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Haxell,

20 Dear Hilton

With love from Gladys

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Letts's POCKET + DIARY

FOR

1916

(LEAP YEAR)



No. 81.

Limp Cloth, Gilt edges
Leather, back-loop, Gilt edges
Leather Case, back-loop, with Diary	..	..	..
Moro. Grain Leather Case, with Diary
Calf Leather Wallet, with Diary
Re-fill only for Case



PUBLISHED FOR

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BY

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JANUARY, 1916.

5. New Moon	4h 45m A.M.
12. First Quarter	3h 38m A.M.
20. Full Moon	8h 29m A.M.
28. Last Quarter	0h 35m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 S.	Circum. Bk. Hol., Scot. [Hol., Stock Exchange.
2 S.	2 after Christmas
3 M.	Quarter Sessions Week
4 Tu.	
5 W.	Dividends due at Bank
6 Th.	Epiphany. Twelfth D.
7 F.	[Fire Insurances expire
8 S.	Cam. Lent Term begins
9 S.	1 after Epiphany
10 M.	
11 Tu.	Hilary Law Sittings beg.
12 W.	
13 Th.	
14 F.	Oxford Lent Term beg.
15 S.	
16 S.	2 after Epiphany
17 M.	
18 Tu.	
19 W.	
20 Th.	
21 F.	
22 S.	
23 S.	3 after Epiphany
24 M.	
25 Tu.	Conversion of St. Paul
26 W.	
27 Th.	
28 F.	
29 S.	
30 S.	4 after Epiphany
31 M.	

FEBRUARY, 1916.

3. New Moon	4h 6m P.M.
10. First Quarter	10h 20m P.M.
19. Full Moon	2h 29m A.M.
26. Last Quarter	9h 24m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 Tu.	Partridge and Pheasant [Shooting ends
2 W.	Purif. of V. M. Candle- [mas. Scot. Qr. D.
3 Th.	
4 F.	
5 S.	
6 S.	5 after Epiphany
7 M.	
8 Tu.	Half Quarter Day
9 W.	
10 Th.	
11 F.	
12 S.	
13 S.	6 after Epiphany
14 M.	
15 Tu.	
16 W.	
17 Th.	
18 F.	
19 S.	
20 S.	Septuagesima Sunday
21 M.	
22 Tu.	
23 W.	
24 Th.	St. Matthias, Ap.
25 F.	
26 S.	
27 S.	Sexagesima Sunday
28 M.	
29 Tu.	

CHRONOLOGICAL NOTES, 1916.

Golden Number 17	Dominical Letters BA
Epact 25	Roman Indiction 14
Solar Cycle 21	Julian Period (Year of) .. 6629

ECLIPSES IN 1916.

Of the SUN, Three; of the MOON, Two.

I. JANUARY 20. Partial Eclipse of the Moon. Visible in the extreme W. of Europe, the Atlantic, N. and S. America, the Pacific, and N.E. Asia.

Moon enters shadow	h. m.
.. ..	7 55 a.m.
.. leaves	9 24 ..

MARCH, 1916.

4. New Moon	3h 58m A.M.
11. First Quarter	6h 33m P.M.
19. Full Moon	5h 27m P.M.
26. Last Quarter	4h 22m P.M.

M. W. Sundays, Holidays, &c.

1 W. St. David

2 Th.

3 F.

4 S.

5 S. Quinquagesima Sun.

6 M.

7 Tu. Shrove Tuesday

8 W. Ash Wednesday

9 Th.

10 F.

11 S.

12 S. 1 in Lent. Ember Week

13 M.

14 Tu.

15 W. Ember Day

16 Th. Ireland. Ember Day

17 F. St. Patrick. Bank Hol.

18 S. Ember Day

19 S. 2 in Lent

20 M. Spring com. 11h P.M.

21 Tu.

22 W.

23 Th.

24 F. [Quarter Day

25 S. Annunciation. Lady D.

26 S. 3 in Lent

27 M.

28 Tu.

29 W.

30 Th.

31 F.

APRIL, 1916

2. New Moon	4h 21m P.M.
10. First Quarter	2h 36m P.M.
18. Full Moon	5h 8m A.M.
24. Last Quarter	10h 38m P.M.

M. W. Sundays, Holidays, &c.

1 S.

2 S.

3 M. Cambridge Lent Tm. e.

4 Tu. [Qtr. Sess. Wk.

5 W. Dividends due at Bank

6 Th.

7 F.

8 S. Fire Insurances expire

9 S.

10 M. 5 in Lent

11 Tu.

12 W.

13 Th.

14 F.

15 S.

16 S. Oxford Lent Term ends

17 M.

18 Tu.

19 W. Hilary Law Sittings end

20 Th. Maundy Thursday

21 F. Good Friday

22 S. Easter Even.

23 S. Easter Day. St. George

24 M. Easter Mon. Bank Hol.

25 Tu. Easter Tu. St. Mark, Ev.

[Camb Easter Term b.

26 W. Oxford Easter Term beg.

27 Th.

28 F.

29 S.

30 S. Low Sun.—1 aft. Easter

ECLIPSES IN 1916—contd.

II. FEBRUARY 3. Total Eclipse of the Sun. Line of Central Eclipse crosses the E. Pacific, Columbia, N.W. of Venezuela, Guadeloupe, the Azores, and ends in Long. 10°W., Lat. 49°N. Partial Eclipse visible in N. America (except N.W.), in N.W. of S. America, the Atlantic, N.W. Africa, Portugal, Spain, France, and the British Isles.

		<i>h.m.</i>	<i>Long.</i>	<i>Lat.</i>
Eclipse begins	..	1 27 p.m. in	109°W	3°S
Central „ „	..	2 29 „ „	122°W	7°N
„ „ ends	..	5 31 „ „	10°W	49°N
„ „ „	..	6 33 „ „	19°W	39°N

MAY, 1916.

2.	New Moon	5h 29m A.M.
10.	First Quarter	8h 47m A.M.
17.	Full Moon	2h 11m P.M.
24.	Last Quarter	5h 16m A.M.
31.	New Moon	7h 37m P.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 M.	SS. Phil. & Jas. Bk. Hol. [Scot. Hl., S. Ex. Rl. Ac. o.]
2 Tu.	Easter Law Sittings beg.
3 W.	
4 Th.	
5 F.	
6 S.	King's Accession, 1910
7 S.	2 after Easter
8 M.	
9 Tu.	Proc. King George V. [Half Quarter Day]
10 W.	
11 Th.	
12 F.	
13 S.	
14 S.	3 after Easter
15 M.	Scot. Qtr. Day (Whitsun- [day])
16 Tu.	
17 W.	
18 Th.	
19 F.	
20 S.	
21 S.	4 after Easter
22 M.	
23 Tu.	
24 W.	(Empire Day)
25 Th.	
26 F.	Queen Mary born, 1867
27 S.	
28 S.	Rogation Sunday
29 M.	Rogation Day
30 Tu.	Rogation Day
31 W.	Rogation Day

JUNE, 1916.

8.	First Quarter	11h 59m P.M.
15.	Full Moon	9h 42m P.M.
22.	Last Quarter	1h 16m P.M.
30.	New Moon	10h 43m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 Th.	Ascension Day
2 F.	
3 S.	King George V. b., 1865
4 S.	Sunday after Ascension
5 M.	
6 Tu.	
7 W.	
8 Th.	[Oxford Easter Term e.]
9 F.	Easter Law Sittings end.
10 S.	Oxford Trinity Tm. beg.
11 S.	Whit S. Em. W. S. Barn.
12 M.	Whit. Mon. Bk. Hol. [Ap.]
13 Tu.	Whitsun Tuesday
14 W.	Ember Day
15 Th.	
16 F.	Ember Day
17 S.	Ember Day
18 S.	Trinity Sunday
19 M.	
20 Tu.	Trin. Law Sittings beg.
21 W.	Summer com., 6h P.M.
22 Th.	Corpus Christi. Cor. [King. Geo. V., 1911]
23 F.	Pr. of Wales born, 1894
24 S.	St. John Bapt. Midsum. [D. Qr. D. Cam. East. T. e.]
25 S.	1 after Trinity
26 M.	Quarter Sessions Week
27 Tu.	
28 W.	
29 Th.	St. Peter, Ap.
30 F.	

ECLIPSES IN 1916—contd.

At	Begins h. m.	At	Begins h. m.
Dublin	.. 4 2 p.m.*	Oxford	.. 4 30 p.m.
Edinburgh	.. 4 27 ..	Cambridge	4 30 ..
Liverpool	.. 4 28 ..	London	.. 4 31 ..

* Irish Time.

III. JULY 15. Partial Eclipse of the Moon. Visible in Africa, S.W. Europe, the Atlantic, N. and S. America, and the S. Pacific.

Moon enters shadow	.. .. 3 19 a.m.
.. leaves	.. .. 6 12 ..

JULY, 1916.

8.	First Quarter	11h 55m A.M.
15.	Full Moon	4h 40m A.M.
21.	Last Quarter	11h 33m P.M.
30.	New Moon	2h 15m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 S.	Dominion Day, Canada
2 S.	2 aft. Trin. Ramadân
3 M.	[(Turkish Lent) beg
4 Tu.	Dec. of Amer. Independ.
5 W.	Dividends due at Bank
6 Th.	
7 F.	[Fire Insurances expire
8 S.	Oxford Trinity T. ends
9 S.	3 after Trinity
10 M.	
11 Tu.	
12 W.	
13 Th.	
14 F.	
15 S.	
16 S.	4 after Trinity
17 M.	
18 Tu.	
19 W.	
20 Th.	
21 F.	
22 S.	
23 S.	5 after Trinity
24 M.	
25 Tu.	St. James, Ap.
26 W.	
27 Th.	
28 F.	
29 S.	
30 S.	6 after Trinity
31 M.	Trin. Law Sittings end

AUGUST, 1916.

6.	First Quarter	9h 6m P.M.
13.	Full Moon	0h 0m P.M.
20.	Last Quarter	0h 53m P.M.
28.	New Moon	5h 25m P.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 Tu.	Lammas Day. Scottish
2 W.	[Quarter Day
3 Th.	
4 F.	War declared between Great Britain and Germany, 1914
5 S.	
6 S.	7 after Trinity
7 M.	Bank Holiday. Royal
8 Tu.	[Academy closes
9 W.	
10 Th.	
11 F.	Half Quarter Day
12 S.	Grouse Shooting begins
13 S.	8 after Trinity
14 M.	
15 Tu.	
16 W.	
17 Th.	
18 F.	
19 S.	
20 S.	9 after Trinity
21 M.	Black Game Shooting
22 Tu.	[begins
23 W.	
24 Th.	St. Bartholomew, Ap.
25 F.	
26 S.	
27 S.	10 after Trinity
28 M.	
29 Tu.	
30 W.	
31 Th.	

ECLIPSES IN 1916—contd.

IV. JULY 29-30. Annular Eclipse of the Sun. Line of Central Eclipse crosses Australia between Shark's Bay and Exmouth Gulf, over Townsend Ranges, E. of Lake Gairdner, Adelaide and Tasmania. Partial Eclipse visible in Malay Peninsula, Further India, the Philippines, Malaysia, Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

		<i>d. h. m.</i>	<i>Long.</i>	<i>Lat.</i>
	Eclipse begins	29 11 25 p.m.	in 103°E	9°S
Central	" "	30 0 51 a.m.	" 90°E	29°S
"	" ends	30 3 21 "	" 179°E	64°S
"	" "	30 4 47 "	" 179°E	46°S

SEPTEMBER, 1916.

5.	First Quarter	4h 27m A.M.
11.	Full Moon	8h 31m P.M.
19.	Last Quarter	5h 35m A.M.
27.	New Moon	7h 34m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 F.	Partridge Shooting beg.
2 S.	

3 S.	11 after Trinity
4 M.	
5 Tu.	
6 W.	
7 Th.	
8 F.	
9 S.	

10 S.	12 after Trinity
11 M.	
12 Tu.	
13 W.	
14 Th.	
15 F.	
16 S.	

17 S.	13 after Trinity. Ember
18 M.	[Week]
19 Tu.	
20 W.	Ember Day
21 Th.	St. Matthew, Ap.
22 F.	Ember Day [9h A.M.]
23 S.	Ember D. Autumn com.,

24 S.	14 after Trinity.
25 M.	
26 Tu.	
27 W.	
28 Th.	Jewish Year 5677 begins
29 F.	St. Michael & All Angels.
	[Mich. Day. Qtr. Day]
30 S.	

OCTOBER, 1916.

4.	First Quarter	11h 1m A.M.
11.	Full Moon	7h 1m A.M.
19.	Last Quarter	1h 9m A.M.
26.	New Moon	8h 37m P.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 S.	15 aft. Trin. Cambridge
	[Michaelmas Term beg.]
2 M.	Pheasant Shooting beg.

3 Tu.	
4 W.	
5 Th.	Dividends due at Bank
6 F.	
7 S.	

8 S.	16 after Trinity
9 M.	
10 Tu.	Oxford Mich. Term beg.
11 W.	
12 Th.	Mich. Law Sitts. begin
13 F.	
14 S.	Fire Insurances expire

15 S.	17 after Trinity
16 M.	Quarter Sessions Week
17 Tu.	
18 W.	St. Luke, Evan.
19 Th.	
20 F.	
21 S.	Trafalgar Day (1805)

22 S.	18 after Trinity
23 M.	
24 Tu.	
25 W.	
26 Th.	
27 F.	[Moham. Year 1335 b.]
28 S.	St. Simon & Jude.

29 S.	19 after Trinity
30 M.	
31 Tu.	

ECLIPSES IN 1916—contd.

	At	Begins.	Ends.	
		d. h. m.	h. m.	
Adelaide..	30	10 13 a.m.	1 45 p.m.	Standard Time.
„ (Annular)	11	57 „	0 3 „	
Perth ..	..	7 58 „	11 16 a.m.	
Melbourne ..	..	11 2 „	2 26 p.m.	
Sydney ..	..	11 12 „	2 32 „	
Wellington, N.Z.	1	41 p.m.	4 16 „	

V. DECEMBER 24. Partial Eclipse of the Sun. Visible only in the Antarctic regions.

NOVEMBER, 1916.

2. First Quarter	5h 51m P.M.
9. Full Moon	8h 18m P.M.
17. Last Quarter	10h 1m P.M.
25. New Moon	8h 50m A.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 W.	All Saints' Day. Hol. [Stock Exch.]
2 Th.	
3 F.	
4 S.	
5 S.	20 after Trinity
6 M.	[Gunpowder Plot]
7 Tu.	
8 W.	
9 Th.	King Edw. VII. b., 1841
10 F.	
11 S.	Martinmas. Scottish Qtr. [Day. Half Qtr. Day]
12 S.	21 after Trinity
13 M.	
14 Tu.	
15 W.	
16 Th.	
17 F.	
18 S.	
19 S.	22 after Trinity
20 M.	
21 Tu.	
22 W.	
23 Th.	
24 F.	
25 S.	
26 S.	23 after Trinity
27 M.	
28 Tu.	
29 W.	
30 Th.	St. Andrew, Ap.

DECEMBER, 1916.

2. First Quarter	1h 56m A.M.
9. Full Moon	0h 44m P.M.
17. Last Quarter	6h 6m P.M.
24. New Moon	8h 31m P.M.
31. First Quarter	0h 7m P.M.

M. W. *Sundays, Holidays, &c.*

1 F.	Qn. Alexandra born, 1844
2 S.	
3 S.	1 in Advent
4 M.	
5 Tu.	
6 W.	
7 Th.	
8 F.	
9 S.	Blk. Game & Grouse Sh e.
10 S.	2 in Advent
11 M.	
12 Tu.	
13 W.	
14 Th.	
15 F.	
16 S.	
17 S.	3 in Advent. Emb. Wk.
18 M.	Oxford Mich. Term ends
19 Tu.	Camb. Mich. Term ends
20 W.	Ember Day
21 Th.	Mich. Law Sittings end. [St. Thomas, Ap.]
22 F.	Ember Dy. Winter com.
23 S.	Ember Day [4h A.M.]
24 S.	4 in Advent
25 M.	Christmas Day. Qtr. D.
26 Tu.	St. Steph., M. Boxing D.
27 W.	St. John, Evan. [Bk. Hol.]
28 Th.	Innocents' Day
29 F.	
30 S.	
31 S.	1 after Christmas

FIXED AND MOVABLE FESTIVALS, &c., 1917.

January—Epiphany (6). *Feb.*—Septuagesima Sunday (4); Quinquagesima—Shrove Sunday (18); Ash Wednesday (21); Quadragesima—First Sunday in Lent (25). *March*—St. David (1); St. Patrick (17); Annunciation—Lady Day (25). *April*—Palm Sunday (1); Good Friday (6); Easter Day (8); Low Sunday (15); St. George (23). *May*—Accession of King George V. (6); Proclamation (9); Rogation Sunday (13); Ascension Day—Holy Thursday (17); Queen Mary's Birthday (26); Whit Sunday (27). *June*—Trinity Sunday (3); King's Birthday (3); Corpus Christi (7); Birthday of Prince of Wales (23); St. John Baptist (24). *Sept.*—St. Michael & All Angels—Michaelmas Day (29). *November*—St. Andrew (30). *December*—Queen Alexandra's Birthday (1); First Sunday in Advent (2); St. Thomas (21); Christmas Day (25).

ALMANAC FOR 1917.

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	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN...	..	1	2	3	4	5	6
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	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31
FEB...	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	..	..	..
MAR...	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30
MAY...	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	..	..
JUNE	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31
AUG...	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	..
SEPT.	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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OCT...	..	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31
NOV...	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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	25	26	27	28	29	30	..
DEC...	1
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Memoranda Tel-el-Kebir

2. Greater Love hath no man
than this than the man
who lays down his life
for his friend. Tel-el-Kebir
service on Palm Sunday

On our trip through France
from Marseilles to Le Havre
proved very interesting; down
in the South of France every inch
of ground seems to be under
cultivation. We passed through
the Rhone Valley to Dijon, Juvisy,
Versailles, Meaux & Havre.

The people all along the line gave
us a great welcome & everywhere
conveners, especially our badges are
in great demand. We passed
through some large grape & wine
producing centres & one place
Macon is one of the largest
wine producing centres in the
World. We were 53 hours in the
train but used to stop at places
where they had boiling water ready
for us to make tea. At Dijon &
several other places our train

Register of Special Letters.

was met by French Red Cross nurses
a lady supporters who ~~are~~ very liberally
handed out hot tea & coffee. On
our way from Harre to Caestre
we were about 30 hrs in train
& had a lovely trip along the coast
passing through Amiens, Abbeyville,
~~But~~ Boulogne & Calais. Although
we are not very far away from
the line & can hear the guns there
is very little signs of war, except
for the scarcity of men in
civil life & the presence of troops
I weighed my self since coming
here & find I now weigh 11 - 9 So
military life abroad has
been very agreeable to my health
Feel very fit & anxious to get
to the firing line, but I suppose
that will come later on.

Wednesday July ¹⁹¹⁴. Our artillery
shelled the enemy position on
the right from 12 noon till 6 pm
when the Inf. charged & up till 8 pm
had taken 4 lines of trenches. We
are all very anxious & eager for
news. A few wounded mostly

Telephone Numbers

NAME.	TELEPHONE.
artillery are being brought in to the dressing station here. At 9.30 P.M. I went down to the village & there saw about 50 prisoners arrive they were the 1 st prisoners taken in the charge. all look well. Our chaps gave them cigarettes & matches & they tore nearly all their buttons off & gave them to us as souvenirs. I got one. Later in the night more wounded of both sides arrived & a very heavy bombardment is going on on our left towards Armentières. The sky is ablaze with flashes from the guns. During the day the Germans HE shells were dropping within 50 yds on either side of us but doing no damage. Next morning just as we harnessed up they shelled us with HE & shrapnel. Our team with 3 others took ammunition to a 4.5 Batty. just got off our mules when the enemy opened fire on us & the shells burst thick & strong all round our teams one mule was hit in the front leg with a piece of shell & we were ordered off at a gallop. Our team the third had only gone about 20 yds when the mules swerved	

Addresses

NAME

RESIDENCE

to the right, there was a terrific explosion & for a moment we were deafened & blinded with the concussion the limber was thrown to the right of the road, about 4 or 5 ft. by the force of the explosion, & we were covered with mud & pieces of brick & stuff which had been thrown up by the shell, an H E which must have missed our loaded limber by inches. We wheeled the corner & had to clear off at a gallop but returned & unloaded about 20 minutes after. when they were quiet. (This is the closest I have ever been to a bursting shell & if we had be one second later passing Well — I would not have written this. While we were out this morn we saw a lot of the 8th Bgde Inf just back from the trenches. They lost a lot of men last night but took 400 prisoners & 4 lines of trenches but their supports were cut off & they had to retire. A glorious charge no doubt but hard luck

Addresses.

NAME.

RESIDENCE.

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Engagements

NAME, RESIDENCE, DATE

The night was very dark
 and I was a moment or two
 surprised. I think with the darkness
 the camp was known to the right of
 the road, about up of 5 ft. by the front
 of the enclosure, & at once covered
 with mud & pieces of fuel, & stuff
 which had been thrown up by the
 shell and I which must have meant
 our loaded limber by which the shells
 became & had to clear the way for
 the limber & the shells. I returned
 to our camp after which we were
 quiet (this is the closest I have
 been to a burning shell &
 if we had been one second later we
 would have been killed. I would not have written
 this. We were not there more
 than a lot of the old people
 and back from the trenches. I
 took a lot of men but right by
 the old prisoners & the
 trenches but their supports were
 cut off & they had to retire & give
 up the ground but hard work

Engagements

MY TRAVEL

To From
Town Town

4201

NO. OF BOOK

WATCH

BICYCLE

STORY TICKET

SEASON

TELEPHONE

TELEPHONE ADDRESS

SIZE IN HOOTS

COLEMAN 14 1/2

HEIGHT 10.0

2 1/2 1/4

INSURANCE

ACCIDENT

BURGLARY

FIRE

LIBR

REVENUE

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

2011

Personal Reminders

NO. OF ^{Pay}~~PAY~~ BOOK **4901**

„ „ WATCH
 „ „ BICYCLE
 „ „ STORES TICKET
 „ „ SEASON „
 „ „ TELEPHONE

MY TRAINS

To Town	From Town
------------	--------------

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS

SIZE IN BOOTS **6⁵/₈** GLOVES

COLLARS **14¹/₂** HATS **6³/₄**

WEIGHT **10.0.**

HEIGHT **5ft 9.in**

INSURANCE

ACCIDENT

BURGLARY

FIRE

LIFE

SERVANTS

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

1916

January

6 THURSDAY

2 SUNDAY
3 AFTER CHRISTMAS

7 FRIDAY

3 MONDAY

1 SATURDAY

4 TUESDAY

MEMS

5 WEDNESDAY

January. Personal Reminders

1916

2 SUNDAY
2 AFTER CHRISTMAS

4901

MY TRAINS
To From
Place Town

3 MONDAY

SHIRT IN DOORS 6 1/2 GLOVES

COLLARS 14 1/2 HATS 6 1/2

WEIGHT 100 HEIGHT 5 1/2 7 1/2

INSURANCE

ACCIDENT

4 TUESDAY

1 SATURDAY

FILE

LIFE

EXHIBITS

PERSON'S NAME AND ADDRESS

5 WEDNESDAY

MEMO

6

1916

January

6 THURSDAY

8 SUNDAY
1 AFTER BIRTHDAY

7 FRIDAY

10 MONDAY

8 SATURDAY

11 TUESDAY

MEMS.

12 WEDNESDAY

January

1916

9 SUNDAY
1 AFTER EPIPHANY

THURSDAY 8

10 MONDAY

FRIDAY 7

11 TUESDAY

SATURDAY 8

12 WEDNESDAY

MEMS

1916

January

13 THURSDAY

18 SUNDAY

14 FRIDAY

17 MONDAY

15 SATURDAY

18 TUESDAY

MEMS.

19 WEDNESDAY

January

1916

16 SUNDAY
2 AFTER EPIPHANY

13 THURSDAY

17 MONDAY

14 FRIDAY

18 TUESDAY

15 SATURDAY

19 WEDNESDAY

MEMS

1916

January

20 THURSDAY

23 SUNDAY

21 FRIDAY

24 MONDAY

22 SATURDAY

25 TUESDAY

MEMS.

26 WEDNESDAY

January

1916

23 SUNDAY
3 AFTER EPIPHANY

20 THURSDAY

24 MONDAY

21 FRIDAY

25 TUESDAY

22 SATURDAY

26 WEDNESDAY

23 MEMS.

6 1916

January

27 THURSDAY

30 SUNDAY
1 AFTER EPIPHANY

28 FRIDAY

31 MONDAY

29 SATURDAY

1 FEB TUESDAY

MEMS

2 WEDNESDAY

Jan & Feb

1916

30 SUNDAY
4 AFTER EPIPHANY

27 THURSDAY

31 MONDAY

28 FRIDAY

1 FEB TUESDAY

29 SATURDAY

2 WEDNESDAY

MEMS

1916

February

3 THURSDAY

6 SUNDAY
5 AFTER BIRTHDAY

4 FRIDAY

7 MONDAY

5 SATURDAY

8 TUESDAY

MEMS.

9 WEDNESDAY

February

1916

6 SUNDAY

5 AFTER EPIPHANY

THURSDAY 8

7 MONDAY

FRIDAY 4

8 TUESDAY

SATURDAY 5

9 WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY 6

1916

February

10 THURSDAY

11 FRIDAY

12 SATURDAY

MEMS.

February

1916

13 SUNDAY
6 AFTER EPIPHANY

10 THURSDAY

14 MONDAY

11 FRIDAY

15 TUESDAY

12 SATURDAY

16 WEDNESDAY

MEMO

1916

February

17 THURSDAY

20 SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Arrived home after
having a good trip

18 FRIDAY

21 MONDAY

Enjoying myself
Lunch very quiet
after City life
and to my room at the
Hotel

19 SATURDAY

22 TUESDAY

Left for
Singapore on Saturday
at the evening practice
Robinson about 6 miles
West of Fort

MEMS.

23 WEDNESDAY

Left out to battle
ground & completed
practice left for Singapore
1:30 P.M. 9.00 P.M.
Home for future leave

February

1916

20 SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

17 THURSDAY

21 MONDAY

18 FRIDAY

22 TUESDAY

Date should be Feb 29

Marched out from
Liverpool on bivouac
& battle firing practice
Distance about 6 miles

Incorrect Entry

23 WEDNESDAY

19 MONDAY

Went out to battle
ground & completed
practice. Left for Liverpool
1-30. Caught 9-55 train
home for final leave

1916

February

24 THURSDAY

Arrived home after
having a good trip

25 FRIDAY

Enjoying myself
Town very quiet
after City life
Send off to myself & Bill Collyer
both presented with wet watch

26 SATURDAY

Nothing fresh

MEMS

27 SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

28 MONDAY

Left for Sydney in
company with Dotie & some
of the boys. Had a lovely
trip down.

29 TUESDAY

Left Liverpool
for Moore Park 1-45 p.m.
marched through Streets
& after being ~~interviewed~~
inspected by State Commandant
Went to Show ground, had dinner
with auntie Edie.

1 MARCH WEDNESDAY.

Up at 3 am
left Show ground for wharf at
4-57 am. & at 8-10 am moved
out from wharf amidst cheers
& to the tune of after Yang syne
left Heads 2pm. Water very rough
boat shipping big seas

1916

March

2 THURSDAY Weather lovely & sea very smooth feeling splendid & have not been a bit sea sick passed Cabo Is. 3 p.m., 7 p.m. 300 miles from Sydney. passed a couple of hours playing cards.

3 FRIDAY Sighted land about 2 p.m. & lost it again towards night. Weather very cold but sea very smooth, beginning to rock towards night.

4 SATURDAY No land in sight all day sea very smooth, having a lovely trip. Mc. in hospital & not too good. getting a bit rough to night passed 2 steamers & a sailing vessel today

MEMS. Made mistake in first entry. I made it a week too early & hence the double entry of trip for first few days

March

1916

5 QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Last Sunday at home
with father & mother

6 MONDAY

Left for Sydney
in company with Doris
& some of the boys.
Had a lovely trip down
in the train.

7 SHROVE TUESDAY

Left Liverpool
for Moore Park 1-45 p.m.
marched through Sydney
Street, & after being inspected
by State Commandant. went
to Show Grounds. Had our last
meal in Australia with Auntie Edie.

8 ASH WEDNESDAY

Up at 3 a.m. left
Show Grounds for wharf 4:57 a.m.
& at 8-10 a.m. moved out
from wharf amidst cheers from
thousands to the Auld Lang Syne
Clearing Heads 2 p.m. water
rough shipping sea fore deck

1916

March

9 THURSDAY Weather lovely &
sea very calm feeling
splendid & have not felt
a bit sea sick. Passed
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 7 p.m. 300
miles from Sydney. Passed
couple of hours playing cards.

10 FRIDAY Sighted land about
2 p.m. & lost it again
towards night. Weather
very cold, sea very calm
Boat beginning to
rock a little towards
night.

11 SATURDAY No land in sight
all day. Sea very smooth.
Having lovely trip. M^{rs}. taken
to Hospital (influenza) & not
so good, getting a bit rough
to night. Passed 2 steamers
& one sailing vessel.

MEMS.

March

1916

12 SUNDAY ^{1 IN LENT} Sea very smooth. Mc₂ discharged from hospital. Sausages for breakfast also jam for 1st time. Sighted whale to port side 7 p.m. Church 11 a.m. Prayers & sang a few Hymns, after Tea

13 MONDAY Sea still very calm & nothing at all fresh

14 TUESDAY Chops for breakfast first time. Very heavy swell on. Saw 6 boats today. 5 at one time about 4 p.m. Think we must be near Albany, Concert to-night.

15 WEDNESDAY Weather very fine. very heavy swell. Saw last glimpse of West Australia. passed a P & O boat. supposed to be carrying wounded. Weather getting warmer

1916

March

16 THURSDAY Sea very calm.

Crew putting canvas awnings over the decks. Boxing tournament started to-night.

17 FRIDAY Getting very hot.

9 hundreds of flying fish to be seen in the water ~~fish~~. They shoot out of the water in front of the boat & fly for from 5 to 20 yards through the air.

18 SATURDAY

Washing day, every washing dolly clothes & the ship looks just like the back yard of a laundry. Tournament continued & concert to-night.

MEMS

19 SUNDAY
2 IN LENT

Bathing parade
divine service
11 a.m. Very cloudy
& very like rain
hundreds of flying
fish to be seen

20 MONDAY

Weather very
hot & muggy. After
lunch. F. H. H. H.
& every body had to
come on deck wearing
life belts. Lantern lecture
on Egypt & Soudan.

21 TUESDAY

Innoculation
for last time on ship
passed vessel, Starboard
just after sundown
long way out. going quiet.
Concert at night
Rabbit stew for dinner.

22 WEDNESDAY

Just before
breakfast passed sperm
whale, which had been dead
for some time, floating on
water. Odour very high

✓
23 THURSDAY To-day crossed
the line at about 5.30
p.m. but did not hold
any celebrations.
concert at night.
Colonel would not allow
any Father Neptune

24 FRIDAY Preparations
being made by crew
to move ship at Colombo
Working Steam Winches
hauling up hawsaws etc

25 SATURDAY Sighted land 8 a.m. &
hugged coast, Ceylon all
day entered port about 5.30
started coaling at once
also took fresh water etc.
anchored beside H.M.S. Viceroy
Jap. G.B. Balaram Colombo Port

MEMS. Had a real good time in
Colombo & had a good look
round the harbour was
full of ships of all kinds
going & coming all day
roughly made up
very tired & got very sunburnt

March HM N.Z.T.S. 47748 arrived 1916
early

26 SUNDAY

3rd LENT

Everything black with coal dust 3 coys went ashore 7-30 am. remainder of us went 10-30. Went for route march round Corso. thence to barracks. back 2-30 pm. a lot P.O. 2 to shore.

27 MONDAY

Very one anxious to get ashore. no leave. a lot P.O. 2 barges to shore. Went in swimming along side P.O. 2 shore 2 pm came back 5-30. boat gone. launch took us out to it barges coming all night. Sailed 1 am.

28 TUESDAY

No sight of land early. left Colombo behind. Sighted & hugged Indian coast all afternoon. A lot of boys fired for coming late to keep boat 9 hrs late. She should have sailed 4 pm.

29 WEDNESDAY

Nothing very interesting. Most of our time spent talking over our experiences in Colombo.

1916

March & April

30 THURSDAY

Weather very cool considering our position on the map. Everything getting clearer now after cooling at Colombo.

26th M. best
31 FRIDAY

Weather still very cool & sea calm. Had a luxury for lunch in shape of pickles. Ship steering a very zig-zag course but not travelling as well as before. Colombo could no good.

1 APRIL SATURDAY Last round

Passing Loutnamant. Ernie May lost \$5. money belt & watch concert at night a few. Tropical Sea birds flying about, also very large flying fish & hundreds of porpoises.

MEMS.

April

1916

2 SUNDAY
4 IN LENT

Holy Communion
Service on board
Passed Islands of Secotia
inhabited by cannibals
Sea a bit choppy
passed several ships

3 MONDAY

Nothing eventful
except large numbers
of birds which
indicate land not
far off.

4 TUESDAY

Very hot, Passed
Aden 12-30 pm. Very
large & rough rock
formations in front
of Aden. Cloud mist
encircling Summit
Sight House Is of Perim 9 pm.

5 WEDNESDAY

Passed through
Hell's gates early morning
Day very hot & cannot
bear to touch iron work
of ship where Sun shines.
Passed 12 Apostles.

1916

April

6 THURSDAY

Weather a little cooler. Pay day for last time on board Transport.

7 FRIDAY

Very cool breeze blowing & sea very choppy passed Hospital ship at Nuwara Eliya 7:30 p.m. bound for ~~Bombay~~ ^{Bombay} also passed several other vessels & light House at night.

8 SATURDAY

Weather cool & sea very calm Gulf of Suez 9 a.m. land both sides very rough & barren, can see for miles over water over took 3 boats, 2 French, 1 Russian. Group S. P. p.m. A. 15, R. 15, Sig. each other. Ran very close & exchanged Cheers.

MEMS. Great excitement amongst our boys.

April

1916

Sighted Suez lights very early morn
~~slowed down~~ speed. dropped anchor
6.30 a.m. ^{5 IN LENT} closely followed by 5 other
Steamers. All preparations made to
land. 11 a.m. Orders cancelled. Have to
go Alexandria. Ostensibly arrived afternoon
from London & took our mails. Left Suez 6 p.m.
Great excitement leaving troops camped
along canal & we are exchanging
greetings.

TO MONDAY Arrived at Port Said
7.30 a.m. anchored alongside
Toronto. Several French B. Ships
in Harbour. Natives started to
coal at once. Took 47 gun on
board & mounted it astern. Orders
to disembark early next day.

ROSE SUESDAY dressed & went on Deck
all ready to disembark but did not
get off till 10 a.m. immediately
entertained for destination unknown
arrived Tel-el-Kebir 4 p.m. Went
straight into camp stiff. Very cold
Tel-el-Kebir old battle field of 1882
where Kitchener fought. Arabs

Called MONDAY Volunteers Artillery
at once as soon as we were
taken to Camp. All 15th of 18th
split up as volunteers for
artillery, Pioneers, Cyclists,
No. 9 Section etc

1916

April

13 THURSDAY

Went over to the old cemetery & saw all the graves of men who fought & fell in the Battles of Kassassin, Tel-el-Kebir in August & September of 1882. Many fine stones erected.

14 FRIDAY

Went up to Light Horse Camp & saw Jack Hulse & Harry McAuliffe of Dubbo, also saw Jack Clements of Tas. Engraved as soon as he arrived from Australia. Also saw a light skinned man who knew N. B. Lovell. 12th.

15 SATURDAY

Went out over the old Battle field of Tel-el-Kebir & saw all the old embankments etc which were used by Kitchener & his men in 1882. One very large trench about 9 miles long stands to this day as good as new. This Battle was

MEMS

where the British square was broken by the Arabs. Received orders to be ready next day to move off to the artillery camp.

April

1916

16 PALM SUNDAY Went to early morning service delivered to about 84,000 men. Scrap S.C. 38 prisoners taken to Cairo. Left Tel-el-Kabir for Serapeum at 6 pm arrived Camp 9-30

17 MONDAY Will Collyer & May & Mack also came to artillery at once attached to B.A.C. Commenced drill which is entirely different to our Inf drill but is very easy to learn. Camp only a new

18 TUESDAY one 9 is stationed on 6airo Suez line about 10 miles from Suez 9 is on the Canal 2nd line of D. Second line about 14 or 15 mi Our S.M. is Brother in law to Canon Lee of Dubbo

19 WEDNESDAY Today is our 1/2 holiday & in evening I went over to Canal for Suez. Also went over to the other camp. Have not seen Cairo yet but feel quite happy & contented.

1916

April

20 THURSDAY

Very heavy M.G. R.F.
Art 3, all morning over S. C.

21 GOOD FRIDAY

Devine service
in the morning had
bacon & bully beef for 2 meals
& jam & cheese for supper.
also drilled out in the desert
all day.

22 SATURDAY

23 Wednesday
MEMS.

Saw the Inspector
General of Egyptian Forces, the
Prince of Wales & Staff arrive
from Suez. ~~They were~~
~~over inspecting troops at Canal~~
& Rail Head

April

1916

23 EASTER DAY Devine Service in morning & B.A.C. drill day. We were all drilling from 5-30 to 7-30 am. after lunch some of us went over to the Canal for a swim. Did not go myself felt too lazy.

24 EASTER MONDAY Nothing doing except drill & we get 7 hours a day. heard heavy art & m.g. firing to Suez Canal but think it is only practice.

25 EASTER TUESDAY ^{1st} Anniversary of landing at A.K.Z.A.C.. Holiday for all troops in Egypt. Sports held on the Canal. Swimming etc on the water. Did not go over myself felt too lazy. Stayed in camp & wrote home.

26 WEDNESDAY Heard heavy firing in early morning afterwards heard rumours about a bit of a scrap between Royal Scots & Turks, but only with rumours & nothing definite.

1916

April

27 THURSDAY Some of the rumours confirmed in the papers about fight in Sinai. also a few bombs dropped on Port Said but no damage done

28 FRIDAY Paid for 1st time in Egypt. Since landing I was paid in 8.50 pt notes equal to £10.9 in £. No overy also got 5 letters from Australia first mail & was very glad to get it.

29 SATURDAY Had to turn out at 2.30 am & unload about 360 mules off the train: got back to camp at 5 am & brought 100 mules for B.A.C.

MEMS.

30 LOW SUNDAY Divine Service
 1 AFTER EASTER early morning Holy Communion
 11 a.m. Went to Canal
 for swim & saw a lot of
 friends, from Pioneer Corps
 that came over with us
 from Australia

1 MAY MONDAY Met. Alf McLean,
 from Orange who came
 to Sydney with us & after-
 wards came over to Egypt
 with 15 Regt 1st L.H. Felt a
 bit off all day but think
 it is only a cold.

2 TUESDAY Jan OK to-day nothing
 in particular doing
 to. except same old
 drill routine

3 WEDNESDAY Went swimming
 all afternoon & had some
 good sport. Concert at night,
 promoted by our Chaplain

1916

May

4 THURSDAY Drew ammunition for our brigade. Preparations being made for practice out in the desert.

5 FRIDAY Our 18. p.w.s & Howitzers firing for first time at targets out in the desert mounted on horse picket at 5-30 p.m.

6 SATURDAY All our drivers took all the mules we had over to Rail Head & brought Horses back in their places. Had to ride them bare-backed & came home very much in need of Zam.

MEMS.

Met Len Butcher here, he came over with Roy Staubridge from Luna Park with horses for 4 Division. Both look well.

May

1916

7 SUNDAY

2 AFTER EASTER

Church Parade 7 am
10 am went to
Suez Canal for swim. Also
visited native gardens &
ploughed a few furrows with
wooden plough & 2 bullocks.
Mounted Brigade Guard 5-30 p.m.

8 MONDAY

On Guard, all day
& weather very hot. Very heavy
naval firing by large guns
on Suez Canal but think is
only practice. Had to draw all
harness etc from Canal at 11 p.m.
one team had an accident. & at

9 TUESDAY

1 am 7 or 8 of us had
to get out of bed to go down
& put it on a culvert;
over the Freshwater canal, where
the drivers had run off.
Had to fumigate all our blankets
clothing etc. & strike tents.

10 WEDNESDAY

afternoon 4 of us went
over to Range & collected some
shells etc. walked about 9 miles
out over sandy desert without
water. Concert at night
arranged by Chaplin

1916

May

11 THURSDAY Drivers all very busy cleaning & putting to gether ^{earnings} rumours of leaving here very soon. Very heavy fog this morning till 8 a.m. Met S. Lemon. of Seaside. in 40th Battery.

12 FRIDAY Nothing doing this afternoon. So 3 or 4 of us took a walk away out into the desert about 4 miles away to get a few of the Shell ~~caps~~ caps fired by our guns at practice but could only find 3 any good.

13 SATURDAY

16 TUESDAY

MEMS.

17 WEDNESDAY

May

1916

14 SUNDAY Devine Service
3 AFTER EASTER

after noon went to
Canal for a swim

15 MONDAY

16 TUESDAY

17 WEDNESDAY

1916

May

18 THURSDAY

19 FRIDAY

20 SATURDAY

MEMS.

Nothing eventful^{all}
has happened, at this
week, hence no entry.
Only general camp
routine.

May

1916

21 SUNDAY

4 AFTER EASTER

Divine service in the morning & afternoon went to canal for a swim also went to service at night.

22 MONDAY

On Guard over prisoners. Weather very hot, but feel very fit & well & anxious to get away to the front. We hear rumours but they only raise our hopes for a while & then the time seems to drag twice as long.

23 TUESDAY

B. A. C. disbanded & men transferred to D. A. C. McE & I came down here to D. A. C. & were all put in together, do not relish the change at all but suppose all is for the best.

24 WEDNESDAY

I was transferred today to another section & so McE & I are parted for the first time since joining the Army.

1916

May

25 THURSDAY Tried very hard to get a transfer back to section with Mc. or to get him in with me, but could not manage it. & everybody paid up in full to-day. promoted to temporary driver.

26 FRIDAY & everyone issued with rifles for front; & everyone anxious to get away & be doing something

27 SATURDAY Will Collyer left Serapeum West, with details, for Tel. el-Kebir does not like going, but it is all his own fault he is not with us. he would listen to strangers. (J. De pozey, etc) instead of us

MEMS.

May

1916

1

28 ROGATION SUNDAY Last Sunday in Egypt went to church & had a march passed for General Cox. After noon rehearsal parade for all ranks, preparing for review of Division tomorrow

29 MONDAY Very hot & Dusty. D.A.C & Artillery with all guns marched to Suez Canal to take part in Div Review before Colonel Cox & Staff. Last review of 4th Div in Egypt. Wrote home last line from Egypt

30 TUESDAY a lot of Tommy Artillery arrived at Serapeum West to take over our camp most of them have seen service in France.

31 WEDNESDAY The 11th Brigade left to-night for Alexandria to embark for France. Went to Railway to see niggers loading guns

1916

June

1 THURSDAY Post office in camp closed for good. Can neither send nor receive mails till we get to our destination overseas.

2 FRIDAY 12th Brigade left. To-day also 4th & 5th Battalions saw Gen. Fasserre & a lot of the boys who came over on the boat with us.

3 SATURDAY Pioneers from C. S. & Howitz Battery left Serapeum, for purpose of embarking for France. We were all allowed to go to Canal for a swim.

MEMS. For the last fortnight we have been looking forward to our removal, as a school-child looks for Xmas. Days seem years & tomorrow never seems to come.

June

1916

4 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Still another Sunday in Egypt
I all anxiously & impatiently
waiting for our removal to
War Zone. Church parade for
D.A.C. only. Expect to leave
to-morrow.

5 MONDAY

Struck all our tents
& my section no I left camp
for Railway station 3 pm &
loaded our train in intense
heat. Left for Alexandria
5 pm. and arrived wharf
about midnight. Loaded

6 TUESDAY

our horses on the Horseboat.
& then went aboard 9.062.
P.S.N.C. Orania. Rest of D.A.C.
arrived & came aboard 9 am.
about 4 pm. left the wharf &
anchored out near harbour
entrance.

7 WEDNESDAY

Weighted anchor &
sailed 9 a.m. beautiful weather
& a lovely cool breeze blowing
from West

1916

June

8 THURSDAY Passed Candia or Brete
Very close coast all day. Left
Candia behind Sundown
A good many Watch dogs
prowling about all day long
Mounded Sub Guards to watch
for Tin fish from Sun R to S. Set

9 FRIDAY Beautiful weather & sea
calm. passed Malta early
morning saw dim coast line
expected to call but were as
usual disappointed. Received
wireless message war news
[Still a few W. Dogs.] Malta

10 SATURDAY Passed the Island
of "Pantalaria" fairly close
to shore. Could see hundreds
of huts & tents. They are ^{occupied by} prisoners
of war & men who have to
serve long terms of imprisonment
Isle belongs to Italy.

MEMS.

June

1916

11 WHIT SUNDAY Divine Service

10.30. Passed the belands of Corsica & Sardinia today but could not see the coast very plain. Sea very rough & most of the troops are very sea-sick. War news Malta.

12 WHITSUN MONDAY Arrived at Marseilles

about 8 a.m. anchored out till afternoon when we went in & moved to wharf. Very pretty scenery from boat. Towering white cliffs. Railway running round side of mountain & large chemical works built on side of steep cliffs.

13 WHITSUN TUESDAY D. A.C. Disembarked

early & waited on the wharf till 3 p.m. marched to Troop Station & left just before sundown. Went through very long tunnel & then were running through lovely green fields & orchards. very picturesque & thickly populated. Change from Egypt.

14 WEDNESDAY Travelling along river Rhone

& through gloriously pretty country. passed Chagny, Macon etc & had lunch at Dijon Red cross nurses gave us tea. Great welcomes from people along line La. Roache 12 o'clock NIGHT. MACON largest wine centre in the world.

Everybody asking for souvenirs
1916 our badges are in great demand
June

Very large wheat fields. No fences

15 THURSDAY 5 a.m. awoke & found
the train pulled up at Juvisy.
Saw for the first time an Electric
train & also got severe shock from
the current rail. Had lunch at Maule
& stayed at station for 3 hrs. A.S.C. Rover
arrived Le Havre 7:30. Marched 6 miles to

16 FRIDAY no 2. Rest camp 7:30 A.M.
are allowed to rest all day
& stroll round. So I went ^{for} about
5 or 6 mile walk around Le
Havre. Some very pretty scenery
around the suburbs & outskirts
of city. Le Havre although a very

17 SATURDAY old place & a very busy
seaport; is very much behind
Sydney in the way of building. Very
limited tram service & most car work
is done by women both ticket-collecting
& driving. Women street sweeping. Only
6 or 8 hrs from England. Enormous

MEMS ~~amount~~ amount of shipping
done here & boats come up to the
wharves in locks. Twilight in Havre
lasts till about 10 p.m. Country seems to be
at its best now & I like it very much
indeed. Am trying to learn French
but do not make much headway

June

1916

18 TRINITY SUNDAY We all marched 7 miles to Remount Depot & brought back 1000 mules for D.A.C. Remount Depot very up-to-date. Beautiful stabling accommodation. Lawns & flower beds etc between rows of fields. Beautiful Pansies blooming.

19 MONDAY Every man took 2 mules down to Le Havre & drew harness & saddles. all day on an early breakfast. Camp again with waggon & L. 9.30 p.m. Supper 11.30. paid for 1st time in France leaving for F. line tomorrow (pay 30 francs) E.S. B.D.

20 TUESDAY Left camp Sunbury. for Le Havre. loaded waggon a.o. Depot. Officer leading us to Railway got lost. wandered all round Havre for 2 hrs. load mules & baggage & left for Destination unknown 8.30 p.m. Went to bed & slept well. Cattle truck.

21 WEDNESDAY Awoke 7.30. Droc-Le-Havre. Met 3 Soldier spoke English exchanged souvenirs. new Franc. RS. Calais. Bolonge. No sleep all night. Hurt & pushed out of train by mule. Seriously injured.

1916

June

22 THURSDAY Arrived Caestre 1 am
drove waggons to billet farm 2 miles.
Breakfast time. Saw several 'Planes
air duel. Shrapnel fired also 2 enemy
planes & 1 British brought down. Can
hear big guns booming in distance
2 'G' Planes flew over our billets back.

23 FRIDAY Raining heavily all day
long 'planes flying in heavy rain
Very heavy bombardment lasted
all day & 1/2 night. Went down town
again & had a good time café
Our billet in farm house amongst
beautiful green surroundings.

24 SATURDAY Still raining heavily &
mules in mud to knees. No planes
out this morning. but one flew towards
line late only one today. All our letters
issued today. Guns seem very quiet all day
Caestre was at mercy of Germans about
18 mts ago. F. Line about 15 miles away

MEMS. ~~Saturday~~

Hurst who was pushed out of truck
by the mule was cut to pieces by
another train & the inquest took
place in Calais. Open verdict
returned

June

1916

25 SUNDAY

LATER TRINITY

Greased our harness
& while doing so about 20
planes were flying about
~~over~~ over our billets & back
towards the line. Can plainly
see anti aircraft guns shelling
the planes in distance

26 MONDAY

Raining heavily
& took mules for exercise in
the afternoon through FLETRE
Walked to Strazelle Station
visited YMCA British Forces &
had to come home in pouring
rain got drenched.

27 TUESDAY

I sewed with Gas Helmet
& goggles. Have to carry one helmet
in a light haversack & the other
sewed into inside of tunic.
Met - 9 Nash & Frank Bowling
in 37th Batty. Were both in
same camp at Scarpe. I did
not know

28 WEDNESDAY

Another route march
with waggons. First relief arrived
from Etapa 31 gunners. Some of
our gunners went into 16 Batty
Heard Whollyer & 29th went
to England from Egypt.

Dawson Confirmed

1916

June & July

29 THURSDAY Route march with
Mules riding one & leading one
Went through Fletre & around
through the farms etc
Saw a few soldiers graves
planted amongst potatoes
& wheat crops.

30 FRIDAY Unloading about 60 M.T.
(Australians & 2nd Column)
(Shells & small arms. Paid in
afternoon 55 francs. (£1.18.6)
Exercised mules for a
couple of hours on foot.
17.9 francs flew over billet

1 JULY SATURDAY All sections drew
pills for Bill, & brought them back
to our surgery to be in readiness
for playing draughts. Went down
town & bought a few cards to send
home. Very heavy bombardment
on night of Tue at sundown, shaking
MEMS. buildings of our billet. Still
going strong up till 11 p.m. British
& French gained about 4 Kilos
in Somme Distc 15 mile
front. Villagers say heaviest Bombard
since 4 p.m. something doing
Break charge of RIR on Somme Salient

July 2 1916

1916

2 SUNDAY Bombardment ceased early
2 AFTER TRINITY

this morning. Mail in to-day papers from
Doris, Dubbo Paper 31st MAR. Wrote home
Green Envelope. Wedding in Village
church. Roses & leaves etc strewn on
pathway. Getting very anxious to be doing
something.

3 MONDAY Lecture on gas & use of
gas helmets by Section Sergeant
Heavy M Batty, men left our NO I Sect
& English papers report 3 M advance
16 M front, result of big move July 1st
London People joyful over success
Best move for some time (A mention)

4 TUESDAY

Route march in afternoon full
marching order. Rumours of
moving off. Saw 6th Bgde 1st Div
coming back from line.
Marked all our harness & cleaned
~~cleaned~~ it with Dublin.

5 WEDNESDAY Ordered to move off
with 1 hr notice. Left camp 1:30 p.m.
arrived Estaires in the evening
& went into ~~at~~ Billet. Received
1st P.A.C. Rained a little when
we went into Billet.

1916

July

6 THURSDAY Out of bed 4:30 a.m.

Harnessed up & went out with team to a.s.c. for stores. fatigue all day & picket at night. Went down town & had a look around. Town a good size & nice shops. Shows signs of bombardment of German guns.

7 FRIDAY Cleaned our harness. 5 of us up before the orderly room for being absent from picket for 45 minutes. "Good talk". Punishment of 2 extra guards.

8 SATURDAY Went out to Batteries with ammunition for first time. Saw W. Mitchell "Spot" Holder & Les Anazay. Les with 45th Bn in trenches looks quite well but very dispirited. Says Harry Davenport has commission & J. Dowd S. Major.

MEMS. On July 1st the Ulster Div. RIR went into action on the Somme & although they lost very heavily they made a name for name for themselves & their Regiment that will never die. Brave fellows every one.

July Saw E. May, he had letters from 1916
told me Mr Rowling was dead
very very sorry indeed to hear of it.

9 SUNDAY On guard all day.
3 AFTER TRINITY

Inf of 5th Div
passed on way to trenches. Enemy
planes flying over our lines all day
ante aircraft guns firing at them
2 motors at bullet firing at Taube over
billet about 12,000 ft. shells falling near us.

10 MONDAY Bombarding Laventie, down
about ~~at~~ 2 Kilos from Billet. K.I
Went to R. with abscess on my leg.
Rumours of leaving. Saw Walker in
E. one of 14th 13th Boys.

11 TUESDAY Most of 5th Div Art
arrived but did not see any one
I know. 54th Inf passed night.
saw Don Stewart of Wellington 14th 13th
marched about a mile & half & had
a good yarn.

12 WEDNESDAY Preparations in
morning for shift. Left afternoon
for another billet. Passed 13th Batta
on road saw Robb, McKillop Lieut,
Scotty Chardiers mate 17th Regt
arrived billet 7.30. (Steuwerth)

1916

July

13 THURSDAY Expected to move today but are not going for a few days. Took mules out for exercise forenoon. Cleaned harness afternoon. Went to bed fairly early. Plenty of cherries growing at our billet & very cheap.

14 FRIDAY Out with the waggons all the afternoon. Came back to our billet about 9.30 pm & went on Mule Picket. Went to bed 2 am following morning.

15 SATURDAY Carting all day. nearly all teams out, also went out to Battery M Guns firing all round us & can hear bullets whizzing over us. Gas attack by our boys & wind changed. a lot of teams wore Gas Helmets.

MEMS.

July

1916

16 SUNDAY arrived back at our billet.
4 AFTER TRINITY
6 am all night in the saddle &
feel pretty sleepy. had a good sleep
through the day & was ordered to
move off with 115 S.W 10 pm. Arrived
at new billet in drizzling rain
at 2 am Monday morning.

17 MONDAY Left harness on our mules
all day waiting for orders. Green grass
3 ft high everywhere around our billet.
Unloaded about 20 MT early morning.
Mules had good day feeding on grass
& oats all day. Bs all round us. ~~F~~
Fleur BAIX. Riddles with shells

18 TUESDAY The remainder of No 1
Section arrived this morning.
did not have to go out with
waggon to day but have been
in readiness all the time to
move at a moment's notice. Am
beginning to feel the want of sleep.

19 WEDNESDAY Have not had my boots
or spurs off since last Friday morn
& have not had a decent sleep for
about a week. In afternoon
washed a few clothes. 1st & 2nd
Station near our billet where the
wounded are dressed.

1916

July

Wednesday continued.

20 ~~THURSDAY~~ Today the long talked -
- of attack has commenced. All
our artillery blazing a treat. A
Batty of 4.7 naval guns are firing over
our heads. My first experience of being
under shell fire came in the afternoon
Enemy shelled Batty Positions about 50 yds

21 ~~THURSDAY~~ side of us with HE Shells no
damage done. Thursday. Germans
again shelled our position Shrapnel & HE
Went out to 4.5 Batty ammunition & nearly
got knocked. one mule hit & broke his leg.

Friday. Ordered to move off in
20 minutes. Our "possie" spotted.

22 SATURDAY Laube in morning. Got
sect just moved off when the Enemy
started to shell the billet. one man
wounded & one mule hit in the
neck. We came back to our old
billet at Steenwerk.

Saturday. very quiet today

MEMS. cleaned our harness. At
night S. May & I went to Div Baths
& had a good hot bath & changed
dirty underclothes for clean ones.
Also went to Y.M.C.A. to concert
heard a good Orchestra of about
7 instruments & good music.

July

1916

23 SUNDAY Orders to be ready to
5 AFTER TRINITY

move at any moment. Had a
half hour to get ready & pack
our kit. later — Orders
cancelled & now we are not
going at all at least not
for some time hence.

24 MONDAY Big mail in today

but I am again disappointed
I am waiting patiently daily
expecting something but
not a word comes. To hail
still I know there is plenty
of mail waiting for me somewhere.

25 TUESDAY

Not much done
to-day & very much like
rain. Ordered not to write
any more letters until further
orders. Only have 2 officers
& they say they cannot cope
with the number of letters.

26 WEDNESDAY

Went for route
march with teams & lumber
afternoon got one of my mules shot
had to throw him & it took 6 of us
2 1/2 hours to hold him down &
shoe him (worst I've seen)

1916

July

27 THURSDAY

Very foggy morning
Went to cinema at Y.M.C.A.
& saw Charley Chaplin in
a few of his comical acts.
While watching the films can
hear hundreds of his guns
booming about a couple of ^{away} miles off

28 FRIDAY

Took all the mules out for
exercise & had long ride of about
5 miles. Glorious sunny morning &
everything looks beautiful & fresh.
Reminds me much of Sunny N.S.W.
Went to S. at night & saw Cinema
again at Y.M.C.A.

29 SATURDAY

Went down with team
to Port Rompoo Shell Dump &
filled cases with empty shell cases
Arrived back about 5 p.m. &
after tea went to S. again &
saw some more cinema films
7 p.m. C.A. Quite a treat to see
MEMS. Something of this kind about
here.

July & Aug

1916

30 SUNDAY

6 AFTER TRINITY

Took mules out for exercise & in afternoon again went to Shell dump. Had our photos taken down in S. Afterwards went & had a good meal on Steak & eggs. First Steak I have tasted since arrival in Egypt.

31 MONDAY

Cleaned harness in the morning & afternoon went ~~out~~ on ceremonial parade & teams were given Battle drill by Colonel Vernon.

1 AUG TUESDAY

Went down to Port Romp's Shell Dump. all day did not do very much work. Weather very warm for last few days & looks very much like rain.

2 WEDNESDAY

My ~~birthday~~ Birthday today. Port-R. again. Feel pretty crook. influenza coming on did not go out at night. Orders to move on Friday expect to go St. Omer.

1916

August

3 THURSDAY Assisted loading about 60 Motor Transport. Gunners cleaned all the waggons & limbers & also loaded ready to move off early in the morning. Still feel rotten.

4 FRIDAY Reville 4 a.m. moved out of camp at 8 a.m. & commenced our 2 Day's march. Feel sorry to be leaving Steenwerck. Had a good billet. & were all very comfortable. At Salaires passed 10th H.Q. Company A.S.C. but did not have time to see Alfie Curran.

5 SATURDAY Camped 8 Kilos from Hazebrouck last night. Moved off early & arrived at our destination about 5 p.m. Small Village (Acquie) (9 miles from St Omer.) Situated in between 2 lines of hills. Country more undulating than that of Flanders.

MEMS.

August

1916

6 SUNDAY

7 AFTER TRINITY

We are now well away from the fascinating music of the machine guns & the booming of the cannons. Everything is dead quite & peaceful except for an occasional aeroplane flying around for practice. We are

7 MONDAY

Supposed to be down here for drill & batty manoeuvres. Handed in our steel helmets & Gas helmets so it seems like as if we are finished with the firing line for some time. Rumours of going to Salonicka but only wild ones.

8 TUESDAY

Shifted into another billet about 300 yds away. no shelter for mules or men cannot buy any English Cigarettes in the village so either have to do without or smoke the beastly strong French weed

9 WEDNESDAY

Another draft of Reinforcements arrived from Eliza & Bill Collyer was with them. He has been training in England at Salisbury Plain. Was put in our Section both very pleased to see one another Received 4 letters Dated 11th June.

1916

August

10 THURSDAY Went out on the
Team Mr. Dardell Lt. Batty.
manouvers, I also did a little
mobile Div Ammunition
delivery, work very
interesting. Had a long yarn
with Will Collyer.

11 FRIDAY Paid to-day but there is
nothing here to spend money on.
Cannot buy any English cigarettes
or tobacco, I cannot under any
circumstances pull on these strong
"Frenchies". Hence, a starve for a
Smoke. It's a fair rotter.

12 SATURDAY Issued today with
cigarettes 4 pkts each but
although it's heaven to have
a decent smoke 4 pkts only
last a couple of days used
very sparingly.

MEMS.

August

1916

13 SUNDAY Reville at 7 am Church
8 AFTER TRINITY

parade by Cptn Stevenson. This is the first church parade the D.A.C. has had since landing in France. Afternoon football match (Aust. Rules) between No 1 Section & No 3 Section. Good game & resulted in victory for no. 1 Sect.

14 MONDAY Went out as brakesman.

on 18 pr. Limber with Trickett (Lieut.) B. eschelon Batty manoeuvres Had a pretty rough ride.

Weather very unsettled & showery.

15 TUESDAY Went out with the team

about 5 or 6 Kilometres from camp to some open country. Did about 3 hours Batty manoeuvres at the gallop. Came back about 1 pm & mounted on picket at 1.20 pm. Raining at intervals all day.

16 WEDNESDAY

Very quiet life here after what we have been used to for the last 2 or 3 mts & there is not very much to write about. E. May received a parcel from home to-day

1916

August

(O.C.)

17 THURSDAY

At Mr Dardella's (4)

Suggestion each man in No. 1 Sect put in 2 francs to go towards starting a canteen in our billet. B. Eschelon also has a canteen of its own so a fellow will be able to get things a

18 FRIDAY

One of the wagons went to Saint Omer & brought back a load of goods for the canteen have "smokes" a treat now thank goodness. Took all my dirty clothes out to get them washed. Raining all day long

19 SATURDAY

Sergeant Dickenson & (Little Boy) Sgt. Cramp of No 1 Sect. both received commissions & were transferred to B. Eschelon. Dickenson had his star on his shoulder about an hour after he had been appointed but Cramp came

MEMS

back to camp & slept with the boys & left next morning. Still raining. Received 9 letters nearly all from home. Some been to 13th Bn & 5th Bn 2nd Div. 5 Bn & 5 Div. Very pleased to have received them

August

1916

20 SUNDAY

9 AFTER TRINITY

Weather still unsettled & mules & lines in a very sloppy state. Have holiday to-day Church Parade in morning & game of Soccer in afternoon between No 1 & No 3 Sect. Victory for No 3 Sect.

21 MONDAY

On Quartermaster's fatigue all day only did 2 trips to Headquarters 2. M. Sec. Had nothing else to-day so had an easy time & a good sleep. Some of the waggons went out on a route march.

22 TUESDAY

We were to have left to-day but our departure has been put back 2 days. Did a bit of harness cleaning in the morning, but it started to rain & rained all day & night.

23 WEDNESDAY

Making preparation for a removal to the line. pulled down all our "dug-outs" loaded the limbers & had a mock removal in shape of a 5 mile route march to Quercampo & Kilos Acquin.

1916

August

24 THURSDAY Renville at 4 a.m. had breakfast & hooked up, cleaned up the billet & moved off at 8 a.m. Passed through Subbrés (3 Kilos acquin) & Wignies & Camped at Wallon Cappel only a small Village.

25 FRIDAY Renville 4 a.m. moved off at 6 a.m. Passed through Hazebrouck (3½ Kilos) & Baesre Godewa & took ~~the~~ over a billet belonging to 2nd Canadian D.A.C. Good billet & Canadians have been here for 5 mts. In Belgium for first time today.

26 SATURDAY Canadians evacuated & billet this morning & went away for a rest; left the place in a terrible state, so we have to put in the day cleaning up the billets etc. We all have had to sleep in, & have bunk &

MEMS Stoves also, so we ought to be fairly comfortable for a while. Expect to be here for some time. Have a 3 inch anti aircraft naval gun in the billet!

August

1916

27 SUNDAY

10 AFTER TRINITY

Did a bit more cleaning up around the billet & had the afternoon off. In consequence turned in & had a good 2 or 3 hours sleep, & at night time did a bit of writing. Opened our canteen for No 1 Sect

28 MONDAY

Nothing much doing today so did a bit of writing. Went down to K H 2 with 905. limber to get some horse shoes. Some of the teams out all night. got lost. & did not deliver the ammunition

29 TUESDAY

Raining all day & bit of a bombardment out on the line. Mounted picket at 6 p.m. & got a gas alarm about 10 p.m. & everybody turned out with helmets but the wind was too strong to do any damage.

30 WEDNESDAY

Raining very heavily all day with strong cold wind everywhere nothing else but mud & slush to our knees. did a bit writing. Fixed up a stove in our hut & made it more comfortable.

1916

Aug & Sept

31 THURSDAY Went down to K. dump for shells but had to return without delivering. Saw some of 1st Battr & heard Normann Lovett was there. Some German shells bursting about a mile away.

1 SEPT FRIDAY Today is Wattle day in dear old Australia but there is no wattle about here to wear so can only remember the day. Wrote home to-day. S.E. still raining heavily. Went out to S. Pit with shells & got bogged.

2 SATURDAY Just sat down to breakfast when our anti-air gun opened fire on a target, fired about 36 rounds & drove it off with 10 Vickers Battle planes in hot pursuit. Last glimpse but planes gaining fast.

MEMS.

September

1916

3 SUNDAY

11 AFTER TRINITY

Still wet. Had a half holiday to-day & wrote a couple of letters. Had a letter from Auntie Edie dated 11th Sept. Tucker getting very crook so all made a complaint to orderly officer. Sgt mess get everything

4 MONDAY

Germanus bombarding of openize a couple of families on our left. They bombard this town every 6 weeks. Our art very active. 2 gas attacks at night & had to get up & put on our respirators.

5 TUESDAY

Received a note from home including 2 photos. Still raining like H & everything is covered in mud but have a good pair of Canadian Snow boots which keep my feet perfectly dry

6 WEDNESDAY

Very foggy morning & very wet underfoot. Anti air craft gun opened fire a dinner time on an abattoir enemy plane. She came over in the fog unnoticed but they spotted her when the fog cleared.

1916

September

7 THURSDAY The 13th Battn arrived at Reninghelst from the Somme front. rained all day nothing much doing but at night there was a bit of a bombardment out on the line.

8 FRIDAY Went away early to Bailleul with two G.S. Waggon. Fed the mules for a few hours in town & had a good look around in the afternoon brought back 2 loads of Y.M.C.A. Store Y.M. gave us tobacco Cigs etc

9 SATURDAY Went down town at night I saw Bede Mahoney Jack Stewart & a lot of the 13th Bat boys. Bede was very pleased to see me. They have been at Pozieres & had a rough time but look well & seem happy.

MEMS. Are not allowed to post mail until further notice simply rot & laziness on our Officers parts

September

1916

10 SUNDAY

12 AFTER TRINITY

Got leave for the afternoon & went down to 45th Bn. Saw Lou Lasserre Dave Gow, Jim Cameron Mr. Smythe our former O.C. Paddy Goolley & a whole host of the Coee Company. Lou was very pleased to meet me & had a long yarn & tea together.

11 MONDAY

Raining again today & very wet under foot. Mounted Mule Picquet at 6 pm. So could not go out anywhere. Received a couple of lots of papers from home also some letters, but still no parcel.

12 TUESDAY

Still raining but not so cold. Met Bader & Jack Stewart again also met Billy Skilly of Goodooga. Had often seen him in no. 2. Sect of H.D.A.C. but did not know him. Had a real good evening together.

13 WEDNESDAY

Beautiful day & sun shining out brightly. Went out to battery at night & could not even hear a rifle shot in the line. The quietest ever. Got back early & had cocoa & toast before turning in.

1916

September

14 THURSDAY Will Robinson called to-day & had a yarn, gave me his photo. just the same jolly Robbo of Liverpool. He say Les Greenleaf was wounded on the Somme (I mean on the hand) but not seriously.

15 FRIDAY Orders again came out that letters are to contain no more than 2 pages & will only be received on 3 days a week. Not more than one letter per mail. This is worse than ever. Other units have no restriction.

16 SATURDAY Took the mules out for exercise all the afternoon & saw the captive balloon come down & go up again. Were right alongside the motor on which the thing is carried.

MEMS.

September

1916

17 SUNDAY Very quiet all day so
13 AFTER TRINITY stayed in & wrote a letter to
Doris in the afternoon. A very
quiet life this, but still were all
very comfortable & I am quite happy
& contented. Sun a bit lively

at night. Barage fire for Inf attack

18 MONDAY Rained all day. Went
to an entertainment at G. M. C. A
at night. A kind of Revue staged
& organised by members of the
Royal Flying Corps. Tip-top Show
latest songs & music, accompanied
by Scottish Orchestra of twelve players

19 TUESDAY Lovely bright morning
but very wet underfoot. Took
the mule out for exercise
for about 4 miles enjoyed the
ride very much. Had some
more home letters & a photo of
Doris very much liked.

20 WEDNESDAY Raining a treat today
& everything is very wet & sloppy.
received 9 letters & a Sydney mail
all addressed to the 13th Batta
nearly all written in May & Apr.
Some snapshots enclosed from Doris

21 THURSDAY Raining very heavily all day long went out to Dickertown for a couple of loads of bricks from the ruins of deserted houses in the village. This village is in complete ruins & is only about 2,000 yds from the first line trenches ^{nearly}

22 FRIDAY Was out all day with the team in a S.S. Wagon carting nails timber etc for Div Art. Hqs. Arrived back at the billet about 3 p.m. An albatross enemy plane came over the billet in the morning & our anti aircraft gun brought it down at Dickertown this is the 4th victim of this gun.

23 SATURDAY Most beautiful day.

Glorious Sunshine all day long. Great activity in the air, nearly all day. 4 or 5 enemy planes flew over our lines 2 came over our billet about breakfast time but were driven off by our anti aircraft guns & 1 was

MEMS

brought down. Another was brought down over Pop. way about 10 a.m. 2 more machines flew right over our billet about lunch time about 10,000 ft up & travelling about 120 miles an hour. Again the old pistol woke up & drove them off. (36 rounds)

September

1916

24 SUNDAY

14 AFTER TRINITY

Took the milk out for
exercise in the morning.
Went out to 43 rd. Bathing lines
in the afternoon. No 1 Sect
played No 2 a game of
football, Victory ft
No 1 Section.

25 MONDAY

Will Collyer & I received
a parcel of Sox each from
G. Dennison & K. Chaberton.
Did a day on the gun, to get
an insight into the working
Very interesting work indeed

26 TUESDAY

Were out with Teams
& G.S. Wagons all day carting
sand etc to make the floors
for new stables. At night went
to a concert in the Y.M.C.A.
promoted by 13th Aust Inf Bde
only an ordinary turn out.

27 WEDNESDAY

6 enemy albatross Plane
flew over about 9-30. Guns had no effect.
4 our machines pursued at a distance.
Another plane came from the west. 11 pm.
followed by 6 battle planes. They kept up
a lively m.g. fire to which the Hun replied.
As far as we could see he escaped.

1916

September

1 observer captured & 1 killed

28 THURSDAY

Saw our aeroplanes attacking an enemy balloon which broke loose & flew over our lines. They dropped bombs on it & circled round keeping up m.g. fire at last the sausage dropped rapidly to earth, a blazing mass

29 FRIDAY

Went out with 5 S.W. & team to 4 p.m. (about 6 miles) for bricks. Cruel yet interesting sight to witness a fine town in peace time, but now utterly devoid of life except for soldiers who have to live in old cellars etc. Everything is one

30 SATURDAY

mass of ruins & where buildings are not blown right down enormous gaping shell holes mark the billets of some of Fritz's death messengers. We got a couple of loads of bricks from the 4 p.m. church & arrived back early this morning, out all night.

MEMS.

Received two letters from Narrabri addressed H. J. Saunders 4th Battn & also marked (not known in 4th Battn) & opened one & it was a mother's letter to her son written from Stoy a St. R. a p. Rather a strange coincidence

October

1916

The time was altered again today & was put back one hour.

1 SUNDAY So another month opens

25 AFTER TRINITY

& still the war goes on. Months weeks days hours, always the same question. When will it end? Some day soon but despite our wonderful victories on the Somme I think about next June will still see ^{war}.

2 MONDAY We are building new stables for the mules for ^{at least} that points to being here some time. The work has been in progress for some time now & I think we will do well to have some finished by next year.

3 TUESDAY Will Collyer is not too good today. He has been a bit off for a couple of days & will not eat anything. But I think he may have an attack of influenza. Weather unsettled & a rather cool breeze blowing.

4 WEDNESDAY Raining clear & harness all day. Paid in the afternoon. Went out to Batty at night. Things very quiet indeed & nothing of any note to write up for

5 THURSDAY

Rainy steadily all day but weather is still fairly warm. Went down town at night & met for Anelzark, looks real well & is in the Battalion transports.

6 FRIDAY

Rained again today & everything is very wet & sloppy. Went out with the teams in the afternoon & mounted horse picket at 5 p.m. everything very quiet at the "line".

7 SATURDAY

Light mist falling & cold wind blowing. Had a letter & some paper from Cooger. Met Dave McNeil. He is in a battery in the 1st Div artillery. Has been to England & is some talker about his experiences. 13th Batty came out of action (over 16. Cas)

MEMS.

October ~~Exactly~~ 12 months 1916
since I enlisted.

8 SUNDAY ^{16 AFTER TRINITY} Went out with the team
to shell dump in the morning
& as there was nothing doing in
the afternoon Had a good sleep
Will Collyer saw Jim, John & Walter
Oakes both in 13th Battalion
& both look well.

9 MONDAY Had 2 letters from home
complaining of no news of me. However
that is on account of them blocking
our mail in No 1 Section as I mention
before. Went out to 4 pres for
more bricks to put on the
floor of our stables. got back early

10 TUESDAY Saw Bede & Jack Stewart
went to a Band Concert at 7 p.m. &
given by 13 & 45th Battalions
Very enjoyable evening.
They have a good band &
& played some well known
tunes. Reminded me of home.

11 WEDNESDAY Will Collyer is not
feeling too well to-day & looks
bad has been a bit off now
for a few days

12 THURSDAY Raining again today went out to the trenches for work. A few shells whizzing about over our heads & our guns in the ruined town barking some I guess.

13 FRIDAY A lovely bright morning the first for some time. The 1st Div artillery left here today for destination unknown every body thanks the Somme.

14 SATURDAY Rumours of all Australian divisions being sent to Salonika but I don't place much faith in anything we hear now. Rumours are as plentiful as the flies
MEMS. in Egypt.

October

1916

15 SUNDAY

Exercised out miles
17 AFTER TRINITY

this morning in pouring rain. To day is the 1st Anniversary of the day I became a soldier. Was sworn in at Wellington 12 months ago.

16 MONDAY

Every body was issued to day with Sheepskin wets one pair of woollen gloves & an undershirt. I think they are war chest gifts.

17 TUESDAY

The guns are very lively on the line to day. Went out with the team in the morning. Received about 5 bundles of papers from Home all dated August.

18 WEDNESDAY

Poll day & pay day. Voted for 1st time. Conscription Referendum. Voted an emphatic No with a clear conscience. The general opinion amongst the troops seems to be strongly against Conscription.

1916

October

19 THURSDAY Had 3 or 4 letters from home to-day first for some time & relieved my mind. Glad to hear my letters from France at last got home. Mounted picket at night very muddy & raining. Come.

20 FRIDAY Met Jack Stewart & Bede had a good yarn. They are going away tomorrow but nobody knows where. They think the Somme & don't fancy it. Had an argument with an officer, & he was going to take our names but was not game.

21 SATURDAY Went away early with the team & crossed the frontier to Boeschepe got back 5 p.m. load for 37 Batty. Nearly all the 4th Divⁿ left this morning for God knows where. All the 22 Brigade left to-day. A lot of enemy aeroplanes over to-day. One brought down at Remyhelst by gun fire another brought down by battle plane near Ypres. Both machines in latter case damaged but landed safely. Later 5 enemy machines brought down to-day. One landed in No man's Land. M.G.s burnt on.

October

1916

Will Collyer & I went to Poperinghe
on 22 SUNDAY. Rode our mules & had
a good work round. Both had our
photos taken. Poperinghe about the
size of Dubbo. 8.30 just got into it
& had to go out with the team. When
we got to the Dump. "Mafest" bombs &
guides waited till 12 am & came home very n^{ed}

23 MONDAY Had a good sleep all day
& at night went to Y. M. C. A. & heard
a lecture by Mr Moodie. An old
soldier. He served in the Seaforth
Highlanders with Roberts at Tundahar
Woolsey at Tel-el-Kebir, & Buller at
Lady Smith. Was made a member of Y. M.

24 TUESDAY Rainy again all
day all day long & every thing is
nothing but bog & slush. The
worst ever. We were issued
with rain-proof cloaks.
Went down to Y. M. C. A. & heard
Mr Moodie again.

25 WEDNESDAY Nearly all the
Australians are gone from
here now with the exception
of the ^{4th} Artillery which I hear
is attached to the 47 Div.
Imperial Forces.

1916

October

26 THURSDAY The Tommies relieving
our Divisions are all coming
from the Somme. So I suppose
our chaps will be going
back there. But I feel sure
we will all be leaving Fair
France before very long.

27 FRIDAY Rumours to day that
we are going back to Egypt
for the Winter & to re-organizing.
I suppose it is only another
"Surfy", & for my part I would
sooner stay right here.

28 SATURDAY Nothing doing to day
So put in a bit of time
cleaning harness & afterwards
had a game of cards.
At night went to Y.M.C.A.
& witnessed a moving
picture show, very rich.

MEMS up-to-date

29 SUNDAY

19 AFTER TRINITY

Exercised the mules in the morning & in the afternoon had to go out with our Quarter masters & pick up a bit of wood. Mud & rain a treat & not very pleasant loading wood.

30 MONDAY

Will Collyer & I went down to Reninghelst & purchased some Xmas Cards to send home. By the sound of our guns I think there must be a raid coming off South of Ypres.

31 TUESDAY

Another month gone & still in the land of the living but up to our knees in slimy mud. Went out with the team with ammunition did not get back till late.

1 NOV WEDNESDAY

Posted another batch of Xmas Cards to Australia. Xmas mail closes to-day. Sent about 37 Cards in all & some photos.

2 THURSDAY Still Raining on Peperet
all day & in my spare time
read a book the life of Charles
Stewart Parnell. Were paid
to day. Rumours of going
away on Tuesday next.

3 FRIDAY The Kili Balloon stationed
about 1/2 a mile away broke loose
as soon as she ascended 2 p.m.
Observer landed safely parachute
Balloon travelled on a good breeze
towards enemy lines. Anti air guns
tried to hit it but all attempts failed.

4 SATURDAY

MEMS.

November

1916

5 SUNDAY
20 AFTER TRINITY

6 MONDAY

7 TUESDAY

8 WEDNESDAY

1916

November

9 THURSDAY

10 FRIDAY

11 SATURDAY

MEMS.

just exactly 12 months
November to-day since I went 1916.
Liverpool Camp & arrived from Gilgandra
with Hitchen's Co-ees.

12 SUNDAY

21 AFTER TRINITY

Very much like rain to-day
Put in a trip to DAC. H. 212 with SAA
ammunition before breakfast.

after a late breakfast & put in
most of the day fixing up our
waggons with equipment etc. Think
we are going to the Somme or St. Omer.

13 MONDAY

Completed our arrangements
for shifting. Had an early lunch &
moved off at 12 noon. 41st Imp Div.
R. & A. took over our billet. We only
went a few miles & camped near
Boeschepe. Think we are going
to the Somme.

14 TUESDAY

Rerville 5.30 moved off at
8.30. Crossed the frontier & into
France. I wonder will we ever see
Belgium again. Had dinner at Fletie
our first Billet in France. Pulled into
a good Billet at Vieux Bruquini
Had a good bed & a good sleep

15 WEDNESDAY

moved off at 9.30. Passed
through Merville, St. Denaut & got
into camp very late. Had tea & then
mounted guard. good guard & only
had one prisoner. all turned in
& went to sleep. (Village fillers)

1916

November

16 THURSDAY

Very heavy frost. & the morning very cold indeed; one finds it very hard to use one's limbs. Left camp about 9 a.m. Passed a lot of small villages. Country looks very bare. All the trees look barren & leafless. Camped at

17 FRIDAY

Very heavy frost everything is white with frost. After wetting my hair for combing it, it all turned to ice & the comb got clogged. Oh! this cold is awful while we are travelling, but it's all in the game. We are still in sound of the guns. Got into a good billet early. Only a small village.

18 SATURDAY

Did not get up till fairly late, very cold. Snowed last night & still snowing. Country all looks like a great white sheet. Left camp 10-30. Mules have great difficulty in keeping their feet. Rained all day but got into our evening billet early.

MEMS.

Rain stopped just as we got into camp. Not so cold now. Had a good wash & a shave. The first decent toilet since leaving Upres. So feel quite new & fresh again.

19 SUNDAY

22 AFTER TRINITY

Issued with cigarettes
 & everyone badly needed them
 Received a letter from Home No 21
 Very glad to get same. Moved off fairly
 late. Passed an aerodrome & saw
 several ascents & descents of Battle plan
 passed through Doullens. Billeted at Talmes

20 MONDAY

Late Breakfast & all the other
 Sections moved off. No 1 Section has
 orders to 'Stand By' for orders. After
 lunch ordered to move off. Went
 back to a small village called
 Wizermes between Nabours & Conaple
 about 14 Kilometres from Arras.

21 TUESDAY

Wizermes only a very
 small village situated in a kind of
 valley & sheltered on both sides
 by fairly large hills. A good
 shelter from the cold winds.
 Have fairly comfortable billets
 to sleep in. Can faintly hear the gun

22 WEDNESDAY

Very foggy morning.
 We are attached to the 11th Bde
 & are here for a rest - probably
 for a fortnight or more. A Bn
 of K.O.S.B. billeted in Wizermes
 very sociable lot of chaps & all over
 Scoti.

23 THURSDAY Took our mules out for exercise in the morning. Have to water twice a day & have to go to Haver nas for water a distance of about 2 Kilometers. In the afternoon have to clean our harness before going to water.

24 FRIDAY Exercised mules again in the morning & had races with the mules & horses for sport. Only race about 300 or 400 yds & have great sport. The donks won't go straight & will not pass each other too well.

25 SATURDAY Races again this morning. Won one race with a mule off in min. Our S. M. is the promoter of this racing & of course we do it on the quiet. The officers do not know anything of else it would be stopped.

MEMS.

26 SUNDAY

23 AFTER TRINITY

Very cold today & heavy fog hanging over the valley did not go out with my mules too cold. At night a few of the Sects & a few of our boys had an impromptu concert in their canteen

27 MONDAY

The K.O.S.B all left here this morning for the Somme. We are sorry to see them go as our chaps get on very well with them & they are all a jolly lot of chaps. Drew or pay at night

28 TUESDAY

Our canteen open again to-day for first time since leaving Penninghelat. Every has money now so the boys are in a better mood than they have been for some time.

29 WEDNESDAY

Four of the boys from our Section have leave to visit Arrimens to-day, & 4 are to be allowed to go each succeeding day while we are here. So guess I'll hop it as soon as possible.

1916

Nov & Dec

30 THURSDAY

Very heavy frost this morning. Leave to Amiens stopped so that I settle my chance of going. Went out for exercise with the mules & had a long ride & a cold one went down through the village of Canaples about 4 kilometers from here.

1 DEC FRIDAY

Received a small parcel from home to-day first of its kind & naturally feel delighted. contents very acceptable. Saw young Jack Stewart from Currie, he looks well & we had a good old talk.

2 SATURDAY.

A good many of the boys are getting sore feet & bad cold. etc. about 20 from this Section have already gone to hospital. Nearly every one is in need of boots & the weather is

MEMS.

Very cold the fields are all covered with lumps of ice & the trees are hung with snowy white icicles inches long.

3 SUNDAY

1st IN ADVENT

Cleaned my harness in the morning & everyone had to wash limbs in the afternoon. The water had ice an inch thick on its surface. The water froze on the waggon & our hands & feet were sure cold.

4 MONDAY

Some more of our chaps went to hospital to-day & I do not feel too good myself. Again had to wash limbs. Do not like the job & reckon it cruel to make men slop about in water this weather.

5 TUESDAY

Feel rotten to-day. So went to the doctor. Ordered me straight to bed. Think I have influenza & no wonder. Went to bed & had a good sleep. Rumours of leaving here very soon.

6 WEDNESDAY

Feel about the same. No duty again to-day. Nearly everyone issued with new Norwegian trench boots. So finish wet feet for a while & about time to I have not had a dry foot for weeks.

1916

December

7 THURSDAY Feel very much better to day & doctor put me on Light duty. Big Aust. mail in to day & I received 9 letters feel as happy as Larry. We nearly go mad when a big mail comes in. ^{in morning} Cjars from

8 FRIDAY Received some more papers this morning. Took a walk down to Maours & went to the Cinema. but as the films are all French they are not very interesting.

9 SATURDAY Everyone who has £5. credit in their pay books are allowed to draw that amount in addition to the ordinary pay. This pay or at least the £5 is a privilege paid to give us a chance of having a bit of fun at X-mas but I'm very much afraid our Section will be in action on the Somme before many days

MEMS.

10 SUNDAY ^{2 IN ADVENT} Very heavy fog & the morning is very cold. Very little doing to-day & I cannot even go to church it is now weeks since I have had the opportunity of attending a church parade.

11 MONDAY a beautiful clear morning & the sun shone out to-day the first time for weeks. The aeroplanes ^{always} take advantage of the sun shine & to-day there are dozens of planes flying over.


12 TUESDAY Snowed very heavily for about a couple of hours before breakfast every thing very white. Also snowed a little during the day. Our S. M. ordered us to take the tops off our mules in the middle of the day.

13 WEDNESDAY Went out with the team & S. S. Wagon to Vignacourt for a load of coal, took it to 11 Regt Hys got back late at night & it was cold & I went on Picquet in pouring rain. It afterwards snowed a little.

14 THURSDAY Raining to-day. N^o 1
Section went down to
Naams & had a very much
needed bath. everyone got
new clothes in exchange
for old & dirty ones.
Did not get home till late.

15 FRIDAY

16 SATURDAY

MEMS.  Sinner's Storm. Every one very
much annoyed. So we counted
him out on parade. He seemed
very sore & did not dismiss us till
very late. So we counted him out
again.

17 SUNDAY We were all paid
 to day & most of us drew
 5 £ mas pay. our 5 men got
 5 others went away
 to England on leave
 Luck & devils —

18 MONDAY Heard for certain
 to day that we are to
 move off from here on
 wednesday next. Still
 Luck I must say I suppose
 we will put in our 5 men
 on the Somme. ROTTEN

19 TUESDAY Very cold all day
 ground frozen & snowing
 a little spent most of
 the day packing up our
 things & getting ready
 to move off early
 tomorrow morning.

20 WEDNESDAY Renville 5pm. Early
 breakfast & moved off from
 Watghies about 8.30. Very
 cold indeed. Camped at
 Burie Small Village 3 Kilos
 from Albert on Perquet at
 night.

16 miles S.S. Waggon in mud.

21 THURSDAY

Left camp early for Mametz Wood. Raining heavily. Arrived Mametz 3 p.m. Waggon boys pulled out again straight away & arrived back at Brie 8 p.m. Still Raining. Pitched some tents.

22 FRIDAY

Still Raining. Had to pull down all the tents & re-pitch them in line with the tents of another Section. Went down to town at night & had a good feed of eggs & the heart of Lieut N.B. Lovett.

23 SATURDAY

Went down to Albert with team for 2 M. got back late, very strong cold wind blowing. Saw Norman & had a yarn. Also saw Mat Jackson & one of the Harper boys from Seurie all look well.

MEMS.

Norman has 2 stars & is at present Lieut 2. M. for 54th. Bathn although he belongs to 53. Seemed very pleased to see us.

December

1916

Xmas eve & as happy as I am
24 SUNDAY met Tom Dunn, Ball
Cleaver & Jack Ryan, all in
the 54th St. Had a good
old yarn. Got the afternoon
off & went down town with
Jack & Tom had a good feed of
eggs & drank about 10 bottles

25 MONDAY ^{Champaign} Very cold all day
went out with team for 2 loads
of stone for horse lises. Hard lived
to be carting stone on Xmas day
Tea straight for dinner but had
a few cakes & some pudding.
Went out at night with J. Ryan etc.

26 TUESDAY Carting stone again
today saw Eddie May looks
real well. Out at night with
Jack Ryan again. Saw Bob
McFarlane & Currie also
Norman Harper both quite
well.

27 WEDNESDAY Cold wind blowing
out with team to Albert.
took some guns to be repaired
Had a walk round the town
& saw the leaning statue
very interesting sight.

1916

December

28 THURSDAY Did not go out today. Very heavy frost & the mud is frozen hard. Rained a little during the day. Received 16 letters & cards also a parcel from Australia.

29 FRIDAY Went out with team to Montauban for some galvanized iron to build a cauteen got back late very cold wind blowing saw Jack Ryan again.

30 SATURDAY Went out again with team all day. Dug out a couple of old gun pits & got a load of iron etc. Had dinner in Meaulé. Not a bad job because we are out of the mud for a whole day. The mud in

MEMS our lines is now very bad & in places about 18 inches deep. So it is always a treat to get out of it even for a day!

31 SUNDAY a nice bright day
 to-day. the first Sunday
 day for some time. Some
 reinforcements in to day,
 got paid at night. our
 guns booming a treat on
 the front. Seeing the last of the year

1 JAN MONDAY 1917 Well the old
 year is gone & we are still here
 The guns still roar & Fritz
 still "carries on" as strong as
 ever, but still things look a
 bit brighter for us & I can
 see PEACE looming in the distance

2 TUESDAY Got a parcel from
 Auntie Edie, a good one,
 also a couple more letters.
 & some papers. D.A.C. getting
 very regimental. Bugle calls
 for everything, & "Paddy Doyle
 blows every quarter hour.

3 WEDNESDAY

17

1917

ANNUAL ACCOUNT JANUARY

January

4 THURSDAY

5 FRIDAY

6 SATURDAY

MEMS.

CASH ACCOUNT—JANUARY.

Date	Received	Paid
<p>1. Jan. 1. To Balance</p> <p>2. Jan. 2. To Cash</p> <p>3. Jan. 3. To Cash</p> <p>4. Jan. 4. To Cash</p> <p>5. Jan. 5. To Cash</p> <p>6. Jan. 6. To Cash</p> <p>7. Jan. 7. To Cash</p> <p>8. Jan. 8. To Cash</p> <p>9. Jan. 9. To Cash</p> <p>10. Jan. 10. To Cash</p> <p>11. Jan. 11. To Cash</p> <p>12. Jan. 12. To Cash</p> <p>13. Jan. 13. To Cash</p> <p>14. Jan. 14. To Cash</p> <p>15. Jan. 15. To Cash</p> <p>16. Jan. 16. To Cash</p> <p>17. Jan. 17. To Cash</p> <p>18. Jan. 18. To Cash</p> <p>19. Jan. 19. To Cash</p> <p>20. Jan. 20. To Cash</p> <p>21. Jan. 21. To Cash</p> <p>22. Jan. 22. To Cash</p> <p>23. Jan. 23. To Cash</p> <p>24. Jan. 24. To Cash</p> <p>25. Jan. 25. To Cash</p> <p>26. Jan. 26. To Cash</p> <p>27. Jan. 27. To Cash</p> <p>28. Jan. 28. To Cash</p> <p>29. Jan. 29. To Cash</p> <p>30. Jan. 30. To Cash</p> <p>31. Jan. 31. To Cash</p>		

CASH ACCOUNT—FEBRUARY.

Date

Received

Paid

CASH ACCOUNT—MARCH

Date Received Received Paid

Pay on Active Service

17th Transport A 15 10/- Geo. C Smythe

27th " " " 10/- " " "

Total £ 1.0.0

CASH ACCOUNT—APRIL.

Date

Received

Received

Paid

6th Transport A15 10/- L.C. Smythe

28th Serapeum ^{Egypt} 1. 10. 9 A.E. Martin

Total £ 2. 0. 9

March
G.I. 1. 0. 0
3. 0. 9

CASH ACCOUNT—MAY.

Date

Received

Received

Paid

12th Serapeum 2.11.4 A.F. Martin

25th " 2.1.2 " "

Total 4.12.6

Bt Forward 3 09
57 7.13.3

CASH ACCOUNT—JUNE.

Date

Received

Received

Paid

20th Have ^{309 francs} £ 1 1 0 a Gray

30th Cash in field ^{55 francs} 1 18. 6 P.R. Isaacs

Total £ 2. 19. 6

Bgt Forward £ 7. 13. 3
G.T. £ 10. 12. 9

CASH ACCOUNT—JULY.

Date	Received	Received	Paid
July 1st	To Balance		
July 2nd	By Cash		
July 3rd	By Cash		
July 4th	By Cash		
July 5th	By Cash		
July 6th	By Cash		
July 7th	By Cash		
July 8th	By Cash		
July 9th	By Cash		
July 10th	By Cash		
July 11th	By Cash		
July 12th	By Cash		

CASH ACCOUNT--AUGUST.

CASH ACCOUNT—SEPTEMBER.

Date

Received

Received

Paid

CASH ACCOUNT—OCTOBER.

Date

Received

Paid

CASH ACCOUNT-NOVEMBER.

Date

Received

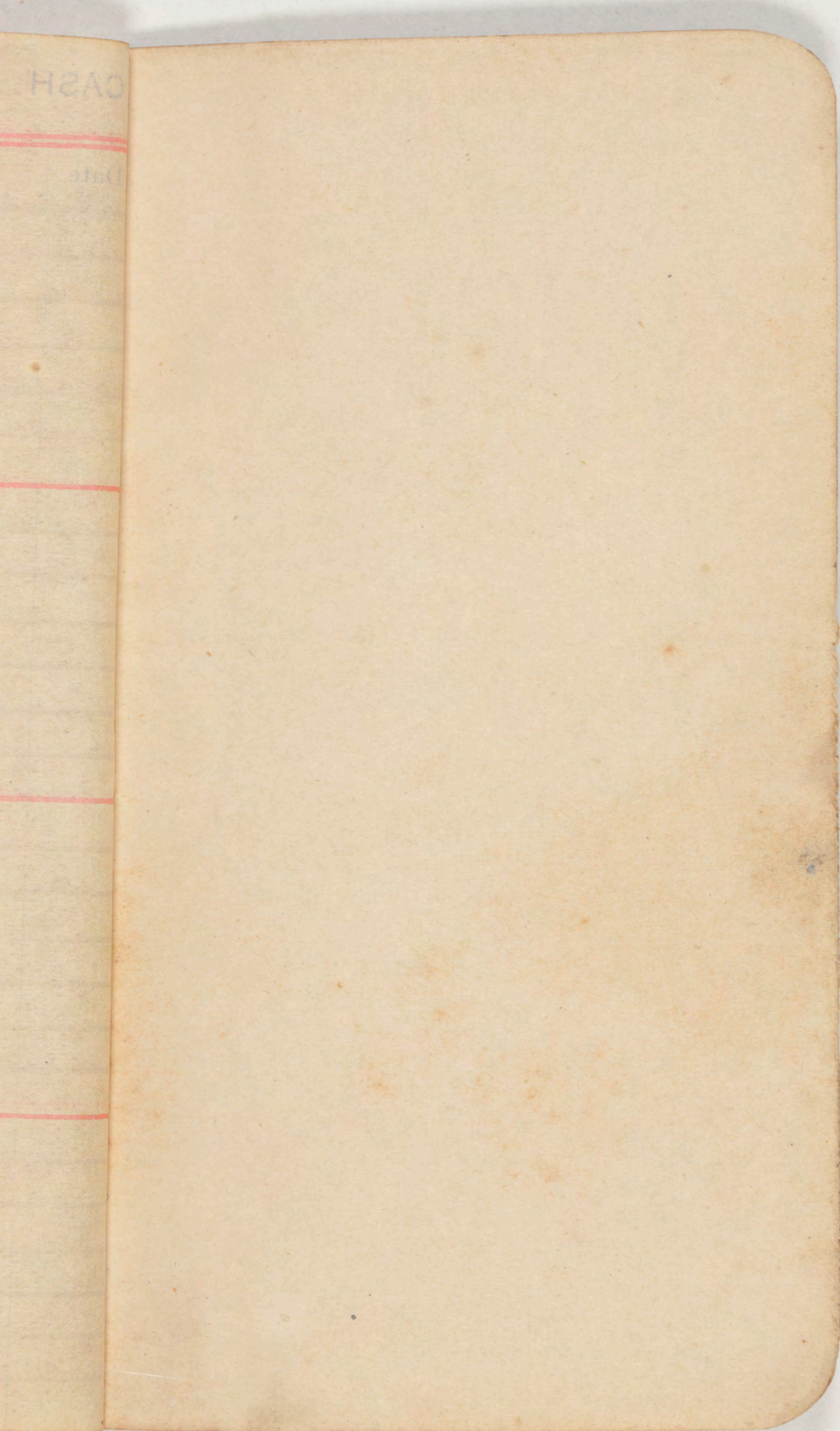
Received

Paid

CA

Notes for 1917

Da



4/2
5/6

