

LYTTON MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

420 Fraser St., P.O. Box 640
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2014 Issue #3

Unlocking Lytton's Past

SNIPPETS THIS ISSUE

Attestation Papers filled out by enlistees give some information into their lives and who they left waiting for them to come home safely from the fighting. Names in the Snippets are chosen at random.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

On the 100th Anniversary of WW1, a short history of the war and a tribute to Lytton area Native and non-Native men who enlisted to fight for world peace.

Museum Happenings

There was a flurry of cleanup, painting and preparation for our 'Open for the Summer' days (June 18-Sep 02). Thank you to the Village for once again providing two paid workers for the summer. Tom Peglow and Dereck Ostiguy do a great job welcoming our visitors and sharing Lytton's history with them.

At our Annual Members Dinner in June Tom presented a slideshow of a large model railway display in Boston Bar. And Dorothy received a Certificate of Recognition for her many years of service and hard work to make the Museum what it is today.

The Village has had the Museum building re-roofed. So no more fears of leaks. Thank you, Village!

Provincial Recognition



British Columbia Historical Federation Recognition

**In recognition of outstanding leadership
in the Lytton Museum & Archives**

Dorothy Dodge





Not all ..."ON THE WESTERN FRONT"

by Dereck Ostiguy

Growing up in Canada, I was always given the impression that WW1 was all, and only, fought on the Western Front as portrayed in the movies, e.g. "All Quiet on the Western Front". Never being told otherwise and only after many years of being blind or tunnel visioned I then discovered through research that this was not the case. This War involved the World in every way. DMO

The First World War shaped the twentieth century. It sparked the Russian Revolution, and it launched America as a world power. The fault lines from its failed peace settlement led to a second terrible world war barely twenty years later. We live with its unresolved consequences in the Middle East, the Balkans and Ireland. It began as a clash in the Balkans, which grew to engulf Europe and the world. Britain joined in, more to protect her great empire than for the defense of small nations. The merciless pattern of the war was set early on, by Austro-Hungarian atrocities against Serbian civilians.

The first months of the war on the Western Front were mobile, fast and dangerous; casualty rates were higher than with later trench warfare. The Germans were halted by the Allies at the Battle of the Marne, fell back to high ground and dug in. The Allies followed suit. The resulting line of trenches stretched from the Channel to Switzerland. Now 11 million French and Belgian civilians were under occupation. German brutality was no myth. Resistance was ruthlessly suppressed. Civilians, including women and children were massacred, used as human shields, and sent to concentration camps as hostages and forced laborers.

War for Europe meant war for the world. Germany gambled that Britain might risk

everything to protect her Empire - even victory on the Western Front. So, to divert British resources, maverick German commanders led the British a dance across the Pacific, Africa and the Middle East. They became legends in Germany and Britain - men like Admiral Graf von Spee, who inflicted Britain's greatest naval defeat for 250 years. The global war sucked in Africans, Chinese and Indians to serve in France. Meanwhile, the war in Africa exploited its people and left behind a wasteland, but sowed the seeds of self-determination.

The Ottoman Empire, Germany's ally, summoned all Muslims to Jihad (Holy War) to overthrow Allied power in the Middle East. Turkey's search for scapegoats after defeat by the Russians at Sarikamish led to the mass-deportation of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire. Perhaps 800,000 Armenians died in all. The Allies initially thought Turkey, the "sick man of Europe", would be a push-over, but Turkey tied up Allied troops across the Middle East for four years, winning triumphantly at Gallipoli with terrible losses on both sides, and then at Kut, south of Baghdad, forcing the British into humiliating surrender.

The war on the Eastern Front was racial: Slav versus Teuton. It was very highly mobile, fought across brutal terrain from the Urals to the Alps. It initiated many horrors of twentieth century warfare - chemical weapons, mass expulsions of civilians, and the persecution of Jews.

The Italian front with Austro-Hungary was perhaps the bitterest of all. Soldiers lived and fought for years in the harshest environments, enduring avalanches and frostbite as well as relentless enemy action. Mistrust and contempt

increasingly threatened alliances. Germany shored up her ally Austria-Hungary, feeling herself "shackled to a corpse," while Austria-Hungary saw Germany as her "secret enemy."

Attrition; "lions led by donkeys;" the slaughter only ceasing for a brief truce one Christmas, old, mistaken views of the war on the Western Front. In fact there were constant tactical evolutions; hundreds of general died in action; some men adopted a system of "Live and Let Live," with countless informal local truces. The Germans tried new ideas at Verdun, but 750,000 French and Germans died with little gain. After terrible failure on the Somme, the British used tanks at Cambrai, but the Germans clawed back lost ground. Victory on the Western Front would go to the side that learned to consolidate success.

The British expected a second Trafalgar but within days German submarines turned the North Sea into a no-go area for Britain's great battle-ships. The British responded with a blockade of Europe to starve the enemy out. Germany launched submarine attacks against civilian ships, including the Lusitania with 1200 lives lost. America acted as arsenal and banker to the warring nations, but was deeply reluctant to join in. Then, top secret British code-breakers deciphered the Zimmermann Telegram, which revealed that Germany was encouraging Mexico to attack America, which forced America to join the First World War.

Increasingly, governments faced the risk of their men mutinying, morale cracking, and civilians rising up in strikes and civil disobedience. As governments worried about containing unrest at home, they set agents working to foment revolution among the enemy. Britain sponsored the Arab Revolt through Lawrence of Arabia, Germany backed

Irish independence with arms for the Easter Rising and funded Lenin's Russian coup d'etat in 1917. Revolution became a weapon of war, hitting the enemy from within. When Lenin pulled Russia out of the war, it vindicated all Germany's efforts to use subversion, releasing half a million German soldiers for the Western Front. In March 1918 Germany launched a massive offensive on the Western Front, her bid to win the war before the Americans arrived. The mastermind was General Erich Ludendorff, a genius but unstable. Within days the British 5th Army was in retreat, Paris under shellfire. Some Allies feared defeat. But Germany's allies Ottoman Turkey and Austria-Hungary were starving and demoralized. The war-weary German Home Front was infected with dangerous socialist ideas. Then Ludendorff's great offensive ran out of steam. It had stormed ahead without strategic aims or supplies. German soldiers slowed, exhausted and hungry. And then the Americans started pouring in.

The war's last months were more destructive than trench warfare had been. Germany remained on French soil, believing herself unbeaten. The Armistice was the Allies' bid to obtain - on paper - Germany's unconditional surrender. At Versailles she was made to shoulder the blame for the war, to force her to pay for it. The war, with losses over 20 million, was later deemed as a senseless waste. At the time it was seen in positive terms - for defense against aggression, for glory. It curbed militarism, for a while, but was not the war to end all wars. Its terrible message to the century it shaped was that war can fulfill ambitions, that war can work.

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List of Countries involved in WW1

Over twenty-seven countries were mentioned as the Allied and Associated Powers in the Treaty of Versailles. World War I, however, was truly global in its outreach because colonies of European nations also went to war.

Austria-Hungary - Austria-Hungary initiated World War I by declaring war on Serbia in July 1914 after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in Sarajevo, Serbia.

Belgium - Though initially neutral, Belgium joined World War I to offer stiff resistance against German invasion.

Brazil - Brazil joined World War I in 1917 on the side of the Allies, and was the only Latin American country to participate in the Great War.

British Empire - Britain and British colonies including Australia, Canada, India, and New Zealand formed part of the Allied camp. The spread of the British colonies across the globe brought World War I to Africa and Asia.

Bulgaria - The Kingdom of Bulgaria joined the Central Powers in 1915 and fought until September 1918.

China - China entered World War I in 1917 following U.S. entry into the war.

France and Colonies - One of the major Allied nations, France declared war with the German declaration of war against France on August 3, 1914.

German Empire - Germany was a major Central Power. Austria-Hungary's declaration of war was heavily influenced by Germany's assurance of support.

Greece - Following the U.S. entry into World War I, Greece entered the war on the side of the Allies on June 27, 1917.

Italy - Initially reluctant to join the war despite an alliance with Germany and Austria-Hungary, Italy sided with the allies in 1915.

Japan - Japan's entry into World War I in August 1914 followed Britain's request to combat raids of the Kaiserliche Marine (German Imperial Navy).

Liberia - Liberian trade was adversely affected by World War I, and the country joined the Allied Powers in 1917.

Montenegro - Linked closely with Serbia, Montenegro joined the Allies in August 1914.

Ottoman Empire - The Ottoman Empire joined World War I in November 1914, on the side of the Central Powers, due to its close ties with Germany.

Portugal - Despite the rivalry between Portugal and Germany, Portugal remained neutral until March 1915, when Germany declared war. Portugal then joined the Allies.

Romania - Romania joined the Allies in August 1916.

Russia - Russia, along with Britain and France, was one of the major Allied Powers, and first among the nations to mobilize troops against Germany.

United States of America - The United States declared neutrality in 1914. In 1917, the United States associated with the Allied nations thereby changing the course of World War I.

Other countries such as **Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, San Marino, and Siam** were also involved in the Great War.

Thanks to "The First World War" 10 part DVD series; Wikipedia and World Maps for content and enlightenment...



South Pacific ..not so safe in WW1

by Dereck Ostiguy

It may seem to most, that those pristine Islands in the South Pacific were immune to the far reaching WW1 battles, but read the truth below...DMO

WW1 Allied offensives in Asia & South Pacific

One of the first land offensives in the Pacific theatre was the Occupation of **German Samoa** in August 1914 by New Zealand forces. The campaign to take Samoa ended without bloodshed after over 1,000 New Zealanders landed on the German colony, supported by an Australian and French naval squadron.

Australian forces attacked **German New Guinea** in September 1914 - 500 Australians encountered 300 Germans and native policemen at the Battle of Bitia Paka; the Allies won the day and the Germans retreated to Toma. A company of Australians and a British warship besieged the Germans and their colonial subjects, ending with a German surrender.

After the fall of Toma, only minor German forces were left in New Guinea and these generally capitulated once met by Australian forces. In December 1914, one German officer near Angorum attempted to resist the occupation with thirty native police but his force deserted him after they fired on an Australian scouting party and he was subsequently captured.

By 1915, the only uncapitulated German force was a small expedition under the command of Hermann Detzner which

managed to elude Australian patrols and hold out in the interior of the island until the end of the war, for which he became a figure of some renown.

German Micronesia, the Marianas, the Carolines and the Marshall Islands also fell to Allied forces during the war.

When war was declared on Germany in 1914 by **China**, the German East Asia Squadron withdrew from its base at **Tsingtao** and attempted to make its way east across the Pacific and back to Germany. After concentrating the majority of its force at **Pagan Island**, the fleet raided several Allied targets as it made its way across the Pacific.

Detached cruisers raided the cable station at **Fanning** and then rejoined with the squadron. Later the German forces would attack **Papeete** where Admiral Maximilian von Spee with his two armoured cruisers sank a French gunboat and a freighter before bombarding Papeete's shore batteries.

The next engagement was fought off **Chile** at the Battle of Coronel on November 1, 1914. Admiral Spee won the battle by defeating a British squadron which was sent to destroy him. His two armoured and three light cruisers sank two Royal Navy armoured cruisers and forced a British light cruiser and auxiliary cruiser to flee. Over 1,500 British sailors (all hands aboard both cruisers) were killed while only three Germans were wounded. The victory did not last long as the German fleet was soon defeated in Atlantic waters at the **Battle of the Falklands** in December 1914. Spee himself went down with his own flagship SMS Scharnhorst.

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The only German vessels to escape the Falklands engagement was the light cruiser Dresden and the auxiliary Seydlitz. Seydlitz fled into the Atlantic before being interned by neutral *Argentina*, while Dresden turned about and steamed back into the Pacific. The Dresden then attempted to act as a commerce raider, without much success, until March 1915 when its engines began to break down.

Without means of getting repairs, the German light cruiser sailed into neutral Chilean waters at the island of *Mas a Tierra* where it was cornered by British naval forces. After a short battle in which four of her crew were killed, the Dresden was forced to scuttle and her crew was interned by Chilean authorities.

In the *Indian Ocean*, SMS Emden was left behind by Admiral Graf Maximilian von Spee when he began his retreat across the Pacific. The ship won the Battle of *Penang*, in which the Germans sank a Russian cruiser and a French destroyer. Emden also harried merchant vessels of the Allies and destroyed over thirty of them. She went on and bombarded *Madras, India*, causing damage to British oil tanks and sinking an Allied merchant ship. The attack caused widespread panic in the city and thousands of people fled from the coast, fearing that the Germans may have begun an invasion of India as a whole.

After a very successful career as a merchant raider, Emden was engaged by HMAS Sydney at the *Battle of Cocos*, where the German vessel was destroyed. A group of sailors under the command of Hellmuth von Mücke managed to escape towards the *Arabian peninsula* which was then part of the Ottoman Empire, an ally of the German

Empire during World War I.

The SMS Seeadler, an auxiliary cruiser windjammer and merchant raider, commanded by Felix von Luckner, managed successful attacks on Allied shipping in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. During her career she captured sixteen vessels and sunk most of them.

In August 1917 SMS Seeadler was wrecked at the *island of Mopelia in French Polynesia*, so the Germans established a small colony on the island which housed them and several Allied prisoners, most of whom were American. Eventually when starvation proved to be an urgent concern, Luckner and his crew left the prisoners on the uninhabited island and set sail in lifeboat for *Fiji*. There, on September 5, Luckner captured a French schooner named Lutece and renamed her Fortuna.

After that they headed for *Easter Island* and again their ship was wrecked when it grounded on a reef. Subsequently the Germans were interned by the Chileans on October 5, 1917 which ended the journey. During the entire cruise only one man perished, due to an accident.

The United States was involved in at least one hostile encounter with Germans in the Pacific during World War I. On August 7, 1917, the SMS Cormoran was scuttled in *Apra Harbor, Guam* to prevent her capture by the auxiliary cruiser USS Supply. The Americans fired their first shots of the war at the Germans as they attempted to sink their ship. Ultimately the Germans succeeded in scuttling the Cormoran with a loss of nine men dead.

Tsingtao, China was the most significant German base in the area. It was defended by 3,650 German troops supported by 1,000 Chinese colonial troops and Austro-Hungarian soldiers and sailors occupying a well-designed fort. Supporting



the defenders were a small number of vessels from the Imperial German Navy and Austro-Hungarian Navy.

The Japanese sent nearly their entire fleet to the area, including six battleships and 23,000 soldiers. The British sent two military units to the battle from their garrison at **Tientsin** numbering 1,500, and the Chinese who were unoccupied by the Germans, sent over a few thousands troops on the side of the allies.

The bombardment of the fort started on October 31. An assault was made by the Imperial Japanese Army on the night of November 6. The garrison surrendered the next day. Casualties of the battle were 703 on the German side and some 3,600 POW, the casualties on the Allied side were 2,066. One Allied protected cruiser was sunk by a German torpedo boat and when defeat was certain, the Germans and Austro-Hungarians scuttled their squadron.

The German government was accused of being behind Zhang Xun's monarchist coup in **China** to prevent Duan Qirui's pro-war faction from supporting the Allies. After the coup failed in July 1917, Duan used the incident as a pretext for declaring war on Germany.

The German and Austro-Hungarian concessions in **Tientsin** and **Hankow** were occupied and their nationals detained. An even more serious plot was Germany's funding of the Constitutional Protection Movement, which geographically split China into two rival governments for eleven years.

Thanks again to Wikipedia for information source material..DMO



2014 Canadian Silver Dollar



A commemorative to mark the beginning of WW1 and mobilization of Canadian forces. It also marks a unique moment in Canadian history.

For here we have three distinct tribes, if you will, joining together for a greater common cause than their own individual self-interest. A truly remarkable feat, when one reflects that throughout history these three groups - the French, English and First Nations - have probably fought as many distinct wars among each other as any traditional foes we know of!

*Sean Isaacs,
Alliance Coin and Banknote*



Only a section of the total map.

WW1 Map

The Museum has a very large wall map *Western Front of the Great World War.*

The map is not obvious when you go into the Museum, so please ask to see it.



WE REMEMBER - WW1 SOLDIERS OF LYTTON AND AREA

Oscar Anderson	Alexander Cauder Gamey	Charles Thomas Mallen	John Edward Roberts
Walter Bent	Tony Georgi	Robert Mcculloch	Julius Caesar Roberts
Andrew Black	Dan Hagerty	Charles Mcgillivray	Sam Robertte
George Bourgeois	Henry Hance (Hans)	George Earl Mcgillivray	Arthur Seward
Joseph Bradley	Christian Hansen	Alexander (Sandy) Mckay	Frederick W. J. Seward
William Henry Christe	Richard Browning Harman	James Mckay	Leslie Seward
James Charles Cisco	Arthur Cotter Henderson	Hazen George Mckibbin	John Shamly
Alfred Cullen	George Henderson	Murdock Mcleod	Frank Simpson
Stephen Leonard Dawson	Charles Gordon Himsworth	Paul Nali	(aka John Cename)
James Dodge	Alfred Hodges	Axel Victor Northan	Temple Frederick Sinclair
Peter Duncan	Errington James Hogg	Henry Ostrom	John Smith
John Durkin	George Leonard Hopkins	Nicola Perito	Harry Smith
Frederick Gardner Earl	James Kane	George Phillip	Ralph Smith
Joseph Ficher	Ernest Kane	Peter Popolo	Fritz William Steffens
Henry Fowkes	Ernest Lambert	James Samuel Pudney	James Steffens
John Frank	Alonzo Loring	Fred Raspberry	Thomas William Steffens
William Frank		George Rebagliati	William Bernard Stewart
Frederick James Frewin		Bernard Thomas Rebagliati	Daniel Gunn Sutherland
		Charlie Reed	Joseph Robert Turtle
			Nic Walsynuk

Each of these men had some connection with Lytton.

***The list is as complete and as accurate as possible. Please let us know of any errors or missing names.
All the collected information is now part of the Museum Archives.***

*The list was compiled from these databases: Canadian Expeditionary Forces,
Ancestry Military Records, The Great War Project, Family Search, and
Aboriginal Veterans Tribute Honour List.*

*Also from: Lytton Museum, Lytton Legion,
Lytton Cemetery and John Haugen*



Unlocking Lytton's Past

LYTTON MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
(a Village of Lytton Commission) is a member of:



& the BC Historical Federation