Lord Rector of Edinburgh University. The interest of our overseas comrades has been unceasing from the very day of our inception as a

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

unit of the Canadian Militia. It has found expression in many ways. It was the officers of the Home Regiment who cheerfully attended to the selection of our Regimental Colours assuring absolute correctness in every detail. In 1911 when we sent a special contingent to the King's Coronation our officers and men were invited to become an integral part of the Home Camerons then stationed at Aldershot, and were for the time being the 9th Company of the First Battalion. During the period of their stay they were quartered and paraded with the Home Regiment and none of our men will forget innumerable kindnesses extended on that occasion.

In July of 1911 there followed the handsome gift of our Pipe-Major's Banner, still the proud possession of our Pipe Band, and the First and Second volumes of the Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Then again on the occasion of the marriage of His Royal Highness, the Duke of York, Colonel of the 4th Battalion, we were privileged in being asked to participate in a presentation of a statuette and readily accepted the honour.

Another and most gracious act of our Scottish Comrades—one which filled us with admiration and deep gratitude—was the invitation to deposit our Roll of Honour with theirs in the casket in the War Memorial at Edinburgh. There it is embodied also in their Roll Book in the Cameron Bay of this beautiful palace of the dead, where Scottish genius, pride, and piety, pay an unequalled tribute to Scotland's fallen heroes. No greater honour could come to us.

Also a highly appreciated remembrance on the occasion of our 25th Anniversary is an autographed photograph of His Majesty the King, the gift of Major-General N. J. G. Cameron, Colonel of the Regiment. It occupies an honoured place in our Officer's mess.

In 1924, when His Majesty was graciously pleased to grant permission for the addition of "Queen's Own" to the name of the Regiment, the officers of the home battalions gave ready kindly consent and valuable assistance was given by General Sir Spencer Ewart in arranging such details as the War Office required.

Our association with the Cameron Headquarters at Inverness, has at all times been most cordial—indeed has been a great stimulus to us as well as a valuable means for exchange of views. The columns of the 79th News, the Regiment's official publication, are always open to us and generous space given to all our contributions.

This fine relationship is again evidenced in our Headquarters on Main Street where numerous gifts in the form of photographs of the various Battalions of the Home Regiment adorn the walls of the Officers Mess and Sergeants Mess. Then there is the gift from the Sergeants of the 1st Battalion in 1928 for Annual Rifle competition among our Sergeants.

The affiliation entered upon in 1911 has grown into a warm friendship and the bond that unites us with the Mother Regiment and the Motherland is strengthened and solidified in a remarkable degree and in a strong fellowship.

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada

THE Regiment was organized on February 1st, 1910, as the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada with headquarters at Winnipeg. On the post-war reorganization of the Canadian Militia in August, 1920, the designation was altered to the Cameron Highlanders of Canada. In November, 1923, the title "Queen's Own" was granted by His Majesty King George the Fifth with the freely granted consent of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the designation altered to The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

The Regiment was organized and first commanded by Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, who was followed in turn by Lt.-Col. Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr., Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler, Lt.-Col. J. C. Gillespie, V.D., Lt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair, V.D., Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie, V.D., Major G. M. Ainslie, (temporary), Major H. J. Ford, V.D., (temporary), Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., V.D., and the present Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. R. Hunter Young.

The first Honorary Colonel was The Right Honourable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, K.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., (died January 21st, 1914) followed by Sir Douglas Colin Cameron, K.C.M.G., (died October 27th, 1921) and the present incumbent Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Cameron Macdonnell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

The first Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel was Sir Douglas Colin Cameron, K.C.M.G., (who became Honorary Colonel) followed by Lt.-Col. Robert Macdonnell Thomson (Killed-in-Action, October 10th, 1916), Lt. Col. Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr., (died October 20th, 1920), Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell (who became Honorary Colonel) and the present incumbent Colonel John Young Reid, E.D.

On the declaration of war on August 4th, 1914, the Regiment with a peace strength of 543 volunteered for service and was placed on Active Service on August 6th by Privy Council Order No. 2526. During the war the following units were organized, trained and sent overseas.

First. One Company—10 officers and 253 other ranks with Captain John Geddes in Command—mobilized August 13th, 1914, proceeded to Valcartier Camp August 23rd and embarked for overseas September 30th. This detachment became Number 4 Company of the 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish) C.E.F., 3rd Brigade, First Canadian Division.

Second. Detachment of Signalling Section—10 other ranks under command of Sergt. H. J. Ford and, later, Lce. Sergt. A. C. Newell—left Winnipeg September 10th, 1914, and served at Quebec and Halifax until January 29th, 1915.

Third. Major D. S. Mackay to second-in-command of the 27th City of Winnipeg Battalion, C.E.F., Captain W. H. Collum to Signalling Officer of the same battalion. One company—5 officers and 250 other ranks with Major R. M. MacLeod in command—as Number 1 Company

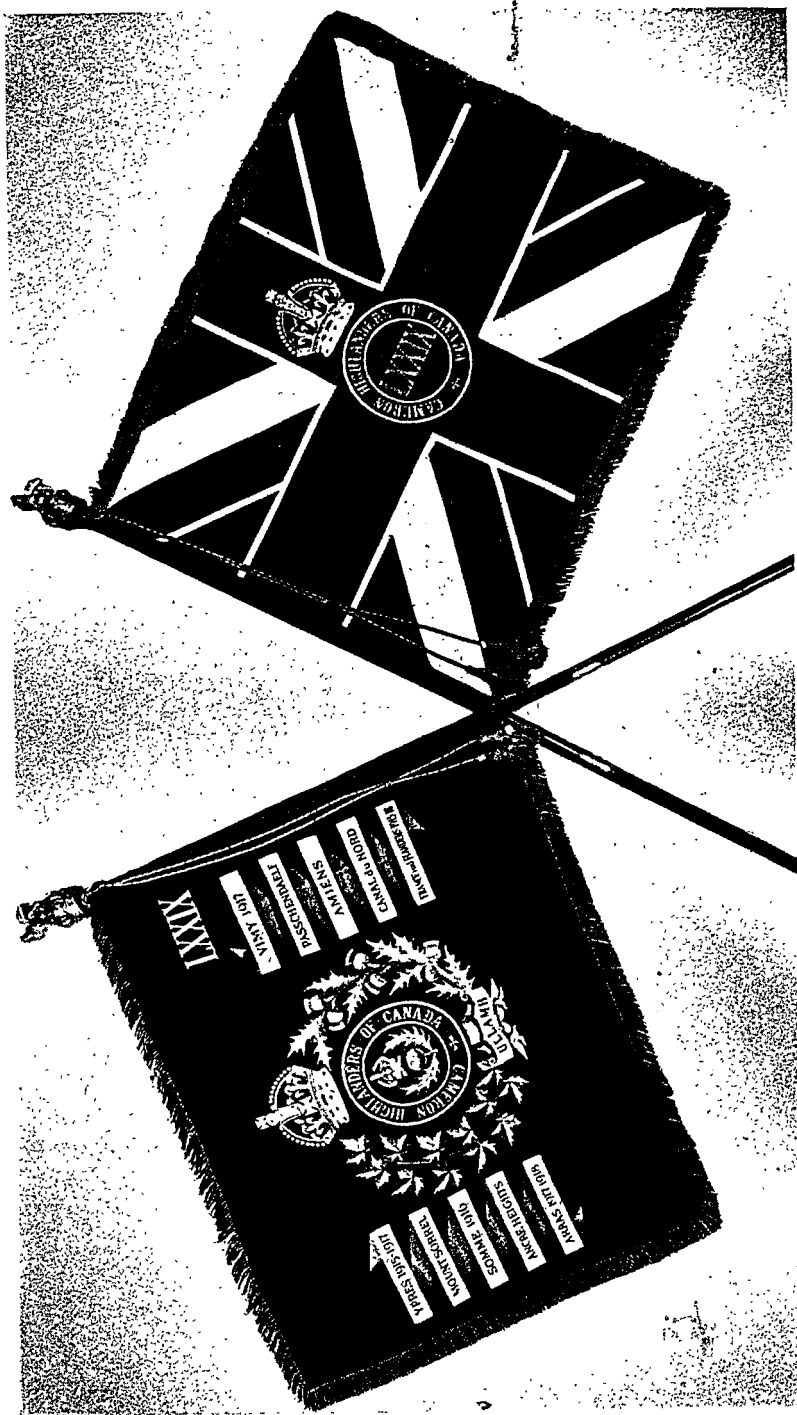
THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

of the same battalion, mobilized October 23rd, 1914, proceeded overseas May 13th, 1915, and became part of the 6th Brigade, Second Canadian Division.

Fourth. One full battalion—40 officers and 1067 other ranks with Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson (R.O.) in command—mobilized December 18th, 1914, as 43rd battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) C.E.F., and proceeded overseas May 29th, 1915. This unit was used in England for a time as a reserve battalion during which it reinforced the 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish) in France, but, on being brought up to full strength by drafts from the depot at Winnipeg, proceeded to France February 21st, 1916, as part of the 9th Brigade, Third Canadian Division.

Fifth. The 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada Overseas Drafting Detachment, with Lt.-Col. Jas. A. Cantlie in command, organized June 15th, 1915, to supply reinforcements to the 43rd Battalion. Four drafts proceeded overseas—2 officers and 100 other ranks with Lieut. C. I. Jamieson in command, August 5th, 1915; 3 officers and 150 other ranks, with Lieut. C. H. Barraud in command, August 24th, 1915; 5 officers and 250 other ranks, with Lieut. D. J. H. Ferguson in command, October 6th, 1915; 5 officers and 250 other ranks, with Lieut. Arthur Sullivan in command, December 14th, 1915. The remainder of the detachment—headquarters and two full companies—were organized into the nucleus of a new battalion as follows:

Sixth. One full battalion—32 officers and 928 other ranks, with Lt.-Col. Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr., in command—named 179th Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) C.E.F., mobilized February 1st, 1916. This unit moved to Camp Hughes May 30th, 1916, when Lt.-Col. Cantlie relinquished command to organize a new battalion and Lt.-Col. J. Y. Reid was appointed to command. The battalion proceeded overseas September 26th, 1916, was attached to the 32nd Reserve Battalion for one week and absorbed into the 17th Reserve Battalion for one month during which 17 officers and nearly 500 other ranks proceeded to France as drafts to the 16th, 43rd and 44th Battalions. About November 15th, 1916, the remainder of the battalion—headquarters and about 500 other ranks—were extracted from the 17th Reserve Battalion and, together with a number of 16th and 43rd recovered casualties and other small details, became the 179th Canadian Reserve Battalion with Lieut.-Colonel J. Y. Reid in command and further reinforced the 16th and 43rd in France. On a reorganization of the Canadian Forces in England January 4th, 1917, the 179th Reserve Battalion, together with the 108th Battalion from Selkirk, Man., became the 14th Canadian Reserve Battalion with Lt.-Col. I. R. Snider (former C.O. 27th City of Winnipeg Battalion) in command and Lt.-Col. J. Y. Reid second-in-command. The 226th Battalion from Winnipeg and Rural Manitoba became part of the 14th Reserve Battalion early in April, 1917, followed by the 174th Battalion (Cameron Highlander of Canada) from Winnipeg May 7th, 1917. The 14th Reserve continued to reinforce the 16th and 43rd in France and to absorb the recovered casualties from these field units. Owing to the decrease of drafts from Canada and the depletion of the reserve units by drafts to France a reorganiza-



THE REGIMENTAL COLOURS



THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

tion of the Canadian forces in England was deemed necessary and on October 15th, 1917, the 14th Reserve was merged into the 11th Reserve Battalion.

Seventh. One part battalion—14 officers and 325 other ranks, with Lt.-Col. Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr., in command—mobilized June 1st, 1916. Owing to ill health Lt.-Col. Cantlie relinquished command and Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler (from second-in-command of 43rd in France) was appointed to command. This unit proceeded overseas April 4th, 1917, and was merged into 14th Reserve Battalion.

Eighth. 7 officers and 100 other ranks, with Major R. M. MacLeod in command, as part of a composite unit at Winnipeg used as a composite depot battalion organized June, 1917. 25 of these formed part the British-American draft which proceeded overseas November 17th, 1917.

Ninth. Sundry details:

1 Officer to Canadian Field Artillery Overseas

2 Officers to 44th Battalion C.E.F.

2 Officers to 1st Battalion Canadian Pioneers C.E.F.

2 Officers to 52nd Battalion C.E.F.

2 Officers to 61st Battalion C.E.F.

3 Officers to 90th Battalion C.E.F.

1 Officer to 144th Battalion C.E.F.

1 Officer to 190th Battalion C.E.F.

1 Officer to 196th Battalion C.E.F.

1 Officer to Royal-Naval Motor Boat Service

1 Officer to 2nd Forestry Battalion

1 Officer to Royal Flying Corps

1 Officer to Remount Staff

4 Officers to Special Drafts C.E.F.

1 Officer retained in Winnipeg on duties of organization and administration.

Note. Lt.-Col. Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr., who was Commanding Officer on the declaration of war, was unable to proceed overseas because of ill health, but was actively engaged with the mobilization and organization of all the units mentioned and commanded in turn the 79th Drafting Detachment, 179th Battalion and 174th Battalion. He was forced to discontinue during the summer of 1917, left for California later and died October 20th, 1920.

Note. A number of other ranks who were members of the Regiment before the war or during the early months of the war, or who enlisted first in one or other of the overseas units, were granted appointments as officers or non-commissioned officers in other overseas units, and were transferred. A number of those who proceeded with one or other of the overseas units were granted appointments in the Navy, Imperial Army units and the Royal Flying Corps.

For permanent record the numbers allocated to the different units is appended:

16th Battalion	28501 to	29618
27th Battalion	71504 to	72202

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

43rd Battalion	20001	to	21200
	Later A20001	to	A21200
	Later 420001	to	421200
79th Draft Detachment	153001	to	154000
179th Battalion	859001	to	860xxx
174th Battalion	693001	to	694000
British-American Draft	2373329	to	2373393

The 43rd Battalion returned to Winnipeg March 24th, 1919 and the 16th Battalion May 8th, 1919; each received an enthusiastic civic welcome and was demobilized.

This must be said as a matter of record and as a warning and guidance in the future should Canada ever again have the misfortune of participating in war. Late in 1915 and early in 1916 the Department of Militia and Defence, for reasons best known to themselves and not disclosed, seemed to forget there was a militia organization throughout the Dominion manned by trained officers and non-commissioned officers, who for sundry reasons could not go overseas but who wished to do their part to win the war, and created a number of battalions without any militia affiliation each with a complete staff of officers, many of whom had no previous military training. This resulted in great heart-burning because of the breaking up of these units on arrival in England, the lack of employment for the senior officers which caused the grievous and much-discussed "surplus senior officer" problem, and great unnecessary additional cost to the country. None of these units arrived in England in anything approaching the stage of training and discipline of the militia affiliated units. It would have been much better had every officer and man been sent overseas through the regular channels of army organization.

Each of the units sent overseas by the Regiment first endured barrack life and was trained at Minto Armoury, a great bare, comfortless, unfurnished building on the outskirts of the city, over two miles from the downtown district and over a half-mile from the nearest streetcar line, while some of the battalions mentioned were in palatial quarters in the downtown district. Is it any wonder that recruits preferred to join these units?

During post-war years there was great difficulty in maintaining the militia regiments owing to the after-the-war lassitude, the opposition to all military training and the dearth of funds, but a faithful band of officers and other ranks carried on and pulled the regiment through this hard period. During more recent years the interest has gradually increased and enthusiasm strengthened until the Regiment is again in first class condition, fully officered and staffed and on an old-time footing.

LAST POST

Out of 3,891 Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Regiment who proceeded overseas from Canada in the Great War, the following number lost their lives:

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Lieutenant-Colonel	1	
Majors	5	
Captains	12	
Subalterns	33	
	<hr/>	51
Regimental Sergeant-Major	1	
Company Sergeant-Majors	10	
Company Quartermaster-Sergeant	1	
Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants	61	
Corporals and Lance-Corporals	94	
Privates	1,014	
	<hr/>	1,181

Note. This tabulation is shown in "The Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders," Volume IV, Page 40. The complete roll of the officers is given on Page 515 and of the other ranks on Pages 569 to 578. The original roll is on file at Regimental Headquarters, Winnipeg, and is the same as that deposited in the Scottish War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Victoria Cross	1
C.M.G.	1
D.S.O.	11
Bars to D.S.O.	1
O.B.E.	3
M.C.	44
Bars to M.C.	3
D.F.C.	1
Mentioned in Despatches	37
D.C.M.	41
Bars to D.C.M.	1
M.M.	199
Bars to M.M.	13
M.S.M.	9
Foreign	24
	<hr/>
	289

Note. This tabulation is shown in "The Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders," Volume IV, Page 492. The individual names are shown alphabetically with those of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders on Page 493 to 509.

General Note. It is realized these tabulations and rolls are not absolutely correct and are subject to correction but great care was taken in their preparation. The transfers of individuals from unit to unit, in Canada, Great Britain and France, from the Canadian Forces to the Imperial Service, and through hospitals, or otherwise, made it a very difficult matter to compile strictly correct records.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

FRAMED WALL ROLLS OF HONOUR

The Regiment is very fortunate in being in possession of the following framed wall rolls of honour. The names are printed by hand and the artistic borders are partly worked by hand and partly painted with the Cameron colours and other decorations with a number of photographs inserted as noted.

The Regiment is indebted to Company Sergeant-Major W. D. Holt, formerly of J. Robinson & Co. Ltd., who expended a great deal of time and talent in their preparation and without any remuneration except for part of the material used. These rolls are open for inspection by all friends of the Regiment and interested parties.

16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish) C.E.F.

Size 5'5" x 4'7"

253 names (including 11 Officers)

Photographs of groups of Officers and N.C.O's.

27th (City of Winnipeg) Battalion, C.E.F.

Size 5'5" x 4'7"

240 names (including 7 Officers).

43rd Battalion (C. H. of C.) C.E.F.

Size 5'6" x 4'9"

1041 names (including 39 Officers)

39 photographs.

Drafts from 79th C.H. of C. Drafting Detachment and
British-American Draft.

Size 5'7" x 4' 7"

809 names (including 14 Officers).

179th Battalion (C. H. of C.) C.E.F.

Size 5'6" x 4'9"

977 names (including 31 Officers)

31 photographs.

174th Battalion (C. H. of C.) C.E.F.

Size 5'6" x 4'8"

287 names (including 13 Officers)

13 photographs.

Honours and Awards

Size 5'8" x 5'4"

386 names.

Killed-in-Action — Died-of-Wounds

Size 5'6" x 5'2"

1187 names.

Large Honour Roll

Size 12'9" x 5'9"

3702 names (including 145 Officers).

Chronological Notes

FOLLOWING the South African Boer War of 1899-1902 sentiment arose amongst the Scottish people of Winnipeg towards the formation of a Highland regiment gradually increasing in intensity until it resulted in the appointment of a strong committee composed of delegates from the several Scottish Societies of the City.

After many meetings, numerous conferences with Colonel S. B. Steele, Officer Commanding Military District No. 10, and considerable correspondence with the Department of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, it was announced that Mr. R. M. Thomson had consented to become the Commanding Officer and a number of gentlemen would become officers.

During the summer and fall of 1909 the prospective officers met a number of times and completed arrangements for organization, financing and the purchase of uniforms, while the general committee continued to interest the public in the regiment and its financing. The officers and the general committee made full formal reports at a meeting of all concerned on March 25th, 1910. This was the final meeting but a number continued to work with the officers in carrying on a campaign for the necessary funds. The work of all concerned was shown by the splendidly organized and equipped regiment which was formed.

The officers unofficially attended classes of instruction under the Staff of Military District No. 10 in the evenings during December 1909 and January 1910 until the Royal School of Instruction commenced on February 1st and extended to March 27th.

Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Macdonnell (now Lieut.-General, our Honorary Colonel), who was Commandant of the Royal School of Instruction, took a great personal interest in the early training of the officers and non-commissioned officers and great credit was due to him for his careful oversight and lectures. He was most enthusiastic about the formation of the unit and assisted in many ways in ironing out the many difficulties.

The prospective officers were entertained by Mr. Thomson at a dinner at the Manitoba Club early in January, 1910, at which Colonel Steele was present and delivered an address. They made their first public appearance (in mufti) at the Burns' Anniversary Dinner on January 25th, 1910, and many references to the new regiment were made during the addresses of the evening.

List of Officers on Organization—1910

Lieut.-Colonel R. M. Thomson—Killed-in-Action 1916.

Major W. G. Bell—Later Lieut.-Colonel. Deceased.

Major Jas. A. Cantlie, Jr.—Later Lieut.-Colonel. Deceased.

Captain H. F. Osler—Now Lieut.-Colonel. Reserve of Officers.

Captain H. J. A. Davidson—Retired. Deceased.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Captain D. S. Mackay—Now Colonel, O.B.E., V.D. Commanding 20th Infantry Brigade.

Captain F. P. Dods—Deceased, 1911.

Captain William Grassie—Later Lieut.-Colonel, D.S.O. Deceased, 1935.

Captain J. Y. Reid—Now Colonel, E.D. Late Commanding 20th Infantry Brigade. Retired.

Captain R. G. Affleck—Deceased.

Captain H. P. Pennock—Retired.

Captain J. C. Gillespie—Now Lieut.-Colonel, V. D. Retired.

Lieutenant F. H. Stewart—Retired.

Lieutenant W. H. Sinclair—Now Major. Retired.

Lieutenant W. H. Collum—Later Major, D.S.O., M.C. Killed-in-Action 1917.

Lieutenant Geo. H. Ross—Later Captain. Killed-in-Action, 1915.

Lieutenant N. B. MacLean—Now Lieut.-Colonel, D.S.O. Retired.

Lieutenant John Geddes—Later Captain. Killed-in-Action, 1915.

Lieutenant R. M. MacLeod—Now Major. Retired.

Lieutenant K. B. Stoddart—Retired.

Lieutenant W. A. Hossie—Later Lieut.-Colonel, V.D. Deceased.

Lieutenant J. D. Sinclair—Now Lieut.-Colonel, V.D. Retired.

Lieutenant C. D. H. MacAlpine—Now Colonel. Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant V. J. Hastings—Later Lieut.-Colonel, M.C. Died-of-Wounds.

Lieutenant C. E. Gordon—Retired.

Lieutenant D. L. Cameron—Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant G. W. Jamieson—Later Captain, Killed-in-Action, 1915.

Lieutenant James Mackay—Later Major. Deceased.

Lieutenant Stanley Nixon—Retired.

Lieutenant Jas. A. Crowe—Now Captain. Corps Reserve of Officers.

Honorary Captain and Quarter-Master James Scroggie—Now Lieut.-Colonel. Retired.

Honorary Captain and Paymaster John McEachern—Now Honorary Major, V.D. Retired.

Honorary Captain and Chaplain Rev. C. W. Gordon, D.D.—Now Honorary Major, V.D.

List of Officers Appointed 1911, 1912 and 1913

Lieutenant C. S. Gunn—Resigned.

Lieutenant G. M. Ainslie—Now Major, V.D. Corps Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant A. P. O. Meredith—Now Major, D.S.O. Corps Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant W. T. Chisholm—Now Captain. Retired.

Lieutenant R. J. M. McKerrell—Now Captain. Corps Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant A. A. Young—Now Captain. Retired.

Lieutenant H. F. McDonald—Now Brigadier-General, C.M.G., D.S.O. Reserve of Officers.

Lieutenant H. M. Urquhart—Now Lieut.-Colonel, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C. Retired.

Lieutenant A. P. Cameron—Retired.

Lieutenant G. K. Killam—Now Major, D.S.O. Retired.

Lieutenant H. L. Chalmers—Retired. Deceased.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

1910

- Feb. 1st—Organization authorized by Department of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, as the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada. Classes of instruction for the officers and non-commissioned officers were organized by the Staff of Military District No. 10 and were carried on night after night during February and March.
- March 21st—The Right Honourable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., was gazetted Honorary Colonel.
- March 27th—Examinations were held and all qualified.
- April 8th—Company parades for recruit drill were commenced, followed by company and battalion parades, during which uniforms and equipment were issued. The battalion was barely organized, equipped, and trained when it was called upon to attend several important events.
- May 20th—Funeral Memorial Service for His Late Majesty King Edward the Seventh on Fort Osborne Barracks Square.
- May 22nd—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade of the Garrison.
- May 29th—Divine Service Parade to St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- June 3rd—Garrison Parade to Lecture by Sir Ernest Shackleton in Horse Show Building on his Antarctic Explorations.
- July 1st—Inspection by General Sir George French as Inspector-General of Imperial Forces.
- July 2nd—Funeral of the late Captain F. P. Dods.
- Oct. 9th—Presentation of a stand of Colours by Mrs. D. C. Cameron on University Square. Large gathering of citizens.
- Nov. 29th—St. Andrew's Night Ball by the Officers at Royal Alexandra Hotel.

1911

- Jan. 31st—Officially allied with Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in British War Office Army List.
- Feb. 20th—Official approval for proposed contingent to Coronation of His Majesty King George the Fifth at London in June.
- April 25th to 28th—Furnished two Guards of Honour to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, Earl Grey, also one N.C.O. and four men for duty at His Excellency's theatre box.
- May 14th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- May 16th—Officers entertained by Lt.-Col. Thomson at Manitoba Club in honour of Mr. Donald Walter Lochiel, brother of the Chief of the Cameron Clan of Lochiel.
- May 30th—Special Coronation Company entrained for England. The Regiment with Brass and Pipe Bands escorted them to the depot.
- June 1st—Inspection by General Otter, Inspector-General of Canadian Forces.
- June 17th—A special Company as part of a composite city battalion proceeded to Camp Sewell for field training.
- June 22nd—Parade on University Square for ceremonies in connection with the Coronation of His Majesty King George the Fifth.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- July 6th—Presentation of Pipe-Major's Banner and two volumes of the Historical Records at Oudenarde Barracks, Aldershot.
- July 17th—Special Coronation Company returned. Met by the Regiment at depot.
- Aug. 24th—Lt.-Col. Thomson entertained the officers and friends at his summer home at St. Vital.
- Oct. 12th—Colours transferred to Government House and formally received by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.
- Dec. 6th—Officers entertained Lt.-Col. Thomson at dinner at the Royal Alexandra Hotel. Announcement that Honorary Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Cameron has presented winter trews to the Regiment.

1912

- May 12th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 22nd—Divine Service Parade at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- June 29th—Regiment entrained for Camp Sewell for field training under Major D. S. Mackay. Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson was in command of half the forces in camp for manoeuvres.
- July 10th—Regiment furnished a Guard of Honour.
- Aug. 27th—Divine Service Parade at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church. The beautiful Pipe Major's Banner, presented by the Officers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions Queen's Own Cameron Highlander in July, 1911, was formally entrusted to Pipe-Major Duke by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor Honorary Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Cameron.

1913

- Feb. 25th—Regiment furnished a Guard of Honour.
- May 11th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June—Sergt. Alex Denholm left for Bisley, England, to represent the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association at the National Rifle Association Meet.
- June 23rd—Inspection by General Sir Ian Hamilton, G.C.B., D.S.O., Inspector-General of Overseas Forces, on University Square.
- June 28th—Regiment entrained for Camp Sewell for field training under Major D. S. Mackay. General Sir Ian Hamilton inspected the Forces in Camp and the manoeuvres and took occasion to meet and speak to the Cameron Officers.
- July 8th—Telegram received from General Hamilton at Rismouski en route to England: "Please say goodbye from me to the Camerons. Shall never forget my happy meeting with them."
- Sept. 1st—Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson relinquished command and transferred to Reserve of Officers. Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie gazetted to command.
- Sept. 5th—Inspection by "Lochiel" Chief of the Cameron Clan on University Square. The officers entertained "Lochiel" at dinner at Royal Alexandra Hotel.
- Sept. 8th—Letter of appreciation received from "Lochiel." Telegram received from "Lochiel" at Ignace, Ont., enroute eastward.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

1914

- Jan. 21st—Honorary Colonel Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal died in England.
- Jan. 31st—Signalling section under Captain W. H. Collum took high place of merit in the Challenge Cup Competition for 1913 for all Units in Canada with 2,000 marks, only 38 less than the winning Regiment, the 63rd Halifax Rifles.
- Feb. 4th—Presentation of autographed photograph of His Majesty King George the Fifth by Sir Rodmond P. Roblin, Premier of Manitoba, representing His Majesty in the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor.
- March 3rd—Winnipeg Highland Cadet Battalion affiliated with Regiment.
- April 26th—Divine Service Parade, St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- May 10th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 27th—Regiment entrained for Camp Sewell for field training in command of Major D. S. Mackay.
- Aug. 4th—Declaration of war by Great Britain against Germany and Austria. Great excitement.
- Aug. 15th—Overseas Volunteer Service Company mobilized under command of Captain John Geddes (later became the Cameron Company of the 16th Canadian Scottish).
- Aug. 23rd—Special Company entrained for Valcartier Camp.
- Sept. 10th—Signalling Section 2 N.C.O.'s and 8 men entrained for Quebec for special service with Naval Forces there; Sergt. H. J. Ford in command.
- Sept. 28th—16th Battalion embarked at Quebec on H.M.T.S. "Andania" for overseas as part of 3rd Brigade, First Canadian Division, C.E.F.
- Oct. 18th—16th disembarked at Plymouth, England, and proceeded to Salisbury Plain camps.
- Oct. 21st—Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Sir D. C. Cameron, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, gazetted Honorary Colonel. Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, Reserve of Officers, gazetted Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.
- Oct. 23rd—Second Volunteer Overseas Company mobilized under command of Major D. S. Mackay (later became the Cameron Company of the 27th City of Winnipeg Battalion).
- Oct. 24th—16th Battalion inspected by Field Marshal Earl Roberts.
- Nov. 5th—16th Battalion inspected by Their Majesties, The King and Queen, accompanied by Lord Kitchener and Earl Roberts.
- Dec. 16th—16th named 16th Battalion (The Canadian Scottish) C.E.F.
- Dec. 18th—Volunteer Overseas Battalion gazetted and mobilization commenced in command of Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, Reserve of Officers (later designated 43rd Battalion Cameron Highlanders of Canada, C.E.F.) trained at Minto Armoury, Winnipeg.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

1915

- Feb. 11th—16th embarked at Avonmouth, England, for France on H.M.T.S. "Maidan."
- Feb. 15th—16th disembarked at St. Nazaire, France.
- Feb. 15th—43rd inspected at Winnipeg by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada.
- Feb. 20th—16th inspected by Field-Marshal Sir John French, Commander-in-Chief in France.
- Feb. 23rd—16th first experience in trenches.
- March 7th—43rd went into quarters and occupied Minto Armoury, the first troops to occupy that new building.
- March 17th—Farewell Dinner to Officers of the 27th Battalion by Officers of Regiment at Royal Alexandra Hotel.
- April 10th—16th inspected by General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, Commander of Second Army in France.
- April 20th—43rd presented with bag-pipes at Winnipeg by ex-Mayor Alexander Macdonald at Minto Armoury.
- April 22nd and 23rd—Battle of Gravenstafel Ridge (The Battle of Ypres), 16th present; following the first German gas attack the 16th (with the 10th Battalion) charged near St. Julien, drove the Germans out and recaptured the trench. Heavy casualties.
- May 5th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian in memory of Captain John Geddes. Regiment and 43rd attended.
- May 7th—43rd presented with band instruments by St. Andrews Society of Winnipeg at crowded function in Industrial Bureau Auditorium.
- May 13th—27th City of Winnipeg Battalion, C.E.F., entrained for overseas.
- May 27th—27th embarked at Quebec for overseas on H.M.T.S. "Carpathia."
- May 18th to 20th—Battle of Festubert. 16th present in attacks on the Orchard.
- May 28th—27th disembarked at Plymouth, England.
- May 29th—43rd entrained for overseas.
- May 31st—Alexander Macdonald, Esquire, gazetted Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of 43rd Battalion.
- June 1st—43rd embarked at Montreal for overseas on H.M.T.S. "Gramscian."
- June 9th—43rd disembarked at Davenport, England, and proceeded by train to Lower St. Martin's Plains, Shorncliffe, arriving late at night to find nothing ready for them. They pitched tents and made camp; this was done so well that they were called on to prepare camp for units arriving afterwards.
- June 14th—43rd received congratulatory welcoming telegram from His Majesty the King, Colonel-in-Chief of the Camerons.
- June 15th—43rd received congratulatory welcoming telegram from General Sir. J. Spencer Ewart, General Officer Commander-in-

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Chief of the Scottish Command as Commanding the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

- June 15th—79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada Overseas Drafting Detachment gazetted and organized to supply drafts to overseas battalions; Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie in command; trained at Minto Armoury, Winnipeg.
- June 23rd—43rd inspected by Major-General Dickson, Inspector-General of Canadian Forces.
- July 22nd—16th reinforced by draft of 386 other ranks from 43rd in England.
- Aug. 5th—First draft from 79th Detachment entrained for overseas; Lieut. C. I. Jamieson in command.
- Aug 24th—Second draft from 79th Detachment entrained for overseas; Lieut. C. H. Barraud in command.
- Sept. 10th—43rd inspected by Major-General Dickson, Inspector-General of Canadian Forces.
- Sept. 17th—27th embarked at Folkestone, England, for France on H.M.-T.S. "La Marguerite" as part of 6th Brigade, Second Canadian Division, C.E.F.
- Sept. 18th—27th disembarked at Bologne, France.
- Sept. 28th—43rd moved from tent camp at Lower St. Martin's Plains into huts at East Sandling.
- Oct. 6th—Third draft from 79th Detachment entrained for overseas; Lieut. D. J. H. Ferguson in command.
- Nov. 23rd—43rd created a Reserve Battalion and absorbed casualties from 15th Battalion and 16th Canadian Scottish.
- Dec. 14th—Fourth draft from 79th Detachment entrained for overseas; Lieut. Arthur Sullivan in command.

1916

- Jan. 21st—43rd inspected by Brigadier-General F. W. Hill.
- Jan. 24th—43rd ceased to be a Reserve Battalion; surplus personnel and casualties transferred to 17th Reserve Battalion.
- Jan. 29th—43rd entrained at Sandling for Liphook, Bramshott Camp, to join other units of the Third Division.
- Feb. 1st—79th Detachment absorbed into Battalion newly authorized and gazetted January 12th; named 179th Overseas Battalion Cameron Highlanders of Canada; Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie in command; trained at Minto Armoury.
- Feb. 21st—43rd embarked at Southampton for France on H.M.T.S. "La Marguerite" as part of 9th Brigade, Third Canadian Division.
- Feb. 22nd—43rd disembarked at Le Havre, France.
- March 23rd—43rd first experience in trenches.
- April 2nd to 7th—Battle of St. Eloi. 27th engaged. Hard fighting, heavy casualties.
- May 14th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade. All forces in Winnipeg, Permanent, Militia and Overseas, over 10,000 strong, made up the largest and most impressive military parade in the history of Winnipeg; the Regiment and 179th Battalion present.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- May 30th—179th moved by train to Camp Hughes, 120 miles west of Winnipeg, for field training. Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie relinquished command; Lt.-Col. J. Y. Reid gazetted to command.
- May 30th—174th Overseas Battalion, authorized and gazetted January 12th, now organized; Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie in command; trained at Minto Armoury.
- June 4th—Battle of Mount Sorrel. 43rd attacked and cleared Maple Copse and Border Lane, also repulsed counter-attack.
- June 13th—Battle of Mount Sorrel. 16th delivered counter-attack and captured all objectives.
- Aug. 20th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie relinquished command of 174th Battalion. Lt.-Col. Hugh F. Osler (from 43rd in France) assumed command.
- Sept. 20th—Battle of Theipval Ridge. "D" Company of 43rd attacked and captured Zollerngraben Trench.
- Sept. 26th—Battle of Theipval Ridge. Part of 16th in attack.
- Sept. 26th—179th entrained at Camp Hughes for overseas and passed through Winnipeg.
- Oct. 4th—179th embarked at Halifax on H.M.T.S. "Saxonia."
- Oct. 8th—Battle of Ancre Heights. Both 16th and 43rd in attack on Regina Trench. Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, C.O. of 43rd, killed. Lt.-Col. William Grassie succeeded to command.
- Oct. 13th—179th disembarked at Liverpool, England, and proceeded by train to East Sandling Camp.

1917

- Jan. 4th—179th became 14th Canadian Reserve Battalion to reinforce 16th and 43rd in France and moved to Upper Dibgate Camp; Lt.-Col. I. R. Snider (former C.O. 27th Battalion) in command and Lt.-Col. J. Y. Reid second-in-command. A number of 16th and 43rd recovered casualties also merged into 14th.
- Jan. 10th—108th Battalion (from Selkirk, Man.) moved from Seaford Camp to Upper Dibgate Camp to become part of 14th Reserve Battalion. Major W. T. Colclough in command.
- April 7th—226th Battalion (from Winnipeg and Rural Manitoba) moved from Bramshott Camp to Otterpool Camp (semi-quarantine) to become part of 14th Reserve Battalion; Lt. Col. R. A. Gillespie in command.
- April 9th—Battle of Vimy Ridge. 16th in attack.
- April 13th and 14th—Battle of Vimy Ridge. 43rd in front line before and again after main attack completed, and pushed ilne forward to La Coulette line.
- April 19th—226th moved from Otterpool Camp to Upper Dibgate Camp and merged into 14th Reserve Battalion.
- April 22nd—174th entrained at Winnipeg for Overseas.
- April 28th—Battle of Arleux. 16th in support to attack.
- April 29th—174th embarked at Halifax on H.M.T.S. "Olympic."
- May 3rd—Capture of Fresnoy. 16th in support to attack.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- May 7th—174th disembarked at Liverpool, England, proceeded by train to Upper Dibgate Camp and merged into 14th Reserve Battalion.
- May 25th—German aeroplane raid on Shorncliffe Area with 16 planes. 3 bombs fell on 14th lines, four men wounded. 78 killed and 300 wounded in area, mostly civilians.
- June 26th—43rd attacked and captured position facing Avion.
- Aug. 15th—Battle of Hill 70. 16th in attack.
- Sept. 22nd—Regimental Pipe Band proceeded to St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Kansas City, U.S.A., in connection with British and Canadian Recruiting Mission.
- Oct. 15th—14th Reserve Battalion merged into 11th Reserve Battalion.
- Oct. 26th—Battle of Passchendaele. 43rd in attack and captured Bellevue Spur. Lieut. Robert Shankland, D.C.M., awarded Victoria Cross.

1918

- July 28th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie on sick leave. Major J. C. Gillespie (from 14th Reserve) assumed temporary command.
- Aug. 8th—Battle of Amiens. 16th and 43rd each in first line of attack; 43rd on extreme right of British Front touching the French left flank; each reached first objective line capturing all points en-route.
- Aug. 9th to 16th—16th and 43rd took part in further advances and attacks following first offensive from Amiens.
- Aug. 26th to 28th—Battle of the Scarpe. 43rd in attack.
- Sept. 2nd—Battle of Drocourt-Queant Line. 16th in attack.
- Sept. 27th—Battle of The Hindenburg Line. 16th in front line and in support to attack.
- Sept. 28th—Battles of The Hindenburg Line. 43rd in attack.
- Sept. 30th—Battles of The Hindenburg Line. 43rd in attack.
- Oct. 1st—Battle of The Hindenburg Line. 16th in attack.
- Oct 10th to 27th—Pursuit to Mons. 16th and 43rd participated at different stages.
- Nov. 11th—Armistice Day. 16th in Divisional Reserve. 43rd in western outskirts of Mons and marched into Mons in afternoon.

Note. Only the important battle dates are shown in this diary. No note is made of the periods of trench warfare during which many incidents worthy of mention occurred. The 16th served for 1,363 days between disembarkment in France and Armistice of which 347 were in trench tours, 108 in brigade support, 187 in brigade reserve, 294 in divisional reserve, 304 in corps reserve, and 104 in army reserve or on the move. For a most interesting and detailed story of the battalion see "The History of the 16th Battalion (The Canadian Scottish)," by Lt.-Colonel H. M. Urquhart, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C. The 43rd served for 992 days between disembarkment in France and Armistice of which similar proportions were spent in the various phases of field operations. A history of the 43rd has not been written, but for a general outline see "The Narrative of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada," by the same author. The 27th served for 1,152 days between disembarkment

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

in France and Armistic of which similar proportions were spent in the various phases of field operations. The Camerons did not reinforce the 27th, and, as the result of casualties, the Cameron company gradually lost its identity as such from about June, 1916.

1918

Nov. 12th to Feb. 5th, 1919—43rd remained in Belgium at several different places.

1919

Feb. 5th—43rd entrained at Baiseux for Le Havre.

Feb. 7th—43rd embarked on S. S. "Lorina" at Le Havre.

Feb. 11th—43rd disembarked at Weymouth, England.

March 11th—43rd presented with King's and Regimental Colours by the Corps Commander at Liphook.

March 12th—43rd embarked on S.S. "Baltic" at Liverpool.

March 20th—43rd disembarked at Halifax.

March 24th—43rd received an enthusiastic civic welcome at Winnipeg and were demobilized.

1918

Nov. 13th—16th on the March to the Rhine.

Nov. 14th—16th passed from France to Belgium.

Dec. 6th—16th crossed the German Frontier.

Dec. 13th—16th crossed the Hohenzollern Bridge, Cologne.

Dec. 14th—16th with Army of Occupation.

1919

Jan. 5th—16th entrained at Binsburg, Germany, for Belgium.

Jan. 6th—16th detrained at Huy, Belgium.

March 22nd—16th entrained at Huy, Belgium, for Le Havre.

March 26th—16th embarked on H.M.T.S. "King Edward."

March 27th—16th disembarked at Weymouth, England.

April 26th—16th embarked on H.M.T.S. "Empress of Britain" at Liverpool.

May 4th—16th disembarked at Quebec.

May 8th—16th received enthusiastic civic welcome at Winnipeg and were demobilized.

1919

Feb. 20th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie still on sick leave. Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay (19th Reserve Battalion) assumed temporary command; vice Major J. C. Gillespie.

April 7th—43rd Colours deposited in St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.

May 15th to June 20th—General strike in Winnipeg; public utilities tied up; Regiment on duty.

June—Lieut. J. O. Nix left for Bisley, England, to represent the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association at the National Rifle Association Meet.

July 11th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie still on sick leave. Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler assumed temporary command; vice Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay.

Sept. 10th—Guard-of-Honour to His Royal Highness The Prince of

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Wales during his visit to Winnipeg composed of returned officers and other ranks of 16th and 43rd Battalions, with Major A. P. O. Meridith, D.S.O., in command.

Oct. 10th—Dinner by G.O.C. and Officers of M.D. 10 to His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, followed by reception and dance.

1920

Jan. 7th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie relinquished command. Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler gazetted to command.

Jan. 7th—Lt.-Col. James A. Cantlie gazetted Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.

March 20th—On post-war reorganization of Canadian Militia the Regiment is named:

The Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

1st Battalion (43rd Battalion, C.E.F.)

2nd (Reserve) Battalion (174th Battalion, C.E.F.)

3rd (Reserve) Battalion (179th Battalion, C.E.F.)

Aug. 5th—Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler relinquished command. Lt.-Col. J. C. Gillespie gazetted to command.

Oct. 17th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.

Oct. 20th—Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel James A. Cantlie died in California, U.S.A.

Dec. 20th—Special Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church; unveiling of tablet in memory of the members of the Church who fell in the Great War.

1921

March 9th—Inspection by Inspector-General, Ottawa.

March 21st—Their Excellencies, Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada, in Winnipeg.

May 14th—Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., gazetted Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.

June 5th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.

June—Lieut. J. O. Nix left for Bisley, England, to represent the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association at the National Rifle Association Meet.

Oct. 9th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.

Nov. 21st—Unveiling of tablet at All Saints Anglican Church in memory of Lieut. Ian Cameron Macdonnell, son of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonnell.

Nov. 27th—Honorary Colonel Sir D. C. Cameron died.

1922

Jan. 1st—Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell gazetted Honorary Colonel.

Feb. 1st—Inspection by Major General H. D. B. Ketchen on behalf of Inspector-General, Ottawa.

May 28th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.

Oct. 2nd—Dinner to Lord Byng, Governor-General of Canada, by the Officers of the Garrison.

Oct. 14th—Regimental Sports at Eaton's Sports Grounds.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- Oct. 15th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- Oct. 20th—Annual inspection by Major-General H. D. B. Ketchen.
- Oct. 22nd—Guard-of-Honour to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, Lord Byng of Vimy.
- Oct. 22nd—The Governor-General presented Lt.-Col. W. K. Chandler, D.S.O., with the Union Flag for the 43rd Battalion at Fort Osborne Barracks.
- Nov. 30th—Lt.-Col. John Young Reid gazetted Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.
- Dec. 1st—Lt.-Col. J. C. Gillespie relinquished command. Lt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair gazetted to command.

1923

- March—The Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa (38th Battalion C.E.F.) became allied with The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.
- May 20th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 3rd—The Union Flag of the 43rd Battalion was transferred from Lt.-Col. W. K. Chandler's residence to the Officers Mess. Full parade of the Regiment with Pipe Band.
- July 3rd—The Pipe Band proceeded to Pembina, North Dakota, U.S.A., to participate in the National Independence Day celebration on July 4th.
- July 15th to 21st—Honorary Colonel Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell represented Regiment at Pictou, Nova Scotia, at the 150th Anniversary of the arrival of the Scottish settlers on the "Hector" at Pictou, N.S., in 1773. His Excellency and Lady Byng were also present. General Macdonnell presented the Officers Mess, Winnipeg, with a photograph of the Military Parade and made a full report of the proceedings, which is on file.
- Sept. 29th—Garrison Exercise with troops.
- Oct. 6th—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Oct. 7th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- Oct. 24th—His Majesty, King George the Fifth, was graciously pleased to grant permission for the Regiment to be named "The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada."
- Nov. 21st—His Royal Highness, The Duke of York, was presented, at Buckingham Palace, with a silver statuette subscribed to by past and present members of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

1924

- Jan. 31st—The E. F. Hutchings Challenge Cup awarded to the Regiment for the 1923 season.
- Feb. 27th—First post-war Regimental Dinner for all ranks.
- March 18th—Reception to Lt.-Col. H. M. Urquhart, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., at Regimental Headquarters.
- April 19th—Officers entertained at a reception to Major-General H.D.B. Ketchen and the staff of M.D. 10.
- May 18th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.



THE REGIMENT ON PARADE. TOP 1910--BOTTOM 1935

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- Aug. 25th—Honorary Colonel Macdonnell visited the city. Reception held at Regimental Headquarters.
- Aug. 26th—Active and Reserve Officers entertained Honorary Colonel Macdonnell at dinner at Manitoba Club.
- Sept. 6th—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Oct. 5th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.
- Oct. 15th—Annual inspection by Major-General H. D. B. Ketchen.

1925

- April 18th—Second post-war Regimental Dinner for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.
- May 17th—Memorial Divine Service at Transcona.
- May 24th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- May 25th—Garrison Field Day Manoeuvres.
- June 14th—Special parade at Transcona. Detachment present.
- June 24th—Inspection of 20th Infantry Brigade by Major-General H. D. B. Ketchen. Mosquitoes very bad—smudges necessary.
- June 28th—Special Divine Service at Augustine Presbyterian Church in the morning. The annual Memorial Divine Service at Stonewall, Man., in the afternoon.
- July 2nd—The E. F. Hutchings Challenge Cup was awarded to the Regiment for 1924 season.
- July 8th—Unveiling of tablet at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., U.S.A., in commemoration of the historic gallantry of the old "Black Watch" under General Abercrombie, July 8th, 1758. Received invitation to be represented. This could not be arranged.
- July 24th to 26th—Regimental week-end Musketry Camp and matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- July 28th—The Pipe Band, under Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie, proceeded to Vancouver, B.C.
- Aug. 1st—The Pipe Band competed in the band competition at the Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society Games at Vancouver and won the Major-General J. W. Stewart Trophy and eleven gold medals. See full report in Officers' Minute Book.
- Aug. 11th—Military Tattoo at Polo Park.
- Sept. 2nd—The Regiment entertained at a Garden Party on Minto Armoury Grounds in honour of the Pipe Band on winning the Stewart Cup. The Transcona, City Police and Cadet Pipe Bands and Princess Patricia Light Infantry Regiment Band were present; 2,000. present.
- Oct. 4th—Unveiling of Soldiers Monument at Stony Mountain, detachment present.
- Oct. 18th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's United Church.
- Oct. 19th—Lt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair relinquished command. Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie gazetted to command.

1926

- March 16th—Field Marshal The Viscount Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., visited Winnipeg. The officers attended a luncheon at the Royal Alexandra Hotel.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- April 3rd—Annual Regimental Dinner for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.
- April 7th to 12th—Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie attended at Ottawa with seven other Pipe-Majors at the Vimy Dinner at Government House, Ottawa, by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Byng of Vimy, on April 9th, prior to their departure from Canada.
- May 24th—Garrison Field Day Manoeuvres.
- May 30th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 6th—Special Divine Service at Augustine United Church. First post-war appearance in full dress (scarlet).
- June 7th—Volunteer Parade to Memorial Divine Service at Old Kil-donan Church.
- June 27th—Volunteer Parade to Memorial Divine Service at Stonewall, Man.
- June 28th—Annual inspection of 20th Infantry Brigade by Major-General H. D. B. Ketchen. No mosquitoes.
- Aug. 3rd—The Pipe Band proceeded to Vancouver, B.C., and defended the General Stewart Trophy, winning it for another year and bringing it back.
- Aug. 28th and 29th—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Oct. 17th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's United Church.
- Oct. 23rd—Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie on sick leave. Major G. M. Ainslie assumed temporary command.
- Nov. 9th—Lt.-Col. Hossie returned and resumed command.

1927

- Feb. 1st—Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie on sick leave. Major G. M. Ainslie assumed temporary command.
- March 26th—Colours of the Regiment and the 43rd Battalion C.E.F. transferred from St. Stephen's United Church to Regimental Headquarters.
- April 8th—Garrison Assault-at-Arms at Minto Armoury on anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.
- April 11th—Special Divine Service at All Saints Anglican Church. First Military Unit to attend a service in the new church. This service was Battle of Vimy Ridge Memorial.
- May 22nd—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- May 24th—Garrison Field Day Manoeuvres.
- June 12th—Special Divine Service at Westminster United Church.
- June 26th—Volunteer Parade at Memorial Service at Stonewall, Man.
- June 27th—Annual inspection by Major-General H. D. B. Ketchen.
- July 1st—Diamond Jubilee of the Confederation of Canada. Garrison parade at Legislative Buildings followed by six mile march through city. Colours of the Regiment were carried. Three Pipe Bands from Regiment and Highland Cadet Battalion attended at Selkirk and Stonewall, Man., and Moosomin, Sask.
- July—The rifle shots of the Regiment and Cadets made fine showing at four day matches of Manitoba Rifle Association.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- July 14th—Inauguration of the Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle. The Rolls of Honour of the Regiment and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders were deposited in the casket.
- Aug. 23rd—The Right Honourable Stanley Baldwin visited Winnipeg for the first time and delivered an address at the Legislative Buildings. The Regiment provided an escort of one officer and 30 other ranks.
- Sept. 5th—Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie represented the Regiment at a huge Highland Gathering over the Labour Day week-end at Banff, Alberta, in the Canadian Rockies. The Chaplain, Major Rev. Dr. C. W. Gordon, officiated at the open-air "Covenanters" church service.
- Oct. 1st—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Oct. 9th—Memorial Divine Service at St. Stephen's-Broadway United Church.
- Oct. 20th—Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie still on sick leave; Major G. M. Ainslie on extended leave to Scotland; Major H. J. Ford assumed temporary command.
- Dec. 1st—Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie relinquished command owing to ill health; Major H. J. Ford continued in temporary command.

1928

- Jan. 15th—Honorary Colonel Lieutenant-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell visited Winnipeg. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. J. Y. Reid held a reception at their residence in his honour.
- Feb. 1st—Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., gazetted to command.
- Feb. 12th—Memorial Service for the Late Field Marshall Earl Haig of Bemersyde at St. Matthew's Anglican Church. The officers attended.
- April 11th and 12th—Battle of Vimy Ridge anniversary. Garrison Assault-at-Arms at Minto Armoury.
- Apr. 15th—Assault-at-Arms parties attended church at St. Matthews Anglican Church.
- April 21st—Annual Regimental entertainment for all ranks.
- May 20th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- May 27th—Winnipeg Highland Cadets Battalion deposited colours in First Presbyterian Church. The officers attended.
- June 10th—Special Divine Service First Presbyterian Church.
- June 27th—Annual inspection by Major-General Elmsley.
- July 2nd—Dominion Day Celebration and Scottish Sports at Portage la Prairie, Man. Regiment supplied a Guard-of-Honour to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba.
- July 7th—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- July 14th to 16th—Training camp at Camp Hughes. Lt.-Col. Mackay and a detachment from Regiment were present.

1929

- March 19th—Regiment awarded in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1928 as follows:

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- A. Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10. First Place.
- B. Signalling Section in M.D. 10. First Place.
- C. Lewis Gun Section for City of Winnipeg Units. Third place.
- Aprli 23rd—Annual Regimental Function for all ranks and the ladies; Concert, Dance and Supper.
- May 26th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 15th—Officers entertained at Dinner in honour of the new District Officer Commanding, Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- June 26th—Annual Inspection by Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- June 27th—Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie (W.O.1.) died suddenly.
- June 29th—Military Funeral of Pipe-Major Collie from First Presbyterian Church. Massed pipe-band of the four Winnipeg pipe-bands.
- July 1st—Scottish Sports at Portage la Prairie. Regimental Pipe-Band in attendance. Massed pipe-band played the "Lament" in memory of Pipe-Major Collie.
- Sept. 4th—Pipe-Major Donald McLeod represented Regiment at Labour Day Highland Gathering at Banff, Alberta, and won the Beatty Cup.
- Sept. 26th—Team won the Eaton Cup in Eaton Marching and Firing Competition.
- Oct. 3rd—Battle Honours gazetted.

1930

- January—Regiment awarded third place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1929 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.
- March 15th—Colours of 43rd Battalion C.E.F. removed from Headquarters to Bank of Montreal for safe-keeping.
- April 11th—Lt.-Col. L. R. Hill, O.B.E., Royal Artillery, British Military Attache at Tokyo, Japan, lectured to Officers at Western Canada Military Institute.
- April 17th—Unveiling of tablet in memory of the Late Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie at Gaelic Society's Hall.
- May 1st—Annual Regimental Concert and Dance for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.
- May 4th—Divine Service at First Presbyterian Church.
- June 1st—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 18th—Annual Inspection by Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- July 4th to 6th—Training Camp at Camp Hughes; detachment from Regiment present.
- Aug. 23rd—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Oct. 12th—Divine Service by special invitation at Holy Trinity Anglican Church.
- Dec. 10th—Winnipeg Highland Cadet Battalion now designated "The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada Cadet Battalion."

1931

- January—Regiment awarded first place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1930 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

- Jan. 3rd—Lt.-Col. W. G. Bell died.
- Jan. 31st—Colonel J. Y. Reid (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) gazetted to command 20th Infantry Brigade.
- Jan. 31st—Regiment awarded Donald D. Mann Cup for 1930.
- May 7th—Annual Concert and Dance for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.
- May 17th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- May 31st—Divine Service First Presbyterian Church.
- June 17th—Annual inspection by Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- Sept. 19th—Team tied with C.O.T.C. for Eaton Cup in Eaton Marching and Firing Competition.
- Sept. 27th—Divine Service at Augustine United Church.

1932

- Jan. 19th—Regiment awarded second place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1931 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.
- Jan. 19th—Regiment awarded Donald D. Mann Cup for 1931.
- May 1st—Divine Service, First Presbyterian Church.
- June 5th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 9th—Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie, V.D., died.
- June 15th—Annual inspection by Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- June 24th to 26th—Week-end Musketry Camp at St. Charles Rifle Range.
- July 4th—Pipe Band attended at Park River, North Dakota, U.S.A., for Independence Day Celebration.
- Sept. 10th—Team won second place in Eaton Marching and Firing Competition out of 21 teams competing. Four of the first ten competing teams were from Regiment.

1933

- Jan. 24th—The E. F. Hutchings Challenge Cup awarded to the Regiment for the 1932 season.
- Feb. 21st—Regiment awarded first place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1932 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.
- Feb. 21st—Regiment awarded Donald D. Mann Cup for 1932.
- April 21st—Annual Concert and Dance for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.
- May 7th—Divine Service, First Presbyterian Church.
- May 28th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.
- June 21st—Annual inspection by Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- June 30th to July 2nd—Week-end Musketry Camp at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.
- Aug. 7th—Pipe Band attended Scottish Highland Games at Brandon.
- Aug. 31st—Pipe Band attended at Fort Osborne Barracks as farewell to Brigadier T. V. Anderson, D.S.O.
- Oct. 8th—Divine Service, First Presbyterian Church.

1934

- Feb. 27th—Regiment awarded first place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1933 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Feb. 27th—Regiment awarded Canadian Infantry Association Vickers Gun Competition for 1933.

Feb. 27th—The E. F. Hutchings Challenge Cup awarded to the Regiment for the 1933 season.

Feb. 27th—Regiment awarded Rogers Cup for 1933.

April 23rd—Annual Concert and Dance for all ranks at Marlborough Hotel.

May 1st—Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., V.D., relinquished command. Lt.-Col. R. Hunter Young assumed command on appointment.

May 1st—Lt.-Col. D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., V.D., gazetted to command of 20th Infantry Brigade.

May 13th—Divine Service, First Presbyterian Church.

May 27th—Annual Decoration Ceremony Parade.

June 8th to 10th—Week-end Musketry Camp at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.

June 27th—Annual inspection by Brigadier W. G. Beeman, D.S.O.

Aug. 26th—Regimental Rifle Matches at St. Charles Rifle Ranges.

Oct. 7th—Divine Service, First Presbyterian Church.

Sept. 8th—Regiment awarded first place in Canadian Infantry Association Lewis Gun Competition for 1934; won by "D" Company.

Sept. 15th—Team won third place in Eaton Marching and Firing Competition out of 20 teams competing. Three of the first ten teams were from Regiment.

1935

Jan. 15th—Regiment awarded first place in Canadian Infantry Association Competition for 1934 for Efficiency of Personnel in M.D. 10.

Jan. 15th—The E. F. Hutchings Challenge Cup awarded to the Regiment for the 1934 season.

Jan. 15th—Regiment awarded Rogers Cup for 1934.

Jan. 15th—Regiment awarded second and third places in Donald D. Mann Cup Competition.

May 4th to 6th—Twenty fifth anniversary celebration.

May 29th—Annual Inspection by Brigadier J. L. Gordon, D.F.C.

June 2nd—Annual Decoration Service Parade.

Note. Many of the incidents shown in this Diary were reported in the daily papers, Manitoba Free Press, Free Press Evening Bulletin, Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg Tribune and The Telegram; the news items may be seen in the files in the issues of corresponding dates.

Active List of Officers—August, 1935

Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young, Commanding Officer.
Major J. B. Morison (m.s.c.), Second in Command.
Major S. J. D. Oswald.
Major S. E. Masson.
Major J. G. Troup, M.C. (m.s.c.)
Major B. T. McFarlane (m.s.c.)
Captain A. S. McDonald (m.s.c.)
Captain R. C. Huggard.
Captain A. T. Law..
Captain A. Thomson.
Lieutenant J. D. H. Cameron.
Lieutenant R. S. Snider.
Lieutenant J. M. Creighton.
2/Lieutenant R. S. Evans.
2/Lieutenant J. N. Armstrong.
2/Lieutenant J. A. Chivers.
2/Lieutenant D. D. Sweeting (C.O.T.C.)
2/Lieutenant J. T. F. Aitken.
2/Lieutenant G. V. Hastings.
2/Lieutenant J. M. Kirkpatrick (C.O.T.C.)
2/Lieutenant G. F. Hamilton (C.O.T.C.)
2/Lieutenant W. B. Mackay (m.q.)
2/Lieutenant R. Thompson.
2/Lieutenant D. Young.
2/Lieutenant G. R. T. Drummond-Hay.
2/Lieutenant R. M. Campbell.
2/Lieutenant G. S. Reycraft.
2/Lieutenant C. S. B. Morison.
2/Lieutenant A. B. Drummond-Hay.
Captain and Adjutant—D. G. Clement.
Honorary Major and Quarter-Master—H. Mackenzie.
Honorary Captain and Paymaster—G. A. Campbell.
Honorary Major and Chaplain—Rev. C. W. Gordon, D.D., LL.D., V.D.
Honorary Captain and Chaplain—Rev. W. G. Maclean, M.A., B.D.

ATTACHED:

Lieutenant—R. H. Cooper, A.M.C.), Medical Officer.
Lieutenant—K. C. McGibbon (A.M.C.), Medical Officer.

STAFF:

A/Regimental Sergeant-Major—J. M. Johnston.
Regimental Quarter-Master-Sergeant—A. P. Millar.
Orderly Room Quarter-Master-Sergeant—W. Steele.
Signalling Sergeant—W. F. McCheyne.
Pipe-Major—D. McLeod.
Drum-Major—W. C. Morison.

The Special Coronation Company 1911

EARLY in 1911 Lieut.-Colonel R. M. Thomson decided to send, at his own expense, a special company to visit the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders at Aldershot, England, and to attend with them at the ceremonies in connection with the Coronation of His Majesty King George the Fifth. Approval was given on February 20th and shortly afterward the company was selected and commenced special training. The company entrained for Montreal on May 30th, being accompanied to the depot by the regiment with both brass and pipe bands. They arrived in Montreal on June 1st and were met by the 5th Royal Scots of Montreal who escorted them to the Armoury, gave them a banquet at The Revoir and then showed them through Dominion Park and the sights of the city. They sailed on June 2nd on the "Corsican." After a very pleasant visit with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders they returned to Winnipeg on July 17th.

Before leaving Winnipeg each member was presented by Henry Birks & Sons with a Maple Leaf Badge with "Winnipeg" across the centre.

The following is an excerpt from the Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, Volume 3, Page 11, covering the 1st Battalion notes of 1911:

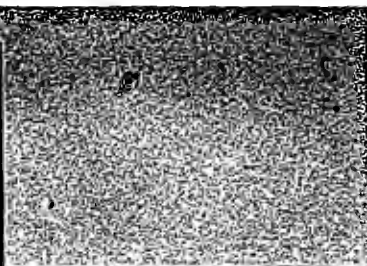
"Early in June a party of 6 officers and 57 other ranks of the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada, who came to the United Kingdom to participate in the approaching Coronation ceremonies, was attached to the 1st Battalion at Aldershot as a ninth company. This detachment, which was commanded by Captain D. S. Mackay, included the following Officers and N.C. Officers: Captain (R. G.) Affleck; Lieutenants J. Geddes, W. A. Hossie, D. L. Cameron and S. Nixon; Sergeant-Major George; Pipe-Major Duke; Colour-Sergeant Sandilands, and Sergeants Robertson, Allen, and Seller.

"On Coronation Day, June the 22nd, during the progress of the Royal procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey, the Cameron Highlanders assisted in lining the Mall, and on the 23rd were on duty in Whitehall, near the War Office. On the 29th of the month, when the King and Queen paid their visit of State to the City of London, the battalion again came from Aldershot and was posted in the Strand, being transferred to a position in Oxford Street for the return journey.

"A most interesting feature of the Coronation from a regimental point of view was the presence of the detachment of our affiliated Canadian unit, acting as an additional company of the battalion, and fully maintaining the reputation of the Cameron Highlanders by their fine physique, smart appearance, and soldier-like bearing. The fact that these splendid Scottish Canadian soldiers stood in line on this



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL
K.C.M.G., G.C.B., G.C.V.O.



SIR DOUGLAS C. CAMERON
K.C.M.G.



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL
SIR A. C. MACDONNELL
C.B., D.S.O., D.S.O.



COLONEL
J. REID, C.O.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

historic occasion with our own men of the Mother Country, wearing the same tartan, imbued with the same spirit, and proud of the same regimental traditions, was an event of the greatest significance, as future events were to demonstrate, not only for the Cameron Highlanders, but also for the Empire at large."

On July 6th, the eve of the departure on return to Canada, at the Officers Mess, Oudenarde Barracks, Aldershot, Lieut.Colonel F. A. MacFarlan, Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, on behalf of the Officers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions, presented a beautiful Pipe-Major's Banner to the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada. Captain D. S. Mackay accepted the gift on behalf of the Regiment at Winnipeg. Colonel MacFarlan also presented a copy each of the first and second volumes of the "Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders" to our Officers Mess which were also suitably accepted by Captain Mackay.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency, the Governor-General of Canada, and published in the general orders of the Department of Militia and Defence:

Downing Street, 17th August, 1911.

My Lord,

I have the honour to request that your Excellency will convey to your Ministers an expression of the gratification of His Majesty's Government at receiving representatives of the Military and Naval Forces of the Overseas Dominions, for the purpose of taking part in the Coronation Festivities which have just terminated.

His Majesty's Government feel that the association of the Contingent in London had a good effect in bringing together officers and men from the widely severed portions of the Empire.

A most favourable impression was created by the appearance of the Troops on the Coronation Days as well as at the parade to St. Paul's Cathedral on the 18th of June, and also at the parade on the 30th of June when His Majesty was pleased to present them with the Coronation Medal.

The detachment of the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada was inspected by His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught at Aldershot on the 1st of July. This Detachment was granted the Coronation Medal in the same Proportion as was adopted in the case of the Regular Army.

Much interest was caused by the inspection made by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, by Lord Haldane, the Secretary of State for War, and by Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum, Field-Marshal Commanding the Coronation Troops.

His Majesty's Government trusts that the Troops will carry back with them a pleasant recollection of their visit.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

(Sgd.) L. HARCOURT.

Vimy Dinner; Government House, Ottawa

ON APRIL 9th, 1926, the Annual Vimy Dinner was held at Government House, Ottawa, and it being the last at which Lord Byng, the Governor-General, would be present before his tenure of office would expire, it was thought that it would be a very interesting tribute if the Pipe-Majors of the different Highland Regiments in Canada were present. Accordingly Pipe-Major Lachlan Collie of the "Cameron's" proceeded to Ottawa and took part in the ceremonies. The following is a copy of his report to Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie, the Commanding Officer.

Lieut.-Colonel W. A. Hossie,
Winnipeg, Man.

833 Ellice Ave.,
Winnipeg, April 17th, 1926.

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit to you a report on my trip to Ottawa to take part in the Vimy Dinner.

I joined Pipe-Major Gillies at Canadian National Depot on the morning of the 7th of April and we proceeded on our way to Ottawa.

We had a very pleasant journey together, and we played the pipes a great deal. Gillies did not get the Lady Byng March so he had to learn it off my copy on the way. I may tell you a secret, I got my daughter in the Bank of Montreal to secure my berth and it seems that she and my son conspired together and paid for a compartment so that I would be more comfortable. Gillies and I played the pipes there and practised chanters in perfect privacy.

We arrived in Ottawa at 6.15 a.m. on Friday and went straight to the Chateau Laurier where we had to wait till 11 a.m. for our rooms. Colonel Urquhart was very much annoyed and said the rooms were reserved two weeks before. However, we got in touch with the other Pipe Majors and got settled down and had lunch, afterwards Lieut. (Pipe Major) Dunbar took us in hand, and we had our pipes tuned to his satisfaction and at 3 p.m. we were taken to Government House for rehearsal, which we did in a very thorough manner, repeating the playing and Toasts several times under the direction of Colonel Urquhart and Private Secretary. We were presented to Lord and Lady Byng and then taken back to the Chateau at 4.30. We then polished our uniforms and dressed, had dinner and were taken to Government House at 8.30. We played His Excellency and Guests in to dinner at 9.30, and after an interval we marched in again in single file by the rear and Pipe-Major Gillies gave the Toast. Gaelic—"An latha chi s'nach faic, ann a' sith no ann a cogadh, bithidh sinn dileas dhuita gu bas."

English—"The day we see you, and the day we don't, in peace and in war, we shall be faithful unto death."

His Excellency handed us each a glass of whisky. Lieut. Dunbar then read the address which is embodied in the parchment and made the presentation.

Lieut. Dunbar—"As a farewell to their Commander in the Field, His Excellency, General, The Lord Byng of Vimy, and to the Lady Byng of Vimy, the Highland Regiments of Canada beg gracious permission of Their Excellencies, to dedicate to them, these two pipe tunes, which have been composed in their honour. The Highland Regiments further respectfully request His Excellency's permission to add the tunes to their Regimental Marches. So will the strains of the Pipes for all

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

time, remind the men of these Regiments of the glories of Vimy, the pride with which the Highlanders served under their Corps Commander on that day and the affection they bore toward him."

Gaelic Motto on Parchment—"Cho fhad sa' Dhealreas a Grian ar balamh, sa' bhualas tonn air bhragh, tha buerdh a' nis s' mar' b'abhaist a lorg an feilidh."

English—"While the sun shines on the earth and the waves beat on the shore, Victory, now as ever follows in the wake of the Kilt."

Pipe-Major Gillies gave the farewell Toast—"Nach bu Mhaiseach a' ni hach robh thu tighinn thugain, an albe bhi ga'r fagail."

English—"Would it not be a beautiful thing if you were only coming instead of going."

These last few words were the most affecting words of the whole evening and brought tears to most of the assembly including Lord and Lady Byng.

Then General Currie made his speech and presented a painting of Lord Byng to Lady Byng, also a motor car.

The Pipers then marched out playing "The Canadians Farewell to Lord Byng of Vimy March," then lined up in the great hall, while Their Excellencies passed out to receive and inspect the car and on their way back the pipers played "The Lady Byng March." This concluded the ceremonial part and we were entertained in the smoking room to refreshments and smokes. After an interval we moved into the reception room and played while Their Excellencies and guests came in and we played several times during the evening. I never in my life shook hands with so many Generals and Colonels. I had a few minutes conversation with Colonel Urquhart. He wished to be particularly remembered to you and asked about the Regiment. All of his questions I answered to the best of my knowledge.

We were taken home to the Chateau about 12 o'clock and went to bed.

Next morning at 11.30 we were taken to Government House in full dress and photographed with Lord Byng and Colonel Urquhart. Colonel Urquhart informed me that it was the intention to send one to each of the Pipe Majors present and one to each of their regiments after which the plates would be destroyed, and that these photographs would be looked upon as a historical souvenir.

The Pipe Majors present were:

Lieut. Dunbar, Argyle and Sutherlands, Hamilton, Ont.

Pipe Major Featherstone, Argyle and Sutherlands, Hamilton, Ont.

" " Fraser, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, Ont.

" " McPherson, Toronto Scottish (London Scottish), Toronto, Ont.

" " Sullivan, Cameron Highlanders, Ottawa, Ont.

" " Johnson, Royal Highlanders, Montreal, Que.

" " Gillies, 72nd Seaforth's, Vancouver, B.C.

" " Collie, The Queen's Own C. H. of C., Winnipeg, Man.

We were again presented to Lord Byng and said goodbye and he hoped to see me in Winnipeg. I was told that such an affair is not likely ever to happen again and I feel honoured on being asked to take part. I also feel proud to think that my composition of a pipe tune was accepted at Ottawa. I am at this moment in receipt of a letter from His Excellency's Private Secretary conveying an expression of appreciation for composing the pipe tune "The Canadians Farewell to Lord Byng of Vimy," also a signed programme of music as a memento of the occasion. I met Colonel Cantlie and had a long talk with him; he sent Gillies and I an invitation by Pipe-Major Johnson to spend the night with him at his apartment, but I excused myself on account of my lame foot and Gillies wouldn't leave me. I also met General Ketchen who told me that he was not going to B.C.

I enjoyed my trip very much and felt much better of it. Thanks very much for snapshots of Pipe Band.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) LACHLAN COLLIE.

The Scottish National War Memorial

Scotland's Tribute To Her Illustrious Dead

J.T.M.

LET us gaze for a moment on the shrine commemorating Scotland's war dead. It is here in Auld Reekie, perched on the topmost pinnacle of Castle Rock, its walls, the old stone walls of the Castle Barracks, expanded and extended by portico and apse. The floor of polished granite is boldly marked by the highest coign of that bold rock on which Dunedin's Castle was originally built, a thousand years ago. In this intrusion of the native rock there is a resemblance to the Rock of Mount Moriah which protudes through the floor of the Mosque of Omar on the site of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. That rock was the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite. This rock is the threshing-floor on which the golden grain of Scottish valor was separated from the chaff of comfort, ease, and commonplace, in four years' winnowing by the winds of war. That rock was the scene of Abraham's binding of his only son Isaac upon the altar of sacrifice. This rock is the altar on which Scotland offered her first-born and her next-born and the last-born through four years of bitter bloodshed abroad. That rock was the site of Solomon's Temple of Worship. This is Scotland's Temple of Memory.

On this rock has been erected a green altar-stone, typifying ever-verdant remembrance—a lamp perpetually lighted. Above it hangs the Archangel Michael with drawn sword at Satan's throat. On the stone stands a steel coffer and in that coffer repose the Rolls of Honour in which are inscribed one-hundred-thousand Scottish names. Every man mentioned therein gave his life for King and Country. The walls round about are covered with records of the Great War in splendid bronze, in rich stained-glass, and in carven letters on sandstone rock,—records that tell the story of outgoing troopships, of incoming wounded, of torpedoed merchantmen, of training-camps and trench-life and munition-making, gas, blimps, draught-horses, courageous collie dogs that carried war messages, the nurses, the women who kept the home fires burning, every man and every woman and every branch of service. All that the war touched in Scotland and everything of Scotland that touched the war is commemorated in picture by Sir Robert Lorimer's bronze friezes and Dr. Strachan's stained-glass.

Let us not quote figures. They are too stunning, too heart-breaking. The list of Scottish war dead is an appalling thing. There they stand those figures, eloquent for all time, setting forth amid the regimental shields and service-badges the staggering facts of the war and not one word, not one numeral could be spared. The Scots Guards, the Royal Scots, the Royal Scots Fusiliers, the Cameronians, the Highland Light Infantry, the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, the Royal Scots Greys, the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, The King's Own Scottish

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Borderers, The Black Watch, The Seaforth Highlanders, the Rosshire Buffs, the Gordon Highlanders, The Liverpool Scottish, The Scottish—all Jock Tamsan's bairns! A great and a glorious story.

Canada is here, and Canada should be proud to be here. On the prairie, on the veldt, in the Strand and by the Mersey, the cubs heard the pibroch and mingled their blood with the blood of their kith-and-kin for the World's weal. The inscriptions are particularly fine. Of the navy "They Have No Other Grave But the Sea." And of the women: "In honor of all Scotswomen who amid the stress of war sought by their labors, sympathy, and prayers to obtain for their country the blessing of peace."

The Book of the Dead. There they lie on their tables of stone, each below the carved inscription proclaiming the name and fame of its regiment or unit. Great folio volumes they are, in red leather with hundreds of pages and each page bearing hundreds of names, these names are closely-printed as a city directory. Each volume is in very truth a directory—of the City Beautiful, a place where only honor dwells and where all tears are wiped away. But the numbers in their mere appeal to the eye alone are absolutely stunning. One can scarcely take them in. Like unto those solemn lists in Revelations they are: Of the tribe of Judah so many thousands, of the tribe of Benjamin so many thousands. And so on.

There is a swift and touching recall to earth and to those who are left. The lower right-hand corner of each giant red book-cover is already book worn and smooth with the loving hands of searching thousands, seeking eagerly for the crumb of comfort the war has left them—the sight of a beloved name on the Scroll of Honour.

More could be written of this work of Scottish piety and pride—but it is only in seeing it that its great beauty and solemnity can intimately be appreciated.

"Let us praise famous men, and
Our father that begat us,
Their name shall remain forever
And their glory shall not be blotted out."

It is in the spirit of these imperishable words from Ecclesiastes that we shall best understand all that the Scottish National War Memorial means. It is characteristic of the genius of Scotland and the master artist of this marvellous creation was one of her most distinguished sons, Sir Robert Lorimer.

One of her poets has written:

"They pass and smile, the children of the sword
No more the sword they wield,
And O' how deep the corn
Along the battlefield."

There the memorial stands the deliberate and abiding gesture of Scottish people throughout the world, a great act of reverence and of love that will hearten generations to come. It links intimately the immediate with the remotest past—that gave to what is new the dignity of what older lacked.

Inauguration

THE Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle was inaugurated by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, on July 14th, 1927. His Royal Highness was received in the Crown Square of the Castle by a Guard of Honour of the Second Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, with the Band and Pipers and the Colours of the Third Battalion. The Colours of all the Scottish Regiments with their respective Colour Parties were drawn up on either flank of the Guard.

After an appropriate religious service the Colours and guidons of all the National Regiments filed past the Prince in slow time and entered the Hall of Honour, where they were placed in position by their bearers while that grand old tune "Scots wha hae" was played by the Band and sung by the choir.

Then, to the sad strains of "The Flowers of the Forest," played by the Pipers, the Colonels of Regiments and the representatives of other units and services, walking slowly two by two, entered the Memorial and the inner Shrine and handed the Rolls of Honour to His Royal Highness, who received the handsomely bound volumes and placed them reverently in the beautiful carved steel casket, gifted to the Memorial by the King and Queen, where they will rest for all time.

The Rolls of Honour of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada were borne by Lieutenant-General Sir Spencer Ewart, K.C.B., Colonel of the Regiment. The Roll of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada contained the names of 49 officers and 1,180 other ranks. These names are also contained in the Regimental Roll Book in the "Cameron" Bay of the Memorial. (A copy of the Roll is on file at Regimental Headquarters, Winnipeg.)

After a further religious service, Their Majesties, the King and Queen, arrived and entered the Shrine. The King received the Roll of Honour of the Navy and placed it in the casket whilst the Queen received the Rolls of the Women's Services and placed it in position.

To General Ewart, the King, our Colonel-in-Chief, expressed his gratification that the Roll of the Canadian "Cameron" had been included with that of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Immediately after the ceremony General Ewart and the Duke of Atholl (Chairman of the Memorial Committee) wrote to Lt.-Col. W. A. Hossie, the Commanding Officer. Copies of the letters follow:

Craigcleuch, Langholm, Dumfries-shire,

July 18th, 1927.

Dear Colonel Hossie,

I write to let you know that the Roll of Honour of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada, which you so kindly sent to us, was deposited on July the 14th in the Scottish National War Memorial in Edinburgh

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Castle. The names of your dead heroes were bound up in the same volume with those of the Cameron Highlanders of the Mother Country, both in the Roll of Honour placed in the Casket, gifted by the King and Queen; within the Shrine and also in the larger book which is placed under our Regimental Memorial in the Hall of Honour.

The Dedication Service was exceptionally solemn and impressive and will never fade from the memory of those who were present.

After the Prince of Wales had declared the building open, the colours of all our Scottish Regiments were carried into the Hall of Honour in slow time to the strains of "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled" and were placed in position on either side of each Regimental Memorial. Then, as the Pipers of the Cameron Highlanders played "The Flowers of the Forest," the Colonels of the different Regiments entered the Shrine in turn and handed the Rolls of Honour to the Prince of Wales, who placed them in the beautiful Steel Casket standing on the apex of the Castle Rock within the building where they will remain for all time.

Subsequently the King and Queen visited the Shrine and went round the Hall of Honour, and, as His Majesty, our Colonel-in-Chief, reached the Cameron Memorial, I told him that your Roll of Honour had been included with our own and informed him of the losses sustained by your gallant Regiment in the War.

I need not tell you what a proud, if sad, duty it was to me to be the bearer of the Joint Roll of Honour of the Cameron Highlanders of the Mother Country and of Canada and how sensible I am of the honour you conferred upon me in allowing me to be your representative upon such an historic occasion. We are all, I am sure, most appreciative of the evidence of the close and lasting affiliation of our two Regiments afforded by the association in one volume of the two Rolls of Honour of our brave heroes, Scottish and Canadian, who gave their lives for the Empire and for the honour of the Cameron Highlanders. It is indeed fitting that their names should rest recorded together on Scotland's National Memorial in the old Castle.

After the opening ceremony many beautiful floral wreaths were deposited on either side of the entrance to the Memorial by members of the Royal Family, Public Bodies, Regiments and Regimental Associations, etc., one of which bore the inscription "From the Cameron Highlanders in proud remembrance of their Comrades of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada who fell in the Great War."

The Scottish National War Memorial is a very noble one, a Gem of Architecture in a splendid historical setting, a fitting and inspiring monument of Scotland's sacrifice, and a glorious record in bronze, stone and heraldry of the history of the Scottish Regiments.

I think you may all rest assured that your Roll of Honour now reposes in the most appropriate surroundings that can well be imagined.

I enclose herewith, for your information, a copy of the official programme of the ceremony.

Believe me, ,

Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd.) SPENCER EWART.

Colonel of The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Eastwood, Dunkeld,
22nd August, 1927

The Mess President, Officers Mess.
The Queen's Own C. H. of C.
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL

Dear Sir,

I am sending you by this post copies of the supplement to "Country

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

"Life" in which a description of the Scottish National War Memorial appears, as I feel it will interest your mess.

I am sure you will all be glad to hear that on the whole the Memorial has been a great success and has been most favorably received by the public, and since its opening we have had practically no criticisms.

The opening ceremony was most impressive and the copies of the programme which I enclose will give you some idea of it. The King and Queen and the Prince of Wales were received with great enthusiasm, the crowds being solid right along the High Street, across the Esplanade and up to Crown Square. Admission inside the gates of the Castle was by ticket, which enabled us to have reserved places for representatives of every Scottish Regiment and unit, and all ranks were fully represented; in addition, special accommodation was reserved for disabled soldiers near Crown Square, and more but smaller representative parties from every unit. These latter Their Majesties were able to go round and converse with.

It would be impossible for me to give you a full idea of the impressiveness of the ceremony itself—First of all the colours of Scotland debouching from the High Street and marching up the Esplanade to "The Battle of Harlaw," played by the Pipes and Drums, of the Camerons, a brave sight—The Guard of Honour of the Camerons, with the colours of the Infantry drawn up on one side, and the guidons of the Cavalry on the other side, inside Crown Square, was a sight to be remembered, especially when all the colours were lowered when the Salute was given to the Prince. No one will ever forget the procession of the colours into the Hall of Honour to the tune of "Scots wha hae," each colour being lodged in the memorial bay of its unit as an act of homage. After that, to the tune of "Flowers of the Forest," the full Colonels of every unit marched, in order of seniority of Regiments, into the shrine, carrying the Rolls of Honour of their units, which were placed by the Prince of Wales in a casket of armour-bright iron, the gift of the King and Queen. The Rolls for the Navy, the Air Force and one representative one for the Army were kept back and deposited by the King himself, while the Roll of the Women's Services (carried by the Duchess of Atholl) were kept back and deposited by the Queen.

The religious service was entirely undenominational and the singing of the hymns and psalms was very fine. The benediction at the conclusion of the ceremony was pronounced by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland in Gaelic and in English. There was a choir on Crown Square and another on the Esplanade, with loud speakers right down the High Street; everything was synchronised by wireless, with the result that everyone was able to join in the praise.

Since the opening I am sure that nearly a million people must have visited the Memorial, there being an endless stream of visitors from early morning till late in the evening.

I have written all this to you because I know what it is to be a Scotsman living abroad and what it means to get home news.

I hope you are all well and flourishing.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) ATHOLL.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
R. M. THOMSON



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
JAMES A. CANTLIE, JR.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
HUGH F. OSLER



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
J. C. GILLESPIE, V.D.

The Prince of Wales' Victoria Cross Dinner

EARLY in the fall of 1929, His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, announced that he would entertain at Dinner all the recipients of the Victoria Cross, to be gathered together at London from all parts of the Empire. This created great interest and naturally each proud owner of the V.C. made every endeavour to be present. The result was that nearly four hundred attended this memorable gathering.

The one in whom the Regiment is highly interested is Captain Robert Shankland, V.C., D.C.M., who won the Victoria Cross at the Battle of Passchendaele, October 26th, 1917, by his bravery and fine leadership during the attack on and capture of the difficult Bellevue Spur by the 43rd Camerons from Winnipeg. Another is Colonel Cyrus W. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., of Sidney, B.C., who won the Victoria Cross at the attack on the Drocourt-Queant Line on September 2nd, 1918, while commanding and leading the 16th Canadian Scottish in which so many Camerons served.

Twelve of the Canadians, including Captain Shankland and Colonel Peck, gathered at Quebec and sailed on the C.P.O.S. "Empress of Scotland" on October 31st, 1929 (the last voyage to be made by this steamship prior to being broken up). The party that went on board to say them farewell included Ven. Archdeacon F. G. Scott, C.M.G., D.S.O., of Quebec, and a/R.S.M. R. Keiller, original 43rd, then 16th Canadian Scottish, later a/R.S.M./3rd Canadian Machine Gun Company. During the voyage, on November 6th, they were guests at a Dinner given by the Ship's Commander, J. Turnbull, C.B.E., R.D., R.N.R. They disembarked at Southampton, arrived in London about midnight, November 7th, and were billeted at the Savoy Hotel.

The Canadians were guests on November 8th at a Re-union Dinner of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, at which were also present Major K. C. Campbell (43rd) and Captain W. H. McNally (79th and 43rd), Cameron Officers formerly of Winnipeg. After the dinner they were presented to His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught. On the 9th they viewed the Lord Mayor's Show from a balcony in Ludgate Circus as guests of the "Daily Sketch."

Then at 7:30 P.M. followed the great event each guest had looked forward to with anticipation while travelling from far and near, the dinner given by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords. Each guest was presented to His Royal Highness, who also presided during the evening. Delightful music was dispensed by the String Band of H. M. Grenadier Guards. "The King" was given by His Royal Highness, "The Royal Family" by Admiral of the Fleet Earl Jellicoe, G.C.B., O.M., and "The Guests" by His Royal Highness. Responses were made by representatives of

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

the Navy, Army, Air Force and Overseas V.C.'s. Captain Shankland met Lieut. J. D. Pollock, V.C., and Private R. Tollerton, V.C., of the Queen's Own Camerons. The Dress was Lounge Suits with Medals.

On November 10th they attended a special performance of "Journey's End" at the Prince of Wales Theatre, given in honour of the V.C.'s. On November 11th they fell-in in column at Wellington Barracks, Bird Cage Walk, and, headed by the Band of H.M. Scots Guards, marched via Horse Guards Parade to the Cenotaph in Whitehall where they took part in the Armistice Day Service. In the afternoon they visited the grave of the Unknown Warrior and the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey. In the evening they attended the Festival of Empire and Remembrance in Royal Albert Hall, a most impressive and wonderful ceremony. The Prince of Wales was present and special seating was provided for the V.C.'s.

Captain Shankland proceeded to Glasgow where on November 16th he attended the 36th Annual Dinner of the Glasgow Branch of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlander's Association, presided over by Major-General N. J. G. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., Colonel of the Regiment. Captain Shankland delivered a message of greeting and encouragement from the Winnipeg Camerons. He then visited Edinburgh where he was a guest of Lieut.-Colonel R. L. McCall, D.S.O., M.C., and Officers of the 2nd Battalion Camerons at Redford Barracks. He visited the Garrison Company on duty at Edinburgh Castle and placed a wreath at the Scottish National War Memorial.

He and five other V.C.'s returned to Canada on the C.P.O.S. "Duchess of Bedford." During the voyage, on December 7th, they were entertained at a Dinner given by the Ship's Commander, Captain James Turnbull, C.B.E., R.D., R.N.R. On arrival at St. John, N.B., they were welcomed by Brigadier-General F. W. Hill, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., then Officer Commanding the New Brunswick Military District, formerly Commanding the 9th Brigade, 3rd Division, in France.

Citation awarding the Victoria Cross (London Gazette, 18th December, 1917):

"Robert Shankland, Lieutenant, Canadian Infantry. For most conspicuous bravery and resource in action under critical and adverse conditions. Having gained a position, he rallied the remnant of his own platoon and men of other companies, disposed them to command the ground in front, and inflicted heavy casualties upon the retreating enemy. Later, he dispersed a counter-attack, thus enabling supporting troops to come up unmolested. He then personally communicated to Headquarters an accurate and valuable report as to the position on the brigade frontage, and, after doing so, rejoined his command and carried on until relieved. His courage and splendid example inspired all ranks, and, coupled with his great gallantry and skill, undoubtedly saved a very critical situation."

The Regimental Sergeant-Major

LUCKY is the Regiment, and happy its Commanding Officer, which is blessed by an efficient Regimental Sergeant-Major who has the respect and support of those with whom he is associated and is in verity the chief of the backbone of the corps. The Cameron Highlanders of Canada have had the pleasant experiences of being so blessed.

One of the Instructional Staff of the first classes for officers and non-commissioned officers was Drill-Sergeant H. George of the Royal Canadian Regiment. During the early months of the Regiment, by consent of the Officer Commanding Military District No. 10, he carried on as Senior Non-Commissioned-Officer and contributed greatly to the efficiency attained.

On January 1st, 1912, the senior Company Colour-Sergeant Matt. Hutchison was appointed the first Regimental Sergeant-Major and continued until December, 1914, when he enlisted for overseas service with the 43rd Camerons. As could be expected he was made Regimental Sergeant-Major and carried on until March, 1916, when he was granted a commission. A former Argyle and Sutherland Highlander, with South African War experience, a man respected, even loved, by everybody, "Matt" was largely responsible for the esprit-de-corps and efficiency of the Regiment when war was declared and of the 43rd when it reached the field of battle.

During 1915, 1916 and 1917 various Senior Non-Commissioned-Officers carried out the duties. On December 25th, 1917, Thomas Rutherford was appointed to the post followed by Alex. Phimister on January 1st, 1920; each carried on during most difficult times. On the re-organization in September, 1920, A. H. H. Mitchell was appointed Regimental Sergeant-Major and continued until November 1st, 1923, when he became Brigade Sergeant-Major. He was followed by David Lowden, M.M., who became Brigade Sergeant-Major on January 1st, 1930. Then A. T. Woolston was appointed and continued until October 10th, 1934, when J. M. Johnston followed as Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major and still continues.

Each of these in turn has upheld the tradition of the post and followed the lead and example of the first Regimental Sergeant-Major. All honour to all these very fine men and the wonderful work they did.

The Regimental Pipe-Majors

IT IS said there were bagpipes in the Garden of Eden; there is foundation for the statement the Romans had some when they invaded Britain in 55 B.C.; there were some at the Battle of Bannockburn; it is certain that the music of the pipes has been enjoyed in Scotland for centuries. There have been pipers in the West since the arrival of the Scottish settlers at Kildonan early in the second decade of the nineteenth century and very probably amongst the Hudson Bay Company men since the seventeenth century. But it was not until shortly after 1900 that a pipe band was known in Winnipeg when Clan Stewart No. 92, Order of Scottish Clans, formed one which took part in many public events. Now there are five in Winnipeg alone.

In 1910 the pipe band of the Regiment was organized and John Duke appointed Pipe-Major. He built up a very fine band which was an integral and interesting part of regimental activities and a real feature of the public life of Winnipeg. When the 43rd Camerons were organized for overseas service in December, 1914, he was appointed Pipe-Major and again built up a wonderful band. He continued with them all through the war until the Battalion returned to Winnipeg in March, 1919. In 1898, as a young man of seventeen, John Duke joined the Tay Division, Royal Engineers' Submarine Miners, and in addition to his ordinary duties was piper for the Division. He then served for five years in the mounted services during and after the South African War. He came to Winnipeg in 1907 and shortly after became Pipe-Major of the Clan Stewart Band. While in England in 1915, the 43rd Pipe Band played at a number of events, including two engagements at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, on October 30th and December 27th, 1915, when they were on the same programmes with the renowned Daniel Godfrey's Band. A real piper, a good instructor and leader, he has always taken a great interest in all that pertains to piping. After nearly nine years of service with the Camerons he retired from regimental work and is living in St. Boniface.

John R. Coghill was appointed Pipe-Major in September, 1920, and continued until November, 1921, when he resigned to become Pipe-Major of the Pipe Band of the Winnipeg Police Department, another very fine organization, and is still carrying on.

Then Lachlan Collie was appointed Pipe-Major and continued until his sudden death on June 27th, 1929, at the age of seventy. He was a real old-timer in Winnipeg and vicinity. After coming from Scotland he made his first appearance in Winnipeg at St. Andrews Dinner, November, 1883, and played at many functions down through the following years. He was an active member of the Clan Stewart Band and then taught several young men, mostly Gaelic speaking, who finally

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

formed the old Winnipeg Pipe Band. In 1911 he commenced training several young boys who in 1913 became the Pipe Band of the Highland Cadet Corps. He volunteered for overseas service with the 43rd Camerons but was over age, but on the formation of the 79th Cameron Drafting Detachment in June, 1915, was appointed Pipe-Major and from a beginning of four pipers built up a band which later proceeded overseas with the 179th Camerons, 23 pipers and 8 drummers in strength, one of the best bands to leave Canada. "Collie," as he was affectionately known, was not permitted to go with them because of age and regretfully turned them over to Pipe-Major William Douglas, of Regina, another very fine piper and leader. Then from a start of only five pipers and four drummers he developed a band of sixteen pipers and six drummers for the 174th Camerons, and, having become younger, proceeded overseas as Pipe-Major. On returning he continued to produce pipers for the Highland Cadets in addition to being Pipe-Major of the Regiment.

Donald McLeod was appointed Pipe-Major September 1st, 1929, and still continues at the post. He has maintained the band at a high state of efficiency and both he personally and his band have assisted at many functions. He is still a young man and much is expected of him during the coming years.

Each of these Pipe-Majors has interested and trained other pipers and drummers and now there are many in Winnipeg and throughout the West. One result was the presence of three pipe bands at the anniversary celebration, with forty-nine pipers and thirty-five drummers, all Camerons.

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada Cadet Battalion

AFTER the formation of the 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada in 1910, the pride of race of the Scottish people of Winnipeg caused them to wish for a Highland cadet corps so that the boys of Scottish blood could have the benefits derived from the training in such an organization.

"Cadet training is an excellent training and recreation for boys; they are developed morally, mentally and physically; any talent for leadership a boy may have is brought out and developed. It teaches him confidence in himself, he is taught to obey and honour those who may be in authority over him, to be honest and truthful, and above all to honour and obey his parents. He is taught to respect his King and his flag and what they stand for. These are the foundations upon which are built true gentlemen and patriotic citizens, men who will be a credit to their country."

Through the efforts of the late Lieut.-Colonel W. G. Bell, then a Major in the Cameron Highlanders of Canada, assisted by a number of ladies and gentlemen, the Winnipeg Highland Cadet Corps was formed on April 17th, 1913, with Major Bell as the first Commanding Officer.

Due to the generosity of many friends it was made possible to fully outfit the corps in Highland dress; the uniform of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada was adopted except that a dark blue doublet was selected instead of scarlet as being more serviceable for boys, and also diced bordered Glengarry; these uniforms are still in use in 1935.

Mr. George Carruthers (later Major) was appointed Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel and contributed largely to the success of the Corps in its early years. In March, 1914, the Corps became affiliated with the Regiment. Later in 1914 Mrs. George Carruthers presented the Corps a stand of Colours at a parade at which many friends and citizens were present; these Colours are deposited in the First Presbyterian Church.

During part of the Great War Colonel Bell was on military duty elsewhere and in his absence Lieut. Wallace McLandress (later Major) assumed command and, on Colonel's Bell's retirement in 1921, became Commanding Officer and carried on during a most difficult term when a decided objection to cadet training was in vogue. Owing to pressing duties with the Regiment and in business he gave up command late in 1924. For short periods following the command devolved on Captain (now Lieut.-Colonel) R. Hunter Young, Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Sinclair, Major G. M. Ainslie, and Lieut. Matt. Hutchison. In 1927 the Corps came under the very capable command of Mr. Thos. Rutherford (now Lieutenant) who has carried on since and is still in charge, and to whom is due the success attained in recent years with the assistance of a faithful band of workers.

Although a cadet organization is not intended to be a recruiting ground for the Militia, it is only natural that some of the cadets, as with

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

many other young men, should gravitate into some militia unit. During the war over one hundred and thirty cadets or ex-cadets enlisted for overseas service, of whom nine were killed in action, two died of wounds, seventeen were wounded, seven were granted commissions, and ten honoured by awards, one C.M.G., one D.S.O., one M.C., and seven M.M. with one Bar. The Corps is very proud of this Roll of Honour.

On the Instructional Staff was a young Cameron Officer, Lieut. H. F. McDonald, who enlisted with the First Contingent, was severely wounded, losing an arm, and was promoted to Brigadier-General and awarded C.M.G. and D.S.O. One of the cadets was young Angus Purkis Cameron, who enlisted in the Fort Garry Horse, was transferred to the 8th Battalion and became a Captain. He was a direct descendant of the late Colonel Angus Cameron who served as a Sergeant in the 79th Cameron Highlanders while stationed in Eastern Canada between 1825 and 1837, afterwards joined the Canadian Militia, was granted a commission and eventually commanded Military District No. 3.

In December, 1910, authority was granted for a change of name to "The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada Cadet Battalion." They are recognized as being one of the most efficient cadet corps in Canada. The result of the work of those responsible for the training is evidenced by the winning of the following trophies:—

British Empire Trophies—

Imperial Challenge Shield (Senior)	1931-33
Second in 1932 and 1934.	

Dominion of Canada Trophies—

Duke of Devonshire Cup	1933-34
United Empire Cadet Trophy	1933
D.C.R.A. Cadet Winter Series	1932-33
Cadet Inter-Corp Match	1933
Imperial Cadets Cup	1933-34
Colonel Woods Cup	1929-31-33

Provincial Trophies—

Guards Association Shield	1930-31-32-33-34
Dominion Marksmen Provincial Championship,	
Senior Division	1931-32-33-34-35
Ditto, Junior Division	1931-32-33-34-35
Strathcona Trust Cup	1928-29-30-31-32-33-34
General Ketchen Cadet Cup	1928-29-30-31-32-33-34
Imperial Veterans Cup	1931-33-34-35
Colonel Osler Cup	1927-28-29-30-31-32-33-34
Hinman Cup	1928-29-30-31-33-34
Gent Cup	1929-30-31-32-33
W. W. McMillan Memorial Shield	1931
Infantry Association Cadet Efficiency Shield M.D. 10.....	1931-32-33-34
Galer Hagarty Memorial	1929-31-32-33
Senior First Aid 1933 Bronze Medals.	
Junior First Aid 1933 Silver Medals.	
I.O.D.E. Flag	1934-35

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada

Story of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Celebration at Winnipeg,
May 4th, 5th and 6th, 1935

THE 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada were authorized on February 1st, 1910, classes for officers and non-commissioned officers were held during February and March, recruits drills and company parades were held during April, the Regiment was fully organized, uniformed, and equipped May 1st and appeared publicly during May.

In January, 1935, the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young, decided that the twenty-fifth anniversary should be celebrated and, early in February, a strong committee was called together. This was composed of representatives of the following:—

Original Officers of the Regiment.

16th Battalion, C.E.F. (The Canadian Scottish).

3rd Brigade, 1st Canadian Division.

27th Battalion, C.E.F. (City of Winnipeg Battalion)

6th Brigade, 2nd Canadian Division.

43rd Battalion, C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada)

9th Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division.

79th Drafts (1915) C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada).

179th Battalion, C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada).

174th Battalion, C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada).

Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the present Active Battalion.

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada Cadet Battalion No. 407.

The Committee was organized as follows—

ChairmanLt.-Col. R. Hunter Young, C.O.

Vice-Chairman.....Lt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair, V.D. (R.O.)

Honorary-SecretaryMajor S. E. Masson (Active).

Honorary-TreasurerCaptain George A. Campbell (Paymaster)

Sub-committees with Chairman—

AttendanceCaptain Robert Shankland, V.C., D.C.M. (43rd)

ProgrammeLieut. William Mackie, D.C.M. (16th)

Finance.....Major John McEachern, V.D. (R.O.)

PublicityLt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair, V.D. (R.O.)

In view of the severe winter climate of Manitoba, and the uncertainty of early spring weather, it was decided to hold the Re-union on May 4th, 5th and 6th, and to do honour at the same time to Their Majesties, the King and Queen, on the occasion of the celebration of the

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Silver Jubilee of their accession to the throne, and complimentary to anything which might be arranged by the Province of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg, and the District Officer Commanding, Military District No. 10.

The committee worked hard, newspapers and journals throughout Canada published advance notices to enable the committee to get in touch with all "Old Camerons"; the Winnipeg Evening Tribune and the Winnipeg Free Press were especially generous in allotting space for all items submitted; CJGX (the local Grain Exchange Radio Station) and a Vancouver local station made several broadcasts; CKY (the local Canadian Radio Commission Station) on the eve of the celebration broadcast a short announcement followed by the singing of "The March of the Cameron Men"; the Chaplain, Major Rev. W. Gordon Maclean, addressed "The Caledonians" on the entrancing subject, "The Camerons, Imperial and Canadian," at a mid-day luncheon. The result was a three-day celebration which was most successful and which exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the committee, especially in view of the many counter-events of the Jubilee week-end and the visit of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell in connection with the Rally of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

Previous to the celebration the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young, sent the following cablegram:—

"His Majesty's Private Secretary,
Buckingham Palace,
London, England

The Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada at
Winnipeg celebrating their twenty-fifth anniversary next
Saturday send loyal greetings to Their Majesties the King
and Queen on their silver jubilee and best wishes to their
Colonel-in-Chief.

(Signed) Commanding Camerons."

The following cablegram was received in reply:—

"Officer Commanding Camerons,
Winnipeg, Canada

As Colonel-in-Chief I have received with much pleasure
your loyal message of congratulations for which I heartily
thank all ranks.

(Signed) George R.I.,
Colonel-in-Chief."

Saturday, May 4th

During Saturday afternoon many "Old Camerons" registered at Regimental Headquarters and received a badge of "Cameron" tartan ribbon. On Saturday evening a stag re-union smoker was held at Minto Armoury at which over 700 "Camerons" attended, of which 125 were from other points in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario. A party of 21 came from Regina, Sask., and another of 7 from Moose Jaw, Sask.; in addition there were men from Bayton, Binscarth, Bel-

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

mont, Dauphin, Franklin, Graysville, Makinak, Miami, McMahon, Portage la Prairie, Riverton, Selkirk, Stonewall, Swan River, and Westbourne in Manitoba, Craik, Gainsborough, Kamsack, Maryfield, Perdue, and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan, and Armstrong and Emo in Ontario. Many letters were received from other points expressing interest and regrets of inability to be present.

Major H. Sloman came from Ottawa, Ont., to represent The Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, and Brigadier-General Harold F. McDonald, C.M.G., D.S.O., an "Old Cameron" Officer. On behalf of Lieut.-Colonel G. S. Macfarlane, Commanding Officer of The Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, Major Sloman presented Lieut.-Colonel Young with a copy of their Standing Orders which embodied also a short history of that Regiment.

The oldest "Cameron" present was John Gow, of Binscarth, Manitoba, who enlisted at Stirling Castle in 1877 (No. 1227), served through the Egyptian Campaign in 1882, and was discharged at Fort George in 1893. Another "Old Cameron" was James Reid, of Winnipeg, who enlisted in 1880, was transferred to the Black Watch and served also in Egypt.

The District Officer Commanding, Military District No. 10, had cancelled all other activities and had given the sole use of the large Armoury to the "Camerons." The East half of the main floor was gaily decorated by flags and pennants and rows of long tables, decorated with "Cameron" colours, were placed. An orchestra dispensed lively music throughout the evening, but there was no programme; it was useless to attempt one; everyone wanted to talk with every other body. Men who had not met for years exchanged greetings, many old friendships were renewed, experiences of campaigning days were retold, and a good time was had by all. All tried to follow the message received from Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., in which he said, "I hope everyone will have a good time. And I hope everyone will be good—not absurdly good, but reasonably so."

The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young, opened the evening formally by giving a welcome to all present and then called on the Chaplain, Major Rev. W. Gordon Maclean (formerly Chaplain of the 51st Highland Division) who read the greetings received as follows from:—

Maj.-Gen. N. J. G. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., Colonel of the Q.O.C.H. Bedford, England.

Maj.-Gen. Sir A. C. Macdonnell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Honorary Colonel of the Q.O.C.H. of C, Kingston, Ont.

Brig.-Gen. H. F. McDonald, C.M.G., D.S.O., Ottawa, Ont.

Brig.-Gen. G. S. Tuxford, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Moose, Jaw, Sask.

Brig.-Gen. F. W. Hill, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., Fredericton, N.B.

Col. Hugh M. Wallis, D.S.O., M.C., Montreal, Que.

Col. C. M. Edwards, D.S.O., V.D., Ottawa, Ont.

Col. J. E. Leckie, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., V.D., Vancouver, B.C.

Col. Chas. J. deB. Sherringham, D.S.O., M.C., Sussex, England.

Lt.-Col. C. Y. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., Sidney, B.C.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Lt.-Col. Wm. Grassie, D.S.O., Vancouver, B.C.

Lt.-Col. H. M. Urquhart, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., Pasadena, California, U.S.A.

Lt.-Col. F. Keith Simmons, M.V.O., M.C., Commanding 2nd Battalion Q.O.C.H. Aldershot, England.

Lt.-Col. G. S. Macfarlane, M.C., V.D., Ottawa, Ont.

Lt.-Col. Andrew Fleming, V.D., Montreal, Que.

Ven. Archdeacon F. G. Scott, C.M.G., D.S.O., Quebec, Que.

Major W. L. Aiken, President 43rd Association, Toronto, Ont.

Major A. G. Mordy, D.S.O., Chatham, Ont.

Major B. Charlton, D.S.O., Sarnia, Ont.

Capt. Reverend G. C. F. Pringle, Vancouver, B.C.

Capt. J. F. Dunnet, Vancouver, B.C.

Lieut. C. McIntosh, M.C., Kinistino, Sask.

Lieut. E. C. Dockar, Canberra City, Australia.

A resolution was offered by Lieutenant William D. Mackie, D.C.M., and supported by Lieutenant William J. Cunningham as follows:—

"That a "Cameron" association be formed and that the committee who organized the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration be and are hereby appointed to be the first "Cameron Association" Committee."

This was adopted unanimously and enthusiastically.

When the fun was fast and furious the Regimental Pipe Band of twenty pipers and eleven drummer, under Pipe-Major Donald McLeod, marched in and played "Retreat." A wartime "Cameron" battalion commander called out "Bravo" and the roll of the drums was exceeded by the enthusiastic applause which followed. But the climax was reached when a pipe band of 20 pipers and 18 drummers, all veterans, some of whom had not played for years, and who had had only a few minutes practice together, marched in under that veteran, Pipe-Major John Duke, and played well-known airs to the echoes of generous applause and cries of "Well done, the old pipe band." Pipe-Major John Duke was the original Pipe-Major of the Regiment on organization and continued until December, 1914, and then of the 43rd Battalion all through its war experience, thus having a continuous service of nine years.

While the smoker was in full swing the Ladies' Auxiliary of the "Cameron" Cadets entertained at Dinner at the Marlborough Hotel in honour of the visiting ladies. Nearly 100 ladies were present and a joyful evening was spent with story, song, and speeches.

Mrs. R. Hunter Young, President of the Auxiliary, presided. A toast to the Regiment was proposed by Miss Isobel Mackenzie, who spoke of the record of the "Camerons," Imperial and Canadian, and was responded to by Mrs. J. Y. Reid. "Our Guests" was proposed by Mrs. David Cooper and replied to by Mrs. A. MacLennan, of Saskatoon, Sask., who had served overseas as a nursing sister. "Kindred Units" was proposed by Mrs. J. B. Morison and replied to by Mrs. Gerald O'Grady for "The Winnipeg Rifles," Mrs. T. Moore for "The Winnipeg Grenadiers," and Mrs. N. R. Nagle for the "Winnipeg Light Infantry."

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

"The Ladies Auxiliary" was proposed by Mrs. B. T. Macfarlane and replied to by Mrs. M. A. J. Oswald. A delightful programme interspersed the addresses, the artists being Mrs. Amy Esau, Mrs. Jean Campbell, Mrs. J. N. Mundy, Mrs. A. D. McIntosh, Mrs. Wright, Misses Gladys Forrester, Nan Cameron, Eleanore Murray and Margaret Stewart. Mrs. John Troup expressed the thanks of those present to the artists. Mrs. Hugh Mackenzie was Mistress of Ceremonies and Mrs. R. Thomson, Secretary. The only man who dared the dangers of this Adamless Eden was Mr. William Watt, who was the piper for the evening.

Sunday, May 5th

It was a busy, colourful sight as the "Camerons," veterans and active, gathered on Memorial Boulevard for the parade to the First Presbyterian Church for Divine Service, surrounded by hundreds of friends and interested spectators. It was slightly cool but just right for marching; rain threatened but held off until the final "dismiss." Previous to the "fall-in" there were many further greetings of old comrades and friends.

The column formed up on the Hudson Bay Company's parking space at 2.15 P.M., moved off at 2.30 P.M. and proceeded via Memorial Boulevard, Portage Avenue and Canora Street to the Church. Colonel J. Y. Reid, E.D. (late Officer commanding 20th Infantry Brigade), ranking "Cameron" Officer, was in command and gave John Gow, the oldest "Cameron" present, the honour of marching by his side at the head of the parade.

Formation

Veterans:

Pipe Band—Pipe Major John Duke,	
Drum Major Malcolm McNair;	
25 pipers—16 drummers—6 buglers	49
16th Canadian Scottish—	
Lieut. William D. Mackie, D.C.M., in command	102
27th City of Winnipeg Battalion—	
Sergeant-Major R. Kent in command	12
43rd Camerons—	
Lt.-Col W. K. Chandlers, D.S.O., in command	185
Imperial and unattached Camerons—	
Lt.-Col. J. D. Sinclair, V.D., in command	55
"Old Contemptibles" (On invitation)—	
Mr. Hugh Morrison in command	20

First Battalion (Active):

Lt.-Col. R. Hunter Young in command.	
Pipe Band—Pipe-Major Donald McLeod.	
Drum Major W. C. Morrison.	
17 piper—15 drummers	34
Officers and Other Ranks	198

Cameron Cadet Battalion:

Lieut. T. Rutherford in command.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Pipe Band—Pipe Major—Colin Campbell.	
Drum Major John Ferguson.	
7 pipers—4 drummers	13
Officers and Other Ranks	115
Detachments from City Infantry Units:	
One Officer and 25 Other Ranks each.	
The Winnipeg Rifles	26
The Winnipeg Grenadiers	26
The Winnipeg Light Infantry	26

861

The following attended at the church:—

Brigadier J. Lindsay Gordon, D.F.C.,—District Officer Commanding M.D. 10.
 Colonel D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., V.D. (late C.O., Q.O.C.H. of C.)—Commanding 20th Infantry Brigade.
 Lt.-Colonel F. Logie Armstrong, O.B.E.—A.A. & Q.M.G., M.D. 10.
 Major R. J. Leach, M.C.—G.S.O. (1), M.D. 10.
 Major J. K. Bell, V.D.—Brigade Major.
 Captain D. T. Wright—Brigade Staff Captain.

On arrival at the church the column formed up first at the front for the unveiling of the 16th Canadian Scottish Arras Cross and then moved into the church. Both services were conducted by the Chaplain, Major Reverend W. Gordon Maclean, assisted by Rev. Canon Henry D. Martin, of St. George's Anglican Church.

The Cross was first erected on the Arras Front and dedicated in memory of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 16th Canadian Scottish who fell during the second battle of Arras and the attacks on the Hindenburg Line between September 2nd and October 2nd, 1918, at the Battles of the Scarpe, Drocourt-Queant Switch, Canal du Nord and Blecourt-Cuvillers. It was removed recently by the Imperial Graves Commission and forwarded to Winnipeg, and there placed in front of the First Presbyterian Church.

Lieut. William D. Mackie, D.C.M., President of the 16th Canadian Scottish Association, requested the First Presbyterian Church to accept the Cross and to become responsible for its preservation. Rev. Mr. Maclean formally accepted the responsibility on behalf of the congregation. Mrs. James Kay, widow of Regimental Sergeant-Major James Kay (W.O.1), M.C., D.C.M., M.M., (who died shortly after the armistice), then unveiled the Cross. "Last Post" was sounded by two buglers of the battalion, the "Lament" was played by Piper William Sutherland, followed by "Reveille" by the buglers. Lieut. W. C. Lowery placed a wreath and the Chaplain closed the service by prayer.

The column with relatives and friends filled the church to capacity and many could not gain admittance. The full church choir was in attendance and rendered appropriate music; the choirmaster and organist was Major (Doctor) Alex J. Swan, who was the original Medical Officer of the 43rd Battalion.

Opening his sermon the Chaplain voiced the congratulations of

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

the Regiment to Their Majesties, King George and Queen Mary, on the 25th anniversary of their ascension to the throne of the British Empire.

The sermon was built on three words: "Patriotism," "Imperialism," and "Militarism," "three great words in the language that apparently are now rather down at heel and out at elbow and struggle along in the shadows lest the mere sight of them should provoke the wrath of worthy men." The place these three formerly held was now occupied by a young lady in white called "The Spirit of Internationalism," a "stately lady who would be still more impressive if she were not at times unsure of her step, and at critical moments becomes dreadfully flurried and excited, and even runs amuk."

Man was a born fighter before he ever was a patriot. Fighting in the early times had been necessary to retain life. He fought for life and a place to live, and having secured that place, came to love it. That love, which he did not attempt to define, became love of country, "Patriotism."

The record of Imperialism, like that of Christianity itself, was not unblemished. Unspeakable things had been done in the name of both. Yet the old imperialism of Rome had accomplished wonderful things for Western Europe. It had fathered the New Imperialism, which was greater than the old. The New Imperialism aimed not at conquest for the sake of conquest, but at enlargement for the sake of man—"the enlargement of heart and mind and spirit, and it is inspired by a peace that issued from Galilee."

"Militarism is not the spirit of war but the spirit of the soldier. And the spirit of the soldier, I say in all sincerity, is identical with the spirit of the saint. Foolish people will pounce upon this statement and assume that I am trying to glorify the soldier as a saint, whereas I am trying to do exactly the opposite. Not every soldier is a saint, but every saint is a soldier, a 'militarist' for God's sake."

"The bounden duty of each one of us is to take an intelligent interest in everything that affects the well-being of the state, to study social questions, to support righteous movements, to devote our time and our abilities to further the common good. All of you, who have had the vision of a new Canada, a new Britain, and of a new Empire, let this be your resolve: 'If I forget thee, land of our fathers, let my right hand forget her cunning!'"

At the conclusion of the service the column reformed and returned via the original route; the District Officer Commanding took the salute at Memorial Boulevard. Thus ended the largest and most enthusiastic "Cameron" parade in the history of the Regiment aside from those of war-battalion days. A pleasing feature was the presence in the three bands of 52 pipers and 38 drummers, all "Camerons."

Monday, May 6th

During the morning a great concourse of citizens, officers and other ranks of the military forces, boy scouts and girl guides gathered at Provincial Legislative Buildings for the ceremonies in connection

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

with the King's Silver Jubilee. His Honour, W. J. Tupper, K.C., Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, presented King's Jubilee Medals to the following "Cameron" Officers:—

Colonel J. Y. Reid, E.D.
Colonel D. S. Mackay, O.B.E., V.D.
Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young.

2.00 P.M.—The 1st (Active) Battalion paraded to Minto Armoury for the afternoon events. Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young presented King's Jubilee Medals to:—

Major J. B. Morrison
Major J. G. Troup, M.C.
Major S. E. Masson
Captain A. S. McDonald
Lieut. A. Thomson
Pipe-Major Donald McLeod
A/R.S.M. J. M. Johnston
R.Q.M.S. A. P. Millar (W.O.2)

2.30 P.M.—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was received by a Guard-of-Honour, with the full pipe band, in command of Major S. J. D. Oswald with Lieut. J. M. Creighton. The Colours of the Regiment, with the battle honours newly emblazoned, were carried by Captain R. C. Huggard and Lieut. A. Thomson. His Honour was accompanied by his A.D.C., Lieut.-Colonel R. F. Bingham, V.D., Brigadier J. Lindsay Gordon, D.F.C., D.O.C., and Lieut.-Colonel F. Logie Armstrong, O.B.E., A.A. and Q.M.G.

2.45 to 5.30 P.M.—Demonstration and Sports.

Company Drill and Movements.
Signalling by flags and lamps.
Vickers and Lewis Machine Guns.
First Aid and Stretcher-bearers.
"Retreat" by the pipe band and buglers.

100-Yard Dash, Open—

1st—Piper W. J. McLeod; 2nd—Pte. F. Eadie; 3rd—O. C. Haywood.

100-Yard Dash, Officers—

1st—Major Hugh McKenzie; 2nd—Lieut. J. Aiken; 3rd—Lieut. J. Reid.

100-Yard Dash, Cadets, 14 years and under—

1st—H. Cowley; 2nd—D. Fullerton; 3rd—K. Rose.

100-Yard Dash, Sergeants—

1st—Sgt. J. Waterhouse; 2nd—Sgt. T. C. Weir; 3rd—Sgt. E. Moody.

100-Yard Dash, Veterans—

1st—Major H. McKenzie; 2nd—Pte. C. Melvin; 3rd—W. H. Sneth.

100-Yard Dash, Cadets, over 14 years—

1st—T. Kaye; 2nd—W. Morriss; 3rd—K. Bowes.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Sack Race—

1st—Piper W. J. McLeod; 2nd—Pter H. Kreger; 3rd—Sgt. B. Moody.

Inter-Company Relay Race—

1st—Pipe Band; 2nd—Headquarters Company.

Tug o' War, Cadets—

Won by "C" and "D" Companies combined.

Tug o' War, Open —

Won by "A" Company.

Football—5-A-Side

Finals reached by Winnipeg Light Infantry and "A" Company Cameron Team. Played off later and won by the Cameron Team. A pleasing feature of this competition was a team entered by the Regina party at the last moment. Although they did not win they made an excellent showing wearing every-day shoes on "ground" entirely new to them.

Fully 1,500 enthusiastic and interested spectators viewed the events of the afternoon from the main-floor sidelines and balcony of the large buildings.

8.30 P.M. to 1.00 A.M.—Royal Alexandra Hotel.

One of the most colourful events of the Jubilee week-end, and the final feature of the "Cameron" Celebration, was the Ball held in the Crystal Ballroom suite of the Royal Alexandra Hotel at which 760 attended. It was one of the most brilliant functions of the season.

The rooms were gaily decorated with flags, bunting and regimental insignia. The scarlet tunics, tartan plaids and kilts of the "Camerons," the various uniforms of representatives of the district headquarters staff and other units, the gowns of the ladies, all interspersed with the quieter dress of the veterans and friends with the glint of medals, brooches, badges, buckles, and buttons everywhere made a sight worthy of the most critical eye. A very fine orchestra dispensed lively and entrancing music and the skirl o' the pipes featured such a typical Highland gathering.

Before the dancing commenced, Lieut.-Colonel R. Hunter Young called on Brigadier-General J. Lindsay Gordon, D.F.C., to make the presentations of various trophies, cups, and prizes which had been competed for and won during the season. These were as follows:—

Canadians Infantry Association Efficiency of Personnel Trophy—

Won for 1934 by the Regiment.

The Hutchings Challenge Cup—

Awarded to the N.P.A.M. infantry battalions in M.D. No. 10 in the best state of organization and administration to facilitate quick and effective mobilization.

Won for 1934 by the Regiment.

The Rogers Cup—

For tactical efficiency.

Won for 1934 by the Regiment.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
WILLIAM GRASSIE, D.S.O.



COLONEL
C. W. PECK, V.C., D.S.O.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
H. M. URQUHART,
D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
W. K. CHANDLER, D.S.O.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

The Canadian Infantry Association (Vickers Machine Gun Competition)—

\$25.00 cash prize.

Won for 1934 by the Machine Gun Platoon (Lieut. D. D. Sweeting).

The Canadian Infantry Association (Lewis Gun Competition)—

\$25.00 cash prize.

Won for 1934 by "D" Company (Major J. G. Troup, M.C.).

The Cameron Trophy—Regimental—

For best shot at the regimental matches, 1934.

Won by Sgt. J. R. Newell.

Range Prizes in Connection With the Cameron Trophy—

200 yards—Shield—Won by Sgt. C. Kerr.

500 yards—Shield—Won by Cpl. J. Lillie.

600 yards—Shield—Won by Sgt. W. C. Maxwell.

Officers Special Match—

Shield—Won by Lieut. A. Thomson.

The Birks Trophy—

Company indoor rifle match—green shots.

Won for 1934 by Headquarters Company (Lieut. A. Thomson)

Shields in Connection With the Birks Trophy—

Won 2/Lieut. G. R. T. Drummond-Hay, Headquarters Company

Pte. H. McAmmond, "A" Company.

Sgt. J. S. Waterhouse, "B" Company.

Pte. A. Lethbridge, "D" Company.

The Pattinson Cup—

Best Company attendance.

Won for 1934 by "D" Company (Major J. G. Troup, M.C.)

A Number of Individual Cash Prizes In Connection With Several Rifle Matches

Brigadier Gordon also presented the following medals:—

Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal—

Pte. C. Melvin.

Canadian Efficiency Medal—

Sgt. D. Logan.

Cpt. G. H. Gates.

Brigadier Gordon sprang a pleasant surprise by presenting the Regiment, on behalf of Lieut-Colonel F. Logie Armstrong, O.B.E., A.A. and Q.M.G., with a copy of the Standing Orders of The Seventy-ninth Highlanders which had been in the possession of Lieut-Colonel Armstrong's family for 100 years. Lieut-Colonel R. Hunter Young made

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

suitable acknowledgement. These Standing Orders are dated Quebec, Lower Canada, 1st March, 1835, and were issued under a Regimental Order by Lieut.-Colonel Duncan McDougall, Commanding. The fly-leaf is inscribed as follows:

79th Highlanders
Sergt. William Sturrock, No. 50
G. J. Johnstone, Provincial Cavalry
John Edward Johnstone
Presented to
The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanderers of Canada
On the Occasion of Their Silver Jubilee
by

Lieutenant-Colonel F. Logie Armstrong,
A.A. and Q.M.G., Military District No. 10,
6th May, 1935.

Near the midnight hour a buffet supper was served in the Concert Hall from a long table nicely decorated with a profusion of spring flowers.

Amongst the many guests who graced the evening were Honourable Heather and Honourable Betty Baden-Powell, daughters of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, who were the guests of Colonel and Mrs. D. S. Mackay.

Thus ended the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Regiment with everybody well pleased and happy, the efforts of the members of the Celebration Committee well rewarded and all "Camerons" gratified.

33 St. Andrews Road,
Bedford,

17th April, 1935.

Dear Colonel Young,

The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of the Home Army send heartiest greetings to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada on their 25th Birthday and wish them very many happy returns of the day.

It is a very happy coincidence that that birthday should fall in the year of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King George V.

The Cameron Highlanders of Canada have taken part in many great events since they were raised on 1st February, 1910.

It must be a treasured memory to all of you, especially at this particular time, that the Camerons of Canada were represented at His Majesty's Coronation, in 1911, by a Detachment of 6 Officers and 57 Other Ranks. To the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders it has always been remembered with pride that the Detachment lived in their Barracks for a month, and paraded as their Ninth Company for the Coronation Ceremonies. These happenings took place soon after the Camerons of Canada became affiliated to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, and created a link between the two, which has remained unbroken ever since.

Then came the Great War. In the early part of it the Camerons of

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Canada began by sending contingents to the Canadian Scottish, and I am very glad to think that the son of the officer, Captain John Geddes, who commanded the first of these contingents, is now serving in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of the Home Army.

I greatly admire the patience and perseverance with which the Cameron Highlanders of Canada pursued their desire to be represented in the field by a complete Battalion, and I rejoice in the success of their efforts.

The fact that nearly 4,000 Camerons of all ranks served in the Cameron Highlanders of Canada and the Canadian Scottish, shows the magnitude of the task which they set themselves, and the fact that over 1,200 of them laid down their lives, shows that they bore a heavy share of the fighting. The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders are proud to know that the Roll of Honour of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada lies side by side with their own in the shrine in Edinburgh Castle.

With every good wish from myself,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) NEVILLE G. CAMERON,

Major-General,

Colonel The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Athenaeum,

551 South Hill Avenue,

Pasadena, Calif.,

April 27th, 1935

Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Young,

Commanding Queen's Own Camerons Highlanders of Canada.

Dear Colonel Young,

It is with the deepest regret that I have to confirm to you my previous advice that it will be impossible for me to be present at the reunion of the Camerons at Winnipeg from 4th to 6th May.

As you know it was my hope, which for a time seemed a reasonable one, that I could attend the re-union, but recent developments have upset my plans in that respect.

This disappointment I speak of is all the keener in my own case as I can pretty well remember most of the events which took place in the twenty-five years of history behind the Cameron Highlanders of Canada; and, most, if indeed not all, of the leaders we had during those years.

Looking back upon these men and these events I can say without any reservations that I count it the greatest privilege of my life to have been associated with them. These leaders were human, as all men are, but they were also soldiers and gentlemen; and they were heart and soul Camerons—which to all of us, I hope, implies a very high standard of manhood and of honour. Where I used the word events I include all kind of happenings, some important to us as members of the Cameron Regiment and to us only; and others which will hold a place of honour in the memory of Canadians so long as red blood runs in their veins. But, if their domestic events were and are primarily of interest to Camerons, we, I think, can take some satisfaction in the fact that they led to the organizing and building up of a Regiment which stood shoulder to shoulder with the best Regiments in our own land and in the old land and were accepted as compeers by all of them. Where I refer to the greater events I think Camerons should remember with a pride, not of the arrogant, but of the humble and thoughtful kind, that comrades of theirs were present at the attack on April 22nd, 1915, against the entrenched enemy, the first assault made by overseas troops against the Germany army, at all engagements subsequent to that date in which the Canadian Corps took part, and that on the fateful August 8th, 1918, the Cameron battalion advanced as the right of the British army to the capture of the most commanding tactical position on the battle-front of that morning.

These were no mean achievements, which, if they are little more than

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

exploits of glorious memory to the older members of the Regiment, will surely be an inspiration to the younger officers and men to do everything in their power to maintain the prestige of the Cameron Regiment.

I do hope you will have a most successful reunion, Colonel, and that it will be the means of giving fresh enthusiasm to the active battalion.

Will you please remember me with warmest regards to each and all of my old comrades, wishing them for me the best of luck.

Yours very sincerely,

(Sgr.) H. M. URQUHART,

Lieut.-Colonel.

"Hopewell,"

Sidney, B.C.

April 7th, 1935

Lt.-Col. R. H. Young,
O.C. Cameron Highlanders,
Winnipeg.

Dear Colonel Young,

I thank you very kindly for your invitation to attend the 25th Anniversary of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders on May 4-6th at Winnipeg. I can assure you that I sincerely appreciate the thoughtfulness in including me in your list of invited guests.

It goes without saying that, had it been possible, no function would have as many attractions for me as a meeting with my dear old comrades of your unit.

It is as impossible to exaggerate the fine, soldierly qualities of the several hundreds of Camerons, that at one time or another served with the 16th, as it is to hope to forget the genial and genuine hospitality that has been extended to me in Winnipeg during my brief visits since the war.

The people of Canada have been long in appreciating and some do not yet appreciate, the magnificent type of man that was our Canadian soldier. The Cameron Highlanders stand in the very front rank of those who served their country so well.

Many, many times did they advance under my command, and at my command into positions of the deadliest peril—always with cheerful obedience and the most loyal devotion. Many, many times have I been a personal witness to their courage and stamina; of their steadiness in attack; and of their fortitude in trench warfare, when the enemy artillery was blowing the world asunder. And many times has my heart swelled with pride as I led "the march of the Cameron men."

In short, there are not enough superlatives at my command to extol these wonderful men. I wish you to give them all my most sincere and enthusiastic affection.

I hope every one will have a good time. And I hope everyone will be good—not absurdly good, but reasonably so. Again thanking you, dear Colonel,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

(Sgd.) CY. PECK,

Colonel.

The Celebration at Toronto, Ont.

The 43rd Cameron Highlanders Association of Toronto arranged a Dinner for Saturday, May 4th, to coincide with the Smoker being held in Winnipeg. This was held at the Stoodleigh Hotel and some fifty gathered around the festive board; these were from Toronto, Hamilton, and other points in Ontario, with several from Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. Regrets of inability to attend were received from Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Sarnia, Woodstock, Guelph, Dundas, Clute, Blyth, Glanwaret, Riverside, Scotland and Toronto, in Ontario, and Marysville, Michigan.

Major W. L. Aiken, President of the Association, presided. Lt.-Col. J. H. Duthie (43rd) proposed the toast to His Majesty The King and read a copy of the cablegram received at Winnipeg from The King as Colonel-in-Chief. "Fallen Comrades" was proposed by Major L. M. Graham (43rd). "The British Empire" was proposed by Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson (179th) and responded to by Capt. F. S. Worthington, M.C. "The Camerons" was proposed by Sergt. Sam Kelly, M.M. (43rd) and responded to by Mr. W. J. Arnott (one of the pre-organization Scottish delegates) and Lieut. W. J. B. Fraser (16th). Reminiscences were given by Major D. J. H. Ferguson, M.C. (43rd), "The Good Old 43rd," and Major D. A. Galt, M.C. (43rd), "Machine Guns with Infantry." The guest speaker was Prof. Norman A. Mackenzie, M.A., LL.B., 85th Nova Scotia Highlanders, who spoke on "International Situation and Preparedness for Peace" and made a valuable contribution to the evening's programme. Further entertainment was given by Mr. P. F. MacLeod, Sergt. "Bob" Muckle, Lt.-Col. J. H. Duthie and Mr. Smith.

The success of the gathering was largely the result of the energy and enthusiasm of the President, and the capable support received from the Committee, consisting of Sergt. Sam Kelly, M.M., Lieut. William Davidson, Lieut. Leslie Simpson, T. L. Elliott, and also Mr. J. W. (Jock) Wallace.

Narrative of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada

By

Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. URQUHART, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.

NOTE—This narrative is embodied in the Historical Records of The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, Volume IV, Pages 1 to 40.

Contents

Early history; Selkirk Settlers, Winnipeg; 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada (1910); presentation of Colours; Coronation detachment at Aldershot (1911); training and organization; visits of Sir Ian Hamilton and Lochiel; declaration of war, 1914	63
Canadian enthusiasm; preparations; response; two selected companies join Canadian Scottish at Valcartier and 27th Battalion C.E.F.; both to United Kingdom (October); a complete Cameron unit (43rd Battalion C.E.F.) formed at Winnipeg	68
Subsequent raising and proceeding to the United Kingdom of the 174th and 174th Battalions C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada)	70
1915	
Canadian Scottish to France (February); St. Julien (April); the Orchard (May), Givency; Ploegsteert	71
1916	
43rd Battalion having joined the 9th Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division, in England, proceeds to France (February); to Ypres Salient; Canadian Scottish also to Ypres Salient (March); Maple Copse (June); to the Somme (September)	72
Regina Trench, Petit Miraumont (October); Vimy front	76
1917	
Vimy Ridge (April); Bethune district (August)	77
Ypres (October); Bellevue Spur; Lieutenant Shankland, D.C.M. wins V.C.; heavy casualties; Westrehem; reorganization; St. Emile	79
1918	
Les Brebis; German offensive; enemy aeroplane captured	81
Lens sector; training at Auchel and Bomy; Dodo Wood attack (August); Bouchoir; Fresnoy-les-Roye	83
Arras; Vis-en-Artois; Remy (August); Fontaine (September); Tilloy (October); Pronville; Armistice Day in Mons	88
1919	
Farewell to Belgium; Le Havre; Bramshott (February); embarkation at Liverpool; Winnipeg (March)	92
Retrospect	93

The Cameron Highlanders of Canada

THE Scottish race, restless by nature or necessity, has for centuries been impelled to wars and wanderings; but the impulse has never lessened the attachment which they bear to the land of their birth, and its traditions. What this loyalty has meant to the stability of the Empire cannot be fairly estimated, as the causes which contributed are too complex to permit of balanced judgment; yet it is a satisfaction to know that in a time of crisis, Scots, in large numbers, came from its further bounds, eager to take their place in the struggle which was to determine the supremacy of the British race.

The narrative of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada goes some way to bear out this statement. They, by birth or descent, were largely Scotland's sons in a country possessing strong Scottish ties; for Scots have headed and furthered Canada's great trading enterprises; her plains and forests were peopled by men exiled from Scotland's Glens; and near Winnipeg, the headquarters of the Cameron Highlanders of Canada, the trader and the exile both played an historic part.⁹

That old time history, perhaps, can have little direct connection with, or place in, such a condensed narrative as the present; but it is an interesting background; and when, on the departure of The Camerons from Winnipeg, for the theatre of war in the Autumn of 1914, it was recalled that just over one hundred years before a small band of their fellow countrymen—The Selkirk Settlers—had arrived at a spot a few miles distant in the midst of what was then a great wilderness, it gave a vivid impression of the surprises wrought by time. The possibility of the changes which their descendants would witness could hardly have occurred to those immigrants, or to the official of the trading Company, who, determined on their extermination, declared "Nothing but the complete downfall of the Colony, by fair means or foul, will satisfy some—a most desirable object, if it can be effected." (a) But the expansion of Empire moulded events in its own way, and on the sparsely populated plains, where at the beginning of the 19th Century the men of the Hudson's Bay Company strove, in deeds of bloodshed and cruelty buried in oblivion, against the Highlanders, Orkney men and "Habitants" of the North West Trading Company, and which were spoken of, even past the middle of the same century, as "Vast solitudes awaiting in silence the footfall of the future," (b) there now stands a centre of teeming population, from which were drawn the men who formed the Regiment whose career we are about to describe.

The development of Winnipeg properly commenced when The Canadian Pacific Railway opened up the prairie provinces, but the ups and downs of a new country left little time to its people for military effort

(a) Macbeth's History.
(b) "The Great Lone Land"—Sir William Butler.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

beyond what the necessities of the situation demanded. Volunteer Forces had to be raised to assist in stamping out the Riel Rebellion; but that purpose having been served, men again lost interest in soldiering, and there was practically little revival until the South African War of 1899-1902. On the return of the Canadian Contingents from South Africa a few enthusiasts became active, and with the support of the Permanent Garrison and School of Instruction at Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg, they compelled a more vigorous military policy. Consequent upon this the old desire to have a Highland Regiment in a city where Scots were so strongly represented was revived, and at last in 1908-1909, combined attempts by the different Scottish Societies were made to secure the necessary financial support, and the consent of suitable gentlemen to act as officers. During the visit of the late Lord Strathcona to Winnipeg in the autumn of 1909, he was asked and consented to become, Honorary Colonel of the new Regiment should it be formed; at the same time as an appreciation of the enthusiastic way in which Mr. D. C. Cameron, (a), President of the St. Andrew's Society, was supporting the project it was suggested that the new unit be called The Cameron Highlanders of Canada; and the numeral 79 being vacant in the Canadian Militia List, permission was asked and granted for such to designate the Regiment.

On the 1st February, 1910, The 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada were gazetted; the report then submitted of the Committee, charged with the conduct of negotiations to this end, proceeds, "The work has been arduous, and for many months members of the Committee were almost in despair . . . but after a long and weary struggle a Highland Regiment has been secured for Winnipeg." It was further announced that an Armoury and Headquarters had been granted at the old Dominion Land Offices, Main Street, Winnipeg; that a Pipe Band of eight Pipers and 3 Drummers, under Pipe-Major Duke, had been formed; the entire Brass Band—40 pieces—of the 18th Mounted Infantry had been taken over; and that active steps had been taken to secure affiliation with "The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders." On 4th March, 1910, Militia Orders issued at Ottawa published the names of the officers gazetted to the new Regiment, Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, Commanding, and thus begins their official career.

How much depended on the spirit with which the original officers of the Camerons, approached the task of organization could hardly have been realized in 1910; and it is therefore very satisfying to read in the studied utterances, of the two gentlemen (b) who were privileged to command up to the outbreak of war in 1914 a true grasp of sound principles. By many—within and without—the Militia Force of Canada was not at that time taken seriously; and public opinion probably considered it a harmless outlet for the superabundant energy of those few who either took a delight in the "fuss and feathers" of military

(a) The late Sir Douglas C. Cameron.

(b) Lt.-Cols. R. M. Thomson and J. A. Cantlie, Jr. The former was killed in action on the 8th October, 1916; the latter, through the ravages of a fatal disease was debared from Overseas Service, but by a splendid devotion to duty, raising and training reinforcements in Winnipeg, courted suffering and hastened death.



HONORARY MAJOR AND PAYMASTER
JOHN MCEACHERN, V.D.



HONORARY MAJOR AND CHAPLAIN
REVEREND C. W. GORDON
D.D., LL.D., V.D.



HONORARY MAJOR AND QUARTERMASTER
HUGH MACKENZIE



LIEUTENANT
MATTHEW HUTCHISON

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

display, or with whom a useless fad had become an obsession. Indeed, it was probably only because of its harmlessness that the force was tolerated at all. This being the case it is difficult to speak too highly of the self-sacrifice of a Commanding Officer whom under such circumstances, devoted himself seriously to the task of training his officers and men; and gave unstintingly, not only his time, but his means, to the service of the Regiment.

During the months of January, February and March, 1910, the prospective officers and N.C.O.'s attended classes of instruction at Fort Osborne Barracks. Those closed on the 30th March, and Col. Steele (a), in addressing the class on that date, said, "The new Regiment, The 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada, will soon be mustered on Parade, and I have no doubt, they will seek to attain to the high standard for which the 'Old' Camerons have always been famous." By May of that same year the Regiment had been organized and equipped, and speaking to the Officers on the 16th June, Col. Steele again referred to the standard of efficiency he looked for in the following terms, "You are expected," he told them, "to be soldiers, not only in name but in actual fact, and to carry out your military training in peace, as far as possible, as if you were under Active Service conditions." Those were high standards, and an incentive to keen endeavor.

Throughout the Summer months drills and route marches were held; but the first important public function in which the unit took part was on the 9th October, when Mrs. D. C. Cameron presented the Colours to the Regiment which General Sir Ian Hamilton and Lt.-General Sir Spencer Ewart had personally taken care to see were correct in every detail. The ceremony took place on the Manitoba University Campus, during the early evening in the quiet mellow light which ended a glorious day of Indian Summer, the troops being in the Review Order Dress of the Camerons. Ten thousand spectators stood round the grounds or crowded points of vantage on the University Buildings, and witnessed a Parade, which for martial dignity was unique in Western Canada, and to those who took part very impressive. Lt.-Col. Thomson, in receiving them, said, "The Camerons are determined to be worthy of the Colours that Mrs. Cameron has just presented. They differed from those borne by the 79th of the Imperial Army, in that they did not bear the names of battles of glorious memory; but if the time should come when the new 79th were called to battle, they would try to do not less worthily than the 'Old'." So with inspiration from word and emblem the Regiment continued its career.

What was now of importance was the policy to be pursued. Already a close affiliation with the parent Regiment had been sought, and the decision of Lt.-Col. Thomson to send, at his own expense, a special contingent of six officers and fifty-five other ranks to be present at the Coronation of King George the Fifth in June 1911, and whilst in England to be quartered with the Q.O.C.H. was an act of policy which by a personal bond did much to confirm the affiliation. The Corona-

(a) District Officer Commanding; Latterly Maj.-Gen. Sir S. B. Steele, died in England.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

nation detachment was carefully chosen, having particular regard to size and efficiency; they were drilled once a week during the months of April and May, 1911, only those who attended regularly being considered. They left Winnipeg for England on the evening of May 30th, and were escorted from the Drill Hall to the Railway Station by the entire Regiment, including the Pipe and Brass Bands, receiving such an ovation from the crowds who lined the streets, as if they were marching to Active Service in the field.

During the stay in England for approximately one month, the detachment were attached to The 1st Battalion of the Camerons at Aldershot, receiving from the parent Regiment the unbounded hospitality which it is the pride of Highlanders to extend to men whom they desire to treat as Comrades in Arms, and whom they expect to aspire to the deeds which have given the Old Regiment such a glorious fighting tradition. To the officers of The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, and especially Sir Spencer Ewart, their Canadian comrades owe a deep debt of gratitude for the keen interest shown in the progress of the Overseas Battalion, and it is true to say that they spared no trouble to show their solicitude for its welfare. On the other hand, the feelings which the 79th, in Winnipeg, bore towards the "Old" Cameron officers, were those of genuine appreciation, and were aptly expressed by Lt.-Col. J. A. Cantlie, speaking at a Regimental function, "It is appropriate," Col. Cantlie said in proposing the toast to 'The Friends' of the Regiment', "that I should refer to the parent Regiment, the members of which have proved themselves such good friends of ours. It was with great diffidence, when we organized, that we took to ourselves the number and name of 'The 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada,' but the manner in which we have been made to feel ourselves part and parcel of the celebrated Cameron Regiment, has been not a case of mere Regimental Affiliation, but we know, that whenever or wherever we meet a Cameron Highlander, as many officers of this Regiment have already done, we meet a friend of the Regiment."

During the years 1911-12-13-14, customary training was carried out in Winnipeg, and starting in 1912, the Regiment went, each June, to Sewell Camp (a), for its Field Training. Pursuing a policy of thoroughness, equipment was brought up to date in every particular possible for manoeuvres at Sewell, the battalion went in Field Kit, as laid down for the Line Battalions of the Camerons; and as indicating how efficiently this policy was carried out, the Camerons in August 1914 were the only contingent which marched into the concentration camp at Valcartier equipped, in essential details, as they went to France in February of the following year. The Pipe Band—to which a Pipe Banner had been presented by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders—had reached a strength of 18 pipers; the Brass Band had increased to 45 pieces, and Bandmaster Cocking, late of the 2nd Royal Warwickshire Regiment, had been brought from England, and appointed Bandmaster.

There were also difficulties of organization to overcome, for Militia

(a) 130 miles west of Winnipeg. It is now called Camp Hughes.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Units—beyond instructional cadre officers and N.C.O.'s who were attached during the training periods—had no permanent Force establishment. Efficiency cannot be obtained on such a basis; therefore, the earned "per capita" grant of all ranks was placed to Regimental Funds, and in addition to disbursements from same for articles of equipment not "on issue," it was possible to secure the appointment of a paid Adjutant, Capt. Hugh J. Davidson, who had seen much service with the Imperials. On 15th January, 1913, Staff Sergeant Dunnet, a Queen's Own Cameron Highlander who had seen 21 years service, came from Scotland, was appointed Orderly Room Sergeant, and routine was placed on such a satisfactory footing as gained the Cameron orderly room, in Winnipeg and in the Field, the highest commendation. By these means it was hoped to secure a good Regiment, and they fulfill the spirit of Lieut.-Col. Thomson's (a) address to the officers in 1911, when he stated, "We have a small part to fill in the defence of the Empire, but we are determined to do that small part well . . . I, personally, have tried to do my best . . . The present is a critical time in the History of Canada—she is forging ahead, and rapidly reaching the status of nationhood. We must go rightly, and let us not deceive ourselves, thinking we are as good as we can be, or that we have learned everything. The Empire needs us, and it should be the aim of every individual to perfect himself for Active Service in the Field."

In 1913 and the beginning of 1914 the closeness of the affiliation of the new Battalion with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders was evidenced in a marked way; at Sewell Camp held during the former year, General Sir Ian Hamilton, who was then Inspector General of Overseas Forces, on a visit to Canada, sent for the Cameron officers and conveyed to them personally the good wishes of the officers of The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. During the Fall of 1913 Lt.-Col. D. W. Cameron of Lochiel visited Winnipeg, inspected the Cameron Battalion, was entertained to dinner by the officers, and in the course of a speech made use of the following words: "Our young blood is all leaving the Old Land, and coming out to the New Country. I see them here . . . this means, that in the event of the necessity arising for recruiting up to war strength, we might have to draw upon you, 'The 5th Battalion,'" and, when on February 4th, 1914, an autographed photograph of His Majesty King George the Fifth, Colonel-in-Chief of the Camerons, was presented to the Regiment, and Lt.-Col. Cantlie was able to announce that "The 79th Cameron Highlanders of Canada" had been accepted as the 5th Battalion, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, it seemed as if the Clan spirit had finally succeeded in establishing a significant Empire Comradeship.

The spring of 1914 brought its usual quota of parades; June saw the Camerons amongst the bent grass on the sandy plains and hillocks of Sewell, fighting strenuous manoeuvre battles; July saw them back in Winnipeg, hoping to forget military matters for a season; and then, on that hot evening of Monday, August 4th, when the city longed for the

(a) Lieut.-Col. R. M. Thomson relinquished the Command in favour of Lieut.-Col. J. A. Cantlie in the Autumn of 1912.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

coolness of the neighboring lakes, the storm burst, to brace or stupify—Britain had entered the Great War.

When Britain declared War in August, 1914, the force of patriotic feeling in Canada made it inevitable that the Dominions would send a force to the help of the Mother Country; an intense indignation had been stirred by Germany's arbitrary actions, and when, on August 5th, orders were issued from Ottawa for the enlistment of a Division for Overseas Service, Militia Headquarters were able to announce (a) that the offers already received from Volunteers totalled two or three times the number required. With such a reserve, ensuring practically two men in the Depots for one in the Field, the military situation would seem to have been a comparatively simple one; for Canada possessed at the time a Militia Force (b) based on a Territorial System, which provided the necessary organization for the mobilizing of an Expeditionary Force of one Division, and retaining to each unit its Territorial identity; a principle which history and experience confirm as important. But this was not done.

No doubt, the Militia Authorities had reasons for ignoring existing machinery, and at the time they may possibly have seemed good ones; but in view of later events, it does seem a pity that in the maze of opinions judgment became obscured, and they did not give ear to what after all was a first principle, and recognize Territorial identity in the raising of the original Canadian Expeditionary Force. It is not a desire for special pleading which prompts this expression, but the knowledge that throughout the war, and afterwards, this disregard of the ordinary human ties has been baneful in its effects.

After the departure of the First Division, a Second Division was formed and an effort made to place it on a Territorial basis, i.e.—Composite Battalions designated by numbers were organized from Militia units in particular Military Districts, each unit furnishing a Company—but this plan proved unsatisfactory, and in 1917 Regiments took the names of Provinces, or part of Provinces, with Battalions in the Field, and Depots in England and Canada.

To do justice to the situation, all of this must be borne in mind, for the "loose" talk of Canada's civilian army gives the impression that this force was produced out of nothing; whereas there were actually in existence, units—and the Camerons formed one of them—which strove to keep alive military spirit and tradition; they gave the facilities for certain officers and N.C.O.'s to reach a fair state of efficiency, and were the foundations upon which the Canadian Corps was built. True, most of them were stirred into such a hotch-potch as made it extremely difficult to distinguish the ingredients, but a few clung tenaciously to their identity, and in the end had their reward.

As far as Winnipeg and the Camerons were concerned, they shared

(a) Official Press Communique.

(b) There were, on paper, 36 Cavalry Regiments, 39 Field Batteries, 110 Infantry Battalions, and a complement of Garrison Artillery Companies, Field Engineers, A.S.C.s and Medical Details. They were grouped into Military Districts and Divisional areas.—vide, Army Quarterly, July, 1921.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

in the enthusiasm which moved all parts of the Empire in the early days of August, 1914. The climax was on the evening of August 6th when the Regiment, 497 strong, accompanied by both bands, marched through Winnipeg and St. Boniface, the streets being thronged with thousands of citizens. At the conclusion of the parade over 1,000 men from the Regiment and civilian volunteers handed in their names for Active Service and there was the keenest disappointment when they could not be promised a place in the force. But, for the units of the Canadian Militia, those were perplexing times. The only definite "news"—the word is used advisedly as communications were passing direct between Militia Headquarters, Ottawa, and officers commanding units as well as through District Office, those, in many instances, contradicting each other—was that a division would be sent Overseas, and that it would be composed of volunteers. From this obscurity there emerged the order that a stated number of Militia units were to supply a double company, or approximately 250 officers and men; but certain unit commanders who had offered their complete battalions so persistently pressed the matter, that Ottawa finally agreed to permit them to proceed Overseas as a unit, retaining their buttons and badges.

Lt.-Col. Cantlie placed the Cameron Battalion at the disposal of Militia Headquarters for Overseas Service, but was informed that only a detachment of 250, all ranks, would be accepted. This was taken as an order, and as it was possible to equip in detail such a number, further volunteers were refused. Then came the very important question of what battalion the Cameron company was to form part; would they be allowed to retain their identity? Who was to become Commanding Officer of the composite battalion? and other points which were most important. The situation was so unique that nobody knew what to do beyond negotiating with the other Highland units who presumably were in the same position; but when the original Cameron company, of 7 officers and 250 other ranks, under Command of Captain John Geddes, left Winnipeg for the concentration camp at Valcartier, on Sunday, August 23rd, 1914, it was quite uncertain as to what battalion they would be placed in beyond the possibility of being grouped with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, Vancouver, or the 48th Highlanders, Toronto. Ultimately they became part of the Canadian Scottish, a composite Highland Battalion, made up of detachments from the Seaforths, Vancouver; The Gordons, Victoria; The Argyle and Sutherlands Highlanders, Hamilton; and The Camerons, Winnipeg. They left Quebec for England on the 30th September, 1914, and after spending the Winter of 1914-15 on Salisbury Plains arrived in France on the 15th February, 1915. So did The Cameron Highlanders of Canada enter upon their career in the Field.

Immediately on departure of the First Contingent the Camerons recruited up to 1,000 strong, and in October, 1914, a Second Contingent, of 10 officers and 250 other ranks, under Command of Major D. S. Mackay, was sent Overseas with the 27th Battalion, C.E.F. On the 18th December, 1914, the 43rd Battalion, C.E.F. (The Cameron Highlanders of Canada), a complete Cameron Battalion, was organized under

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Command of Lt.-Col. R. M. Thomson, and after training in Winnipeg during the Winter of 1914-15, sailed from Montreal for England on 1st June, 1915, with a strength of 39 officers and 1,020 other ranks. The latter was a splendid battalion, well disciplined and possessed of magnificent physique; but this did not save them, and in July, 1915, 400 of the men were taken as reinforcements for The Canadian Scottish, and it seemed probable that the 43rd would remain in England, as a reinforcing station. All Camerons will realize the state of feeling which this decision produced, for was it not about eight months later that the 4th Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders met their fate?

Lt.-Col. Cantlie and the Winnipeg officers, however, still refused to accept it as a fact that The Cameron Highlanders of Canada would not be represented in the Field by a complete battalion. They set to work organizing drafts, and by December, 1915, the 43rd Battalion, in England, was brought up to a strength of 1,250. Again they were called upon to furnish a draft of 225 men to The Canadian Scottish, but Winnipeg undertook to replace at once any deficiencies and provide reinforcements if the authorities sent the Battalion to France. On this understanding the 43rd were placed in the 9th Brigade of the 3rd Canadian Division, and proceeded to the theatre of war as a unit on February 21, 1916. The desire of all Camerons was at last accomplished.

In January, 1916, the 179th Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) was formed under Command of Lt.-Col. J. A. Cantlie who at a later date handed them over to Lt.-Col. J. Y. Reid. They trained at Winnipeg and Camp Hughes during the Spring and Summer of that year, proceeded Overseas on 26th September, 1916, with a strength of 30 officers and 924 other ranks, and on arrival in England, were absorbed into the 14th Manitoba Reserve Depot, furnishing drafts to The Canadian Scottish and The Cameron Highlanders of Canada in the Field.

In May, 1916, the 174th Battalion, C.E.F. (Cameron Highlanders of Canada), was formed under Command of Lt.-Col. H. F. Osler, promoted from second in Command, 43rd Canadian Battalion. They were retained in Winnipeg for training and garrison duty until 22nd April, 1917, when they also proceeded Overseas, with a strength of 13 officers and 300 other ranks, and were disposed of in a similar fashion to the 179th Battalion.

Between that time and the expiry of the voluntary enlistment period, further drafts were organized and despatched, until ultimately, The Cameron Highlanders of Canada, through their organization, had sent forward 3,891 all ranks who served in France with The Canadian Scottish and the 43rd Canadian Battalion, The Cameron Highlanders of Canada, so that it is with those two battalions the War History of The Cameron Highlanders of Canada is intimately concerned. (a)

(a) A few men were sent to other C.E.F. Battalions, but these drafts were small.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

1915

The record of The Canadian Scottish is an epitome of the doings of the Canadians in France, from February, 1915, until the conclusion of the war, as they were present at every major operation of the First Canadian Division, and while reference can be made to the two principal actions they took part in before the arrival of the 43rd Canadian Battalion in France, thereafter their position in operations can only be incidentally mentioned. Those two were, the attack on the Wood of St. Julien on the night of 22nd/23rd April, 1915, after the Germans had launched their first gas attack, and the capture of the Orchard near Festubert, on the 18th/20th May, 1915. The former occasion was a critical time for the Allied cause; the line had given way on a frontage of 8,000 yards, and it was feared that the introduction of the new weapon of offence, without any means of protection against it, would undermine morale. The gas cloud came over at 5 p.m. on the 22nd, The Canadian Scottish being at the time in Divisional Reserve, South of the Canal in Ypres and its Westerly outskirts. They, together with the 10th Canadian Infantry Battalion, were placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. 3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade, which formation was then holding the exposed flank, and at midnight of 22nd/23rd April, the two battalions successfully charged the Wood, which formed an important point in the new German line. The importance of this counter stroke in confusing the enemy (a), and establishing a base on which the British and French pivoted a defence, was such as to call for remark even from Marshall Foch (b) but it was at a very heavy cost to both battalions. The Cameron Company of the 16th lost 3 officers killed and 1 wounded, while the casualties in other ranks were correspondingly high. The remnants of the battalion held their advanced position until the morning of the 24th April, when they were relieved, and from that date until the 4th of May they were moved backwards and forwards round the Salient, North of the Canal, as the situation required. It was a trying ordeal for fresh troops, and one which tested their courage and endurance to almost the breaking point.

From the Salient the Battalion was moved to Steenwercke, rested there for nine days, marched Southwards, and from the 17th to the 21st of May were engaged at Festubert. Whilst a reconnoitering party of Cameron officers from the 16th were going forward on the afternoon of the 17th they met the officers of the 4th Battalion of the Camerons, who told the former that the 4th were going to attack that same

(a) The German Commandant, who was captured by the 16th Battalion on the night of 22nd/23rd April, was of the opinion that they had been attacked by a Highland Brigade, stating that the Germans had heard the men who were attacking calling out the names of different Highland units; his final comment, in broken English, being, "If we knew, this, one battalion, we come through." vide, "The Canadian Scottish History."

(b) Speaking in London on 2nd July, 1919, he spontaneously referred to the charge as an outstanding event. Marshal Foch, in April, 1915, was in Command of the Northern group of French Armies with Headquarters at Cassel.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

night (a); they did and the consequences of that fight are only too well known. About 1 P.M. of the 18th, whilst leading their Battalion to the Assembly position, those same 16th officers met the 2nd in Command of the 4th Battalion, who related what had happened the previous night, sadly using those words, "I suppose you are going to have a try where we met our fate." The attack of the Canadians, which took place between 4 and 5 P.M. the same afternoon was more to the left than that of the Camerons, and directed against what was afterwards known as the Canadian Orchard. The operation on the 18th—the Canadian Camerons were attacking from a flank—fell short of the objective by some 200 yards, the attacking troops dug in, and the Orchard was not finally captured until 7 P.M. on the 20th May.

Following Festubert, the Battalion was engaged at Givenchy Lez La Basse, until the end of June, 1915, when they proceeded to the Ploegsteert area, and held trenches there until March, 1916, being reinforced in the interval by drafts totalling 632 all ranks from the 43rd Canadian Battalion. During the latter month, they were ordered North to the Ypres Salient, and there held trenches in Sanctuary Wood, Tortop, Mount Sorrel, Hill 60, and The Bluff—unhealthy spots known to almost every Cameron—and it was during this period that the complete Canadian Cameron Battalion arrived, and had their first contact with the enemy in an area dreaded more than any other by every fighting unit of the Expeditionary Forces.

1916

The 43rd disembarked at Le Havre at 9 A.M. on the 22nd February, 1916, proceeded to a rest camp; left there at midnight February 22nd/23rd and entrained; arrived at Godewaersvelde 8 P.M. of the 23rd, and went into billets at Eecke, a village, by road some two and a half miles West of Godewaersvelde. Their period of instruction, (8 days), in trench warfare was carried out with the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade, in the "C" trenches East of Wulverghem; and on the night March 28th/29th they relieved the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in trenches running through and to the left of Sanctuary Wood, the relief being completed by 3.30 A.M. of the 29th, a wet stormy morning,

Between that date and the end of May they undertook the usual duties which trench warfare entails; went through the wretchedness and suffered the casualties incurred by front line work in the Salient; had tours of Brigade support or Reserve, in Zillebeke Bund, Railway Dug-outs, Chateau Belge, or went into Divisional Reserve in the various camps, lettered according to the alphabet, in what served as the Divisional "Rest" area. "Rest" is hardly an accurate word, for the nightly

(a) The incident is referred to, in The Canadian Scottish History, as follows. "This attack proved a desperate one for the Camerons. Then it was, that in a charge which carried them far into the enemy's defences, the 4th Battalion met with such losses, as led to the unit being broken up. When the 16th Battalion, on the subsequent days, went over the ground, the Cameron dead were found in groups, and some of their wounded, who had been lying out for nine days, were rescued. One man, shot through the lung and in the last stage of exhaustion, was found and brought in by a Canadian Cameron, who had been a school-fellow of his at Lochmaddy.



THE 16TH (CANADIAN SCOTTISH) RETURNING
FROM ST. JULIEN APRIL 1918



THE 16TH (CANADIAN
SCOTTISH) ARRAS CROSS



THE 43RD (CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA) IN FRANCE



THE 179TH (CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA) IN WINNIPEG

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

working parties, supplied during those tours for the purposes of digging trenches for buried cable, or repairing the defences in the support area, could scarcely be termed restful in the neighborhood of Ypres, where the approaches were constantly shelled, and the enemy soon observed new digging, ranged on it, and made the tasks most uncomfortable.

When the Battalion was at Camp "D," on June 2nd, the enemy launched their attack against the 3rd Canadian Division front, from Mount Sorrel Northwards to Hooze, the 8th and 7th Canadian Infantry Brigades (right to left) being in the line. This attack was successful in driving the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade from their positions on Mount Sorrel and Tortop; the Germans came through Armagh Wood, along Observatory Ridge as far as Rudkin House, to a depth of approximately 1,200 yards; gained the last dominating positions overlooking the town of Ypres, and exposed the left flank of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade, and the right flank of the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade (a). The Major-General, 3rd Canadian Division, and the Brigade Commander, 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade, who were visiting the front line when the hostile artillery bombardment commenced, were both missing (b), and during the morning of 2nd June it was feared that the situation was critical, and that the Germans, to impede the preparations for the offensive they knew the British were about to undertake further South, were making a determined attack to drive us from the Salient.

At 10 A.M. the 43rd were ordered to "Stand to," and during the whole of that warm, sunny day, they waited anxiously for the call, which they felt would bring them into their first engagement with the enemy. At 6.20 P.M. they moved to Chateau Belge, and at 2 A.M., on the 3rd, were ordered still further forward to Zillebeke Bund. Canadian Corps Headquarters, however, had decided that the 3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade would be used for the counter stroke. The latter were in the Corps Reserve area, adjacent to Poperinghe, and were rushed up during the early hours of the morning of the 3rd June, with the intention of attacking before dawn, but arrangements miscarried, and it was well on to 7 A.M. before the 14th and 15th Battalions, of the 3rd Brigade, went forward. The operation failed, the Germans remaining in possession of the high ground.

Throughout the day (the 3rd) there were many anxious moments; the 14th and 15th were scattered, somewhere along Observatory Ridge toward Maple Copse; the 13th and 16th Battalions were lying in Reserve South of the Etang de Zillebeke; the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade Reserves were in the same area, and also the 43rd Battalion which were in the Promenade Dugouts. Thus, within 2,000 yards of the enemy's lines, under direct observation from Mount Sorrel and Tortop were those thousands of troops, squeezed in a circumscribed area not more

(a) The right flank of this Brigade was then in the R line, its last entrenchment.

(b) Major General Mercer was killed. Brigadier-General V. Williams was wounded and taken prisoner of war.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

than 1,000 yards in depth. But the enemy interfered very little (a); his artillery, we now know, had been withdrawn elsewhere, and so a big slaughter was avoided.

At midnight 3rd/4th, the 43rd were moved from Promenade Dug-out to Zillebeke Village, coming under command of the G.O.C. (b) 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade, and were ordered to clear Maple Copse and establish a line East of same. The task was successfully accomplished. The enemy attacked their positions on the 4th of June, but were easily repulsed; and from then until the 8th it was a matter of holding the line, amongst battered trenches and the mangled dead of the 7th and 8th Canadian Infantry Brigades. The greater part of the lost territory was finally recaptured on the 13th June, in a counter attack by the 13th Battalion (Royal Highlanders of Canada), and the 16th Battalion, the situation being thus cleared up.

The opening of the Somme Battle kept the enemy busy with men and guns elsewhere, so that the remainder of the 43rd's stay in the Ypres area was uneventful, and while, further south, thousands were engaged in conflict, the local intelligence and situation reports contained little beyond such items as:

"Men seen wearing spiked helmets in the front line"; "Pigeon observed flying East over Mount Sorrel"; "Three enemy balloons up"; "Wind South; Weather dull; Gas alert cancelled"; and the similar little nothings which went to satisfy the giant who roused himself somewhere in the rear areas, when the strife degenerated to peace war. On the 24th of August the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieved the 43rd and the latter moved out by stages to Steenvoorde—a village about eighteen miles behind the front line—where they trained until the 6th of September.

The 1st and 2nd Canadian Divisions had already moved South to the Somme, and it was quite understood that the fourteen days spent by the 43rd at Steenvoorde were preliminary to the 3rd Canadian Division, of which they were part, following the others. The Battalion was constantly practised in manoeuvres, absorbing such tactical lessons as the progress of the Somme Battle to that date had taught, and paying much attention to co-operation with aeroplane contact patrols. The final order to move was received on the 4th of September, and on the 6th of September the Transport left by road for Arques, the remainder of the Battalion marching from Steenvoorde at 1 A.M. of the 7th. The route of the latter led them through the town of Cassel, perched up on its steep hill overlooking on every side the darkened plain below,

(a) According to maps captured in the Canadian counter attack of 13th of June, the German operation on the 2nd of June had a strictly limited objective, which they gained.

(b) Major-General Sir Archibald Cameron Macdonnell, K.C.B. General Macdonnell tells of the meeting between himself and Lieut. Colonel R. Macdonald Thomson (O.C. 43rd) in the following interesting way: "Lieut.-Col Thomson came into my cubicle in the ramparts and reported. I said, 'You thoroughly understand your orders.' He replied, 'Yes, General.' 'Well,' I answered, 'Old friend, you'll just go in and clear Maple Copse completely with the bayonet to the old Highland cry. 'We'll hae nane but Hielan' Bonnets here,' and keep bearing to your left until you join hands with the 42nd Highlanders, and when you do, make sure of the touch.' He grasped my hand and left in high spirits, repeating the slogan as he went."

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

thence to Bavinchove, where they arrived shortly before break of day, and embussed on a convoy of motor lorries which conveyed them to Arques, on the outskirts of which town, close to the Forest of Clairmarais. They arrived at 5.45 A.M. of the 7th September, a sharp, fresh Autumn morning, the subdued tints of the forest showing up in all their autumnal glory.

The troops train left Arques at 9.20 A.M., travelling by devious ways to Auxi le Chateau, a town between 30 and 40 miles South by direct route, but did not reach its destination until 7.30 P.M. The Battalion was now in a quiet and fertile countryside which gave little indication of the battlefield; the men were in excellent fettle, as added to the lengthy training in England they had the experience of contact with the enemy at a cost of not many casualties, and they were eager to give an account of themselves in the great offensive, which at that time was looked upon as a decisive stroke towards an early victory. It is well that fate forbears on those occasions to reveal her designs, and that men who then for the last time rested or marched in the quiet and beauty of the French uplands and valleys had no forebodings as to the tragedy ahead.

By the 14th September the Battalion, after a journey Eastwards through Pernois, Contay and Vadencourt, along the road which was the "Via Dolorosa" of so many thousands during the summer and autumn of 1916, reached the outskirts of Albert, and lay on the Brickfields—a barren, sticky plain which had little enough to do with bricks. On the 15th they moved to Usna Hill; on the 16th through La Boisselle to the Chalk Pits, a position well into the captured territory, and on the night 18th-19th relieved the 9th Lancashire Fusiliers in a line skirting the road running North West from Courcellette to Mouquet Farm. It was a wet, dark night, no landmarks could be seen; the troops had to plod over broken wire, battered trenches and shell-torn ground, and in the confusion some platoons lost their way, so that it was 7 A.M. of the 19th before the relief was completed and the 43rd had taken their place in the Front Line of the Somme Battle.

The struggle had by that date become one of attrition, when the Allies by sheer weight of metal and repeated "Limited Objective" attacks endeavored to destroy the enemy's morale, but despite desperate efforts the Thiepval stronghold on the left of the British battlefront still held out, and it was in attempts to reach the valley of the Ancre to the West, or rear, of this fortification, so as to render its position untenable, that the 43rd Battalion subsequently took part.

During the day of the 19th, orders were received to attack with one company, at 4 A.M. on the 20th, a part of the Zollerngraben Trench, and at the time stated the operation was carried out. The objective was gained and held against counter attacks until 7 A.M. but at the latter hour the enemy again came forward under a barrage and inflicted severe losses (60 killed and 81 wounded), the few survivors being compelled to fall back to their original position.

On the 22nd the Battalion was relieved, and went back into support at the Chalk Pits; from there, moved to the Brickfields; thence

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

passed to the rear areas; moved forward again; had a short tour of two days in the front line; were relieved on the 5th October, and on the night 7th/8th October went forward to an assembly position, about 800 yards North of Courcellette, between the two roads leading into Petit Miraumont, known as the East and West Miraumont Roads.

It was to them the eve of disaster. At 4.30 A.M. on the following morning they took part in a major attack by British and Canadian Forces, and at the end of the day, of the full strength Battalion which left Arques on the morning of the 7th September, only 6 officers and 67 other ranks answered Roll Call—the sad tale, oft repeated for many battalions. Amongst the killed was the Commanding Officer (a) so that in all respect the tragedy meant that the Battalion had to make a fresh start.

Regarding the details of this attack, as far as the 43rd Battalion, and indeed the 3rd Canadian Division, are concerned, there is little to be said. It was made against Regina Trench, an enemy position slightly on the reverse slope of a saddle-back-contour 130—giving command of Pys and Miraumont. The British troops, and two Brigades of Canadians (b), who were operating on the right of the 3rd Canadian Division, got into their objectives (c), but the assaulting troops of the 3rd Canadian Division formation ran up against thick wire, quite uncut. Regina Trench itself was manned by an alert enemy (d) and the 3rd Canadian Division were unable to reach their objective. Those catastrophes, no doubt, are inevitable in war; the enemy's wire was on a reverse slope, observation was extremely difficult, and it was definitely reported to have been cut, but all this is poor consolation to the survivors of a Battalion who mourn their comrades, lying in death on the Battlefield.

The remnants of the Unit were relieved on the night of the 9th October, and on the 11th they marched away from the Somme area and its sad memories to the more settled front at Vimy Ridge.

The Canadian Corps was at the time entering a stage of great importance; Lieut.-General Sir Julian Byng (e) had assumed Command on the 28th May, a 4th Canadian Division had reached France, and after a few weeks fighting on the Somme, under a British Corps, during October and November, joined the first three Canadian Divisions on the Vimy front. The losses of the recent battles had for the time being weakened the Canadian formations, but during the early Spring of 1917 they were made good, and the corps with four strong divisions welded together by the personality of the Corps Commander began to feel its importance and its weight.

The trenches which the 43rd took over on arrival in the new area

(a) Lt.-Col R. M. Thomson; Major W. Grassie succeeded to the Command.
(b) The 16th Canadian Battalion was a unit of one of these Brigades; they had previously taken part in the fighting before Mouquet Farm and Kenora Trench during September attacks.

(c) The Canadians were driven back to their jumping off line that same evening.

(d) The German Marine Forces.

(e) General, Lord Byng of Vimy.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

were East of Neuville St. Vaast, reserve billets being at Bray, near Ecoivres. During the winter of 1916/1917 the weather was bad, the trenches became mere drains, and the reduced strength of Battalions involved extra and onerous tours of duty. On December 1st a draft of 219 all ranks reached the Battalion and somewhat relieved the situation, but an increase of front counter balanced the advantage gained.

1917

It was suspected that the Canadians would take part some time during the Spring of 1917 in a big offensive, and rumor insisted that the struggle was to be fought on the front held by the 3rd and 4th Canadian Divisions, South of the Souchez River. If raids were any indication, rumor was right, for it was a continuous round of that sort of excitement, the 43rd taking their part with the rest and making attempts successful and unsuccessful.

On the 12th February the Battalion moved back for an enjoyable rest period to Auchel, a town some miles behind the front area; they went forward again to the trenches on the 15th March, by which date there was no doubt, judging by the preparations, but that a big offensive was to take place on the Vimy front.

A steady demolition of the enemy's trenches by artillery fire was going on, every Battalion occupying the front line was raiding, and the 43rd, on the night following relief, sent a party into the enemy's line. The most important raids on their part took place at 2 P.M. on the 5th April, when 3 officers and 63 other ranks, in three separate parties, raided the enemy's trenches for the purpose of obtaining prisoners and observing personally the damage which our artillery fire had effected. Both objects were attained after a stiff hand to hand encounter, when the officers and men engaged distinguished themselves.

The Battalion was relieved in the front line on the 8th April and did not take part in the main attack on the ridge which took place on the 9th. During the days from the 9th to the 11th they were standing by in one of the camps in the Bois des Alleux, near Mont St. Eloi; on the 11th they moved up to the old British front line, and at 10.30 P.M. on the 12th they were ordered to relieve the 49th Canadian Battalion on the easterly slope of Vimy Ridge to the right of La Folie Copse, on a front directed towards la Chaudiere to the North of Vimy and Petit Vimy villages.

The tactical situation was somewhat obscure—the night was extremely dark, and progress over the shell-blasted area difficult, for the men were laden down with the impediments of trench warfare, and by reason of the severe snow storm and rain of the previous days the ground had become a slippery slope of mud. In consequence the relief was not completed until 5.30 A.M. the 13th, and by then the enemy could be observed from the summit of the ridge moving in the grey light in small scattered groups round Vimy. It was quite evident that those parties were a rearguard force; the report that they had evacuated the ridge was correct, and their next determined stand would probably be made in front of the woods and villages of Fresnoy, Acherville, and

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Mericourt, which could be dimly seen on the further side of the desolate plain below.

The Battalion pushed out patrols, regained touch, and advanced with slight casualties as far as the Arras-Lens Road, where resistance stiffened. At 1.30 A.M. of the 14th, orders were received from the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade that the 43rd were to act as the advance guard to the Brigade and push on in a northeasterly direction towards the Vimy-La Coulette defences and the Avion-Mericourt switch (Avion local defences). The advance commenced at 5 A.M. the 14th April, and by 8 A.M. the La Coulette line was secured in the face of slight opposition and a resistance line astride the Arras-Lens Railway was established beyond. Patrols were sent out to the Avion switch, but they returned with reports that the trench was strongly held, and it was therefore decided to delay the attack on it until further artillery support could be secured. Meanwhile the enemy had withdrawn further South, the 1st and 2nd Canadian Divisions had come forward (a), and they, together with the 3rd Canadian Division, were on the plain directly facing the Gavrelle-Oppy-Mericourt line, and the Arleux salient.

The 43rd were relieved on the 17th of April, and between that date and June 26th, with the exception of two tours in the front line, were in support positions East of Vimy Ridge or in reserve billets at Villers-au-Bois or Berthonval Farm area. On the last named date they relieved a Battalion of the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade in positions facing Avion, and at 2.30 A.M., June 28th, took part in the attack when the line which they had reconnoitred on the 14th April was captured. The enemy had cunningly placed land mines, which were set off under the advancing troops, but this failed to stay the attack, and despite severe casualties they stormed and cleared the heavily manned enemy trenches.

The Summer and early Autumn of 1917 were spent in the same sector; the middle of August saw the Battalion back at Auchel preparing for a long training period, but this came to an abrupt close, for the tactical situation at Hill 70, North of Lens, where the 1st and 2nd Canadian Divisions (b) attacked about the middle of August, called for the moving up of the 3rd Canadian Division to that spot. The 43rd Battalion took over trenches on the St. Emile front (North of the Lens Railway cutting), which they occupied from the 22nd of August until the 5th September. On the latter date they moved back to the rear area, and on the 7th relieved a Battalion of the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade in the Mericourt Section.

They went into reserve again at Neuville St. Vaast on the 18th, and from then until the 10th October were busily engaged practising over tape trenches in anticipation of an offensive against Mericourt and Sallaumines, by which it was hoped to drive the enemy from the rising ground overlooking Lens from the East. However, the general military situation became critical; the offensive in the North towards

(a) The 16th Battalion as a unit of the 1st Canadian Division took part in the main attack on the Ridge, suffering heavy casualties, but capturing all their objectives.

(b) The 16th Battalion took part in the main attack in this operation.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

the coast had to be continued at all costs; the Canadian Corps was swept into the vortex, and at 8 P.M., 14th October, the 43rd entrained at Tinquies for the Ypres area, where the struggle for the Passchendaele Ridge was then progressing.

It is probably no exaggeration to describe the experiences which the troops had to go through in the Salient fighting, during the Autumn of 1917, as the worst endured by any men during the course of trench warfare. Weather conditions had rendered the ground impassable except over a few roads and boardwalks. As the offensive progressed, the British salient towards the heights became more and more acute; and under the concentrated enemy artillery fire and aeroplane bombing the whole of it became a veritable shambles. The 43rd came into this stricken zone on the morning of 21st October, when they moved from Caestre to the outskirts of St. Jean, and during the night 21st/22nd experienced a bombing raid which inflicted 13 casualties. It was with a certain amount of relief they learned the Battalion was to attack within the next three or four days, for the task which was allotted them, the capture of the Bellevue Spur, was one which demanded energy and morale, and a prolonged waiting period with severe casualties would do little to increase either. During the stay at St. Jean, Lt.-Col. W. Grassie received orders to proceed to Canada and Major W. K. Chandler, second in command, took over the Battalion for the forthcoming operations.

On the 22nd the move to the support area, where they came under a further enemy shelling, took place, and at 5 P.M. on the 23rd they went forward to the relief of the 1st Wellington N.Z. Battalion in a front line position, at the foot of the Eastern slope of the Gravenstafel Ridge, and West of the little stream Ravebeck. The night was dark, and very wet, and there was the usual steady shelling of the roads and boardwalks, which caused many casualties, including two officers of the 1st Wellingtons and one officer of the 43rd killed. The day of the 24th continued bad, subjecting the men cramped up in shellholes and fragments of trenches, which were becoming mere pools of water, to great hardships, but the morning of the 25th broke fine with a strong wind blowing and the waterlogged ground commenced to dry up quickly. In the afternoon Brigade notified the date of the attack as the 26th and the prospect of an immediate fight, the improved surroundings and the promise of much better going on the morrow made the troops more contented with conditions.

At 6 P.M. outposts to cover the assembly were posted as far forward as our barrage line, tapes were laid down and bridges laid at four different points across the Ravebeck stream, East of which the assembly was to take place. The 25th/26th was a most anxious night, for the enemy, evidently suspecting a possible attack, shelled the line of the Ravebeck stream continuously during the early hours of the 26th; in consequence the casualties were severe, one company being left under command of a junior subaltern, corporals being in charge of platoons, and to further increase the tension they laid down a heavy barrage on the assembly area one hour before zero, which was timed for 5.40 A.M.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Despite losses the Battalion launched the assault with steady ranks, and as dawn broke the Highlanders could be seen from Battalion Headquarters moving slowly over the Bellevue Spur and past the two formidable looking concrete pillboxes on the crest of the ridge. Then, about 7 A.M. it was realized that something was wrong on the right flank, which could be seen hanging back, and soon a report came in to Battalion Headquarters that the right Battalion of the 9th Brigade was driven back to their jumping-off line. The Cameron men could still be seen on the ridge and a report came back from "A" Company to say that they were holding the crest in touch with "C" Company, but had suffered heavy casualties; the Battalion situation therefore appeared at this time to be satisfactory.

It was, therefore, with great surprise that between 9 and 9.30 A.M. the Highlanders and a supporting company of another Battalion of the 9th Brigade were observed retiring on the jumping-off line. The Commanding Officer at once detailed the Adjutant to go forward across the Ravebeck and hold the men in the old assembly area until the situation could be appreciated, and just as this order had been executed, Lieut. R. Shankland, of "C" Company, in a wounded condition, reported at Battalion Headquarters. He gave a clear report as to the situation, stating that he was holding the ridge fifty yards forward of the pillboxes near the crest with about 40 men and two machine guns of the 9th Canadian Machine Gun Company, and provided his ammunition held out could hold the position, having already dispersed one serious counter-stroke; he further stated that the position was so serious he felt compelled to report back personally, the line during his absence being in charge of Lieut. Ellis of the 9th Canadian Machine Gun Company. While this statement was being made a message came through from Brigade detailing the positions where the aeroplane contact patrol had seen the Canadian flares, these corresponding in detail with the disposition given by Lieut. Shankland. The latter, after his wounds were dressed, proceeded forward and resumed command of the front line (a). The troops in the jumping-off line had meanwhile been reorganized, they were ordered forward, and by noon a position had been established on the east side of the ridge on the line originally set as the objective. The enemy continued to shell the forward area vigorously but by dusk this activity ceased, and it became evident that he had reconciled himself to the loss of the position. The 43rd Battalion was relieved on the night 27th/28th, the casualties killed and wounded for the operation being 13 officers and 336 other ranks.

By the 31st October they were back at Abeele, and had the pleasure of finding themselves in camp next to the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, with whom there were many exchanges of courtesies. From the 12th to the 15th November they had a further tour in the support area northeast of Ypres, and on the 16th were finally relieved, and moved to Westrehem, a small village some eight miles West of Lillers, where for one month they recuperated, and trained the reinforcements which came forward to bring them up to strength.

(a) For his conduct on this occasion Lieut. Shankland was awarded the V.C.



PIPE-MAJOR JOHN DUKE
CARRYING THE PIPE BANNER PRESENTED TO THE REGIMENT IN JULY, 1911,
BY THE OFFICERS OF THE 1ST, 2ND, 3RD AND 4TH BATTALIONS
THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

On the 22nd December they were again in the front line, in the Lens Sector, having relieved the 7th South Staffords and the 9th Sherwood Foresters, thus entering upon a further phase of their history, for the casualties sustained at Passchendaele sadly thinned the ranks and the influx of reinforcements to make good the deficiencies meant a new Battalion. The Command had also passed to Major H. M. Urquhart, 16th Canadian Battalion, The Canadian Scottish, and formerly of The Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

The immediate front held was amongst the ruins of the village of St. Emile and across the railway cutting west of the town of Lens. The surroundings were none too pleasant, for the heavy fall of snow and hard frost which occurred during December, 1917, and early January, 1918, was succeeded about the middle of the latter month by heavy rains, the trenches becoming almost untenable, and the enemy taking advantage of this plight increased their trench mortar and artillery fire, thus causing a number of casualties. Fortunately, from 28th December, 1917, to 3rd January, 1918, the Battalion was in Brigade reserve at Les Brébis, and all ranks were able to enjoy their New Year's dinner in fairly comfortable surroundings.

1918

A relief by the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade took place on the 22nd January and the 43rd moved back to the town of Auchel, West of Bruay, in which area they remained until the 18th February. During that period they were privileged to have with them a Company Commander and the Regimental Sergeant-Major of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, a visit which did much to bring the Cameron Highlanders of Canada in the field in close touch with the parent unit, for these representatives were able to say exactly what the regimental customs of the 1st Battalion were, and the Camerons of Canada by conforming to those felt they were strengthening the ties between themselves and the Regiment with which they were proud to be so closely affiliated. Advantage was taken of this visit to hold anniversary dinners of the Warrant Officers and Sergeant's Mess on 14th February when a strong contingent from the 16th Canadian Battalion attended as guests, and of the officers on 15th February when the Canadian Corps Commander, Sir Arthur W. Currie, was present. It was a matter of keen regret that Lochiel and other officers of the Cameron Battalions in France were not able to accept invitations to the latter function.

On the 20th of February the Battalion was again in the front line in the Avion Sector amidst all the anxieties which the anticipation of the great German attack created. There were strong rumours based on the tale of a German prisoner captured on the 27th February that the enemy were to attack Vimy Ridge the next day (a), but this report was misleading, and the story of prisoners captured by the 43rd on the 3rd of March gave the date of the attack as later, and not on the Vimy

(a) Apparently the Germans did contemplate such an attack, but changed their plans.—vide, —Ludendorf's memoirs.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

front. On the morning of the 4th the enemy opened up a violent bombardment on the left of the Battalion front, swept their trenches with machine guns and rifle fire, a low flying aeroplane swooping down at a low altitude as if scouting for an attack. Matters looked ominous for a time but later developments indicated that it was only a big raid on a front some hundreds of yards to the left. The 43rd unfortunately had their share on the 6th when they were subjected to an enemy gas projector attack and had many casualties in consequence.

The morning of the great German offensive found them in support east of the Vimy Ridge, near Vimy village, where they had relieved a Battalion of the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade on the night 20th/21st. The situation was extremely quiet with a light south-east wind and heavy mist, but at 5 A.M. there was heard to the south the continuous dull boom which signified an intense artillery bombardment—the enemy had issued their great challenge.

The Battalion took over a part of the front line northwest of Arleux from the 2nd/4th Duke of Wellingtons the following night (the 22nd) and from then until the 4th of April they held positions in that neighborhood expecting the enemy's assault. The Germans did not, however, attempt to break through on this part of the British front, and therefore in comparison with the stirring events of battle the experiences of the 43rd during this critical period may seem trivial.

Yet they had their anxieties, for they held an extended line of 2,800 yards with no reserves on the Ridge except the pipers and a few transport details. The covering artillery had been so reduced as to be incapable of placing an adequate protective barrage and those guns which were in position were firing from extreme range West of the Ridge. Each evening, or during the early hours of the night, urgent messages would come forward stating that an attack was expected, that German Battle Divisions were in Lietard, that heavy batteries, trench mortars, and gas cylinders were in position facing the Ridge, and the fact that the Germans had cut lanes through their wire and their battle patrols kept testing the Battalion defences, endeavoring to effect an entrance, seemed to bear out the warning. During the hours of darkness Battalion patrols were out in No Man's Land incessantly, and there were frequent encounters between them and enemy patrols, resulting in the capture by the 43rd of an entire party. For two days the outpost line was so advanced that our artillery barrage fell between it and the resistance line, and it was perhaps this puzzling phenomenon which caused the Germans to send over a tri-plane on the morning of the 28th of March to patrol some hundred feet above the Canadian outpost line. By a stroke of good fortune the machine was brought down in No Man's Land by a rifle and Lewis Gun fire of the garrison. The pilot, who appeared to be unhurt, got out of the machine and regardless of the challenge of the Corporal in charge of the Lewis Gun post attempted to escape, but was shot by the latter, who ran out into the open and recovered the body, which had valuable papers on it.

At dawn of the 28th the enemy attacked heavily immediately to

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

the South, the troops on the right flank of the 43rd were driven back to the resistance line, and the outposts of the latter had to be withdrawn during daylight, with the result that there were actions in the open, when the Battalion lost one man, capturing five of the enemy, and killing or wounding others. The succeeding period was one of trying suspense but the Battalion kept harassing the enemy by active patrolling and the general atmosphere of excitement maintained by the frequent encounters which this resulted in relieved any feelings of depression.

The recollection of those moonlight nights and misty mornings, when men stood in the gas drenched trench waiting for an enemy who seemed about to bear down upon them in overwhelming numbers, will long stand out in the memory of those who were fated to pass through the ordeal. All knew the desperate situation; they were in case of an attack to sell their lives in defence of the ground they held; they had been definitely told so, and as one looked back at the dark line of the Ridge behind, almost devoid of a garrison, one felt as if the very dead on it were speaking to enforce that demand.

On the 11th of April the Battalion left the Vimy Ridge front for the Lens sector, garrisoning the same trenches as they held in January, but were again relieved on May 3rd by the 8th Battalion Royal West Kents, after tours of duty which were uneventful beyond an enemy projector attack on the 22nd of April, when it was estimated that 1,500 drums of gas were thrown on to the area occupied by one of the companies. Patrols, however, had from certain sounds suspected an installation of gas projectors and as a consequence of this warning not one casualty was sustained.

The Battalion was now unknowingly entering upon a period of training which fitted it for the final struggle. It was a more complete and longer break from the front line work than it had previously experienced, and on the large manoeuvre areas near Auchel and Bomy the open warfare movements urgently needed to wean trench-weary troops from the staleness and errors of stationary warfare could be carried out with ease. Battalion, Brigade, and Divisional schemes were practised; the troops would move out at dawn and come home at dusk; or move away at dusk on long marches to man battle positions, returning at dawn. Rifle ranges and Lewis Gun ranges were close at hand and it was possible to increase the musketry efficiency. There were Battalion, Brigade, and Divisional sports days; organized concert parties gave frequent entertainments, so that there was the blend of rigorous training, sport, and entertainment which keep men fit and give them good morale.

There was a confidence that the Corps was being kept in reserve for a big operation, and the minds of officers were given unreservedly to training, with the exception of a short interval about the middle of May, whilst at Auchel. During that interval there were mysterious conversations and rumours regarding a Delta (a) scheme, secret journeys were made to the neighborhood of Hinges, many strange

(a) An operation by the Canadian Corps towards Merville and Estaires to relieve pressure on the Bethune coal fields.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

stories being told the "holding garrison" as to the object of these visits; and then the whole project was suddenly dropped.

The training came to an end on the 26th of May when the Battalion moved to the Neuville Vitasse front, southeast of Arras, where they remained during the sultry hot days of July. On the 6th of that month a Highland gathering took place at Tinges when the Scottish Divisions, with one exception, were represented. It was a memorable event (a), and in the Tug-of-War competition the team of The Cameron Highlanders of Canada was fortunate enough, after several preliminary struggles, to enter the final, being beaten in that pull by the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. The Battalion Pipe Band also secured an excellent place though not amongst the prize winners.

On July 24th the Battalion was relieved on the Neuville Vitasse section and commenced the momentous march which led to the battle of the 8th August, the dark day for the German army, and the beginning of the last phase of the war.

The secret concentration of the Canadian Corps for that struggle will rank as a high Staff achievement. By various deceptions the enemy were led to believe that the Corps were on the Ypres front, while the movement southwards was carefully screened by means of night marches and the concealment of troops, guns, and transports during the day. The 43rd arrived in Plachy-Buyon in the La Celle valley to the southwest of the battle ground at 1.30 A.M. on the morning of the 4th. At 11.15 P.M. the same evening they marched northwest over the Hebecourt uplands to Boves Wood; arrived there at 3 A.M. the following morning, encamped, and at 10 P.M. the same night the Battalion (less transport) moved through Boves across the Avrell Valley to Gentelles Wood, where they arrived at 5.30 A.M. on the 6th.

The concentration of the Canadian Divisions designated to lead in the attack, together with the tanks which were to assist them, was taking place under cover of this wood and two neighboring woods about one mile to the North, all of those being approximately three to four miles from the commanding position the enemy occupied South of the river Luce. It was therefore a critical time, when any slack discipline with regard to fires or movement during daylight might betray the operation. The 6th and 7th were taken up with the issuing of battle equipment and explanation as far as possible of the plan of attack.

At 10 P.M. of the 7th the Battalion with intervals between platoons moved silently away from the East end of the wood on a path South of the Amiens-Roye Road—leading down towards the valley of the Luce; they passed the ruined village of Domart on the left as they came to the marshy ground in the Luce Valley, and then forming into single file crossed those marshes and the Luce itself by means of the fragile, swaying bridges which the Canadian Engineers had put in position the previous night.

The relief of the troops holding the line (the 51st Australian Battalion) was completed by 3 A.M. and a short time after that hour the 43rd were in position in their assembly area. The movement forward

(a) The massed Pipe Band mustered 484 pipers and drummers.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

had been entirely successful, the enemy, beyond a burst of very lights as the leading company arrived, seemed unsuspecting, the silence of the clear, quiet starlight night was undisturbed by any unusual sounds, and Dodo Wood, "the first objective," loomed dark ahead peopled with men who knew nothing of the disaster the dawn was to bring to their cause.

The position allotted the Cameron Highlanders of Canada in that morning's battle was most honourable. They were on the right of the British line—the only British troops to the south of the Amiens-Roye Road,—and in touch with the 94th Infantry Regiment, 42nd Division of the French Army, an international platoon being formed at the junction of the two forces. Their task was equally important. They had to penetrate to a depth of over two miles past the enemy's gun line and capture in their stride important positions, especially that of Dodo Wood (contour 104), a hill and wood which completely dominated the country westwards and gave the greatest anxiety to the French and British Higher Commands. It was to the right of this wood, in a deep ravine called Andrea Ravine, that the international platoon—Erracht Tartan and the horizon blue intermingled—swept to victory.

From 3 A.M. until 4 A.M. the night continued fine, but at the latter hour a light mist commenced to rise from the marshes of the Luce Valley and rapidly thickened into a dense fog. Zero hour was set for 4.20 A.M., the tanks which were lying some little distance back being timed to move forward some twelve minutes earlier. It was therefore with anxious minds that the troops awaited a battle which was to be their first experience of open warfare, wondering whether the fog would clear and if not how direction and cohesion was to be maintained.

At 4.20, as the barrage came down, the dense mist completely blanketed the ground. The German barrage retaliated in a few minutes, smashed onto "A," "C," "D" Companies causing many casualties, "C" Company losing its Company Commander, next Senior Officer, and Company Sergeant-Major. It also hit a dump of smoke bombs which an R.E. Company had established in the front trench for use in the attack on Andrea Ravine, and thus liberated a cloud of smoke in the assembly area which increased the difficulties of the troops moving forward. "B" Company, who were somewhat further forward than the remaining three, escaped severe casualties and on the lift of the barrage commenced their advance against Dodo Wood, the international platoon moving up the ravine at the same time. There was stiff fighting and bayonet work all the way up the hill but the enemy were completely outfought and the first objective carried, with the capture of 267 prisoners.

Meanwhile the other companies had swung to the left over the Roye Road, each of them struggling to maintain its identity and overcome the confusion which the fog and the casualties from machine-gun fire inevitably caused. The details of the fight at this stage could be greatly elaborated, but the situation can only be summarized by stating that the leadership of the Officers and N.C.O.'s prevailed; they urged forward the tangled companies, with which a number

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

of men from the battalion on the left had also got mixed, got groups under control as fighting units, carried the hill, and then reorganized. To add flavor to the crisis one of the tanks which was slowly trundling up opened fire on the struggling companies, and persisted in the irritating practice until an Officer dashed up, and by beating on the door of the tank persuaded one of the occupants to open it and see for himself that he was firing on friend, not foe.

Once on top of the hill the mist rapidly thinned, visibility improved, the tanks came into effective action, and went straight for the strong points and defences of the German second line, a little distance back from the edge of the Plateau, whilst the infantry worked round the flanks. "A" Company, by a flank attack, completed the "mopping up" of Dodo Wood; "C" and "D" Companies, by flanking movements, pressed on to their respective objectives, and soon the fire of the numerous German machine guns under pressure from those flanking attacks and the direct attacks of the tanks became erratic and our casualties became correspondingly less and were almost entirely caused by the German field guns which were firing over open sights. "D" Company, however, by a series of neat flanking movements along dead ground, enfiladed the offending batteries and bayoneted some of the personnel whilst they were actually serving the guns. To the Camerons the booty of the fight amounted to four 5-9's, one 4-1, sixteen trench mortars, three bomb throwers, thirty-three machine guns, and 413 prisoners. All objectives had been captured, the casualties—a great number of which were caused by enemy artillery fire in the assembly area—being 21 killed and 173 wounded.

By 8 A.M. the Camerons were consolidating beyond their final objective; the French were up on the right, and the "going through" troops of the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade were coming rapidly forward ready to harass the enemy.

It was a scene of intense animation. The early mists had completely cleared away, leaving an unclouded sky, and the morning sun, as yet cool and refreshing, gave promise of a hot August day.

Beyond a large wood untouched by shell-fire and in fields overlooking Mezieres, the 43rd were engaged on the task of "digging in," and as their comrades passed through to more distant objectives, they would straighten up and cheer them on with the buoyant spirit of victory, shouting, "Fritz's beat it," and assuring them there was nothing to do but complete the rout.

Later on the promise of the morning was fulfilled, but the heat of the sun was tempered by a light breeze. The area was now crowded with troops in column of route moving across the open; on the roads,—the Amiens-Roye Road to the left and the Mezieres Road to the right,—steady streams of British and French guns and transport moved forward, whilst over the fields and in and out amongst the men moved the Whippet Tanks. It seemed, such was the absence of artillery and rifle fire as if it were field manoeuvres miles from the enemy.

The Battalion lay on their objective until 1.15 P.M., on the 9th when they moved eastwards to Beaucourt, North of the Amiens-Roye

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

Road and rested there in the open. Attack orders were expected for the early morning of the 10th and the men were keenly anxious to get into the fight again, but during the evening of the 9th, the 32nd British Division came up in mass formation, lay in the fields just to the left of the Battalion and it was intimated shortly before dawn of the 10th that they were to be sent in to carry on the advance.

On the afternoon of the 10th, the Battalion moved forward to Le Quesnel, and on the night of the 11th to Bouchoir where they came into Brigade reserve, in which position they remained until the afternoon of the 15th when they had a further taste of fighting. At 11.50 A.M. on this date orders were received to detail two companies to proceed forward at once, report to the Officer Commanding the 52nd Canadian Battalion, which unit was then holding the front line, and come under his orders until the remaining companies of the 43rd arrived. The Officer Commanding the 43rd would then resume Command of his complete Battalion. The two leading companies, "C" and "D," left at 12.10 P.M. and arrived in the front area at a most opportune time. The 52nd Battalion had pushed through the old trench systems of the stationary warfare period from 1914 until the German retreat of 1917, had captured the village of Damery, East of those defences, and occupied a line just beyond. When "C" Company arrived they were being heavily counter-attacked and were hard pressed. The Officer Commanding the 52nd thereupon ordered "C" Company to counter-attack, which they did in splendid style across the fields East of Damery, driving the enemy back into the village of Fresnoy-les-Roye. At the close of the day 200 prisoners remained in our hands, 47 of which were gathered in by the Cameron Company. That same night the 43rd took over the front line, having French troops on their right, and on the following day they were again fighting.

At 11.00 A.M., on the morning of the 16th, a message was received from the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade stating that the French were to attack Goyencourt, a village South-east of Damery, at 12.00 noon., the 43rd being ordered to push forward and protect the French left flank. Battalion Headquarters at once instructed front line companies to send forward battle patrols and make good all possible ground, keeping in touch on the right with the French.

The French attack proceeded successfully, the 43rd threw out patrols in the face of a certain amount of enemy shelling and heavy machine-gun fire, touch was maintained with the attacking force on the right and all was proceeding satisfactorily with few casualties. At 4.30 P.M. a further message was received from Brigade stating the enemy appeared to be weakening along the Canadian front and ordering the 43rd to attack "from the right," Fresnoy les Roye, a village immediately East of Damery, whilst an attack by another 9th Brigade Battalion would be put in from the left.

The 43rd attack commenced at 5.30 P.M., partly across the open fields and partly by the system of trenches defending Fresnoy on the West. At once the enemy put down a protective artillery barrage and opened heavy machine-gun fire. The attacking forces, however, were

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

able to get forward by section rushes and the trench system was carried, but owing to severe enfilade fire from the left the advance was held up short of the village. Apparently the Canadian attack from that direction had failed. To make matters worse the French had been counter-attacked and withdrew their line, leaving the 43rd in a salient. The latter accordingly did not make a further attempt against Fresnoy-les-Roye and threw back a flank on the left, holding in that position until 4.30 A.M. of the following morning (the 17th) when they were relieved by troops of the 1st Canadian Division. Thus finished their part in the Amiens offensive (a), with an operation which cost them in casualties 47 killed and 121 wounded, amongst the latter being the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. H. M. Urquhart, who was succeeded in the Command by Major W. K. Chandler.

The success of the operations which commenced on the 8th August revealed the weakness of the enemy, and the Higher Command decided to follow up the advantages gained by delivering even more telling blows. The Canadians were detailed to strike at the important defences known as the Drocourt-Queant Switch, part of the Hindenburg Line, and now the 43rd went North to take part in this offensive. They embussed at 8.30 P.M. on the 19th at a point on the Amiens-Roye Road, close to their final objective on the morning of the 8th August, and moved off over the ground which the Battalion had captured so brilliantly on that day. Travelling westward they came to the City of Amiens through whose quiet streets they clattered noisily, northwards to Doullens, and again westward along the valley of the L'Authie, reaching their destination at 6 A.M. the following morning. For the subsequent period they marched by night and rested by day in the quiet area south-west of Arras, finally arriving at that deserted city on the 26th, the day when the Canadian Corps entered on a struggle which only concluded with the fall of Cambrai on the 9th October.

This battle was of a most strenuous nature, involving preliminary fighting over an area devastated by the warfare of 1917 and covered by a series of trench systems and wire entanglements extremely difficult to negotiate. Once this ground was secured a further trench system, known as the Fresnes-Rouvroy line, had to be overcome; next the formidable Drocourt-Queant line with its belts of wire and concrete fortifications, and then the strong defences of the Canal du Nord.

The struggle opened on the 26th with a series of successes, amongst others, the capture by the 3rd Canadian Division of Monchy le Preux. At 3.45 P.M. on the 26th, the 43rd proceeded to a point on the Cambrai Road at the eastern outskirts of Arras, and at 2.00 A.M. on the 27th they moved forward along that same road to take up a position running from the south-east edge of Monchy to the road itself. The move was made without guides over unknown ground, and as the main highway above referred to was blocked with transport, progress was only possible over the broken trenches bordering it, but at 4.30 A.M., despite difficulties, the Battalion was in position as ordered.

(a) The 16th Battalion took a leading part in all the battles of this offensive.



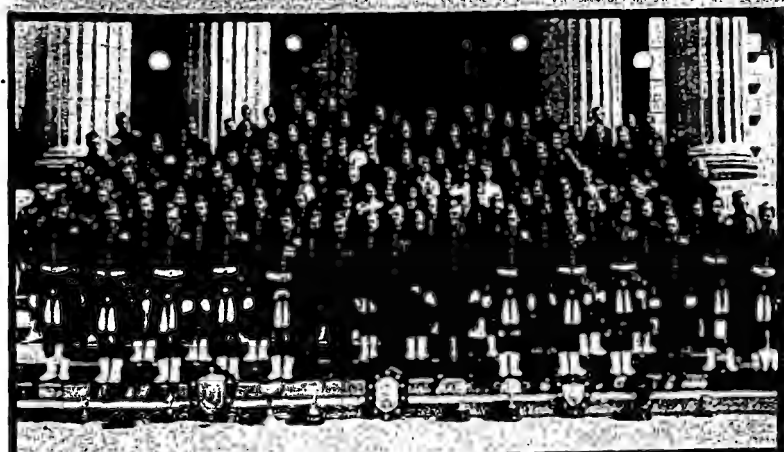
MAJOR
WALLACE McLANDRESS



LIEUTENANT
THOMAS RUTHERFORD



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. G. BELL



THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA CADET BATTALION

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

The 9th Brigade attacked at 5.00 A.M., the 43rd being in reserve until 7.45 A.M. when, as the brigade attack had fallen short of its objective, they were ordered forward to bridge a gap between the 2nd Canadian Division, which was attacking with its left flank resting on the Arras-Cambrai Road, and the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade, which was held up West of the village of Boiry, about a mile and a half North of the road. Having effected this, they were to push on and make good the crossing of the Cojuel, a small river on their immediate front. After a stiff fight over the old British and German trenches, which cover the enemy made full use of, the designated objectives were attained but with a badly exposed left flank and no news or sight of the supporting troops which it was understood were to follow closely behind.

The Officer Commanding the leading 43rd Company, however, after he had made good the crossing of the Cojuel, decided that it was very important that the advance continue, and determined to seize the village of Vis en Artois, situated on a rise between the Cojuel and the Sensee, a river some 2,500 yards beyond. He reached the eastern edge of the village just short of the Sensee crossing and then discovered that his left flank was exposed to the extent of about one mile, the enemy fire from that direction was heavy, and he could obtain no touch with the Second Canadian Division which were supposed to be on his right to the South of the Cambrai Road. He therefore decided to push no further and to make a stand West of the Sensee. On hearing of the position the Battalion Commander threw in all his reserves on the left flank thus establishing a line facing north-east astride the Cojuel, the supporting troops of the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade, which had now come up, forming a link between the left of the 43rd and the right of the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade troops who were at a point south-west of Boiry. The position of the 2nd Canadian Division was never made clear.

At 3.45 A.M. on the morning of the 28th the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade notified the 43rd that the 3rd Canadian Division would make an attack that day on the Fresnes-Rouvroy line and that the 43rd was to come under the Command of the G.O.C. 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade. At 12.30 P.M. of the 28th the attack took place, the 43rd going forward and capturing Remy, a village West of the Sensee and one half mile North of Vis en Artois. On completion of the operation their line was East of Remy extending South to near the Cambrai Road, being completely out of touch with any troops at this latter point but in touch on the left with the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade.

There they remained as an outpost line until the morning of the 29th August, the losses of the 27th-28th being so severe that the garrison only numbered 4 Officers and 66 Other Ranks. At 2.10 A.M. the 2nd Duke of Wellingtons assumed responsibility for the remainder of it, both of these Battalions handling the difficult situation in such an efficient and expeditious way as to earn the gratitude of the tired troops they relieved. The whole of the 3rd Canadian Division was now drawn into support and did not take further part in operations until 28th

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

September following the capture of the Drocourt-Queant line and the crossing of the Canal du Nord.

The Canadian Corps attack on the Canal du Nord front commenced at 5.40 A.M. on the 27th September and by the night 27th/28th the canal had been crossed, the trenches immediately East of it over-run, Bourlon and Bourlon Wood had been captured and a line established South and East of the wood, thence northward. This gave commanding positions overlooking the City of Cambrai but there were still important defences to be captured before the city itself passed into our hands, and it was at this point that the 3rd Canadian Division came into action with orders to advance from Bourlon Wood towards the city. In those operations the 43rd took their part.

On the 27th September the Battalion were lying in reserve West of the Canal du Nord and on the evening of that day moved to trenches East of it, about 1 mile west of Bourlon Wood. Shortly after 10.00 P.M. the Commanding Officer was summoned to Brigade Headquarters, returning to the Battalion at 1.55 A.M. the next morning (the 28th), when a meeting of Company Commanders was summoned, the objectives and plans for the attack were communicated to them, and at 3.15 A.M. the Battalion commenced its move to the assembly area.

The orders were to capture Fontaine Notre Dame, break through the outer defences of Cambrai (the Marcoing line) and form a defensive flank on the right of the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade from the south-east edge of Bourlon Wood to a point on the Bapaume-Cambrai Road east of the Marcoing line, on a frontage of approximately two miles. Zero hour was set for 6.00 A.M. and as the companies had to make a journey of 6,000 yards to the assembly area over unknown country between 3.15 A.M. and that time, there was experienced another of those periods of anxiety wondering whether they could be in place on time. Luckily the night which had previously been very dark, cleared, a bright moon came out, there was little hostile artillery fire, and by pressing forward at a quick pace the troops got into position.

At Zero, "D" Company advanced straight into the village of Fontaine and captured it with the greater part of its garrison; those Germans who were not rounded up getting away at such a speed as to defy successful pursuit. The company then swept through its objectives and deflecting somewhat from their line swung South and captured the rising ground on that side of the Bapaume-Arras Road, overlooking the village Cantaing, ground really on the 57th Division front. There they consolidated and were later joined by some elements of the latter formation who filled in a gap between "D" Company and the troops on their left. The remaining three companies of the Battalion advanced successfully east and north of Fontaine for a distance of about 2,000 yards until they came within 400 yards of the Marcoing line and then they were held up by machine guns. Two companies of another 9th Brigade Battalion reinforced this firing line and attempts were made to get forward, but it soon became evident that without artillery support there was no chance of success and the troops re-

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

mained in that position until dusk, the advance being continued next day (the 29th) by the Brigade Reserve Battalion.

At 1.00 A.M., the 30th September, the 43rd moved northward across the Cambrai-Arras Road to rifle pits west of the Cambrai-Douai Road and about 1,500 yards from the Cambrai-Douai Railway embankment, which the enemy were holding. There they lay for the remainder of the day, and at 5.00 A.M. on the morning of the 1st October attacked from an assembly position east of the Cambrai-Douai Railway embankment—which had meanwhile been secured by the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade—captured the village of Tilloy, the rising ground east of it overlooking Cambrai from the north, and there consolidated whilst another two 9th Brigade Battalions passed through them to further objectives.

During the whole of the 1st the position was critical as the Division on the left had been driven back by counter-attacks, and the ridge where the 43rd were holding was subjected to a heavy artillery bombardment and machine-gun fire. The line however was maintained and during the early hours of the morning of the 2nd October the Battalion was relieved from a fight which, although little anticipated, at the time, was the last important battle of the war in which they were engaged. The losses in killed and wounded for the four days fighting from 28th September onwards were 13 Officers and 369 Other Ranks.

During the subsequent operations around Cambrai the 43rd were in reserve at Pronville, west of Bourlon Wood, and at 10.30 A.M., the 21st October, left that place for Hornaing, a town close to the Arras-Valenciennes railway and about three miles south-west of the large forest of Vicigne and Raismes, where they arrived at 4.15 P.M. and after a rest proceeded by route march due east. At 7.00 A.M., the 22nd, they picked up guides from the 16th Battalion (a)—the unit with which they were so closely associated—and at 1.00 P.M. the same day passed the outpost line of the latter, continued the advance through the forest, and reached the eastern outskirts of it with practically no opposition, about 5.00 P.M.

On the 23rd a further advance was made in the hope of securing the crossings of the l'Escault Canal, but the enemy had forestalled this movement by flooding the area west of same, and no further progress for the time being was possible in that locality.

The Battalion was relieved on the 27th of October. Their part in the war was finished. On the morning of Armistice Day, 11th November, 1918, they were on the western outskirts of Mons and at 2.50 P.M. marched into that town and passed in Review before the Canadian Corps Commander. The welcome which the inhabitants gave them was overwhelming, but after all it was the pent-up feelings of men and women who had been under the conquerors heel for years, and the victorious

(a) This relief ended the long and strenuous fighting career of the 16th. During the offensive on the Hindenburg Defences they had taken part in the main attack on the Droocourt-Queant Line, Canal du Nord, and the operations around Cambrai.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

entry of these troops was to them the final sign of freedom and final victory.

The days from 11th November until demobilization had a tense atmosphere, there being present throughout the entire Force, a feeling of restlessness which in some instances fermented into active trouble. This was not altogether strange for the new order of things confused men's minds. There was in some instances a failure on the part of Officers to realize that their responsibility for the care of the men did not cease with hostilities, and on the other the large influx of reinforcements—especially in fighting units—who had not undergone the discipline of battle, overbore, in the ranks, the steadying influence of those hard-trying veterans.

But the spirit of loyalty in both the 16th and 43rd Battalions prevented any but the smallest signs of discontent from appearing in the ranks and the records for the period from the Armistice until Demobilization describes little but the details of routine.

The former unit, as part of the 1st Canadian Division, marched into Germany and crossed the Rhine at 9.50 A.M. on the morning of the 13th December. They were quartered in the locality of Cologne until the 5th January, 1919, and then left for Belgium where they remained in Anthiet, a village some 30 kilometres from Brussels, until the 22nd March, 1919, on which date they entrained for Le Havre.

1919

The 43rd did not take part in the march across the Rhine. They stayed in Belgium until the 5th February, 1919, when they departed for Le Havre and on arrival at this port were quartered in the drafty dock-sheds for four days of cold, wintry weather. They sailed for Weymouth on 10th February, disembarked on the 11th, and arrived at Bramshott on the 13th. There was a lengthy wait in this camp, owing to the difficulty of arranging ocean transport, but at 6.15 A.M. of the 12th March, the Battalion marched out with a strength of 31 Officers and 508 Other Ranks, and embarked at Liverpool for Halifax the same afternoon. They reached Winnipeg at 9 A.M. on the morning of the 24th March, marched through crowded streets to the Industrial Bureau, where they received a Civic Welcome; from thence proceeded to the Armoury, and by 3.15 were all discharged to civil life.

The 16th arrived in Bramshott on March 27th, left there at 3 A.M. on the 26th April, and at 6.40 P.M. the same evening cleared from Liverpool on the "Empress of Britain" for the port of Quebec. They arrived in Winnipeg on the 7th May, and received a great ovation from crowds who pressed into the station yard and lined the city streets through which they passed. The Battalion marched up Portage Avenue, one of the two main thoroughfares of Winnipeg, to a point some distance from the centre of the city, there they were halted, were addressed in a deeply affecting speech by their Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. C. W. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., and then on the same spot dismissed.

Thus closed their distinguished career in the field.

Retrospect

But such a chronicle of events, dates and places can convey little idea of the men on whom rested the burden of the fight, and yet it is in the story of their earnest, if perhaps simple, human words and deeds that the life of the drama lies. Could even the tale of the mobilization of 1914, and the struggle to have a complete Cameron Battalion placed in the original Canadian Expeditionary Force, be told in all its fulness, what a variety and depth of feeling it would reveal. But the confusion of that stressful time makes it impossible to gauge the various influences at work for although some were apparent, others were only sensed; and just as much can be said with regard to the threatened breaking up of the 43rd in 1915.

As far as the personnel of the original Cameron Company was concerned, it embraced, no doubt, as every unit in 1914 did, men who enlisted from a spirit of adventure or sheer irresponsibility, but on the other hand there were just as surely those who served at the plain call of duty and who were quite willing to sacrifice every self-interest rather than disobey. In support of this statement it would be unfair to write names and thus perhaps in some degree slight the unknown dead and living, but it is hard to believe that there lives one man of that small band, who was privileged to stand beside his fellows in those desperate situations which compel the casting away of any mask, who does not cherish memories of men who were in truth nature's heroes and gentlemen.

When the 16th was formed at Valcartier it became very apparent to the Camerons that the difficulty which was foreseen in Winnipeg of maintaining identity in a composite battalion, was under, rather than overestimated, and disappointment at the thought of what had been lost became correspondingly keen; indeed matters reached such a crisis on Salisbury Plain that attempts were made to obtain the transfer of The Cameron Company to the Queen's Own, but these were checked at the very outset.

The strength of the clan feeling was a revelation, and for long was not understood; one 16th Officer spoke of "the fierceness of it." But its value soon became clear when in hardships and danger the spirit of devotion and stolid endurance which accomplished it, was discovered and the other companies then knew that underneath the stern exterior beat warm loyal hearts.

And the test of endurance was soon to come, for the time of trial for the 1st Canadian Division began before they reached the soil of France, during the deary, wet Winter of 1914-15, on Salisbury Plain.

The conditions under which most units of the New Army existed at that time were bad, but that of the Canadians was peculiarly so, for their fight was not only against storm and mud, but sickness—especially Spinal Meningitis—and an official distrust which classed

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

them as undisciplined and ineffective. No purpose can be served by referring to these criticisms, if indeed the record of the Division does not supply a sufficient answer, and as regards the details of the humiliating situation, enough to say there were misunderstandings.

From the end of October (a) onwards, when the 16th were in tents, weather conditions grew steadily worse and the camp and its surroundings became a veritable sea of mud. The brilliant idea of sending a snowplow through the lines to clear a pathway on to dry soil was conceived, but it was quite futile, as each downpour made matters worse and the steep banks of "glaur" became a veritable trap. The heavy storms which swept across the Downs with a biting coldness drove the rain in spray through the light texture canvas, it was impossible to get warm, and soon men in hundreds went down with a sickness which the removal to huts in December aggravated rather than diminished.

Nevertheless, enthusiasm could not be stifled, duties were performed cheerfully, there was no lack of volunteers for tasks of drudgery; men made light of circumstances, and the zeal with which training was undertaken is evidenced by the fact that one Sunday 2 Officers and 63 Other Ranks of the Cameron Company marched from West Down South to Kirk in Salisbury, a distance of 31 miles, "just," as the Company Commander explained, "to keep fit."

The conduct of the men in the stress of battle did not belie the promise of training and was typified in the example of their leader, Captain John Geddes, who, after being mortally wounded on the night of 22nd/23rd April, 1915, kept crawling forward determined to close with the enemy and calling upon his men to go on, until he lay still in death.

Throughout the long career of the 16th the survivors of the company fought on; the further Cameron reinforcements brought men of their kind, and when in February, 1919, R.S.M. Jimmie Kay (b) during the return march of the Battalion from Germany died from Influenza, practically on parade, having refused to report sick, he closed the chapter of heroism, his name being the last on the roll of these great souls who were perfectly willing to give their lives to uphold a tradition which pride of race forbade them betray.

That these qualities were appreciated by those entitled to speak is evidenced in the official statement of Lieut-Colonel R. G. Edward Leckie (c), C.M.G., who Commanded the 16th from mobilization until September, 1915, and who reported as follows:—

"Most of the Cameron Company were Scottish born and of a splendid type, physically and mentally. During the second battle of Ypres, and again at Festubert, they, by their courage, determination and fighting ability, proved themselves to be worthy representatives of the fine old Imperial Regiment whose tartan they wore"; and further

(a) The 16th was under canvas at West Down South from the middle of October until 8th December. They then moved to huts at Larkhill.

(b) R. S. M. Kay, M.C., D.C.M., M.M., was the C.S.M. of the original Cameron Company and served continuously, with the exception of a short leave to Canada—in France from February, 1915, until the date of his death.

(c) Later Major-General R. G. Edward Leckie, C.M.G.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

with regard to the 43rd drafts sent to the 16th Battalion in 1915: "These men were the best reinforcements we had at any time during my Command of the Canadian Scottish, and they materially helped to maintain the high standard of efficiency for which the Battalion was known."

But the appreciation of Lieut.-Col C. W. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., who commanded from November, 1916, until the end of the war, gives a far more intimate insight into the feelings of a Battalion Commander, for its terms are those prompted by deep affection. He said, "In the career of the 16th none played a more honourable part than the Original Cameron Company, and the subsequent drafts which came from the Cameron Highlanders of Canada, Winnipeg. From the very first the former had distinct characteristics which made its influence felt throughout the unit, and those it preserved to the very end, notwithstanding the unselfish devotion with which the men threw themselves into the common life of the Battalion. The strong and sterling individual characters who belonged to it gave it force, leadership came naturally to those men, and one cannot help expressing admiration for the type of manhood of which they were representatives."

He then proceeds to refer to certain Camerons in a characteristically personal way.

"Sergeant——, who chewed tobacco prodigiously and who buried his comrades and drank Scotch Whiskey with the same immovable countenance, because, according to the Presbyterian doctrine, such things had to be done."

"Sergeant-Major——, who would argue his point and never give in though all the enemy artillery concentrated on the spot."

"Lieutenant——, who slew mightily so many Huns in Regina Trench and ever afterwards where Huns had to be slain in the course of duty!"

"——, who was the soul of our piping, full of zeal for the music. He played in five great actions and was at last wounded during the Battles of Arras, September 2nd, 1918. I remember the night before the action. He was standing not far away in the dark dugout puffing a long, black pipe and straining his eyes to read a paper in the flickering candlelight. I was leaning forward against the table gazing at the map of the coming battle and casting an occasional glance at

——. Word is passed down the stair, 'Move on No. 2 Company.' He quietly lays down his paper, nods to me and turns to go. Then in another moment an order comes, 'Stand fast No. 2 for 10 minutes.' He turns, lays down his pipes on the berth, pulls out his pipe and lights it, picks up the paper and reads. I do not think I ever saw a more perfect picture of courage and mental control." Col. Peck then closed his appreciation as follows: "One who loves Military History might keep on indefinitely extolling his Cameron Comrades; sufficient to confidently state, however, that never steadier, more devoted soldiers, or lovable companions could be desired than those of the 16th whom we called the Cameron Men."

When, therefore, the 43rd as a Battalion arrived in France, they were, because of the excellent reputation which the Camerons in the

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

16th had earned, looked upon with a favour which their physique and thoroughness in organization soon confirmed. The opinion which was held regarding the fighting qualities of the men is evidenced in a story told by Lieut.-Col. W. A. Griesbach (a), who at the time the incident occurred Commanded the 49th (City of Edmonton) Battalion. It referred to his first contact with the 43rd in June, 1916, when his own unit was holding the advance trenches north of Sanctuary Wood, and on a night when he was returning from the front after the enemy had subjected the line to a heavy bombardment, succeeded by a local attack. Much to his surprise, and whilst rounding a traverse in the communication trench, he was almost carried off his feet by a party of Highlanders rushing forward, headed by a Sergeant who fiercely demanded, "Whaur in the h—— is the fechtin' line," and only with great difficulty were they persuaded that the worst was over and that their services were not at the moment required.

The Highlanders proved to be a working party from the Camerons, who were up in reserve trenches on what was one of their first tasks of the kind, and who on hearing the bombardment dropped their shovels, unslung their rifles, and made tracks for the sound of the guns. The Officer mentioned often referred during subsequent years to the conduct of what he called, "Those bare-kneed barbarians," but always with a reservation that he was thankful to have such men behind him in an attack.

The spirit of that story hovered round the 43rd for all time, and in Brigades and Divisions other than their own they were looked upon as a real Highland Battalion, whose members in seclusion and pride lived strictly on rations, theology and "fechtin'," and whose Commanding Officer took whisky with his porridge.

The fact of the Battalion being Scottish could certainly not be concealed, the burr was so consistent that men of its number who were never in Scotland, nor had any connection with the country, acquired a strong accent. Residence in Canada had not altered the characteristics of the men, and it is doubtful if any of the Battalions in the Scottish Divisions contained a larger number of typical Scots. There was the same stern thoroughness; they were there to fight and kill; that was the task which had been set them, and they were going to carry it through.

During one of the big fights in which the Battalion was engaged, Corporal——, and a party were clearing out an enemy trench mortar dugout. The Corporal ordered the occupants to come out and surrender, but the enemy hesitated, the German officer, who spoke broken English, seeming to be anxious to parley. The order was then repeated with the warning that failing obedience the Germans would be shot down, and as their leader still persisted in argument the threat was carried out. The Platoon Commander of the 43rd party coming up a short time afterwards, on hearing the story from Lance-Corporal——, remarked that he thought the slaughter a bit too complete, but the Lance-Corporal remonstrated, saying, "They were tauld tae come oot twice

(a) Major-General, The Hon. W. A. Griesbach, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

and they widna dae it, and what are oor rifles for." He then went on further, "We had been talking ower the battle last nicht and sa'in amangst oorsels about Corporal——'s mother lying sick in Scotland and needin' him and them fellows (the Germans) keeping us oot here fetchtin'. We said we were gaun tae let the Germans see the seriousness o' the position." Such an attitude is almost humorously literal, and yet, if the essential problem in military operations is "the conduct of men confronted by danger," a very high quality in the fighting man.

The lessons of the training period were conned over seriously; the weaknesses or virtues of them were discussed with striking intelligence and in action the principles learnt were applied in a very satisfying way. One of these was the sequence of Command, it was often talked about, so that each N.C.O. and a great many men knew almost automatically their immediate senior or junior, and how the principle was applied in battle is indicated in Sergeant——'s last words as he fell in the attack of 16th August, 1918, "I'm oot o' action, Corporal——, Carry on."

But perhaps their stoical calmness, at those times when the shadows and anxieties of critical events hovered around, was the surest indication of their strength of character. March, 1918, has already been referred to as one of those periods and in comparison with the despondency which existed in certain quarters behind the lines, the cheerfulness and confidence of the men who would have to bear the brunt of the attack, if it did come, was just as a wholesale breath of mountain air blowing into a dark mist. On one of those weary days a Cameron officer was called back over the ridge to a conference, and on returning, expressed surprise at the great contrast between the pessimism of the counsels he had just come from and the cheerful atmosphere of the Battalion, wondering why it should be so, and thus drawing from another officer present the reply, "Those further back have their reputations to lose, we have only our lives."

It was not as if the men were in ignorance of the situation, they had been expressly told as to what might happen at any moment and each of them was given his battle post where he was to do or die. Yet they seemed to have complete confidence in themselves. Was it the incident of Corporal Irvin bringing down the hostile plane in No Man's Land, then chasing out after the pilot, or the Battalion patrols racing after the Germans (a), it was all done with a thorough sporting spirit.

On the eve of battle the men were just as indifferent to danger. When it was expected that the Battalion would attack on the morning of 10th August, they were astir a good hour before dawn, chatting, shaving, and cleaning up, and when information was received later that another Division had gone through to give battle, one Sergeant was heard to remark to another, "A great mistake S——, they should hae let us go on, we had a grip o' the situation." Again, one might say so self-confident, as to be humorous; but still again, a very important factor in the "will to conquer."

(a) One Lewis Gun N.C.O., after exhausting the magazine of his revolver, flung the weapon at the leader of the enemy's patrol.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

There only remains to add to this unrelieved impression of sternness the recollection of the comradeship and good feeling of the camp. The grimness of the fight was never evident there, and the training, sports, and concerts (a) were entered into by the men with a zest which gave little indication of the closeness of war, or the fact that they were spinning a coin with death.

Thus ends the narrative; it may not be fair in a military sense to let it end so without recalling the difficulties common to any unit, and emphasizing more especially the awkward angles of character peculiar to a Highland Battalion, but time seems to have overwhelmed the sense of these in the memory of independent and critical but fearless, staunch men, and as we know they were the breed who fought to a finish, let their deeds be the answer to the criticism of their shortcomings.

(a) At these concerts each company was responsible for half an hour's entertainment. This created rivalry, and excellent results were obtained.

The "Cameron Highlanders" Association

FOR a long time it has been recognized that the 16th Canadian Scottish, 27th and 43rd Associations, while admirably working as individual field unit organizations, were not sufficiently comprehensive in scope to cover the many "Camerons" who did not serve with one of these units and that a regimental association was desirable and necessary.

At the anniversary celebration smoker a resolution to this effect was offered, duly moved and seconded, and enthusiastically received and carried. The celebration committee was authorized to act as the first committee for organization purposes. A sub-committee has been intrusted with the preliminary work and an announcement will be made early in the Fall.

It is the desire of all concerned that every "Cameron" should be a member of this association and that each one who has not reported during the celebration should communicate with Regimental Headquarters.

It is suggested that interested "Camerons" in each locality may assist the Committee materially by forwarding the names, ranks, regimental numbers and addresses of those of whom they have knowledge, and to maintain contact for future activities; further, by forming local groups to create interest in the Association.

Each "Cameron" is to receive a copy of this souvenir booklet and it is desired that none be missed. Further copies, if desired, will be on sale.

TO ALL CAMERONS

The historical file at Regimental Headquarters is gradually being enhanced in value by contributions from Camerons and friends and will be of great interest to future historians. Further contributions of personal papers, letters, newspaper and magazine clippings, and photographs will be gratefully accepted and acknowledged.