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Cape Breton Highlanders Are Jack-Of-All-Trades Of Battle

THEIR CIVILIAN OCCUPATION FORE-ARMS THEM FOR ACTION WITH THE ARMoured DIVISION.

OTTAWA. There is an ancient military axiom which says that the "willing" battalion on the parade square will have high spirits of duty, and that both are the marks of a good battalion in action. True or not, the Cape Breton Highlanders, who are training at Connaught Ranges, near Ottawa, have both characteristics in high degree. And no doubts need be held on how the sturdy miners from Nova Scotia will bear themselves when the 1st Canadian Armoured Division in which the Cape Breton are the sole infantry unit, launches its cruiser tanks against the German panzers.

The Cape Bretons, under Lt-Col. E. H. Small, are not only inspired to be smart soldiers because of the honor done them in being chosen to join the new Canadian shock-division. They also know that it means stiff fighting and an important, sometimes crucial role for the regiment in operations in which the armoured division are engaged. The first impression a visitor receives is that the entire unit is imbued with a sense of their new responsibility, and it is only confirmed at the end of a day spent in their tent-lines.

The Cape Bretons have not yet started special training designed to meet the conditions they will experience in co-operating with the tanks of the armoured regiments in action. But they are hard at work attempting to pile up high scores on the rifle and machine-gun targets of Connaught Ranges in preparation for it.

To understand the part the Cape Bretons will play as the single infantry unit in the elite tank corps, it is necessary to understand something of the formation and operation of the Armoured Division itself.

The new Canadian shock-division, equipped with cruiser tanks, armoured cars and infantry carriers, is perhaps the most compact and self-sufficient fighting unit within the army organization. It is an army within an army, with the bulk of its strength based on its offensive power. It could mount, launch, and cut-off its own private battle if necessary. That independence of action is possible because it takes into battle with it every necessary auxiliary service. Coming behind the attacking tanks are mobile machine-gunners, light anti-aircraft and anti-tank units, as well as ordnance, intelligence, signals, army service corps and medical sections. All are mechanized and motorized, and trained to tank co-operation, and each is much larger than in the infantry divisional unit. The army service corps, for instance, is a fuel-carrying unit as well as a ration supply and ammunition transporter, and the signal section is comprised of a host of short-wave radio operators.

As no assault is successful until it is consolidated, the offensive power of the Armoured Division is backed up by its own Support Group. It is in this defensive formation that the Cape Breton Highlanders are utilized. Their role is actually a dynamic defence for offensive operations.

The men from Cape Breton will travel aboard troop-carrying trucks supplied by a section of the Army Service Corps. In theory they will closely follow the assaulting tanks under close control of Divisional Headquarters, and be ready to move in, and set up a quick defence until a stronger infantry force can come up.

There is no doubt that is about what will happen in action. They can expect to move up, consolidate, and hang on until that stronger defence is established, or until new offensive strength is organized for

another blow by the tanks. They can expect to be broken up into detachments and rushed to the danger points. If the tank units are split into formation leading to a narrow and deep, rather than wide, penetration, the Cape Bretons will probably act as the defensive force along the sides of the corridor sliced into enemy territory. They will be used wherever and however the situation demands during an offensive operation—the jack-of-all-trades of battle.

Such open-field operations are certain to call upon the utmost of

machine-gun range, are definite characteristics of the Battalion. But the quick blue eye in their cheerful Scotch countenances tells of a constant alertness.

The military-minded observer instantly realizes that the Cape Breton coal-miner is fore-armed for war. He already possesses that intangible asset which kept so many veterans of trench-warfare free from wounds in the last German Conflict. It was often mystifying how some old-timers escaped again and again while new-draft men quickly became casualties. It was because they had lived so long in an atmosphere of threat by shell and bullet that they had acquired



Popular Commanding Officer of the Cape Breton Highlanders, Lt-Col. E. H. Small, of Halifax, N. S., (left) checks the Battalion machine-gun scoring with Capt. D. H. McCuish, of Glace Bay, N. S.

each individual soldier's self-reliance. Undoubtedly the future training of the Cape Bretons will be designed to stress the initiative and resource of their junior commanders. Because of stretching lines of communication and the need for local control in the heat of battle, independent thinking and quick decision by the leaders of detached units will be all-important. The Cape Bretons have those qualifications to a unique extent. They had to have them in their former civilian occupation.

Almost entirely composed of coal-miners from northern Nova Scotia, the Cape Bretons have been mobilized since the start of the war, too long to appear depressingly civilian even to a stiff-backed, critical instructor of the old-school. But the mark of their former calling is still on them. They are not big men, but they are sure-handed, steady and hard. Their danger-sense is so highly developed by the constant hazards of the coal-pit that they are wary, even contemptuous, of an awkward or a clumsy man. They knew how he could increase hazard below the surface, and they'll watch him in order to hold down casualties in the confusion of battle.

The deliberate movements and slow, Scottish accents, which are instantly noted in the Cape Breton men on the firing point of the

unusually presence. It was more than mere premonition as a loggy reaction from ill-cooked muligan, and they were so swift to avert the danger that their decisions and movement were almost automatic—like the Cape Breton coal-miners. It is an invaluable asset to a soldier.

The Cape Breton Highlanders were on coastal duty in New Brunswick throughout last winter, in a monotonous round of shore patrols which they thought would go on forever. Until they had reached Ottawa they had no opportunity for intensive training. But they are already showing the result of the brief smartening-up process, provided by their stay at Connaught Ranges, and preparatory to joining the Armoured Division.

But even if the Cape Bretons outshone the Guards with parade-square polish, it would be those front-line qualities which remain most impressive to a visitor to the camps and billets of the Highlanders from Nova Scotia. To the complete conviction of their own abilities, which is an inheritance of their Scottish forebears, has been added regimental pride. The men from Cape Breton have an air of calm and instant self-confidence. They will be dependable and steady, rather than impetuous in action. And even a civilian observer senses that such men will never panic.

War—25 Years Ago Today

JUNE 25, 1916—Great Italian counter-offensive started in the Trentino; Asiago and Arsenio recaptured. British gunners shelled German positions around Neville road, east and the Ypres-Menin road.

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Cape Breton Highlanders leading Lewis gun pans while the Battalion takes a machine-gun course at Connaught Ranges, near Ottawa.

In Memoriam

MRS. BENJAMIN P. GRAHAM

As the twilight hours softly gathered and all nature seemed in the in glory of a coming spring, there passed peacefully away at her home in Bay View on Thursday, June 5th, Annie, beloved wife of Benjamin P. Graham, aged seventy-seven years.

Mrs. Graham was formerly Annie Black was born in Oak Hill, N. B., and after spending her girlhood there she moved to Wallham, Mass., where she met and married Mr. Graham. After traveling extensively in the United States and Canada Mr. Graham brought his bride to Bay View where they purchased a farm, and by industry, and thrift built up a beautiful home. A cheerful disposition she made many friends especially among the young people, where she ever kept alive the "wonderful spirit of youth," few realizing the number of her years.

The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Tilley who

MRS. (REV.) A. F. BAKER

The very many friends of Mary D. L. Baker, wife of Rev. A. F. Baker, formerly United Church minister at O'Leary, and now at Port Elnin, N. B. will hear with regret of her passing at her home in Port Elnin.

She was operated upon in Highland View Hospital at Amherst in

January, and in March received X-ray treatment in the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax, but all to no good effect, and her passing grants release from suffering which at times was acute. Consequently her death at the untimely age of 49 years could not be wished longer delayed by those who loved her, and there are many all over the Maritimes where she has done noble service with her husband for the past twenty-seven years.

The late Mrs. Baker was a daughter of Rev. Aquilla Lucas, one time Methodist minister at Alberton, and Harriet Brydges Lucas, the daughter of Robert Brydges, who at one time operated a meat market in Charlottetown. The deceased therefore has not a few family connections in this city.

She was born in Sussex, N. B., on April 12th, 1892. In 1912 she was graduated B. A. from Mount Allison University, Sackville, N. B., and in 1914 was married to Rev. A. F. Baker who that year was ordained to the ministry of the church in connection with the former Nova Scotia Conference of the Methodist Church. From this union a family of three has grown up:



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Extra Quality Chambray Work Shirts, Full, Rummy Cut — Reg. \$1.19 — Dollar Days — **88c**

Red Back Denim Bib O'alls, \$ Days **98c** Carpenters Overalls — **\$1.19**

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Work Boots \$ **1.69** Dress Oxfords **\$1.89** Summer Caps — **25c**

Men's Pure Wool Swim Trunks **\$1.19** Sport Shirts — **98c**

Garden Ills and Enemies Yield to Simple Remedies

The gardener's medicine chest is amazingly simple compared with the catalog of human remedies. The gardener who is confused about sprays and dusts may survey here in a few minutes the whole field and acquire sufficient knowledge to enable him to meet correctly any problem which may arise. Meet it, that is, as well as anyone can. Sprays and dusts may all be divided into three classes.

1. Fungicides, which may be used to kill insects, but destroy fungi, mildews and similar conditions most of which are usually referred to as plant diseases.

2. Contact poisons, which kill insects with which they come in contact when dusted or sprayed on plants.

3. Stomach poisons, which remain on leaf tissues and poison insects which eat the leaves.

Fungicides are used against various rusts, wilts and similar diseases which attack trees, shrubs and garden plants. Bordeaux mixture is the most widely used in the garden. It is composed of quick lime and copper sulphate.

Dusting sulphur, similar to flow-ers of sulphur but more finely ground, has come into favor for black spots on roses and garden mildews. The newest fungicide is really an old one, corrosive sublimate, or mercuric chloride. It is the base of most preparations used to cure brown patch on bent greens.

Contact insecticides are usually prepared from nicotine, pyrethrum, rotenone or a soluble oil which will make an emulsion with water. Sulphur and lime sulphur are used chiefly against scale insects and red spider. Nicotine is a deadly poison to animals and most effective against aphids (plant lice).

The newest contact materials in sprays and dusts are merely new forms of old materials which kill insects, while doing no harm to animals. They are the powdered leaves of a wild species of pyrethrum and rotenone, the extract of derris root which savages use to kill fish. Both substances are offered in various dusts and sprays under trade names. Rotenone has the advantage of being a stomach poison as well as a contact poison. Arsenic is the base of most insecticides used to kill insects which eat leaf tissues. As arsenate of lead it remains on the leaves after spraying for the longest time. For dusting in the garden calcium arsenate is preferred by many. Paris green is used in some cases, though much less than in former years.

Arsenic must always be applied with caution, and whenever it is applied to portions of a plant which are subsequently eaten it should be thoroughly washed away. Arsenic, which is harmless to stomach, and both a contact and stomach poison for insects, may be used as a substitute for arsenic. Follow instructions carefully.

Blair, with the Y. M. C. A. in Debert Military Camp, Ruth, senior student at Mt. Allison University, and Donald, with one of his mother's brothers in London, Ont. Besides her husband and children she leaves to mourn the loss of a fine christian spirited sister, five brothers, and four sisters. The oldest sister, now dead, was an "Islander" having been born in Alberton.

The funeral services were held from the United Church at Port Elnin, N. B., on Monday afternoon at 2 P. M. Interment in Sackville, N. B., at 4:00 P. M. the same day. The Rev. E. Lockhart, of Little Shemoque conducted the services at the church and the grave. He was assisted by the Rev. F. E. Bockroyd and D. M. Matheson.

MR. G. W. LIVINGSTONE

On Wednesday, June 18th, there passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Brehaut, Guernsey Cove, G. W. Livingstone in his 82nd year.

The late Mr. Livingstone, who was the son of the late Donald Livingstone and his wife the late Ann Wheeler was born in Murray River. He leaves, besides a widow Catherine Murdoch, two daughters, Mrs. John Brehaut of Guernsey Cove and Mrs. William Alley of Charlottetown, Mrs. M. N. MacLeod of Charlottetown.

The funeral was held on Thursday, June 19th, from the home of his daughter, where a short service was held, to the Church of Scotland, Murray River, Interment in Murray River cemetery. The pallbearers were: Fred Brehaut, John B. Saunders, Alex. Dunne, John E. Jenkins, Louis Wheeler, F. W. Johnston.

MAPLE PLAIN W. I.

The monthly meeting of the Maple Plain W. I. met in the school on Tuesday, June 3rd, in the absence of the President the Vice President, Mrs. John T. Cairns presided. The meeting opened by singing Inisithu Ode, followed by repeated the Creed in unison. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed. Roll call was responded to by five members.

It was moved by Mrs. Freeman Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Richard McCarville that Miss Olga Cairns and Miss Olga Walsh.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in the school on July 7th, roll call to be answered with a Nickel. Meeting closed by singing God Save the King.

Wahla be appointed as delegate to attend convention at Charlottetown. A number of letters were received and read. One was a letter of thanks from Mrs. Fred Walsh for the letter of sympathy which she received during her recent bereavement.

The committees gave their reports. School Committee, Mrs. Freeman Walsh and Mrs. Fred Walsh. Sick, Mrs. Richard McCarville and Mrs. Farnell McCarville. Program Committee, Mrs. John

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