

25TH CANADIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

- WAR DIARY TRANSCRIPTION -



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Input covering 28th October 1914 to 31st December 1914

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INTRODUCTION

The diaries of the Canadian Expeditionary Force's 25th Canadian Infantry Battalion span the Great War years, from the early days of its formation in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in October 1914 to Witley Camp in Surrey, England in April 1919, where preparations were made for its return to Canada. A gap in the information does exist. Despite attempts to obtain a copy of the diary for August 1915, from both Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and the United Kingdom's National Archives, it appears that it may have been another casualty of the Great War. The responses from both organizations have been inserted into the diary for August 1915.

The following pages were transcribed from the scanned originals downloaded from the [war diaries section](#) of the Library and Archives Canada (LAC) website. A standard format as provided by the [Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group \(CEFSG\)](#) was utilized. To preserve the historical significance of these documents, typographical errors are as they appear in the original documents. Square brackets [] surround information added by the transcriber where it was felt that clarification was required, or surrounding question marks [?] where the characters/words could not be discerned. *Italics* have been used to indicate handwritten appendices, as well as any additions of handwritten information into typed text. The formats of the documents found in the appendices have been kept as close to the original as possible, while taking advantage of some of the conveniences provided by Microsoft® Word 2002.

Lastly, this project was a "labour of love", in memory of my Grandfather, Private Frederick Cyril Legere, 470310, 1896-1962, who served with the 25th Battalion, CEF.

Lest we forget.

1914

Wed., Oct 28, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Lt Col G.A. LE CAIN notified that he had been selected to command the 25th Battn. He in turn selected Capt L.H. MACKENZIE 78th Pictou Highlanders as adjutant, Sergt Major H.F. MILES 76th Regiment as Sergt Major and Sergt. Major T.F. NEWNHAM C.C.H.A. as Quartermaster

Thu., Oct 29 to Tue., Nov 02, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Tue., Nov 3, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

The above officers arrived in HALIFAX

Wed., Nov 4, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Headquarters established at Armouries and enlistment commenced (Recruits arriving from all parts of the province.)

Thu., Nov 5, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Capt A.N. Jones promoted to Major this date.

Fri., Nov 6 to Mon., Nov 9, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Tue., Nov 10, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Lt Col J.A. SPONAGLE, C.A.M.C opened a medical inspection room at the ARMOURIES and after this date examined all recruits with the assistance of Lt Col SCHAFFNER and Capt MC AULAY C.A.M.C

Wed., Nov 11 to Sun., Nov 15, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Mon., Nov 16, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

279 men were attached to date

Tue., Nov 17 & Wed., Nov 18, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Thu., Nov 19, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

The Battalion was organized into Eight Companies

Fri., Nov 20 to Sun., Nov 22, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Mon., Nov 23, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

639 men were attached to date

Tue., Nov 24 to Sat., Nov 28, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Sun., Nov 29, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

First Church Parade to St Pauls Church

Mon., Nov 30, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

898 men were attested to date

Tue., Dec 1 & Wed., Dec 2, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Thu., Dec 3, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Capt A.W.P. WESTON promoted to Major and appointed Junior Major from this date

Fri., Dec 4, to Tues., Dec 8, 1914 inclusive

No entries.

Wed., Dec 9, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

1100 men were attested to date

Thu., Dec 10 to Sat., Dec 12, 1914 inclusive

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Sun., Dec 13, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Church Parade to Brunswick St. Methodist Church.

Mon., Dec 14 & Tue., Dec 15, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Wed., Dec 16, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

1st C.A. Pipe Band gave concert in the Armouries

Thu., Dec 17, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Battalion recruited to full strength (oed establishment)

Major General S. HUGHES and SiR ROBERT BORDEN inspected the Battalion. Both addressed them

Fri., Dec 18 to Thu., Dec 24, 1914 inclusive

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Fri., Dec 25, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Christmas Day Special dinner provided by the HALIFAX HERALD and Mail

Sat., Dec 26 to Mon., Dec 28, 1914 inclusive.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.

Tue., Dec 29, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX and DARMOUTH Red Cross societies donated 1000 pairs of wristlets and 720 mufflers.

Wed., Dec 30 & Thu., Dec 31, 1914

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

No entries.