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THE DAILY NEWS.

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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SOVIET ELECTIONS

The other day there was an election in the Soviet Union. There were no opposition candidates. Everyone had to vote or be in danger of losing their jobs. The result was that 99.3 of the total electorate voted and 99.1 expressed approval of the candidates put up by the party. In some parts of the country there was a one hundred per cent. poll with one hundred per cent. approving the official candidates.

It seems quite natural that some politicians should yearn for an electorate as simple and easy to manage as they have in the land of the Soviets. If creating a new world is as simple as that, who would not have a new world, a world without any political campaigns in which all the politician has to do is tell the citizens to vote and see that they vote right? It is as simple as learning the alphabet.

But it seems that there must have been a great many of the perennially dissatisfied people liquidated before such a millennial conditions could be arrived at. How many people who are perennial kickers in Prince Rupert would certainly have to be removed before opposition could be eliminated. We always have a ready-made opposition to anything. Life would be nothing to them unless they had something to oppose. They would not want to live in Soviet Russia.

LIVE FOR FUTURE.

M. I. Kalinin, chairman of the presidium, official head of the Soviet Union, speaking just before the election to a large gathering of voters said:

"After all, we live, not only in order to exist, we live for the future as well. We live for the complete victory of Communism the world over." These words were greeted with stormy applause from the factory workers.

RECORD FOR BIBLES

While there have been wars and rumors of wars during the past year, the Gideon Society announces that their distribution of Bibles during the past year broke all previous records. The total distribution was 81,000, the yearly average for the previous thirty years being 50,000. Men and women in these tempestuous days turn to the Bible where they read of other tempestuous days and of the coming of the Prince of Peace into a world of turmoil.

AN INTERESTING QUERY

A reader of the Daily News has asked us to propound the following problem for solution, the person answering correctly to be given a diploma of award of honor:

"How is it that in Britain the Liberals have just about disappeared and in this country a similar fate has been suffered by the Conservatives?"

Answers should be sent to the office of the Daily News but the writer, if it is to be published, must not use the question as an excuse for advocating any special political party or cult except such as is necessary in answering the question in a fair manner.

GREAT PREPARATIONS

Great preparations have been made for a proper celebration of Port Day this year. Committees have been working on the details of the event and it seems likely that it will be the first of a series of similar celebrations to be held at this time of year. The full co-operation of all citizens is asked and that visitors be given a hearty welcome.

CANADA AT WAR

(Continued from Page One)

short, chiefly through narrow lanes, and for the most part downhill, drawn by gaunt horses and driven by sleepy pollus. This indicated we were at the southern extremity of the British line.

"Boves Wood was an extensive clump of brush and saplings, still very wet from the night dew, and already containing many various units. All were concealed. About an acre of brush was apportioned to us and there we were told to make ourselves comfortable. The warning was given that there must be no movement outside the wood in daylight. Fires must not be lit, lest the smoke betray the presence of troops, and at night no lights were to be shown. In other words, cold, bulky beef and water were to be our portion during the stay in Boves Wood. But we were told cheerfully that stay would not be protracted. We were 'going somewhere else.'

"The next move came quickly. During the day orders were received to send a party of guides to Gentelles Wood, just off the Amiens-Roye Road, a few miles southeast of Boves and to move the battalion forward that night.

"Nearer the line! Something was surely happening—but what? The whole business was still shrouded in mystery. Obviously we were going into a 'big show,' but when?

"At nightfall the battalion paraded, swung out of Boves Wood to a road choked with troops and vehicles of every kind. Guns, ammunition limbers, transport wagons, engineering supplies, motor lorries, men—all were packed into that narrow ribbon or road leading through Boves to Gentelles Wood. It was not a march but a crawl. Hour after hour this endless column wormed its way forward. Not until well after midnight did the straggling companies pick up their guides who conducted them to an area not quite so restricted as Boves Wood—but vastly more interesting.

"Gentelles Wood, the last staging point for the great Battle of Amiens, was a revelation.

On Eve of Battle
"Gentelles Wood on the morning of August 7, 1918, presented a spectacle which no one who saw it can ever forget." Thus continues the historian in describing the preliminaries which preceded the great Battle of Amiens. Using the experiences of this unit in its move from the Arras Sector to Gentelles Wood, about eight miles southeast of Amiens, during the first week of August, one notes that those are generally illustrative of the experiences of the Canadian infantry in the course of those stirring days.

The artillery did not share them to such a mysterious extent for the guns travelled by road with all destinations noted from day to day.

"Gentelles Wood was filled with troops and material," the historian continues. "But engaging the closest attention of the infantrymen were the tanks. Huge steel-clad monsters, they were surrounded at all times by awe-stricken 'foot-sloggers.' To them the tanks' crews, with not a little feeling of condescension, poured into credulous ears extraordinary stories of the capabilities of their machines. Embowered with branches, the tanks were carefully concealed from aerial observation.

"Heavy guns, equally well camouflaged, pushed their muzzles through the fringe of the woods, beside them immense stores of large calibre shells. The Canadians had never before seen so many guns assembled in any one spot. Light artillery stood ready for a further move forward. All was bustle and excitement, the atmosphere which portends the approach of big things.

"Early in the day the whole veil of secrecy was drawn aside. The commanding officer assembled his company and platoon commanders and unfolded a scheme whose magnitude and unexpectedness stirred the heart.

"The long and discouraging era of defeats and retirements was over. The army was going to leap to the attack and the spearhead of what had the prospect of turnings out to be the most shattering blow ever delivered on the Western Front was the Canadian Corps. Beneath the shading trees through whose fronds the sun filtered in delicate patterns, the junior officers listened as objectives, dispositions, time schedules and all the other particulars of the coming battle were detailed.

Await Zero Hour
"The ambitious nature of the operations evoked their admiration. The perfection of the preparations, of which they had been kept in complete ignorance, bespoke the highest efficiency of the Canadian Corps staff. The scheme was nothing short of a 'break-through'—that break-through which had been promised from the days of Neuve Chapelle in March, 1915, on. Many times it had been attempted; always it had failed. At Loos in September 1915, at the Somme in July, 1916, at Vimy Ridge in April, 1917—all had fallen short. But this—

"The confidence of the officers infected the men. Pursuing the time-tested practice of communicating all relevant particulars to the men thus encouraging that initiative which was the pride of the corps, the officers explained the details and assigned the various duties. The reaction of the troops was immediate. Confronting them was the prospect of a battle on a gigantic scale, not a mere frittering away of energy in trench-nibbling. Beyond the rolling hills to which they could freely operate—and there was actually some talk of using the cavalry.

"During the day some attachments were made to the tank units, infantrymen being assigned to act as liaison with them. All rested.

"There had been no previous reconnaissance of the forward positions: only an area confined between map co-ordinates was indicated as the assembly point. In the greying twilight of August 7 the battalion moved out of Gentelles Wood, its companies progressing independently. With the approach of night everything else began to move. The light artillery jingled out to their open emplacements in the fields; the tanks began their tuning up. Across the open country vague shadows marched wreath-like in the gloom—all moving forward. Zero hour for the attack was 4:20 a.m. on August 8.

"We found our assembly area occupied by an Australian unit of the 5th Division. Sourly the diggers viewed the invasion of their domain by the Canadians. They had had no orders for relief. As to that, we had no orders to relieve them, we informed the Aussies. The Australians perplexed but in a short while their problems were solved. Their headquarters merely issued orders for them to 'get out' and not to bother about what the Canadians were doing. The diggers got out, happily but still greatly mystified.

"Their departure left the stage purely to ourselves. Everything was now ready for the great assault."

EDEN ATTENDS FOURTH OF JULY FETE



Anthony Eden, former foreign secretary of Great Britain was guest of honor at the fourth of July dinner given on that anniversary by London's American society. Ambassador Joseph Kennedy, just returned from the United States, was also honored. The "Lions" of the occasion are pictured together.

Wilfrid Hicks Is Given Party

Miss Edith Connerly Hostess at Enjoyable Affair Friday Night

Miss Edith Connerly was hostess last Friday evening at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. Connerly at an enjoyable party in honour of Wilfrid Hicks who is leaving tomorrow afternoon on the Catala for Kamboos. During the evening a presentation was made by Ken Green who wished Mr. Hicks bon voyage and success in his new position.

The invited guests were Misses Elsie Davis, Edith Wilkinson, Phemie Finley, Elsie Finley, Lydia Westoby, Sophia MacLaren, Doris Houlden, Veneta Peck and Isabel Connerly, and Messrs. Ken Green, Cliff Marshall, George McGill, Robert Fulton, Bill Murray, Maurice Davey, Wilfrid Hicks and Martin Van Cooten.

LEGION LINE-UP

The Canadian Legion team for tomorrow evening's Giltspur Cup football game against Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve will be chosen from among the following players: Krause; Murray and Currie; Howe, Currie and McKee; Scherk, Bantle, Campbell, Smith and Comadina; Soares; Bremner, Simundsen and Vance.

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