

As the month of August closed and September began, the volunteers of the 96th Lake Superior Regiment were transported to Valcartier, Quebec for military training. The men from the Lakehead were joined by other volunteers from all over Canada to create the First Contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). Twin City newspapers reported the great progress the men from Lakehead were making as they readied themselves for overseas travel across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe.

## TWIN CITY SOLDIERS HARD AS NAILS AND EAGER FOR FRAY WITH GERMANS

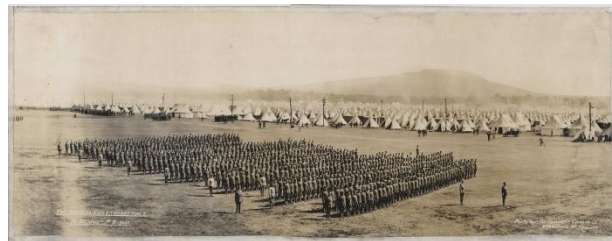
Will Likely Go Into Action Side  
By Side With L. B. D.'s  
From Winnipeg.

### LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT.

"The only grumbling one hears from the Fort William boys here is about the inactivity in which they are forced to remain," says Lieutenant George Muirhead who is with the Fort William volunteers at Val Cartier. In a letter to J. A. McKay of this city. Continuing, he says that the Fort William section was camped beside the "Little Black Devils" or the 90th Winnipeg regiment and would likely leave upon the same steamer for Europe and if they do it is probable that the 90th and the Fort William and Port Arthur men will be practically side by side when they go into action. The troops would hardly be known for the same light hearted men who left the twin cities, he wrote. They were still light hearted, but now

they were real soldiers and marched and formed with the precision of veterans. The sun and the heavy drilling had made them all as hard as nails and it was a sure thing that it would take mighty good men to beat the twin cities' men when it came to trials of endurance in the trenches and long hard marches.

Fort William Daily Times Journal Sept. 30, 1914



The Canadian Expeditionary Force also continued the recruitment of the Second Contingent of soldiers during the month of September for both for Home Guard, which protects key industries in the Lakehead and for training to be sent overseas to the battle front. The 96th Lake Superior Regiment began actively calling for new volunteers to join the ranks in which the men of the Lakehead answered with enthusiasm.

**LOCAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Officers of the local regiment are greatly pleased with the fine class of men who are volunteering for service, but they are anxious that recruiting should progress much faster than it is doing at present.

While about a hundred men have been added for the next contingent this does not mean that the ranks for active service are filled. Major E. R. Wayland made the following statement this morning:

"We are anxious to be prepared for further calls for volunteers—calls which are almost certain to come—and to be prepared we are the better off for having a good supply of trained men. We have lots of ammunition and we are willing to take recruits to the range right away for practice."

Fort William Daily Times Journal Sept. 3, 1914

Nearing the end of September the Port Arthur News Chronicle reported that 16 men from the Machine Gun Detachment of the 96th Lake Superior Regiment left the Lakehead to join their peers in the First Contingent already training in Val Cartier. The squad left to the cheering of thousands and the Board of Trade presented each man with \$5.00 as they left to join their fellow soldiers to embark for Europe.

Interestingly, with the threat of potential German sabotage looming over Port Arthur and Fort William, many citizens began reporting sightings of mysterious unidentified aircraft. These

sightings were never substantiated and while some were explained away, many people were adamant with what they witnessed.



Also in September, the Patriotic Fund organizations of both cities began taking shape and called on all citizens of the Lakehead to energetically assist with contributions and aid in many ways.