

## 1923 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE BATTLE HONOURS, 1914-19

### BATTLE HONOURS, 1914-1919.

The Report of the Battles Nomenclature Committee as approved by the Army Council was issued under Army Order 173 of April 30, 1921; and Army Order 338 of September 4, 1922 announced His Majesty's approval of the award of Battle Honours, based on the above Report and certain conditions which may be summarized as below:—

- (a). Regiments were to have awarded to them, and recorded in the Army List, in addition to those already there, the honours due to them for taking part in the battles of 1914-1919; the number of Battalions taking part, whether in a theatre of war or not, to be shown above them.
- (b). Regiments might have emblazoned on their Colours not more than 24 honours, of which not more than ten might be "Great War" honours, to embrace the whole history of the Regiment from the date on which it was raised to the end of the Great War, such honours to be selected by Regimental Committees from the honours to be shown in the Army List.
- (c). A Regiment to have only one Honours List, both for the Army List and the Colours, for all Battalions.

In the case of the Regiment, the result of this would have been that ten or any less number of Great War honours could only have been placed on the Colours at the cost of discarding thirteen, or a less number, out of the total of twenty-seven, which are already entitled to be there; so as to comply with the new regulation which limited the new total to twenty-four.

But, fortunately, Army Order 470, of December 16, 1922, framed to obviate the necessity of removing any pre-1914 honours, directed that the chosen ten new honours should be placed on the King's Colour, and made no reference to altering those on the Regimental Colour.

Meanwhile, Army Council Instructions 458 and 619, of 1922, had made clear the composition of Regimental Committees and the lines on which they were to work, and early in 1923, with the Colonel of the Regiment as Chairman, the following representatives of Battalions became members :—

- 43rd.—Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G., Commanding.
- 52nd.—Lieut.-Colonel E. R. Clayton, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding.
- 1/4th Bn.—Lieut.-Colonel A. J. N. Bartlett, D.S.O., Commanding, 1916-19 (late 52nd).
- 2/4th Bn.—Major G. K. Rose, M.C. (late T.F.).
- 1st Bucks Bn.—Colonel L. L. C. Reynolds, D.L., D.S.O., T.D., T.A. Reserve, Commanding, 1916-23.
- 2nd Bucks Bn.—Lieut.-Colonel G. Christie-Miller, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., T.A. Reserve.
- 5th (S.) Bn.—Bt.-Major B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C.
- 6th (S.) Bn.—Brig.-General E. D. White, C.M.G., Commanding, 1914-16.
- 7th (S.) Bn.—Lieut.-Colonel C. Wheeler, D.S.O., late 7th Bn.
- 8th (S.) Bn.—Major A. E. Burt, D.S.O., late 8th Bn.
- 1st Garrison Bn. - Honorary Secretary: Bt.-Major R. B. Crosse, D.S.O.
- 11th (Garrison) Bn.(formerly 2nd Garrison) - Honorary Secretary: Bt.-Major R. B. Crosse, D.S.O.

It will thus be seen that each war-time Battalion which served overseas was represented. The Battalions not concerned being:—3rd (Special Reserve); 3/4th T.F., subsequently 4th (Reserve), T.F.; 3rd Bucks, T.F.; 9th (S.), subsequently 36th Training Reserve; 10th T.F.

Each member was next supplied with the necessary instructions and documents, and the preparation of the lists of claims by Battalions began. A War Office letter which appeared in February removed a number of doubts and difficulties, and, although the absence abroad of several members somewhat delayed matters, it was possible to have a complete list of honours, with proposals for selecting the most representative ten for the King's Colour, ready for circulation by the date of the Regimental Dinner. The table appended shows the whole list, and the following selection was approved :—

- (i) France and Flanders. — **Mons ; Nonne Bosschen; Ypres, 1914, 1917; Langemarck, 1914, 1917; Somme, 1916, 1918; Cambrai, 1917, 1918.**
- (ii) Italy.—**Piave.**
- (iii) Macedonia.—**Doiran, 1917, 1918.**
- (iv) Mesopotamia.—**Ctesiphon; Defence of Kut-al-Amara.**

It should be noted that for the fifth theatre of war, for which the Regiment qualified (through the 43rd) was at Archangel, there is no battle honour available to be taken, even in the Army List.

The above ten were considered to be as satisfactory a list as could be evolved, but **Piave**, unfortunately, is not wholly representative of either of the two Territorial Battalions which fought in Italy. **Asiago Plateau**, which meant much more, might have been awarded had the 1/4th Bn's gallant fight on June 15, 1918, been the subject of a Special Order of the day by Lord Cavan, instead of a Mention in his Dispatch. In the same circumstances, **Horseshoe Hill** might have been given to the 7th (S.) Bn. Again, had it been possible to give precedence to hard fighting, irrespective of victory or defeat, **St. Quentin** would have displaced **Cambrai**, 1917, 1918, on the Colours, and it is unfortunate, especially from the point of view of the 2/4th and 5th Bns. that no more recognition can be given to their part in the battle for which **St. Quentin** stands, than is afforded by the inclusion of that honour in the Army List.

A meeting of the Regimental Committee to hear the Secretary's report and to approve the Regimental list and the selection there from, for submission to the War Office, was held in the Office of the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, Sir John Hanbury-Williams presiding, on October 2, and by the close of 1923 it seemed likely that the claim, as then submitted, would be approved, and that the official promulgation of the award of Honours to the Regiment might be expected early in 1924.

## FRANCE AND FLANDERS, 1914-1918.

Nomenclature as per List "B."	52nd	1/4	2/4	1st Bks	2nd Bks.	5t (S)	6th (S)	Dates.
								1914.
Mons .. ..	I							Aug. 23-24.
Retreat from Mons	I							Aug. 23 to Sept. 5
Marne, 1914 ..	I							Sept. 7-10.
Aisne, 1914 ..	I							Sept. 12-15.
Ypres, 1914 ..	I							Oct. 9 to Nov. 22.
Langemarck, 1914	I							Oct. 21-24.
Gheluvelt .. ..	I							Oct. 29-31.
Nonne Bosschen ..	I							Nov. 11.
								1915.
Aubers .. ..	I							May 9.
Festubert, 1915 ..	I							May 15-25.
Hooge, 1915 ..						I		July 19 and 30, and Aug. 9. <sup>1st</sup>
Loos .. ..	I							Sept. 25 to Oct. 8
								1916.
Mount Sorrel ..							I	June 2-13.
Somme, 1916 ..	I	I		I		I	I	July 1 to Nov. 18
Albert, 1916 ..		I		I				July 1-13.
Bazentin .. ..				I				July 14-17.
Delville Wood ..	I					I		July 15 to Sept. 3
Pozières .. ..		I		I				July 23 to Sept. 3
Guillemont .. ..							I	Sept. 3-6.
Flers-Courcellette ..						I	I	Sept. 15-22.
Morval .. ..							I	Sept. 25-28.
Transloy .. ..							I	Oct. 1-18.
Ancre Heights ..		I		I				Oct. 1 to Nov. 11.
Ancre, 1916 ..	I	I		I				Nov. 13-18.
								1917.
Bapaume, 1917 ..	I							March 17.
Arras, 1917 ..	I					I		April 9 to May 4.
Vimy, 1917 ..	I							April 9-14.
Scarpe, 1917 ..	I					I		April 9-14, April 23-24, May 3-4.
Arleux .. ..	I							April 28-29.
Ypres, 1917 ..		I	I	I	I	I	I	July 31 to Nov. 10.
Langemarck, 1917		I	I	I	I	I	I	Aug. 16-18.
Menin Road ..		I					I	Sept. 20-25.
Polygon Wood ..		I		I				Sept. 26 to Oct. 3
Broodseinde ..		I		I				Oct. 4.
Poelcap(p)elle ..		I		I				Oct. 9.
Passchendaele ..						I		Oct. 12, Oct. 26 to Nov. 10.
Cambrai, 1917 ..	I		I		I		I	Nov. 20 to Dec. 3.

Nomenclature as per List "B."	52nd	1/4	2/4	1st Bks.	2nd Bks.	5th (S).	6th (S).	Dates.
St. Quentin ..	I		I			I		1918. March 21-23.
Bapaume, 1918 ..	I (1)							March 24-25. Aug. 31 to Sept. 3.
Rosières .. ..			I		?			March 26-27.
Avre.. .. ..						I		April 4.
Somme, 1918 ..	I (1)		I		?	I		Mar. 21 to Apr. 5, Aug. 21 to Sept. 3.
Albert, 1918 ..	I							Aug. 21-23.
Lys .. .. ..			I					April 9-29.
Hazebrouck ..			I					April 12-15.
Bethune .. ..			I					April 18.
Hindenburg Line ..	I							Sept. 12 to Oct. 9
Havrincourt ..	I							Sept. 12.
Canal du Nord ..	I							Sept. 27 to Oct. 1
Cambrai, 1918 ..	I							Oct. 8-9.
Selle .. .. ..	I		I					Oct. 17-25.
Valenciennes ..			I					Nov. 1-2.
	29	11	11	11	5	12	10	

(1) Not to be included in the Totals.

? Fought there as 25th Entrenching Battalion.

### ITALY, 1917-18.

Nomenclature as per List "B."	1/4th.	1st Bucks.	Dates.
Piave .. .. ..	I	I	June 15-24, 1918.
Vittorio Veneto ..	I	I	Oct. 24 to Nov. 4, 1918.

### MACEDONIA, 1915-1918.

Nomenclature as per List "B."	—	7th (S)	8th (S)	Dates.
Doiran, 1917 ..		I	I	April 24-25, May 8-9.
Doiran, 1918 ..		I	I	Sept. 18-30.

## MESOPOTAMIA, 1914-1918.

Nomenclature as per List "B."	43rd.	—	Dates.
Kut, 1915 .. ..	I		Sept. 28.
Ctesiphon .. ..	I		Nov. 22-24, 1915.
Defence of Kut .. ..	I		Dec. 7 to April 28, 1916.
Khan Baghdadi ..	I		March 26-27, 1918.

## ARCHANGEL.

