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# TRANSCRIPTION OF DIARY PRIVATE EDWARD ALLISON MACDORMAN

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January 1, 1916 – October 21, 1917



In the wake of Private Edward Allison MacDorman

REGIMENTAL NO. - 911498

RANK PTE\NAME - E.A. MACDORMAN

HOME ADDRESS - TRURO NOVA SCOTIA CANADA

CORPS - 196TH BATTALION (WESTERN UNIVERSITIES BATH)

COMPANY - C

PLATOON - 11

1916

BRIEF DIARY FOR 1916

Jan 1 arrived at Camrose

Jan 29-30 Week-end conference

April 15 **Hugh enlisted**

April 28 Normal closed

April 29 Went to **Daysland**

May 1 Started **teaching at Sandstorm**

May 3 Inspector Stickle's visit

May 20 Went to Irma

June 3 Visited Miss MacDonell at Salt Lake R.O.

June 9 **Last day I taught.**

June 12 Went to **Edmonton** and **enlisted.**

June 13 Sworn in and returned to Daysland

June 15 Went to Irma.

June 27 Left Irma

June 28 arrived Brandon

June 29 Arrived at **Camp Hughes.**

Aug 12 **Inspection of all troops in camp.** Week end pass for Brandon

Aug 24 Left for Glenhurst on harvest leave

Sept 21 Returned to Camp Hughes

Sept 27-28 **In the trenches.**

Oct 14-15 Final leave – Brandon

Oct 22 Left Camp Hughes.

Oct 25 arrived Truro.

Oct 29 Went to Halifax.

Nov 1 Sailed from **Halifax** on the "**Southland.**"

Nov 11 Arrived at Liverpool

Nov 12 Arrived at **Seaford**

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Nov 14 Inspection of battalion by Brigadier-General

Nov 21 7590 of battalion, went on leave

Nov 23 108<sup>th</sup> Batt. lines placed under quarantine

Dec 10-13 At the ranges

Dec 14 Battalion inspected by Brigade Commander

Dec 17 Quarantine lifted

Dec 18-19 On picquet these two nights

Dec 20 Left Seaford **on leave** at 5:30 p.m.

Dec 21 Arrived at **Edinburgh** 9 a.m. Visited the **Art Gallery and Museum**. Went to **Theatre Royal** in the evening.

Dec 22 Visited **Edinburgh Castle** and the **Forth Bridge**. **Empire Theatre** and carnival in the evening.

Dec 23 Visited Holyrood palace. Left Edinburgh at 10:20 p.m.

Dec 24 Arrived **London** 8 a.m. Breakfast at **Salvation Army**. Attended service at **St. Paul's Cathedral**. Then registered at the **Peel House**, Regency St.

Dec 25 **XMAS** Went down town in the forenoon. Christmas dinner at Peel House. Concert in the afternoon.

Dec 26 **Westminster Abbey** in the morning. Dinner with Gordon Carter. **Mde Tussaud's waxworks** in the afternoon. Left London 9:45 p.m.

Dec 27 Didn't do anything to day.

Dec 28-30 Stable fatigue

Dec 31 Kitchen and transport fatigue. Congregational church in the evening. Sgts. Mess fatigue afterwards.

1917

JANUARY 1917

- 1 Mon Went on guard at nine this morning (**19<sup>th</sup> Reserve**)
- 2 Tue Rested to-day. Lyle and I went down town in the evening.
- 3 Wed Did nothing in the forenoon. P.T. and bombing lecture in the afternoon. Went to the Salvation Army in the evening.
- 4 Thu On sergeant's mess. Hugh and I went down town in Thu evening.
- 5 Fri Still on sergeant's mess.
- 6 Sat ditto.
- 7 Sun – Finished at sergeant's mess. Hugh and I went to Methodist church in the evening.
- 8 Mon Started **Cadet school** today. Went down town in the evening.
- 9 Tue Underwent three inspections in the afternoon. Mounted guard at Foxworth Isolation Hospital at 4:30 p.m.
- 10 Wed The 108<sup>th</sup> Battn. pulled out to-day and the 203<sup>rd</sup> came in. We moved up to the 19<sup>th</sup> Reserve Battn. lines in the evening.
- 11 Thu Nothing doing to-day.
- 12 Fri Mounted guard at Headquarters at 4:30 p.m. Off at 7 p.m.
- 13 Sat Mounted guard again at Headquarters at 9:00 a.m. Lyle and I went to a concert at the Y.M.C.A. in the evening,
- 14 Sun Lyle and I went to the Parish church in the evening.
- 15 Mon Went on eye parade this morning. After supper Lyle and I went down town and then to the O.T.C. concert at church Army Shed.
- 16 Tue P.T., extended Order, Bombing, D.F. and squad drill in the a.m. Judging dist. and recognition of targets in the afternoon. Route March at night to Alfriston.
- 17 Wed a.m. same as previous day. Route march in the afternoon. Rest Friston., returning by Friston Place and Westdean.
- 18 Thu Reported sick with a cold. Light duty. Moved from Hut 19 to Hut 22.
- 19 Fri Inspection of 19<sup>th</sup> Reserve Battalion by Headquarters Staff in the forenoon. Route march to Litlington in the afternoon.
- 20 Sat On parade in the morning. Mounted guard in the afternoon (19<sup>th</sup> Reserve Bn)
- 21 Sun Went to service at the Y.M.C.A. in the evening.
- 22 Mon Muster parade in the morning. Carried tea to the men at the ranges. Lyle and I went down town in the evening

In the wake of Private Edward Allison MacDorman

23 Tue P.T. and Bombing lecture in the morning. Tea fatigue. Got paid in the evening.

24 Wed P.T., Gas lecture and B.F. (in hut). Extended order and platoon drill in the afternoon. I went to an illustrated lecture at the Y.M.C.A. in the evening.

25 Thu P.T., Musketry lecture and Bombing lecture in the morning. Platoon drill and extended order in the afternoon.

26 Fri All day route march thru Alfriston, Wilmington and Litlington. Carried raw rations and cooked our dinner. Rossiter and McDougall left for France.

27 Sat P.T., B.F. and gas in the morning. Hugh and Lyle and I went down town in the afternoon. Had our pictures taken.

28 Sun Church parade to the Y.M.C.A. in the morning. Hugh & Lyle & I went to Baptist church in the evening.

29 Mon On ammunition carrying to-day. I went down town in the evening. Draft picked to-day.

30 Tue I paraded to the eye specialist in the morning and to the Dental Corps in the afternoon. Night manoeuvres in the evening.

31 Wed P.T., Musketry and B.F. in the morning. Route march to Friston Place in the afternoon.

FEBRUARY 1917

1 Thu The **draft** left early this morning. **Lyle Wannamaker, Caskey and H. Evans** from our hut. The battn. was entrenching all day.

2 Fri Parade as usual. The O.J.C. returned to the battalion. Hugh and I went down town in the evening.

3 Sat Parade as usual in the morning. Went down town in the afternoon with Hugh & the Gillmans. In the evening there was a reunion of the University of Alberta company.

4 Sun Church parade in the morning. Hugh and Gillman and I went to Congregational church in the evening. Major Pringle of Sidney N.S. preached.

5 Mon Cookhouse fatigue at officers mess. Hugh & I went to a concert at the Y.M.C.A.

6 Tue Parade as usual. O.T.C. concert in the evening.

7 Wed Entrenching all day.

8 Thu Parade in the morning. Orderly at headquarters in the afternoon.

9 Fri Headquarters orderly to-day. Hugh and I went to the **Empire** in the evening.

10 Sat HQ. orderly. Concert at Y.M.C.A. (No 3) in the evening.

11 Sun Church parade in the morning. Major Pringle preached. Service at Y.M.C.A. in the evening.

12 Mon Started preliminary musketry course this morning. Supper at Oxley's.

13 Tue Musketry to-day. Night manoeuvres in the evening.

14 Wed I was on town picquet in the evening.

15 Thu Got paid £2 to-day. Hugh and Moore and I had supper at Oxley's..

16 Fri **Draft** left this morning. **Hugh** and the Gillmans etc. I as entrenching to-day. Down town in the evening.

17 Sat Physical drill and shooting on miniature range in the forenoon. Town picquet in the evening. Lunch at the new Canadian Café.

18 Sun Church parade in the morning. Walked up to the old Roman camp in the afternoon. Congregational church in the evening. Chaplain of 175<sup>th</sup>.

19 Mon Parade as usual.

20 Tue Rainy day. P.T. and Musketry in huts. Min. range in the p.m. Route march in the evening.

21 Wed Muster parade and P.T. in the morning. Shot at ranges in the afternoon.

22 Thu Shooting on D ranges all day. Went down town with Lawlor in the evening.

23 Fri On the ranges again to-day.

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24 Sat Bombing lecture, P.T. and B.F. in the morning. Issue of web equipment and English boots in the afternoon. Concert at upper Y.M. in the evening.

25 Sun Percy Fulton and I went to Congregational church in the evening.

26 Mon Regular parade to-day. Paid £1-10 in the evening.

27 Tue On light duty to-day.

28 Wed P.T., Bombing lecture, and B.F. in the a.m. Miniature ranges, gas and coy drill in the afternoon.

MARCH 1917

- 1 Thu Boilerman at the ranges in the morning. Entrenching area in the afternoon.
- 2 Fri At the ranges in the morning. Route March in the afternoon.
- 3 Sat At the ranges in the morning. Concert at YM in the evening.
- 4 Sun Left Seaford at 5:15 p.m. arrived at Liphook station at 10:50. Reached Bramshott camp at 12:15.
- 5 Mon No parade to-day.
- 6 Tue Parade in the morning.
- 7 Wed Parade all day.
- 8 Thu Ditto.
- 9 Fri To-days program
- 8:00 – 9:00 Route March  
9:00 – 9:30 PT.  
9:30 – 10:00 B.F.  
10:00 – 10:45 Bombing lect.  
11:00 – 12:00 Musketry lecture  
12 – 1 Musketry  
2 – 3 First Aid  
3 – 3:30 P.T.  
3:30 – 4 B.F.  
4 – 5 Ext order
- 10 Sat Parade in the morning
- 11 Sun Church parade to the mess room in the morning. Bible class & evening service at Y.M.C.A. with Jim Graham.
- 12 Mon Concert at Y. in the evening.
- 13 Tue Parade as usual. Service at Y.M. in the evening.
- 14 Wed Threw a live bomb to-day. Machine gunners left for Witley. Pay parade in the evening. £2
- 15 Thu Went on Brigade direction? Guard this morning. Machine gunners left for Crowborough.
- 16 Fri Came off guard at 9 a.m. Off parade all day. Went down to Liphook after supper then to a band concert at No. 2 Y and a concert at No. 1 Y.
- 17 Sat Parade as usual in the morning. Went to Haslemere in the afternoon. Visited the Museum. Had supper at the Corner House. Went to the cinema.
- 18 Sun Church parade in the morning. Bible class in the afternoon. Supper with Jim Graham. Address in the evening at Y. by Mr. C.G. Prasastham Cotelingham.

In the wake of Private Edward Allison MacDorman

- 19 Mon Started shooting Parts 3 & 4 at Longmoor ranges. Concert at Y.
- 20 Tue At the ranges. Entertainment at Y in the evening by Sontoft.
- 21 Wed At the ranges again to-day.
- 22 Thu At the ranges to-day.
- 23 Fri At the ranges.
- 24 Sat At the ranges. Composite battalion formed at night by 15<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Reserves.
- 25 Sun Church parade in the morning. **We stood to all day in readiness to pull out.**
- 26 Mon We that we were away today but the excitement died away. Route March (two battalions) in the afternoon.
- 27 Tue On the butt party at No 4 range to-day. Service at the Y in the evening.
- 28 Wed Butt party. Pay parade.
- 29 Thu At the Butts again to-day. Got a new tunic this afternoon.
- 30 Fri Butt party. 19<sup>th</sup> Res. Bn concert in the evening.
- 31 Sat Butt party. Lantern lecture at Y in the evening by Mr. Garrison F.R.G.S.

APRIL 1917

- 1 Sun Church parade, bible class, evening service at Y.
- 2 Mon Went over to the 26<sup>th</sup> Res in the evening to see Charlie Roberts.
- 3 Tue Trench routing in the morning. About 1-1/2 inches of snow on the ground.
- 4 Wed Entrenching in the morning. P.T. and B.F. in the afternoon. Warned for France in the evening.
- 5 Thu Medical & kit inspection in the morning. Also passed thru the gas chamber. Dental inspection in the afternoon.
- 6 Fri Clothing and pay parades to-day. Over at the Y in the evening.
- 7 Sat Kit inspection by staff officers. Parade to the disinfector in the afternoon. Confirmed to the lines. Jim and Charlie were over in the evening.
- 8 Sun Bible class at Y. Supper in Tin Town with Jim G.
- 9 Mon **Sir R.L. Borden** visited the camp to-day. We formed part of the guard of honor.
- 10 Tue Got up at 8:30 this morning. Did one hour's bayonet fighting to-day.
- 11 Wed Did absolutely nothing to-day.
- 12 Thu Attended a military funeral this afternoon.
- 13 Fri One hour P.T. in the morning. Short route march in the afternoon.
- 14 Sat P.T. & B.F. in the morning.
- 15 Sun Church parade. Bible class. Service at Y in the evening. Capt MacDonald (Cape Breton) gave an address. The Good Samaritan.
- 16 Mon P.T. and short route march in the morning.
- 17 Tue Lecture on contagious diseases and route march thru Liphook returning by Bramshott. Bandaging in the afternoon.
- 18 Wed Fell in at 8 a.m. Marched to Brigade HQs and then to Liphook. Left Liphook at 11:30 a.m. **Arrived Southampton 1:45 p.m. Went on board at 6 p.m. Sailed about 7:30.**
- 19 Thu **Reached Le Havre** in the early morning. Disembarked at 7:45. Marched up to the base (8:05 – 10:50). **Issued with rifles & helmets.**
- 20 Fri Inspection in the morning. Went over to No. 7 hospital in the evening to see Roy.
- 21 Sat Roy came over to see me in the morning. We left the camp at 10:45. Arrived at the station 12:20. Left at 3:45.
- 22 Sun Arrived at the end of our destination at 1:00 p.m. Marched about 4 miles to one camp then 3 miles farther to another. Arrived 9 p.m.
- 23 Mon Started to take a bombing course to-day at the divisional training school Fertay.

In the wake of Private Edward Allison MacDorman

24 Tue Inspection by school commandant in the morning. Fired dummy rifle grenades in the afternoon.

25 Wed **Reported sick in the morning**. Left at 5 p.m. for No. 6 Fld. Amb. (Fresn a court) (45 min. ride) then to No. 12 Fld Amb (Estree Couchie) (15 min). Stayed there all night.

26 Thu Sent to **no. 7 General Hospital (St. Omer)** 1-3/4 hours.

27 Fri In bed to-day. Thirteen cases on **mumps** in our ward. 9 Canadians, 3 New Zealanders, and 1 Australian.

28 Sat Still in bed.

29 Sun **1000<sup>th</sup> day of the war**.

30 Mon Still in bed.

MAY 2017

1 Tue Still in bed.

2 Wed No change in program to-day. 184 Bn to 8<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Bns, Glace Bay C.B.

3 Thu Up this afternoon. Lecture in the evening at Church Army Hut by Rev. A.B. Fisher on "Twenty-three years in Africa."

4 Fri During April the British took 19343 prisoners, 257 guns, 227 trench mortars, 470 machine guns.

5 Sat Met A.C. Clark from Tatmagouche N.S. to-day.

6 May – NO ENTRY

7 Mon Saw two 46<sup>th</sup> men to-day.

8-9 May – NO ENTRIES

10 Thu Picture show at the Church Army Hut in the evening.

11-13 May – NO ENTRIES

14 Mon 437466 Pte F.J. Wood, Viking, Alta.

15 May – NO ENTRY

16 Wed **Left the hospital** at noon to-day. Spent the night in St. Omer.

17 Thu Left St. Omer at 8:00 a.m. Changed at Burgette and Fouquereul arrived Calonne-Ricouart at 12 noon. Spent the night there.

18 Fri Left C.R. at 10 a.m. Dinner at Division. Stopped a few minutes at Houdain. Got a lorry to Bruay. Spent the night there. Cpl Spencer & I went to the Grand Theatre in the evening.

19 Sat Left Bruay at 10:30 a.m. Caught a lorry at Barlin which took us to **Chateau de la Haie**. Arrived about 1:30 p.m. Sports in the afternoon. Concert in the evening.

20 Sun Church parade in the morning. Came up to the chalk pits in the evening.

21 Mon **Work party at night**. 9 p.m. to 3:45 a.m.

22 Tue Bath parade in the afternoon. Work party at night. 9 p.m. to 4:25 a.m.

23 Wed On **gas guard** in the evening.

24 Thu Left the **chalk pits** this afternoon and came a little farther back from the line.

25 Fri On sick parade to-day.

26 Sat On a work party to-day **cutting down old barbed wire entanglements** at Ablain St. Nazaire.

27 Sun Church parade in the morning. At the ranges in the afternoon.

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28 Mon Parade in the morning. **Our battalion went into the line at night.** I was a [tump?) liner.

29 Tue Got to bed about 4 o'clock this morning. Up the line again at night. **Carried S.A. ammunition** the second trip.

30 Wed Got in at 3:30 a.m. then went over to Givenchy for water. **Fritz shelled us for a couple of hours in the morning.** Carried fish tails in the afternoon, rations water and fish tails at night.

31 Thu Haworth and I moved into a deeper dugout this morning. Stayed in bed until about 2 a.m. Encountered some gas up the line at night.

JUNE 1917

- 1 Fri Carried fish tails up to B.H.Q. in the afternoon. Carried rations and water at night. Got home at 1:35 a.m. (Sat)
- 2 Sat Carried the rations up to-night. Then brought them back to B.H.Q. and from there to the gun pits **where we remained while the barrage was on**. Afterwards we took them to the company.
- 3 Sun Carried rations to the company at night.
- 4 Mon Came down to Chateau de la Haie at night. We were brought part of the way in wagons.
- 5 Tue **Pay and bath parades** to-day.
- 6 Wed Parade in the morning. Inspection by O.C. in the afternoon. Concert in the evening.
- 7 Thu Parade and trench digging in the morning. Musketry in the afternoon.
- 8 Fri We were reviewed by **General Byng** in the morning. On Sports ground fatigue in the afternoon. Concert in the evening. Also heard Capt John MacNeil speak at the Y.
- 9 Sat On sports fatigue in the morning. Hugh and I went to Gouy Servins in the afternoon and to Villers au Bois in the evening.
- 10 Sun Church parade in the morning. At the ranges in the afternoon.
- 11 Mon Rained all the forenoon. We had some work in the huts. Bayonet fighting in the afternoon.
- 12 Tue General inspection in the morning. Practice in attack (with aeroplane) in the afternoon. Marched up to Berthonual Wood in the evening. Saw Roy, Henry and Stan.
- 13 Wed Roused out of bed at 11:30 last night to go on guard. Off at 2 p.m. to-day.
- 14 Thu Squad drill, B.F., bombing and extended order in the morning. Lecture in the afternoon. Concert by 46<sup>th</sup> in the evening.
- 15 Fri Inspection by the Brigadier General in the morning, followed by squad drill etc. from 11 to 12. We had an easy afternoon.
- 16 Sat Parade in the morning. In the afternoon we marched up to the Chalk pits. A very hot day.
- 17 Sun On a work party this morning from 2 – 8 p.m.
- 18 Mon Bombing lecture this morning. Work party at night, digging a trench.
- 19 Tue Came into support to-night in the communication trench above Angres.
- 20 Wed Moved to another trench to-night. Then went out on a working party. We were digging a jumping off trench in No Man's Land. **Eight casualties in our company**.

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21 Thu Got back about 4 this morning. **Built a funk hole and went to bed.** Working party to-night digging trench near railway.

22 Fri Working party to-night. We were digging a communication trench above the brickyards.

23 Sat Working to-night up near the line, to the left of our company's frontage.

24 Sun Work party at night. **We were driven out by shelling.**

25 Mon Came back to the chateau to-night. Got a ride from Souchez.

26 Tue Nothing much to do to-day except clean up. Concert in the evening.

27 Wed Parade as usual to-day. In the afternoon **I attended Kay's funeral at Villers cemetery.** In the evening I went over to the 25<sup>th</sup>.

28 Thu Parade in the morning. Battalion drill in the afternoon.

29 Fri Parade as usual. Went over to Villers Au Bois in the evening.

30 Sat Parade as usual. Went over to Gouy Servins in the evening to see the boys in the 25<sup>th</sup>. Saw Charlie Roberts, Charlie Dickson, Sid Chase, Carl Ryan, Neily.

JULY 1917

1 Sun Brigade church service in the morning. Went over to Petit Servins for supper with Dick, Cochrane, MacDonald and MacKercher.

2 Mon Went on guard this afternoon.

3 Tue Came off guard just before the battalion left Canada camp. We marched to Hersin Coupigny. **Met the corps commander on the road.**

4 Wed Started a bombing course to-day. Down town in the evening. Supper with Hugh and Dave.

5 Thu Parade and bombing to-day.

6 Fri Parade & bombing. On inlying piquet in the evening.

7 Sat Parade as usual.

8 Sun Church parade in the morning to the Y.M.C.A.. New chaplain. Hugh and Dave and I had supper down town.

9 Mon Parade and bombing. Clothes parade in the afternoon. I got tunic, pants, puttees & cap.

10 Tue Bombing in the morning including the firing of line rifle grenades. On town picquet afternoon & evening.

11 Wed Marched out past Verdrel and **waited by the roadside to see King George pass.** Had my picture taken in the evening.

12 Thu Parade in the morning. Squad drill, B.F. Bombing and Ext Orders. Brigade shots in the afternoon.

13 Fri Parade in the morning. Lecture in the afternoon by Lt Col Ironsides. Fire picquet in the evening.

14 Sat Parade in the morning including shooting at the ranges. At the ranges in the afternoon.

15 Sun The whole battalion went to the ranges to-day. Church service at the ranges.

16 Mon Parade to-day. At the ranges in the afternoon.

17 Tue Expected to go to the ranges to-day but orders were cancelled just as we were about to move off.

18 Wed No 13 platoon went to the ranges to-day. We won the brigade competition in skirmishing.

PAGE CONTAINING 19 TO 25 JULY IS MISSING

26 Thu I came up with the transports this morning.

27 Fri Parade to-day. A shell came over to-night wounding 5 men and killing one.

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28 Sat Parade to-day. Manoeuvres at night from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

29 Sun Went to the ranges in the afternoon but did not shoot. Church parade at 7 p.m.

30 Mon Marched to the Chateau / Vancouver Camp in full marching order. Immediately after dinner we fell in again. Drill under Capt Shelly. **Dick and I went to the pictures.**

31 Tue Parade all forenoon. Manoeuvres (gas) in the afternoon. Got home at 7 p.m.

AUGUST 1917

- 1 Wed It **rained** all day and there was no parade except bath and pay parades.
- 2 Thu **Still raining**. No parade to-day. Concert in the evening by 16<sup>th</sup> Canadian Scottish Bn.
- 3 Fri Came up to Zouave valley in the forenoon. Dick, Cochrane, Scarborough and I spent most of the afternoon salvaging material and building a funk hole.
- 4 Sat In fatigue to-day building a shack.
- 5 Sun On same work as yesterday. 13 Platoon on a working party.
- 6 Mon Started a machine gun course to-day.
- 7 Tue Marched back to the Chateau this forenoon. Inspection by O.C. in the afternoon.
- 8 Wed Bath parade in the morning. Battalion drill in the afternoon. Dick, Joe and I went to Guoy in the evening.
- 9 Thu Machine gun course in the morning. 13 platoon at the ranges in the afternoon.
- 10 Fri Program same as previous day.
- 11 Sat Brigade skirmishing competition again this afternoon. We lost. Afterward marched up to the valley carrying bombs etc. Rebuilt our funk hole after we got here.
- 12 Sun Machine gun class. Remainder on working party. Church parade at 7 p.m.
- 13 Mon Machine gun class. Fired 40 rounds with the gun in the afternoon.
- 14 Tue Finished M.G. course this morning. Did nothing in the afternoon. On gas guard at night.
- 15 Wed Woke the company up at 4 a.m. Stood to all day.
- 16 Thu Supposed to go to the Chateau but orders were cancelled. Stood to all day.
- 17 Fri **Came up to the line at night**. 13 platoon went into close support.
- 18 Sat **Stayed in the dugout all day**. Went out to work at night but came back and stood to. Our section was called out about 1 a.m. to go to an advanced post.
- 19 Sun **Heavy shit fight** in the early morning.
- 20 Mon **Driven two or three times from our post by shelling**. D.R. Knox killed in action. Got two or three hours out at night in the gun pit.
- 21 Tue **Advanced on Lens this morning**. (4:35 a.m.) Nothing much doing during the day.
- 22 Wed **Capt Lowe** was killed this morning. Mr. **Le Ray** took charge of the company and **Mr. Brown** came up and took over our platoon.
- 23 Thu Some shelling to-day. I was out on one of 14's party at night.
- 24 Fri Shit fight to-night. Bone Burland, Sherrott and Harvey wounded.

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25 Sat Sylvester and I went out to Lievin in the afternoon. We guided the platoon out at night.  
Got a ride from Souchez to the Chateau.

26 Sun Came to the 4<sup>th</sup> Div. School to-night.

27 Mon Parade to-day.

28 Tue Went up to the transport lines at night.

29 Wed – NO ENTRY

30 Thu Battalion went up to the valley to-day.

31 Fri – NO ENTRY

SEPTEMBER 1917

1 Sat Parade in the morning. Went up to the transport lines in the afternoon and got paid.

2 Sun Church parade. Went to service and communion at the Y in the evening. Bn went into line.

3 Mon Parade as usual. Lecture on mech reading in the morning.

4 Tue Saw Webster Graham to-night.

5 to 8 Sep – NO ENTRIES

9 Sun Church parade in the morning. Service at the Y in the evening.

10 to 13 Sep – NO ENTRIES

14 Fri Examinations on to-day. Lou McLauchlin came over to see me.

15 Sat Returned to the battalion this afternoon.

16 Sun Brigade church parade in the morning. Pay in the afternoon. Hugh and I attended service at the Y in the evening.

17 Mon Parade as usual. Pictures [?].

18 Tue Went to the **Dumb Bells concert** in the evening.

19 – 20 Sep – NO ENTRIES

21 Fri Rev. **Capt Wallace Williamson of St Giles Cathedral Edinburgh** addressed the battalion this afternoon. Dick and I went to the pictures.

22 Sep – NO ENTRY

23 Sun Church parade. Service and communion (CofC) at Y in the evening.

24 Mon Parade in the morning. Marched up to Souchez in the afternoon. Had supper there. Work party at night in La Coulotte.

25 Tue Got a ride back in a lorry. Got home 2 a.m. Battalion [parade?] 1:30 p.m.

26 Sep – NO ENTRY

27 Thu Marched as far as **Cabaret Rouge** in the afternoon. Had supper there then came up to supports. **Saw two balloons and an enemy plane brought down in the afternoon.**

28 Fri To-night our platoon moved to the brewery at **La Coulotte**.

29 Sat Working party to-night. Clearing out a cellar in **Avion**.

30 Sun Went into the line to-night. I was in charge of a post.

OCTOBER 1917

1 Mon Spent the day in a cellar back to the post at night.

2 Oct – NO ENTRY

3 Wed B co. took over our post to-night. (Corpl. Wight) I remained on the post all night.

4 Thu Got back to the brewery about 7 a.m. Work party at night but I did not have to go.

5 Fri Came to Alberta camp to-night.

6 Sat Marched to Gouy in the afternoon.

7 Sun Came to **Coupigny** to-day. I was on the rear party.

8 Oct – NO ENTRY

9 Tue Route march in the afternoon.

10 Wed Bath parade in the afternoon but no water.

11 Oct – NO ENTRY

12 Fri **Left Hersin Coupigny to-day**. Rode quite a distance on motor buses. Spent the night at **Guarbecques**. Macdonald Dick & I had a feed in the evening.

13 Sat Marched all day with full pack. Stopped at a farm. Billeted in a barn.

14 Sun Church parade in the morning. Route march in the afternoon.

15 Mon Parade as usual. Went up to **Cassell** in the evening.

16 Tue Parade in the morning. Route march in the afternoon.

17 – 18 Oct – NO ENTRIES

19 Fri Parade in the morning including football match between 13 & 15. Bath parade in the afternoon.

20 Sat Battalion inspection this morning by **Lieut-General Currie** (Corps commander).

21 Sun Got lorries at 6 a.m. which brought us to **Ypres**. Spent the night in funk holes & bivouacs.

NO FURTHER ENTRIES.