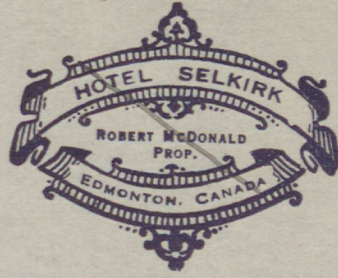


FILE 161

VETERANS'

AFFAIRS

X Soldiers



Edmonton,
ALBERTA

July 16 - 22

Gen. Sir Arthur Currie

My Dear Sir Arthur

I am going to thank you. Though a little late for your kind considerate letter re my son Harry while in France and glad to advise you that he returned home safe and with honours. Now I have a business request to make for myself. My financial condition is not good. purely an act of war conditions which I had no control of. I had started three business buildings here Spring 1914 and instead of my now being able to live in California from proceeds of said buildings that they broke down and I am advised to tell you that I was forced by certain creditors to go through the insolvent court. I was discharged legally of all obligations. I thanked the court, but told the judge my moral obligations to those who had treated me here would be paid in full. he said he hoped I would, and he was giving me a chance to do so. and I am moving right now for anyone who knows me intimately will tell you I am a rustler. and having the best of health will soon catch up.



Edmonton

Have been engaged in farming more of ^{Edmonton} ~~less~~ ever since
 I have been here, and a thorough stock man.
 I have an Equitey in 49 acres close to this city
 improved with good farm buildings. I know Hogs
 from A to Z, and I wish to feed Hogs at above named
 place for the market. I am able to get a car load of
 stock Hogs shipped from Ed Stock yds to my place
 for 8⁰⁰. I also have contract with Swift Canadian Co
 creamery here for 300 gal of buttermilk every day
 at 1⁰⁰ per gal cost of delivery 1/2⁰⁰ I can buy Grain
 for Hog feed cheaper than I can grow it.
 Now I need a credit at the Bank of Montreal
 of 12 to 15 thousand to complete and carry on
 my business as here stated. The Bank would
 have first lien on stock and full report from me every
 30 days. I have carried small account with this
 Bank for some time. They are five people but not
 able to give me the accommodations I require without
 further authority, and money is so tight here I cannot
 arrange privately.

Very respectfully yours
 Adam E Auld

- In Reference
- Jackson Bros, Jewelers.
 - A.C. Simpson, Ben Lin Fruit Store.
 - H.G. Morris, Financial and Real Estate.
 - A.J. Lushington, Lushington Bros Lumber Co.
 - Levi E. Brett

of Gen Selkirk
 "

DOCKET STARTS:

BEATTY

General Currier
(of Terry Ridge)

RECEIVED TO	DATE	CHARGED TO
	MAY 27 1921	
	U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE	
	CENTRAL POSTAL	

5- Ravensbury Rd.

Southfield S.W. 18

May 16th 1927.

Dear General Currie

If this reaches
you, will you help me? You
may remember me, as the
Head Nurse at the Hospital
of the Infirmary who attended
you when you met with the
accident. I am ruined
financially through my
services being called for as
a nurse. At present I am
in a starving condition -
yours is a rich country and
some one ought aid me.

Will you do so if you can?

I am

Yours faithfully,

Thos. J. Beatty

Member Royal Bantock
Amateur Association etc.

Soldiers

January
Thirtieth
1923.

Miss A. J. Beatty,
5, Ravensbury Road,
Southfield S.W. 18,
Wandsworth,
England.

Dear Miss Beatty:-

Your letter of January 14th addressed to General Currie has come to me, although I cannot think that I am the one to whom you addressed it, because I was never treated at the Ministry of Munitions Hotel Metropole. I am the General Currie who commanded the Canadian Corps and the only other General Currie I know commanded our Heavy Artillery for a time.

I did not know Mrs. Cowan's eldest son and I am sorry to learn of the loss suffered by her during the war. I am afraid that there is nothing I can do to help her third son receive a position. There is a great deal of unemployment in Canada and one is daily besieged by returned soldiers for financial help and for help in getting positions.

You say that Mrs. Cowan's grant from the Government is far from being the full amount. I am quite sure there is some mistake about this. The pensions granted by the Canadian Government are higher than those granted by any other of the Allied nations. I would be very glad to take the matter up with the Department of Pensions at Ottawa, but before doing so I would have to know Mr. Cowan's full name and his regimental number. You say that the Mr. Cowan who is out of employment served in my battalion. It so happens that I did not command a battalion at the front. If you will give me the name,

A. J. Beatty

- 2 -

the regimental number and the unit of the one who fell I shall be very glad to look into the matter of pension due his mother. On receipt of that information I shall take up the question of the war medals. I know that a great many of these are not yet distributed. In fact it was only within the last couple of months that I received mine.

You speak of this boy's effects. It is nearly six years since Vimy now and I would rather imagine it would be difficult to get any information regarding his effects.

I am sorry that you, personally, have not fully recovered from the long hours, strain and hard work of the war.

Please assure Mrs. Cowan that I shall be only too happy to look into the matter of pension and the medals when I have complete information.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

5 Ravensbury Road

Southfields S.W. 18.

Wandsworth -

Jan. 14 1st 1923

General Currie

Dear Sir,

Pardon my writing you - You

may just remember me as the trained
Departmental Nurse at the Ministry of
Pensions - Hotel Metropole - London
Miss Beatty.

I have a more friend Mrs Cowan whose
main support - her eldest son was
in your battalion and was killed in
Tomy Ridge - she was early left a widow
with three boys whom she had to bring
up and educate upon her earnings as
a nurse - The war took the one - the
second is a partial invalid now

same tragedy - but with no grant from
the Imperial government, and the third
son has been obliged to leave College where
he had hoped to remain to take his de-
gree and become a Certificate School Master
to look after his mother - he has failed
to obtain any appointment and has
been out of employment since last April
by necessity dependent upon the grants
given by the Canadian government - which
I gathered from the office of the Canadian
Commissioner is far from being the full
amount - The gentleman at the office was
extremely sympathetic - and will do his
utmost to what he can in placing any
appointment that offers to Mr. Cowan
if for it - He himself was also in your
Battalion - and at the battle where Mr. Cowan
fell - I am writing mainly to ask if you
could use your influence here to help
him (Mr. George Cowan the brother) to some
means of livelihood - The mother says

There are also some War Medals due to
her hero son which have not been sent to
her which she would be proud to have
and value - also the family do not know
what or whether his effects have been
investigated - I mentioned I
had attended ^a funeral Currie for an
accident to his hand at the Ministry
of Munition and I was asked to write
to you - I shall do what lies in my power
for the hero - in spite of the fact that
the Ministry treated me also badly.
and over my 4 1/2 belance I could not
find time to give first aid talks
to the Staff - how could I with all the
patients who crowded that Casualty
Station with no doctors in attendance
and no other qualified nurses, I assist
me - I have been ill practically ever
since the War with its long hours and
over work and out for six months here

at night I'm after my work all day.
I think I ought to have been made
a D.S.M.S. of the Empire - Don't you?
I hope you will spare a minute to write
and that your hand is quite normal
again - I am.

Faithfully yours

A. J. Beattie

Member Royal British Nurses'
Association. Civil Departmental
Nurse at the Ministry of Munitions
etc etc.

DOCKET ENDS:

BEATTY

DOCKET STARTS:

BENSON / CRAWFORD

16
X
August
Thirtieth
1920.

Richard B. Crawford Esq.,
4023 W. Broadway,
Louisville, Kentucky.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 24th, in which you seek information regarding the War Record of a man by the name of Benson who served with the Canadian troops.

I am forwarding your letter to the Department at Ottawa, in order that they may deal with the matter. On July 31st I severed my connection with Canadian military life.

Yours faithfully,

Louisville, Ky.
Aug. 24. 1920.

Lieut. General, Sir Arthur Currie.
Commander in Chief, Canadian Expeditionary Forces.
Montreal, Canada.

Dear Sir:,

enclosed I am writing to you with the request that you forward this letter with your indorsement for action thereon to the party who can furnish the desired information, whom I would deem is The Adjutant General of the Canadian Forces. From past experience with these gentlemen (AG's) I can truthfully state that they furnish desired information much quicker when the John Hancock of the C.I.C. is affixed to the request. Hence my reason for requesting you to kindly forward the enclosed with your indorsement thereon to the proper authorities and I assure you that this favor will be greatly appreciated.

Very Respectfully,

Richard B. Crawford
RICHARD B. CRAWFORD.

ex-Lieut. Inf. U.S.A.

4023 W Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A.

August
Thirtieth
1920.

Adjutant-General,
Militia Department,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

I am enclosing herewith a
letter which I have received to-day, in
order that you may deal with the matter
as you may see fit.

Yours faithfully,

MILITIA AND DEFENCE

In reply please quote

No.....

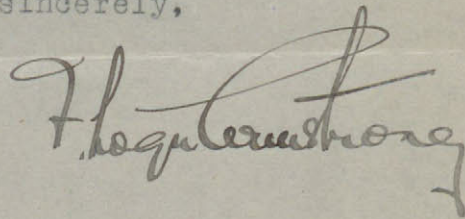
OTTAWA, September 1st, 1920.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, P. Q.

Dear Sir Arthur:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, enclosing one from ex-Lieut. Richard B. Crawford, U.S.A. Infantry, I am enclosing herewith a copy of reply sent to him today, in which we regret that the information asked for cannot be given, as it is against the policy of this office to furnish any information that might be derogatory to an ex-soldier of the C.E.F., and this man's record is decidedly the reverse of an exemplary one.

Yours sincerely,



MILITIA AND DEFENCE

In reply please quote

No.....

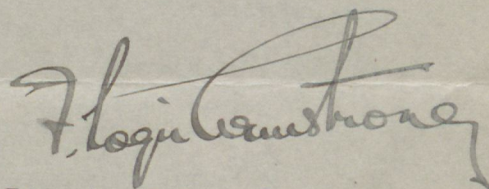
C O P Y

OTTAWA, September 1st, 1920.

To - Richard B. Crawford, Esq.,
4023 W. Broadway,
Louisville, Ky,
U. S. A.

Sir:

Reference your letter of the 24th ultimo, addressed to Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Currie, and which has been passed to this Directorate to be dealt with, asking for record of service of a soldier named H. D. Benson, it is regretted that it is against regulations of this Department to furnish such information.



Lieut.-Colonel,
Director of Records,
for Adjutant-General.

DOC.I

DOCKET ENDS:

BENSON / CRAWFORD

DOCKET STARTS:

BESSONETTE

Soldier's X was

March
Thirteenth
1923.

R. Bessonette, Esq.,
Garrison Officers Mess,
Esquimalt, B. C.

Dear Mr. Bessonette:-

As promised in my letter of February 20th I took up your case with the Department of National Defence and am very sorry to report that I have made little or no impression upon them. They still adhere to their decision to retire you.

I am sorry that I could not help you and hope that you will be able to find congenial employment before long.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



CANADA

H.Q. C.1-17-103.

Department of National Defence

Ottawa, Canada,

10th March, 1923.

My dear Sir Arthur,-

I have yours of the 20th February last regarding Lieutenant R.V.C. Bessonette, R.C.E., and have had his case investigated.

I find that this officer's experience in the ranks was that of an Engineer Clerk, and that he has all the good points you mention, but that his age, the fact that he is not a qualified Engineer and the improbability of his ever being promoted render it advisable in the interests of the Service that he should be retired and replaced by, if possible, an R.M.C. graduate who would be properly equipped, in so far as education and age are concerned, for the rank.

We have two other men such as Bessonette in the Corps, and it is proposed to retire all three for the above reasons. One of them, in fact, has a better claim to remain on than Bessonette, as he was a foreman of works, but I think you will agree with me that young subalterns from the R.M.C., who have the necessary education, would be preferable to these old soldiers, however worthy.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

General Sir Arthur Currie, GCMG., KCB., Etc.,
Principal, McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

February
Twentieth
1923.

R. Bessonette, Esq.,
Garrison Officers Mess,
Esquimalt, B. C.

My dear Mr. Bessonette:-

I am this morning in receipt
of your letter of February 12th, with enclosure.

I shall write to Ottawa to-day and
state what I can in your favour. To me it seems a
strange proceeding that you should be let out of
the service at the age of 45. You ought to be able
to give the very best kind of service for the next
ten or fifteen years. I shall say everything I can,
Mr. Bessonette, though I find Governments very
arbitrary and not always amenable to reason.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

February
Twentieth
1923.

Major-General J. H. MacBrien, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Militia Headquarters,
Ottawa.

My dear MacB.:-

I learn from Victoria that Lieutenant
R.V.C. Bessonette, R.C.E., is being retired on the
30th of June next.

The Department has probably good and
sufficient reasons for this action, though it does not
follow the lines which would pertain in a business
organization. Bessonette is only 46 years of age. I
have known him for many years. He is a particularly
high type of man, although he served in the ranks of
the Royal Engineers. He is well educated, capable,
honourable, loyal and efficient. It seems to me that
such a man ought to be of value to the service for
another ten years. As he holds only Lieutenant's rank
the cost of his retention is very much less than the
ordinary officer at 46 years of age, though I do not
mean to say that his military education is on a par with
that of the ordinary officer of his age.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

GARRISON OFFICERS MESS
ESQUIMALT, B. C.

12. 2. 1923.

Dear General Currie,

May I take the liberty of asking you to read the attached. A letter from H. Q. Ottawa states that I am to be discharged under the age limit (45 for Lieutenants) and the enclosed is my protest against the unfairness of this procedure.

As you know it was not my fault that I could not get overseas in 1914, (without deserting and if I had gone in 1915, Colonel Russell, a young soldier, with his career ahead of him certainly would not have got away.

General Ross has forwarded my protest to Ottawa with the strongest recommendations for my retention and if you could see your way clear to put in a word for me with someone in authority I am sure it would be of the greatest assistance

I have always done my level
best to make things run
smoothly and it seems very unfair
that I should be discharged upon
a technicality which can be remedied
at no expense to the Public.

Russell goes to Toronto and Lawrence
relieves him here.

Yours, Sir,
Very Sincerely,

R. Lessonet

H.Q. 1-17-103

Work Point Barracks,
Esquimalt, B.C.
5th February 1923.

To:-
The District Engineer, M.D.No.11.
Esquimalt, B.C.

Retirement.
Lieutenant R.V.C. Bessonette, R.C.E.

Sir,

In connection with H.Q. Letter of 24th ultimo, on the marginally noted subject, I have the honour to request that the question of my retirement on the 30th June next under Para. 267 K.R. and O. Canada, 1917, may be reconsidered as a special case on account of the exceptional circumstances.

My Record of Service is as follows:-

Enlisted in Royal Engineers	31-8-1897.
Transferred from R.E. to R.C.E. on transfer of Esquimalt Garrison .	14-5-1906
(with the distinct guarantee that all rights and privileges would be specially protected by the Canadian Government)	
Promoted Warrant Officer (Superintending Clerk)	1-8-1913.
Promoted Hon. Lieut. and Quartermaster, C.M.	31-8-1917.
Appointed Lieutenant, R.C.E. (On Reconstitution)	1-4-1919.

My present age is 46 years and on the 30th June next I shall have completed 25 years, 10 months service.

I beg to point out that, in the ordinary course, I would have been promoted and given the appointment of Hon. Lieut. and Quartermaster, R.C.E., which was all I expected on the Reconstitution of the Corps. Having, however, received the rank of Lieutenant, R.C.E., and being placed on the Regimental List, I prepared for and passed the examination for promotion to the rank of Captain in subjects (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and proposed to qualify in subject (f) this Spring and Summer when the present series of lectures, now being carried out during the winter months, was completed.

In view of the above, I respectfully submit that that I am at a great disadvantage in having accepted the rank of Lieutenant, as, if I am to be retired after six years commissioned rank it would have been more to my advantage to have remained a Warrant Officer as I then would have had prospects of promotion to Lieutenant and Quartermaster and been enabled to serve until 55 years of age, either as a Warrant or Commissioned Officer.

If my proposed retirement is to take place as stated, I do not consider that, in my case, the conditions of H.Q. Letter 856-2-1 dated 20-9-05, under which Imperial troops were taken over at the transfer of Esquimalt Garrison, are being adhered to, as a number of my contemporaries, prior to transfer are now Lieutenants and Quartermasters in the Royal Engineers, with the privilege of remaining in the Service until 55 years of age.

I therefore again beg to request that my case may be reconsidered and that on account of the exceptional circumstances noted above I may be permitted to continue in the Service in my present appointment until I reach the age of fifty years, or, failing this, that I may receive the appointment of Quartermaster, R.C.E.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

Lieut.,

DOCKET ENDS:

BESSONNETTE

DOCKET STARTS:

BICKERSTAFF

FWH/GB.

CABLE ADDRESS "CARTHOS"

OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT
Barristers, Solicitors, &c.

H.S. OSLER, K.C., F.W. HARCOURT, K.C., BRITTON OSLER, K.C.
W.A. CAMERON, HAROLD W. SHAPLEY, A.W. LANGMUIR.

G.M. HUYCKE N.E. STRICKLAND

COUNSEL
WALLACE NESBITT, K.C.
A. MONRO GRIER, K.C.

THE DOMINION BANK BUILDING,
68 YONGE STREET,
TORONTO.

July 30, 1923.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

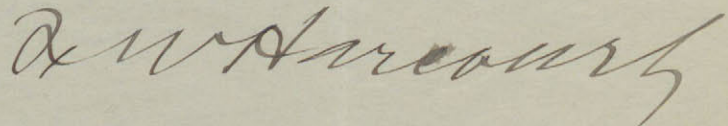
My dear Sir Arthur:

Re Bickerstaff.

It was very kind of you to take all the trouble you have in this matter. I am sure the poor mother will be grateful to you. Unfortunately, the boy became eighteen years of age on the 28th of June last, so according to the regulations, he cannot be discharged because of his being under eighteen. Under the regulations he will have to serve until the 29th of November next, and being in the Canal Zone may be discharged on payment of \$150.00, and I am afraid the poor woman has no money. I am sending for her and will not trouble you further about the matter.

Thanking you again for your courtesy and kindness,
believe me,

Very sincerely yours,



July 27th, 1923.

Mr. F. W. Harcourt,
The Dominion Bank Bldg.,
Toronto, Ont.

My Dear Mr. Harcourt,

I am to-day in receipt of
the attached reply from General Pershing, together
with the documents to which he refers in his letter.

It seems to me that these
give you possession of all the necessary information
and you will know how to act on behalf of the boy's
Mother.

With all good wishes, believe
me,

Yours faithfully,

Principal

Encl.

July 27th, 1923.

General John J. Pershing,
General of The Armies,
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear General Pershing,

I wish to thank you most sincerely for your prompt answer to my recent letter re Private Wm. M. Bickerstaff, 63rd Squadron, France Field, C.Z.

I have communicated your reply to Mr. Harcourt and it seems to me that he has now at his disposal all the information required.

With all good wishes,
believe me,

Yours faithfully,

Principal

GENERAL OF THE ARMIES
WASHINGTON

July 21, 1923.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal, Canada.

Dear General Currie:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 13, 1923, relative to the request of Mr. F. W. Harcourt, Toronto, for the discharge of Private William M. Bickerstaff, 63rd Squadron, France Field, C.Z., it being stated that he enlisted at the age of seventeen and that his mother is in great distress concerning his enlistment.

If this soldier has not yet attained the age of eighteen and his discharge is desired on the grounds of minority, your attention is invited to paragraph 1 of the enclosed memorandum, which sets forth the evidence necessary to submit in order to establish the age of the soldier.

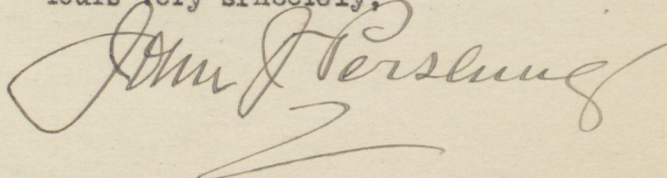
If Private Bickerstaff is over eighteen years of age, there appears to be no authority for his discharge at this time, in his own interest or that of his family, unless his case comes within the provisions of paragraph 2 of the above mentioned memorandum.

Your attention is invited to the fact that an enlisted man may purchase his discharge, if he so desires, upon completion of one year of actual military service, under the conditions outlined in the enclosed memorandum relative to discharge by purchase. The records show Private Bickerstaff enlisted on November 29, 1922.

As you are interested in this case, I hope it may fall under one of the above categories. If not, and you wish further to follow it up, I will do what I can to comply with your wishes.

With cordial regards, believe me

Yours very sincerely,



July 13th, 1923.

F. W. Harcourt, Esq.,
The Dominion Bank Building,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Mr. Harcourt:-

Let me acknowledge receipt
of your letter of July 11th with reference to
William Bickerstaff.

I am to-day writing to General
Pershing giving him a statement of the case and
asking him if there is any possibility of
Bickerstaff being discharged and under what
conditions. On General Pershing's reply I shall
communicate with you further.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

July 13th, 1923.

Personal.

General John J. Pershing,
General of the Armies,
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Pershing:-

Forgive me for troubling
you about so small a matter as the request contained
in this letter.

I received a communication from an old friend, Mr. F. W. Harcourt, a member of the firm of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, Solicitors, Toronto. Mr. Harcourt is the official guardian and has charge of the affairs of the Bickerstaff estate. It seems that William Bickerstaff, then aged 17, went from Toronto to the United States in June 1922 to look for employment, which ended in his enlistment in the 63rd Service Squadron, Francisco Canal Zone, Panama. Mr. Harcourt thinks the date of the enlistment was October or November 1922. His mother, Mrs. Bickerstaff is in great distress concerning the boy's enlistment and desires to have him discharged and returned to Toronto. Will you please have some officer on your staff tell me if it is possible for Mr. Bickerstaff to be discharged and if so, under what conditions.

With kindest personal wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

FWH/GB.

OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT
Barristers, Solicitors, &c.

CABLE ADDRESS "CARTHOS"

H. S. OSLER, K. C., F. W. HARCOURT, K. C., BRITTON OSLER, K. C.
W. A. CAMERON, HAROLD W. SHAPLEY, A. W. LANGMUIR.

G. M. HUYCKE N. E. STRICKLAND

COUNSEL
WALLACE NESBITT, K. C.
A. MONRO GRIER, K. C.

THE DOMINION BANK BUILDING,
68 YONGE STREET,
TORONTO.

July 11, 1923.

Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal,
P. Q.

My dear Sir Arthur:

William Bickerstaff, then aged seventeen, went from Toronto to the United States in June 1922 to look for employment, which ended in his enlistment in 63rd Service Squadron, Francefield Canal Zone, Panama. I think the date of his enlistment was October or November of that year. In my capacity as Official Guardian ad litem I have had charge of the affairs of the Bickerstaff estate. His mother, Mrs. Edith Bickerstaff, is in great distress over it and importunes me to do something to have the boy discharged and returned to Toronto. I believe he was a plumber's apprentice, or something of that sort. I wrote to General Mewburn about it and he was kind enough, and probably rash enough, to say that you were a personal friend of General Pershing and that you would be kind enough to help a widow in distress.

I apologize for troubling you, but I don't know what else to do. May I have the pleasure of hearing from you about the matter?

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

W. W. Harcourt
Official guardian.

FWH/GB.

F.161

R.G.2

C.39

CABLE ADDRESS "CARTHOS"

OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT

Barristers, Solicitors, &c.

H.S. OSLER, K.C., F.W. HARCOURT, K.C., BRITTON OSLER, K.C.
W.A. CAMERON, HAROLD W. SHAPLEY, A.W. LANGMUIR.

G.M. HUYCKE N.E. STRICKLAND

COUNSEL

WALLACE NESBITT, K.C.
A. MONRO GRIER, K.C.

THE DOMINION BANK BUILDING,
68 YONGE STREET,
TORONTO.

July 30, 1923.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

My dear Sir Arthur:

Re Bickerstaff.

It was very kind of you to take all the trouble you have in this matter. I am sure the poor mother will be grateful to you. Unfortunately, the boy became eighteen years of age on the 28th of June last, so according to the regulations, he cannot be discharged because of his being under eighteen. Under the regulations he will have to serve until the 29th of November next, and being in the Canal Zone may be discharged on payment of \$150.00, and I am afraid the poor woman has no money. I am sending for her and will not trouble you further about the matter.

Thanking you again for your courtesy and kindness, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

F. W. Harcourt

July 27th, 1923.

Mr. F. W. Harcourt,
The Dominion Bank Bldg.,
Toronto, Ont.

My Dear Mr. Harcourt,

I am to-day in receipt of
the attached reply from General Pershing, together
with the documents to which he refers in his letter.

It seems to me that these
give you possession of all the necessary information
and you will know how to act on behalf of the boy's
Mother.

With all good wishes, believe
me,

Yours faithfully,

Principal

Encl.

July 27th, 1923.

General John J. Pershing,
General of The Armies,
Washington, D.C., U.S.A..

Dear General Pershing,

I wish to thank you most
sincerely for your prompt answer to my recent
letter re Private Wm. M. Bickerstaff, 63rd Squadron,
France Field, C.Z.

I have communicated your
reply to Mr. Harcourt and it seems to me that he
has now at his disposal all the information
required.

With all good wishes,
believe me,

Yours faithfully,

Principal

GENERAL OF THE ARMIES
WASHINGTON

July 21, 1923.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal, Canada.

Dear General Currie:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 13, 1923, relative to the request of Mr. F. W. Harcourt, Toronto, for the discharge of Private William M. Bickerstaff, 63rd Squadron, France Field, C.Z., it being stated that he enlisted at the age of seventeen and that his mother is in great distress concerning his enlistment.

If this soldier has not yet attained the age of eighteen and his discharge is desired on the grounds of minority, your attention is invited to paragraph 1 of the enclosed memorandum, which sets forth the evidence necessary to submit in order to establish the age of the soldier.

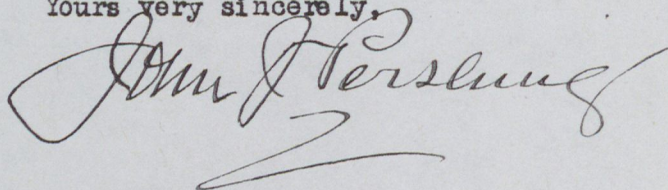
If Private Bickerstaff is over eighteen years of age, there appears to be no authority for his discharge at this time, in his own interest or that of his family, unless his case comes within the provisions of paragraph 2 of the above mentioned memorandum.

Your attention is invited to the fact that an enlisted man may purchase his discharge, if he so desires, upon completion of one year of actual military service, under the conditions outlined in the enclosed memorandum relative to discharge by purchase. The records show Private Bickerstaff enlisted on November 29, 1922.

As you are interested in this case, I hope it may fall under one of the above categories. If not, and you wish further to follow it up, I will do what I can to comply with your wishes.

With cordial regards, believe me

Yours very sincerely,



July 13th, 1923.

F. W. Harcourt, Esq.,
The Dominion Bank Building,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Mr. Harcourt:-

Let me acknowledge receipt
of your letter of July 11th with reference to
William Bickerstaff.

I am to-day writing to General
Pershing giving him a statement of the case and
asking him if there is any possibility of
Bickerstaff being discharged and under what
conditions. On General Pershing's reply I shall
communicate with you further.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

July 13th, 1923.

Personal.

General John J. Pershing,
General of the Armies,
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Pershing:-

Forgive me for troubling
you about so small a matter as the request contained
in this letter.

I received a communication from an old friend, Mr. F. W. Harcourt, a member of the firm of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, Solicitors, Toronto. Mr. Harcourt is the official guardian and has charge of the affairs of the Bickerstaff estate. It seems that William Bickerstaff, then aged 17, went from Toronto to the United States in June 1922 to look for employment, which ended in his enlistment in the 63rd Service Squadron, Francefield Canal Zone, Panama. Mr. Harcourt thinks the date of the enlistment was October or November 1922. His mother, Mrs. Bickerstaff is in great distress concerning the boy's enlistment and desires to have him discharged and returned to Toronto. Will you please have some officer on your staff tell me if it is possible for Mr. Bickerstaff to be discharged and if so, under what conditions.

With kindest personal wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT

Barristers, Solicitors, &c.

H.S. OSLER, K.C., F.W. HARCOURT, K.C., BRITTON OSLER, K.C.
W.A. CAMERON, HAROLD W. SHAPLEY, A.W. LANGMUIR.

G.M. HUYCKE N.E. STRICKLAND

COUNSEL
WALLACE NESBITT, K.C.
A. MONRO GRIER, K.C.

CABLE ADDRESS "CARTHOS"

THE DOMINION BANK BUILDING,
68 YONGE STREET,
TORONTO.

July 11, 1925.

Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal,
P. Q.

My dear Sir Arthur:

William Bickerstaff, then aged seventeen, went from Toronto to the United States in June 1922 to look for employment, which ended in his enlistment in 63rd Service Squadron, Francefield Canal Zone, Panama. I think the date of his enlistment was October or November of that year. In my capacity as Official Guardian ad litem I have had charge of the affairs of the Bickerstaff estate. His mother, Mrs. Edith Bickerstaff, is in great distress over it and importunes me to do something to have the boy discharged and returned to Toronto. I believe he was a plumber's apprentice, or something of that sort. I wrote to General Mewburn about it and he was kind enough, and probably rash enough, to say that you were a personal friend of General Pershing and that you would be kind enough to help a widow in distress.

I apologize for troubling you, but I don't know what else to do. May I have the pleasure of hearing from you about the matter?

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

W. H. Harcourt
Official guardian.

DOCKET ENDS:

BICKERSTAFF

DOCKET STARTS:

BRASS

9
December
Twenty-second
1920.

C. L. Brass, Esq.,
Ward 7, Shaughnessy Hospital,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir and Brother:-

I have now heard from the
Department of Militia & Defence at Ottawa, with
whom I took up your case after the receipt of
your letter of November 29th.

I may say that in writing to them
I asked specially that a certain officer give his
attention to the case, because I knew that this
officer was exceedingly sympathetic to all claims
put forward by men who served overseas. Let me
quote from his letter:-

" Dear Sir Arthur,-

I have had a thorough
"investigation made into the account of
"the marginally named, and I find that
"he has been very generously treated in
"that a special recommendation was made
"to pay him the rates of pay and allowances
"laid down for the rank of Sergeant during
"the period he was in attendance at the
"Cadet Course.

" The ruling he speaks of regarding
"Acting Sergeants did not go into effect
"until a year or more after he proceeded
"on Course.

" I note that he states that he is
"now drawing Sergeant's pay in the Depart-
"ment of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment,
"and think that it would be just as well
"if he would not bring this forward
"officially as this information would then

C. L. Brass, Esq.,

- 2 -

"have to be forwarded to that Department."

I gather from the above that there is nothing further that can be done. I am sorry that the case could not be settled in accordance with your wishes.

I am also sorry that you have been so long in Hospital, and I hope that soon you will be restored to your former good health.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.



R.C.F.

Department of Militia and Defence,

Ottawa, Canada,
17th December, 1920.

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal,
McGill University,
Montreal, P. Q.

Re: No. 116157, BRASS, C.L.

// Dear Sir Arthur,-

I have had a thorough investigation made into the account of the marginally named, and I find that he has been very generously treated in that a special recommendation was made to pay him the rates of pay and allowances laid down for the rank of Sergeant during the period he was in attendance at the Cadet Course.

The ruling he speaks of regarding Acting Sergeants did not go into effect until a year or more after he proceeded on Course.

I note that he states that he is now drawing Sergeant's pay in the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment, and think that it would be just as well if he would not bring this forward officially as this information would then have to be forwarded to that Department. //

I return herewith correspondence forwarded with your letter.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

P. Regan

Ward 7, Shaughnessy Hospital,
Vancouver, B. C.
November 29th 1920.

Sir Arthur Currie,
Montreal,
Quebec.

Dear Sir and Bro.,

I realize you have many calls upon your time but as we both belong to Number 2 Vancouver and Quadra I am writing to ask your kind consideration regarding an adjustment I wish to make with the Military Authorities.

On attached sheets I have stated all details of my case and by perusal of same I feel you will agree with me that I have a just claim of 730 days at 40¢ per day making a total claim of \$292.00.

As it is difficult for me to get prompt response from Ottawa I have taken the liberty of placing my case before you. I have been under Hospital treatment for so long a period that it is with great difficulty that I am able to carry on any correspondence

I feel that with the assistance of your personal interest in my case the Military Authorities will give same their prompt attention and that it will hasten a settlement.

I wish to heartily assure you of my gratitude for any influence you may be able to exert in my favor.

Yours fraternally,

C. L. Brass.

FACTS OF THE CASE RELATING
TO THE CLAIM OF C. L. BRASS
WARD 7, SHAUGHNESSY HOSPITAL.

Vancouver, B. C.

Enlisted in Vancouver with the 11th C. M. R as a provisional sergeant. Entered Number 4 R. F. A. Cadet School, June 22nd 1917, with rank of provisional Sergeant, November 1917 was taken ill and have ever since been in the Hospital with the Military Authorities and the S.C.R.

For some unexplainable reason I have not received full Sergeant's pay that I am entitled to covering the two years period from the 5th of November 1917 to the 25th of November 1919, the date of my discharge. On August, 1920 I received \$62.80 being balance due me as Sergeant's pay up to the 25th of November 1917.

I cannot understand why the pay department should adjust my claim up to that date and not in full for the balance of the term of my services which is two years longer. The date of my discharge to the S.C.R being the 25th of November 1919. My check instead of being \$62.80 should have covered an additional 730 days at 40 ¢ per day makes a total still due me of \$292.00.

The following are the full details of the case.

Reversion was never shown in my pay book and I was never at any time advised of such. As I was about to leave England my L. P. C. was not in order and upon refusing to sign it I was informed that I would be unable to leave England until I did sign and was advised that the matter would be properly adjusted in Canada, under the circumstances I signed, but under protest.

Notice of reversion ~~wax~~ from the rank of Sergeant was entirely out of order and does not apply in my case as I entered Number 4 R.F.A. Cadet School, June 22nd 1917. Brighton. The order effecting standing of Cadets is that he be paid at the rate according to his rank upon entering the Cadet School in my case I was entered as a Sergeant. You will also be aware of Routine Order 4937 issued November. 1918 covering my specific case and which reads. "That all Cadets of lower rank than sergeants nominated as candidates for commissions will be granted the acting rank of Sergeant with pay from the date fixed for the commencement of their training course whether in a Canadian or Imperial School!"

Further, I have never received one cent from the Military Authorities for my outfit and clothing allowance whereas the other Cadets who were discharged at the time of the Armistice received £20. I have worn officer's uniform

continuously from the 22nd of June 1917.

These same Cadets (a large number of whom entered the Cadet School as privates, whereas I entered as a Sergeant) were paid sergeant's pay right up to the date of their discharge in Canada. In some cases this was many months after they had left the Cadet Schools. Whereas I have been allowed Sergeant's pay only up to the time of leaving the School.

At the present time as a patient under the S.C.R I am now drawing Sergeants pay and my discharge certificate dated November 25th 1919 shows I am entitled to Sergeants pay.

I will state that my wife has been receiving a \$20.00 allowance which should not be the case owing to my repeated and distinct objections to such.

9
December
Eleventh
1920.

C. L. Brass, Esq.,
Ward 7, Shaughnessy Hospital,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to acknowledge your letter of November 29th, and in this connection I have taken the matter up with the Militia Department at Ottawa.

There seems to have been a good deal of dissatisfaction with the way in which our Military authorities dealt with the cadets. However, I hope that you may be able to get this case of yours adjusted in a satisfactory manner.

With all good wishes and hoping that you will soon be out of hospital and have good health for many years to come,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

December
Eleventh
1920.

Colonel Regan,
Chief Paymaster,
Militia Department,
Ottawa.

My dear Regan:-

I am attaching herewith a letter I have received from Vancouver. This letter is self-explanatory, and I shall be obliged if you will look into the matter yourself and see if the case has been dealt with as generously as possible. Will you please return the correspondence to me.

Hoping that all goes well with you and wishing you a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

DOCKET ENDS:

BRASS

DOCKET STARTS:

BRINKMAN

Victor W. Odium

Government and Municipal Bonds

Fire and General Insurance

Investments

TELEPHONE SEYMOUR 404

318 HOMER STREET, Vancouver, B. C.,

April 19th, 1923.

General Sir A. W. Currie, G.C.M.G. &c.
McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

My dear General Currie:

I have received a letter from Mr. Pyke of the Workmen's Compensation Board in connection with the case of Mrs. Mary Brinkman and I am sending you herewith a copy of it. The matter is not ended yet, but frankly I have very little hope of success. Mr. Pyke's last paragraph is very significant, ~~and~~ ^{could be} were it not for the fact disclosed therein I ~~am~~ prepared to make a very determined fight for her. Under the circumstances, however, I do not think she has a particularly strong claim, but in view of your recommendation I will do everything I can.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Victor W. Odium

VWO:AH

C O P Y

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BOARD.
Mothers' Assistance Department

April 17th, 1923

Brig. Gen. V. W. Odlum

VANCOUVER

RE : MRS. MARY BRINKMAN, VICTORIA
CLAIM P-2407

Dear Sir:

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 16th in reference to the application of the above mentioned lady for assistance under the Mothers' Pensions Act and we regret that this is a case where the Board have no discretionary power. A clause in the Act stipulates that an applicant, in order to be eligible, must be a British subject and as you are no doubt aware a woman assumes the nationality of her husband at the time of marriage. When Mrs. Brinkman's application was received we made every endeavor to obtain information as to whether Mr. Brinkman became a British subject but the Secretary of State at Ottawa informs us that there is no record in his Department of Brinkman ever having made an application for citizenship.

Another feature of Mrs. Brinkman's case is the fact that she has eight children over sixteen years of age and two under sixteen, aged fifteen and eleven. With all these children over sixteen it is hard to understand why Mrs. Brinkman should be in very distressing circumstances.

Yours truly,

"G. F. PYKE"

Victor W. Odium

Government and Municipal Bonds

Fire and General Insurance

Investments

TELEPHONE SEYMOUR 404

318 HOMER STREET. *Vancouver, B. C.,*

April 16th, 1923.

General Sir A. W. Currie, G.C.M.G. &c.
McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

My dear General Currie:

I have your letter dated the 24th of March with reference to Mrs. Mary Brinkman of Victoria. I will be very glad indeed to do what I can for Mrs. Brinkman, both on her own account and for your sake. I am not very familiar with the terms of the Mothers' Pension Act but I am in close touch with those who are and will seek advice and assistance.

With kind personal regards, both
for yourself and Lady Currie,

Yours as ever,

VWO:AH

Victor W. Odium

March 15th 1923

To General Currie

Dear Sir:-

Having applied for the Mother's pension, and they have turned me down, on what they call a just cause, they say I am not eligible person, my husband has been in this country since 1888 and has always taking interest in it, and its surroundings, as you know he has served in the 5th Regiment on two different occasions with Mr. R. D. Pooley, Major Mulcahy under yourself, and was also the

first man to volunteer for the South African War, and has also been connected with the boy scouts, since the first boy scout movement, and he has always had a vote, and I have also had three boys in the great War, and still they tell me I am not eligible person for the pension, I still have two children under age, one of 14 years and the other only 10 years old, and only one boy of 18 years old to help me, and his wages is only \$15.00 a week in Ormonds biscuit factory. Major Mulcahy has advised me to write

to you to see if you could use
your influence to help me in
the matter. Mr Pooley told me
he felt sure that Mr Brinkman
was naturalized but could not
find the original papers, but
they had found a copy
where he applied for naturalized
papers, so they banded me
on that account. Hoping
you will give this your kind
consideration, and thanking
you for the same,

P.S.

I am enclosing
the letter in this
and please return
it for further
reference.

I remain

Mary Brinkman
927 Nicholson St.
Victoria B.C.

March
Twenty-fourth
1923.

Mrs. Mary Brinkman,
927 Nicholson Street,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mrs. Brinkman:-

I am in receipt of your letter of March 15th in which you ask me to help you get a Mother's Pension. I shall do what I can but I am so far away from Vancouver that I am afraid my influence will not be nearly so great as that of men on the spot.

I remember your husband very well indeed when he was a member of the Old Fifth Regiment and also when he was an officer of the B.C. Electric Railway Company and I was not aware that you had lost him and I offer you my sincerest sympathy. I know that he was a good citizen of Victoria and a good citizen of Canada. I also know that your sons were accepted for service in the late war and I was under the impression that your husband had also served.

I am writing to General Odium in Vancouver to take up your case with the Department and I most sincerely hope results favourable to you will follow.

As requested I am returning herewith the letter from the Mothers' Assistance Department.

Yours faithfully,

March
Twenty-fourth
1923.

Brigadier-General Victor Odlum, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
318 Homer Street,
Vancouver, B. C.

My dear Odlum:-

I am forwarding with this letter a copy of a letter which I have received from Mrs. Mary Brinkman of Victoria and also one which she has received from the Mothers' Assistance Department. Both letters are self-explanatory.

I remember Brinkman very well as a member of the 5th Regiment in which I served from gunner to colonel and I think he was a member during all that time. He was motorneer of the B.C. Electric Railway and I knew him very well in that capacity. He was a decent hard-working man and a good citizen generally. I remember that he also took great interest in the Boy Scout movement, something which Mrs. Brinkman mentions. I was under the impression that he himself had served in some capacity in the late war, although he must have been getting along pretty well in years when it broke out. From Mrs. Brinkman's letter you will note that three of her sons served in the war.

Brinkman apparently was a German and had never been naturalized, though he always had a vote. It seems to me that on compassionate grounds the Mothers' Assistance Department might very well give favourable consideration to her case. Will you please, for my sake and for her's, see what you can do.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

DOCKET ENDS:

BRINKMAN

DOCKET STARTS:

DODDS

56

X lower

November 2nd, 1923.

Captain A. Edwin Dodds,
C/O. Perth Mutual Fire Insurance Co.,
Stratford, Ont.

Dear Captain Dodds:-

Let me acknowledge receipt of
your letter of October 29th.

With reference to its contents,
before I take the matter up with the authorities at
Ottawa will you please furnish me with documentary
evidence that while you were in France you were taken
on the strength of some unit. From your letter I
conclude that as you were ordered to report to the
Brigadier of the 4th Brigade of the 1st Army and
ordered by him to join C Company of L 12th Bn.
Imperial Tank Corps there must be something to shew
in the orders of the 12th Bn. that you were taken on
their strength. This information you may have to
get from the War Office in England. With such
documentary evidence in your possession there will be
no difficulty about getting you the medal, but with-
out it I do not think you will get very far. Naturally
it is up to you to furnish that evidence.

I shall be very glad to assist you
in any way I can.

Yours faithfully,

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

file
GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. DODDS, Inspector

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE
STRATFORD, ONT.

October 29/29.

Sir Arthur W. Currie
McGill University
Montreal.

Dear Sir, Regarding the Victory Medal.

I feel I am treated very unjustly in the matter of medals, and I wonder if you can help me by a word in the right place? May I introduce myself as the Son in Law of Mr. G. G. Macpherson - K.C. Crown Attorney here, who is a life-long friend of R. M. & Mrs. Ballantyne of Montreal, and of course, I am exceedingly well known to them too. The Ballantynes I believe are also known by you, & that will be my little mark of respectable standing!

I firmly believe in the matter of the Victory Medal, I am either being made the victim of some young officers who

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. DODDS, Inspector.

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

STRATFORD, ONT.

interprets too literally the "Bump" written around these presentations, or else some ruling that is proving grossly unjust to me, and for the sake of my son born at the beginning of the war (and whom I left to go over & take my chance) I'm swallowing a lot of pride in writing to you like this: My son is at the age now when he wants to know all about things & very little misses his keen eye and he wants to know why I have two ribbons on my tunic, a Class "A" return button, but only one medal?

I went over in August 1917 with a Forestry Coy from London, Ont. - Saw how hopeless my chance was to get into the fighting (I was almost 40 yrs of age then) got returned to Canada in about November same year: Appointed Audit & Supply Officer on General (then Col) Langston's staff & carried on there until the first Tank

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. Dobbs, Inspector.

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

STRATFORD, ONT.

Battalion was formed. The Colonel of that unit (Denison) asked for me & I went over as Section Commander (Capt) As you know, we were left overtraining in England so that as a unit we didn't get to France, but in Sept 1918, the Section Commanders & Engineer Officers were sent to British units in groups of 6 or 8 and I got on the very first group & arrived in France (Sept 20 I think), ordered to report Brigadier 4th Brigade 1st Army around Achiets-le-Grand, ordered by him to join "C" Company of "L" (12th) Bn Inf. Tank Corps., joined them at Veleu wood & acted with them until Oct 5 or 6 - went through Harrincourt wood fight & those damnable ridges between there & Marconing & was one of the first Officers in Marconing - saw one of the last bridges blown up - we were of course on the right of the Canadian Corps - I went through all

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. Dobbs, Inspector.

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

STRATFORD, ONT.

Kinds of action during three weeks, yet one would think I'd never been near the front! I don't know what my records tell because like every other fellow there to fight, I didn't have the privilege of keeping my own records! God knows I earned that medal & I want it. Can you help me? My Company Commander in the Tanks was Major Gosweld of Toronto (late of Winnipeg) - that's the Rondon weld's you know, own *Pomfret Press & Farmer's Advocate* etc. The Commander of the 12th Tank Bn (Imperial) was Col. Shannon: the Commander of "C" Company 12th Capt. Sampson (wounded whilst I was with them) then Major Richardson and whilst several of the Officers of the 12th came to see me when in England after Armistice, I have lost track of them since.

Now Sir Arthur, I was ordered out there, & I had to work & I had to do my bit in every way - I was not there on a

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. Dobbs, Inspector

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

STRATFORD, ONT.

Sight Seeing Expedition: There were two Army Drivers for the wind up under shell fire & dumped their busses (Tanks) into a Sunken Road not far from Marcony & Bob Muir (Ed, Winnipeg) & I worked like slaves under heavy shrapnel fire & got out those two tanks & we advanced in daylight, although we were being fired at over open sights from about Cronilien (I have forgotten how to spell it but I guess you know where I mean)

~~The~~ ^{two} men were badly wounded at this time & one in the general advance of that day in the Company I was with - I am wondering if I had been hit if I should have been "officially" in action? I could not have done more than I did and I earned that medal a hundred times in three weeks, & it is

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. DODDS, Inspector.

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE
STRATFORD, ONT.

puzzling & me to know what good it is doing Officialdom
to keep that from me Especially after acknowledging my
service at the front by giving me the button & Certificate.

I was so sure I'd get it, that I just naturally put
the ribbons up for one or two Memorials & such with the Local Vets,
and about the time my G. S. medal came I was asked by the Local
Col. (Goups m.c.) to take a Company, then to be Paymaster in the
Local Regiment & I had to refuse one thing after another to save
my face: Now Deacon M.C. is Col. & is pressing me again to
take a place with them & I can't.

I believe you know Col. Royal Burritt of Winnipeg
Royal is a relative of my wife's & he & I compared notes

G. G. McPHERSON, K. C. President.
CHAS. PACKERT, Manager.

GEORGE KAY, Secretary
A. E. DODDS, Inspector.

PERTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

STRATFORD, ONT.

After he got back, & we found we had been quite close to each other in some of the actions - he knows I was there all right.

I apologise sincerely for such a lengthy scrawl, which to you will seem like nothing perhaps but to me so much, but I trust you can help me to get what is truly mine, for I certainly took my chances.

By the way, I was in charge of #6 Section,
McGill University Company.

Yours very truly

A. Edwin Dodds

DOCKET ENDS:

DODDS

By Wor
November
Eighteenth
1920.

E. S.S. W. Everest, Esq.,
Rathwell, Man.

Dear Sir:-

After more than a month's absence from Montreal, I returned to find awaiting me your letter of October 14th with reference to the desire of the Rathwell Girls' Khaki Club to receive a War Trophy.

I am forwarding the request to the Committee in Ottawa who deal with War Trophies. I am quite sure that the Girls' Khaki Club of Rathwell is a most worthy organization and I hope the Committee which has to do with the distribution of War Trophies may be able to accede to their request.

With all good wishes,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

November
Eighteenth
1920.

Major Willis O'Connor,
Department Militia & Defence,
Ottawa.

Dear Willis:-

I have received a letter from
Mr. E.S.S.W. Everest of Rathwell, Man., in which
he makes application on behalf of the Rathwell
Girls' Khaki Club for a pair of German Machine
Guns.

It seems that the Girls' Club is
a very active organization and have rendered valuable
assistance in raising funds to erect a monument.
They would like to have these two machine guns to
place in position beside the monument.

Will you please place their request
before the Committee which deals with war trophies
and very greatly oblige me.

With all good wishes, I am, dear
Willis,

Ever yours faithfully,

October
Twenty-second
1920.

E.S.S.W. Everest, Esq.,
Rathwell, Man.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of October 14th
addressed to General Sir Arthur Currie has
just been received.

General Currie has severed his
connection with the Militia Department and
is now Principal of this University. He is
at present absent from the city on a trip through
Western Canada and does not expect to return to
Montreal until November 6th. Your letter will
then be brought to his attention.

Yours very truly,

Principal's Secretary.

Rathwell Manitoba
October 14th 1900.

General Sir Arthur Currie
Dowry's Camp.

My Dear Sir.

On a previous occasion I wrote to you regarding the matter of War Trophies for the Town of Glenford Manitoba. In response they received 2 nice big Guns, for which I have every reason to be grateful to you. This letter will repeat a similar request on behalf of the Rathwell Girls Kharko Club of Rathwell Man whom are also erecting a monument - to the memory of this fallen hero.

These Girls are a wonderful little organization and have done much to lend very valuable assistance to the great cause they have asked me to write you about these Guns. What they want is a pair of German machine Guns to place in position on either side of the monument -

In this matter they would deem it a great honor if you could again use

your influence on their behalf in
their endeavor to secure these Trophies

I would say, the Girls are certainly
worthy of such support - and it will
be a great pleasure to me to know
they had received this compliment.

In response to previous request, I
beg to tender you my humble thanks
for your kind consideration in the
matter, and I trust - I may hear of
some pleasing results favoring the Girls
Hockey Club with their Guns.

I am Sir

Yours Very Truly

E. J. W. Overstreet

Rathwell Manitoba

23, Marvels Lane,
Grove Park,
Lee, S.E.

16th August 1921.

X was

To - General Currie, C.M.B.
Stafford Hotel,
16, St. James' Place, S.W.1.

Sir,

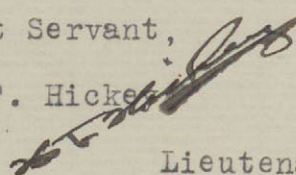
In 1915 I was seconded to No. 12 Section R.N.A.S. and served in German East Africa until 1917, when I was invalided to England. I was stationed at Oxford Circus House during the time you had your Office there.

I am still serving and as all records have been returned to Canada it would be very much appreciated if you would forward me a character to the above address as soon as possible.

Thanking you in anticipation of an early reply.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

H.F. Hicke


Lieutenant.

97

K
1367, Clarke Street,
Montreal

Sept. 4th 1923.

Dear General

I trust you will forgive the liberty I am taking in writing to you but circumstances compel me to do so.

I am the wife of a Sergeant in the British Army now serving with the "Green Howards," in Woodset, Kent, England; and am anxious to have your advice as to the best course to pursue under existing circumstances.

If you would be kind enough to favour me with an interview within the next day or two I shall be greatly obliged.

Again apologising for the liberty I am taking.

I am, dear General,
Yours truly
W. Higgins

DOCKET STARTS:

GRIFFIN

G.M.F.

X War

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT 123

MONTREAL, P. Q.

MD4.22-G-1660

HQ.649-G-13456

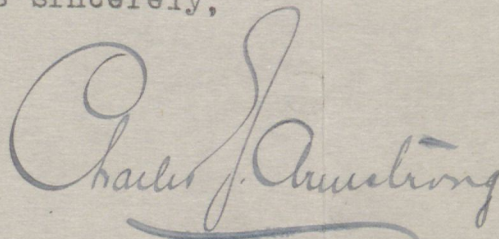
10th.May, 1921.

My Dear General;

Adverting to my letter of above number dated the 22nd. ultimo in connection with Mr W.A.Griffin of So.Gardner, Me.

I am today in receipt of a communication from the Quartermaster-General, stating that owing to the part-worn uniform not being available at Montreal, the Senior Ordnance Officer, Headquarter Depot, Ottawa, was instructed to make this issue and reports that clothing was forwarded by American Express to W.A.Griffin on the 4th. instant.

Yours sincerely,



General Sir Arthur Currie, CGMG., KCB., LL.D.
Principal McGill University,
Montreal. Que.

RGT/GMF

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT

MONTREAL, P. Q.

MD4. 22-G-1660

22nd. April, 1921.

My Dear General;

In furtherance to my letter of the 12th. instant in connection with Mr W.A.Griffin of So.Gardner, M.E.

I am today in receipt of a communication from the Quartermaster-General, stating that he has authorized the issue of a part worn uniform, to Mr Griffin, free of charge, as a special case. I am having the Ordnance Department endeavor to locate one, and immediately same is despatched you will be notified.

Yours sincerely,



General Sir Arthur Currie, GCMG., KCB., LL.D.
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

RGT/GMF
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT N^o 1

MONTREAL, P. Q. MD4.22-G-1660

12th. April, 1921.

My Dear General;

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 9th. instant in connection with Mr W.A.Griffin of So.Gardner,Me.

I have today referred this question to Militia Headquarters and immediately on receipt of a reply will let you know, and will advise Mr Griffin.

Yours sincerely,

Charles J. Armstrong

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., L.L.D.
Principal McGill University,
Montreal, P.Q.

795176

(In corresponding about this permit refer to both name and serial number.)

"Any person to whom such written permission to leave Canada has been granted shall carefully preserve the same and keep it always about his person. — (Sec. 3, Sec. 1, Order-in-Council 1433.)"

PERMIT TO LEAVE CANADA

(Schedule B. to Order in Council P. C. 1433 of May 24, 1917.)

I, W.A. Griffin
 of Bedford Mass South Street
(If town or city give street address)
 in the State Province of Mass, make oath and do say that I was
 born at Sperswick England on the 6th day of January
1869, that I am a (an) American (subject) (citizen)
 by (birth) papers (naturalization) papers, that I have resided at the above address
 for 8 years, that I am personally known to and refer for
(Length of residence)
 identification to:—

Col Melville of St Johns
Mr Powell of "
Capt Knight of "
Capt Pickard of "

that I desire permission to leave Canada to go to Bedford Mass
South Street (Give address in full) for the purpose of Returning home
 that I wish to be absent from Canada

for Indefinite time
(Length of absence)

My height is 5'8 1/2; my weight is 146

My eyes are Grey; my hair is Brown

My occupation is Salesman

I am (married) (widower) (single)

I have 5 children living.

The attached photograph is a good likeness of me taken 7 (months) (days) ago.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and correct and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.



Declared before me at St Johns in the Province of Quebec
 this 23rd day of July 1918

W.A. Griffin
 Signature of Applicant.

W.B. Eeyp
 Notary Public, J.P., Commissioner.

I have been personally acquainted with the above-mentioned applicant for a period of 20 (years) (months). I recognize the above attached photo as a true likeness of him. I believe the statements which he makes above to be correct and have seen him in my presence attach his signature on the same line on which my own appears.

W.A. Griffin
 Signature of Applicant.

Joseph Daniel S.P.
 Signature of Bank Manager, Chief of Police Clergyman or Dominion Government Officer

Permit to leave Canada on or before the 23rd day of July, 1918, is hereby granted to W.A. Griffin
 Date of issue: July 23 1918
 Canadian Immigration Inspector: W.B. Eeyp

The owner of this Permit
has deposited with the
Department evidence that he
has permission from the
proper Military Authorities
to be absent from Canada
until indefinitely

191

Discharged



*John
Blair*

B. W. Mansfield

*Wm. Mansfield
1913*

April
Ninth
1921.

W. A. Griffin, Esq.,
South Gardiner, Me.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of
your letter of April 7th.

I have passed same on to Brigadier-
General C.J. Armstrong, C.O.C. M.D. No. 4, 50
Bishop Street, Montreal. As I am no longer connected
with the Canadian Militia, I would suggest that you
address all future correspondence to General Armstrong.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

April
Ninth
1921.

Brigadier-General C.J. Armstrong,
G.O.C., M.D. No. 4,
50 Bishop Street,
Montreal.

My dear General:-

I am enclosing herewith a letter
I have to-day received from W.A. Griffin of South
Gardiner, Me.

You will remember we had some
previous correspondence with reference to this
man's request and I have your letter of January
20th stating that the Q.M.G. was prepared to treat
Griffin's case as a special one.

I wish you would look into the case
and see what you can do for him.

Yours faithfully,

January
Twenty-fourth
1921.

W. A. Griffin, Esq.,
South Gardiner, Me.

Dear Sir:-

I have just been informed by
the G.O.C., M.D. No. 4 that the Quartermaster
General is prepared to treat your case as a
special one.

I hope that shortly your wishes
in this regard will be met.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

January
Twenty-fourth
1921.

Brigadier-General C. J. Armstrong,
G.O.C., M.D. No. 4,
50 Bishop Street,
Montreal.

My dear General:-

Replying to your letter of the
20th that some time ago I sent the whole file
of correspondence re Griffin's request to the
Adjutant General.

I have notified Mr. Griffin that
the Quartermaster General is prepared to treat his
case as a special one.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

MONTREAL, P. Q.

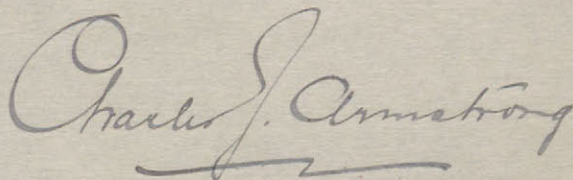
Jan. 20th, 1921.

My dear General,-

Since writing you on the 14th with reference to the request contained in the letter you forwarded me from No.2013586, Sapper W. A. Griffin, late Canadian Engineers, I have been to Ottawa and while there, explained to the Q.M.G., Griffin's case.

The Q.M.G. is prepared to treat Griffin's case as a special one so if you would be good enough to return me Griffin's letter I will do what I can to obtain for him the articles of uniform he wishes to purchase.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles J. Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink and has a decorative flourish at the end.

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., L.L.D.
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, P. Q.

EJD.

January
Fourteenth
1921.

W. A. Griffin, Esq.,
South Gardiner, Me.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of January 8th I wish to say that I have to-day forwarded all correspondence I have had with you to the Adjutant-General, Department of Militia & Defense at Ottawa.

As I am no longer connected with the Military Services of Canada, I think it wiser for you to take up your case direct with them, and I would advise you to address your communication to

The Adjutant-General,
Department of Militia & Defense,
Militia Headquarters,
Ottawa.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

January
Fourteenth
1921.

The Adjutant-General,
Department of Militia & Defense,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to enclose herewith
certain correspondence between W. A. Griffin
and myself with reference to the issue to him
of a uniform.

I have advised him to communicate
with your Department directly.

Yours faithfully,

Encls.

Principal.

28

Griffin

December
Eleventh
1920.

O. F. Crandall, Esq.,
The Montreal Daily Star,
Montreal.

Dear Mr. Crandall:-

I am returning herewith Mr. Griffin's letter, and in doing so let me say that the records in my office do not show that I ever received the letter which he says he wrote to me last September.

Thanking you for your courtesy in drawing my attention to the matter,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

The Montreal Daily Star

"CANADA'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER"

MONTREAL, CANADA

December 10, 1920.

Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal,
McGill University,
City.

My dear Sir Arthur:

I am sending to you the enclosed letter in case you might not have received the communication referred to. We shall, of course, take no further notice of the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Hammond

Enc.

December
Eleventh
1920.

W. A. Griffin, Esq.,
P.O. Box 25,
South Gardiner, Me.

Dear Sir:-

A letter signed by you from South Gardiner, Me., dated December 7th and addressed to the "Editor Montreal Daily Star" has been handed to me.

Permit me to inform you that there is no record in my office of having received from you the letter which you say you wrote me on September 10th last. That is the reason why you have received no reply.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

DOCKET ENDS:

GRIFFIN

X War
April
Twenty-third
1923.

Mrs. G. H. Hunter,
19 Levant Street,
Dorchester 22, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Hunter:-

You will remember that some time ago I wrote to you saying that I would seek information from the Imperial War Graves Commission in France and Flanders regarding the grave of your son, Sergeant Robert Hunter, 16th Canadian Scottish.

I am now in receipt of a letter from Colonel Goodlands saying that they are unable to locate definitely the grave, but that there is being erected in the Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) a Cross to the memory of the N.C.Os and men of the 16th Canadian Scottish. He is applying to the proper authorities to have the name of your son added to this Cross.

I am very sorry not to have been able to get for you more definite information.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

HTG/CK.



IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION (FRANCE AND FLANDERS).
COMMISSION IMPERIALE DES SEPULTURES MILITAIRES BRITANNIQUES.

Telegraphic Address:—
Adresse Télégraphique:—
"WARGRAVES ST. OMER."

Telephone:—
40 ANGLAIS ST. OMER.

Any further communications on this subject should be addressed to
"THE DEPUTY-CONTROLLER"
and the following number quoted:—

C.R. 3050/2186/R/DC.

Prière d'adresser toutes communications concernant la présente affaire à:—

"M. LE DEPUTY-CONTROLLER"

et de rappeler dans la correspondance le numéro d'enregistrement ci-dessous:—
.....

LONGUENESSE,

SAINT OMER,

PAS DE CALAIS,

FRANCE.



April 11, 1923.

My dear General,

I was very glad to get your letter of the 1st of March, but am sorry that I cannot give you any definite news regarding your inquiry as to the grave of Sergt. Hunter.

I attach copies of the correspondence regarding this case, and I think I should be quite within the mark in asking London for authority to add the name of Sergt. Hunter to this Cross that is erected in Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm), to the memory of N.C.O.'s and men of the 16th Canadians. I will do this and have no doubt that they will accede to my request. This, of course, is only one of the many thousands of lost graves, but it is hardly to be wondered at. We are still finding bodies at the rate of about 150 a week all over the areas, with quite a good percentage of identifications.

I think I told you that I had started the idea of getting the temporary Canadian Memorials erected on the battlefields sent back to Canada. I have just been looking at them this morning at our workshops here, to which they have been taken after having been sent in from the battlefields, and they are now being crated and will be shipped to Canada via Havre in a few days. It seems such a pity to allow them to rot away into nothing when they will be such treasured memorials in the armouries of the respective Battalions concerned, and I understand from Osborne, who is our Commission man at Ottawa, that the idea has been very popular and that most of the C.O.'s are anxious to get them back and take care of them for ever. You can hardly read the inscriptions on some of them now, which makes them all the more interesting as veterans.

Nothing much is happening with regard to the big Canadian Memorial on Vimy Ridge. I have met the Sculptor and the Architect and quite often see Ross in Poperinghe, and I hear that Hughes is back again to take charge so that perhaps things will begin to show. If I had anything to do with it I think I should like to see more progress made for the time the staff have been around Poperinghe, but I know that land acquisition is a very slow process. I shall see them both next week when I am again in Ypres.

We have got our Camp shifted from Poperinghe to Ypres, and it is a great improvement. Practically all our Cemeteries are finished now around the Poperinghe district, and we are concentrating forward of Ypres. Our building programme for this year is something over 200 Cemeteries; that is already let out to contract, and

does not include the smaller Cemeteries taken in hand by our own direct labour. This should be the best year in the history of the Commission, and when we are through we shall begin to see daylight through the trees and perhaps get some idea when we can finish. The big monument at Menin Gate to the missing will be gone on with this summer. This takes the form of an enormous triumphal arch. It really will be more like a tunnel than an arch, inscribed on the inside walls, and also on the outside walls on galleries to be built on the outside of the arch, will be the names of the missing in the Salient. The opening of this memorial will probably take the form of a very fine ceremony, and you, as one of the Generals commanding, should be here to take part in it. No one less than the King or the Prince of Wales should do it. I think the British Lion will surmount one side of the arch and the Belgian Lion the other, and it is going to be a tremendous bit of work. We shall have a good deal to do with the supervising of the construction although the money comes out of other funds than ours - quite where I do not know.

The South Africans are building a very fine memorial in Delville Wood, having bought the whole wood, and they are going to make it into a park. The avenue from their memorial through the middle of the wood leads right to our Delville Wood Cemetery, and the two will be built simultaneously and will harmonise.

Roy, who used to be my man in the Ypres area, has quit and gone back to Canada, and a new man called St. Vincent is on the way out to replace him. I wish they would send me a good Westerner instead of our Quebec friends, but Quebec seems to be the white-headed boy just now.

Your friend Chanter I do not hear much about any more. I understand he has fallen on evil times, but he was asking for it.

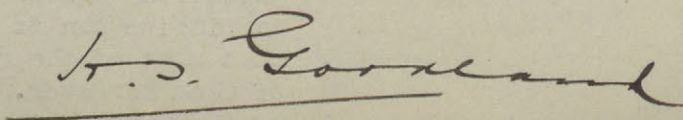
Our winter has been wonderfully mild but very wet and troublesome. Still, we have been able to build throughout the winter more than 30 Cemeteries in the neighbourhood of Floegsteert, including all the ones in the wood.

Thank you for your good wishes and also for Lady Currie's, which we heartily reciprocate.

With very kindest regards, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Encl.



General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., etc.,
Principal's Office,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Copy of correspondence re
Sergt. Robert HUNTER,
16th Canadians.

C.R.3050/2186/R.

Head Office,
Imperial War Graves Commission,
France.

The Vice-Chairman,
I.W.G.C., London,
(Director of Records)

Sgt. Robert Hunter.
16th Canadians, 13.6.16.
Zillebeke.

Would you kindly advise this office if you have any record of
the grave of this N.C.O.

(sgd.) Webley.
for Assistant Director of Records,
for Deputy Controller,
I.W.G.C.

17.3.23.

Reference :- CCM/16491.
22nd March, 1923.

Deputy Controller,
I.W.G.C.,
France.

Sergt. Robert Hunter, 16th Canadians, 13.6.16.

With reference to your C.R.3050/2186/R dated 17th instant, there
is no information regarding the grave of the above mentioned non-commission-
ed officer in the records held in this office.

(sgd. Stopford.
for Principal Assistant Secretary.

Imperial War Graves Commission,
82, Baker Street, London, W.1.

C.R.3050/2186/R.

Head Office,
Imperial War Graves Commission,
France.

Branch Office,
No. 1 Area,
(Registration Officer)

Sgt. Robert Hunter, 16th Canadians, 13.6.16, Zillebeke.

From correspondence held in this office, it would appear that
at one time this N.C.O.'s name was included with others of the same unit
on a cross in a cemetery at Zillebeke - presumably Railway Dugouts Bur-
ial Ground.- London advise that they hold no record of the grave of
Sgt. Hunter. Would you therefore kindly investigate this matter and

P.T.O.

forward your observations at your earliest convenience, as this is a case in which the Deputy Controller is particularly interested.

(Sgd.) E.A.S. Gell,

Assistant Director of Records,
for Deputy Controller,
I.W.G.C.

26.3.23.

P.R.829/2a/R.

No. 1 Area Branch Office,
Imperial War Graves Commission,
YPRES.

Head Office,
(Asst. Director of Records)
Saint Omer.

Sgt. Robert Hunter, 16th Canadians.
13.6.16. Zillebeke.

Reference your C.R.3050/2186/R dated 26.3.23.

The documents and records held in this Office for the Commune of Zillebeke have been carefully searched for the name of the above named N.C.O. but without success.

Special Cross No.51 in Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) bears the names of 22 N.C.O.'s and men of the 16th Canadians who were killed on dates varying from 4.6.16 to 13.6.16, but the name of Sgt. Hunter does not appear thereon.

This would appear to be the most likely cross.

(Sgd.) H. Simpson

Registration Officer,
for Area Superintendent.

5.4.23.

26/4/23.

19 Levant St
Dorchester 22
Mass.
U. S. A.

Dear Sir

Many thanks for
your letter received yesterday
& all your kindness with
regard to all the information
you have secured for me
about my dear boy.

It seems as if there must be
some mistake about Robert's
grave seeing that not only
his sister, Bob Don Cameron,
& Ned Davison all stood
by his grave & read his name
& the inscription "R. J. P. Sergeant

16th Canadian Scottish ^{m. g. section} now
the wooden Cross & all took
snapshots of it so that I could
see for myself. Surely those
who removed those wooden
Crosses wouldn't do so before
setting up another headstone
bearing the names of those
men buried there at Jilidul?

Some of the other names are
Wilson & Cameron & there was
a large cross in the centre &
his sister went out at the
Ypres gate & the Canadian
Cemetery where Roberts'
grave was is near a lake
right underneath the
railway embankment Jimmy
Murray knows just where it

is as his battalion buried
them all. However, as every
time I get no satisfaction from
War Graves Commission but
always that they cannot
locate the grave definitely
I must just be patient trusting
God cares & understands & I
after all the world's opinions
& pretitudes amount to nothing
& such sacred memories can
always be shared with Him.
Mothers naturally like to
know their own sons' grave
is being cared for with the
rest & there in N. S. A. Memorial
Day is wonderful everything
being done at the Cemetery
in memory of their lost ones, or

rather "not lost, but gone before"
but, after all it is a matter
of sentiment & one mustn't worry
over what should be a proud
& honourable record of a dear
sons bravery & self sacrifice
I thank you for seeing that
Roberts' name is added to
the Cross being erected in
the Railway Digouts Burial
Ground. It hurt at first to

know that such a request
had to be made but the
world forgets so quickly
God remembers & loves us
all through & through.

I appreciate all you have
so kindly & thoughtfully
accomplished for us.

Yours sincerely
Gertrude H. Hunter

X *Splains*

May 6th, 1925.

Mrs. Emily Jackson,
Lake Windermere Bungalow Camp,
Lake Windermere, B.C.

My dear Mrs. Jackson:-

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 20th of May and to say that it will give me much pleasure to see your cousin now in the Dominion Police here. If I can help him in any way I shall be only too glad to do so.

Lady Currie will appreciate your good wishes. It seems only a few days ago that she told me of meeting you in Montreal.

With kindest wishes for your personal good fortune and hoping that I may be able to help your cousin, I am,

Yours faithfully,

LAKE WINDERMERE BUNGALOW CAMP

TELEGRAMS AND RAILWAY STATION:

LAKE WINDERMERE, B.C.

POST OFFICE: INVERMERE, B.C.

2nd May

192

Dear Sir Arthur

I am writing to ask you if you would be good enough to see my cousin Jim Churchman & give him advice. I know you must be asked to do this many many times but you have a great deal of sympathy for a soldier & I thought you wouldn't mind me asking you this favor. My cousin will be able to explain to you better than I can by letter, but he is a Detective Sergeant in the R. C. M. P. in Montreal he enlisted when he was 17 in the Grenadier Guards & saw two years fighting, then joined the R. C. M. P. in London & was sent out to this country, he has done awfully well & feels he has been given every consideration but he has become engaged to such a nice girl & wants something to look forward to, to the question

is Will he leave the force? or Can he look forward
to getting a Commission? I would be very grateful
if you could see him & give him some advice.
I saw our old friend J. King in Ottawa & he
is going to speak to the C. G. & see if there is any
chance, but my cousin was anxious to see you
too so I promised to write to you & hope you
don't mind me doing so.

You have so many people to remember but
my husband & I were at The Empress in the
cheerful days of Victoria B. C.

Please remember me to Lady Currie

Yours very sincerely
Emily Jackson

DOCKET STARTS:

MACMATH

45
X 200

November
Twenty-sixth
1920.

Colonel Logie Armstrong,
Director of Records,
Militia Department,
Ottawa.

My dear Colonel:-

Let me thank you very much for
your attention to the request of MacMath, and
also for your kindness in sending me a new badge.

I quite well appreciate how very
careful you must be in the re-issuance of badges,
and I was not surprised to see in the paper this
morning that, after a certain date, there would be
no further re-issuance. I can well understand how
careless some of our men are in matters of this
sort.

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

45
November
Twenty-second
1920.

J. B. MacMath, Esq.,
30 Lansdowne Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear MacMath:-

I have just received a letter
from the Adjutant General, and have much pleasure
in informing you that the Department of Records
state that a new badge will be issued to you.

Yours faithfully,

November
Twenty-second
1920.

Major-General J.H. Elmsley,
Adjutant General,
Ottawa.

Dear Jim:-

I have your letter of the 18th
November with reference to lost service badge
of J. B. MacMath, and wish to thank you very
much for adjusting the matter to meet MacMath's
wishes.

Ever yours faithfully,

M. F. B. 440.
200m.-7-20. M.

MILITIA AND DEFENCE

In reply please quote

No.

P E R S O N A L .

Ottawa, November 22nd, 1920.

Dear General Currie,-

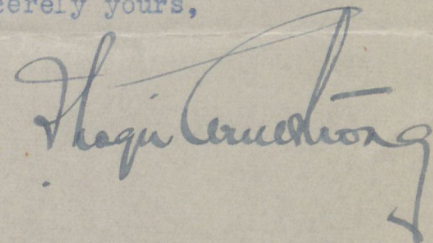
General Elmsly has shown me your letter with reference to the reissue of a War Service Badge to MacMath. Unfortunately, MacMath, in submitting his formal application for a new badge, did not state all the facts of the case. As the letter to you, however, made it quite clear that his claim was a just one, a new badge was accordingly sent to him.

Perhaps I should explain that the Department has conclusive evidence that considerable 'trafficking' in War Service Badges has occurred, and it is for this reason that we have had to be guarded in dealing with applications for a reissue. Nevertheless, of the hundreds of such applications which have been received, not more than 5% have been refused.

Dealing with your own case, there is really no reason why you should not be issued with a new badge, and I am, therefore, enclosing one.

With kindest regards, Believe me

Sincerely yours,



General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., etc,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal,
P.Q.





ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
MILITIA HEAD QUARTERS
OTTAWA, CANADA.

18th November, 1920.

General Sir Arthur Currie, C.M.G., K.C.B.
Principal McGill University,
MONTREAL.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I have much pleasure in informing you,
with further reference to your letter of the
14th instant, that the Records Branch state that
the badge in question will be sent to ex-Pte
MacMath.

Yours sincerely,

November
Eighteenth
1920.

J. B. MacMath, Esq.,
30 Lansdowne Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear MacMath:-

I acknowledge receipt of your
letter of the 17th instant, with enclosure as
stated.

I have written again to the
Adjutant General to-day.

Yours faithfully,

PROPERTIES SOLD
AND
EXCHANGED
RENTS COLLECTED

Hugh Mac Math
Real Estate and Insurance Agent.

1394 Queen Street West.

PHONE PARK 47.

FIRE AND LIFE
INSURANCE.
MONEY TO LOAN.

Toronto Wednesday 7/11/1910

J.B. Mac Math
30 Lansdowne Ave.,
Toronto.

To.

Sir. Arthur Currie;
Prin. M^o Gilt University

Dear Sir:-

I received your most welcome letter yesterday, and to-day have received one from the Adjutant General. I am enclosing it to you, and you will be able to study the purport of it yourself. I am sorry to trouble you again sir, but I feel, that in you I have found a Champion of my cause. The letter that this letter was posted in was unregistered, and because I was honest enough to put this in my statutory letter, they have found grounds to refuse my application. They forget that an unregistered letter carries the same pledge of secrecy as an registered one.

Thanking you

I remain

Yours respectfully

H. Mac Math

487344

M^o J. B. Mac Math 71. of
5th Univ. Coy. Battalion

P. P. C. L. S. Class No. 102.376

November
Eighteenth
1920.

Major-General J. H. Elmsley,
Adjutant General,
Ottawa.

Dear Jim:-

I have your letter of the 16th instant with reference to the lost Service Badge of J. B. MacMath.

The same mail brought me a letter from MacMath, in which he enclosed a letter he had received from the Director of Records. I am attaching this letter now. The Director of Records has refused to replace his badge. I think, Jim, that it might be well not to be too arbitrary about these matters. Let me state my own case:

I believe I have lost my War Service Badge, at least, I have not been able to find it for some time. It may have been stolen in the course of my travels, and I suppose if I made application for another one, that the Director of Records would probably refuse to issue me with it. Rather than take a chance of being turned down I am not going to apply for another.

If MacMath is a decent fellow, something which ought to be very easily ascertained, the Department should be careful not to leave itself open to the charge of being "too red tapeish".

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
MILITIA HEAD QUARTERS
OTTAWA, CANADA.

16th November, 1920.

General Sir Arthur Currie, C.M.G., K.C.B.
McGill University,
MONTREAL.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th November, in respect to J.B. MacMath, in which he points out that he has lost his Service Badge.

I will turn this matter over to the Records and see if we cannot find him a new one.

I have been intending to write to you ever since I took over here as Adjutant General, and I hope to find the time to do in the course of a few days.

Yours faithfully,

John G. Lumsley

45
November
Fourteenth
1920.

J. B. MacMath, Esq.,
30 Lansdowne Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear MacMath:-

With reference to the loss of your Returned Soldier's Badge, I am to-day writing to the Adjutant General at Ottawa urging upon him to give the matter prompt attention. Having complied with his instructions it seems to me that there exists no reason for any delay.

I am glad to be of some service to you in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

November
Fourteenth
1920.

Major-General J.H. Elmsley, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Adjutant General,
Ottawa.

Dear Jim:-

I am attaching herewith a letter
received from J.B. MacMath.

It is self-explanatory, and if what
he says is correct, I can see no reason for
any delay in the issuance to him of a duplicate
badge.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

DOCKET ENDS:

MACMATH

48

232 Morley Ave
Winnipeg Man
7.7.20

From J. A. Moberley
Ex Sgt. No. 71 - 8th Batta C. E. F.

Decorations

To General Sir Arthur Currie,

Sir,
I have the honour to
acknowledge your letter dated June 28th
and wish to thank you for your
congratulations, and for sending my
name forward for the D.C.M. I shall
always appreciate this possession
highly.

I am always proud to have served
with the original 2nd Brigade, and
if ever my country needs my services
again, at home or abroad, I shall
always be ready to do whatever I can
despite my wounds. Thanking you
again Sir. I am your Obedient Servant
J. A. Moberley

48
X
January
Ninth
1921.

The Editor,
"The Mountain Echo",
Mountain Sanitarium,
Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I thank you for calling my attention to the publication of "The Mountain Echo" and beg to enclose herewith my subscription. Will you please apply any balance to any other good purpose in connection with the institution.

The Mountain Sanitarium is one of the few in Canada which I have not yet visited. I am sure that our fellows there are putting up the same brave fight to get back their health as their comrades elsewhere are doing. Everywhere I have been the fact has been impressed upon me that returned soldiers fight the hardest. They never give in, and the determination to win through which made them irresistible in France, counts chiefest in the battle they are now fighting. Their health was undermined in the service of their country and in the unselfish performance of their duty.

I send everyone my good wishes and my earnest hope that all will be speedily restored to robust health.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

48

Xwar

January
Twenty-fourth
1921.

W. E. Sarel, Esq.,
Mountain Sanatorium,
Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I thank you for your letter of January 17th, in which you have been good enough to send me a brief outline of the work and plans of The Invalided Tubercular Soldiers' Welfare League.

It is something with which I am in most complete accord and I hope that the future will grant me opportunities for being of some assistance to the League. I shall esteem it an honour to be one of your Honorary Presidents.

I wish the League all possible success and with heartfelt good wishes for the worthy fellows whom it seeks to help, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

THE INVALIDED TUBERCULAR SOLDIERS' WELFARE LEAGUE

(Ontario Headquarters Branch)

Hon. Pres. Dr. J.H. Holbrook
Hon. Pres. J.J. Bayliss
President A. Scott
Vice-Pres. W.S. Ball
Sec-Treas. W.E. Sarel

Mountain Sanatorium

Hamilton, Ont.

Phone Regent 8070.

January 17th., 1921.

General Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Quebec.

Dear Sir:

I have much pleasure in acknowledging your very kind letter of the 9th inst. and regret that owing to my absence from Hamilton in connection with the organization of the above League at Byron Sanatorium, London, was unable to reply sooner.

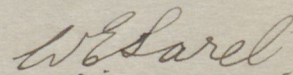
I am attaching herewith a brief outline of the work and plans of the above League at Mountain Sanatorium, which, I am sure, will be of great interest to you, and I would be very pleased to receive your opinion thereon.

I also wish to thank you for your cheque of \$5.00, we have placed your name on our subscription list and transferred the remainder to the funds of the League.

We would be very glad if after reading the attached papers if you would consider honoring us by allowing your name to be added to our list of honorary Presidents.

Thanking you for your kind interests in our welfare, believe me to be,

Your obedient servant,



Secy-Treas.
Invalided Tubercular Soldiers' Welfare League.

WES/RM.

THE INVALIDED TUBERCULAR SOLDIERS' WELFARE LEAGUE

Hamilton Branch

Mountain Sanatorium,

Hamilton, Ont. January 18th., 1921

COPY OF WORK & PLANS OF THE INVALIDED TUBERCULAR SOLDIERS' WELFARE LEAGUE, OF MOUNTAIN SANATORIUM, HAMILTON, ONT.

ORGANIZING:

1. The Invalided Tubercular Soldiers' Welfare League was formed about two years ago, with the object of caring for Tuberculous ex-Service men, both in and out of Sanatoria, and further with the object of overcoming that lack of appreciation on the part of the public at large which is one of the severest handicaps with which men suffering from Tuberculosis and other invisible chest disabilities have to deal.

2 CO-OPERATION:

To obtain active co-operation with Organizations engaged in anti-tuberculosis work and to give co-operation to such Organizations as we consider responsive.

3 AFTER CARE:

It being recognized that the Institutional Care of the tuberculous is in-complete and wasteful unless it is followed with the After Care of the patient in his home. It has been demonstrated that the relapses after discharge of Sanatoria patients can be reduced by 50 to 80 per cent by adequate after care of the patient and his family.

4 HOUSING:

It is recognized that the cure of tuberculosis can never be affected unless patients are housed in dwellings healthy and congenial to their physical condition in every way.

5 VETCRAFT WORKSHOPS:

That the "Vetcraft Workshops" idea be enlarged so as to take in all tuberculous patients immediately upon discharge from Sanatoria.

6 PENSIONS:

Adequate pensions for definite T.B. men to enable them to take advantage of light congenial employment without financial responsibilities and worry in order that they may have a fair chance of living and bringing up their families as decently as possible.

(Cont'd)

7 EDUCATION:

Publication of a journal which will be devoted to the necessities of soldiers who are taking and who have taken treatment in Sanatoria. This Journal in addition to providing items of general interest will endeavour to educate the public to the fact that those suffering from invisible chest disabilities are, in many cases, in a much more serious condition physically than those with amputations and other visible injuries.

A full understanding on the part of the public is absolutely necessary to re-habilitate patients with our disabilities.

With regard to organization the League now has a Branch in every Sanatorium throughout the Dominion, Ste. Agathe des Monts, Quebec being Headquarters branch for the Eastern Provinces; Fort Qu'Appelle for the Western Provinces and Mountain Sanatorium for Ontario. Each Headquarters Branch being in close co-operation with each other, and each submitting their respective resolutions and policies collectively before action is taken.

A campaign is now in being for the purpose of enrolling all ex-patients into the League and at present the results are very gratifying indeed.

With regard to after care it is considered essential that an after care Association should be established in order that patients leaving the Sanatorium may secure proper after care treatment.

The patients at the Mountain Sanatorium have formed an Association for the purpose of securing near the city of Hamilton a village community, details of which you will see on page 5 of the Mountain Echo which has been mailed to you. We trust that this scheme will be a forerunner of many such schemes in the Dominion.

The Vetcraft Workshops idea has already been accomplished, patients are now enabled to take up light occupation in this branch of work immediately on discharge from Sanatorium when recommended by the Doctor.

In conclusion I would like to point out the splendid way in which patients are co-operating through the influence of the League in the various Sanatoriums with the Medical Staff in responding to treatment during the trying period which is so essential to the arrest of their disease.

Trusting this may be of interest to you, I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. Sarr

Secty-Treas.
The Invalided Tubercular Soldiers' Welfare League.



Xmas

Department of Militia and Defence,

Ottawa, Canada,

November 4th, 1920.

To: Major Willis O'Connor.

Re: - No. 117344,
A/Sgt. C.M. KYLE.

You left me a claim some days ago from the marginally named soldier, which was sent by him through General Currie.

The claim has now been allowed and payment is being effected today so that no further action appears necessary.

If you want the particulars, you will find the correspondence on his S.A.A.P. file 10472-C-2.

General Currie.

H. V. Gorman
Mayer
Colonel,
DIRECTOR PAY SERVICES.

Sir. If you remember you sent me a letter from a man named Kyle. He wrote you before you left for the west. I am glad to tell you we got his claim through.

Willis

October
Twelfth
1920.

C. M. Kyle, Esq.,
121 Nepean Street,
Apartment No. 2,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

On my return to Montreal I found awaiting me your letter of October 4th.

These matters of pay are always difficult to adjust and oftentimes I have not been in sympathy with the way the regulations work out. I am taking the liberty of sending the letters you forwarded to me to Major Willis O'Connor at Militia Headquarters in Ottawa. I am asking him to take them personally to Colonel Regan, the Pay Master General, whom I have always found sympathetic and desirous of seeing that returned men from France get a square deal. I believe that between the two of them they will see the case through and dispose of it in a fair and just manner.

I wish I were in Ottawa to give the matter my personal attention.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

October
Twelfth
1920.

Major H. Willis O'Connor,
Dept. Militia & Defence,
Ottawa.

Dear Willis:-

I am enclosing herewith correspondence I received from a chap named Kyle.

I have written to him and told him that I was forwarding it to you and asking you to take it up personally with Colonel Regan, who, I assured him, was always sympathetic and desirous of giving a square deal to the men from France. Between the two of you I know you will see it through to a just conclusion.

Yours ever,

DOCKET STARTS:

VEINOT, C. O

220

Xwa

October
Wint
1922.

Charles O. Veinot, Esq.,
P. O. Box 656,
Yarmouth, N.S.

Dear Sir:-

In further reference to your letter of September 25th in regard to separation allowance, I have received a reply from the Department at Ottawa stating that your case has been very carefully considered and that you are not entitled to separation allowance.

In December 1921, your case was taken up through the Minister of Justice and a great number of letters have been received and written in connection therewith.

I am very sorry but I am afraid there is nothing further I can do.

Yours faithfully,

MILITIA AND DEFENCE

In reply please quote

No.....

Ottawa, 7th October, 1922.

Dear Sir Arthur,-

I have just received the attached report regarding VEINOT from the Naval Authorities.

They state that they think his belief that he is entitled to Separation Allowance has become a hallucination.

Yours very sincerely,

W. Gibson

General Sir Arthur Currie, GCMG., KCB., Etc.,
The President's Office,
McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

This case has been very thoroughly investigated by the Naval Department on many occasions, and the man is not entitled to Separation Allowance.

He has a two volume file in the Naval Department which consists mostly of letters of application for Separation Allowance and the Departmental replies thereto.

In December, 1921, the case was taken up through the Minister of Justice. In the reply of the Naval Department, it is stated that over one hundred letters had been received in connection with this application, including letters from the Governor General, practically every Minister of the Crown, The Great War Veterans' Association, &c., &c.

The Naval Authorities state that this man has absolutely no claim whatever.

He enlisted in 1917. Application for Separation Allowance was not made until 1919.

Ottawa, 7th October, 1922.

October
Fourth
1922.

Charles O. Veinot, Esq.,
P.O. Box 656,
Yarmouth, N. S.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of
your letter of September 25th.

I have written to the Department at
Ottawa in reference to your son and will let you
know as soon as I hear from them. For more than
two years I have had no connection with the Military
Forces, but will do what I can to assist you.

Yours faithfully,

October
Fourth
1922.

Colonel W. Gibson, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Adjutant General's Department,
OTTAWA.

My dear Colonel:-

Herewith please find a copy of a
letter which I have received.

Will you please have someone in the
Naval Service look up the record of Aubrey E. Veinot,
the boy mentioned, and see if the father was entitled
to the separation allowance which he says was promised
to him.

I am sorry to bother you, but know that
you won't mind helping me in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Yarmouth Sept 25 1922

General Sir Arthur

Currie Commander-in-
Chief Dear Sir

Will you please take no-
tice of my letter an I hate
to bother you well the
Kings officer shipped
my boy for war in 1917
June an he promised me
separation allowance I
am onley a poor man I can
onley work 1/2 time my
wife sick an broke down

In helth I am onley valu-
-ed one Hundred Dollars
the Department of the naval
Service ows me for 22 mo
nths in the was for my
boy aubrey E beinot
my son I dont want
a pension I just want
what belongs to me my
boy always give me what
he earned be fore that an
will you be kind enough
to help me for I need it so
bad. if I was young I would

3

not care my boy went to
help gain the war an I wan-
ted him to go an the
kings man Mr Leggett
promised me I should
have 4 rote 2 letters to the
Niobe when my boy went
but they never answered
them will you please
help me yours truly

Po Chas O Veinot

Bot Yarmouth

656 Yarmouth Co

N.S

October
Ninth
1922.

Colonel W. Gibsons, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Department of Militia & Defence,
OTTAWA.

My dear Colonel:-

Thank you very much for your
help regarding the application of Venoit for
separation allowance.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

DOCKET ENDS:

VEINOT, C.O.