

Reginald James Buchanan



Service Number: 53440

Rank: Sergeant

Branch: 18th Battalion

Years Served: 1915 - 1916

Summary: Described himself as a Travelling Secretary. He was on the eve of ordination into the ministry of the Anglican church. He sported a hockey stick scar below his right eye. He was promoted Sergeant in the field and seems to have been headed for a commission. On the 13th of July 1916 he was attached to a New Zealand division as a cadet and was struck by enfilading machine gun fire. His headstone is in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery Armentiere France. He was survived by his wife Beryl (nee Chambers) and a baby daughter.

Name: Reginald James Buchanan

Birth Date: January 20, 1894

Relatives: Wife - Beryl Buchanan (nee Chambers). Mother - Jane Elizabeth Fitzgerald

Father - Captain James Buchanan

Address: 301 Cobourg St. Stratford, ON

Attestation Date: October 22, 1914

Death Date: July 13, 1916

Burial Site: Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentiere, France



23 May 1921	presumably by fire from an enfilading machine gun." Medal Card- Buchanan, R. J. Sgt, 53440, 18 th Btn,
	Medals and Decorations to Widow Mrs. Beryl Buchanan 301 Cobourg St Stratford ON
	Plaques and Scrolls to Widow as above
	Memorial Cross to Widow as above.
	Eligible for 14-15 Star, Victory Medal and British War Medal

Date	Particulars
22 Oct 1914	Card- 53440 Sgt, Buchanan, Reginald James, 18 th Btn CEF, Theatre of War – France, Date of Service- 16 Sept 1915, Widow Mrs. Beryl Buchanan 301 Cobourg St Stratford, ON, Large red "D" Will leaving estate to wife Travelling Secretary from Strathroy ON, Attested in 18 th Btn at Strathroy ON, no previous military experience born 20 Jan 1894 , Father James Buchanan Kerwood ON
29 Apr 1915	Medical – 5' 9" dark complexion, brown eyes, brown hair, Church of England, dog bite scar on right calf, hockey stick scar on right cheek below eye
15 May 1915	Arrived England aboard SS Grampian
15 Sept 1915	Appointed Acting Sergeant Shorncliffe
9 Oct 1915	Embarked for France from Folkstone England
30 Apr 1916	Promoted Sergeant in the field
21 Jun 1916	Granted 5 days leave
13 July 1916	To cadet course Killed in Action, while temporarily attached to New Zealand Division as a cadet.
	Circumstances of Death: " While attached to General Headquarters Cadet School, at Blendecques, he was one of a party of four sent up on a visit of inspection, to the trenches at Steenwerck the night of July 12 th /13 th 1916, when standing outside the dugout which was used as Headquarters by the 1 st Battalion Otago Regiment, he was killed,

Attestation Paper:

534040 ATTESTATION PAPER.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

1. What is your name? *Reginald James Buchanan*
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what County were you born? *St. John's, Middlesex County, Ont.*
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? *James Buchanan*
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? *Windsor, Ont.*
5. What is the date of your birth? *Jan 26 1894*
6. What is your Trade or Calling? *Traveling Bookbinder*
7. Are you married? *No*
8. Are you willing to be associated or re-associated? *Yes*
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? *No*
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? *No*
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? *Yes*
12. Are you willing to be attached to serve in the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force? *Yes*

Reginald J. Buchanan (Signature of Man).
Frank R. Giddy (Signature of Witness).

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Reginald J. Buchanan*, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me of the above questions 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-Sea 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 lawfully discharged.

Reginald J. Buchanan (Signature of Recruit).
Date *October 26th* 1914. *Frank R. Giddy* (Signature of Witness).

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Reginald J. Buchanan*, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as my bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Right, 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.

Reginald J. Buchanan (Signature of Recruit).
Date *October 26th* 1914. *Frank R. Giddy* (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 by entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath as set out, at *St. Catharines* this *26th* day of *October* 1914.

P. Robson (Signature of Justice).

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the above Recruit.

P. Robson J. L. L. (Approving Officer).

Edwards

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Description of *Reginald James Buchanan* on Enlistment

Apparent Age *20* years *9* months.
(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services)

Distinctive marks, and marks indicating peculiarities or previous disease.
Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has any such marks, he will indicate them and describe them in this column, giving a copy to the soldier, for the soldier's own use.

Height *5' 9 1/2* in.

Weight *127* lbs.

Range of expansion *4* in.

Complexion *Dark*

Eyes *Brown*

Hair *Brown*

Church of England *Yes*

Presbyterian

Wesleyan

Baptist or Congregationalist

Other Protestant (Specimen to be stated)

Roman Catholic

Jewish

*Mark of day bite a
outside of Right ear.
Small scar on right
cheek just below right
eye caused by stick
stick.*

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 he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

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

Date *Oct. 26th* 1914.

Place *Shackley*

O. L. Buchanan

26th Regt.

"Certificates 'B' or 'C' only."
Note—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will fill in the foregoing Certificate only in the case of those who have attained, and will hereby place before the cause of rejection.

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

Reginald James Buchanan having been finally approved and inspected by me this day, and his name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular has been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.

W. H. H. H. (Signature of Officer)

Date *Oct. 26th* 1914.

Casualty Form:

