

WE
DO
OUR
BIT
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



DOING OUR BIT

Canadians and the Great War

An exhibition documenting the impact of the First World War on Canadians at home and in Europe featuring the collections of the Toronto Reference Library

31 October, 1998 – 17 January, 1999

*Canada Trust Gallery, Toronto Reference Library
789 Yonge Street, Toronto Ontario*

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DOING OUR BIT

Canadians and the Great War



THE FIRST WORLD WAR, 1914 – 1918, INVOLVED combatants and allies from 32 different nations, and by its end would claim over 8,500,000 lives. At the time, it was called the Great War; it was to be the last time war would be fought on such a scale. The Great War has been recognized as an important step in Canada's journey toward nationhood. During the war years Canada earned a reputation as a fighting force and took its place internationally, proud of its British heritage, but increasingly independent.

This exhibition of original materials from the Toronto Reference Library tells the story of individual Canadians, how the war touched their lives, and how they “did their bit” for the empire during the Great War. Each artifact exhibited here represents a tiny fragment of the past ...each photograph has a story, each letter has a sender, each message has a receiver and it is in drawing together these elements that the Canadian war experience is presented and shared.

The first portion of the exhibit tells the story of a nation swept up in patriotic fervour and confident that the war would be won quickly. The second portion looks at the soldier's life in training, on leave, and in the trenches, and evokes a sense of how different their experience was from what they had been led to expect. And finally, the exhibit looks at the legacy of the Great War.



ITEM 47.

At Duty's call

*When war broke out—you cannot **believe**—unless you were there. The country went mad! People were singing on the streets and roads. Everybody wanted to be a hero, everybody wanted to go to war.**

IN 1914 CANADA DID NOT HAVE THE POWER TO declare war. Britain's declaration automatically included Canada, but Canadians reserved the right to determine the extent and type of support.

Unofficially, there had never been any question that we would send a force and by August 6th Canada's offer of a contingent of 25,000 had been accepted by Great Britain. Canadians were ready for war and eager to "do their bit" for the Mother Country. The initial call for 25,000 men was easily met; by the time the Cabinet passed an order to send a Canadian Contingent overseas, 33,000 men had already martialled at Valcartier.

For the next four years, Canadians at home and abroad would be focused on the war effort. Canadians draped themselves in the Union Jack as young men enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, women organized knitting parties and relief funds, and children learned the names of places in far away lands.

*Burt Remington, quoted in *The Great War and Canadian Society: An Oral History* ed. by Daphne Read, Toronto: New Hogtown Press, 1978.

1. The Farewell to Soldiers Off to War.

Marion Long (1882–1970),
Charcoal on wove paper, c1916.
Acc:974–25-2

Union Station in Toronto was the scene of many wartime farewells. The troops gathered at concentration camps nearby at Long Branch and the Canadian National Exhibition grounds, and were then sent by train for further training at Valcartier in Quebec.

Marion Long was born in Toronto in 1882 and studied art at the Ontario College of Art, under G. A. Reid and Laura Muntz. She opened her own studio in Toronto prior to the start of the war. A portrait painter, she later specialized in military portraiture and was commissioned by the Imperial Tobacco Co. to paint a series of portraits of sailors for a Player's Navy Cut campaign during World War II.

2. For God! For King and Empire! For Newfoundland!

Recruitment poster for the
First Newfoundland Regiment, c1914.

In 1914 Newfoundland was a British colony, and was not part of Canada. With the British declaration of war on August 4th, the tiny colony of Newfoundland found itself at war against the Central Powers and was expected to raise men for the British Expeditionary Force. In all, 5280 Newfoundlanders responded to the call for God, King and Empire and Newfoundland.

The First Newfoundland Regiment served in the Dardanelles and in France. The regiment earned the honour "Royal Newfoundland Regiment" for their valiant sacrifice at Beaumont Hamel during the Battle of the Somme. 790 officers and men of the regiment went "over the top" on 1 July 1916; only 80 men mustered for roll the next day. After the war a monument with the regimental emblem was raised at Beaumont Hamel to honour the regiment.

3. If Newfoundland were Belgium!

Recruitment poster for the First Newfoundland
Regiment, c1915.

By the end of 1914 rumours of German atrocities had been circulating among soldiers at the front, but when the British government published its *Official Report of the Alleged Outrages of the Germans* in May, 1915, people at home were horrified. Recruitment posters such as this

appealed to a sense of justice and humanity, and conveyed the message that it was each man's duty to defend civilization.

4. The Navy Wants Men!

Recruitment poster for the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve. Toronto: Lithographed by Mortimer Co. Limited. c1914.

Recruitment posters varied from brightly coloured posters such as this, to crudely printed broadsides. Recruitment was the burden of the local militia groups. Within the first month of the war a call went out to local militias to supply a list of volunteers able and willing to serve. Thus the cost of recruiting was borne almost entirely by the local militia.

At the outbreak of the war, the Canadian Navy consisted of two training vessels and fewer than 350 officers and men, and her reputation was overshadowed by Britain's own acclaimed naval power. As the war developed the Canadian Navy earned a reputation as a support for the empire, and became an important supplier of coastal patrol ships and men for the Royal Navy.

5. Give to the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Poster, c1915.
Hamilton: Lithographed by Howell Lith. Co. Limited.

Although Canadian soldiers were the best paid in the empire, a soldier's pay was only \$1.10 per day. The Canadian Patriotic Fund was set up by Montrealer Sir Herbert Ames to support the wives and children of Canadian soldiers on active service. Canadians responded generously. By 1919, over \$43 million had been raised for the Patriotic Fund.

6. Grand Concert, 1914 Nov. 12.

Programme for a patriotic concert, Montreal, 1914.

Throughout the war, the musical and theatrical community offered their talents in fundraising events for the war effort. This Grand Concert to benefit the French Red Cross included performances by violinist Alphonse Dansereau, a member of the Dubois String Quartet and his brother Hector (later known as Jean) Dansereau, who rose to prominence as a concert pianist and accompanist.

Also on the programme was an address by politician and journalist Henri Bourassa, founding editor of *Le Devoir* and ardent French-Canadian nationalist. Bourassa

later opposed Canadian participation in World War I on the grounds that Prime Minister Borden announced the country's entry without consulting Parliament.

7. Souvenir Programme of a Patriotic Concert at Massey Hall.

Toronto, 1914.

The emblem on this programme for a patriotic concert depicts the very Britishness of Canada at the time war was declared. At this point, no-one envisioned the years of sacrifice and bloodshed before them, nor had they seen how tightly the bonds of patriotism and empire would hold them.

8. Canada and the war: a compilation of patriotic gems from men and women all over the Dominion...

edited and compiled by Albert Dennis. Winnipeg: [1917?]

This amateur pamphlet was published as a memorial to Capt. Eric R. Dennis, killed at Vimy Ridge, April 17th, 1917. Composed of quotations from speeches of famous Canadians, and excerpts from poetry and letters published in newspapers, it reflects a growing sense of Canadian nationhood:

"Canada can repay her debt of blood and tears and life, in assets all her own, in devotion to cause, in gratitude, in love, in higher life, and by building a greater and more glorious Canada." - J.H. Leach, Winnipeg.

9. Our volunteer army: facts and figures, 42,000 native-born recruits in Ontario, 25,000 the logical proportion for Quebec;

a compilation of articles which have appeared in "La Presse", Montreal.

[Montreal: La Presse publishing co. ltd.], 1916.

This pamphlet was published in response to the charge, which regularly appeared in Toronto newspapers, that French Canadians were "slackers" and lacked enthusiasm for the war effort. Presenting statistics which show that "native born Quebecers" are as well represented in the military as "native born Ontarians", it claims that "French Montreal alone has the lead, MAN FOR MAN, on Canadian-English Toronto". The official provincial statistics were skewed by the over-enthusiasm of British born Ontarians.



10. Doubling the Watch.

Postcard, nd.

This pairing, unlikely in real life, of a British bulldog and a rather fierce looking Canadian beaver illustrates Canada's unquestioned support of the empire, and suggests the emergence of Canada's new national confidence.

The beaver had been recognized as an emblem of Canadian sovereignty since the 17th century, and was featured on the badges of many Canadian Expeditionary Force battalions.

11. Victory Bond Committee.

Photograph, 1918.X64-103

This photograph shows the Executive Committee of Toronto's Victory Loan campaign for 1918 proudly gathered on the steps of City Hall. Monies raised directly supported the military, as well as hospitals, demobilization bonuses and pensions. The campaigns in the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 raised \$1.7 billion dollars.

12.

Oh please do! Daddy.

Victory bond postcard,
Toronto, 1917.

The Victory Loan of 1917 was a massive, locally organized campaign to raise funds for the war effort. No fewer than 460,000 posters and over one million postcards were printed and mailed to the local committees. The pretty face and appealing eyes of the little girl on this card accounted

for some 75,000 posters. Miss Faith Berry, of Toronto was given a \$500 bond and a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her powerful poster personality. The 1917 Victory Loan, the first of three, raised over \$419 million in only two weeks.

13. Do Your Bit,

by Gordon V. Thompson. Toronto :
Thompson Publishing Co., 1915.

Dedicated to Major-General Sam Hughes, Minister of

Militia, *Do Your Bit* was adopted as the recruiting song of the 204th Overseas Battalion. The lyrics stress the need for "munitions, men and gold" and ask the questions, "Is the bit I'm doing just the biggest bit I can?" and "Is it right to stay? When our men are dying fast in blood-stained France today?"

Composer Gordon V. Thompson wrote at least eighteen songs during World War I to boost recruitment and morale. Although naive in their telling of wartime events, these songs were very popular; Thompson's patriotic tune *When We Wind Up the Watch on the Rhine* sold 100,000 copies in Canada and another 100,000 in the United States.

14. Gee I'd Like to be a Soldier,

Words by Sgt. W. E. Turley, Music by Edgar W. Ruff.
Toronto : Somme Music Publishing Co., 1916.

This rousing song by the authors of *The Boys We Love* portrays a soldier's life as one filled with camaraderie, fighting victorious battles for the righteous cause of world peace. The young woman left behind longs to do her part too.

"Gee! I'd like to be a soldier boy and fight with all the rest—

I am sure a girl is just as brave if you'll put her to the test—"

15. Red Cross Tag Day at Empringham Hotel, Toronto, Ontario

Gelatin-silver print,
1915.
Acc:966-2-37.

16. Patriotic Tags.

1914 – 1918.

Patriotic tags such as these were sold by children during "Tag Days" similar to the one pictured in item #15. At least sixty-five different tag days were held in Toronto during the war, the tags bearing emblems of empire, fallen heroes, and the justice of the allied cause.

17. Red Cross Garden Party.

Gelatin-silver prints, 1915.
Acc:966-2-37,966-2-38,966-2-39,966-2-40

The Canadian Red Cross Society worked on the home front as well as overseas to "furnish aid to the sick and



wounded of armies in time of war". These activities ranged from supplying clothing and amenities to the troops and hospitals, to fundraising in support of the overseas organization. Toronto's contribution alone to the Red Cross war effort amounted to over \$4,500,000.

The girls in these photographs are hosting a garden party in aid of the Red Cross, on the grounds of the Empringham hotel in Toronto's east end. The Empringham Hotel was at the corner of Dawes Rd. and Danforth Ave.

18. Toronto does her "bit"

compiled by Hubert Groves. Toronto: Municipal Intelligence Bureau, [1918].

Both the pamphlet and the clipping pasted into it were published before the end of the war, but have an air of self-congratulation for a job well done. The statistics given in the clipping from the *Star Weekly* are inflated, and Toronto's claim to being the most patriotic, most generous, most self-sacrificing, did not go unchallenged. However, the achievements recorded in the pamphlet are impressive. The pamphlet includes a brief description of all Toronto-based battalions, and many Toronto associations which did war work. Most of the relief organizations were run by women.

19. St. Andrew's Rifles.

Toronto:1916.

There was tremendous pressure not only to support the war effort, but to do so visibly. This pamphlet reiterates the sentiment that "When this war is over Canada will not have many favours for those who could have worn service uniform and did not".

The St. Andrew's Rifles was a home defense corps. They had uniforms, met regularly for drill and rifle practice, but were not part of the Expeditionary Force. Most of the men of the St. Andrew's Rifles were not eligible for service, or were professionals who were needed on the home front.

20. Patriotic pins.

c1915

The Rural Schools Patriotic Fair was one of the many types of fundraising events which were held during the war to raise money for soldiers and their families.

The carnation as a memento of soldiers fallen during the war pre-dates the more familiar poppy made famous

in Col. John McCrae's famous poem "In Flanders Fields".

21. Canada's Egg Opportunity.

Poster issued by the Canada Food Board, 1918.

Throughout the war, Canada recognized her responsibility to feed Britain and her allies, but it was not until 1918 that the Canada Food Board was created by order-in-council to formalize that role. The Board's chief objective was to increase exports of foodstuffs to Britain by reducing waste and increasing food production. This poster is one of a series of posters which address Canada's food "opportunities".

Canada's egg exports to Britain quadrupled by the end of the war; Canada's real opportunity lay in developing and maintaining new markets.

22. Fish and Vegetable Meals Will Save Wheat Meat & Fats for Our Soldiers and Our Allies.

Poster issued by the Canada Food Board
Toronto: Rous and Mann, 1917.

The Domestic Economy Section of the Canada Food Board worked with the Information Department to encourage women to reduce waste and conserve foodstuffs for the fighting men. Fish and Vegetable Meals and Meatless Tuesdays were two of the more successful campaigns. Canadian women were eager recipients of this propaganda and voluntarily rationed their foodstuffs to meet the overseas demand.

23. Boys to the Farm.

Poster.

Hamilton: Howell Lithographing Co. Ltd., 1917.

The Canada Food Board, along with the YMCA and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, sponsored the Soldiers of the Soil movement to encourage urban school-boys to help out on farms during the summer months. Over 25,000 boys between the ages of 15 and 19 enrolled in this programme. This poster, showing the uniform, highlights the camaraderie and spirit of the movement. Not surprisingly, the image was inconsistent with the grind of agricultural life, which many of the boys found to be less than their true calling.

24. Diary of Elizabeth Cawthra, 6 August, 1914.

Cawthra family fonds.





The memory of the Boer War, only ten years past was clearly in the minds of many Canadians when war was declared on August 4th. Veterans were ready to enlist, and women were ready to serve in familiar roles. A mere two days following the declaration, Mrs. Elizabeth Cawthra of Toronto attended a meeting of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire and laid plans to outfit a hospital ship to care for the wounded.

The women of Toronto raised \$284,000 for the hospital ship. When it became apparent that the hospital ship was not needed, the money was forwarded to the British War Office to pay for Canadian Womens' Ambulances as well as a group of buildings to serve as a naval hospital in Portsmouth, England.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

25. Lt.Col. Commander, Polish Army Camp to Miss M.C. Fitzgibbon, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 13 March 1918 and 28 Dec. 1918.

Paderewski miscellanea.

Niagara-on-the-Lake was the site of training camps for both Canadian and allied troops. In 1915 there were 7,500 men at Camp Niagara, which was used as a holding and training base. Later, Camp Niagara became a base for the Polish-American army.

These telegrams acknowledge the efforts of local women's groups to provide clothing and comforts for the soldiers. Miss Fitzgibbon was a friend of the Polish composer Ignace Paderewski and his wife Helena. The Paderewskis were active during the war raising funds for the Polish White Cross. Miss Fitzgibbon had a special interest in the Polish cause.

26. Farm Service Corps

Commemorative medal, 1917.

The Ontario Farm Service Corps programme was launched in 1917 to encourage high school boys and girls to work on farms during their summer vacation. 7,000 boys, who worked at least three months on a farm, received this badge in recognition of their contribution to Canada's Campaign for Greater Food Production. A separate badge showing a young girl harvesting fruit was issued to 1,300 girls who worked at least three weeks in the Niagara district.

On loan from Mr. Ciaran Shantz.

27. Erskine Keys to Mrs. D. R. Keys, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 17 July 1917.

Keys family fonds.

In 1917, Erskine Keys, a teenaged girl from Toronto, spent the summer with several of her school chums picking fruit in the Niagara Peninsula. In this letter she shows a fanciful sketch of herself on the ladder, bushel in hand. In reality it was hard work, and Erskine frequently went to bed exhausted. For her efforts, she would have earned twenty-five cents per bushel and a Farm Service Corps badge.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

28. Postcard, 9 Nov. 1916.

Keys family fonds.

Friends and family of soldiers sent packages of cakes, candies and jams to include a little variety in the soldier's diet. Pte. Norman Keys of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry was pleased to receive a box of apples, shipped to the front from Burlington, Ontario. Although the postcard does not guarantee their quality if sent to the trenches, we know from Pte. Keys' correspondence home that the apples arrived in fine shape and were much appreciated.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.



29. Women of Canada. Save! and Serve!

Broadside.

Toronto: Organization of Resources Committee, c1916.

For the first time, women were recognized as contributors to the economy. They were encouraged to "Serve!" by lim-

iting frivolous demands on the market and ultimately, by entering the workforce to ensure that the legitimate needs of the market could be met. During the war, 30,000 women were employed in munitions factories, and many thousands of women in banks offices and factories replaced men who had gone to war. Although it would herald a new role for women, this measure was regarded as strictly temporary.

30. Help! Our Stricken Heroes are Calling to You!

Broadside

Toronto, 1915.

The British Red Cross bore the financial burden of caring for the wounded and the dying, providing surgeons, nurses and stretcher bearers, and maintaining hospitals in France, Malta and Egypt. On the 110th anniversary of the British victory at Trafalgar, the British Red Cross appealed to the empire to pledge assistance.

On "Our Day", October 21, 1915, Ontario pledged to raise \$500,000. They collected over \$1,515,000 in a three-day campaign. The "Our Day" campaign was repeated annually on Trafalgar Day until the end of the war.

31. Mrs. Fraser to Donald T. Fraser, Toronto, 28 Nov. 1915.

Fraser family fonds.

On the home front, women busied themselves with war projects and relief funds, but were often frustrated by the limitations of their efforts. Mrs. Fraser, in this letter to her son Dr. Donald T. Fraser of the Royal Army Medical Corps echoes the thoughts of many women, when she writes, "Why should I have to stay at home — my life is not worth half as much as yours — We all ask ourselves Why, Why, Why?"

Gift of Dr. Donald A. Fraser.

32. Bits.

Christmas card

Toronto: The Mail and Empire, 1915.

This 1915 Christmas card from the Mail and Empire carrier boys illustrates the patriotic fervour which so captivated the home front. Everyone, from soldier to newsboy, was "doing their bit" to win the war.

33. Food Service Pledge.

Printed pledge card, 1917.

Canadians freely took up the burden of feeding the empire. As Food Controller of Canada, W. J. Hanna urged people to "Remember WOMEN are the real Food Controllers of Canada". Voluntary conservation was so successful in Canada that a full-fledged scheme of rationing was not required. Pledge cards, such as this one were hung in over one million dining rooms, where members of the household could be reminded daily of the urgent and noble cause.

34. Canadian Red Cross Society Commissioner to E. Cawthra, 4 Apr. 1916

Receipt 3 Apr. 1916

Manuscript list of

"prisoners we are sending parcels to"

Cawthra family fonds.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cawthra of Toronto was very active in sending relief parcels to Canadian prisoners of war. The Red Cross arranged for packages of bread, cigarettes, clothing etc. to be sent to supplement prison fare. Mrs. Cawthra regularly sent packages to members of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry who had been taken prisoner. When in 1916 the Red Cross took over the programme, she continued to help with the distribution of the gifts.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

35. Give the boys what they really want!

Printed advertisement for the Tobacco Fund, 1915.

Family and friends, desperate to do whatever they could to help the boys in the trenches, were easy prey to advertisers who would assure them that tobacco, or underwear, or chewing gum or even the correct brand of razor was essential to the war effort. Although soldiers may have questioned the suitability of some of the gifts from home, undoubtedly they did welcome the gifts of tobacco.

36. Knitting Socks for Daddy's Men,

Words and Music by Jean Munro Mulloy.

Toronto : Anglo Canadian Music Publishers Association, 1915.

Wife of a Boer War veteran, Jean Munro Mulloy wrote a number of war tunes including *Johnny Canuck's the Boy*,



Nursing Daddy's Men, and *All of My Dollies are Soldiers Now*. Her lyrics were popular with the wives and children on the home front as they spoke of fathers, husbands and sweethearts gone to fight, and also glamorized the work of knitting socks and nursing soldiers.



10

37. War memorial of Huron County's heroes and heroines.

Wingham, Ont.: Wingham Advance [1919?]

This war memorial is dedicated to the men and women who took part in the war, risking, and in many cases losing their lives. The work of the community, which supported the war effort, is noted in the back pages of accounts, town by town, group by group. The impressive inventory of goods made and money raised in the Town of Wingham is probably representative of many small towns in Canada. Wingham's total population was about 2000, so fewer than a thousand women and girls made the thousands of bandages, pairs of socks, shirts, pyjamas and quilts; canned the fruit and maple syrup; and prepared the Christmas boxes listed here.

38. The Canadian Mother

Election Broadside Issued by the Union Government Publicity Bureau, Ottawa: Heliotpye Co. Limited, 1917.

By the third year of the war, enthusiasm was beginning to wane and it was increasingly difficult to fill out battalions. Some dissenters were beginning to come forward with their objections to the war and Canada's involvement in it, but many more were calling for conscription to force the "slackers" to take their rightful place at the front. The Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Robert Borden, had already extended his term beyond its mandate; by 1917 he had to go to the polls. To increase support the Conservatives under Borden joined with several Liberal and Independent candidates to propose a Union Government with its primary focus the winning of the war. In this context conscription became the key issue in the federal election.

In an effort to bolster the pro-war vote, the War Time Elections Act of 1917 disenfranchised conscientious objectors, and extended the vote not only to soldiers serving overseas, but also to their sisters, wives and mothers. In this poster, which would have been distributed in Canada as well as overseas, the Canadian Mother assures her boy in uniform that she will cast her vote appropriately.

39. Maynard Grange to E. R. Grange, Toronto, Dec. 1917.

Grange family papers.

In this letter to her brother, Capt. Rochfort Grange, Maynard Grange describes her experience of casting a vote for the first time. Accompanied by her father, in case of any trouble at the polls, Maynard Grange cast her vote for the Union Government. An estimated 500,000 Canadian women voting for the first time elected the Union Government, endorsing the slogan that a vote against Borden was a vote against the boys at the front.

Capt. Edward Rochfort Grange was a pilot in the Royal Naval Air Service from 1915 to 1918, and the Royal Air Force from 1918 to 1919. He received the Croix de Guerre and the Distinguished Service Cross in 1916.

Gift of Mr. Guy Saunders.

40. Maynard Grange to E. R. Grange, Toronto, Feb. 1916.

Grange family papers.

In this letter from home, Maynard Grange refers to the fire at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, noting that popular gossip believed it to be the work of the Germans. Her suggestion that the saboteur may have been French because "there are so many of the French Canadians that are rank traitors that it is hard to tell who did it" betrays the growing tension between English and French Canadians.

Gift of Mr. Guy Saunders.

41. The Globe

4 Feb. 1916.

The Canadian press frequently carried accounts of suspected sabotage and espionage. The threat, real or imagined, of German sympathizers crossing the neutral American border was continually kept before the public. When the Canadian Parliament Buildings burned down in February, 1916, Canadians immediately suspected sabotage. One paper reported that an American embassy had received prior warning of a German threat on the Parliament Buildings. Although many rumours circulated, a royal commission later found the reports to be false. The fire had started accidentally.

42. You are No Exception!

Recruitment poster.

Toronto: Stone Lith.Ltd.,1916.

Following the patriotic rush of 1915, enlistment slowed down substantially. Recruits were pressured into taking their place at the front and those who refused were labelled as “slackers”. This poster illustrates a new, more aggressive recruitment strategy; the silhouette of a prosperous looking businessman, outlined in yellow, drives home its rather sinister subtext.

Stone Limited, formerly the Toronto Lithographing Company produced a number of recruitment posters during the war, and is remembered for its bold and striking images.

**43. Heroes of St. Julien and Festubert!**

Recruitment poster.

Montreal: Gazette Printing Co. Limited, 1916.

A raw, young, First Canadian Division entered the line in the Ypres Salient in the spring of 1915. In their “baptism by fire” the Canadians suffered

6,714 casualties at St. Julien, and another 2,468 at Festubert. Although the casualty figures were staggering, Canadians were proud of their sacrifice and their newly earned reputation as a fighting force. Recruitment posters such as this urged Canadians to avenge the heroes of St. Julien and Festubert, and continue their proud and honourable tradition.

44. Royal Canadian Dragoons on training manoeuvres.

Original film footage, c1914,transferred to VHS,1998. R.S. Timmis fonds.

This film clip shows original footage of the Royal Canadian Dragoons on training manoeuvres at the Canadian National Exhibition grounds. The types of manoeuvres and mock battles shown here were rehearsed by the several battalions which mustered and trained at Toronto, before moving on to Valcartier, Quebec.

This footage gives us a rare look at this famous Canadian mounted regiment. The riding and parading skills being practised here were not used in the trenches of the Western Front; mounted regiments were frequently employed as infantry during the First World War.

This footage was shot by Lt. Col. R. S. Timmis, who served overseas with the regiment from 1915 to 1918, receiving the Distinguished Service Order in March,1918. He commanded the regiment from 1931 to 1936.

*Gift of Mrs. J. Kitchen***45. Parade of troops before leaving Toronto, University Ave.,looking north to Queen's Park.**

Silver gelatin print on postcard, 20 March 1915.

Acc:X-64-374

46. Parade of troops, Yonge Street looking south, South of Gerrard St.

Silver gelatin print on postcard, 20 March 1915.

Acc:X-64-378

47. Parade of troops, Toronto.

Photo postcard, 20 March 1915.

Almost 9,000 men took to the streets on Saturday, March 20,1915,marching in one of the largest military parades ever held in Toronto. 4,500 troops of the Second Contingent, who were soon to embark for training camp at Valcartier, were accompanied by troops from the Third Contingent and soldiers from the home strength of the local regiments. The column stretched out over four miles, and was led by Major-General Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia.

48. At Duty's Call.

Postcard.

49. Canada will do her duty to keep the old flag flying.

Postcard.

50. The voice of the knight and his lady, St. George and Waneita,other poems and historic truths. Written for the Brant Battalions and the Six Nation Indian Warriors.

Issued for Red Cross and Patriotic Purposes. Aryan Society Women's Institutes. [1917?]

About 4000 Canadian Indians served in Europe with the



Canadian Expeditionary Force, most notably in the 52nd, the 107th, the 114th Canadian Infantry Battalions. Many of the Grand River Mohawks were members of the 114th, which recognized the importance of its Indian members by adopting a crest featuring crossed tomahawks.

Lieut. Cameron Brant, killed at Ypres, was one of 17 descendants of Joseph Brant serving in the Canadian army. Joseph Brant was a Loyalist Mohawk chief who fought with the British during the American revolution.

51. **Breath o' the heather.**

[Fredericton, N.B.: 1917-]

August 1917.

This is a special "New England" souvenir edition of the magazine of the 236th Battalion (Maclean Kilties of America), published while the Fredericton battalion was on a recruiting tour in New England. Many Americans had joined the Canadian forces before the Americans entered the war in 1917, and one battalion, (known as the 97th American Legion) was made up entirely of Americans. For this trip, however, the 236th Battalion was targeting only Canadians and British subjects living in the United States.

The delegation from the 236th toured New England complete with kilts and pipe band, and was greeted everywhere with enthusiasm. Recruits were promised a three week tour of the Scottish highlands including the Isle of Mull, the ancestral home of the Macleans, before starting training at a camp in England. The two-week campaign raised over 1300 men.

52. **Norman Keys to Mrs. D. R. Keys,**

(Shornecliffe), 11 July 1915. Keys family fonds.

The Canadian soldiers embarking for England may have believed themselves to be British, but when they arrived on Salisbury Plain many were surprised to become strangers in a foreign land. Many Canadians reported feeling alienated, and began to realize the extent to which they were, in fact, "Canadian".

Although Pte. Norman Keys exaggerates when he tells his mother "9 out of ten [of the Canadian Contingent] are British born & speak with that annoying accent", at least 70% of the First Canadian Contingent were in fact British born. Keys himself was born in Canada of American parents and was educated in Germany, but considered himself to be a "true" Canadian.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

53. **At Duty's Call, The 173rd Overseas Battalion, Borden Camp, Canada.**

Battalion postcard, 1916.

In a flurry of excitement and bravado the troops bade farewell to their family and friends, and went off to war. The 173rd Battalion, the "Canadian Highlanders" served in France and Belgium, earning battle honours at the Somme, 1916, Arras, 1917 and 18, Vimy, 1917, Passchendaele, Amiens, 1918, Drocourt-Queant, Hindenburg Line, and the Pursuit to Mons. Their "Business Trip" lasted much longer than the few months anticipated in this battalion card sent out on embarkation in 1916.

54. **Hello Canada,**

by Morris Manley.

Toronto: Morris Manley Music Publisher, 1919.

Morris Manley was another prolific composer of war songs. His subjects covered partings (*Goodbye Mother Dear and My Red Cross Girl Farewell*), combat (*Up in the Air Over There*), the enemy (*What the Deuce do we care for Kaiser Bill*) and marching songs such as this, with a chorus that recognizes the part all regions of Canada were taking in the fray:

"I heard them call each other, from the town where e'er they came,
Instead of Bill or Jack or Jim, 'Tis thus they call their name—
Hello Toronto, Hello Halifax, Hello Calgary, where is Medicine Hat?
Hello Regina, where is Saskatoon? Saw Hamilton and London out with Montreal at noon..."

55. **Cavalry Review at Valcartier.**

Photo postcard, c1914.

The Canadian Contingent mobilized at Valcartier, Quebec. Here the troops were outfitted, vaccinated, trained in military drill and, as in this photo postcard, showcased for a patriotic public.

56. **Camp Kitchen, Shornecliffe.**

Photo postcard.

57. **"Tin Town", Shornecliffe**

Photo postcard.



In 1915 the Canadians on Salisbury Plain moved into their new “huts” at Shorncliffe. Tag days and “Build the Huts” campaigns financed the construction of the improved quarters for the Canadian Contingent, and the soldiers were eager to show off their new digs to the folks back home.

58. Garnet Dolman to Mrs. S.J. Dolman, Crowborough, 7 Nov. 1916.

Samuel Joseph Dolman Correspondence.

Canadian troops spent an additional twelve weeks in training on their arrival in England. In this letter to his mother, Pte. Garnet Dolman of the 3rd Battalion (Toronto Regiment) describes the routine of training camp and the art of soldiering. His reference to a “nasty place” is accurate, but the crowded huts to which Dolman refers were a marked improvement on the rain-washed tents which had been hastily put up on Salisbury Plain in 1914.

Gift of Mrs. W. J. McCormick.

59. Moral Conditions Among Our Soldiers Overseas: Official and Other Reliable Evidence.

Toronto: Social Service Council of Canada, 1917.

In 1915 the Social Service Council, “representing the religious and moral forces of Canada” came forward with their own “reliable evidence” in response to complaints about the behaviour of the Canadians. The evidence printed here, chiefly testimonials of soldiers, was contradicted by the 66,346 reported cases of venereal disease among the Canadian contingent.

60. Mabel Adamson to Mrs. E. Cawthra, London, 10 Nov. 1914.

Cawthra family fonds.

Mabel Adamson sums up the chaos of the first winter when she writes “I don’t know which are having the hardest time, the Canadians in Camp or the English residents of Salisbury”. The tents provided for the Canadians were inadequate, rain fell 89 out of 123 days, and discipline was a new and unwelcome lesson for the soldiers. The Canadian training camps had only “dry” canteens; when the soldiers on leave discovered the beer flowing in the local pubs, their sprees and drunken behaviour became legendary.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

61. 2nd McGill Company, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry.

Training photographs, 1915.

Keys family fonds.

61a. Our convoy — the torpedo boat destroyer Medea. She gave us 3 cheers which were more than reciprocated

61b. Practising wall climbing along the shore near the town of Hythe

61c. Digging the Trenches up near Caesar’s camp

61d. A route-march rest.

This group of snapshots show the P.P.C.L.I. on training on Salisbury Plain. In twelve weeks the men learned the art of soldiering from weapons and drill, to the menial task of digging trenches. The units grew together during the training period, and the soldiers developed bonds which would last them throughout the war, and many years after.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

62. Troops loading bales of hay.

Photograph, 1915.

Keys family fonds.

Learning how to be a soldier included learning discipline and hard labour. The men in this working party from the McGill University Company of the P.P.C.L.I. may have been academics and lawyers in their previous lives, but as soldiers they were expected to perform any number of tasks.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

63. Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry.

Photo postcard, 1 Dec. 1915.

Keys family fonds.

This photograph of the 2nd McGill Reinforcing Company of the Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry was taken within days of their landing in Belgium. The soldiers shown here had not yet entered the line. A chatty note on the back describes how friendly the locals are, particularly the little girl peering out of the window.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.





ITEM 70.

Refugees in their own land

*The proposition is to freight a barge at Dunkirk and send things into Belgium by way of the Canals, of which there are hundreds. Of course we could not get very far, but an advance is expected very soon; even now on the fringe of the Army there is a destitute population. **

IN 1914 ONLY A TINY CORNER OF BELGIUM remained in allied hands and the over 10,000 Belgian families living there were refugees in their own land. In December of that year Mrs. Agar Adamson and Mrs. Kathryn Innis-Taylor, two Canadian women living in London, founded the Belgian Canal Boat Fund, a Canadian based fund to provide relief to the civilians trapped behind the firing lines.

Because of the proximity of the German troops and the volatile battlefield, they were unable to obtain visas or a barge to carry out the canal scheme. Instead, the determined women set up an orphanage and school at Furnes, Belgium. Money and supplies raised in Canada were distributed to the families from the Belgian Canal Boat Fund headquarters at Furnes.

**Mabel Adamson in a letter home, 1915.
Cawthra family fonds.*

64. Hommage de reconnaissance de l'école de guerre du Zuidkapel, Furnes, 1917.

Illuminated manuscript and photographs.
Cawthra family fonds.

By 1917, Mabel Adamson was spending most of her time working with the children and teachers at Furnes, and

was presented with this certificate of recognition of her work by Soeur Marie Gonzaque, Mother Superior of the convent. The school continued to be supported by the Belgian government for many years following the war, but the Canadian involvement ceased after the Armistice.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

65. The Belgian Canada Boat Fund - For the Relief of Civilians Behind the Firing Lines

Poster designed by John Hassall, London, 1915.
Cawthra family fonds.

Keenly aware of the number of charitable agencies operating in war-time London, Mabel Adamson commissioned this striking poster by well-known graphic artist John Hassall in the hope that the Canadian fund would stand out. The haunting image of the mother crouched over her children would look out at people from the London Underground stops for the next four years.

John Hassall (1868–1948) was a London based painter, illustrator and designer.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

66. Mabel Adamson.

Photograph, c1920.
Cawthra family fonds.

Mabel Adamson of Toronto followed her husband Capt. Agar Adamson of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry to London in 1914, and spent the duration of the war overseas. Determined not to pass this war on the sidelines, she immediately became involved with the Belgian Soldiers Fund, a British-based charity to provide relief to Belgian soldiers. Together with another Toronto woman, Mrs. Kathryn Innis-Taylor, she founded the Belgian Canal Boat Fund, a scheme to float supplies down the canals of Belgium to civilians trapped behind the allied firing lines.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

67. To Belgium

Postcard for the Belgian Relief Fund, c. 1915.
Cawthra family fonds.

68. Twenty Days Without Bread

Flyer for the Belgian Relief Fund, c 1915–1917.
Cawthra family fonds.

Concerned women kept the plight of Belgian children before the Canadian people. Contributions to the Belgian Children's Health Fund and the Belgian Orphans' Fund

were forwarded to the Belgian Canal Boat Fund and distributed at Furnes. The Ontario Branch of the Belgian Relief Fund had raised \$1,642,104 in cash, and \$1,512,800 in supplies by the end of the war.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson

69. Sing Me To Sleep.

Manuscript poem, 1915.
Cawthra family fonds.

In an age long before television could bring the war into living rooms, this sentimental song attempts to make “real” the plight of Belgian children caught behind the firing lines. An annotation on the back notes that this was “sung by a little Belgique girl of 10. The only clean one I have ever seen”.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson

70. Mabel Adamson to Mrs. E. Cawthra, London, 30 March 1915.

letter.

Mabel Adamson in Belgium, 1915.

Photograph.
Cawthra family fonds.

In this letter written just before she travelled to Belgium to promote the canal scheme, Mrs. Adamson tells her mother, “They evidently think I have the whole of Canada behind me which is a little disconcerting but I have great hopes that Canada will back me up”. The B.C.B.F. was a unique Canadian response to the war, and what little information has survived indicates that Canadians eagerly supported the cause of the Belgian refugees.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

71. Press Release.

London: Belgian Canal Boat Fund, Dec. 1917.
Cawthra family fonds.

The Canadian women administering the Belgian Canal Boat Fund at Furnes experienced a very different war than did their sisters on the home front. In spite of frequent shelling and air raids, the women were able to accommodate 370 children in the Headquarters at Furnes, and feed an additional 300 Belgian families displaced by the shellfire.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

72. Children at the Colonies des Enfants de l’Yser.

Photographs, c1916.
Cawthra family fonds.

So many children were left orphaned and homeless that the school at Furnes could not accommodate all of their needs. The “Colonies des Enfants de l’Yser” housed children who had been evacuated from the firing lines. These Belgian children were taken to France where they were cared for by Belgian nuns.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

73. Mrs. Innis-Taylor to Mabel Adamson, Furnes, 7 Oct. 1915.

Cawthra family fonds.

Mrs. Innis-Taylor sent regular reports to Mrs. Adamson in London. Her tactic of having the children sing in order to drown out the sound of the shelling is a particularly graphic reminder of the impact of war on the civilian population.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

74. Children at Furnes.

Photographs, c1917.
Cawthra family fonds.

The “hut” at Furnes served as a school and dispensary to over 300 Belgian children and their families. The children came to the school each day for meals and classes, and in the event of severe shelling, were housed in trenches behind the hut. By 1917 Mrs. Innis-Taylor and Mrs. Adamson were spending most of their time at Furnes.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

75. Mabel Adamson to Maude Cawthra, London, 30 April 1915.

Cawthra family fonds.

In this letter Mrs. Adamson updates her sister-in-law on the progress of the canal boat scheme, and urges her to drum up Canadian support for the project. She suggests holding garden parties throughout Toronto to raise money for the Fund. By the end of the war their marketing strategy would become much more sophisticated.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.





ITEM 87.

Digging in

*These woods are beautiful and full of birds of all sorts, a very fine Persian cat with a wonderful coat has become quite friendly. The canal at Ypres is stagnant and full of bodies...**

YOUNG MEN, RAISED ON THE EXCITING TALES OF adventure in *Boys Own* and swept up in a wave of patriotism, were unprepared for the horror which awaited them in the Ypres Salient. Comforting visions of family, hearth and home, were displaced by the reality of the dying, the diseased and the demoralized.

The unprecedented killing of the Great War, and the reality of trench warfare found soldiers confined to lines which did not move more than ten miles in either direction until the last year of the war. For many, the scale of devastation and destruction was overwhelming. In the fifty years leading up to 1914, only three British soldiers had been convicted of desertion; during the Great War 346 British soldiers were courtmartialled for leaving the field of battle, and thousands more fled within their own

minds, falling victim to a mysterious new condition known only as “shell shock”.

*Capt. Agar Adamson, in a letter to his wife, 1 May, 1915.
Cawthra family fonds.

76. Curtiss Aviation School, Class of July 1916, Lakeview (Mississauga, Ont.)

Photograph (panoramic) by Blakemore

Acc:X 23-4

At the beginning of the war, Canada did not have its own air force. Canadians wanting to join the Royal Flying Corps had to seek out their own training. The Curtiss Company, an American airplane manufacturer, recognized the business opportunity and established an aviation school at Long Branch, near Toronto in the summer of 1915.

Under the guidance of J. A. McCurdy “Canada’s aviation pioneer”, and Glenn Curtiss, the founder of the Curtiss Company and an aviation pioneer in his own right, the school trained pilots who wanted to enlist in Britain’s Royal Flying Corps. According to historian Desmond Morton, the fee of \$400 for 400 minutes did not deter the eager young pilots, “Hundreds lined up for a chance. Hundred more went to the U.S. for pilot training. By 1917 750 young Canadians had left Canada to join the British flying services; others joined overseas.”

77. Canada’s Grand Armada.

Frederick Sproston Challener (1862–1959)

Printer’s proof published for the I.O.D.E.

London: Finer Arts Publishing Co. Ltd.

This print of the painting by Frederick Challener was one in a series of prints of war art published by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, a patriotic Canadian women’s organization.

As the war drew to a close members of the Order sought a memorial, other than a traditional monument, to be their tribute to “the fallen of Empire”. At their the annual meeting in 1919 they adopted a plan to present copies of pictures painted by Canadian or British artists to schools “in the hope that rising generations would come to abhor the method of settling international disputes by mortal combat.”

This Challener painting depicts the sailing of the convoy of ships that brought the first contingent to England. Max Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook, described the scene in Canada in Flanders, an early and somewhat romantic history of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. “The trans-

ports steamed out of Gaspé Bay, in three lines ahead, led by His Majesty's ships *Charybdis*, *Diana*, and *Eclipse*, with the *Glory* and *Suffolk* on the flanks and *Talbot* in the rear."

78. The Canadians in France.

War Map.

Montreal: Montreal Star Publishing Co. Ltd., 1918.

Maps such as this published for the *Montreal Daily Star* and the *Family Herald* and *Weekly Star* helped to explain the progress of the war and pinpointed Canadian involvement. These maps magnified a very small part of the world, identifying the small towns and villages, previously unknown, which had become household words. This particular map lists the places where Canadian troops served in France. It features an ornate border of regimental crests, military decorations and battle honours earned by the Canadians in France and Belgium.

79. A sunny subaltern:

Billy's letters from Flanders.

by William Gray. Toronto: McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, [1916].

80. More letters from Billy: by the author of "A sunny subaltern: Billy's letters from Flanders"

Toronto: McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, [1917].

Published anonymously, these letters are indeed sunny. War is dreadful, but not more than a Canadian lad can cope with. "Everything humanly possible is done for the comfort of the men, and every dugout has a brazier with charcoal and coke burning to get warm by, and there is food to spare". When Billy is on a Red Cross train, wounded, he finds that "an orderly is always at hand, willing cheerfully to get anything you want, while anon comes the smiling sister with cigarettes". Although reading like propaganda, the first volume of these letters was very popular, and after two printings in Canada in 1916, and one in England (renamed *The Canadian subaltern*) in 1917, it was followed by a sequel.

81. My little wet home in the trenches.

by Roland D. Lemmon.

[s.l., s.n. 1919?]

"This book is not a book of lies, just a book that you do not find every day; it contains the truth, that is something

that you do not always get."

Unlike the cheery letters from the front published during the war, this rare pamphlet, printed just after the war, declares itself to be the unvarnished truth. Roland Lemmon, of St. John N.B., joined the army on August 5th 1914 when he was 13 years and 10 months old, and was discharged on November 1st, 1918 after being wounded for the third time. He fought with the 6th Regiment Canadian Mounted Rifles, and was for some months part of the Brigade Wire Cutters unit, which worked at night between the trenches, cutting the barbed wire in preparation for the following day's attack.

82. Canadians will give the Kaiser the Boot .

Postcard, c. 1915.

83. For gootness sake! Here Kom der Canadians.

Postcard, c. 1915.

The portly German soldier in a spiked helmet featured in both of these cards is undoubtedly a caricature of Paul von Hindenburg, the chief of staff of the German Armies. Dehumanizing the enemy by vilification and mockery was a feature of both official and unofficial propaganda. This appeal to the base fears in both military and civilian audiences helped make the distasteful aspects of warfare a bit more palatable.

84. Mabel Adamson to Mrs. Elizabeth Cawthra, London, 13 March 1915.

Cawthra family fonds.

In their letters home, the soldiers tried to be nonchalant about the horrors of war, to the point where trench life developed a certain mythology. In this letter, Mrs. Adamson recounts a tale of the Germans interrupting sniper fire to allow the Canadians the opportunity to build up their breastworks. According to her story, three shots were then fired in the air to signal that fighting could begin again.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

85. The Canadian Front Line.

Postcard, nd.

86. The Hungary 8.

Postcard, nd.





87. Soldiers near the front lines.

Postcard, nd.

These images are a sampling of how life overseas was documented for the people at home. Simply and cheaply produced, the photo postcard employed two of the most popular media devices of the period, the photograph and the postcard, providing the folks back home with an “authentic” view of a soldier’s life.

88. Eric McDougall to Joyce McDougall, Shornecliffe, Aug. 1915.

Eric McDougall to Joyce McDougall, In Europe, 12 Sept. 1915.

McDougall family fonds.

Letters from the front were subject to scrutiny by censors. Anything that might reveal strength or movement of troops was blacked out. Many young soldiers, eager to provide details to the folks at home, devised complicated secret codes, such as this described by Pte. Eric McDougall to his sister. Using his system of male and female names representing allied or enemy nations, and diseases or deaths representing losses and setbacks, he manages to inform his sister of Cousin Eva’s appendicitis (a minor success for the allies).

Gift of Mr. John Young

89. Shot Shell and Shrapnel: Tommy in the Trenches.

by Pte. Otto Logan. Halifax: Royal Print & Litho. Ltd., c1918.

These poems, composed in the trench by Pte. Otto Logan of the First Canadian Division, are fairly typical of the poetry produced by homesick soldiers at the front. Among soldiers in the trenches, “home” was a forbidden topic; poetry provided an rare opportunity to wear their hearts on their sleeves.

90. Harry Neil to Brothers and Sisters, in Billets in Belgium, 5 April 1916.

Neil family papers.

Harry Neil and his brother Jack signed up in the spring of 1915 and both served in France. Harry survived the war; Jack was killed in August, 1917 as he stepped out of his dugout. Harry Neil did not want to make the war seem glorious or exciting to his younger siblings. In this letter

to his family, Harry tries to describe the strain of being constantly under fire, “You may think that familiarity with bombs, bullets and shells breeds contempt. You are sadly mistaken. The more you hear or see, the more timid you become.”

Gift of Mr. R. H. Neil.

91. Canadian Corps Trench Standing Orders.

Army Printing & Stationery Service, (nd).

Keys family fonds.

A typical rotation of duty at the front was one night in billets close behind the firing line, eight days in support trenches or in the firing line, one night in billets close behind the firing lines followed by six days in billets (rest camp). Much of the time was spent waiting around, and the monotony was only second to the extreme tension of remaining on alert at all times. Canadian Corps Trench Standing Orders were in operation at all times, and covered all conduct from rations and cooking to arrangements in the case of attack.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

92. Canadian war pictorial: a photographic record: no. 1.

London; Toronto: Issued for the Canadian War Records Office by Hodder and Stoughton, [1916]

The Canadian War Records Office was established to collect and preserve a record of Canada’s military service for future historians. “Indiscriminate photography” by soldiers with box cameras was not allowed, but official photographers and an official “cinematograph operator” worked close to the action, and their record of trench warfare is an invaluable resource for today’s film makers, as well as for historians.

The logistics of keeping thousands of men at the front was a mass enterprise run by the Canadian Army Service Corps. These pictures show some of the steps involved. Pictures published by the office during the war as propaganda invariably portray the Canadian Expeditionary Force as efficient and cheerful.

93. Field Diary of an unidentified officer of the 15th Battalion.

27 May, 1918.

Time spent in billets or rest camps was a much needed break from the firing line, but prior to the advent of pio-

neer and trenching battalions, more often than not the “rest” included the backbreaking work of digging trenches, and moving supplies. By the end of 1917, the “rest camp” came closer to fulfilling its intended function. Training and work parties continued, but some time was set aside for recreational activity as described in this diary of an unidentified officer of the 15th Battalion (48th Highlanders).

94. Beaver Hut.

Poster, c1915.

For many Canadian soldiers, the bright lights and bold ways of London were both frightening, and an adventure. The Beaver Hut, the Canadian YMCA headquarters in London, was home away from home to many Canadian boys. An infantryman was granted ten days of leave per year and soldiers released from hospital were given leave before returning to the trenches. Many would stop off at the Beaver Hut, perhaps to meet up with pals, or to take one of the “Red Triangle” tours offered by the YMCA for soldiers on leave.



95. Landing of the 1st Canadian Division at St. Nazaire, February 1915.

Edgar Bundy, A.R.A. (1862–1922)

Printer's proof published for the I.O.D.E.

London: Fine Arts Publishing Co. Ltd.

The German threat of unrestricted submarine attacks in the English Channel forced the Canadians to abandon the usual route of Southampton-Havre, and move troops by a longer route from Avonmouth on the Bristol Channel to French port of St. Nazaire.

The triumphant landing depicted here belies the uncomfortable passage. According to historian G.W.L.

Nicholson, “For the majority of the troops, packed in the holds of small cargo vessels, it was a thoroughly unpleasant voyage. A rousing gale caused wholesale sea sickness, and tedious delays meant that some were on board for five days”.

Landing of the 1st Canadian Division at St. Nazaire is another in the series of war prints selected by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire. This highly evocative picture shows the band of the Royal Highland Regiment of Canada (Black Watch) marching past officers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

96. Dressing Station in the Field, Arras, 1918.

Alfred Theodore Joseph Bastien (1873–1955)

Printer's proof published for I.O.D.E.

London: Fine Art Publishing Co. Ltd.

This scene, possibly on the Arras-Cambrai, road shows the difficult conditions under which the field medical personnel treated the wounded and the dying. Moving along communications trenches and later along roadways, while removing the wounded and ill from the battlefield, the medics and stretcher bearers were often in areas that were

the prime targets of an enemy who was intent on cutting off the life lines of the trenches.

Alfred Bastien was born in Brussels in 1873. In 1918, he was attached to the 22nd Battalion as an official war artist. This picture and the other I.O.D.E. prints in this exhibition were deposited in the National Gallery of Canada following the postwar exhibits in London and Canada.



97. The Defence of the P.P.C.L.I. at Sanctuary Wood, June 2nd, 1916.

Kenneth K. Forbes.

Printer's proof published for I.O.D.E.

London: Fine Arts Publishing Co. Ltd.

received the Military Cross for gallantry at Ypres, and a year later received the bar to his cross for outstanding service. Youell contracted influenza in October 1918, and was on convalescent leave in England at the Armistice.

Gift of Mr. L.L. Youell.



20

The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry had been assigned to a sector of the line known as Sanctuary Wood, near the Belgian town of Ypres. On June 2, 1916, the German army mounted an unprecedented attack on the allied line, from Mount Sorrel to the northern edge of Sanctuary Wood. Commencing at 6a.m. with an artillery bombardment that lasted for four hours, it was, in the words of Lord Beaverbrook, "the heaviest (bombardment) endured by British troops up to that time".

The barrage was followed by the blowing of four enemy underground mines. The concentration of these attacks all but annihilated Canadian forces and their entrenchments. The German infantry then attacked.

Portrayed in this picture is the one company of the 'Patricias', who, while managing to survive the worst of the initial attack, then went on to hold their sector in Sanctuary Wood for 18 hours. On that day the P.P.C.L.I. suffered more than 400 casualties.

The artist, Kenneth Keith Forbes was born in Toronto in 1892. Forbes enlisted in the Stock Exchange Battalion of the British Expeditionary Force and was seconded to the Canadian War Records Office as a war artist.

98. Canal du Nord.

Reconnaissance photograph, Sept. 1918.

99. Canal du Nord

Trench map, Sept. 1918.

L.L. Youell fonds.

In the fall of 1918, the 10th Brigade crossed the Canal du Nord and moved on to liberate the Belgian town of Cambrai. The Canal du Nord was a major objective in the last hundred days of the war; once taken, the allied armies were able to continue the "March to Arras" which ended in victory at the Belgian town of Mons. This map and reconnaissance photograph were the property of Lt. Youell of the 35th Battery. Lt. Youell acted as intelligence officer for the first leg of this campaign.

Lt. Leonard Youell of Campbellton Ont. joined the 43rd Battery in January, 1916 and had an exceptional military record as an intelligence officer with the 43rd and 35th Batteries of the 10th Brigade Machine Gunners. He



ITEM 105.

Oh! it's a lovely war

*“Up to your waist in water, up to your waist in slush—
Using the kind of language that makes the Sergeant blush—
Who wouldn't join the army? that's what we enquire—
Don't we pity the poor civilian sitting beside the fire—”**

ENTERTAINMENT GROUPS OR “CONCERT PARTIES” were formed to keep up the morale of the troops in the field. The Dumbells, one of the more popular Canadian concert parties, took their name from the 3rd Division “dumbell” insignia. The original members, from various battalions in the Third Division, were Capt. Merton Plunkett (organizer and producer), Sgt. Ted Charter (stage manager and comedian), Lance Corporal Jack Ayre (pianist and musical director), Privates Ross Hamilton and Allan Murray (girl impersonators), Privates Bill Tennant, Elmer Belding and Charlie Mavor (singers), and Pte. Al Plunkett (singer and comedian).

Merton Plunkett of Orillia, Ontario, worked as social director of Toronto's Central YMCA before going overseas in 1914 as a YMCA entertainment promoter with the honorary rank of Captain. At Bramshott Camp in England he organized amateur vaudeville shows, and while in France he coordinated entertainment, drawing talent from the men in active service.

Jack Ayre, the original musical director of the Dumbells, enlisted in 1916 and served in France with the 116th Battalion. He fought in the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April, 1917.

The first Dumbells show was performed in August 1917 at

**Oh! it's a Lovely War* by J.P. Long & Maurice Scott
Published by Leo Feist Ltd., Toronto, 1921.

Gouy-Servis, France, on the Vimy front. The group made a tour of all the units in the division, then added three more members, Privates Jerry Brayford and Bill Redpath (singers) and Lance Corporal Jock McCormack (utility and understudy). Pte. Bertram Langley replaced Charlie Mavor, who returned to his unit. They developed a complete show of skits, songs and jokes that was presented regularly to enthusiastic audiences.

While on leave in London in September 1918 the Dumbells had their first professional bookings at the Victoria Palace and the Coliseum. When the Dumbells returned to France October 1918, they amalgamated with the Princess Pats Concert Party, adding Jack McLaren to their group.

In March 1919 they returned to Canada and started coast to coast tours under the management of Ambrose Small. In September 1919 Red Newman, Jock Holland and Charlie McLean joined the group. The Dumbells continued to enjoy great popularity until the combination of the Depression and “talkies” forced them to disband in 1932.

100. The Dumbells in France.

Photograph, 1917 or 18.

The Dumbells Collection.

Members of the original Dumbells troupe pictured here are M.W. Plunkett (centre, seated), Ted Charter, Al Plunkett, Bill Tennent, Bert Langley, Jerry Brayford, Jock McCormack, Elmer Belding, Bill Redpath, Allan Murray, Ross Hamilton and Ivor [Jack] Ayre.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

101. Billeted in a Barn, somewhere in France...

Typescript for early Dumbell skit, marked for Bert Langley. c1916. The Dumbells Collection.

When not on duty in the trenches, troops were sent back from the front lines to French villages and farms, where they were billeted in accommodation commandeered from the local populace. The Dumbells based their scripts on the soldiers' experiences at the front, in the estaminets (informal bars run by the villagers), the dug-outs, the routines such as kit inspection.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.





102. The Dumbell Rag,

words and music by Ivor [Jack] Ayre.
Original manuscript score. (c1916).
The Dumbells Collection.

The theme song for the group, *The Dumbell Rag* was written by Ivor (Jack) Ayre while out in 'Red Billets' and was often whistled by the troops while on the march. It was used by the Dumbells in their overseas revue *Biff, Bing, Bang* which toured from 1919 through 1921, playing twelve weeks at the Ambassador Theatre in New York. The sheet music for *The Dumbell Rag* sold 10,000 copies.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre

103. La medaille de la deliverance.

Ville de Mons, France.

Commemorative medal, 1918.
The Dumbells Collection.

This medal commemorating the deliverance of the village of Mons by the 3rd Division, November 11th, 1918, the day of the armistice belonged to Jack Ayre. The day after celebrating the end of the war with champagne, dancing and song, the Dumbells began a run of some forty performances of *H.M.S. Pinafore* in the Mons theatre. They then moved to Brussels where they gave a command performance for King Albert of Belgium.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

**104. We're Coming Over
(There's Nothing to Stop Us Now).**

78 RPM recording featuring Red Newman.(192-).
The Dumbells Collection

In the postwar years the Dumbells toured Canada, the United States and England to capacity audiences. "Crooner" Al Plunkett, comic singer Red Newman and female impersonator Ross Hamilton became national stars.

**105. 9th Canadian Field Ambulance
Comedy Company.**

Photograph, France, 1917.
The Dumbells Collection.

Four ladies and a soldier of the 9th Field Ambulance concert party: Pte. Allan Murray, Pte. Young, Cpl. Brooks, Cpl. Runacres and Pte. Ross Hamilton.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

**106. 116 Canadian O.S. Battalion,
In the Field, France.**

Menu and concert programme, New Year's 1918.
The Dumbells Collection.

The Dumbells often entertained at Battalion celebrations, such as this New Year's Celebration for the 116th Battalion. The menu is a mix of French, Canadian and British delicacies—pate de foies gras and camembert, roast turkey and lobster, asparagus on toast and English plum pudding. Entertainment included musical numbers by Bill Tennent, Bert Langley, Al Plunkett and Jack Ayre. The back page lists actions in which the 116th participated, among them Vimy Ridge, Ypres, Passchendaele and Lens.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

107. 3rd Canadian Divisional Concert Party.

Concert programme, France, 1917.
The Dumbells Collection.

This programme for an early Dumbells performance in the field includes songs by Ross Hamilton in his role as "Marjorie" and Allan Murray and the "Beauty Chorus" together with skits and dances.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

108. Oh! It's a Lovely War,

by J.P. Long and Maurice Scott.
Toronto : Leo Feist Ltd., 1921.
The Dumbells Collection.

Albert Edward "Red" Newman came to the Dumbells from another military concert party, the Y-Emmas. His humorous rendition of *Oh! It's a Lovely War* continued to be popular after the armistice.

Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

109. The Dumbells, London Coliseum.

Photograph, Sept. 1918.
The Dumbells Collection.

While on leave in London in September 1918, Capt. Plunkett arranged an engagement at the Victoria Palace. The popular response was so great that the manager of the Coliseum, London's largest vaudeville theatre, offered a contract of 500 pounds per week. An extension of leave permitted a triumphant four week run. The profits went to the Y.M.C.A. entertainment fund, which finance all Dumbells revues during the war.

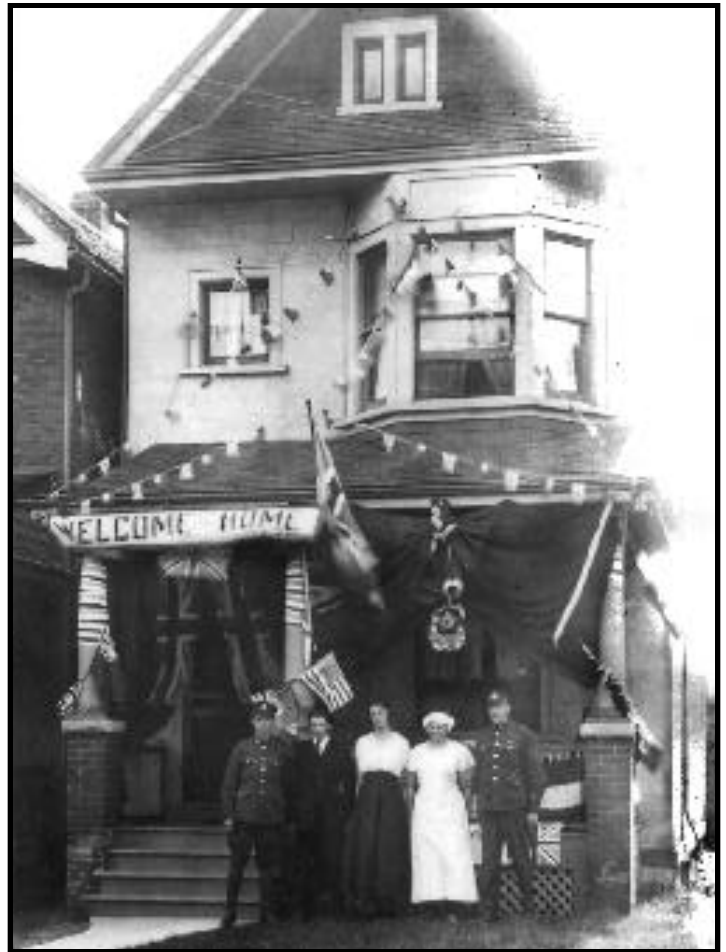
Gift of Mr. Jack Ayre.

110. Applying make-up in the field.

Reproduction photograph.
The Dumbells Collection.

Behind the scenes at a performance of the Dumbells, France, 1917. Horse hair wigs and pancake make-up transforms a soldier into a beauty.

Gift of Mrs. Ann O'Brien.



ITEM 124.

A costly peace

*My life is divided into three eras: before the war, during the war, and after the war.**

THE MEN WHO RETURNED HOME FROM WAR WERE not the same boys who had left four years earlier, and the home to which they returned was not the Canada they remembered. Their families were strangers to them, and there was no common language to describe the last four years. Men who had set aside their careers to defend the empire resented those who stayed behind, and now replaced them in their jobs. Women who had held the responsibilities of home and hearth did not easily give up their independence. Change was on the horizon — in the home, the workplace and the political arena.

During the war Canada took its place internationally. Previously Canadians had identified themselves as British, but with the victories at Vimy and the sacrifice at

Ypres Canadians had earned a reputation as a fighting force. With the experience of war, they had begun to forge a new identity.

The financial cost of the war would be a burden for years. But the cost in human terms — the loss of a generation was a debt that could never be repaid.

* Dan Vernon, quoted in *The Great War and Canadian Society: An Oral History*, ed. by Daphne Read, Toronto: New Hogtown Press, 1978.



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111. Peace.

Globe newspapers placard facsimile, 7 Nov. 1918.

By November, 1918 the end of the war was anticipated all around the world. A series of smaller ceasefires led up to the familiar 11–11–11, and when rumours out of a New York wire service were published in the *Globe* on November 7th, Torontonians took to the streets in celebration, led by John Philip Sousa's marching band. The actual armistice four days later seemed almost anticlimactic in comparison.

112. The Telegram.

Toronto: 11 Nov. 1918.

Here the *Telegram* pokes fun at the *Globe* for their premature printing of the Armistice announcement. This was one of the final editions of the "Soldier's Tely", a special edition of the Telegram published every Tuesday to bring a little bit of home to the boys at the front.

113. A la population de Mons.

Broadside announcing Armistice, Mons, 11 Nov. 1918.

Four years after the British first engaged the German Army in the Belgian town of Mons, the war was ended. In the early hours of 11 November, 1918, the Royal Highlanders of Canada (Black Watch) entered the town of Mons. This announcement of the Armistice expresses gratitude to the allied armies, and notes in particular the sacrifices of the 3rd Canadian Division in this final battle of the war.

114. Pte. R.H. Neil to Brothers and Sisters, Buxton, 10 Nov., 1918.

Neil family papers.

Harry Neil had spent four long years in active service with the 19th Battalion, and by November, 1918 he was ready to come home. In this letter to his brothers and sisters in Toronto, Harry describes the anxiety of all those who waited firstly, the news of armistice, and secondly, their demobilization orders.

Gift of Mr. R. H. Neil.

115. Peace Celebration for the Town of Goderich. Goderich, Ont.: Star Press, 1918.

All across Canada people awaited the confirmation of Armistice. The town of Goderich Ontario had planned elaborate celebrations and was ready to celebrate as soon as the official news was received. According to this notice, printed on November 9th, upon confirmation of the signing of the armistice, all of the bells and factory whistles in the town would be set off, and "as soon as the whistles blow come up town and be ready to take part in the celebration". In Goderich, as in many towns across Canada, an official holiday was declared when Armistice was announced.

116. The King's Message to the Royal Air Force 11 November, 1918.

World War I proved that the airplane was both an important reconnaissance tool and a powerful weapon. In April, 1918, the British government recognizing the need for a standing air force, created the Royal Air Force, absorbing the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service.

Canada's own air force was not established until 1924, but over 20,000 Canadians served in the R.F.C. and the R.N.A.S. Out of the 6,166 deaths recorded by the British flying services in World War I, 1,388 were Canadians.

117. When Your Boy Comes Back to You, by Gordon V. Thompson.

Toronto : Thompson Publishing Co., 1916.

Composer/publisher Gordon V. Thompson was an especially successful author of popular patriotic tunes. The lyrics of *When Your Boy Comes Back to You* stress hope, a new tomorrow, and the returning soldier surrounded by glory and rousing band music.

118. Dinner for the Returned Troops, Armouries, University Avenue.

Photograph, 8 March, 1919.
Acc. 982-5-1

119. Dinner for Returned Troops, Armouries, University Avenue.

Photograph, 8 March 1919.
Acc. 982-5-2

In March of 1919 a series of spectacular dinners were held at the Armouries on University Avenue in Toronto in honour of the returning troops and their families. Sponsored by the Sportsman's Patriotic Association they featured shows and boxing matches. Sir John Eaton provided the lavish decorations.

120. Letter from King George, 1918.

A. E. Cannon Diaries.

Pte. Arthur Cannon of the 3rd Battalion (Toronto Regiment) had been at the front less than one month when he was taken prisoner in January, 1916. On his release from Wittenberg Camp three years later, he received this letter from King George. 3,846 Canadians were taken prisoner during the war; 3,478 came home.

Gift of Mr. A.E. Cannon.

121. Greetings from Moncton to Officer Commanding, Officers and Men of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces Returning from Overseas.
Moncton:1918.

The Department of Militia and Defence and the Overseas Military Forces of Canada laid the plans for an orderly demobilization as early as 1916. When the Demobilization Order was passed in November 1918, Canadians began to sail home at a rate of 50,000 troops per month. Troopships landed at Halifax, Quebec, Saint John and Montreal, and the men were quickly directed toward the next leg of their journey home. There was much excitement when the troops returned, but amid the fanfare, an average train could be loaded with 500 troops in about thirty minutes. The first returning troops passed through the city of Moncton in December 1918; within one year demobilization was completed.

122. Final Order of the Day,

by Sir Archibald MacDonell KCB, CMG, DSO.
London: Barrs & Co. Printers, 1919.

In this Final Order of the Day, Major General Sir Archibald MacDonell offers an emotional address to the soldiers of the First Canadian Division who served their country, earning impressive battle honours from their baptism of fire at Ypres in the spring of 1915, to the Foret de Vicoigne in the last days of the war. In the Final Order, which was distributed to the battalions as they embarked for Canada, MacDonell charges the men of the Old Red Patch to "decide upon your course of action, concentrate on it as you did in the past upon defeating the Boche, exhibit the same splendid qualities of faith, courage, initiative, hard work and tenacity of purpose".

123. Illustrated souvenir, containing photo groups and snap-shots of officers, nursing sisters, patients, hospital celebrities, distinguished visitors and others, alphabetical list of over 3000 names of all patients, past and present, together with present addresses, also names and addresses of officers, nursing sisters and others.

Compiled by F. W. Coyne.

Toronto: Dominion Orthopaedic Hospital [1920].

The Dominion Orthopaedic Hospital, on Christie Street north of Dupont, was the only veterans facility in Canada which provided amputees with artificial limbs. It treated soldiers from across the country. The development of improved artificial limbs and methods of facial reconstruction was one outcome of the war, and the Research Department of the D.O.H. played a major role. By the end of 1921 the hospital had issued a total of 6358 artificial legs, 3566 arms (and parts of arms), and 2201 eyes. The 3000 men listed in this souvenir were all patients during the first 18 months after the hospital opened in February 1919.

124. Welcome Home

Photopostcard, 1919

125. House on Markham Street,

Silver gelatin print, 1919.
Acc:966-4

The patriotic bunting decorating these homes reflects the joy and celebration of homecoming. However, once the initial emotional release of homecoming faded, many sol-



diers found the transition to civilian life to be difficult and awkward. The privation, horror and stress of war left scars that those who stayed at home could hardly be expected to understand.

126. Canadian War Memorials Exhibition.

Burlington House, Piccadilly.

January & February 1919.

London : Printed for the Canadian War Records Office by H. Stone, [1919?]

Over 800 paintings, sculptures and drawings were produced under the auspices of the Committee of the Canadian War Memorials Fund, and several more were purchased by or donated to the committee. The collection was not exhibited during the war, but a large show was organized immediately after the armistice.

This catalogue documents the first segment of the work, which included paintings by noted Canadian artists A. Y. Jackson and Frederick Varley, together with paintings by George Romney, Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Benjamin West's masterpiece, the "Death of Wolfe". The exhibition opened at Burlington House, where it was London's first major post-war art exhibition, then toured to New York, Toronto and Montreal. The collection was later deposited with the National Gallery in Ottawa.

127. Capt. Donald T. Fraser.

Photograph, 1915.

Dr. Donald T. Fraser (1888–1954) of Toronto joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1915. He served briefly on a hospital ship in Egypt, and in 1916 he received a commission in the 94th Field Ambulance where he served in France. In January, 1918 he transferred to the Canadian Army Medical Corps and served in China until July 1918.

Gift of Dr. Donald A. Fraser

128. Field Message Book,

Capt. Donald T. Fraser, 2 July 1916.

Fraser family papers.

During the Battle of the Somme, Capt. Donald T. Fraser of the 94th Field Ambulance was responsible for evacuating the wounded and dead from the battlefield and jammed trenches. The first day of the battle, 1 July, saw more casualties than any other battle in modern military history, with 57,470 British casualties, including 20,000 fatalities. The

fighting continued for 142 days. Capt. Fraser was awarded the military cross for bravery in the field on 2 July 1916.

Gift of Dr. Donald A. Fraser.

129. Mabel Adamson to Mrs. E. Cawthra, London, 1 May 1915.

Cawthra family fonds.

Captain Agar Adamson's letters to his wife are full of detail not usually found in letters home. In this excerpt, copied by Mabel Adamson "for family circulation only", Capt. Adamson describes the aftermath of the gas attack at St. Julien and the heavy bombardment which followed for twelve days and claimed over eighty casualties.

Gift of Mr. Anthony Adamson.

130. Lt. Col. Agar Adamson, DSO.

Photograph, from Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Vol. 1, by Ralph Hodder Williams, London: Hodder and Stoughton Limited, 1923.

Lt. Col. Agar Adamson of Toronto, joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in August, 1914. A veteran of the Boer War, he was one of the oldest officers to serve in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He had a distinguished war career, receiving the Distinguished Service Order for bravery in the field during the Battle of Bellewaerde Ridge. Adamson was temporarily placed in command of the regiment following the death of Lt. Col. H. C. Buller at Sanctuary Wood. He was later promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and commanded the regiment from 1916 to 1918.

**131. Canadian war pictorial:
a photographic record: no. 2.**

London; Toronto: Issued for the Canadian War Records Office by Hodder and Stoughton, [1916?].

The Great War was the first major war in which more combatants were killed by the enemy than died of wounds and disease. From the beginning the Canadian authorities put great emphasis on efficient medical services, and, in spite of appalling conditions, 93% of wounded who reached treatment survived. A system of advanced dressing stations, casualty clearing stations, field hospitals, and evacuation trains transported the wounded from the trenches to hospitals in England. 2854 Canadian nursing sisters served overseas, many in field hospitals close to the front.



132. Art and War: Canadian War Memorials;

a selection of the works executed for the Canadian war memorials fund to form a record of those Canadians who have made the great sacrifice / with an article "On war memorials" by P. G. Konody. London: Canadian War Records Office, [191-?].

In 1917, Lord Beaverbrook (Sir Max Aitkin), head of the Canadian War Records Office, formed a committee to organize a memorial record of the Canadian war effort. A number of artists were given honorary commissions and sent overseas to document the troops' activities, while additional artists already in active service were seconded to serve as official war artists. These paintings, perhaps more than the photographer's lens, evoke the devastation of humanity.

Cyril H. Barraud (1877–1940) emigrated to Manitoba from England in 1913. He taught at the Winnipeg School of Art and was active in the Canadian art scene. In 1915 Barraud enlisted in the 43rd Battalion (Cameron Highlanders) and left for England where he taught grenade weaponry. He embarked for France in February 1916 and was in the centre of the action, recording the devastation at Ypres and other battlefields. He produced 36 works of art for the Canadian War Memorials Fund, including the oil painting "For the glory of the Kaiser" reproduced here, twelve watercolours and 22 etchings.

**133. Trench after a battle.**

Postcard, c1916. L.L.Youell fonds.

It was not unusual for soldiers to send postcards of captured German trenches or prisoners home as trophies of war. This one is rare in that it was confiscated from a German prisoner, and shows German soldiers standing in

a captured allied trench. The fixed bayonets suggest that a recent battle. It is one of the few images of death in battle to survive the censors.

Gift of Mr. L.L. Youell.

134. Lt. Norman Keys to Mrs. D. R. Keys, Fresnoy, 6 May 1917.

Keys family fonds.

In this letter to his mother, Lt. Norman Keys of the 3rd Battalion (Toronto Regiment) describes the fighting at Fresnoy, in the Third Battle of Scarpe. The Germans had been alerted to the presence of the Canadians, but amid much confusion and fire, the 3rd Battalion was able to maintain their objective and drive the enemy from their trenches. Lt. Keys was awarded the Military Cross for his charge through the woods that night.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

135. Lt. Norman A. Keys.

Photograph, 1917.

Norman A. Keys (1888–1977), joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in 1915 as a private in the McGill Company, a reinforcing draft made up of university graduates. In 1917 he received a commission in the 3rd Battalion (Toronto Regiment). He was wounded three times, and was discharged because of wounds in December 1917.

Gift of Mr. A. Gordon Keys.

136. Grave marker.

Photograph and manuscript annotations, c.1919.

Samuel Joseph Dolman Correspondence.

Lt. Garnet Dolman of the 3rd Battalion (Toronto Regiment) was killed instantly by an exploding shell on July 13, 1917. Like thousands of his countrymen, he was buried in France by the Imperial War Commission. His parents requested this photograph of the gravesite.

Gift of Mrs. W. J. McCormick.



137. Eric MacDougall to Mrs. George McLaren Brown, 22 April 1916
George McLaren Brown to Franklin Jones, 25 Apr. 1916, 29 Apr. 1916, 1 May 1916.
McDougall family fonds.



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Minor wounds, exposed to the rich soil of Flanders, could develop a condition known as gas gangrene. In this letter to his godmother, Pte. Eric MacDougall of the P.P.C.L.I. describes his leg wound as trivial. The subsequent telegrams to his family indicate the presence of the bacillus *clostridium perfringens* which could render even the smallest scratch life threatening. MacDougall survived, but the doctors were unable to save the leg.

Gift of Mr. John Young.

138. At duty's call: Captain William Henry Victor Van der Smissen, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and 3rd battalion (Toronto Regiment) Canadian Expeditionary Force, born at Toronto the 6th of May, 1893, killed on Mount Sorrel in Flanders the 13th June, 1916.

[Toronto]: Printed for private circulation [1917?]

Written and published by Capt. Van de Smissen's family, this memorial volume contains a biographical account, excerpts from his letters home, and a description of the action at Mount Sorrel, where he was killed while leading C Company of the Toronto Regiment. Such memorials humanize the awful statistics: 59,545 members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force died in the war.

139. Heroes of the World War 1914 – 1918 AD.
Illuminated manuscript by Robertson Mulholland, 1921.

After the war, many organizations published rolls of honour, committing to history the names of the brave men who served in the Great War. Rolls of honour took many forms, from published lists to illuminated manuscripts such as this which recognizes the men of the Maiden R.P.B. Lodge, number 96. The lodge met monthly in the County Orange Hall on Queen Street in Toronto.

Robertson Mulholland studied at the Hamilton Art School, The Artist's Guild, Detroit and the New York School of Design and Theory. He was a member of the Canadian Society of Graphic Art.



140. Doing My Bit for Four Years!
Victory Bond poster, 1918.

The Victory Loan Campaign of 1918 was one of the most successful, raising \$660,000,000 in less than three weeks. Although hostilities ceased on 11 November 1918, a final Victory Loan in 1919, launched with the theme "Bring our boys back" raised funds for the rehabilitation and resettlement of returning soldiers.

Music in the Gallery.

The music playing in the gallery includes *Good Luck to the Boys of the Allies* (Morris Manley, 1915), performed by the Elmer Isler Singers, and *The Dumbell Rag* from “Biff, Bing, Bang” (Jack Ayre, 1919). These songs are taken from the album *Musical Toronto : a Concert Party* manufactured and distributed by Marquis Records (Canada) and played with their kind permission. The songs were performed June 20, 1984 in concert at Roy Thomson Hall commemorating the 150th anniversary of the City of Toronto.

In addition, selections from the album *The Original Dumbells*, Aquitaine ALS-385, manufactured and distributed by CBS Records Canada, is presented with permission of Sony Music Canada. This album remasters performances from 78 RPM recordings of the Dumbells. The songs *Medals on My Chest* (Waite) and *Oh! It's a Lovely War* (Long-Scott) are performed by Red Newman. *Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag...* (George Asat-Felix Powell) is sung by Edward Hamilton, and *It's a Long Way to Tipperary* (Jack Judge-H. Williams) is sung by Harry Fay.





Acknowledgements

Many books, periodicals and manuscripts from the collections of the Toronto Reference Library were consulted in the research for this exhibit and guide. We are especially indebted to historians J.L. Granatstein, Jefferey A. Keshen, Desmond Morton, and G. W. L. Nicholson.

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Doing Our Bit

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