

Ralph Newton

Service Number: 802237

Rank: Acting Corporal

Branch: 135th and 134th Battalion

Years Served: 1916 - 1918

Summary:

Ralph Newton was a hardware clerk in Strathroy when he attested in the 135th Battalion on the 1st December 1915. He was promoted acting Corporal at Witley Camp in England but reverted to the ranks to proceed overseas. He joined the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles in the field 5 March 1918. On the 9th of August 1918 when enemy shelling hit the trench near where he was standing "instantly killing him". He was buried in Bouchoir New British Cemetery.

Biography

Name: Ralph Newton

Birth Date: June 28, 1897

Relatives: Father - George Newton. Mother - C. J. Newton

Address: Strathroy, ON

Attestation Date: December 1, 1915

Death Date: August 9, 1918

Burial Site: Bouchoir New British Cemetery.



| Date | Particulars |
|--------------------|---|
| | Card – 802237 A/ Cpl Newton, Ralph, 4 th CMR (<i>Canadian Mounted Rifles</i>) Theatre France, Date of Service 28 Feb 1918, Mother- Mrs. C.J. Newton Strathroy ON – Large Red D |
| 1 Dec 1915 | Attested in 135 th Btn at Strathroy On, borne 28 June 1897, only support of his mother, hardware clerk at Strathroy ON, no previous military experience |
| 11 Dec 1915 | 5'8" tall, 137 lbs, fair complexion, blue eyes, fair hair, Methodist, good clear medical, medicals also clear when joined 134 th and 4 th CMR |
| 6 Aug 1916 | Attested at Strathroy ON in 135 th Btn |
| 22 Aug 1916 | Signs will with mother as beneficiary |
| 22 Aug 1916 | Embarked at Halifax NS |
| 30 Aug 1916 | Appointed acting Cpl Witley |
| 15 Oct 1916 | Arrived Liverpool England on board SS Olympic |
| 11 Jul 1917 | Transferred to 134 th Btn Witley |
| 10 Nov 1917 | Appointed Corporal Witley |
| 15 Feb 1918 | Discharged from hospital (appendicitis) |
| 5 Mar 1918 | Reverts to ranks to proceed overseas Witley |
| 9 Aug 1918 | TOS (<i>Taken on Strength</i>) 4 th CMR |
| | Killed in Action |
| 27 Jan 1922 | Circumstances of Death “ He took part with his Company, in the attack and capture of the village of Folies and after the position was consolidated an enemy shell hit the trench near where Private Newton was standing instantly killing him” Newton, Ralph, 802237 4 th CMR, 135 th Btn in CEF, not eligible 14-15 Star, |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Medals and Decorations to mother Mrs. C. J. (Alice) Newton, Strathroy ON |
| | P & S to father Mr. C. J. Newton 129 Jendal Ave, Toronto, ON |
| | Memorial Cross to mother |
| | Scroll and plaque to mother |

12.
Stretched
Beans

135th O. S. Battalion, C. E. F.

Original
ATTESTATION PAPER.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

ORIGINAL

No. 802237

Folio.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

(ANSWERS).

1. What is your surname? *Newton*
- 1a. What are your Christian names? *Ralph*
- 1b. What is your present address? *Strathroy, Ont.*
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? *Younts Ont.*
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? *Mrs. G. J. Newton*
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? *Strathroy Ont.*
- 4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin? *mother (widow)*
5. What is the date of your birth? *June 25th 1897*
6. What is your Trade or Calling? *Clerk*
7. Are you married? *No*
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated? *yes*
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? *No*
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force?
If so, state particulars of that service. *No*
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? *yes*
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? *yes*



DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Ralph Newton*, do solemnly declare that the above are answers made by me to the above questions and that they are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

Date *Dec 1st* 1915 *Ralph Newton* (Signature of Recruit)
W. Campbell (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Ralph Newton*, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

Date *Dec 1st* 1915 *Ralph Newton* (Signature of Recruit)
W. Campbell (Signature of Witness)

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.

The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replies, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at *Strathroy* this *11* day of *December* 1915

S. Ross, L. L. C. (Signature of Justice)

Description of Ralph Newton on Enlistment.

Apparent Age 18 years 6 months.
To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.)

Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.

Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will, unless the man acknowledges to any previous service, attach a slip to this effect, for the information of the Approving Officer.)

Height 5 ft. 9 ins.

Girth when fully expanded 34 ins.
Range of expansion 3 ins.

Complexion Fair

Eyes Blue

Hair Fair

Church of England

Presbyterian

Methodist

Baptist or Congregationalist

Roman Catholic

Jewish

Other Denominations

(Denominations to be stated)

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.

He can see at the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs, and declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him Fit for the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force.

Date Dec 12th 1915

Place Strathroy

R. B. Benson

Rt. Col. 125 Regt

Medical Officer.

* Insert here "fit" or "unfit."

Note.—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will so in the foregoing Certificate only in the case of those who have been accepted, and will briefly state below the cause of refusal.

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

Ralph Newton having been finally approved and inspected by me this day, and his Name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.

R. B. Benson Lt. Col. (Signature of Officer)

Date Dec 12th 1915

Fill in Only.—Unit, Number, Rank and Name.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Unit, Regiment or Corps 135th. O.S. Battalion C.E.F.

Regimental No. AG2237 Rank Pte. Name Ralph Newton

Enlisted (at) 1-18-16 Terms of Service (at) Period of the War Service reduces from (at) 1-18-18 ✓

Date of promotion to present rank { } Date of appointment to lower rank { } Successor position on roll of N.C.Os. { }

Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualifications (A) { }

| Export | | Account of promotion, reduction, transfer, re-appointment, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form 5, 10, Army Form A, B, or to other official documents. The authority is to be quoted in each case. | Place | Date | Remarks when from Army Form 5, 10, Army Form A, B, or to other official documents. |
|----------|-----------------------|---|-----------|----------|--|
| Date | From whom received | | | | |
| | Embarked | Canada | Halifax | 22-8-16 | |
| | Arrived | England | Liverpool | 30-8-16 | |
| 7-9-16 | Appointed | As Corporal | Witley | 22-8-16 | Reg. Orders 289.2/2.7-9-16. |
| 10-10-16 | Transferred to | 135th B.V. | Witley | 15-10-16 | Reg. Ord. 266. 14-10-16. B. Roberts Lt. Col. 135th Batt'n. Can. Inf. |
| 10-10-16 | Referred to 1/4th Bn. | to comply with establishment on being absorbed in transfer from 135th Bn. | Bramshot | 15-10-16 | Port Sec Orders 236 |
| 14-10-16 | Taken on strength of | 135th Bn. | Witley | 15-10-16 | Port Sec Orders 236 |
| 14-10-16 | Appointed | As Corporal | Witley | 11-7-17 | Port Sec Orders 236 |
| 28-2-18 | Reverts to the rank | on proceeding overseas | Witley | 28-2-18 | Port Sec Orders 236 |

7-9-16
10-10-16

Referred to 1/4th Bn. to comply with establishment on being absorbed in transfer from 135th Bn.

14-10-16 Taken on strength of 135th Bn.

14-10-16 Appointed As Corporal

28-2-18 Reverts to the rank on proceeding overseas

1. In the case of a man who has been engaged for a specified term (Section 1) Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or extension will be entered in the Remarks column. Section 10, etc., also apply to the general provisions in Section 10.

| Report | | Remarks Indicate from Army Form S. 31 Army Form A. 31 or other official documents |
|-------------|------------|--|
| Date | Place | |
| FEB 28 1945 | 134 Rn. | <p>Proceeded overseas for service with Lt Col. R.</p> <p>17.1.45 O.C. 38. D. Landed in France. Taken on strength 4.8.45. Br. 17.1.45 P. 1.0.0.28. 17.1.45</p> <p>23.1.45 - do - Left for S.E.C. 23.1.45 Nom. Roll 2. 17.1.45</p> <p>7.3.45 O.C. 38. Bn. Arrived unit 5.3.45 3.45. 41</p> <p>11.8.45 4.8.45 Killed in action 9.8.45 Letter (K.D. 17/1/45) 4.0.45</p> <p><i>Cl. W. 17.1.45</i></p> <p>Lieutenant for Lt-Colonel A.A.G. Canadian Section, 3rd Echelon, G.H.Q.</p> |

| THE "AGE" LETTER BOX— SOME INTERESTING MISSIVES | | THE |
|---|--|-----|
| Wesley Leitch Writes From France to His Parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Leitch, of Caradoc—Thos. Collins, of Calgary, has a Few Words on Sunday Band Concerts and Enforced Church Attendance. | In are v the C set— fields must churc what churc | |
| Caradoc Boy in France. Dear Mother and the Rest: | us. say. ever; Heav at th us t tiani is tr may ures they I may all, theli hanc who "Ha tal wou writ "I you, sude mea gasi pra! God whi poo wer of nes dea of in chil is left do to and In the my age so sw het tri | |
| I was pleased to hear from you, to- day, and also had a long letter from Clair. He arrived O.K. The first fellow he saw in London was J. D. McAlpine, from Kilmartin. Well we came through the last big battle O.K., and are now back of the lines in a sleepy little village. Saw some great sights, pleas- ant and otherwise. Will tell you all about it when the war is over. When I go on leave, soon, I will have my picture taken along with John W. I think we will go to Scotland, if Clair can get a few days off. We have had some long marches the last few days, but they didn't affect me much. My feet are like leather, now. I don't be- lieve I told you that some dirty thief stole all my snaps that you sent me. He left my pay book and money. They were in another pocket. I had my coat right at my head, but as it was the night after the first day's advance, I was so tired I wouldn't have heard the crack of doom. So you will have to send me some more. I was down to see Leo and Allan McCabe, the other day, and they are both looking fine. Leo has certainly developed into a big man. He is larger than Allan, and is sporting a moustache. I saw Alex. and "Copper" Newton, yesterday. Poor Ralph was killed after the big fight was all over. It was too bad, he was such a fine fellow. I saw a German gotha brought down last night by one of our planes. I was about 50 yards from where it came down, and was the first man to reach it. I got some spark plugs out of one of the big twin motors, and will give some to Clair, when I see him. Well, I must close for this time. Give my love to all, and have them all write. | | |
| With love, WESLEY LEITCH B. E. F., France, Aug. 21. | | |
| Sunday Band Concerts | | |

<http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=pffww&id=560393&lang=eng>