

# Terrifying Episodes Are Still Encountered in Flanders Fields

By RODNEY ANGOVE  
VERDUN, France (AP)—One can still get a sense of the horror of the First World War's bloodiest battles were fought.

Not long ago a lone tourist was quietly surveying the trenches. Suddenly shouts and gunfire echoed from a neighboring wood. Terrified, the tourist jumped into a trench and splashed through water toward a shelter. A rusty British helmet landed under his feet.

He found himself in a tunnel about four feet deep with dripping walls. He sloshed along in the stream—30 yards, 50 yards before daylight showed.

There the shooting was louder, but the tourist was reassured—what had sounded like a ghastly battle turned out to be a Flemish hunting party near one of the ragged scars of the war.

It was in August, 1914, the first month of the war, that tightly-locked mass moved in from the Belgian border toward Paris. The huge German army was pushing back French and Belgian forces. The first units of the British Expeditionary Force were sent to the front.

collection of photographs of the epoch can be seen in the nearby private museum.

On Sept. 12, 1917, neither the grass nor the poppies of Flanders can hide the craters where the battle raged for decades.

"Nobody won the war," went the solemn saying.

Even today, the justification of the costly French nuclear force results partly from the Great War. The government says it will help Frenchmen recover their pride and, along with it, their will to resist any attack.

turn the tide in 1917 and 1918. But while white and dried dry France became physically and morally stagnant for decades.

Government planners are looking to create a modern townsite while the population of 1,200 wreaths with a lack of accommodation, muddy roads and isolation.

Authorities estimate the population will reach 5,000 in four years as development rapidly changes the lonely area into a

# Development Of Oil Sands Makes Fort McMurray Boom

10 The Guardian, Charlotte, Thurs. Aug. 27, 1964.

Fort McMurray, Alta. (CP)—Development of the Alberta oil sands has made Fort McMurray a bush boom town. 30 miles northeast of Edmonton.

The presence of oil was first recorded 177 years ago by explorer Peter Pond but efforts to extract it from the sand proved a stumbling block.

Now Great Canadian Oil Sands Ltd. is clearing wilderness 25 miles from the town for a plant using a hot water extraction process to tap an estimated oil reserve of almost 700,000,000 barrels.

The production target is 45,000 barrels a day by September, 1967.

Nearest town to Fort McMurray is Lac la Biche, but the only ground transportation is a rail line. Work is progressing rapidly on an all-weather highway connecting both towns.

Fort McMurray's business section includes two banks, one hotel, a warehouse and liquor store. There is one public school.

Work is going ahead at fever pace on housing construction to help relieve the acute shortage before winter sets in. About 120 job seekers, mostly Indians and Metis, arrive each week.

Public Works Minister Fred Colborne says in a news release that the government has the ability to employ and train to upgrade their skills, to pay for low-cost housing.

Construction companies in the area have indicated willingness to co-operate in providing employment and on-the-job training.

# Nun Honored On Golden Anniversary

TORONTO (CP)—Sister Patricia loves a party. "Excitement always makes me feel young," said the 78-year-old nun who was the centre of attraction at a gathering held in honor of her 50th anniversary with the Sisters of Misericorde.

The golden anniversary party was given here by the women's auxiliary of the Scarborough General Hospital, which is run by the order. They took the unusual step of holding the festivities in a semi-public place as special treat for Sister Patricia, who for five years has acted as liaison between the auxiliary and the hospital administration.

Sister Patricia is better known to the public as the merry-go-round man who mans the hospital information desk in the lobby.

"She never forgets a name or a face and everybody loves her," says her superior, Sister Marie de Lieve. "She's the best public relations person the hospital could have."

More than 60 members of the auxiliary presented Sister Patricia with a big golden chain and a gold bag filled with 50 silver dollars. "Now we can go to Montreal, Sister Superior," she said.

On Sept. 3 the motherhouse in Cartierville, outside Montreal, is holding a celebration for Sister Patricia and eight other golden anniversary celebrants. The French-Canadian order has 600 members throughout North America and Africa.

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**Que. Refuses Responsibility In Maine Rabies**  
QUEBEC (CP)—A spokesman for the Quebec health department said here the province can't be held responsible in any way for a rabies outbreak in Maine.

The spokesman said the disease isn't a problem in Quebec, where only one case has affected human beings in the last 30 years.

He was commenting on a week-end statement by Dr. Dean Fisher, head of the Maine department of health and welfare, who said that Quebec or New Hampshire is doing much to combat a rabies outbreak.

Dr. Fisher said there has been an epidemic in Quebec for several years, indicating a lack of preventive measures. He said that the province has had reported this year in Maine counties bordering on Quebec and New Hampshire.

The Quebec spokesman said if wild foxes in Maine suffer from rabies, they have picked it up from animals in the state, not in Quebec.

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**ATTACK MAIN TACTIC**  
The French command believed that the only way to make war was to attack, attack and then attack again. It had no tactics against the terrible new weapon, the machine-gun, nicknamed the "vaseur" because of the way it could cut down whole fields of riflemen.

The French lacked barbed wire and their own machine-guns to throw up a defensive barrier. The British believed Frenchmen didn't fight well in trenches.

The Germans planned to sweep just east of Verdun and double back toward Verdun, enveloping the French army. But the French took soldiers, mostly farm boys, clung stubbornly to their positions and would not break.

The Germans were 17 miles from Paris when French headquarters noticed their right wing was beginning to veer away from the capital. The Germans thought they had won the same old battle, but they were wrong. The encircling French. This was a major mistake. The time was ripe for a counter-attack on the exposed German flank.

**TROOPS ROSE TANKS**  
It was ordered by Gen. Joseph Simon Gallieni, commander of the French army. This was the battle in which he refused 6,000 reserves to the west in Paris trenches.

The Allies pushed the foe across the soft, crummy Marne Valley and might have achieved decisive victory if not for the prepared German defenses. The Canadians made a great stand. The Germans dug into the half-ton of low hills south and east of Ypres and shelled the prosperous, picturesque town of 17,000 into a pile of rubble.

**300,000 DIED**  
Unrecorded monuments a 400 miles ceremony today testify to the horror of the trenches around Ypres. Local historians say nearly 300,000 men of both sides in the three salient "Blown to bits" say the records.

Commanders could think of no way to break the stalemate of the stinking trenches, where only the new medicines of the day prevented epidemics from winning out both sides.

On bitterly-fought Passchendaele ridge in Flanders, the Germans released gas on the Canadian front. The French suffered 20,000 casualties.

**CANADIAN STRONGHOLD**  
The Canadian Corps, under the command of Gen. Sir Arthur Currie, held, reflects the story in zig-zag trenches, underground shelters and shell holes preserved as a tourist sight. A frightening

**EX-PREMIER SALESMAN**  
UNITED CITY, N.J. (AP)—Manuel de V. A. Cobas, former premier from 1947 to 1950, is selling automobiles part time to raise money for a fund to help in an anti-Castro organization. By day he is general secretary of a revolutionary exile movement in New York City. Night and weekends he sells cars.

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