

ITALY, WITH BACK TO THE WALL, WILL YET STRIKE VICTOR'S BLOW

Telegram Correspondent Visits the Famous Asiago Plateau Theatre of Warfare. This Article Descriptive of the Italian Front is From Douglas S. Robertson, the London Correspondent of the Toronto Evening Telegram, and the First Canadian Correspondent to Visit the Italian Theatre of War.

WITH THE ITALIAN ARMY, Italy, March 16.—Through the narrow streets of an ancient city sped our motor with scarce room to pass. The porticoes on either side of the roadway had once rung to the clashing armor of knights, their shadows sheltered mantled gallants of the Middle Ages. From the summit of the watch tower in the city walls, which we were approaching, soldier figures paced to and fro keeping ward, just as others had done in the centuries long past.

At the medieval gateway whose ponderous gates are locked each night after sundown, the car drew up. Then our officer guide gave the password, and with smart salute the Carbonari Guards, picturesque in Napoleonic cocked hats set crosswise and grey poncho capes, drew back to let us by. Under the 15th century archway puffed the auto across the filled-in moat out on to the open highway.

ON GOVERNMENT'S INVITATION. A Canadian sitting in the car had perforce to pinch himself. It all seemed like a dream; this combination of historic past and pulsating present. Yet it was real enough. No idle mockery these guards and watchmen. Once more war swept across Italy, conflict more fierce by far than all the petty brawlings of bygone times. The whole land was up in arms today. Seated in the motor with the Telegram's representative were two other British Dominion correspondents, a New Zealander and a South African, who, like himself, had received the honor of an invitation from the Italian Government to visit the front of these our allies. Our guide was a young Italian officer who spoke English perfectly, knew every foot of the country, and did all he could to make our trip pleasant.

OFF TO ASIAGO PLATEAU. "Zipp!" We were off, spinning down a wonderful main road, bound for the distant Alps and the front line trenches. The Asiago plateau, scene of some of the hottest fighting, was our destination. All about us stretched the great, flat plain of northern Italy, one of the richest agricultural regions in the world. How absolutely different was this countryside! Not a fence was to be seen. The whole terrain seemed a plantation of small trees, laid out in rows well scattered, and vanishing in endless vistas into the light mist which hung over the land.

WILLOWS ARE USEFUL. Willow trees there were in abundance, their branches regularly cropped for basket work and for firewood in this coalless country. Some of the forest consisted of fruit trees. But perhaps eighty per cent. were mulberries. Grape vines were strung among the trees, and in the intervals was plenty of room for the rich and varied crops of roots, grain, etc., which this fertile land produces. Excellent wheat and corn are grown here, but wine and silk are the main products, the silkworms,

offspring of butterflies, feeding on the two annual crops of mulberry leaves and producing the cocoons very similar in appearance to those that Toronto moth and butterfly collectors boy garner in the woods. The white gauze of these cocoons, unravelled, is spun into man's most luxurious clothing.

BUSINESS-LOOKING TROOPS. Soldier, soldiers, everywhere, as we motored along. Here came a regiment of Italy's splendid assault troops, men specially picked for attacking and distinguishable at a glance, not merely by their special open-cut collars, but by their fine physique and spry gait. Each man carried a light carbine, easily manœuvred in a rush. Their colonel rode behind, a young man with a ribbon-covered breast. A column of ordinary infantry trudged after them, dark-complexioned young soldiers, clad in the serviceable Italian green-tinted uniform, with their helmets of grey, regarding us curiously with their bright, black eyes and emitting friendly greetings of "Ah, les Engle-lise."

THE TUNE THAT THRILLED. Next a lot of French Chasseurs swung past, debonair chiefs, smart as paint in dark blue uniforms with fetching caps of Tom o'Shanter design, emblazoned with their regimental crest, the hunters' horn. More French men in light blue with steel helmets followed.

each night from their work in the fields, past the huge stone and stucco farm buildings of the inland proprietors we drove, to presently ascend the foothills which lead to the Asiago plateau. We passed right through the ancient fortress-town of Cittadella, enter the massive brick walls at one gate, departing through another. In a short time we were climbing the hills, looking down on Moronica, whose encircling battlements stretched up the hillsides at an angle of forty-five degrees.

DANGEROUS DRIVING. Now we were high up the mountain-side. Fancy a speed of twenty-five miles an hour where the slightest misdeed of the chauffeur would send you hurrying over a precipice. One inactively found oneself edging away from the side next the abyss. But Italian chauffeurs have good nerves, and mere mountain roads cannot daunt them. Motor trucks passed us from time to time along the route. Sight of these lumbering conveyances high up on a mountain ledge struck one as odd. It seemed impossible that they could be manœuvred around some of the nasty corners, but the bad places generally looked better when you got to them.

WONDERFUL ROADS. Once or twice we had tight squeezes, not too many inches between us and the precipice, but careful steering did the trick. Scaring the mountain sides as far as the eye could reach, stretched these wonderful roads, triumphs of engineering, many of which have been built since the war. We had climbed several thousand feet. A glorious panorama spread beneath us of campanile towers, fortified towns, and castellated hills. Small wonder that the Italians love their native land!

ON THE PLATEAU. Now we were on the Asiago plateau, crossing its barren or scrub-covered, summits. As we reached the edge of the tableland above the Brenta valley, the car turned down a muddy road screened by long stretches of matting camouflaged. Presently we got out and entered a trench, a long winding passageway cut in the rock and frozen soil. Stretched dead at the entrance, a military blanket over him, lay a poor chap killed an hour or so before by shrapnel. Now we were peering down from the parapet's edge into the vast gorge of the Brenta. A range of towering mountains faced us, chief among them Monte Grappa, in whose vicinity the Austrians inflicted bitter defeat on the Italians, and whose efforts to advance last November, between the Italian heights and those of the Austrians flows the Brenta through the midst of the gulf, thousands of feet below.

REMINISCENT OF NIAGARA. Now we were skirting the banks of the Brenta, the color of whose water reminded a Canadian of the Niagara river at Queenston on a fine summer's day. The writer remarked this to our guide, who, by the way, in civil life is occupied with proprietary interests in great manufacturing concerns in Italy. "Yes, there is a resemblance in color," agreed the captain with a smile, "but the current is somewhat different. I was over at Niagara on some business connected with the installation of the Ontario Power Company's plant, and I walked out over the dam in construction above the falls. The rush of water in those rapids was the most terrific thing I have ever seen in my life."

UP IN THE HILLS. Past quaint old towers, each with its campanile church tower, after the wonderful Italian pattern of the famous spire at Venice, past the villages where the peasants live, returning us to the observation post, from whose crevices we peered forth through field glasses and telescopes. Right below us in the valley lay groups of villages, all the way to the foot of the mountains. Viewed through the glasses every detail of these villages stood clear in the crystal air of the mountains. One could almost swear that figures moved among those houses. But nothing stirred. Those black objects were shadows or posts or bits of wreckage. Silent as abodes of the dead lay these habitations, though even at that moment Austrian troops were hidden among the cellars. Italian observers scanning the Italian lines just as fruitlessly for any indication of life.

UNDER SHELL FIRE. "Boom!" sounded the big guns echoing like thunder among the mountains. Shell-bursts among the rocks are much more dangerous than in the soft ground and mud of the western front. Missiles exploding among the rocks throw their fragments far and wide. Artillerymen were hard at work among the big howitzers when we came out of the trenches and shells whizzed over towards the Austrian mountains. Far overhead a plane buzzed in the cloudless heavens, an Austrian plane with a bright red band painted across its centre. Shrapnel burst about it. The Italian heavies were sorely worrying the Austrians, and this spotter was searching for gun emplacements.

WATER CARRIERS. Motoring back by another road we passed strings of mules bearing canvas bags filled with water en route to the arid plateau. A regiment of French mountain artillery also trailed by us, their little survival cannon neatly slung on the backs of horses. Farther on a clump of fir trees on a snowy hillside sheltered the grave of a soldier, the rough mound decor-

The Central Guardian

IT PAYS to buy in this province.

YORKSHIRE SOW.—See classified ad for an opportunity to purchase a valuable Yorkshire sow. 4049M21

BEAN SUPPER.—The North River Women's Institute promise a good programme and bean supper on Thursday March 21st at 7.30. Adults 25 cents. Children 20 cents. If not fine will be held first fine night. 4010-3-19M31.

IMPORTANT meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Army and Navy Veterans in soldiers Room, Market Building this afternoon at 3.30. All ladies interested in returned soldiers invited to attend. 4044.

THE RIGHT HAIR NET.—That hair net that you have been asking for is here now in all shades including grey. This net is perfectly formed—perfectly fitting, made of real hair, no elastic—no draw cord—holds properly because made properly, ordinary shades 2 for 25c. Greys 25c each. Moore & McLeod Limited. 4057-3-21MEL.

BONSHAW, HAMPTON AND TRYON.—The Rev. J. S. MacKay, will conduct service next sabbath the 24th. Bonshaw at 11, Hampton at 3, and Tryon 7.

COME to the School Bazaar and candy sale P. W. C. Hall, Friday Mar. 22nd, 3 to 6, no admission fee. Proceeds for patriotic and school purposes. 4045.

POSTPONED.—The Auction sale on the premises of Mr. Francis J. McKenna, Mt. Ryan, which was to have taken place Monday, March 11th, has been postponed until Saturday, March 23rd. 4034-3-20M31.

OFFICER PROMOTED.—Lieut. J. N. McEachern, Souris who went overseas in the early part of 1915 with 6th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery has been promoted to the rank of Captain and mentioned in despatches by Commander-in-Chief. Capt. McEachern visited his home near Souris on two months leave last summer and has been wounded since his return, to France.

ated with sprays of evergreen by his comrades. Presently we pulled up in a valley among pine woods. Crowds of soldiers were here among shanties of new cut lumber and in the warm sunshine it might almost have passed for a Canadian lumber camp. Alpini troops armed with alpenstocks, shod with ice-cleppers, some capped with shrapnel-helmets, painted white, were starting off for the passes. Hard by a general was reviewing a whole regiment of infantry. They were about to make an attack and the general was personally talking to every officer and non-com.

ITALY WILL STRIKE BACK. Such are some of the sights revealed to a Canadian visitor along the frontier. Warm sunshine is even now wooing the earth's surface, and while cold March winds are still sweeping over Toronto, trees will be in leaf and flowers blooming on the plains of Venetia. The general staff look for a fresh onslaught from the Austrians. But Italy's back is to the wall, she will withstand the shock and when the time is ripe hit back with the blow that makes for victory.

DESERTED VILLAGES. A group of young officers greeted us at the observation post, from whose crevices we peered forth through field glasses and telescopes. Right below us in the valley lay groups of villages, all the way to the foot of the mountains. Viewed through the glasses every detail of these villages stood clear in the crystal air of the mountains. One could almost swear that figures moved among those houses. But nothing stirred. Those black objects were shadows or posts or bits of wreckage. Silent as abodes of the dead lay these habitations, though even at that moment Austrian troops were hidden among the cellars. Italian observers scanning the Italian lines just as fruitlessly for any indication of life.

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PARENTAGE

A MESSAGE

A Heart Drama That Stands Out TODAY

"EXCELLENT ENTERTAINMENT SAID THE CENSORS.

Its appeal is to better side of your nature.
Its treatment is refined, human and inspiring.
It Makes You LAUGH
Scores of those who witnessed "PARENTAGE" at a private showing, stated that this film, because of its tremendous theme and artistic handling, will do more to make enthusiastic those who have heretofore shunned the "movies" than any other one production.

Its thoughts are brimful of heart interest.
Its characters are as real as you and your neighbors.
It Makes You THINK
"Wid," the famous film critic, said:
"IT IS THE MOST FORCEFUL COMBINATION OF THOUGHT, PATHOS AND FUN EVER SCREENED."
Manager Rothapfel in his personal endorsement said:
"IT IS THE MOST ENTERTAINING PICTURE WITH A SERIOUS THOUGHT I HAVE EVER WITNESSED."

SEE IT, THEN YOU WILL REMEMBER IT

PRINCE EDWARD

To give Everyone an opportunity of seeing this feature, it will be shown again Friday

The Income War Tax Act

Forms giving particulars of income for the year 1917, must be filled in and filed on or before the 31st March, 1918

Section 4 of the Act provides that all persons resident or ordinarily resident in Canada, shall pay a tax upon income exceeding \$1500 in the case of those single and widows without dependent children, and upon income exceeding \$3000 in the case of all other persons. It also provides that all Corporations and Joint Stock Companies, no matter how created, shall pay the normal tax upon income exceeding \$3000.

The Forms provided by the Department of Finance to be filled in with particulars of the 1917 income of all those whose incomes are liable under the Act, and by Trustees, Corporations and Joint Stock Companies, with information required of them, may be obtained from the District Inspectors of Taxation and from the Postmasters at all leading centres.

Forms to obtain and Special Features to observe

Individuals—Get Form T 1 to give particulars of their own incomes. In stating Dividends received, give the amount from each Company, listing Canadian and foreign Companies separately. Fill in pages 1, 2 and 3 only. Do not mark on page 4.

The following sample answers, (printed in italics) to questions asked on pages 2 and 3 of Form T 1, will help you to fill in correctly your copies of the Form.

EXEMPTIONS AND DEDUCTIONS	PAGE 3
14. Depreciation... On Store Building (not land), (Brick) .. \$ 125 On Equipment, used in business..... 140 Store Fixtures..... 100	15. Bad debts, actually charged off within the year..... 40
16. Allowance for exhaustion of mines and wells..... None	17. Contributions actually paid to the Patriotic and Canadian Red Cross Funds and other approved War Funds..... Patriotic and Canadian Red Cross..... \$ 250
18. Interest paid on monies borrowed and used in the business..... Mortgage on Store Property, \$1,000..... 60	19. Federal, Provincial and Municipal taxes on property used in the business..... General Municipal Taxes..... 180
20. Interest from Dominion of Canada Bonds, issued exempt from Income Tax..... 150	21. Other claims for deductions must be specified in detail— Business Operating Expenses..... 4200 Repairs (stating particulars)..... 150
22. Total Exemptions and Deductions..... \$5395	23. Amount paid under Business Profits War Tax Act, 1916, which accrued in the 1917 accounting period..... Year ending December 31, 1917—None.

I hereby certify that the foregoing return contains a true and complete statement of all income received by me during the year for which the return is made.

Date..... 15th March, 1918.
Signature..... John Brown.

holders residing in Canada, during 1917 stating to whom paid, and the amounts.

Penalties.—Default in filing returns renders the person or persons liable on summary conviction to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each day during which the default continues. Any person making a false statement in any return or in any information required by the Minister of Finance shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to six months imprisonment, or to both fine and imprisonment.

In the case of Forms T 1 and T 2, keep one copy of the filled in Form and file the other two with the Inspector of Taxation for your District. In the case of T 3, T 4 and T 5, keep one copy and file the other two, with the Commissioner of Taxation, Dept. of Finance, Ottawa.

Forms may be obtained from the District Inspectors of Taxation and from the Postmasters at all leading centres.

Department of Finance
Ottawa, Canada

J. P. Edwards, 411 Dennis Building, HALIFAX, N. S., Inspector of for Provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

PUT CREAM IN NOSE AND STOP CATARRH

Tells How to Open Clogged Nostrils and End Head-Colds.

You feel fine in a few moments. Your cold in head or catarrh will be gone. Your clogged nostrils will open. The air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more dullness, headache; no hawking, snuffling mucous discharges or sneezes; no struggling for breath at night.

Tell your druggist you want a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic cream in your nostrils, let it penetrate through every air passage of the head, soothe and heal the swollen, inflamed mucous membrane, and relief comes instantly.

It is just what every cold and catarrh sufferer needs. Don't stay stuffed up and miserable.



Food That Conserves Grape-Nuts

The recognized value of Grape-Nuts as a "saving" food for these serious times, rests upon real merit.

Unlike the ordinary cereal Grape-Nuts requires no sugar, little milk or cream, and requires no cooking or other preparation in serving.

A trial is well worth while for those who sincerely desire to save.

"There's a Reason"

Canadian Patent Food Co., Ltd. Windsor, Ont.

March Winds Mean ROUGH SKIN

Try Mac's Cold Cream (solid) or Mac's Witch Hazel Cream (liquid) and preserve your good complexion. 25c.

The Two Macs