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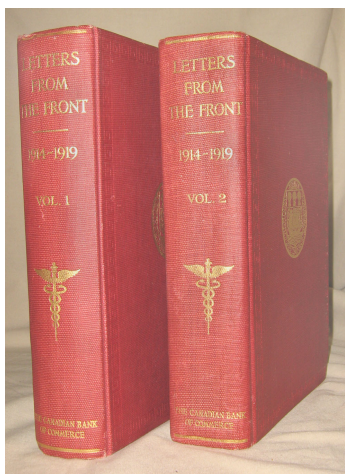
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LETTERS FROM THE FRONT



BEING A RECORD OF THE
PART PLAYED BY OFFICERS
OF THE BANK IN THE
GREAT WAR

1914-1919

VOL. I

Introduction

by Sir John Aird



THE fervour evidenced throughout Canada in the early days of the war was infinitely more than the flag waving and the patriotic exercises of peaceful times; it was a heartfelt desire to be at one with the motherland in sacrifice and in the service of right.

Nowhere in the Dominion was the call of duty more resonantly heard than in the Canadian banks. From our own institution 460 of our best young men went forth in the first year of fighting, and all through the war, when a steady stream of recruits was needed to give Canada's effort in France and Flanders its required strength, the efflux from The Canadian Bank of Commerce continued in full measure until over 1,700 men had enlisted from our service.

This gradual depletion of our staff of men presented a problem hitherto unknown, and in the case of the banks, as in that of all of Canada's organizations of commerce and industry, the women of our kind came to the rescue. Right nobly did they buckle to their tasks, and through their devoted labours our young men were freed for active service, and the business of a nation at war went on.

The idea of permanently recording the war service of the staff of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was conceived by Mr. Charles Lyons Foster, Staff Inspector.

He it was who, while solving the almost insurmountable problems of his office, found time to edit the pamphlets known as "Letters from the Front," which in their eleven issues followed the fortunes of our soldier-bankers throughout the war. The "Letters from the Front" from their inception found an ever-widening circle of sympathetic readers and now the pamphlets, with the addition thereto of many interesting letters hitherto unpublished, have been combined in the present volume.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce had truly a "far-flung battle line," for in the war her soldiers fought on every front on which British arms were represented and we trust that these letters from trench, billet and prison camp, captured objective, and hospital ward, will prove of value to all who desire first-hand impressions of the fields on which Canada's sons have won immortal fame.

Canada has had to pay in full the price of a victorious campaign. We in The Canadian Bank of Commerce are privileged to record with grateful pride the death, in action, from wounds and from sickness, of 258 of those who went forth from our service. Many of our men were maimed and few escaped wounds.

We are proud of the many honours won by our soldier-bankers. These honours include every award in the British list for service in the field, and not a few foreign decorations.

There were many on our staff who were denied the privilege of military service through weight of years or ill-health, and some there were whose responsible duties demanded that they remain at an inglorious desk. Yet ever during the campaign did they who remained behind envy in their hearts their younger and more virile brethren

who were adding glorious pages to the history of our race in France and Flanders.

Since the fighting ceased, our warriors have been returning to the peaceful round of the branch bank office. They have taken up their duties with quiet confidence, and efficiency has marked their every act. We welcome their return, and our endeavour shall be that they who went forth that we might live shall now find that the rightful meed of the nation's defenders will ever be theirs.

JOHN AIRD,
General Manager.

31st March, 1920.

Preface

THE pamphlets entitled "Letters from the Front" were initiated primarily in the interest of the staff of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, to record the growing lists of enlistments, the promotions, the doings and the casualties amongst officers of the Bank at the front, all information which it was felt would be keenly appreciated by those members of the staff perforce remaining at their banking duties. To the staff at home and to a circle of readers, at first small, but ever widening, who were specially selected from relatives and friends of the officers and correspondents of the Bank, the pamphlets were sent, and it was throughout the war our constant endeavour to place copies of them in the hands of each of our officers overseas, especially after it became apparent that the publication was serving the purpose of keeping them in touch with former comrades then separated by the exigencies of war. While a publication of this sort was not an entirely novel idea, our attention has not yet been called to any other publication of a similar character which so exactly fulfils the purpose for which it was conceived.

In the nature of events, the war had advanced many months before it was possible to secure sufficient suitable material to commence publication. The first issue appeared in August, 1915, on practically the first anniversary of the war, up to which date 460 officers of the Bank had donned the King's uniform, seventeen of whom had yielded up their lives in his and in their country's service. This first issue was a modest beginning and consisted of some twenty pages, half of which were devoted to letters and the remainder to the lists of enlistments and casualties. The second issue appeared in October and contained a new feature in the "Notes" of promotions, rewards and other special activities of Bank officers engaged on military duty. Further issues appeared in January, April, July and October, 1916, January and June, 1917, January and September, 1918, and January, 1919, the last number in the main covering the momentous operations leading up to, and the

intensely interesting events following, the 11th of November, 1918, "Armistice Day," the greatest day in history! All assumed the same form, but each succeeding issue eclipsed the last in size and in breadth of interest, a fact which need cause no surprise when it is stated that officers of this Bank have served in every theatre of the great war.

The war was fought and won not by professional soldiers—although great and wonderful was the work of the "Old Contemptibles" and professional soldiers of allied nations, all honour, thanks and praise to them!—but by armies of patriots the vast majority of whom could hardly have distinguished between a brigade and a platoon on the 1st of August, 1914. In like manner, "Letters from the Front" has been an amateur production throughout, and except for the printing and binding has been entirely the work of members of the Bank's staff. Its Editor and assistants were those who, when war broke out, had the handling of the destinies and fortunes of the staff, under the direction of the General Manager. The pressure on the staff department of a rapidly growing bank can never, of course, be very light, and assuredly it did not grow lighter as the war developed, and this in part is the explanation of the irregularity of the dates of issue of the eleven pamphlets and, we plead, for certain inaccuracies of composition and print which appeared in some of the issues.

With the arrival of the long-looked-for days of peace came the thought and decision to blend these scattered pamphlets into one harmonious whole, and so amend and enrich them as to make them not only a worthy memorial to a band of gallant young men, but also a valuable contribution to the side-lights of the history of the war. This book is the result of that decision.

While every effort has been made to enrich the volume by the inclusion of pertinent dates, place names and other facts previously censorable, the dominant idea of the publication has been to do nothing which could in any way destroy the living atmosphere which pervades the letters, and in years to come will give them their chief literary and historical value. The greatest care has been exercised in the revision. Each living writer has been approached for additional facts and explanations, and the best known sources have been explored for information in the case of letters whose writers have made the great sacrifice. The letters themselves were written by officers of the Bank's staff with very few exceptions,

and, in the reprint, these exceptions have been eliminated except for three or four letters which deal solely with activities of members of the staff. The letters are all-embracing as to subject and style, and express feelings ranging all the way from insouciance to the dogged determination to see the thing through to the end. High idealism is not wanting, as witnessed by what is said of or by such men as Lieutenant F. G. Flower, Lieutenant D. E. Gordon, Private R. M. Livingston, Private G. F. Skelton and Lance-Corporal W. Tucker, to mention only a few of those who laid down their lives.

The arrangement of the lists of enlistments in the various issues has never been entirely acceptable, but was the best that could be devised at the time. The form adopted in this volume should, we think, meet all objections. This volume will be followed by a supplementary one containing a complete list of enlistments in alphabetical order with a brief biography, civil and military, in each case, in so far as it has been, or may be possible to obtain the necessary information. As the supplement will cover practically all the information previously appearing in the "Notes," it has been decided to omit the Notes, as such, from this volume. Any matter not so reproduced in the Supplement, however, has been embodied here.

Space would not permit us to quote the many complimentary and flattering references to the publication of these letters from diverse quarters, but we may perhaps be pardoned for quoting the concluding words of a lengthy article by one of our large business contemporaries on the Pacific Coast, published in the early days of the entry of the United States into the war:

"Banker soldiers under the Stars and Stripes will have
"a good mark to shoot at in the record set by their Cana-
"dian brothers-in-arms. There is no profession, trade
"or calling better represented. Bankers have certainly
"made good as first-class fighting men."

In the same article the writer commented favourably on the fact that no names appear in any of the issues except those of soldiers. This rule was rigidly observed throughout. We may now, however, give due credit to those members of the staff, who, during the stress of their regular duties and out of their leisure hours, found the time to edit and prepare the material for the pamphlets. In his capacity of Staff Inspector it fell to the writer

to initiate the publications and assume the editorship throughout. He wishes, however, to give special credit and thanks to his two successive private secretaries, Miss Jessie Macdonald Murray and Miss Jessie Elspeth Wilson, to whom during the period of greatest staff difficulty it was necessary to leave practically the entire editorship of several of the issues; also to Miss Elizabeth Fife Rennie for her preparation of the "Notes" and the arrangement of the lists of enlistments, honours, and casualties, the last named involving countless hours of patient examination of official casualty lists; and finally to Lieut. William Smith Duthie, himself a returned soldier and contributor to the "Letters," who has, for many months devoted his energies to the collection and supplying of material for this volume and for the supplement, its incorporation in the work, and the final rearrangement of the letters and other matter in book form. No Editor could possibly ask for more able, intelligent and cheerful co-operation in a work which has been to all concerned, indeed, a labour of love.

We can hardly do better than finish this preface by quoting the concluding paragraph of the Preface to Number eleven, the last issue, which followed an outline of our ideals of what the enriched and bound "Letters" should be, in the hope that this ideal has been in no small measure accomplished:

"If we are successful in making of it what we have in mind, the volume with its supplement should prove a valuable addition to the history of the war, as well as a lasting memorial to men who came together from many lands to join a business family, and went out again to do great and stirring deeds during the most momentous period in the history of mankind."

C. L. FOSTER, Editor.

Toronto, 31st March, 1920.

Enlistments from the Bank

NAME	RANK	DATE OF ENLISTMENT	BRANCH ENLISTED FROM
Abrams, J. N.	Private	21st April, 1918	Toronto, Ont.
Ackland, E. A.	Private	Feb., 1918	Winnipeg, Man.
*Adams, F. S. J.	Captain, M.C.	Left the Bank to undertake military service 13th Dec., 1915	
Adams, G. D.	Flight Cadet	12th July, 1917	London, Eng.
Adams, H. W.	Gunner	Dec., 1915	Toronto, Ont.
Adams, J. M.	Captain	11th Jan., 1915	Vancouver, B.C.
*Adams, W. P.	Sergeant, D.C.M., M.M.	7th Dec., 1915	Simcoe, Ont.
Aikman, C. W.	Lieutenant	27th April, 1916	Lennoxville, Que.
Aikman, G. G.	Flight Cadet	25th Sept., 1918	Red Deer, Alta.
**Ainger, W. E.	Second Lieutenant	Nov., 1914	New York, N.Y., U.S.A.
†Aitchison, A. W.	Lieutenant, M.C.	Sept., 1914	London, Eng.
	Died of wounds 13th May, 1916.		
Aitken, J. W.	Lieutenant	28th Aug., 1915	Shaunavon, Sask.
†Aldrich, M. S.	Private	7th Dec., 1916	Winnipeg, Man.
	Killed in action 15th Aug., 1917.		
†Alexander, A. M.	Second Lieutenant	Oct., 1915	Ayer's Cliff, Que.
	Killed in action 8th Dec., 1917.		
Alexander, J. B.	Second Lieutenant	6th Sept., 1917	London, Eng.
†Alexander, P. M.	Second Lieutenant	Aug., 1914	College & Dovercourt, Toronto, Ont.
	Died of wounds 30th July, 1916		
*Alexander, W. T.	Lieutenant	13th May, 1916	Department of The Superintendent of Central Western Branches, Winnipeg, Man.
*†Allan, G. F.	Lance-Corporal	12th Feb., 1915	Calgary, Alta.
	Killed in action 13th June, 1916.		
Allen, Alfred H.	Captain	Feb., 1916	Smith's Falls, Ont.
†Allen, Arthur H.	Second Lieutenant	Returned to Old Country to enlist	
	Killed in action 4th Oct., 1917.		
Allen, D. L.	Flight Cadet	31st Aug., 1915	Saskatoon, Sask.
Ambridge, C. M.	Corporal	20th May, 1918	Vermilion, Alta.
Ames, R. C.	Lieutenant	4th June, 1918	Toronto, Ont.
†Anderson, B. S.	Signaller	25th Jan., 1916	Kitscoty, Alta.
	Killed in action 26th Aug., 1917.		
Anderson, J.	Lieutenant	Left the Bank to undertake military service 1st April, 1916	
	Died of wounds 1st April, 1916		
Anderson, N. A.	Private	27th Dec., 1914	Dauphin, Man.
Anderson, O. M.	Private	Sept., 1918	Bengough, Sask.
†Anderson, R.	Private	1st Nov., 1914	Radville, Sask.
	Killed in action 20th May, 1915.		
Anderson, W. G.	Sapper	5th Feb., 1917	Nelson, B.C.
*Andrews, J.	Private	8th Mar., 1916	Prince Rupert, B.C.
Andrews, S. H.	Corporal	8th Mar., 1916	Head Office, Toronto, Ont.
*Annett, J. L. G.	Sergeant, M.M.	21st Sept., 1916	Vancouver, B.C.
	Mar., 1915		
	Campbellton, N.B.		

†Killed or died.

*Wounded.



G. A. BECK
Lieutenant. Killed in action
9th April, 1917.



D. H. BELL
Captain. Military Cross. Killed in action
8th October, 1916.



J. M. G. BELL
Lieutenant. Military Cross. Died of wounds
11th October, 1918.



A. W. BEVAN
Private. Killed in action
9th August, 1916.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

flank, from which direction the maxim fire was heaviest. At this time, as one of our officers and several N.C.O.'s were hit, we could again get no actual orders passed down the line, so we were left to act more or less on our own initiative. So up we got again, still under the same terrific fire and made another dash, and a few of us reached the trenches which were held by the Carbineers. Others had to retire a little to a hedge, where they re-formed under an officer and started to dig themselves in.

"I was one of the lucky ones among those who reached the trenches first. I simply flung myself in (the trench was five feet deep with three feet head cover in front) and was only too glad to lie down in the bottom for a breather and to collect my thoughts a bit. The regulars there were simply fine fellows and soon bucked us up with their little jokes and kind attentions, and very soon we were up again and blazing away at the German trenches some four hundred yards in front, with the best. Well there I remained all day (i.e. 31st October, Hallowe'en) potting at Germans when they showed themselves, and our trenches were simply bombarded with heavy shell and shrapnel fire. Part of the trench was blown in by a 'J.J.' and we had to dig it out again, and several of our chaps and the regulars too were hit. As it got dark the shell fire slackened and almost ceased, and we were able to move about a little to stretch cramped limbs and to fetch water from a farm immediately on our left. We had some of our wounded there, and I gave a hand to our medical officer dressing one of our lieutenants who was shot through the cheek and ear, and had a scalp wound, too, from shrapnel.

"At about eleven p.m. I lay down in the trench to try and get a short rest, sentries being on the qui vive. At midnight we were suddenly alarmed that the enemy were advancing in great force all along the line and we immediately stood to our rifles. It is at this point that our further doings coincide more or less with newspaper reports. The enemy were swarming into the farm on our left in no time, and out we rushed from the trenches we had occupied all day and sprinted into the farmyard, and dodging behind barns, haystacks and outbuildings, took pot shots at every German we could see, at the same time fixing bayonets in readiness for emergencies. We were only a handful of men here, so could not attempt to hold the advance, merely to check it; so eventually fell back on another line of trenches immediately behind the farm-house some fifty yards away. The whole farm, barns and stacks were set alight by the enemy, and it burnt away as a huge beacon, lighting up everything all round all night. The effect of

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

Private Tucker, who was formerly a member of the staff of our St. John's, Newfoundland, branch, received his death wounds at Gallipoli on 8th October, 1915:

"I do not know if the following will be regarded as interesting from your viewpoint, but it has afforded much satisfaction, and some consolation, and not a little pride to me:—When told by Surgeon-Major Macpherson that he was dying, and asked if he had any message to send to his relatives, he said:

"Tell dad that I would rather be in the condition I am now in, than have failed to fight for my country.'"

The following letter was written by Private R. Marshall Livingstone, formerly of the Champion staff, to his mother, just before going into action for the last time. Mr. Livingstone was mortally wounded on 27th October, 1917, and died the same day:

"Mother dear, your letters worry me, worry me considerably. It is evident that you do not understand, but I shall put it to you this way: Do you realize that Christ was the first one to fall in the present war? How? Well simply this: The very principles for which Christ gave His life are identically those principles for which Britain is to-day giving her life-blood. It is an old struggle, and Christ Himself was the first martyr to the cause. We are fighting for principles. Right against might. Would the world be worth living in if might and might alone prevailed?

"Therefore, Mother, rather than pray that Harry and I should never be sent to the front, pray that we shall acquit ourselves like men and be strong, for we are on duty primarily for God. Don't feel badly if you hear that we have been specially detailed for dangerous work. Rather look on it as an honour and a special privilege that we should be chosen for special duty in upholding the cause for which Christ laid down His life. If you pray for our return, and only for our return, it is selfishness. Other mothers have been called on to endure greater sacrifices than any we can endure in this war.

"Pray for victory for right; pray that we shall be able to do our duty faithfully, and if we fall in the cause of Christ, remember, mother dear, that 'greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.'

"Personally, I don't want to go back except with honour and a clear conscience of having done my duty. Life under any other circumstances after the war would not be worth while."

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Introduction



IT was originally considered that one volume, containing the "Letters from the Front" pamphlets issued during the course of the great struggle recently concluded, would suffice as an official and historical record of the part played therein by the members of the staff of The Canadian Bank of Commerce. Mr. C. L. Foster, the Editor of Volume I, however, conceived the idea of making a more detailed record by the publication of a supplementary biographical volume, and the present Volume II is the result of our labours in this connection.

Biographical volumes of necessity contain an array of dry facts and uninteresting figures. Nevertheless we are confident that the information given herein will prove not only of vital interest to the Bank as constituting an historical record of the war service of members of our staff, but also of intrinsic value as part of the military annals of the Dominion.

Unfortunately the exigencies of warfare do not permit of chronicling the countless deeds of heroism performed on the field of battle, and many gallant acts must perforce go unrewarded and even unknown. It is inspiring, however, to read the citations from the "London Gazette," and they contain flashes of fire which cannot fail to thrill the reader and visualize the scenes of gallantry which they record.

In the compilation of the military records, no pains have been spared to make the work as complete as

possible, and exhaustive searches have been made of official documents and archives, at Ottawa, in London and elsewhere.

The assistance rendered by the members and former members of the staff, and the next-of-kin of those who died on active service, in furnishing particulars, has been of the utmost value, and we take this opportunity of extending to them our cordial thanks for their courtesy.

Since the publication of Volume I we have received more recent information concerning the ranks and dates of enlistment in the case of a few members of our staff and the necessary changes have been made in this volume.

We record with deep regret that our obituary list is now 265 and not 258 as stated in Volume I.

Chief credit is due to Lieutenant A. D. Golden, M.C., who compiled and edited the biographies and to Lieutenant D. P. Wagner, M.C., who devoted much of his time to the work and prepared the accompanying map. If any errors or omissions have occurred they are not owing to any lack of effort or diligence in obtaining the fullest information possible regarding each officer. The material examined and sifted, and the correspondence involved, would have been sufficient to deter from the undertaking any but those having at heart a deep interest in the work.

Included in this volume are photographs of the Memorial Plaque presented by the King to the next-of-kin of deceased soldiers, and one of the many tablets which have been erected in the various branches of the Bank in memory of the men who went to the war. In addition, there appear photographs of the various Orders won by our men, which include almost every British Order awarded for service during the war. The

reproduction of the badges worn by the various regiments in which our men served, will undoubtedly prove of interest as well as a matter of historical record, and in this connection it will interest friends across the line to note the insignia of the various regiments in the United States Army in which the members of the staff served. For the latter we are indebted to the courtesy of Major F. B. Wells of Minneapolis.

We are glad that we have been able to welcome back to our service a large percentage of our staff who undertook military duty. A number have pursued different walks in life since the cessation of hostilities. To all of them we tender our esteem and appreciation, and we assure them it will be ever our privilege to look with grateful pride on their achievements and service in defence of our fair Dominion.

In dedicating this volume to all those of our staff who assumed military duty, and particularly to the memory of those "very gallant gentlemen" who laid down their lives in defence of the right, we hope that the example of their self-sacrifice will prove a source of inspiration to future generations of officers of the Bank.

H. V. F. JONES,

Assistant General Manager.

31st March, 1921.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

OBITUARY.

NAME	RANK	DATE OF DEATH
Aitchison, A. W.	Lieutenant, M.C.	Died of wounds 13th May, 1916.
Aldrich, M. S.	Private.	Killed in action 15th Aug., 1917.
Alexander, A. M.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 8th Dec., 1917.
Alexander, P. M.	Second Lieutenant.	Died of wounds 30th July, 1916.
Allan, G. F.	Lance-Corporal.	Killed in action 13th June, 1916.
Allen, Arthur H.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 4th Oct., 1917.
Anderson, B. S.	Signaller.	Killed in action 26th Aug., 1917.
Anderson, R.	Private.	Killed in action 20th May, 1915.
Appleby, R. M.	Lance-Corporal.	Killed in action 22nd Aug., 1917.
Archibald, W. R.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 27th June, 1918.
Arden, R. D.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 7th Oct., 1916.
Armstrong, G. H.	Lieutenant.	Died on active service 28th Oct., 1918.
Badley, S.	Private.	Killed in action 8th May, 1915.
Balderston, C. T.	Second Lieutenant.	Died of wounds 26th June, 1917.
Barnard, L. H.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 25th Aug., 1916.
Barnes, F. F.	Private.	Killed in action 22nd May, 1915.
Bateman, F. L.	Gunner.	Died on active service 11th Dec., 1918.
Bean, L. M.	Private.	Killed in action 23rd April, 1915.
Beatson, R. S. M.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 2nd July, 1916.
Beatty, J. H.	Private.	Killed in action 1st April, 1918.
Beck, G. A.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 9th April, 1917.
Bell, D. H.	Captain, M.C.	Killed in action 8th Oct., 1916.
Bell, J. M. G.	Lieutenant, M.C.	Died of wounds 11th Oct., 1918.
Bevan, A. W.	Private.	Killed in action 9th Aug., 1916.
Black, F.	Corporal.	Killed in action 2nd Dec., 1915.
Blacklay, F. P.	Private.	Killed in action 26th Oct., 1915.
Blackwood, H.	Private.	Killed in action 25th Feb., 1917.
Blott, W. M.	Lieutenant.	Died of wounds 13th May, 1917, while a prisoner of war.
Booth, P. E. O.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 1st July, 1916.
Brake, F. C. J.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 21st March, 1918.
Breakey, H. L.	Lieutenant.	Killed on active service 15th July, 1918.
Brennan, D. P.	Lieutenant.	Died on active service 12th Nov., 1918.
Briscoe, R. D.	Lieutenant.	Killed on active service 6th Jan., 1915.
Brown, R. R. P.	Lance-Corporal.	Died of wounds 27th Oct., 1917.
Browne, A. E.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 9th April, 1917.
Buchanan, H. R. V.	Private.	Died of wounds 27th Sept., 1918.
Buzzell, C. E.	Lance-Corporal.	Died on active service 24th Dec., 1916.
Cagney, J.	Private.	Died of wounds 30th March, 1916.
Callaghan, L. E.	Private.	Killed in action 13th Oct., 1915.
Cameron, F. B.	Lieutenant.	Died of wounds 19th Aug., 1916.
Cameron, G. J.	Private.	Killed in action 1st Oct., 1918.
Campbell, D. J. M.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 12th July, 1916.
Carmichael, W. L.	Lieutenant.	Killed in action 17th Aug., 1917.
Child, J. M.	Captain, M.C.	Killed on active service 23rd Aug., 1918.
Christie, T. A.	Sergeant-Major.	Died of wounds 8th June, 1916.
Claringbold, J. O.	Private.	Killed in action 3rd Oct., 1918.
Clarke, G. E.	Second Lieutenant.	Killed in action 23rd July, 1916.
Cowie, J.	Private.	Killed in action 30th Oct., 1917.
Cram, J. M.	Lieutenant.	Killed on active service 26th Aug., 1918.

Biographies

(Numerals at the end of a biography refer to pages in Vol. I.)

ABRAMS, JOHN NORMAN—Private. Born 7th July, 1895, at Summerstown, Ontario, Canada. Father, Albert Abrams, retired. Educated at Cornwall Public and High School. Entered the service of the Bank, 17th September, 1912. Enlisted, 21st April, 1918, from Toronto branch, in 1st Battalion, Canadian Tank Corps, with the rank of Private. Transferred to 63rd Battery, London, Ontario. Service in England. Demobilized, 25th May, 1919. Returned to duty with the Bank, 16th June, 1919.

ACKLAND, EDGAR ADELBERT—Private. Born 23rd July, 1891. Father, J. B. Ackland, Automobile Dealer. Entered the service of the Bank, 27th August, 1917. Enlisted, February, 1918, from Winnipeg branch.

ADAMS, FRANCIS STANLEY JOSEPH—Captain, M.C. Born 23rd October, 1887. Father, Joseph Adams, Chemist. Entered the service of the Bank, 11th April, 1910. Enlisted, 13th December, 1915, from London, England, branch, in Machine Gun Corps.

Awarded THE MILITARY CROSS

“For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a counter-attack he took his section forward through a heavy barrage, and in spite of casualties got his guns into position at a critical stage in the operations. Throughout he kept in close touch with the infantry, and carried out several valuable reconnaissances as the operations developed.”

(*London Gazette* Supplement, 6th April, 1918.)

Wounded (seriously), 4th December, 1917.

ADAMS, GERALD DRAYSON—Flight Cadet. Born 15th June, 1900, at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Father, Stanley Adams, Musician. Entered the service of the Bank, 28th February, 1916. Enlisted, 12th July, 1917, from Toronto branch, in 1st Central Ontario Depot Battalion, with the rank of Private. Demobilized, 6th December, 1918, to join the Royal Air Force.

APPENDIX I.

MILITARY SERVICE IN THE GREAT WAR BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

A.—BANK OF HAMILTON

OBITUARY

ADAIR, WILLIAM GORDON—Private. Born February 28, 1898, at Wingham, Ont. Father, J. Adair, Wingham. Entered the service of the bank at Wingham October 16, 1915. Enlisted January 22, 1916, from the Wingham branch in 161st Canadian Battalion. Died November 22, 1917, in No. 12 General Hospital, Bramshott, England, while training with his unit at Witley. Buried in Bramshott (St. Mary) Churchyard, Bramshott, Hampshire, England.

ANGUS, REGINALD HENRY—Private. Born January 13, 1897, at Hamilton, Ont. Father, William Angus, Hamilton. Entered the service of the bank at Hamilton August 15, 1912. Enlisted December 11, 1915, from Sherman and Barton (Hamilton) branch in 120th Battalion, Canadian Infantry. Promoted Corporal at Bramshott, England, but reverted to rank of private to go to France November 14, 1916. Transferred in France to 87th Canadian Battalion. Killed in Action at Vimy Ridge, April 9, 1917. Buried in Canadian Cemetery No. 2, Neuville St. Vaast, France.

BAIRD, GEORGE—Private. Born October 22, 1895, at Pilot Mound, Man. Father, the Hon. J. B. Baird, Pilot Mound. Entered the service of the bank at Pilot Mound July 2, 1910. Enlisted May 13, 1916, from the Pilot Mound branch in 90th Battalion, Canadian Infantry. Transferred July, 1916, to 11th (Reserve) Battalion, Shorncliffe, England. Transferred in France, August 17, 1916, to 27th Canadian

B.—THE STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

OBITUARY

ACRET, WILFRED MAITLAND—Private. Born September 8, 1895, at Brantford, Ont. Father, John Reid Worthington Acret, Brantford. Entered the service of the bank at Brantford May 8, 1913. Enlisted February 17, 1916, from Paisley branch in 160th Canadian Battalion. Transferred February 28, 1918, to 1st Canadian Battalion. Proceeded to France May 13, 1918, and was taken on strength of the Canadian Machine Gun Corps. Wounded October 1, 1918, while engaged in fighting north of Sancourt. His wounds were dressed, but later he was found dead. No information is available as to how he met his death. Buried in Sancourt British Cemetery, near Douai, France.

BELL, JOHN JOHNSTON STEWART—Private. Born May 3, 1895, at Petrolia, Ont. Father, John Johnston Bell, Elora, Ont. Entered the service of the bank at Whitby September 22, 1913. Enlisted October 25, 1915, from Pickering, Ont., branch in 95th Canadian Battalion. Transferred to 1st Canadian Battalion in France September 16, 1916. Severely wounded July, 1917. Died of Wounds August 5, 1917, in the King George Hospital, London, Eng. Buried in the Canadian Military Cemetery at Brockwood, Surrey.

CLARK, VERNON HARCOURT—Signaller. Born November 30, 1897, at Victoria Harbour, Ont. Father, Duncan Clark, Victoria Harbour. Entered the service of the bank at Victoria Harbour March 1, 1916. Enlisted March 28, 1917, from Victoria Harbour branch in the Canadian Garrison Artillery. Transferred to 2nd Brigade, Canadian Garrison Artillery, in France July 14, 1918. On the evening of September 26, 1918, with a party of signallers, he was proceeding from the rear section of 4th Canadian Siege Battery behind Cagnicourt to the forward gun positions at Inchy. As he did not arrive, a