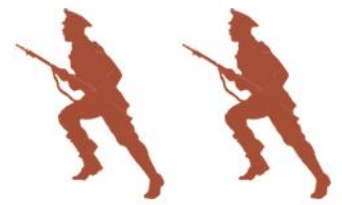


OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

March – April – May 1916

LADY WINDOW CLEANERS

Mr P Sanderson – Writes *would you allow me through your valuable paper just to make a little protest against the way some of the people of our own town have received the lady window cleaners. Our staff having been depleted 70 per cent we were left with no alternative than that of employing ladies. We decided to try three. They answered our requirements very well, so we set about to provide our requirements very well, so we set about to provide them with suitable clothes for the job. When the ladies appeared in the street last Monday with their uniforms on they met with a very uncalled for reception, especially so from the young shop girls. I don't think anyone can take exception to the ladies uniforms. This is very unpleasant more so as these ladies are serving their country. I am pleased to say everybody does not look upon them as something funny. Some of our largest business managers have gone so far as to congratulate them.*

Evening Gazette 3 March 1916

STOCKTON MAY HIRINGS

Today is the first day of the May hirings at Stockton, and generally the proceedings are quiet. Many farmers are in the town seeking male labour, which they find almost impossible to obtain, many of the experienced hands who are present making the outing their last before going into the army. There was a busy scene at the Temperance Hall where female labour is engaged and taking advantage of the occasion to further the interests of the "women on the land" scheme, the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry who is the local representative of the movement attended and gave a brief address.

Evening Gazette 3 May 1916

REDUCE PAPER CONSUMPTION

With the new Regulations as to Reduced Consumption of Paper, it has become necessary, in order to reply on securing the "**North-Eastern Daily Gazette**" for readers to arrange in advance with their newsagent for its regular delivery in reservation. To prevent disappointment those readers who have not yet given an advance order, should do so at once.

Evening Gazette 17.3.1916

SIX FIGHTING SONS

When John Fawcett of 75 West Terrace, Normanby was charged with failing to send his 13 year-old son to school regularly, it was stated that Fawcett had six sons fighting for their country, three in the army, and three in the navy. Mr Robert Brown said it seemed very hard to bring a case like this before the magistrates, and he sympathised with the defendant. The bench decided to dismiss the case.

Evening Gazette 18 May 1916

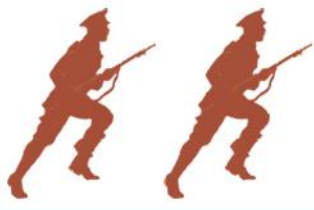
BRITISH ATTACK AT DAWN

Last night the British launched an attack against the International Trench in the Ypres salient, which was occupied by the Germans 17 days ago. As a result the trench was taken and four officers and 178 other ranks were taken prisoner.

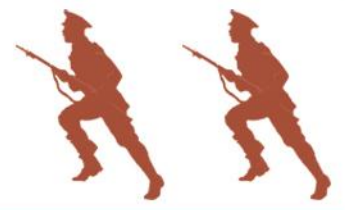
In the early part of the night our artillery commenced a heavy bombardment against the entire length of the trench. Considerable damage was done.

Just as dawn was tinging the darkness our artillery broke forth again almost before the Germans had time to realise another bombardment commenced. Our infantry attacked an in a very brief space of time the Trench was in British hands.

Evening Gazette 4th May 1916



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News from the Front

March – April – May 1916

BATTLE OF JUTLAND

Fierce Fighting in the North Sea

On 31 May the Great fleets of Britain and Germany totalling some 250 ships came into contact off the coast of Jutland. Fierce fighting ensued with high explosive shells ripping into the armour plating of the ships.



At 4:00pm The Indefatigable battle cruiser was shelled by the battle cruiser Von der Tann and it was sunk.

The Invincible in two halves on the seabed after being sunk



Thirty minutes later the battle cruiser Queen Mary was struck by a shell from the Derfflinger, resulting in a huge explosion followed by another explosion which broke the battle cruiser in half and it sunk. 1,266 members of the crew were lost. Many were burned to death or drowned in the icy-cold water, only 20 men were rescued.

Explosion on HMS Queen Mary



The Battle continued and both sides had heavy losses. Britain lost 14 ships including the Invincible, Defence, Black Prince, and Warrior was abandoned. Germany lost 11 ships. Over 6,000 gallant British sailors lost their lives and over 3,000 Germans were lost.

Eventually with only six of their ships remaining undamaged the German fleet headed back to port under the cover of darkness. The British fleet concerned about enemy submarines and minefields did not give chase.

CAMPS LIBRARY

Sir, At the request of the hon. Secretary for the Camps Library. I desire to make an appeal to the public of Middlesbrough to be good enough to collect their spare books and magazines and send them to the Postmaster at the General Post Office or any post office in the borough, who will then despatch them to the Navy and Army.

Over 100.000 books and magazine are sent out weekly which scarcely meets the growing demand of the Navy and Army. I trust there will be a generous response from the people of Middlesbrough. **Joseph Calvert Mayor.**

Evening Gazette 10th March 1916

A REMARKABLE PLEA

Remarkable grounds were put forward in a claim for exemption made before the Stockton Rural District Tribunal, yesterday afternoon by a young man named Ronald Francis William Cockshott, of Ashville Avenue, Eaglescliffe.

He did not appear, but on his claim he said: *“From the point of view of temperament and vocation I am unsuited for military life or any industrial work whatever, being of a reclusive and studious nature. I am contemplating entering the priesthood as a vocation, and am now studying for a two years novitiate in either a Spanish or English religious house fo0r the purpose.*

“Had I wished to avoid military service I would have taken the step a year ago, but my ideas with regard to my calling were not fully developed.”

The claimant also said he was very unsuited to the strenuous and hard military life from a dietetic and endurance point of view. He also claimed to be a convinced cosmopolitan and legitimist.

The Clerk (Mr T, H, Faber): There is a section of people in this country who contend that the present King of England is not the rightful heir to the throne. That question does not arise here. The application was refused.

Evening Gazette 9th March 1916