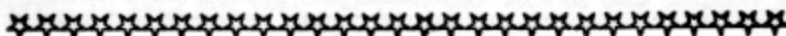


CANADIAN
MILITARY MEDALS
&
INSIGNIA JOURNAL



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Ross W. Irwin

The Order of "Merite Agricole" was instituted in France July 7, 1883 by Jules Meline, Minister of Agriculture, "pour recompenser les service rendus a l' agriculture".

Agriculture in the Province of Quebec had declined in quality from 1830 and many residents who had visited France saw the effects of the Order and suggested it be instituted in Quebec. In 1889 Hon. Honore Mercier, Minister of Agriculture visited Europe to study methods for the stimulation of agriculture and saw the advantages of the Order of Merit. On his return to Canada he discussed it with his colleagues and presented a bill to the Legislative Assembly on February 4, 1889 establishing the Order. The bill was passed February 19, 1889.

A Commission was established to formulate rules for the Order. Edward Barnard, the first agronome in Quebec, was chairman. Many of the rules he established in 1878 for a proposed Order were used. The rules were published March 24, 1890.

The Order has three classes:- Commander, Officer and Knight. It does honour to the recipient and to the agricultural community through a fine example they set of successful and prosperous farming. The Order was later extended to include public servants and teachers of agriculture who made significant contributions in some area.

The Province is divided into five regions. Each region is eligible once every five years for competition in sequence. The first region was that of Montreal in 1890. The panel of judges selected 82 year old M. Charles Champagne of St. Eustache as the gold medal Commander. The presentation was in the Legislative Library December 23, 1890.

Any farmer who operates over 60 acres on a full time basis may register for the competition in his region. A panel of four judges chosen from Commanders or Officers of the Order use a score sheet to judge the entire farm and home operation. Winners were presented at a banquet at the Quebec Provincial Exhibition each fall. In addition to the decoration they also receive a Diploma and a cash award.

A Knight must score 750 points out of 1000, an Officer must score 850 points and a Commander must score 900 points. An individual must be promoted in the Order, that is, the Commander must previously have been awarded the silver medal of an Officer.

The current decoration of Commander consists of a double star 41 mm in diameter with six points, white enamelled and edged in gold, fastened to a garland of gold in the form of a wreath bordered by ears of wheat and adorned with maple leaves; the whole bearing at the centre of the obverse a disc 16 mm in diameter, bearing the Coat of Arms of the Province of Quebec on a field of gold. The devices of the escutcheon are enamelled in their official colours. Surrounding the disc is an annulus in blue enamel bearing the words MERITE AGRICOLE in gold letters. In the centre of the reverse is a medal bearing, in letters and figures in relief, without enamel, on a golden field, the inscription FONDE EN 1890; the golden field is surrounded by a circular scroll in blue enamel without inscription.

The decoration is worn from a 38 mm moire neck riband, amaranth in colour with two green stripes.

The decoration of Officer of the Order is the same as that for Commander except it is not enamelled and is entirely of silver. The riband is the same as for Commander.

The decoration of Knight of the Order is the same as that for Commander except it is not enamelled and is entirely of bronze. The riband is the same as for Commander.

There have been 175 Commander gold medals awarded from 1890. The number of silver and bronze medals awarded is not available but they average 30 to 35 for each annually. The present awards are made by C. Lamond et Fils, Montreal.

It is not known when the current decorations were designed. The series prior to it was similar in style but bore a shield type Coat of Arms rather than the current rectangular type. The motto on the obverse reads PROVINCE DE QUEBEC. Between the rays of the star are two maple leaves. The reverse bears a disc bearing the words MERITE AGRICOLE.

In the late 1920's the neck ribbon was introduced, prior to this the award was in the form of a breast medal. The medal is 38 mm in diameter and bears on the obverse the Coat of Arms of Quebec surmounted by a Royal Crown all within a wreath of maple leaves. The legend reads AU MERITE AGRICOLE FOR AGRICULTURAL MERIT. The reverse bears the legend PROVINCE DE QUEBEC PROVINCE OF QUEBEC and a wreath of maple leaves. The recipients name is engraved within the wreath. The edge bears the Caron silver mark, the word STERLING, and the words CYR DUQUET. The suspender is of the scroll type. The ribbon is moire with two green stripes and is suspended from a brooch bearing a beaver to left and engraved with the date of the award.

A division of Junior Agricultural Merit was founded in 1909 to encourage sons of farmers to follow in the footsteps of their father. A medal was awarded but it conveyed no title. The obverse design shows the goddess of plenty seated beside the Coat of Arms of Quebec amid a field of agricultural crops. She is holding a laurel wreath over the head of a boy. The Legislative Buildings appear in the background. It is suspended from a ring. The ribbon brooch is rectangular and bears the words MERITE AGRICOLE/JUVENILE. This award appears to have been suspended in the 1940's.

L' ORDRE AU MERITE DU DEFRICHEUR

Ross W. Irwin

The Order of Pioneering Merit was instituted June 21, 1950 by Ministerial Order 734. It established comparable rules to that of the Order of Agricultural Merit but only comprised three regions.

The decoration of Commander is a gold medal bearing ears of wheat between the rays of an eight pointed star; surmounted on the medal is an eight pointed star in Royal blue enamel with gold edges. In the centre is the Coat of Arms of the Province with the motto JE ME SOUVIENS below and four fleur-de-lis at the quarter points in silver. The reverse bears the inscription AU MERITE DU DEFRICHEUR and the letters A.D. Ornamented with ears of wheat. The decoration is suspended from a ring by a blue moire ribbon with two white stripes.

The decoration for Officer is the same pattern as Commander but is of silver. That of a Knight is similar but of bronze. Up to 1967 there were about 30 awards made.

Award of Medals

Those Given For Immediate Service and Acts of Bravery, Those Conferred by Allotment

IN HIS latest book "Battle Dress," as quoted in *Public Opinion*, Gun Buster, described as a literary find of the war, gives his views on medals and decorations:

Here is the word understood of, and approved by the general public. But it is not the term under which Reggie Ellington's comrades ever consider him. And, of course, it is the very last word he would dream of in connection with himself.

Upon this subject of gallant deeds and decorations there is a noteworthy difference of thought between the population of the Army itself and what may be called their civilian relatives—in other words, the outside public.

It may be accepted as a truth beyond contradiction that the Army knows all there is to be known about decorations, their worth, their significance, and sometimes their insignificance. They have standards and appreciations that are not always identical with those held outside its ranks. The generous-minded, sentimental public love to have their heroes. They take them to their heart and glamorize them. But to the people within the Army there is no glamor about a medal. Even a V.C.—which takes a bit of winning—does not carry hero worship with it.

This, of course, must not be taken to mean that the Army does not care for decorations just as much as everybody else. The Army does. But it is very reluctant to regard them as a badge of superhuman courage or ability, by which one man is to be forever distinguished beyond his fellows. They like decorations in the Army, but they like them mainly as an indication that a job of work has been well done.

The only possible exception to this is to be found in the case of the V.C., to win which a man must face almost certain death. It is recognized that here is something a bit more out of the way than a "job of work." It is also recognized that a man will do things in the heat of battle that in cold blood would make him sick merely to think about. So the soft pedal comes down on the hero worship even with the V.C.

The Army nurtures no illusions about "gongs," their own expressive slang for medals. They know that the gun disporting one is as likely to be no braver than the men without. They know that many factors have to fall just right for the winning of one. And they know that a principal factor is luck.

A man may miss a V.C. merely because his gallant behavior happens not to be seen by "someone in authority"—an essential condition. Opportunity is another potent factor. One man may go through a long campaign and never a chance of qualifying for a "gong" comes within a mile of him. Another has opportunities thrust upon him in his very first engagement. He simply cannot miss them. There still remains the mystery of the final adjudication—how one bit of work comes to be acknowledged by the powers that be as worth an M.C. or an M.M., while another, to all intents and purposes just as meritorious, goes unrewarded.

Illustrative of this is the story of a gunner subaltern in the last war, who was recommended on four different occasions for the M.C. but never received more than a "mention in dispatches." He was recommended a fifth time, and got it. Ultimate recognition came to him because in the middle of an action he had thrown a bucket of water over the hessian camouflage net covering a gun pit, after it had been set on fire by the flash from one of the guns. The deed involved him in no particular danger. He happened to be standing near a bucket at the time, and acted with presence of mind.

That was all. As a "gong earner" the exploit could not be compared with any of the previous four that had not been considered worthy of the M.C. The subaltern knew it, and was always very shy of his belated ribbon. It is the complete understanding of these fortuitous factors governing decorations that gives the Army its very clear perspective on the subject.

The Army divides all D.S.O.s, M.C.s, M.M.s and D.C.M.s into two distinct classes. The first are known as "Immediate Awards," and they are given for gallantry or distinguished conduct in action. Your recommendation for one of these goes in from the regiment to the division directly the action is over. Sometimes this will be the same day. The C.O. may make it his last job that night. There is as little delay as possible. Hence the term: "Immediate Awards."

Ration Honors

The second group are familiarly known in the Army as "Ration Honors," and though the "high ups" may be slightly shocked by the inverence of the phrase, nevertheless it very neatly sums up their character. They come along automatically, like rations, after an action in which a division or more has been engaged. It may be one, two, or three months after. But they arrive. So many D.S.O.s, so many M.C.s, so many M.M.s and D.C.M.s for each division.

These, in turn, are cut up and allotted to each regiment that took part in the action. If, as often happens, there are no outstanding cases of gallantry still deserving recognition, the C.O. of the regiment or battalion holds a conference with the Majors to decide who shall receive them for general good work. Much like the distribution of good conduct medals at school.

Therefore, it will easily be understood that a D.S.O., M.C., M.M., or D.C.M. may mean many different things. If it be an "Immediate Award" it implies a good deal more than if it be a "Ration Honor." Generally speaking, "Immediate Awards" are individually earned honors. A Colonel or Major may get a D.S.O. simply because his battalion or regiment or company or battery has been doing well.

They cannot get less, because the M.C. is not awarded to anyone over the rank of captain. On the other hand, a D.S.O. can be won by a subaltern, and speaking generally again, if a subaltern gets the D.S.O. you can bet your boots that it is worth far more than the majority of D.S.O.s handed out to Colonels and Majors. A subaltern's D.S.O. is never a "Ration Honor." It's more likely to be a near-miss to a V.C.

The last man in the world to tell you how he won a "gong" is the wearer of the ribbon himself. (I am speaking, of course, as in the Army. Among his civilian friends he may feel less embarrassed.) Most of them wear their new ribbons almost apologetically. "You'd have done the same if you'd been in my position," sums up the whole medal attitude. They can also be very touchy on the subject among their comrades.

I recall a young gunner subaltern who, after being evacuated from Dunkirk, went home on leave, and the morning after saw to his horror that the newspapers had made a headline story of his winning the M.C. He felt so embarrassed that when he rejoined the regiment six days later he still hadn't put up the ribbon.

"Why aren't you wearing it?" asked the Colonel.

"I'm very annoyed about the whole affair, sir," he replied. "I hope none of you think I had anything to do with that newspaper stuff."

"My dear fellow, we never dreamed for a moment that you had," said the Colonel. "Let me see you with that ribbon on tomorrow. That's an order."

Having seen a good many "gongs" cleaned up by the B.E.F. in Flanders and France, I am able, without hesitation, to add my testimony to the bulk of evidence supporting the theory that there exists no specific "brave man" type. A lot of preconceived ideas about who would do well and who wouldn't went by the board as soon as men came under fire. Some of the frail-looking rabbits did magnificently. Some of the great hefty fellows, real bruisers, turned out hopeless. And it was the same with temperament as with physique. Which only goes to show that human nature is as inculcable on the battlefield as it is elsewhere.

The night of April 22 is one that I can never forget.

It was glorious. It was terrible. It was inspiring. Through an inferno of destruction and death, of murder and horror, we lived because we must.

Early in the night the Fighting Tenth charged, in pitch-darkness, the woods of St. Julien. Through the undergrowth they hacked and hewed and fought and bled and died. But, outnumbered as they were, they got the position and captured the battery of 4.7 guns that had been lost earlier in the day.

X This night the Germans caught and crucified three of our Canadian sergeants. I did not see them crucify the men, altho I saw one of the dead bodies after. I saw the marks of bayonets through the palms of the hands and the feet, where by bayonet-points this man had been spitted to a barn-door. I was told that one of the sergeants was still alive when taken down, and before he died he gasped out to his saviors that when the Germans were raising him to be crucified they muttered savagely in perfect English: "If we did not frighten you before, this time we will."

I know a sergeant of Edmonton, Alberta, who has in his possession to-day the actual photographs of the crucified men taken before the dead bodies were removed from the barnside. X

Inland Vessels

The Inland Vessels stamps feature Canadian passenger steamers and a riverboat.



The Canadian Pacific Railway entered the Upper Great Lakes shipping business with three steel sister ships, the *Alberta*, *Algoma* and *Athabasca*. Built in Scotland, they steamed to Montreal in 1883 and were sliced in half to fit the lock system. Reassembled at Buffalo, they arrived at Owen Sound in May 1884 ready for the Lakeshead run. They were the first takers to be equipped with electric lights, and were so well constructed that people believed "twenty feet could have been ripped off the bow of the boats without endangering their seaworthiness." Besides normal passenger traffic, they transported troops returning from the 1885 Riel Rebellion and carried grain. In November of that same year, *Algoma* ran into Isle Royale and broke up, but the other two served for many years. *Athabasca*, for example, was lengthened from 270 to 299 feet in 1910 and was only scrapped after World War II.

Constructed in England as a blockade runner for the Confederacy, the speedy *Let Her B* was so profitable that captains and crews drank to "the health of the Confederacy...continuously and often riotously." Although blasted by union gunboats, *Let Her B* survived. Rechristened the *Chicora*, she was cut in half in 1868 and transferred to the Great Lakes. In 1870 she helped carry the military expedition heading for Manitoba in the aftermath of the Riel affair. In 1874 she accommodated the Governor General on his Upper Lakes tour. However, in 1878, since she had too much passenger and not enough freight capacity for this region, she entered the Toronto-Niagara River passenger trade. *Chicora* ended her career as the coal barge *Warrenko* in Kingston harbour where she sank in 1942.

In 1874, above Grand Rapids on the Saskatchewan River, the Hudson's Bay Company launched the *Northcote*, a Mississippi-style riverboat. River navigation was tricky because of the "rapids, sand bars, shallow channels, and irregular flow..." One steamer, for example, "went to the bottom with all hands aboard—in three feet of water." Shallows sometimes halted the *Northcote* halfway through a voyage, forcing her to dump cargo on shore. Despite this, and a mutiny, the ship succeeded because her costs were "no more than a fleabite" compared to cart transportation.

Northcote acted as a Canadian gunboat and hospital ship during the Saskatchewan rebellion. She lost her smokestacks in combat at the Battle of Batoche. In 1886 *Northcote* was beached at Cumberland House where she slowly disintegrated.

The Great Eagle-Albatross Controversy

by WING CDR. F. H. HITCHINS, Air Historian

The Roundel

TIME WAS, SAY THE OLDSTERS, when a simple statement in a Service Mess about the bird that appears on RCAF buttons and badges was sure to start an argument that would last far into the night.

This once-burning issue about the bird's true identity has all but flickered out, and (it is hoped) new members of the Force are correctly "indoctrinated" that the bird is an eagle. Mention that to a veteran wearing First World War ribbons, however, and you run a risk of becoming involved. If he flew in the Old Royal Naval Air Service (and three of our four Chiefs of the Air Staff did), a gleam will come into his eye and he will begin convincing you. By the third round you will find yourself tactfully agreeing that it isn't an eagle at all, but—as any clot can plainly see—an albatross.

Actually the controversy was settled—officially—long before it even began, and, for the benefit of those who have endured, or have yet to face, the argument, here are the facts.

It all started in the summer of 1914 when the Board of Admiralty took it upon itself, in defiance of Cabinet orders issued two years earlier, to rename the Naval Wing of the Royal Flying Corps as the Royal Naval Air Service, and issued regulations for the organization, rank titles and uniform of the Service. These regulations of 23 June, 1914, clearly stated that officers of the RNAS would wear an eagle on the left sleeve above the rank lace. An eagle was also substituted for the anchor on buttons, cap badges, and other insignia. According to tradition, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty adopted the eagle design (outstretched wings with head inclined to the right) from a brooch which the wife of a naval officer had purchased in Paris. So, from the very moment it was hatched, the bird was an eagle.

But, as many will tell you, regulations are meant to be printed, not heeded. It may be that the outbreak of war a few weeks later caused the details of the regulations to be overlooked or forgotten—or read in true Nelson fashion with telescope to the blind eye. Or maybe the Navy fliers decided that the eagle, a land bird, had no place in a naval service. At any rate, before long the members of the RNAS considered as high treason any suggestion that their bird was other than a proper seagoing albatross.

Then, in 1918, the RFC and RNAS were merged into the Royal Air Force, and the new Air Force took over the RNAS rank insignia—and the bird. Quite naturally, ex-RNAS members carried with them into the RAF their unswerving loyalty to the albatross, although there is nothing to show that the RAF ever regarded it—officially—as anything but an eagle.

When the CAF was formed in Canada in 1920 it carefully sidestepped the issue by adopting a uniform with army rank badges and insignia that contained wings but no bird. When the RCAF emerged in 1924, however, it adopted the RAF style uniform with all its appurtenances, including the bird. The first dress regulations issued for the RCAF in 1925 leave no doubt that the feathered creature was still officially, as it had been since 1914, an eagle.

Many of the RCAF's early personnel were veterans who had flown with the RNAS and, true to the traditions of the "Silent Service," they eloquently and persuasively spread the myth that the bird worn by the RCAF was really an albatross. The argument smouldered for years, mostly in the messes, although occasionally someone actually sat down to write a memo about it.

When the Second World War came along, the controversy flared up again. Thousands of war-time recruits were told that the bird they wore on their shoulders and brass buttons was an albatross. Thousands more were told that it was an eagle. To others it was simply a bird, although one officer irreverently suggested it was a pregnant duck. Of course, no one bothered to consult the regulations.

The controversy should have been settled, once and for all, in January 1943. Ever since 1924 the RCAF had been using as its "official" badge the badge of the RAF, modified by the addition of a scroll bearing the words "Royal Canadian Air Force." After 18 years of use it was, somewhat belatedly, discovered that this RCAF badge had never been officially approved or sanctioned. The Chester Herald, who had been appointed Inspector of RCAF Badges, accordingly prepared a proper design, improving upon the 1924 version, and in January 1943 this general badge of the RCAF was approved by H. M. the King. The Chester Herald's description of the badge

clearly and specifically refers to the bird in the design as "an eagle volant affronté, the head lowered and to the sinister." In short, it was still an eagle and always had been—although the albatross was a very nice bird, too. Nevertheless, rumblings of the controversy were still heard until the end of the war.

Today, former members of the RNAS are so few in the RCAF that there is little they can do about it except mutter in their beer. But even so, if the subject should ever come up and there's an old veteran about, be careful. He may be an ex-RNAS type, and if he is, it's still an albatross to him.

Royal Military College Centenary

The Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario, has served Canada proudly for one hundred years. Together with Royal Roads, established in 1942 near Victoria, B.C., and the Collège militaire royal de Saint-Jean, opened in 1952 at Saint-Jean, Quebec, RMC trains and educates officer cadets and commissioned officers. The colleges provide a broad-based university education, develop leadership, bilingualism and physical fitness, and stimulate "awareness of the ethic of the military profession . . ."

Feeling that "a self-governing colony ought to shoulder the burden of its own defence," Prime Minister Alexander Mackenzie founded a college for officer cadets in 1876. The college was to emphasize engineering, a valuable martial art and a civilian skill of which the young nation had a tremendous need. Indeed, by 1900, hardly a Canadian "bridge, road, or railway line was built without the assistance of an engineering graduate of RMC." Prime Minister Mackenzie installed the new school on Point Frederick at Kingston, a city rich in military lore. Comte de Frontenac, Governor of New France, built a fort there in 1673. Point Frederick itself was the only freshwater dockyard in British naval history. During the War of 1812, the facility was "used effectively to save Canada."

The Military College opened on 1 June 1876 with the arrival of the first class of Gentlemen Cadets, "The Old Eighteen". They were greeted by Commandant Edward Hewett, a British officer who established the school's high standards and reputation and the motto "Truth, Duty, Valour". While Hewett was commandant, Queen Victoria granted the college the title "Royal", and the Mackenzie Building, appearing in one of the stamps, was erected. From the beginning, the school imbued cadets with "a sense of responsibility, of self-discipline, of fair play, and of fellowship." "The traditions, the discipline, the spit-and-polish smartness [were] . . . largely responsible for building character and producing leaders" and for giving the school its colour.

It is a tribute to the quality of people who have attended RMC and to the quality of the education and training, that the graduates have a spectacular record of achievement, including eight Rhodes scholarships since 1959. RMC created a nucleus of highly skilled officers such as Generals Crerar and Simonds and Air Marshal Billy Bishop, Canada's foremost air ace. Around individuals of this type, the nation assembled powerful forces. However, in forging some of Canada's greatest military feats, ex-cadets sacrificed much. The Memorial Arch at RMC, pictured in one of the stamps, commemorates those killed in wartime. RMC graduates have received many honours, including two Victoria Crosses. Former students



were prominent within the RCMP. In government, business, law, medicine, science, education and other fields, the alumni have exalted the name of the Royal Military College of Canada.

Will Davies RCA, the designer of these stamps, is a native of Ontario, and studied at the Royal Canadian College of Art in Toronto where he now teaches. He was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1974.

He has depicted two important ceremonial occasions in Military College life: a Colour Party, with the Memorial Arch in the background, and a Wing Parade in front of the Mackenzie Building.

R.W. Irwin

A1711/656

War Office
28 July 1866

Sir,

Having laid before Secty Lt Gen'l Peel your letter of the 10th Inst, and its encl. calling attention to the behaviour of an Escort of the 1 Bn of the Rifle Brigade, but more especially to the conduct of a soldier of that Battn, named Timothy O'Hea, on the occasion of the occurrence of a fire in a Railway Car, containing ammunition, in charge of the Escort, proceeding from Quebec to Montreal on the 9 of last month, I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Commander-in Chief that Lt Gen'l Peel observes, on perusing these papers, that the Gen'l Officer Commanding the troops in Canada does not recommend or even suggest, that the high distinction of the Victoria Cross should be conferred, as proposed in your letter, on this soldier for his conduct on the occasion, but simply brings his conduct under HRH's notice.

It would, in the Secy of States opinion be contrary to established rule to submit this man's name to Her Majesty for the grant of the distinction, in the absence of such recommendation, even if the case could be shown in other respects to fulfil the rules laid down in the Royal Warrants.

One of those rules is, that the Victoria Cross is never to be conferred without conclusive evidence of the performance of the act of courage or bravery; but in the present instance, the proof appears to rest on the testimony of a person who was not an eyewitness of what occurred.

If the case is submitted, as coming within the provisions of the Royal Warrant of the 10 of Augt 1858, extending the provisions of the original Victoria Cross Warrant to cases other than those of gallantry displayed before an enemy. Lt General Peel is of opinion that a similiar course should be pursued to that whaich was adopted in the case of a similiar claim brought forward in your letter of the 19 of July 1862 on behalf of Lieut Bourke, of the 29 Regt and that the case should first be submitted for the careful investigation of a Board of Officers on the spot, who should be furnished with copies of that Warrant, and the original Warrant, and their attention called to their provisions.

Copies of these warrants will be furnished to you, if required. The original enclosures of your letter are herewith returned.

The Military Secretary

Signed Edward Lugard

Sir,

With reference to the letter from M. General The Honourable Jas. Lindsay addressed to the Adjutant General, and dated Montreal 22 June last, enclosing a Correspondance received from the Officer Commanding the 1st Rifle Brigade, bringing to notice the praiseworthy conduct of an Escort of that Battalion but more especially the cool and courageous conduct of the soldier named in the margin, on the occasion of a fire in a Railway Car containing ammunition, in charge of the Escort, proceeding from Quebec to Montreal on the 9th of June, I am directed by the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter from the War Office relative to the proposal of Her Royal Highness that the Distinction of the Victoria Cross should be conferred upon Private O'Hea in consideration of his conduct on the occasion in question, - and to request that in accordance with the suggestion of the Secretary of State for War you will take the necessary steps for causing this case to be investigated by a Board of Officers transmitting the result to me for the consideration of Her Royal Highness. I enclose for the information of the Board, copies of the Warrants instituting the Victoria Cross which I have to request may be returned.

General Officer Commanding
The Troops in Canada

War Office
31 Dec. 1866

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 27th of Septemeber last and 11th instant, relative to the courageous conduct of Private Timothy O'Hea of the 1st Bn of the Prince Consorts Own Rifle Brigade, on the occasion of a fire in a Railway Car containing ammunition proceeding from Quebec to Montreal, on the 9 June last, I am directed by Secretary Lieut General Peel to acquaint you for the information of The Field Marshal Commanding in Chief that in compliance with H.R.H. recommendation he has brought this soliers conduct on the occasion under the Queen's notice and H.M. has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer upon him the decoration of the Victoria Cross, in recognition of the Courage which he has displayed. The Cross will be sent to the General Officer Commanding the Troops in Canada with instructions to present it to Private O'Hea in H.M.'s name with the usual formalities.

Military Secretary
Horse Guards

Edward Lugard

Note: The medal was requisitioned January 4, 1867 and was published in General Orders of January 25, 1867.

War Office
19th January 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the decoration of the Victoria Cross which the Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer upon Private Timothy O'Hea, of the 1st Battalion ...(see above)... 9th of June last, as recorded in the London Gazette of the 1st instant, of which an extract is enclosed, and I have received Her Majesty's Commands to desire that you will take the earliest fitting opportunity after the receipt of this instruction, of presenting to this soldier the accompanying Cross, in such a public and formal manner as you may consider best adapted to evince Her Majesty's sense of his courageous conduct on the occasion. I have to request that you will transmit to me, as soon as practicable a report of the proceedings which may be adopted on the occasion of the presentation of the enclosed Cross, and copies of any General Order which may be issued, with a view to the same being recorded in the Registry of the decoration, in accordance with Her Majesty's Warrant of the 29th of January 1856.

The General Officer Commanding the Troops
Headquarters, Montreal

Lt Gen'l
Sir John Nichol KCB

Quebec
26th April 1867

Sir,

I have to state that according to orders received, I invited the officers and crew of H.M.S. Aurora to the presentation of a Victoria Cross yesterday but that the Captain could not make it convenient to send up any of the Seamen, several of the officers however attended. The Volunteers were also notified of the Ceremony and had the weather allowed its taking place on Easter Monday as originally intended, 300 men would have been present. They were acquainted with the unavoidable postponement but could not attend on the day eventually settled on. I communicated with the City Authorities but received no answer, I believe however that several were on the ground at the ceremony.

Brigade Major
Montreal

T. Pakenham
Colonel
30th Regiment

Quebec 689
27th April 1867

Sir,

In compliance with instructions received, I have to state for the Major General Commanding information that I yesterday presented a Victoria Cross to Private T. O'Hea of the 1st Batt. of the P.C.O. Rifle Brigade in presence of the garrison consisting of the 10th Brigade Royal Artillery, the 30th Regiment, the 1st Bn of the P.C.O. Rifle Brigade and the Cadets of the Military School of Quebec. The troops were drawn up in line of continuous quarter distance column on the Esplanade having wheeled up the flank Battalions and called Pte O'Hea to the front, I addressed him shortly, congratulating him on being the recipient of so high a mark of His Sovereigns favor and contrasting at some length the action for which he was about to be decorated with one of bravery, and courage displayed on the Field of Battle, to show that although originally the Cross was instituted for gallant deeds in face of the enemy, still it was well deserved in this instance in reward for the great coolness and presence of mind shewn when all others were at a loss how to prevent the danger. After the presentation the Troops marched past in open column at quick time, the ground was in very bad order, so muddy that even supposing there had been room, which was not the case, no manœuvre could have been gone through and it was at this season the only available place for the ceremony, which was witnessed by a very large concourse of people.

Brigade Major
Montreal

T. Pakenham
Colonel
30th Regiment

TRUTH Magazine - April 10, 1885, Canadian voyageurs are described as a "disreputable gang" of whom only 25 percent were efficient, the rest being "a nondescript rabble of the loafer class". This comment was answered by Lord Wolseley who expressed in the highest terms his appreciation of their valuable aid, etc.

The Queen's South Africa medal was awarded to orderlies and male nurses and to five female nurses of the U.S. Hospital Ship "Maine".

Q.S.A. Bronze Medals - Non enlisted men who drew pay from military funds, were under AO 94, 1901 allowed to receive bronze medals. About 100,000 were despatched to S. Africa. Kaffirs had been employed in transport and supply, hospital and intelligence work.

CRIMINAL CODE of CANADA - ss 377(b)

Everyone who without lawful authority, the proof of which lies upon him (b) wears a distinctive mark relating to wounds received or service performed in war, or a military medal, ribbon, badge, chevron, or imitation thereof, or any mark or device or thing that is likely to be mistaken for any such mark, medal, ribbon, badge, chevron, decoration or order is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.

DUTCH MILITAIRE WILLEMS ORDE - Degree of Knight of the 4th Class

F60646	L/Cpl	Joseph Wm Campbell, NNSH
E51488	Lieut	Roger Caron, R22R
U1561	Major	H.P. Falloon, QOCH
F82234	Gnr	J.E. Gillis, 4th A/T Regt
D131732	L/Cpl	H.R. Myatt, RRC
	Lieut	K.C. Liddell, 21 CAR
	Lieut	J.C.B. Forbes, Le Regt de Mais.
	Sgt	W.H. Kirk, QOCH
	Lieut	G.L. Mason, S.Sask R.

ROYAL FLYING CORPS

On September 26, 1917 an advance party of the RFC arrived in Fort Worth, Texas, to arrange for pilot training to avoid the Canadian winter conditions. American fliers were also trained at the School on a reciprocal basis.

The School of Gunnery transferred from Camp Borden to Fort Worth November 5, 1917. No. 42 Wing from Camp Borden and No. 43 Wing from Deseronto began flying November 17. About 10 Squadrons completed their training here. The Schools returned to Canada in April 1918. The Cadet Wing and School of Aeronautics remained in Toronto with No. 44 Wing at Leaside and Armour Heights.

Officers, seconded from regiments, were permitted to continue to wear their old uniform.

Collar badges were worn only by officers and were of dull bronze. All N.C.O.'s above the rank of Corporal wore a four bladed propeller on the tunic and service dress jacket.

ROYAL RED CROSS, CLASS I and BAR, WW I

Matron Evelyn Martha Wilson, CAMS - LG 3/6/19
 Matron Annie Jane Hartley, CAMC - LG 31/7/19, No 4 Can Gen Hosp.
 Matron Margaret Hettie Smith, CAMC- LG 31/7/19, No 16 Can Gen Hosp.
 Matron Elizabeth Russell, CAMC - LG 12/12/19, No 15 Can Gen Hosp.

Instituted by Royal Warrant December 15, 1917 to holders of R.R.C.

MAJOR THEODORE LEFEBRE DIT BOULANGER

Born in 1855. He was commander of the 1st Quebec Field Battery and proceeded to South Africa in February 1900 to replace officers of the Canadian Militia appointed for instructional purposes to the Brigade Division of Field Artillery.

He was granted the Queen's South Africa medal with three clasps - Johannesburg, Cape Colony, Orange Free State. This was presented to him at Quebec September 17, 1901.

Instead of returning home with the first contingent he went to China on the staff of General Sir Alfred Gaselee, British Commander in Chief. He arrived in Tientsin July 27, 1900 and formed a part of the relief force to Peking which was completed on August 14.

He was the only Canadian officer to receive the China 1900 medal. It bore the clasp RELIEF OF PEKIN and was presented to him by Lord Dundonald at Three Pine Camp on August 26, 1902. He also received the Military Order of the Dragon from China as well as the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers Decoration.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

ORDER OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1973

Hon. W. G. Davis (Premier): Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in informing the House that cabinet approval has been given for the establishment of the Order of Good Citizenship for the Province of Ontario.

Hon. members will recall that the Speech from the Throne stated the government's intention to extend Ontario's programme of annual achievement awards. It was announced at that time that the new programme would recognize the contribution of individuals in all areas of our society.

The Order of Good Citizenship will come into being immediately, Mr. Speaker, and I am very pleased to announce that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor will serve as the first chancellor of the order. In the task of choosing worthy citizens from across the province to receive the medal for good citizenship, we will be guided by an advisory council composed of eight men and women.

The following have been invited and have kindly agreed to serve on the advisory council: Mr. Arnold Agnew of the city of Toronto; Dr. Harry Botterell of the city of Kingston; Mrs. J. J. Casey of the city of Toronto; Mrs. Ralph Douglas of the city of Toronto; Mrs. Joan King of the town of Englehart; Mr. Horace Krever of the city of London; Mr. Shaun MacGrath of the city of Toronto and Mr. William Taylor of the town of Oakville. These persons will form the advisory council of the order for a two-year term under the chairmanship of Mr. Shaun MacGrath. I am informed that we may expect to learn the names of the first recipients of the Ontario Medal within the next day or so.

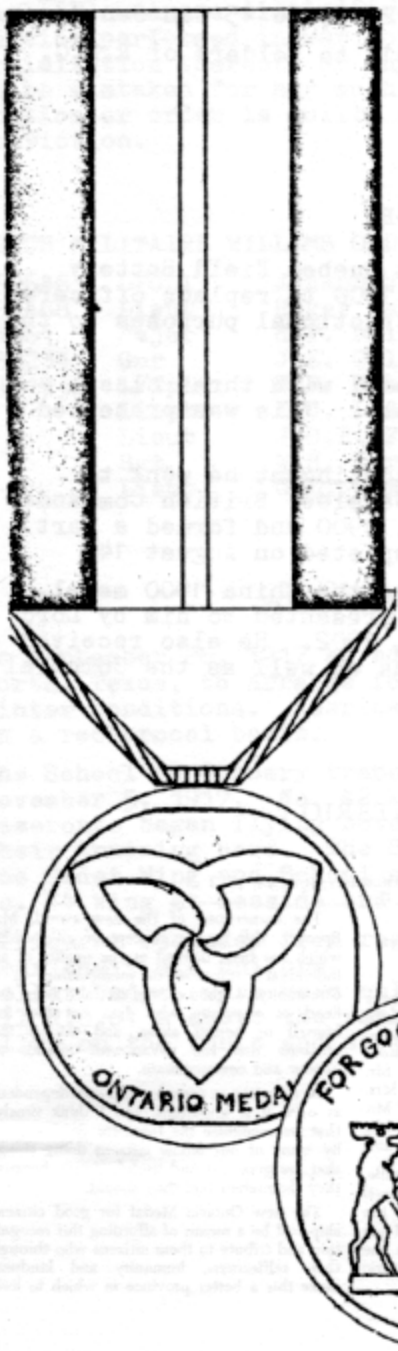
The cornerstone of the new award, Mr. Speaker, will be the concept of citizenship, which has been defined as the quality of an individual's response to membership in a community. A good citizen has also been defined as a person who does not live for himself or herself alone, and this is the attribute that the government intends to honour and commemorate.

In a society as complex and interdependent as ours, it is important, and I think timely, that we recognize the force for good exerted by many of our fellow citizens doing things that are generous and useful, simply because they themselves feel they should.

The new Ontario Medal for good citizenship will be a means of affording this recognition and tribute to these citizens who through their selflessness, humanity and kindness make this a better province in which to live.

MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP FOR
THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

by Ross W. Irwin



Obverse: A stylized trillium, floral emblem of the Province of Ontario, the words ONTARIO MEDAL below.

Reverse: The Coat of Arms of the Province of Ontario with the words FOR GOOD CITIZENSHIP above.

Description: Circular, 39mm, silver, inside rims have flattened edges to form a square with radiused corners.

Mounting: A silver ornate wire in the form of a triangle.

Ribbon: Green, white, green with a narrow central stripe of gold; the same colours as trillium, 39mm wide.

Designer: Gerald Gladstone, Sculptor, of Toronto, Ontario.

Naming: The name of the recipient will be engraved on the reverse below the inscription.

Issued: The medal was struck by the Wellings Mint, the first presentations were six on June 25, 1973, awards were personally presented by Queen Elizabeth during her visit to Toronto.

Terms of Award: Approved by the Cabinet of Ontario and announced June 14, 1973 by the Hon.W.G. Davis. The concept of citizenship has been defined as the Quality of an individual's response to membership in a community. A good citizen has also been defined as a person who does not live for himself or herself alone, and this is the attribute that the government intends to honour and commemorate.

Miniature medals have been approved for this award. A chancellor and advisory council of eight will choose the recipients of the medal.

ONTARIO MEDAL WINNERS1973

Mr. Norman Mitchinson - Niagara Falls
Father Wilfred Dumont - Sandy Lake
Miss Jenny Feick - Kitchener
Mrs. Pansy Forbes - Peterborough
Miss Mary Sereda - Thunder Bay
Mr. Peter Ramsay - Madoc

1974

Mr. Wilson Brooks - Dunnville
Mr. Stephen Choma - Belleville
Mr. Ralph Finkle - Toronto (deceased)
Dr. Ford Goodfellow - Brockville
Mrs. Jean McCann - Barrie
Mrs. Viola McCarthy - Deep River
Mr. Leslie McKerral - Woodstock
Mrs. Catherine Schumilas - St. Agatha
Mr. Gus Ryder - Toronto
Miss Peggy Ann Walpole - Toronto

1975

Dr. James Edward Anderson - Hamilton
Mr. Joseph J. Bauer - Toronto
Miss Muriel Boyle - Sioux Lookout
Mrs. Ellen Cartmell - Toronto
Chief Aglace Chapman - Big Trout Lake
Mrs. Clara Dotsenroth - Southampton
Mrs. Jen Eady - Atikokan
Mr. Ray Halward - Hamilton
Mrs. Anne Staddon - Fort Erie
Mr. Joseph E. Ward - Thunder Bay
Mr. Robert C.S. Williams - Bramalea
Chief Francis Claude Pelletier - Fort William Reserve
(deceased)

Advisory Council:

Shaun MacGrath,
chairman
Arnold A. Agnew
E. Harry Botterell
Muriel Casey
Ralph Douglas
Horace Krever
Joan King
William H. Taylor
Helen Bourke,
executive secretary

Extract from 3rd Supplement, "London Gazette," of Tuesday, the 25th January, 1916.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

Authority London Gazette, 29220, June 22, 1915.

Authority London Gazette, 29422, January 1, 1916.

Reg't No.	Rank.	Name.	Corps.
	Lieut.-General.....	Alderson, E. A. H.....	
	Colonel (temp. Brig.-Gen.)..	Currie, A. W.....	
	Colonel (temp. Brig.-Gen.)..	Mercer, M. S.....	

STAFF.

	Bvt.-Col. (temp. Brig.-Gen.)	Wood, T. B.....	
	Lt.-Col. (temp. Brig.-Gen.)	Armstrong, C.....	
	Colonel	Mitchell, C. H.....	
	Brevet Lt.-Colonel.....	Frith, G. R.....	Royal Engineers.
	Temp. Major.....	Cutcliffe, A. B.....	
	Major	Elmsley, J. H.....	
	Captain.....	Murray, K. A.....	C. P. C.
	Captain.....	Napier, R. R.....	

D. A. A. G. CANADIAN STAFF.

Authority London Gazette, 29220, June 22, 1915.

	Lt.-Colonel.....	Hamilton, G. T.....	
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LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE (R. C.).

Authority London Gazette, 29422, January 1, 1916.

	Captain.....	Critchley, J. A.....	
	Lieutenant.....	MacDonald, D. J.....	
	Lt.-Colonel.....	Macdonnell, A. C.....	
	Major.....	Heskett, J. A. (D.S.O.).....	
2873	Corporal.....	Hewitson, J. S.....	
15066	Private.....	Dunwoody, J. M.....	

ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS.

Authority London Gazette, 29422, January 1, 1916.

	Major.....	Brown, J. S.....	
	Lt.-Colonel.....	Nelles, C. M.....	
	Captain.....	Codville, F. H. McD.....	

1ST BATTALION.

6256	Private.....	Murray, J. F.....	
	Major.....	Kimmins, A. E.....	
	Captain.....	Parks, J. H.....	
9517	Sergeant.....	Jones, W. E.....	
6771	Private.....	Aiken, M. J.....	
6712	Private.....	Moore, G.....	
6856	Private.....	Smith, C. D.....	
6472	Private.....	Large, W. C.....	
	Captain.....	Metcalf, G. A.....	
	Captain.....	Lalor, W. J. A.....	
	Lt.-Colonel.....	Hill, F. W.....	
	Captain.....	Hahn, J. E.....	