

D 570
.85
.N5 O8
Copy 1

Soldiers of Osceola

---in---

The Great War of

1914-1918



Published by the Town of Osceola,
New York

The material in this pamphlet is based on the records given in discharge papers, in regimental histories, and upon the reminiscences of the soldiers themselves. The official War Department Records were not obtainable when the pamphlet went to press. Names of places reported by the soldiers which could not be verified on Literary Digest map have been put in quotation marks.

SOLDIERS OF OSCEOLA

Lewis County, New York

in the

GREAT WAR OF 1914-1918

by

WILLIAM D. BARNES, HISTORIAN

Town of Osceola

Published by the Town of Osceola

July 4, 1920

TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By Robert Bridges

11570
,85
N568

Brothers in blood! They who this wrong began
To wreck our commonwealth, will rue the day
When first they challenged freemen to the fray,
And with Briton dared the American.
Now we are pledged to win the Rights of man;
Labour and Justice now shall have their way,
And in a League of Peace—God grant we may—
Transform the earth, not patch up the old plan.

THE ROLL

Members of the United States Service

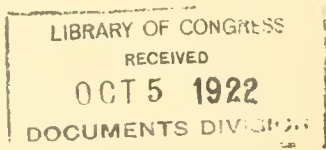
	Page
1. WILLIAM FESTUS ALOAN.....	4
2. FRED K. AMMANN.....	5
3. WALTER FRANK AMMANN.....	9
4. MERLE E. ANSON.....	10
5. ELMER EUGENE BARTLETT.....	10
6. JOHN EVERETT BARTLETT.....	11
7. WILLIAM THOMAS BRAZIL.....	11
8. BERT EDGAR COMINS.....	5
9. ALBERT EDWARD DOWNES.....	6
10. HAROLD ALFONZA DURGEE.....	8
11. CLARENCE CLEMENS DURST.....	7
12. JACOB JEROME.....	17
13. JOHN EDWARD MASTERSON.....	7
14. WESLEY SYLVESTER MASTERSON.....	13
15. MILDRED COWLES PERSONS.....	9
16. OREN HUTCHINSON PERSONS.....	13
17. JOSEPH HARRY QUINN, JR.....	14
18. KENNETH LEROY QUINN.....	14
19. THOMAS FRANCIS RILEY.....	18
20. GENEVIEVE ROWELL.....	15
21. HAROLD TANNER ROWELL.....	16
22. STANLEY WILLIAM ROWELL.....	12
23. CLAUDE JEFFERSON SHOREY.....	17
24. WALTER PETER SENIOR.....	16

Member of the British Service

REUBEN JEROME.....	20
--------------------	----

Members of Welfare Organizations

1. WILLIAM DELUCE BARNES.....	25
2. EIZABETH PERSONS.....	24



In the United States Service

DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY

January 11, 1918

William Festus Aloan

Mustered in September 28, 1917

Died January 11, 1918



Born September 14, 1888, in Redfield, Oswego County, New York, the son of Daniel Aloan and Annie (Woodmark) Aloan.

Co. C, 20th Engineers.

Aloan reported at Rome, New York, and was sent to Camp Dix for his preliminary training. While in camp he became sick with measles, but recovered just before Christmas. On January 4th, 1918, he sailed for France. Again he became ill, developing lobar pneumonia. After a short illness and a gallant struggle, he died aboard ship on the 11th of January. His body was brought back to America and on February 21st, 1918, he was buried in the Osceola Cemetery.

“What can I give,
O soldier, leal and brave,
Long as I live
To pay the life you gave?
What tithe or part
Can I return to thee,
O stricken heart,
That thou shouldst break for me.
The wind of Death
For you hath slain life's flowers.
It withereth (God grant)
All weeds in ours.”

Frederick Karl Ammann

Mustered in December 26, 1917

Mustered out August 19, 1919



Born August 4, 1893, in Osceola, the son of Charles Ammann and Magdalena (Ulrich) Ammann.

Ammann enlisted as Landsman Machinist Mate 2nd Class at Syracuse, December 15, 1917. On the 26th of the same month he was called for active service. He was sent to Pensacola, Florida. After two weeks, he received orders to go to Norfolk Training Station. On July 14, 1918, he was transferred to Philadelphia to overhaul motors. On August 15 he went to New York to load aeroplanes aboard the U. S. S. Kanawah, sailing with the ship on the 17th of that month to Queenstown, Ireland. He was later transferred to Castleown, where he was engaged in the manufacture of gas tor dirigibles and balloons. At this time his rating was changed to Machinist Mate 1st Class. On December 13th, 1918,

he sailed on the Lexington for America. Going to Pellham Bay to await discharge, he was transferred to Charleston, South Carolina, on February 5th, 1919, and a day later transferred to Cape May, New Jersey, on February 20th, where he repaired motor, and did aeroplane board duty, or a "hard" "taking a hop" in a "plane." He received his discharge on August 19, 1919.

Percy Edgar Comins

Mustered in July 28, 1917

Mustered out July 25, 1919

Born James H. 1890, in Camden, Oneida County, New York, the son of Daniel S. Comins and Grace (Kinney) Comins.

Co. D, 47th Infantry, 4th Division

Comins enlisted at Syracuse, New York, being mustered in the day of his enlistment. His training began at the camp in Syracuse, was continued in Camp Greene, North Carolina, and completed at Le Mans-Oureq, France. Throughout the latter half of 1917 and up to April, 1918, the training in the American camps continued, at which time his regiment embarked for France. Landing in Brest in May, 1918, he went with his organization to Ligny-sur-Ourcq. For two months the regiment received the hardest kind of preparation and in the last of July was thrown against the German line in the Battle of Serres. While engaged in this battle, on the 30th of July, 1918, Comins received a serious wound in the chest, right side. For three months he underwent treatment at the "Marston Albert" Base Hospital, and near the end of October was enabled to rejoin his company at Toul. After the armistice he was sent with the Army of Occupation into Germany and stationed at Niesse, Andern, on the Ahr River. He

Bert Edgar Comins



reached there on December 29th. Later on he was stationed at Remagen. On March 15, 1919, his old wounds again caused him to go to the hospital at Nenahr. After a partial recovery, he went to Coblenz, where he helped keep the American "Watch on the Rhine." Again troubled with the effects of his wounds, he returned to America as a casual. He went first to Camp Merritt, but was soon transferred to Fort Ontario, New York. He received his discharge on July 25, 1919.

Comins' rank was that of a 1st Class Private.

The 4th Division in which Comins was placed during his service in the army was cited by the Commander-in-Chief in General Orders 143, "G. H. Q.," for the achievements of the Americans in the 2nd Marne Battle; it was also cited in "G. O. 238, G. H. Q.," for the taking of the St. Mihiel Salient, and in "G. O. 232, G. H. Q.," for the victory won in the Meuse-

Argonne Offensive. The 47th Regiment was assigned the task of "mopping up" Bois-de-Chatelet; the 1st Battalion, in which Comins was, and the 3rd Battalion were put under the commander of the 42nd Division and took part with the Rainbow Division in the offensive against Sergy. These two battalions finally took Sergy and held it until relieved by the 39th Infantry on July 31, 1918.

Albert Edward Downes

Mustered in December 6, 1917

Mustered out June 17, 1919

Born October 15, 1893, in Osceola, the son of Joseph Sparrow Downes and Armenia (Clemens) Downes.

Co. B, 23 Engineers.

Downes enlisted on December 6, 1917, and went to Camp Meade, Maryland, where he remained one month in training prior to sailing for France. He landed at Brest on February 7, 1918, being sent from there to Saint-Nazaire where he stayed two weeks. His regiment worked on highway construction at Nevers, building the road from Mons to "Issodum," the important aviation training field. From May 7 to November 11 he was engaged in the Toul Sector. His regiment took part in the Saint Mihiel Drive from September 13-20, and the Meuse-Argonne Offensive from



September 26-October 16, 1918. For a time the 23rd Engineers served with "L. R. R. R." at Abainville, south of Toul. Returning to America in June, 1919, he went to Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., and received his discharge on June 17, 1919.

Clarence Clemens Durst

Mustered in August 26, 1918

Mustered out June 6, 1919



Born December 9, 1896, in Osceola, the son of Elmer A. Durst and Mary Louise (Clemens) Durst

Co. E, 310th Infantry, 78th Division.

Reporting at Lowville, N. Y., on August 26th, Durst went to Camp Gordon, Georgia. He was placed for preliminary training in the 19th Co. of the 5th Training Battalion. Two weeks later he was assigned to Co. A, 1st Infantry Replacement Regiment. Sailing from Hoboken, New Jersey, on October 21, 1918, he crossed to Liverpool, England, as a member of the 5th Casual Company. He went directly to "Codford," England, then crossed the English Channel to Le Havre and traveled down to LeMons where he received his transfer to Co. C, 329th Infantry, 83rd Division. Soon after he was transferred to Co. G, 329th Infantry, 83rd Division, and finally to

Co. E, 310th Infantry, 78th Division. This Division, known as the Lightning Division, received greatest distinction as the capturer of Grandpre under the command of Major General James H. McRae. Durst was made bugler of his company, a position which he held while with the organization. Leaving Bordeaux, France, on May 26th, 1918, he arrived at Hoboken on the 29th of the same month, and went at once to Camp Dix. There he received his discharge on June 6, 1920.

While at Camp Gordon he was sick with influenza for ten days.

John Edward Masterson

Mustered in November 26, 1917

Mustered out August 23, 1919

Born February 2, 1896, in Utica, Oneida County, New York, the son of John Masterson and Martha (Wiley) Masterson.

Masterson enlisted in Syracuse and went at once to Newport, Rhode Island, for training. After four weeks he was sent to the Brooklyn Navy Yard where he was assigned to duty with the United States Armed Guard with which organization he remained for one year. On January 1, 1918, he was transferred to the U. S. S. Utah. His ship was assigned the task of protecting United States shipping

John Edward Masterson



and in the line of duty visited Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Port de France, Martinique, and other cities on St. Thomas Island, and Cuba, finally returning to New York on April 14, 1919. The Utah was then appointed a radio station to assist the transatlantic aeroplane flight undertaken by the United States Navy. The Utah was stationed 600 miles off Greenland and remained at this post for 18 days. Masterson returned to Hampton Roads, Va., on May 27th, stayed for a short time at Annapolis then went back to Hampton Roads again. He was then sent to the Boston Navy Yard, and later transferred back to New York. He was discharged on August 23, 1919.

Masterson left the service with rank of 1st Class Seaman.

While on duty in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, he was in the hospital for five weeks with diphtheria.

Harold Alfonza Durgee

Mustered in August 9, 1918

Mustered out December 23, 1918

Born January 26, 1897, in Orwell, Oswego County, New York, the son of James Durgee and Alpharetta (Hilton) Durgee.

He enlisted at Syracuse, New York, on May 28, 1918. On August 9th, he reported at the Isolation Camp, Pelham Bay, New York. After 3 weeks in medical quarantine, he was placed in the 1st Regiment of the Training Camp. After 5 weeks he was transferred to the Extension Camp where the regiments were awaiting assignments. Later, after the signing of the Armistice, he was returned again to the Main Training Camp from which he received his discharge on December 23rd, 1918.

Durgee was advanced to 2nd Class Seaman.



Walter Frank Ammann

Married on July 29, 1918

Married on April 29, 1919



Born December 6, 1896, in Oswego, the son of Charles Ammann and Magdalena (Ulrich) Ammann.

He graduated at Syracuse on June 6, 1916. When called to active service on July 29, he reported at Bellam Bay, New York, where he remained ten weeks in training. On September 20, he was sent to Long Island on the Hudson River, to work in the Naval Ammunition Depot. For a month he was assigned to the dangerous task of handling T. N. T. in the preparation of depth bombs. Being transferred to the Bay Ridge Reserve Station, Brooklyn, N. Y., he received two weeks training, and then was assigned to the U. S. S. "Sawtooth." Ammann made five trips to France with his great cargo of 27,000 tons each, which was shipped in transport service, carrying about 5,000 troops each

trip. On the return voyage he contracted influenza, which developed into pneumonia. In spite of this serious illness he continued with his ship and after the 5th trip was released at Hackensack, New Jersey.

He received promotion to the rank of Yeoman 3rd Class, with duties in the executive office.

Mildred Cowles Persons

Married on September 9, 1918

Married on April 7, 1919

Born April 22, 1896, in Canaanville, New York, the daughter of Reverend St. E. Phelps Pelagie and Elizabeth (Cowles) Persons.

Army Nursing Training Corps

Miss Persons entered the Army Nursing Training Corps on the 20th of September, 1918, reporting at Camp Meade, Maryland. She belonged to a college choir. She began her work as "A Bluebird," (as the nurses in training were called by the soldiers) just as the influenza epidemic was breaking out in camp. While caring for the sick, she too acquired the influenza and on November 2nd developed pneumonia. However, in spite of this illness she remained at work in camp until April 22, 1919, when she was discharged from the service.

Merle Edmond Anson

Mustered in February 22, 1918

Mustered out May 10, 1919



Born April 27, 1892, in Centreville, N. Y., the son of Spencer J. Anson and Priscilla L. (Donovan) Anson.

Supply Co., 305th Field Artillery.

Anson reported at Lowville, Lewis County, New York, on Washington's Birthday, 1918, and was sent to Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., for preliminary training. On April 18th, he was sent to Camp Upton, Yaphank, Long Island, New York, and soon thereafter was attached to the 305th Field Artillery. Sailing from Hoboken on April 22nd, he reached Brest on May 4th. His regiment went to Camp Desouge near Bordeaux for final training. On July 6th, the 305th started for the front reaching Baccarat on July 10. On August 16th, the regiment moved to the Vesle Sector. At Fismes the regiment suffered its first casualties. From August 18 to September 16 the organization

was engaged in the Oise-Aisne Offensive. After this date, the men were in the Argonne Drive until after the armistice when they were withdrawn to "Vespell." Embarking from Brest, Anson reached Hoboken on April 29, 1919, paraded with the 77th Division in New York City, and was discharged from Camp Upton on May 10, 1919.

Elmer Eugene Bartlett

Mustered in May 25, 1918
Mustered out January 27, 1919

Born August 17, 1888, in Osceola, the son of William Bartlett and Martha (Whitford) Bartlett.

He reported at Boonville, New York, on May 25th, and was sent to Camp Dix, New Jersey. He remained there six weeks. He was then transferred to Fort Niagara being assigned to the United States Guards, Co. C, 14th Battalion. He went from there with his organization to Curtis Bay, Maryland, to guard magazines and ammunition plants. His last transfer was to Camp Meade from which he was discharged.

While in camp he had influenza but escaped without serious results.



John Everett Bartlett

Mustered in May 25, 1918
Mustered out December 17, 1918



Born September 21, 1890, in Osceola, the son of William Bartlett and Martha (Whitford) Bartlett.

After being mustered in at Boonville, New York, he was sent to Camp Dix, New Jersey, for training. He was assigned to Co. 11, of the 3rd Infantry Training Battalion. He was later transferred to Co. 11 of the 345th Regiment, 87th Division. He became later a part of the permanent personnel of his former company, the 11th, later being transferred successively to the 12th, and the 72d, and finally into the 22nd Co. of the 6th Training Battalion. His discharge came on December 17, 1918.

He had influenza and escaped, as his brother did, without serious results.

William Thomas Brazil

Mustered in June 20, 1917
Mustered out September 13, 1919

Born August 25, 1893, in Osceola, the son of Michael Brazil and Margaret (Gormand) Brazil.

Brazil enlisted at Ft. Lee in the Marine Corps on June 13, 1917. On the 20th of the month, he reported for active service, joining the Marines at Philadelphia, Pa. He remained there in training until September 21, 1917. On that date, he was sent to the Virgin Islands, West Indies, for duty with the Headquarters Detachment of the 3rd Marine Regiment. He was there assigned to special duty remaining in that work for 21 months. On June 3, 1919, he was sent to Charlestown, South Carolina, where he remained for two weeks until sent to Annapolis, Maryland, from which post he received his discharge.

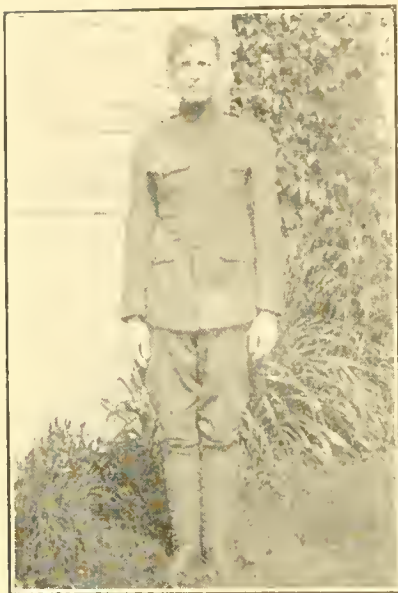
While on special duty, he was sent to Haiti, Cuba, and San Domingo. He had tropical fever during his stay in the West Indies.



Stanley William Rowell

Mustered in February 22, 1918

Mustered out May 10, 1919



Born June 13, 1891, in Elgin, Illinois, the son of Elliott E. Rowell and Susie (Swiggleson) Rowell.

Battery B, 305th Field Artillery.

Rowell reported at Lowville, N. Y., on February 22, 1918, going to Camp Devens, Mass., where he remained for four weeks. On April 18 he was transferred to Camp Upton, Yaphank, Long Island, N. Y., and soon after assigned to Battery B, of the 305th Field Artillery. On April 22nd, he sailed on the Mongolia, one of the Northern Pacific Line, reaching Brest on May 4th. His regiment was sent to Camp "Desouge" to complete training. During this training period, while Rowell was loading a three-inch gun, a shell exploded blowing the gun to pieces, killing the gunner and No. 1 who pulled the lanyard and wounding Rowell. This wound

was on the head and required infirmity treatment. This occurred on June 26th. On July 6, the regiment moved to the Baccarat Sector reaching the front about July 10, where it received its first baptism of fire. On August 16, the regiment moved to the Vesle Sector. Just after Rowell's battery had crossed a bridge over the Vesle River a German shell demolished the bridge. The regiment suffered its first casualties near Fismes. A German spy had blocked the road with motor trucks and while the men waited for the road to be cleared, a heavy Boche barrage began. Eight of the ten men in Rowell's gun crew were either killed or wounded. From a position north of Fismes, his regiment began a bombardment which lasted fourteen hours and hurled four thousand shells against the enemy. In the Oise-Aisne Offensive his regiment was actively engaged from August 18 to September 16, 1918. Buzancy was still in flames from German torches as Rowell passed through. His regiment shelled Grand Pre. It fought incessantly in the Argonne Offensive and was near Sedan when the Armistice brought the order to "cease firing." It was then at Harri-court. Thanksgiving Day was spent in Arc-en-Barrois. On February 1, 1919, the regiment went to Malincourt where training was maintained. On April 15, Rowell started for Brest, spending two weeks in Bordeaux en route. He reached Hoboken, New Jersey, on April 29, 1919, and went to Camp Mills. After parading in New York City with the 77th Division, Rowell received his discharge on May 10th, 1919.

Rowell had the distinction of never going to a hospital although he was wounded, under fire frequently, and under gas attack.

Wesley Sylvester Masterson

Mustered in July 3, 1917
Mustered out April 3, 1919



Born August 16, 1895, in Utica, Onondaga County, N. Y., the son of John Masterson and Martha (Wilder) Masterson.

Masterson enlisted in Utica joining the 1st New York National Guard Regiment. This regiment, the 5th and 10th, were combined forming the 194th U. S. National Army 24th Division. Masterson began training in Van Courtlandt Park, New York City. After five weeks, he went to Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, South Carolina, where he spent nine months in further preparation. Although receiving an injury which kept him three months in the hospital, he was sent to Camp Stuart, at Newport News, Va., for embarkation. On May 1st, 1918, he sailed for France. Arriving in Brest on May 11th, he was sent to Noyelles. His regiment was ordered to the Belgian front in Flanders and moved to Steenvoorde. On Jan. 15, 1918, his regiment entered the lines and began trench fighting. Masterson served in the Supply Company as a part of the Motor Transport. As the 27th was used as a Shock Division, being thrown at the Hindenburg Line at Bellecourt in September, at Saint Souplet in October, Masterson was frequently exposed, at one time being slightly gassed. The regiment left the front line, the last of October and withdrew to "Tulle." On March 1st, he sailed from Brest returning to New York. On March 9th, he went to Camp Merritt, N. J. On the 25th of the month he paraded with the regiment in New York and was soon after transferred to Camp Epton at Yaphank, L. I. from which post he received his final discharge on April 3rd, 1919.

Oren Hutchinson Persons

Mustered in May 3, 1917
Mustered out July 1, 1917

Born November 22, 1894, at Cazenovia, N. Y., the son of Reverend Sir Edward Persons and Elizabeth (Cowles) Persons.

On April 8, 1917, two days after the United States had declared war against Germany, Persons enlisted at Syracuse, N. Y. On May 1st he reported for duty at the Officers' Training Camp at Madison Barracks, N. Y. Stricken with spinal meningitis he was compelled to give up his training and, receiving a Disability Discharge, he left the service on July 1, 1917.

Joseph Harry Quinn, Jr.

Mustered in July 21, 1918

Mustered out July 5, 1919



Born August 26, 1893, in Osceola, the son of Joseph Quinn and Ida May (Patterson) Quinn.

Co. G, 59th Pioneer Infantry.

Quinn reported at Lowville, N. Y., July 21st, 1918, and was sent from there to Camp Dix, N. J. He trained there for a month being attached to Co. G, the 59th Pioneer Infantry, a Delaware regiment, assigned to "Engineer duty with combatant service when required." On August 31st the regiment boarded the Leviathan in Hoboken, N. J. Debarking at Brest, camp was made in shelter tents at "Pontanezen." After training at Foulain, the regiment moved to the 1st Army Area with headquarters at Sorey-sur-Meuse. Co. G, was stationed at Raulecourt, Department Meuse, and assigned to camouflage work under the command of Major Bragdon of the 40th Engineers, Camouflage Section. It was the task of the men to cover roads, hospitals, ammunition dumps, gun emplacements with screening made from swamp-grass woven in chicken wire in order to conceal them from the eye of the enemy. Co. G. was at Trondes and Dijon, and sailed from Brest on June 29th. Returning to Hoboken, Quinn was again sent to Camp Dix and received his discharge on July 5, 1919.

Kenneth Leroy Quinn

Mustered in February 23, 1918

Mustered out May 10, 1919

Born March 7, 1895, in Osceola, the son of Joseph Quinn and Ida May (Patterson) Quinn.

Battery B, 305th Artillery.

Quinn reported for duty at Lowville, N. Y., and was sent to Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. He was taken sick with measles while there, going to the hospital. He was sent to Camp Upton and assigned to Battery B, 305th Artillery. He had boarded the steamer with his battery at Hoboken, when he developed mumps. He was taken to Saint Francis Hospital, Jersey City, on April 25th. After twenty-three days in the hospital he was transferred to Camp Merritt and assigned to the 194th Casual Co. He sailed with this company on



June 9 landing in Southampton, England. After seven days, his company crossed the Channel and landed at LeHavre. He rejoined the 395th Regiment at Camp Deorange soon after. He rejoined with his company until Oct. 19, when he contracted influenza and was sent back to the Base Hospital at Mesves. He was not able to rejoin his company until after the signing of the Armistice. Quinn's Battery was engaged in the Oise-Aisne Offensive from August 18 to September 16, 1918, and in the Argonne Offensive from September 26 to October 1, 1918. It was also engaged in minor operations in the Baccarat Sector from July 10 to August 1, 1918, and in the Vosle Sector from August 16 to August 18, 1918. Quinn reached America on April 29th, 1919, and was discharged from Camp Upton on May 10, 1919.

Genevieve Rowell

Mustered in November 19, 1917
Mustered out May 30, 1919

Born May 25, 1885, in Oneonta, the daughter of Charles Frederick Rowell and Phoebe (Tanner) Rowell

Miss Rowell enrolled in the Army Nursing Corps in Utica, Oneida County, N. Y., on November 19th, 1917. From November 21, 1917, until July 30, 1918, she served in the hospital at Camp Greene, Charlotte, North Carolina. She received orders to go to France. Beginning her work in August, 1918, at the Mesves Hospital Center Base 5, France, she remained in active service until May, 1919. Returning to America, she received her discharge in New York City, on May 30th, 1919.



Walter Peter Senior

Mustered in July 22, 1918

Mustered out July 8, 1919



Born 1897.

Co. G, 59th Pioneer Infantry.

Senior reported at Lowville, N. Y., on July 22, 1918, and was sent to Camp Dix, N. J. He received a month's preliminary training and was then attached to Co. G, of the 59th Pioneer Infantry. The regiment sailed on the Leviathan for Brest on August 31. After more training at Foulain, the regiment moved to the 1st Army Area, and Co. G was stationed at Raulecourt. His company was attached to the 40th Engineers and assigned to camouflage work. Beginning Feb. 24, 1919, his company was at Trondes engaged in demolition work. On March 28th, it moved to Dijon (Haute-Marne) and on June 29th sailed from Brest. From Hoboken, Senior was sent to Camp Dix, N. J., and on July 8th received his discharge. From Sept. 29th to Oct. 10th, 1918, he had been in the Verdun Sector, and from Oct. 15 to Nov. 11, 1918, had a part in the great Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

Harold Tanner Rowell

Mustered in June 22, 1918

Mustered out April 27, 1919

Born August 15, 1896, in Osceola, the son of Charles Frederick Rowell and Phoelette (Tanner) Rowell.

Rowell enlisted at Spracuse, N. Y., on June 18. He reported for duty at Great Lakes, Ill., on the 29th of the same month. He remained there in training for four months. On November 1, having passed an examination of the Engineering School, he was assigned to the Naval Auxiliary Reserve. He was sent to New York and detailed to special duty until January, 1919, when he was transferred to special duty at Hoboken, N. J. While in Camp he had influenza twice and was operated on for appendicitis. He was released from active service on Apr. 27th, 1919, while at work in Hoboken.



Claude Jefferson Shorey

Mustered in June 9, 1917

Mustered out Sept. 6, 1919



Born June 17, 1887, in O'Connell, the son of Adelbert Mason Shorey and Nora (Bullock) Shorey.

1914 Co., 7th Regiment, United States Marine Corps.

Shorey enlisted in the Marine Corps in Rochester, N. Y., on June 17, 1917. On the 30th of June, he reported for service in Philadelphia, Pa. After three months training he was assigned to the 8th Co. of the 1st Regiment. While connected with this company, he was placed on guard duty in the Navy Yard. He was transferred to the 22nd Co. of the 1st Regiment and went to Cincinatti as Expeditionary Force. Following at Quantanamo Bay, he received eight months of intensive training. Being transferred to the 99th Company of the 7th Regiment, he was stationed for three months at Santiago, Cuba. While serving in Cuba he had malaria three times. He returned to Philadelphia and on September 6, 1919, received his discharge.

Jacob Jerome

Mustered in Mar. 20, 1918

Mustered out Section 810, 1919

Born February 4, 1894, in New York City, the son of Alexander Jerushewitz, and Anna (Gross) Jerushewitz.

Jerome reported for duty at Camp Dix, N. J., on May 15, 1918. He remained in training until Oct. 22 of that year when he was sent overseas. He went as a combat soldier at Combre France. He was attached to Co. M, of the 10th Infantry. On Dec. 29, 1918, he was transferred from this organization to the Postal Expedition Service and stationed at Breton. He was appointed a carrier of official mail to the area headquarters located at Basse-Bordeaux, Tour, and various other centers in France and Germany. Mustered out from Camp Dix, N. J., September 6, 1919.



Thomas Francis Riley

Mustered in February 22, 1918

Mustered out May 10, 1919



Born March 5, 1889, in Osceola, the son of Thomas and Katherine (Maloney) Riley.

Battery C, 305th Artillery.

Riley began service at Lowville, N. Y., going to Camp Devens, then to Camp Upton where he was assigned to Battery C, 305th Artillery. He sailed from Hoboken on the Mongolia on Apr. 22nd, 1918, arriving at Brest on May 1th. Finishing its training at Deouge, the regiment moved to the Baccarat Sector, near Alsace, on July 10th. Later his battery was engaged in the Vesle Sector. From August 18 to September 16 Battery C, with the rest of the regiment were engaged in the Oise-Aisne Offensive. From then on until November 11 the regiment was actively engaged in the Argonne. He sailed from Brest on April 15th, reaching Hoboken on April 29th, 1919. He was sent to Camp Mills and paraded with the 77th Division in New York City. On May 10th, 1919, he received his discharge papers.

In the British Service

Reuben Jerome

Mustered in December 17, 1914

Mustered out May 7, 1919



Born April 11, 1895, in New York City, N. Y., the son of Abraham Jerushewitz and Anna (Green) Jerushewitz.

7th Royal Irish Fusilliers; 7th Kings Own Irish Hussars; 13th Hussars; Prince of Wales Own Wiltshire Yeomanry; 6th Wiltshire Infantry.

Jerome enlisted in the British Army in Cardiff, Wales. He had decided to enlist while in New Orleans, U. S. A., sailing from there about Thanksgiving Day, 1911. He shipped on the "Baron Polworth," a vessel chartered by the British Government for carrying supplies, and set out for England together with forty other men returning for the purpose of enlistment. While passing through the Bristol Channel, the "Baron Polworth" was chased by a submarine and escaped by zigzagging. After enlistment at Cardiff, he went to "Ormskirk" in Lancashire Co.

for training. After a month, he was sent to Dieppe, France, and assigned to the 7th Royal Irish Fusilliers. The regiment moved to Abbeville for further training and then went to Hazebrouck where Jerome had his first trench experience. On April 1st, 1915, he was sent to the Ypres front. His regiment was sent to support Princess Patricia's own Canadian Infantry as the German Army attempted to break through to Calais in the 2nd Battle of Ypres. The troops stayed in shell holes, and excavations hastily dug, surrounded by mud, slush, and water. The Boche began a bombardment which lasted for five days using every calibre of cannon and sending over clouds of chlorine gas for the first time, following this by a mass troop-attack. Jerome was gassed and sent back to a hospital at LeHavre. He remained there for seven weeks and then rejoined his regiment just returning after a brief rest to the "Dickie-Busch" Sector near Ypres. He went over the top with his regiment, which suffered heavy casualties and was compelled to return to its original position. On September 15, the Fusilliers went to Loos. It went over the top four times in succession suffering enormous losses. Jerome was now made a rifle grenadier. Once more the regiment was sent back for rest and also to wait for replacements. In February, 1916, the regiment was recruited to strength, and moved to the Armentieres Sector. There Jerome had four months of trench life at Ploegsteert where a series of night raids were undertaken. While back at Steenbecque for rest, he applied for transfer to the cavalry and was assigned to the 7th Kings Own Hussars, a reserve regiment. He was sent to "The Corragh," Ireland, a training ground about 30 miles from Dublin. From there he went to Bangalore, India, for four weeks of final training. Completing this preparation he was ordered to join General Townsend's Mesopotamian Expedition. He traveled by rail to Bombay, by boat to Mohammerah at the head of the Persian Gulf where he joined the 7th Hussars. Within two weeks he had contracted enteric fever and was sent to Cairo, Egypt, for treatment

and recuperation. He sailed back to London, England, but it was not until December, 1916, that he found complete recovery. When well once more he was assigned to the 13th Hussars stationed at Aldeshot, England. Two weeks later he was sent to France to join the "Prince of Wales Own Wiltshire Yeomanry," joining this cavalry regiment on January 8, 1917 at Bray-sur-Somme as the Somme Campaign drew to an end. During the German Somme retreat, the British infantry was unable to keep up with the enemy so that the cavalry were sent ahead to keep in contact with the withdrawing army. Jerome was one of a force of cavalry caught in a surprise machine-gun barrage which resulted in the loss of a few men and most of the horses. When the horse replacements arrived, he was again sent forward on patrol duty passing through Peronne, Bussu, Templeux-la-Fosse, Heudicourt, and Villers-Guislain, a point on the Hindenburg Line. On April 12, he was sent to Arras to take part in the British Offensive which, however, a heavy German barrage kept from advancing. The cavalry then "trekked" to Dunkirk for coast patrol duty. After seven weeks the regiment was dismounted and the men sent to join the 6th Wiltshire Infantry at Kemmel. On the 2nd of June, Jerome was made a light-machine-gunner using the Lewis gun. During the night of the 6th of June he entered the trenches opposite Messines Ridge, in Belgium. At 1 a. m., June 7th, following the explosion of mines and the bombardment of eight thousand pieces of artillery, Jerome's regiment went "over the top." The men advanced but a short distance, however, because the gases liberated by the mines were too deadly. Witnessing indistinguishable carnage, the men were finally able to crawl ahead seven kilometers without meeting resistance and making their objective. Five days after the explosion, the troops were relieved being sent back to "Spoilbank" on the Ypres-Comines Canal for an eight day rest. Again Jerome went over the top, this time in the "Battle of the Ridges," in which "Opeck Wood" was captured. Eight days later after a short rest, the men entered the trenches at Zonnebeke at the foot of Passchendaele Ridge. At terrific cost they took eight hundred yards. The men came back for rest to Lynde in October, remaining until November 5th when they were moved to the Cambrai Front. In the battle which followed the British troops came within a kilometer of Cambrai but had to retreat due to the failure of reserves. While resting at Avrlcourt Wood, the Germans broke through at Gonnelie capturing thousands of men and six-inch guns. The 19th Division, of which the 6th Wiltshire was a unit, was rushed to this point to help repel this onslaught. They were able, not only to stop the German advance, but to release four thousand British prisoners which the enemy had just taken. In February, 1918, the troops came out at Haplinecourt. The 19th Division was now being trained as a "counter-attacking division," in anticipation of the central German attack on the Cambrai Front. On the unforgettable twenty-first of March, the German bombardment began. An attack followed which took the first and second lines of the British at Ribecourt. The 19th Division counter-attacked, and regained the lost lines, consolidating the positions taken and preparing for their defense. Attack followed attack causing great losses, but the British held on. At one o'clock, on March 23rd, Jerome's company was resisting a German attack and expecting supports from the rear. Looking back, they saw, not the British supports, but the field gray uniforms of the Germans approaching. Fighting the foe in front of them and behind them, Jerome's battalion was reduced from six hundred men to one hundred and fifteen. Still this little band resisted, throwing back three attacks from the rear and holding off the enemy in front. A bombardment of "H. Es," "black shrapnel," machine-guns and "Minnie-Wuerfers" added to the inferno. And still the men resisted. They fought on until their guns became so hot that the shells jammed, and swarms of Germans overwhelmed the defenseless men. A German officer held a smoking Mauser revolver to Jerome's head and shouted in broken English, "Get out; pick up the wounded; and go to the rear." For a night and a day, Jerome and his

fellow prisoners carried the wounded to the rear and gathered the dead. Just sixty men were left alive of the original six hundred in the battalion. These sixty prisoners started for the rear. More of them were killed by the long range British bombardment as they passed along. For four days they marched on without food save a little hardtack until they reached "Balenciennes" where they had soup. They with others were huddled into small box cars, fifty to a car, and carried to the prison camp at Munster, Westphalia. After five weeks, they were moved to "Hagen-ambrock" to work in a stone quarry. Within a week Jerome made an attempt to escape. He made a successful get-away from the prison, traveled to the Holland border only to fall into the hands of a first-line sentry. He was returned to the quarry prison, subjected to severe punishment, and sent to the notorious Punishment War Camp at Gelsenkirchen, near Essen. Jerome was put to work in the coal mine. His treatment reduced his weight from one hundred thirty-eight pounds to ninety-two. On July 2nd, he again tried to escape. He walked the entire distance to the Holland border having crossed the Rhine at night in a "borrowed boat." He passed safely the first-line sentry, but was detected and captured by the second line guard. He was returned to Gelsenkirchen and underwent the severest kind of punishment. He was placed in solitary confinement, fed on bread and water, given bodily punishment, and threatened with death if he attempted another escape. He at once began planning for escape. By great sagacity he was enabled to get a map and a tiny compass. On October 2nd he saw his chance for freedom. While his guard was passing through the steam from a coke oven, Jerome leaped down into a dumpcar below, raced to where shoes and the precious map and compass were hidden, and escaped from the prison gate by withdrawing the sentry to a pile of scrapped iron wheelbarrows into which Jerome had thrown a piece of iron. This time his attempt was successful. He covered the three hundred miles to Denmark in ten days, having had nothing to eat but a head of cabbage during that time. He crossed the border hiding in a hole under a load of stone-jars which were on an open, tarpaulin-covered freight car. His condition was so bad when he reached this neutral country, that he spent fourteen days in a hospital at Bossup before regaining his normal strength. Going to Copenhagen, he was met by the British Consul who accorded him every honor for his daring exploits in the British service. He left Copenhagen soon after November 11, 1918, going to Christiania, Norway, where he remained five days. He waited at Bergen for a ship crossing to England. Three weeks later, he crossed the North Sea to Aberdeen, Scotland, traveled to London, and reported to the War Office. Again he received great honor from the British authorities. He was granted three months leave of absence and given a free railway warrant. He traveled through Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, everywhere enjoying the unstinted hospitality of the government. On April 1st, 1919, he sailed for America landing in New York City, the city of his birth. On May 7th, 1919, came his discharge from the British Army when he had already returned home to his family in Osceola.

Jerome was gassed on April 5th, 1915, and on September 23rd, 1917. He was also wounded on January 4th, 1918.

In the Welfare Organizations

Elizabeth Persons

Entered the service November 1, 1918

Left the service December 22, 1919



Born November 4, 1892, at Cazenovia, N. Y., the daughter of Reverend Silas Edward Persons and Elizabeth (Cowles) Persons.

Young Men's Christian Association, Wells College Unit.

Miss Persons sailed from New York early in November being sent to France. She was stationed at Lamalou-les-Bains until May 1, 1919. After that date she was transferred to Issodun. At Bourges she was the only Y. M. C. A. worker in a camp of eight hundred men, members of the Postal Express Service. Being transferred from the work with the "Running Hounds," (as the men in the Postal Express Service were called,) she accepted a post in the "Y" Hut at the Bastille in Paris. Although located in the most dangerous quarter of Paris, Miss Persons conducted work there until sailing for America.

Miss Persons has the fine distinction of having been twice "cited" for efficient and effective service rendered to the Army.

William Deluce Barnes

Entered the service November 1, 1917

Left the service June 1, 1919



Born April 28, 1885, in Brooklyn, N. Y., the son of William Deluce Barnes and Mabel (Harding) Barnes.

Young Men's Christian Association.

Barnes began work in the Y. M. C. A. at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., on November 1, 1917. He was Religious Work Secretary of Hut 29 for three months, serving the men of the headquarters Trains. Later he was assigned to the department of Religious Work at the Administration Building where he was Assistant Director of Religious Work. For four months he was Camp Director of Religious Work, leaving the War Work activities of the Y. M. C. A. on June 1, 1919.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 015 845 593 6

