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CAPT. BEST WRITES FROM OVERSEAS

Many citizens will remember with pleasure the visit of Capt. T. F. Best, who spoke in the interests of the Y. M. C. A. Capt. Best has been on active service almost since the outbreak of the war with the exception of a few months on furlough in Canada, in which he worked harder than he did in France. Capt. Best is now on his way home and the following letter from him written in Belgium will be of interest:

Capt. Best's Letter

Brussels, Belgium, Feb. 18, 1919. In response to a cablegram call to return to Canada at once, I'm on my way home, with mingled feelings of sorrow and joy, gratitude and regret. Of course it's a great joy to me to once more face homeward towards dear old Canada and my little neglected family, besides relatives and friends, with anticipation also of an opportunity to make a contribution by public speaking of the "good old Y. M. C. A." On the other hand, it is with sincere sorrow and regret that I break with the important program here and take leave of our splendid Y leaders. For two months we have worked together in the finest spirit of co-operation and Christian fellowship and the parting is with a deep sense of loss to me.

My heart is full of gratitude and thanksgiving to God for the very great privilege of bringing a message to our troops over here. In the two months I have visited thirty-two camps and given sixty-five addresses to an actual total of over 21,840 of all ranks, twenty-four or more Canadian citizenship clubs have been formed with 50 or 60 in a club. This as a "follow up" effort conserves results, gives character and permanency to the whole movement and brings the padres, educational officers and Y. M. C. A. leaders helpfully together in it. A novel and unique part of my program out here has been special addresses to parades of "officers only." Also conferences with Y. M. C. A. officers and chaplains of the different divisions.

The opportunity to get a helpful message into the minds and hearts of our men during the period of armistice and demobilization has been probably the greatest in history, for reasons well known. It appeals to our best men and to the best that is in men. It quiets restlessness among them, breaks the monotony, prevents Bolshevism and makes for a better Canada and the coming of the kingdom of God.

Since coming overseas this time I have written you from England, Scotland, France, Germany and now this one from Belgium. I have just come from Antwerp today and was pleased to find so little damage apparent from the Hun guns, although they dropped 2960 shells into the city. Most of the damage has been repaired during the four years of the war, the old fortifications are permanently destroyed, hundreds of miles of railways have been removed bodily, ties, rails and all, also brass work, copper materials

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and wood stolen deliberately. If I were inclined to sympathise and fraternize with the smooth-talking hospital Germans in the Rhineland all the kindly feeling was completely dispelled by a visit to poor crushed Belgium and broken France and a trip through their devastated land. Brussels is a magnificent city and credit to any nation. One's estimate of the Belgians as a people takes a decided upward trend as one leaves Flanders and visits Liege, Antwerp and Brussels.

In Paris the Y occupies one of the largest and best hotels in the city and it is always crowded and our boys do not need to go wrong if they don't want to. Many enemies are on the track, it is true. The standard of morals on the continent are far below our Canadian standards. Our men recognize this and are all the prouder of their homeland and its people—it only remains for our Canadian women to keep up the high standards, our men expect them to and will admire them for it. Our boys have really idealized the Canadian girls (men who marry here make themselves unpopular and become the recipients of many sore jibes comparing them most favorably with the women folk out here and are going home determined to sustain Canadian high values of womanhood. Its up to our girls, God pity them if they fail, but they will not, they helped us win the war with their prayers, their labors, their sacrifices and their love, now they will help us win the greater fight for a cleaner citizenship and nobler manhood.

Only a few days now and I will be on my homeward journey from Brussels to Paris, Havre, Southampton, London, Liverpool, Halifax, Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton—my home. My heart thumps with joy at the thought of being home once more. It seems almost too good to be true; surely God has been good to me. Just where the Y. M. C. A. national council will send me first I cannot say, but I hope soon to be speaking near enough to your home to allow of a little visit, so that we can speak face to face, renew acquaintance and strengthen friendships. I set great store by my friends. Please continue to remember me in your prayers that my life and work in Canada may count big for the Kingdom of God.

GLEN MARTIN NOTES

The many friends of Private Finley MacKenzie are glad to have him in their midst again after three years strenuous service in France and England.

Mr. Hugh Gillis paid a short visit to Lewis the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John MacKinnon.

Mr. Donald MacDonald, spent the week-end visiting at Murray River the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Beers.

The school is progressing splendidly under the skilful management of Miss Belle Bruce.

Miss Mamie MacLean, has returned home from visiting friends in Bradalbane.

The many friends of Mr. Chester Martin are sorry to know that he has been confined to his home for the past two weeks with a severe attack of la-grippe.

Mr. John MacPherson, has returned home from visiting friends at Murray River. Mr. MacPherson intends visiting the United States in

the near future on a very important mission. He will be greatly missed among his friends here as he is a favorite with all.

Cpl. Ike Martin who has returned from overseas received his honorable discharge in Charlottetown recently.

Pte. Malcolm Gillis who has recently returned from overseas is being warmly welcomed by his friends and neighbors. Pte. Gillis enlisted at the beginning of the war and spent over three years as a prisoner of war in Germany, needless to say he is enjoying his well earned freedom.

Mr. Mack MacKinnon, spent the week-end visiting friends here.

What might have proved a very serious accident happened when Mr. Kenneth MacKenzie, was driving along the road at a fast clip his sleigh striking a large stone, throwing him out of his horse taking fright bolted dragging Mr. MacKenzie several hundred yards. Had it not been for the timely arrival and assistance of Mr. Angus Martin on the scene conditions might have proved disastrous.

Mr. John D. Nicholson intends leaving for Halifax in a few days. His many friends are sorry to hear of his intended departure.

Mr. Donald MacKinnon of Brooklyn spent the week-end here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. MacDonald.

INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Conclusions More Promising at Steel and Car Works.

The Eastern Chronicle of New Glasgow says:—Within less than ten days it is expected that most of the departments at the Trenton Steel Plant will be running at normal capacity, it was earned today upon making enquiry of Mr. D.H. McDougall, President of the Scotia Company. No. 2 mill began starting this morning, the others will be started with an interval of a few days between them and the greater part of the plant will probably be in operation within the time stated above. Whilst the mills have been shut down for a number of weeks, the Forging and Bolt and Nut Departments have been working almost continuously.

At Sydney Mines all of the collieries are now hoisting coal and two of the Open Hearth furnaces are being heated preparatory to the making of steel ingots which should begin to reach New Glasgow by the first of April. The remaining Open Hearth furnaces and the Blast Furnace will probably be put in operation about the middle of the coming month when it is expected conditions will permit of them being started. During the period of the shut down extensive repairs to the coke-ovens, blast furnaces and open hearth plant have been carried on, and, although repairs are not yet completed, the entire works and equipment are now in much better condition for operating than previously.

During the enforced idleness of the plant at Trenton and Sydney Mines,

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The Company has been successful in obtaining some domestic orders for its products but so far no business for export has developed, and, although some enquiries have been received, it seems likely that foreign orders can only be expected when some degree of business confidence is restored, which can only be brought about by the declaration of peace.

A number of the fabricating departments of the Car Works have been working since the 3rd of March. The remainder of the plant will be put in operation within the next week and the erection of cars will probably begin during the first week in April.

AMERICAN WOMEN ON WAY TO PEACE CONFERENCE.

Two women will represent the women wage-earners of America at the Peace Conference, and are already on their way to France. Miss Rose Schneiderman, president of the New York Women's Trade Union League, and Miss Mary Anderson, one of the national directors of that organization and assistant director of the United States Women in Industry Service. The Christian Science Monitor asserts that they are going in response to President Wilson's expressed desire that representatives

of the Women Workers of America should be heard at the Peace Conference. They will represent the women wage-earners in the consideration of such questions as child labor, night work for women, a shorter working day, sweated industry, and other labor problems affecting women and children.

The Tower of Babel Can Wait. Troy Times:—"Peace first, it will be time then to call for plans and specifications for the new Tower of Babel, which is to reach unto heaven, to make men everywhere on one language and to substitute internationalism for nationalism.

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