



Season's Greetings



THE CANADIAN CADET CORPS OF M.D. 11 CHRISTMAS 1912

An interesting Christmas postcard was sent in by John Wannerton some time ago and it has come to light in time for this Christmas. It was used by Cadet Baker of the British Columbia Regiment (D.C.O.R.) Cadet Corps and posted on December 4, 1912 from Honolulu. This postcard and the message on the back thanks his friends in New Zealand for their kindness on the cadets visit 'down under'.



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON!

GALVESTON BNAPEX CONVENTION

Another BNAPS Convention is history - postal history that is!

The Texas Prairie Beavers under Vic Willson, also Editor of TOPICS, did a great job of putting Galveston on the map for us. CMMSG members involved in the show were Ed. Christman, Vic Willson and Jim Felton. Thanks fellows!

In the Exhibition there were seven of our members participating: Allan Steinhart - Grand Award; Vic Willson - Vermeil; Ed. Christman & Jim Felton - Silver-Bronze. As for a military exhibit, there were three and each was awarded a Silver: John Wannerton with WW II POW and Military Covers; Ritch Toop with Canadian Military Mail 1827-1920; Your editor with Canadian Army in Newfoundland and Labrador 1940-46.

Our Study Group meeting was quite well attended with 13 on hand, namely: Ritch Toop, Sam Nickle, Bill Robinson, Ed. Christman, Mike Street, Ed. Harris, Clarence Stillions, Jim Felton, Chuck Firby, and John Wannerton and his wife all the way from South Africa. John had a great presentation for us on the Boer War (what else!). This was quite different in that he dealt with and showed slides of the battle areas (where the Canadians served) as they are today - a refreshing approach. Thank you, John.

A.G.M. OF CMMSG

As noted there were 13 present and our business part of the meeting elicited quite a bit of feed back on our No. 100 Newsletter forthcoming. Details were outlined for this project and all is on track and on schedule. Several promises of material were given and as a reminder to those people their names are: Ed. Harris, Sam Nickle, Clarence Stillions and Jim Felton. All this is in addition to what is on hand, or on the way.

Our financial situation prior to the meeting showed a balance of C\$ 668.62 of which \$120 goes to prepaid dues. The cost of a newsletter is approx. \$65 and it goes to 62 paying members and 8 BNA officers and others including the Forces Postal History Society (England) and the Australian Forces Mail Group, both of whom exchange N/L's with us. The financial situation is very good and may seem out of line to the reader, but please remember that all this money, and more, will be needed for # 100. The meeting also authorized the collection of dues in the amount of \$10 for 1991 with most of that amount also going to 100.

N/L 100--PLEASE GET ARTICLES IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE--100 N/L

Needless to say your present officers were 're-elected' for another term! At next years super meeting this will change so come prepared to Vancouver's BNAPEX.

NEW MEMBERS

It is always gratifying to have new members and this time we report two such who have chosen the CMMSG as their 'free' study group under the BNAPS new member plan. Please welcome:

Charles J.G. Verge, Box 2788, Stn D, Ottawa, Ont., K1P 5W8

Robert A. Flynn, 621 Vasona Court, Los Gatos, Calif, 95030

In addition, two more new BNA members have expressed an interest in this Group and material has been sent out to them.

NOTE RE INDEX

Chairman Ritch, who is in charge of the Index project will be putting out a complete INDEX of all the N/L's, including #100 in time for next year's BNAPEX 91 in Vancouver.

Ritch requests that members let him know if they have any problems with the present Index, or have any suggestions for same. It is essential that all your N/L pages be numbered so if you have not done this, please refer back to N/L # 87, pages 628 and 629 where the Benchmark instructions are given for this operation. The new Index will be complete and you will not need the present one. To contact Ritch:

E. Ritch Toop, Box 9026, Stn. T, Ottawa, Ont., K1G 3T8

A RETIREMENT

Word is that the Study Group's good friend, Frank Waite, is retiring as the Study Group scribe. Over the years Frank has been a good supporter of ours, as he was with the other groups. We will miss his comments in TOPICS at the end of the year when Peter McCarthy takes over. We do wish Peter the best and hope that BNAPS finds another 'job' for Frank's talents. Thank you Frank from the CMMSG, and also personally from your editor!

NEW BOOK

Just out is THE POSTIES WENT TO WAR by Major Ian Winfield. This paperback is about the Falkland Campaign of eight years ago. There is no Canadian involvement here but thought you might like to know of the book. It is available from Square One Publications, Saga House, Sansome Place, Worcester, England, WR1 1UA for 5.95 plus 1 = 6.95 Pounds Sterling.

A ROYAL FLYING CORPS CHRISTMAS CARD 1917 FROM TEXAS

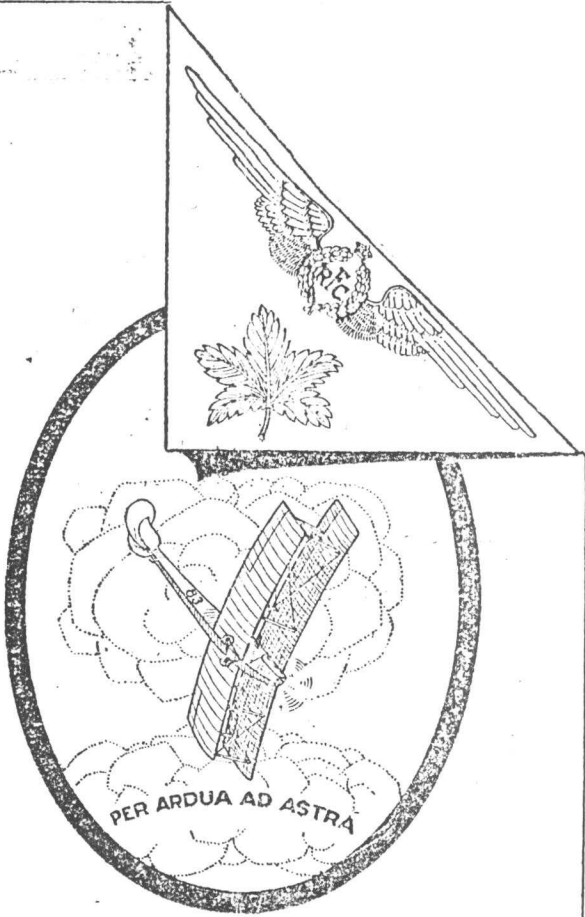
From Dean W. Mario.

Herewith an unusual Christmas card that by now must be one of a kind!

You will recall that an exchange training scheme with the US Airforce was set up for the winter of 1917 when the RFC trained in Texas where it is always summer. Canadian winters had not yet been conquered by fliers!

This lovely card is trimmed in gold, the aeroplane and clouds are in blue, the Maple Leaf in green and the RFC wings are blue and green. All lettering is in gold print. The spandrel symbol on the inner leaf is in the usual red and navy.

For more information on the RFC/RAF check your CMMSG Index and CANADIAN AIRMEN AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR by S.F.Wise.



Sent in all Sincerity
with the best of Good Wishes
for a
Happy Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year

From af. Love to all

83 SQUADRON
ROYAL FLYING CORPS
CAMP BENBROOK
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

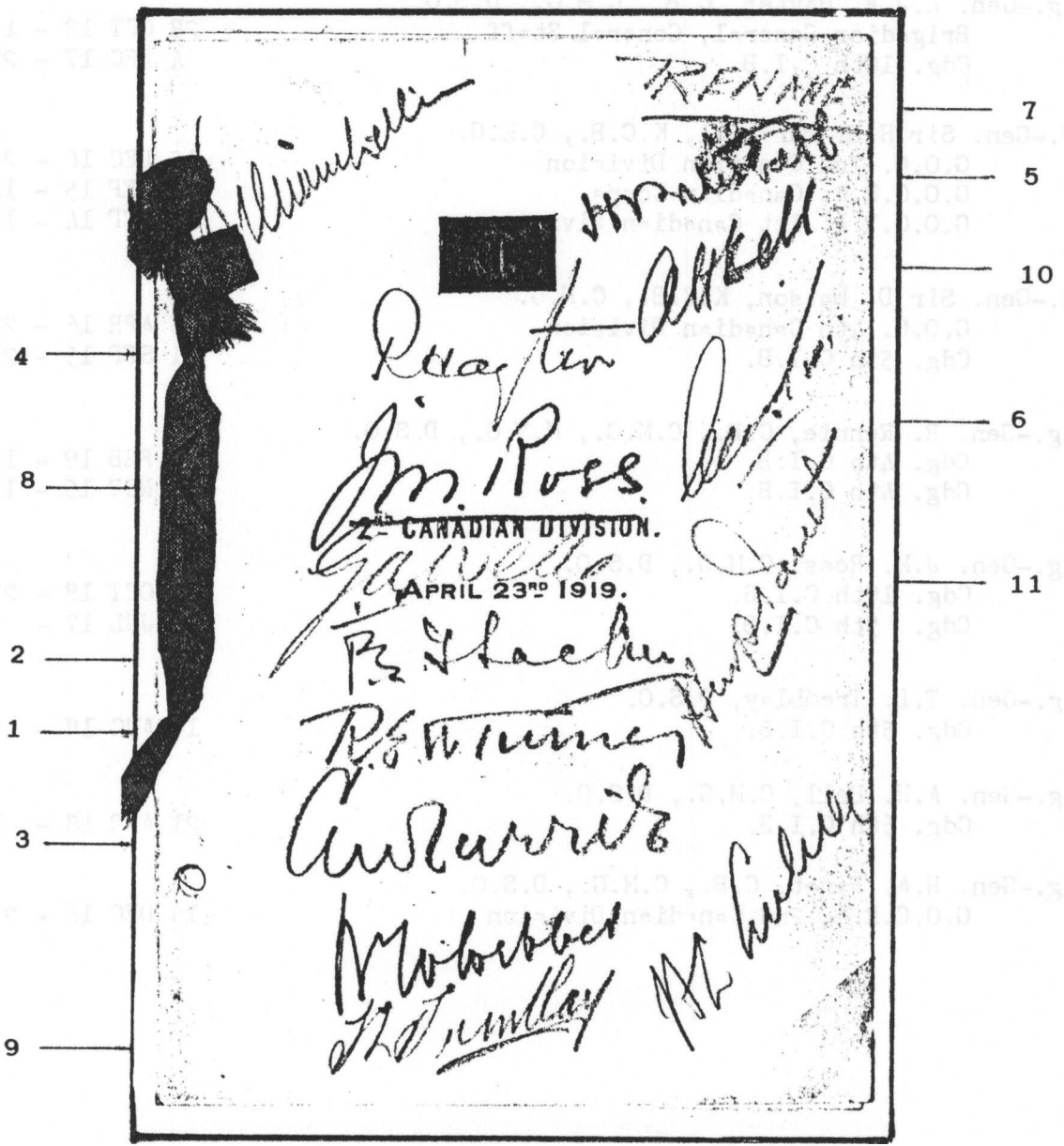
A Hearty Greeting
From 83 Squadron Royal Flying Corps
Texas

Xmas 1917

VICTORY CELEBRATIONS OF THE C.E.F.

On 23 April 1919, the G.O.C. of the 2nd Canadian Division held a Victory Party at the Savoy Hotel in London, England.

This souvenir menu from the party must surely be a rather unique item containing as it does the autographs of 2 Lt.-Generals, 3 Major-Generals and 6 Brigadier-Generals. If you are unable to identify the signatures please see the following page as per the above numbers for a full description of names, ranks and commands the officers held. Your help would be appreciated in identifying those not numbered. This special item and article is from John Frith who was in the right place at the right time!



- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Lt.-Gen. Sir R.E.W. Turner, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.
Chief of the General Staff, C.E.F., U.K.
G.O.C. 2nd Canadian Division
Cdg. 3rd C.I.B. | 5 DEC 16 - 21 JUL 19
17 AUG 15 - 26 NOV 16
29 SEP 14 - 11 AUG 15 |
| 2. | Maj.-Gen. P.E. Thacker, C.B., C.M.G.
Adjutant General, C.E.F., U.K. | 5 DEC 16 - 15 AUG 19 |
| 3. | Lt.-Gen. Sir A.W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
G.O.C. Canadian Corps
G.O.C. 1st Canadian Division
Cdg. 2nd C.I.B. | 9 JUN 17 - 8 AUG 19
12 SEP 15 - 8 JUN 17
29 SEP 14 - 12 SEP 15 |
| 4. | Brig.-Gen. R.J.F. Hayter, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.
Brigadier-General, General Staff
Cdg. 10th C.I.B. | 28 OCT 13 - 15 AUG 19
4 DEC 17 - 27 OCT 18 |
| 5. | Maj.-Gen. Sir H.E. Burstall, K.C.B., C.M.G.
G.O.C. 2nd Canadian Division
G.O.C.R.A. Canadian Corps
G.O.C.R.A. 1st Canadian Division | 15 DEC 16 - 22 MAY 19
12 SEP 15 - 14 DEC 16
29 SEP 14 - 12 SEP 15 |
| 6. | Maj.-Gen. Sir D. Watson, K.C.B., C.M.G.
G.O.C. 4th Canadian Division
Cdg. 5th C.I.B. | 25 APR 16 - 22 JUN 19
1 SEP 15 - 21 APR 16 |
| 7. | Brig.-Gen. R. Rennie, C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., D.S.O.
Cdg. 4th C.I.B.
Cdg. 4th C.I.B. | 26 FEB 19 - 12 MAY 19
17 NOV 15 - 11 SEP 18 |
| 8. | Brig.-Gen. J.M. Ross, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Cdg. 10th C.I.B.
Cdg. 5th C.I.B. | 28 OCT 18 - 22 JAN 19
22 JUL 17 - 9 AUG 18 |
| 9. | Brig.-Gen. T.L. Tremblay, D.S.O.
Cdg. 5th C.I.B. | 10 AUG 18 - 9 MAY 19 |
| 10. | Brig.-Gen. A.H. Bell, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Cdg. 6th C.I.B. | 21 APR 18 - 1 OCT 18 |
| 11. | Brig.-Gen. H.A. Panet, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.
G.O.C.R.A. 2nd Canadian Division | 18 DEC 16 - 25 JUN 19 |

PRISONER OF WAR POST
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
KRIEGSGEFANGENEN POST

POSTAGE FREE

160

檢
閱
濟
野
園

Pte. DALZELL, Robert,
Winnipeg Grenadiers,
H-6268,
Osaka Camp,
Japan

EXA



*All Canada joins
in
Warmest Christmas Greetings
and good wishes to you*

W. L. Mackenzie King

Prime Minister

1943

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CARD

Canada's FORCE "C" was sent to Hong Kong shortly before the Japanese attacked the Colony. By 25 December 1941 the FORCE was overcome and those remaining were taken Prisoner of War.

In 1942, 1943 and 1944 an 'official' Christmas card was printed for, and sent by Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King to all FORCE "C" P.O.W.'s. Few of these cards were reported to have reached the prisoners. This 1943 card would have been mailed in time for 'normal' delivery at Christmas but it was reported received by the P.O.W. in February of 1945 when he was at the Oeyama Camp near Osaka in Japan.

WAS THE RCAF IN ADEN IN WW II?

This question was raised in the last FORCES POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER. To students of Canadian military history this is an important point.

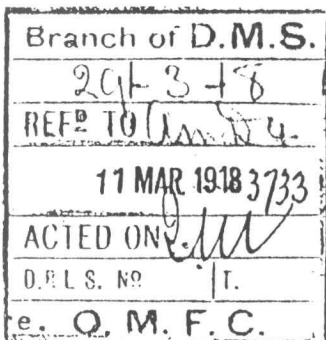
The writer of the query evidently had such a RCAF cover from Aden. An explanation, of course, boils it down to the fact that many RCAF, or army personnel for that matter, served in purely British forces, or later in WW II, in the U.S. forces. Perhaps this would be a good field for a member to pursue - how many different places can you find where a Canadian serviceman served with other countries?

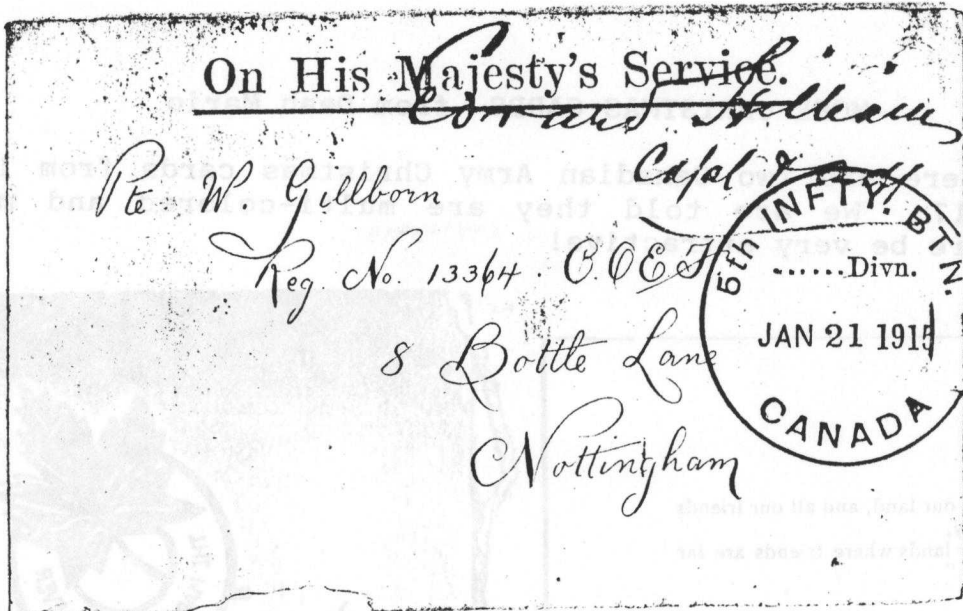
NO. 8 CANADIAN STATIONARY HOSPITAL from Dean Mario.

The No. 8 Canadian Stationary Hospital (otherwise known as the Saskatchewan Field Hospital Unit) recruited in Saskatoon from late March to mid April 1916. It was a resounding success and some 14 officers, 1 matron, 26 nursing sisters, and 119 rank and file volunteered for service with the unit. This hospital was located at he following points:

St. Martin's Plain	29-11-16
Can. Military Hosp., Hastings	1-1-17 to 2-10-17
Can. Special Hosp., Witley	2-10-17 to 10-11-17
Camiers	10-12-17 to 16-4-18
Rouen (closed)	2-11-18 to 14-11-18
Dunkerque	16-11-18 to 14-4-19
Bexhill	

The Orderly Room and general handstamps were found on records associated with the No. 8. Any covers you may find with the O/R markings should fit into the above locations.





5th INFANTRY BATTALION, C.E.F.

The cover pictured here, from Jim Felton, is a beautiful item! Let's see if we can provide, with the help of J.C.C., some information on it.

Private W. Gillborn was a member of the 5th Infantry Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Brigade which formed part of the 1st Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in WW I. He was in "F" Company of the Battalion.

The official O.H.M.S. cover was sent by Captain Edward Hillman who was the adjutant of the 5th Infantry Battalion. Maybe we could speculate and say that the Captain was calling Private Gillborn back from leave in Nottingham?

FOLLOW RED SIGNS TO BUILDING 30

MISSION CONTROL CENTER

BRIEFING

NASA NO CHARGE

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
 Houston, Texas 77058

10:30

Part of the program at BNAPEX Galveston was an optional visit to N.A.S.A., the U.S. National Space Administration, located between Galveston and Houston. On display, both indoors and outside, were various space vehicles, some that had flown, and others used for training. In all it was well presented but the time allotted was all too brief.

One interesting aspect was a visit to the actual Mission Control Center. We were in the Control room but behind a glass wall which separated us from 'operations'. This is the same room often seen on TV, but as the guide said it is smaller than the wide angle TV lenses show. A simulation was in progress when we were there which added to reality.

MORE CHRISTMAS CARDS from Dean Mario

Shown here are two Canadian Army Christmas cards from 1916 and 1917. We are told they are multi-colored and must therefore be very attractive!

"God bless our land, and all our friends
to-day,
And other lands where friends are far
away."

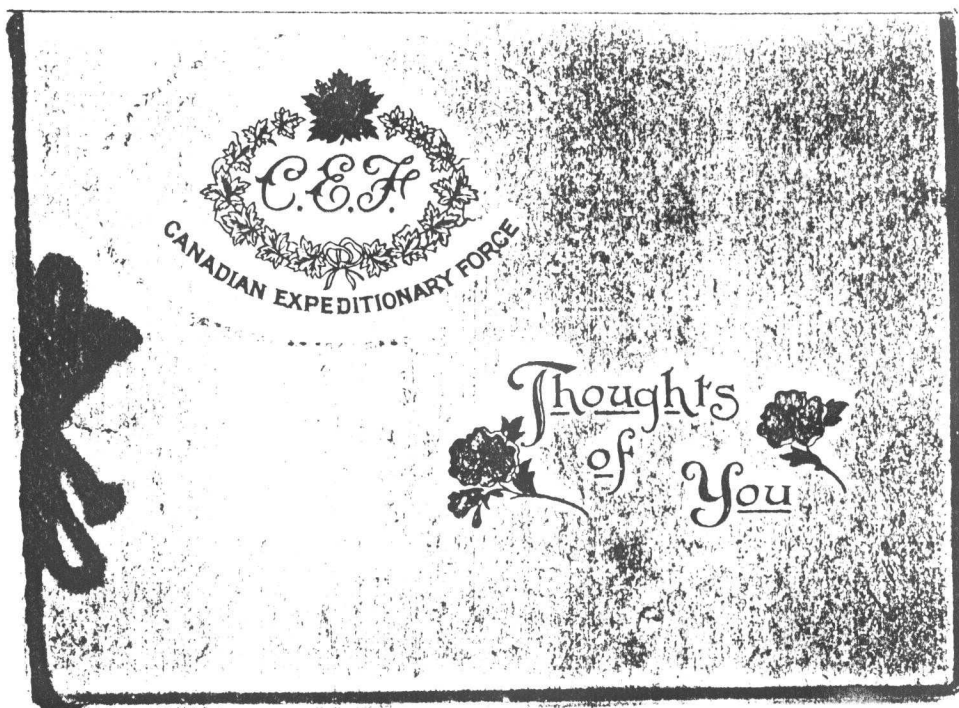
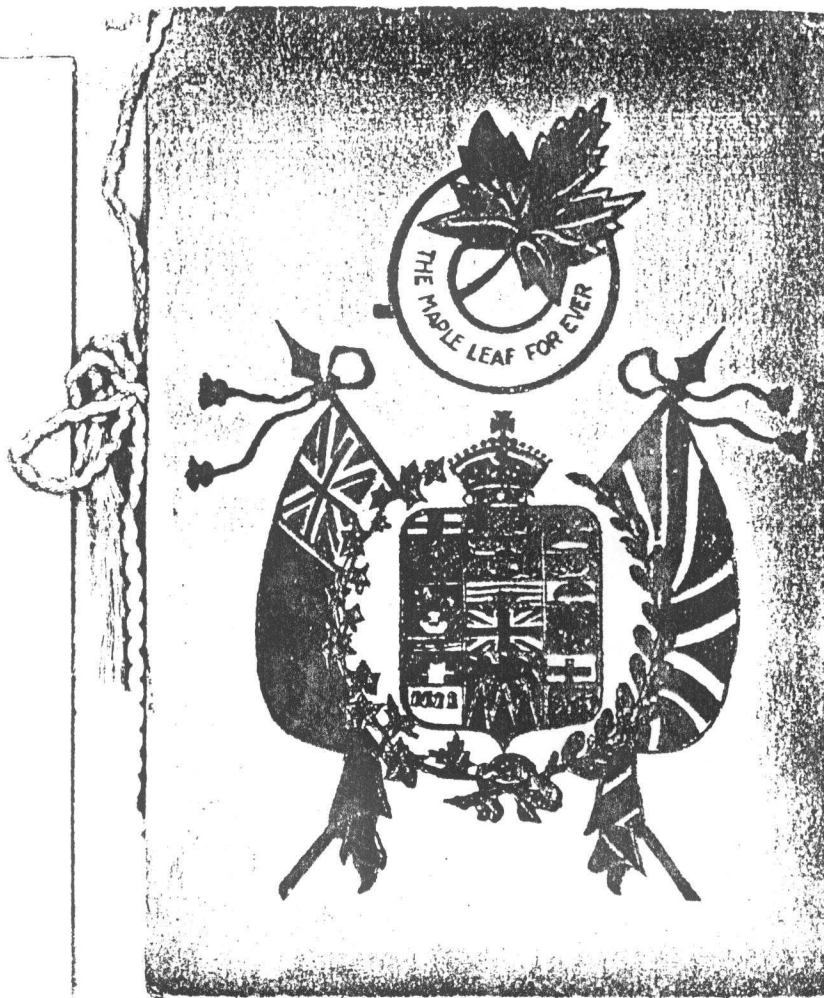
Christmas, 1916

With Warmest Greetings

And all Good Wishes for
A Merry Christmas and
for Health and Happiness
throughout the Coming Year

From
Lieut. E. A. R. Bates.

181st Battalion, C.E.F.,
Brandon, Man.



Happy New Year