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The Dalhousie Gazette

—FOUNDED 1869—

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The Editorial Column

Today we complete our regular weekly issues for the term and we wish to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors who have in any way helped to make the Gazette the paper it has been this year. We thank those who have written for the Gazette, those who have subscribed, those who have read it, and those who have advertised in it. We hope that the students will give next year's "Gazette" staff the same ready support they have given it this term.

* * *

This issue being the last before April 9th and also so soon after Easter, we have devoted space to an article on Vimy Ridge and a poem on "A Graveyard in France" in memory of the many gallant Canadians who fell at Vimy Ridge that memorable Easter in April, 1917.

* * *

On page 3 is Mr. Hamilton's advertisement of a Transfer service. Mr. Hamilton is not only an advertiser in the Gazette, but also a student in Arts and in Law at Dalhousie, and the Gazette asks that all students have their transfer work done by a prompt, efficient service run by a loyal Dalhousian.

* * *

Our next issue will be the "Graduation Number." Copy for it will be received any time up to the end of May, and if addressed to the college will be forwarded to the Editor. Get all material in as soon as possible after Graduation. The sooner we have the material, the sooner the big Grad. issue will appear.

* * *

All members of this year's Editorial Staff are requested to be at Gauvin and Gentzel's studio, Spring Garden Road, at 2 p. m., Saturday, April 2nd, for the purpose of having the "Gazette" group picture taken. Each member must bring a gown. Gazette associate editors, reporters and artists—don't forget—2 p. m. Saturday—Gauvin and Gentzel's.

VIMY RIDGE

BY AN "OLD" SOLDIER

THAT the Canadians were to try to take the "Ridge" back from the Hun, in the early spring of 1917, was no secret to the Canadian Corps—or to the enemy across No Man's Land. The Corps knew that all the preparations meant a "push" and "Heinie's" planes and intelligence service could generally tell us all about what went on behind our lines.

Not being acquainted with the plans of the higher command, the main reason that can be assigned for the attack is that the "Ridge" was of great strategic importance to whichever side possessed it. The Germans had good observation over miles of our territory and all the approaches were under direct fire of enemy artillery.

The Ridge had been taken by the French Zouaves two years before. It was then taken over by English troops and the summit of the Ridge was recaptured a few days later by the Germans. Our trenches ran along the side of the hill—we got all the water and were enfiladed in places. The Canadian Corps took over in the fall of 1916 and early in 1917 began to concentrate artillery, etc. for the attack. The tunnels under the German lines—International—Tottenham—Vincent and Cavalier were pushed to completion. Several major and many identification raids were made. The largest raid planned was the gas raid on the last day of February by the 4th Division. The wind turned at the critical time and the gas came back to our trenches. Also the enemy were prepared and the raid was far from a success. From the first of March the Artillery began to register barrages and these, more than anything else, wore down the enemy morale. Towards the end of March, when the registering was complete, the barrage would be tried out along different parts of the field and kept on for longer periods. It was never put on at the same time the next time and Fritz was sure up in the air. At midnight, at daylight, in the middle of the day, a rolling barrage would open up. His "S.O.S." would go up and a counter barrage start. When it was considered he had the "wind up" enough our barrage stopped only to start again, maybe an hour later, maybe a day later. The Germans knew we were to attack—every barrage looked like the real thing and consequently he had to "stand to" for nearly a month before the attack came. Raids towards the end of March showed the Saxons—who had been there all winter—had been withdrawn and Bavarians substituted.

By the first week of April all was ready for the day to be set, which was finally put down to Easter Sunday and later changed to Monday morning at daylight. The 4th Division were on the Northern end of the line and their objectives included the

A GRAVEYARD IN FRANCE

Slowly the night its pinions sweeping
Folds in its arms distracted France,
Here where her martyred sons are sleeping
Lightly the silvery moonbeams glance,
Glimpse where the myriad crosses gleaming
Each like a guardian phantom wraith
Tell of the price of a land's redeeming,
Tell how a soldier kept the faith.

Rank upon rank these ghostly warders
Ever their watch o'er the fallen keep,
Spectral guides to the land that borders
Into the vale of eternal sleep,
Only a cross by the rude oak rendered,
Nought but a name engraved on its head,
Light reward for a life surrendered,
Pitiful tribute to the dead.

Yet o'er each mound where a hero slumbers
Hover like sprites in a fairy trance
Angels of light in countless numbers,
Hosts unseen who have fought for France;
Here in this peaceful heavenly corner
Flanked by the forest sentinels sere,
Liberty stands a pilgrim mourner,
Silently stands and drops a tear.

J. H. T.

"Pimple". The Artillery concentration was tremendous, being the first time the Corps Artillery had shells to spare. English and Colonial artillery had come up from the Somme or down from the North till in places the guns were hub to hub. During the week end the battalions moved up to their places in the tunnels on the support trenches. The tunnels had room for brigades and at zero hour the entrance or future outlet for our troops was blown open under the German lines.

During Saturday night several heavy barrages were laid down but the shelling on both sides was only spasmodic during Sunday. Zero hour was set for half past five and from four on there was hardly any shelling on our side. Promptly at five-thirty the mines under the German lines were exploded and, as if that were the signal, all our guns opened with a roar. In less time than it takes to tell, the early dawn was lit up with German fireworks, but whatever happened the counter barrage was less heavy than was supposed. It is said our air service had registered as many of his batteries and the gunners put them out of action in the early minutes of the battle. After the preliminary bombardment the creeping barrage was laid down and the Infantry advanced. In many parts of the line the Artillery had made their work easy. The German trenches were obliterated and early in the morning our Infantry reached the field Artillery lines of the Hun. The first assault on the "Pimple" failed and it was necessary to make special arrangements to look after the supporters of the "Fatherland" who did not want to leave their home there. It was deeply tunnelled and had many spacious dugouts. The brigade H. Q.

(Continued on page 2)

THE GLEE CLUB.

(Continued from page 3)

the Club and invited the students to a supper and dance at the Tally-Ho. Needless to say the students lost no time in getting down to the Tea Room where they enjoyed supper and afterwards went upstairs to dance till 12.30.

Mr. Connolly the President of the Society, in a short speech thanked Mr. and Mrs. Pearson for their kindness and the dance closed with three cheers for Mrs. Pearson, the heartiness with which they were given showing the appreciation of the students.

D. C. C.

Faculty of Fun Notes

SIMPLE CONFESSION.

Bissett translating in French:—"I have not yet passed the time of loving" (dramatic pause!) then applause!

* * *
IN LATIN I.

Oxley (translating)—"and he longs to see the *shut-up spirits*."

Dr. Nichols—"That is a very interesting statement in these days, Mr. Oxley. Please tell me in confidence after class."

* * *
But Not the Same Day.

Scene: Studley.

Two small boys (on seeing J— C-lq-n approaching with M— C-mm-gs): "Gee, there is the same guy with the same girl we saw yesterday."

* * *
IN LATIN II.

Prof. Murray—"What do you think of the penult of 'poposcissit.'"

Ad- T-l-r—"Why a kiss" is always long sir."

Question—Where did she get her information?

Prof. Dawson—"Oh Miss Morrison, I want your heart to demonstrate to the class."

Miss Morrison—"Sorry, sir, I've lost it."

Question—Who's got it?

* * *
WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Where the new members of Class '23 will get their class pins.

Where the "Persian cat with Angora wool of Philosophy I. is.

STOP PRESS

The following have qualified for the Literary "D" this term: J. H. Townshend; R. M. Richardson; J. A. Dunlop; C. F. Bowes. Presentation of the "D" will be made as soon as possible.

* * *
Annual meeting of Law Society tomorrow—Thursday—at noon. Election of officers.

* * *
Prof. H. L. Stewart lectures at Fort Massey Church on Sunday, April 10th.

* * *
All subscribers are requested to pay up; so we may have funds to finance the Graduation Number.

THE PINEHILL POST.

The big feature this week has been the home-coming of our victorious triumvirate in debating—MacDonald, Miller, Campbell and Sidney Bonnell. We hate to acknowledge it but they are all three from "the Island" so Victor Walls had to go along to keep them on the mainland else they might have hit it for their own Lares and Penates. The welcome given them by the Residence was so warm that they were incapacitated from participating in the Annual Championship game of Indoor Baseball which took place on Saturday, and in which Dinty Moore's relics of the old building, backed by tradition and superstition completely out-classed the proselytes of R. A. Patterson who led the Annex in their futile attempt. For a time the game was close, but when John MacNeil was called to the telephone to answer a call from the Marlborough, the hopes of the "Annexers" quickly evaporated and even the return of John with the news that he could see her home from church on Sunday was insufficient to overcome the big lead piled up in his absence.

L. W. Fraser already showered with honors has further strengthened his claims on posterity by being selected to represent the Commerce Society on the Students Council. It rather smacks of Commercialism however, as Lew is the Sec-Treas. of the Council for next year. Easter was quietly celebrated in the Residence only a few of the boys appearing with the new narrow knitted ties which Wickwire assures us are all the rage. And by the way Eddie Beaton has been sick since he was appointed to the executive of the Y. M. C. A. and MacColl has gone home—but of course there is no direct causal connection between the two events.

D.

* * *
ENGINEERING NOTES.

The Engineers have been favored in a very novel fashion during the afternoons of March 16th, 17th and 18th by an exhibition of that well-known projectile, the torpedo in the upper story of the Science Building.

We are much indebted to Commander Woods for the loan of the torpedo, and to Chief P. O. Miller for his interesting demonstration of its construction and the functions of the different parts of its mechanism, although he experienced much opposition from Rod Richardson who conducted a private lecture to a large audience consisting of Hazel (and others) on the intricacies of the Gnome engine, while Wilf Marshall added a few instructive remarks on "Bombs and how to Dodge Them," (Wilf must have been a bird at that game.)

J. H. T.

* * *
Y. W. G. A. OFFICERS.

At the last Y. W. C. A. meeting, on March 22nd, following officers for next year were elected:

President, Isabel Shaw; Vice-President, Anna MacNeil; Secretary, Hilda O'Brien; Treasurer, Mona MacKinnon. Executive, Margaret Kuhn, Norma Frame, Joyce Jamer Marion Forsyth, Pearl Moase.

* * *
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