# Northern Voices of the Great War

- Overview and Background
- Meet the Northerners (through documents)
- What they had to say of the Great War
- And observations of how life changed
- Did the 'war ruin everything' or merely stall it?
- Questions

- Conference Yk 2016
- Primary sources (letters, documents, government files, personal memoires) and archive oral interviews (I. Orchard)
- Audio as an intimate and immediate experience – linking the past and present in ways text based research does not.

# Northerners

## Voices

## Vicky (Morison Aldous) Simms

- daughter of Odille Morison and CFMorison, born in Metlakatla, (Port Essington/Hazelton)
- married GTP surveyor real estate broker
- Brother Jack and her husband enlisted in 1916/17
- War ruined lives (businesses bankrupt, so many people lost)

## Authur Shelford ( plus documents)

- Ootsa Lake Homestead (bro. Jack)
- Enlisted 1916, walked to Hazelton Dr. Wrinch
- 2 women nurses proposed and marries one
- Population Women increase by almost 12% in the census 1911 -1921

## Bea Williscroft Teenager summers in Telkwa

- Describes the Remittance Men as first to enlist
- Train ride and first causalities

# 1960s "Living Memory" excerpt

- Orchard ... Gradually their farm began to take shape. Then came the War.
- Shelford "In 1916, I enlisted and went overseas.
- The thing that amused me was the fact that when Dr. Wrinch Of Hazelton examined me, he wanted to turn me down for flat feet.
- Well I said, 'What does flat feet imply with regards to a soldier?"
- He says, "You cannot march."
- "Well," I said, "I walked 45 miles out to the railway in 24 hours to come out here to enlist."
- "Yes," he said, "but you couldn't walk the next day."
- No but I did manage to hobble 30 miles over the ties (or Tyee) to Telkwa.
- He said, "Well, I guess I better pass ya."
- And to think, a man like myself couldn't march with flat feet.

During the first year in our country (Lakes region) I walked over 1100 miles.

• Documents (Letters, Enlistment Papers, Obituary)

## William Lowry

- (physical description) Letters detail homestead life, loneliness but also hardship as masculine vitality.
- Dug ditches, canoed, trapped furs and built a cabin
- No work, price of furs plummets (Hazelton newspaper confirm this)
- Companionship of comrades as all able bodied men are expected to sign up
- Nov. letter but still enlisted in January Mother's permission (but still enlisted by January)
- Letters of circular trip needed for pay and treatment or face court martial for desertion
- Rise in prices for food and basics.
- Bowron river to PG to Enlist then over to France, wounded within 6 months, severe burns to his face and hands. The sent to England, a few weeks in Quebec and then Vancouver Island to convalesce. Eventually he returns to survey work NE BC at the close of the war.
- Dies at about 45 from wounds

# Document searches

http://www.canadianletters.ca/collections/468

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http://www.bac-
lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-
world-war/personnel-
records/Pages/search.aspx
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https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers

ATTESTATION PAPER. No. // 13476.
Polio.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION. (ANSWERS)
What is your surname?
. What are your Christian names?
. What is your present address? France Google
in what Town, Township or Parish, and in Sannlindal Sula
What is the name of your next-of kin? / Ml Margaret Lawry
What is the address of your next-of-kin? Duniagre / Aqual, Buradry, &
. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?
What is the date of your birth? And 10 8 1893.
What is your Trade or Calling? Incancetor.
Are you married?
Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-
1100
vaccinated and inoculated?
Do you now belong to the Active Militia?
Have you ever served in any Military Force?
Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?
Are you willing to be attested to serve in the
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE?
I deliman. A munder, do solemnly declare that the above are answers do by me to the above questions and that they are price and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to before a that I am willing to fulfil the engagements me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to before a that I am willing to the season of the war now isking between Great British and Germany should that war lost longer than one year, and for six months or the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally charged.    Add
rce, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now is study between Great Britain and Germany should that war lost longer than one year, and for six months or the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally charged.  **Add Add The A
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Description of Williams	Soury on Enlistment.
Apparent Age. 2.2 years on months.  (To be determined seconding to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Modical Services.)	Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenitul peculiarities or previous disease.
	(Should the Madical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will unless the man admonstrating to any previous service, along a sign to that offset, for the information of the Approving Officer).
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Girth when fully expanded.	Lift Scapula warks we
Range of expansion ins.	Pill Rous.
Eyes Blue	19.
Tair Black	
Church of England	
Presbyterian	
Methodist	
Baptist or Congregationalist	
Roman Catholic	
Other denominations Unilarian	
of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army M He can see at the required distance with elifrec use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that I consider him* Jah. for the Co	her eye : his beart and lungs are healthy ; he has the
Place. "Insert here "Es" or "unds."	Medical Officer.
"Insert here "ID" or "IDBL.  Nove,—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit been attested, and will briefly state below the cause of unfitzed:—	he will fill in the foregoing Certificate only is the case of those who have
CERTIFICATE OF OFFIC	CER COMMANDING UNIT.
	having been finally approved and of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having
been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the	
in in in in its second and in the	Hun Tinfo (Signature of Officer)
Date 701 2 1 1916. /	Magn 102 19 Batt C. 8, 7
meh 3/16	

# Lowry death (1940) PG Citizen

t orders for evicuous or reuper to occupy company M. C. Wirgins, Prince tuties cover a vast dis-Lillooet, has received cirry out eviction prong the serious responsia such a wholesale evic-

in reopening the mine his sudden death, tion of strikers occupy-

in the matter Is:

see that the laws of the becoming ranger.

plention of interfering in Fort George district. its amployees."

### Forestry Man Dies At Pouce Coupe

Word was received at the district forsheriff has spolled for ester's office here yesterday of the sudions and the co-opera- den death on Tuesday of William Loworney-general's depart. Ty, forest ranger at Pcuce Coupe, Mr. rden Wigner, attorney- Lowry had been affiliated with total atement recently issued blindness some ten days ago, but his death was entirely unexpected. He had brought about very lar ceiving dozens of letters previously been afflicted with blindfrom labor organiza- ness for over a year but had regained the province calling on his sight. He applied for sick leave a es to take action to re- few days before his death to go outside Association of the merit without regard to the for medical treatment and word that head route as a norther strikers, and in other his leave had been granted came from w that I take no action the department at Vicioria the day of

The late Mr. Lowry was a veteran of the last war, having served overseas ethod I have of making with the Canadian Field Artillery. He ear under the circum- was severely burned and seriously inugh the co-operation of jured in France through the explosion of an ammunition dump.

On his discharge from hospital he surjudiction whatever to returned to B.C. and joined the Fort stations which are being George branch of the forestry department in 1919, first serving at patrolman power either to compel on the Clearwater and McGregger rivof the mine or to pre- ers; then as assistant ranger at Mo-Bride. In 1931 he was transferred to attorney-general of the Pouce Coupe as assistant ranger, Inter

A wielated, and this duty | Mr. Lowry was one of the first smnr the violation is on the teur wireless operators in the province, I or labor. This duty I and also introduced the idea of fast communication by the use of carrier is observed, this depart- pigeons in reporting forest fires in the

he dispute between the He is survived by his wife, one ton 15, and one daughter 13.

THE CHIZER IS DIEBS following report sub Read, president of Highway Association a of the National Parks report embodies most passed at the last meet of the National Parks ciation, and as Mr. R out it is highly satis that this district and highway received as ion as any other route defatgible energy of Mr marshalled many favo convince the National cial highway.

#### Report of Annual Meet

At the annual meeting al Parks Highways, co presentatives from B: and the three prairie p senting chambers of cor of trade, municipalities and other service organi dividuals vitally interes velopment of Canada, th ernment was requested the completion of a dust road through Yellowhen

It was the considered those attending that ti should be importuned undertake the construct standing the war

Part of the resolution some point in Jasper P. route to Vancouver by George and the Cariboc are located numerous poscal interest naturally atten

# Nurses and homelife

- Eva Hogan enlisted as nurse
- Hazelton paper notes she sends a memento back to her mother. German shrapnel helmet.
- Marries Dr. Wrinch in later life

CANAI	DIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
	AVERANCIA DE LIVEUTERE DU CERTAN
2	QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY OFFICER
	[ANSWERS]
	Surname?
	Christian Names?
	ou born? (State place and country). A. Milium . Dreland
	present address?
	ate of your birth? September 2 2 2
	te name of your next-of-kin? // \\ /\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
	ne address of your next-of-kin?
	ne relationship of your next-of-kin?
	profession or occupation?
<ol><li>What is your</li></ol>	religion? Clunch of Zugand
	g to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?
	of the Active Militia do you belong? Wrung medical
-	ars of any former Military Service
	g to serve in the
	NADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE?
The undersigned he	ereby declares that the above answers made by him to the above questions are
	C. M. Hofe of Comments (Signature of Officer)
Taken on strengt	a Maril a
	(date) 3.0 - 5 - 1 The Buch
	(Signatus only Castons of the
	TOO WE WOUND THE WO WO
	OPPOWER OF MEDICAL EVAMINATION
-	CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION
I have examined t	he above-named Officer in accordance with the Regulations for Army Medical Ser
I consider him*	Lit for the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FO
cQ	bill 1017
DateJune	191/
Place FILOUR	real CCBunhars

# Mattie O'Neill Boss

- Memories
- Says the war ruined her husband's realty business several brothers, friends went to war. Many did not return.
- Volunteer women's work (Red Cross laundry)
- Sphagnum moss –train carloads of it
- Indigenous women gatherers.

•

Newspaper notes all the organizations and community efforts to raise money. At least 3 different agencies in Hazelton.

Later this included the tobacco fund

#### The Omineca Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT HAZELTON, THE CENTER OF THE GREAT OMINECA DISTRICT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

#### A. R. Macdonald, Publisher and Proprietor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Canada and British Possessions, Two Dollars a 2. One year; Foreign, Three Dollars a year

ADVERTISING RATES: Display, \$2.50 per inch per month: Reading Notices, 20 cents per line for each insertion. Legal notices inserted at B. C.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1917

The Miner has received from the Lieutenant-Governor can be seen at Hankin Ranch, Kispiox of British Columbia, Hon. F. S. Barnard, a letter, which we 6. One bay horse, named "BALreproduce in part, regarding the appeal to be made on October 18, Kispiox. "Our Day," by the British Red Cross Society for funds to continue 7. One mare and stud colt, its important work. With the letter was an enclosure from Prince "Molly" and "Jack", can be se Arthur of Connaught and Lord Landsdowne, on behalf of the Red at McNeil Ranch, Telkwa. Cross Society, which is also reproduced.

Lieutenant-Governor Barnard says:

"This appeal is being made simultaneously throughout the accompanied by an accepted cheque or money order for at least 10 per cent, of British Empire.

"The two former appeals for the same cause resulted in a total The cheques of all unsuccessful te collections in Canada of \$1,858,008.56 and \$1,705,000 in 1915 and derers will be returned to them. 1916. The burden of our offensives on many fronts and the necessarily be accepted. number of our casualties is so heavy that there is again drgent Terms-Cash on acceptance of ter

"This year the collection throughout Canada is in charge of the Canadian Red Cross Society through its various provincial and local branches, but the money will be kept apart from the funds for its own great regular work, and will be remitted specially to the Joint War Committee in London.

"I earnestly commend to all the people of British Columbia the Empire-wide appeal of the British Red Cross Society for help sion of Lots 6308 and 6309, Range British Columbia has responded magnificently to every magnificent to the war began, and I believe can be depended ber, at Burns Lake.

All lots will be offered subject to a control of the subject to British Columbia has responded magnificently to every demand of patriotism since the war began and I balieve can be demanded held on Tuesday the 39th day of Octo-

"This request is being mailed to all mayors and reeves in the announced at the sale province, to government agents or other officials in unorganized districts, and to the heads of public and patriotic associations.

"Wherever there are branches of the Canadian Red Cross Society, they are being asked to make the collection, and all those HOTEL PRINCE RUPERT whom this letter reaches are requested to assist.

"The Canadian Red Cross Society having established three district centers covering the province, I am advised that the One Dellar per day and upwards 25c. auto service to and from all trains and box committees in places north of the 53rd parallel should report progress | PRINCE RUPERT · · · B. C to or ask further information from the Hon, Secretary, Canadian Red Cross Society, Prince Rupert; south of that parallel, if on the mainland, from the Hon. Secretary of the Society at Vancouver; and if on Vancouver Island or other islands, from the Hon. Secretary at Victoria

"Similarly, as soon as possible after October 18th, remittances should be made to the same Red Cross officers,'

#### APPEAL OF THE JOINT WAR COMMITTEE

It becomes necessary for the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society to appeal once more to the generosity of their friends and supporters at home and overseas for funds to carry on the work of mercy for the sick and wounded of His Majesty's forces.

The Joint Committe has decided again to make such appeal on October eighteenth, and we earnestly beg your assistance in making it known to the people of the

Our Red Cross work is now costing eight thousand pounds [app. \$40,000] a day, and increases rather than

Our help is given in every theater of the War and to troops from every part of the Empire, and will have to be continued for some time, even when victory has been

We are deeply grateful for the munificent help received from sympathizers in all parts of the world, and we trust that with your assistance the appeal made on "Our Day" will meet with a response which will enable us to continue to do all that is humanly possible to lessen the sufferings of those on whose behalf we plead.

Their Majesties the King and Queen and her Majesty Queen Alexandra have graciously given us their patronage

(Signed) "ARTHUR" Grand Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. (Signed) "LANSDOWNE" Chairman of the Council of the British Red Cross Society,

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned, up to 5 o'clock in the afternoon of Oct. 15th, 1917, for the purchase of any one or all of the fol-lowing horses, viz.:

- 1. One roan horse, named "KID" can be seen at Janze's Ranch, Kispiox, named "PIEBALD" and "SLIPPER" spectively, can be seen with Asst. Ran-ger McLean, Francois Lake.
- 3. One bay horse, named "PACER" can be seen with Lot 2.
- 4. One pinto horse, named "PIN To", can be seen at R. Duff's, Telkwa 5. One white horse, "SNOWBALL"
- Each tender must be enclosed in "TENDER FOR HORSES," and must be amount set out in the tender

The highest or any tender will no

R. E. ALLEN. District Forester, Hazelton, B.C.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

upset price and terms which will

THE LEADING HOTEL IN NORTHERN B.

MINING SURVEYS Dalby B. Morkill British Columbia Land Surveyor HAZELTON - - B.C.

#### HORSESHOER AND General Blacksmith

Prices Cut in Half Shoeing from \$2 up—Shop Work 50 cents per hour

MAX. HIATT - HAZELTON



The Prince Rupert Empire man. who is a candidate for the house of commons for this Riding.

This is to introduce the man who always fights for the rights and interests of the masses rather than for partyism.

### IF YOU CAN'T FIGHT YOU CAN AT LEAST

## STAND BEHIND THE MAN WHO FIGHTS FOR YOU!

#### THE CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND

Which assists the wives and families of Canada's gallant soldiers, requires millions of dollars to keep the soldiers' home fires burning.

District Treasurer: Stephen H. Hoskins, Government Agent Hazelton Committee:

J. E. Kirby, R. E. Allen, J. K. Frost, J. R. Barker. and J. G. Powell. Monthly Subscriptions are Solicited

#### THE CANADIAN RED CROSS

The Hazelton Branch requests the support of all in its efforts to assist in the noble work of this great humanitarian organization

Honorary Presidents: Mrs. (Rev.) John Field; Mrs. (Rev.) W. Hogan

Chairman: Dr. H. C. Wrinch Vice-Presidents: S. H. Hoskins; Mrs. E. R. Cox; W. J. Carr

Honorary Secretary: Miss J. C. Grant Honorary Treasurer: H. H. Little, Manager Union Bank

Executive Committee

Mrs. H. C. Wrinch, Mrs. R. G. Moseley, Mrs. Chas. Reid, Miss Hogan, Rev. John Field, Rev. M. Pike, H. H. Phillips Large or Small Contributions will be Gratefully Received

#### SOLDIERS' AID & EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Endeavors to supply soldiers from Hazelton district with such comforts and necessities as cannot be readily obtained at the front, and will assist them to re-establish themselves in civil life when they return. The Committee is acting in co - operation with the Provincial Returned Soldiers'

Commission and the Military Hospitals Commission Contributions to the Soldiers' Aid Tobacco Fund are Welcome

Chairman: A. R. Macdonald Honorary Secretary-Treasurer: J. K. Frost. H. H. Little, R. E. Allen, F. B. Chettleburgh H. B. Campbell, H. F. Glassey, G. W. McKay.

SOME CAN FIGHT, SOME CAN WORK OR PAY ... ALL CAN SERVE



- Watch your step:
- "Eat less bread " is no nineday catch phrase. It is a solemn enjoinder in sacrifice your appetite to your country's need. Which would you rather do, eat your bread and let a soldier starve, or fulfill your duty to the people of the Allied world and made a destitute Belgian happy by making the loaf on the table last you a little longer? In the hands of the Canadian people rests the decision."

- Demand for goods and products such as wheat
   use less bread
- Mining took a hit (explosives, labour)
- Floyd Frank and lack of wool and cotton but the sitka spruce (new industries)
- Labour shortages in the farms as conscription takes hold.
- Demands for explosives mines closed
- —

- So in conclusion
- Vicky (MorisonAldous) Simms was correct
- Ruined everything