

Laurence Dudley CHAMBERS (1897-1959)

Hawera & Normanby Star 29 Oct 1910 page 9 Bayly Memorial Scholarship

The following entries have been received by the Education Department for the Bayly Memorial Scholarship... Opunake: L. D. Chambers, J. A. McArthur...

Wairarapa Daily Times 21 Apr 1917 page 5 Personal Items

The following have voluntarily enlisted at the Masterton recruiting office for service abroad:- A. McDonald, labourer, Masterton (for Samoa); L. D. Chambers, bank clerk, Masterton; B. W. M. Clarry, cadet "Penrose", Masterton; D. Sullivan, labourer, Masterton; W. H. Cassidy, fireman, Carterton.

The Soldiers Own Diary 1918 [1] and New Zealand War Contingent Association Christmas 1917 (1918 Diary) [2]

Regimental Number 56745, Rank Pte, Name L. D. Chambers, Home address Opunake Taranaki NZ, Corps 3rd W.I.B., Company Ruahine, Platoon 13
1917 May 30 Went in to Camp

Evening Post 13 Jul 1917 page 3 Featherston Camp

The following temporary appointments of n.c.o.'s have been approved by the Commandant of Featherston Camp (Col. N. P. Adams, C.M.G.):- 29th Reinforcements B Company: To be corporals, Ptes. E. Pfankuch, G. H. Grey, P. Wall; to be lance-corporals, Ptes. B. A. Graham, L. D. Chambers, W. A. Bain, G. F. Putt, M. Carr, G. Webb, V. E. Cook, A. Knapp, F. M. Watchorn.

The Soldiers Own Diary 1918 [1] and New Zealand War Contingent Association Christmas 1917 (1918 Diary) [2]

Regimental Number 56745, Rank Pte, Name L. D. Chambers, Home address Opunake Taranaki NZ, Corps 3rd W.I.B., Company Ruahine, Platoon 13
1917 Jul 13 to 23 Final leave
1917 Aug 15 Left NZ

Evening Post 11 Aug 1917 page 8 Inspection of the 29ths

The following temporary appointments of n.c.o.'s have been approved by the Commandant of Trentham Camp (Col. H. R. Potter, C.M.G.):- 29th Reinforcements B Company: To be corporals, L.-Cpls. J. R. E. Bennett, M. Carr, L. D. Chambers, A. Knapp, J. L. Philpott, W. B. Smith, Pte F. J. Randal

The Soldiers Own Diary 1918 [1] and New Zealand War Contingent Association Christmas 1917 (1918 Diary) [2]

Regimental Number 56745, Rank Pte, Name L. D. Chambers, Home address Opunake Taranaki NZ, Corps 3rd W.I.B., Company Ruahine, Platoon 13

1917 Sep 06 Through Panama Canal

1917 Sep 08 Left Christobal

1917 Sep 15 Bermadoes

1917 Sep 18 Arr Halifax

1917 Sep 21 Left Halifax

1917 Oct 02 Arr Glasgow

1917 Oct 03 Arr Sling

1917 Nov 19 Left Sling

1917 Nov 20 Arr Folkestone – arr Boulogne – arr One Blanket Hill

1917 Nov 21 Arr Etaples

1917 Dec 17 Left Etaples

1917 Dec 18 Arr Rest Camp

1917 Dec 19 Joined Company

1917 Dec 23 Arr Ypre

1917 Dec 24 Wireing at Butts

1917 Dec 26 Digging trenches

1917 Dec 27 Arr Front Line

1917 Dec 28 [1] Hit by shrapnel [2] Got a 'buckshee'

1917 Dec 29 Arr 2nd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station

1917 Dec 31 Arr No.4 General Hospital Camiers

1918 Jan 01 Tue [1] In No.4 General Hospital. It is very cold. Got out Blues & had a steam bath. Nothing to do so spent afternoon in Army Hut. Arm is a bit sore. Cold I think. Have nothing to do but toast ourselves by the fire [2] At No.4 General Hospital Camrero France – snow everywhere – we are under canvas – the stoves are not too good

1918 Jan 02 Wed [1] Still cold & miserable and doing nothing [2] Still cold & miserable

1918 Jan 03 Thu [1] & [2] Wrote a few letters

1918 Jan 04 Fri [1] Am getting pretty sore. Went to Church Army Hut as usual – Russia refused Peace Terms [2] Usually go to Church Army hut during the afternoon – Russia Refused Peace Terms

1918 Jan 05 Sat [1] Went to pictures at YMCA afterwards to a Pantomime. Am feeling rather better & weather not so cold [2] Went to pictures at YMCA - Evening to a sort of Pantomime – weather not quite as cold

1918 Jan 06 Sun [1] Church Parade – evening raining [2] Church – raining a bit

1918 Jan 07 Mon [1] & [2] Still carrying on

1918 Jan 08 Tue [1] & [2] Snowing again

1918 Jan 09 Wed [1] Paraded to the Doctor & got marked “Blighty” – tied my arm up in a sling to make it look bad so passed the Colonel without his looking at it [2] Marked “Blighty” – put my arm in a sling and so passed the adjutant without his having a look at it

1918 Jan 10 Thu [1] A draft left early this morning for Blighty including Charleston [2] A draft left for Blighty including Charleston (artillery)

1918 Jan 11 Fri [1] Up at 4am and was soon aboard the train for Calais - left Calais & arrived at Dover – train to London & car to Chelsea – arrived at 10.30pm – bath etc & bed [2] Up at 4am – train to Calais – across to Dover – train to London & car to 2nd London General Hospital Chelsea

1918 Jan 12 Sat [1] Stayed in bed all the morning and wrote a couple of letters – talking to Mr McGruer – Pte Bone to be remembered to Aunty Jean [2] Had to stay in bed all day – wrote a couple of letters – was talking to Mr McGruer – Pte Bone to be remembered to Aunt Jean

1918 Jan 13 Sun [1] Wrote a couple of letters and got up in the afternoon – there was also a service [2] Church in the ward – up in the afternoon

1918 Jan 14 Mon [1] & [2] Up all day

1918 Jan 15 Tue [1] Helping a bit at cleaning up the Ward – two hours leave and went to the Pictures [2] Two hours leave

1918 Jan 16 Wed [1] Put in for four hours leave – went down to the Strand & in to some pictures – Letter from Gordon [2] Four hours leave – went in to song Pictures

1918 Jan 17 Thu [1] received five NZ letters one from Aunty Jean – went to a concert in Ward 8 – it was lovely – very very good [2] Five NZ letters – a very nice concert in Ward 8

1918 Jan 18 Fri [1] Pte Home had a mate down to see him so we went out (2 hours leave) & had a afternoon tea & to the pictures [2] Two hours leave – afternoon tea with Pte Home and a mate of his – Pictures for a while

1918 Jan 19 Sat [1] Went out to Shepherds Bush in a motor bus with a party & had a real good time – each had to take a lady to supper & then to a concert – many of the girls came home with us to the Hospital [2] Went to Shepherds Bush in a Motor Bus with a party – had a good time. All had to take a lady to supper and then to a concert. Many of us came back to the hospital with us in the Bus

1918 Jan 20 Sun [1] Two hours pass – went round Waltham way for a walk [2] Two hours

1918 Jan 21 Mon [1] Four hours pass – went to the Strand & Russel Square & Shakespeare Hut – got some badges and came home by the tube to Mulham Green – had a good day [2] Four hours – went to Russell Square & Strand & Shakespears Hut – got some badges – home by tube via Mulham Green

1918 Jan 22 Tue [1] Two hours leave – wrote to everybody – went for a walk Mulham Green way – haircut [2] Two hours – went for a walk over Putney Bridge – saw Pickford who is here

1918 Jan 23 Wed [1] Two hours leave – got Aunty Jean’s wire of £2 – parcel from Nellie Feaver [2] Got Aunt Jean’s wire for £2 – received a parcel from Miss Feaver

1918 Jan 24 Thu [1] Got my walking ticket – got a uniform & left at 3.30pm from Mulham Green for Brockenhurst – arrived Brockenhurst about 7.30pm [2] Walking Ticket – left at 3.30pm from Mulham Green – arrived Brockenhurst 7.30pm

1918 Jan 25 Fri [1] Am in Aunty Jean’s ward 2 – little Freeman is here too in the next Hut – went for a walk to the village [2] Am in Aunt Jean’s ward Hut A – Freeman is here – walked down to the village

1918 Jan 26 Sat [1] Went to the village with Aunty and another nurse [2] Went to the village with Auntie & Sister Parkinson

1918 Jan 27 Sun [1] Went to church in Recreation Hut [2] Church in Recreation Hut

1918 Jan 28 Mon [1] Aunt Jean & two of the other Sisters went for ten days leave to Wales [2] Aunt Jean & Sister Parkinson & I think Les went to Wales for ten days – cabled for £15 – written authority... £7 a month

1918 Jan 29 Tue [1] Down to the Village – Cpl Stevenson (heart trouble) & Pte Walsh (broken ankle) [2] Down to the Village – Pte Walsh (heart trouble) & Cpl Stevenson (broken ankle) arrived here

1918 Jan 30 Wed [1] Lovely day – went down to the village – took a couple of snaps of the Hospital – Took parcel to Forest Park for Auntie Jean – Mess Orderly [2] A lovely day – took a couple of snaps of the Hospital – parcels to Lieut. Bullard for Auntie – Mess Orderly

1918 Jan 31 Thu [1] Another lovely day – went for an outing to Christchurch and went through the beautiful old Church – on to Bournemouth and had afternoon tea with some homely people from Auckland [2] Another lovely day – went on an outing to Christchurch and Bournemouth – shown through the old church & at Bournemouth had afternoon tea with some Auckland people

1918 Feb 01 Fri [1] & [2] Meeting of the Hounds

1918 Feb 02 Sat [1] & [2] Concert in the evening

1918 Feb 03 Sun [1] Church in Balmer Lawn Hotel [2] Church in the Hotel

1918 Feb 04 Mon [1] & [2] Doctor put my arm in a sling

1918 Feb 05 Tue [1] Stan Home has come down from 2nd London – developed a film which turned out fairly well [2] Stan Home has arrived from 2nd London – developed a film which turned out fairly well

1918 Feb 06 Wed [1] & [2] Doctor stitched up my arm – still wintery weather

1918 Feb 07 Thu [1] & [2] Walked down to Lyndhurst – Aunt Jean is back

1918 Feb 08 Fri [1] Auntie Jean gave me 3 films – did a few prints [2] Aunt Jean is on duty and brought 3 films – printed off a few photos

1918 Feb 09 Sat [1] & [2] Saw Pte Hansen of B. Coy at the Club

1918 Feb 10 Sun [1] & [2] Talking to Don Trotter

1918 Feb 11 Mon [1] & [2] Aunty Jean & Sister Newell took me down to Bournemouth – fine weather but no sunshine

1918 Feb 12 Tue [1] Went down to the Village [2] Went down to Brockenhurst Village

1918 Feb 13 Wed [1] & [2] Talking to Don Trotter who is going under his 4th operation tomorrow – afternoon at Kia Ora Club

1918 Feb 14 Thu [1] Went to Tintown & saw D. Trotter. Bought a No.2 Browning film – afternoon tea at Kia Ora Club – Don Trotter did not go under the operation – Whist Drive – won Booby prize [2] Went to Tintown but Don Trotter had not gone under the operation – got a No.2 Browning Film – Whist Drive & won Booby Prize

1918 Feb 15 Fri [1] A party going to Bournemouth – walked to Lyndhurst – developed a film for Auntie but is not any good [2] A party as usual going to Bournemouth – walked to Lyndhurst – developed a film for Aunty but it was no good

1918 Feb 16 Sat [1] & [2] Went down to Lyndhurst with Home & the Massage Sister to get some apples

1918 Feb 17 Sun [1] Went for a walk & took one or two snaps [2] Went for a walk & took a snap or two

1918 Feb 18 Mon [1] & [2] Getting a new set of teeth

1918 Feb 19 Tue [1] Lost my watch – Fatigue at dining hall – Recd two more Budgets [2] Lost my watch – Dining Hall fatigue – Rec 2 Budgets

1918 Feb 20 Wed [1] Went on a trip to Beaulieu Abby with two other boys – it rained a bit but still we had a good day [2] Went to Beaulieu Abbey (Miss Grants party) – it rained a bit

1918 Feb 21 Thu [1] 10.30 Dentist – went to Misses Helloby's to afternoon tea and they came back to our Whist Drive [2] 10.30 Dentist – went to Misses Helloby's to afternoon tea. They afterwards came to our Whist Drive

1918 Feb 22 Fri [1] Saw Don Trotter again – Aunty took the stitches out – Dentist 3.30 naper – made 4.30 and naper – watch turned up again [2] Saw Don Trotter – Aunty took the stitches out – finished up at the Dentists – My watch found again

1918 Feb 23 Sat [1] Sir Thos McKenzie came round & watched our digging – took a snap – but do not know how it will come out – walked to Lyndhurst & took a snap or two [2] Sir Thos McKenzie inspected Balmer Lawn Hospital & inspected the digging – took a snap of him – walked to Lyndhurst and took a snap or two

1918 Feb 24 Sun [1] & [2] Church

1918 Feb 25 Mon [1] Paraded before the Doctor – Capt Gower offered me a loan [2] Paraded before the Doctor Capt Gower and he offered me a loan if I was short for leave

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14 days leave

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1918 Feb 26 Tue [1] Went up to Tin Town & got £5 from Aunty Jean's a/c – now at Shakespears Hut [2] Went up to Tintown and borrowed £5 from Aunty Jean's a/c making £7 which I now owe – went to Shakespeare Hut London

1918 Feb 27 Wed [1] Saw Hubert Mead & Roy Julian & went out with Pte Cameron to Regent Park Zoo – leaving for Edinburgh with Roy & another chap Simpson [2] Saw Hubert Mead & Roy Julian – went to Regent Park Zoo with Pte Cameron from Pahiatua – left for Edinburgh with Roy & Pte Simpson

1918 Feb 28 Thu [1] Arr Edinburgh an hour late – went to – wandered about a Theatre Royal in the evening – snowing & blowing [2] Arr Edinburgh about 9am in a snow storm – stayed in & went to Theatre Royal in the evening

1918 Mar 01 Fri [1] Nice fine day – went out to South Bridge the Zoo and Portobello [2] Fine weather but cold – went to South Bridge, the Zoo and Portobello

1918 Mar 02 Sat [1] Fine day - went up to the Castle Art Gallery & Museum up Calton Hill – French Red X day so things were very busy – home early – all the picture shows etc crowded out – PC (Postcard) Dick & Eunice [2] Fine but dull and cold – went up to the Castle Art Gallery Museum Calton Hill – French Red X day so things are very busy & theatres etc filled to overflowing – PC Dick & Eunice

1918 Mar 03 Sun [1] Sent the Marutania – St Mary's Free Church – went and saw Mrs Stewart 29 Morningside Edinburgh [2] St Mary's Free Church – visited Mrs Stewart 29 Morningside Edinburgh

1918 Mar 04 Mon [1] Arr Glasgow – went out to Renfrew across ferry & back – Razzle Dazzle Empire – Sanching Hall & met Ranger [2] Arr Glasgow – went to Renfrew across ferry & back – went to Empire – Razzle Dazzle – staying in Sanching Hall St – met Ranger

- 1918 Mar 05 Tue [1] Train to Balloch then went for a row on Loch Lomond – also for a walk in the Park (20 miles by train) – home by train – Mr Poland Home Souvenir Loch Lomond [2] Train to Balloch & then went for a row on Loch Lomond & a walk in the Park (20 miles by train) – Home by train (Cards to Mr Poland & Aunt Jean – Souvenir to Loch Lomond Home)
- 1918 Mar 06 Wed [1] & [2] Rouken Glen Park (Waterfall) – on to Paisley & back by train – Bishopbriggs Springburn Mt Florida Cathcart – saw one of the highest chimney stacks in the World – Theatre Royal
- 1918 Mar 07 Thu [1] & [2] Kelvin Grove Park Art Gallery & Museum Victoria Park – underground to Burnside Ruther Glen Glasgow Green – Coliseum Theatre
- 1918 Mar 08 Fri [1] Ranger who has 30 days leave – went to Edinburgh – John Knox's House Museum – St Giles Cathedral – opening of YMCA £25,000 Sir Arthur Japp – Dr Drummond Ogilvie Walpole [2] Saw Ranger again & Bob Bowman – back to Edinburgh – John Knox's House Museum – St Giles Cathedral – saw The Market Cross & old wells – Opening of new YMCA (£25,000 cost) – heard Sir Ar. Yapp
- 1918 Mar 09 Sat [1] Arr London – went to Madame Tussauds Wax Works – saw Houston Young & Jack Harrigan at The Club & also Charlie Trotter – Football match – at Theatre a Little Bit of Fluff – staying at Peel House Regency St [2] Arr London – Madame Tussauds Wax Works – saw Houston Young & Jack Harrigan at The Club – saw a first class football match – saw Charlie Trotter at theatre A Little bit of Fluff – staying at Peel House Regency St (Horseferry Rd)
- 1918 Mar 10 Sun [1] Christ Church Westminster Br Rd – P.C. Aunt Jean – Albert Hall & Albert Memorial [2] Church – Christ Church Westminster Br Road – heard Dr Meyer – Albert Hall & memorial – Lea YMCA
- 1918 Mar 11 Mon [1] YMCA Reisler Square Orange St – went to Crystal Palace and Croydon Cairos – Waterloo electric Train to Hampton Court through Castle and back by Bus – Her Majesty's Chu Chin Chow [2] Reisler Square Orange St – Cairos – Crystal Palace (not allowed in) Croydon – from Waterloo electric train to Hampton Court Castle & back by Buss – His Majesty's Chu Chin Chow
- 1918 Mar 12 Tue [1] Went to Shakespeare Hut for kit – left Waterloo 11am – arrived Codford 3pm – wired Aunty Jean of my that Little Freeman arrived [2] Shakespeare Hut got my kit bag & left Waterloo 11am arrived Codford 3pm – wired Aunt Jean Freeman is here
- 1918 Mar 13 Wed [1] & [2] Dentist – Doctor – Full uniform – cards A Jean, Eunice, Home Dad Everyone, Hilly McNeill
- 1918 Mar 14 Thu [1] Canterbury beat Wellington 8 to nil at Stockton Park – started drill today – Private F. Simpson is here – Little Freeman & Tremain is here [2] Canterbury beat Wellington 8 to nil at Stockton Park – started drill today – Private F. Simpson is here now

1918 Mar 15 Fri [1] Dentist in the morning – Route march afternoon – Saw Tremain – recd some cigarettes from Mrs Harman – parcel of chocolate from Miss Cleghorn [2] Dentist again (inspection) – Route march afternoon – Saw Tremain – Mrs Harman sent some cigarettes – Miss Cleghorn sent a pound of chocolate

1918 Mar 16 Sat [1] Roll call – kit inspection (cancelled) – Bath – nothing doing all day – recd 6 NZ letters [2] Roll Call – Kit inspection (cancelled) – No Parades – 6 NZ letters

1918 Mar 17 Sun [1] & [2] Church parade – walk to village
1918 Mar 18 Mon [1] & [2] Physical & Baonet – Route march about 2 miles in all

1918 Mar 19 Tue [1] Wet weather – physical & baonet – classification still B3T – sent home odds & ends from leave - Eunice Burns poems - Mr Harman silver badge NZ onward [2] Physical & baonet – classification still B3T – sent home odds & ends from leave Eunice Burns poems – Mrs Harman NZ onward silver

1918 Mar 20 Wed [1] & [2] Physical & baonet – Route march – pictures
1918 Mar 21 Thu [1] & [2] Physical & baonet & Route march – enemy attack on 50 mile front

1918 Mar 22 Fri [1] Physical & baonet & Route march – enemy claim 16,000 prisoners 200 guns [2] Physical & baonet & Route march – enemy claim 1600 prisoners 200 guns

1918 Mar 23 Sat [1] & [2] Went for a walk to Wylly's – enemy break through west of St Quentin – now claim 25,000 prisoners 400 guns
1918 Mar 24 Sun [1] & [2] Now 30,000 prisoners 600 guns – football Sling 6 Codford 16 – Church Parade
1918 Mar 25 Mon [1] & [2] Physical & Route March – enemy still advancing
1918 Mar 26 Tue [1] Classification B2 – route march – very nice concert at YMCA – enemy still advancing [2] Classification – Route March – very nice concert YMCA

1918 Mar 27 Wed [1] Physical & baonet – route march – Albert taken but enemy are gradually being checked [2] P&B – RM – Albert taken – enemy slowing down or being checked

1918 Mar 28 Thu [1] Raining slightly – for first time since I came here 1 hour physical in Mess Room – enemy checked all along the line by British Canadian French Americans [2] Raining slightly for a change – an hours physical in Mess Room – enemy seem almost checked – British French Canadian Yanks

1918 Mar 29 Fri [1] Roll Call – went for a walk down past Wylie – no Parades [2] Walked down to Wylie – Roll Call – No Parades
1918 Mar 30 Sat [1] Roll Call – no Parades except Kit Inspection for A class – Sam Crocker is & Mackey are both here [2] blank
1918 Mar 31 Sun [1] Breakfast bacon & eggs – Church & HLI [2] blank

1918 Apr 01 Mon [1] Another holiday – went to Gymkana & Let_ at CWL grounds Codford – Diggers Pictures [2] blank
 1918 Apr 02 Tue [1] An hours physical & showery for the rest of the day – developed a film [2] blank
 1918 Apr 03 Wed [1] Physical & bayonet – Classification B1 [2] blank
 1918 Apr 04 Thu [1] Drizzling rain all day - 1½ hours physical – no... parades – The Voice on the wire ended Pictures [2] blank
 1918 Apr 05 Fri [1] Physical & Bayonet – Dentist – Concert [2] Physical & Baonet – Picadilly as usual – Dental Parade
 1918 Apr 06 Sat [1] blank [2] Inoculated – walked down to Wyllye
 1918 Apr 07 Sun [1] NZ Mail – went for a walk to another village – saw dozens of Rabbits [2] blank
 1918 Apr 08 Mon [1] Excused Duty & Route March – a few Gaslight prints [2] blank
 1918 Apr 09 Tue [1] Physical & Bayonet – G.O.Cs inspection – Pictures... of Voice, on the Wire [2] blank
 1918 Apr 10 Wed [1] P&B - Route March [2] blank
 1918 Apr 11 Thu [1] Wet – physical Mess Room – Classification A [2] blank
 1918 Apr 12 Fri [1] Drew a pack – Route March [2] blank
 1918 Apr 13 Sat [1] Two mile Route March with pack – developed a film [2] blank
 1918 Apr 14 Sun [1] Church parade – cold & windy [2] blank
 1918 Apr 15 Mon [1] Medical exam – Kit inspection – Recd Birthday (Identification disc) [2] blank
 1918 Apr 16 Tue [1] Raining and snowing – moved out and arrived at Sling at about 1pm [2] blank
 1918 Apr 17 Wed [1] Did nothing in the morning – Marking at the Butts in afternoon in the rain [2] blank
 1918 Apr 18 Thu [1] Sgt Toker is here wearing red Ord Cpl. – did nothing all day [2] blank
 1918 Apr 19 Fri [1] Medical inspection – went out with Cpl Brown to visit some nice people named Pennell [2] blank

 1918 Apr 20 Sat [1] Scrubbed out our hut – Dental inspection – a game of football – I had a look at an aeroplane which was slightly damaged in landing – 34 Rfs arrived from Lark Hill [2] blank

 1918 Apr 21 Sun [1] Church Parade – went for a walk [2] blank
 1918 Apr 22 Mon [1] Out drilling – afternoon full pack – saw J. Wilks, L. Des Forges, Len Callaghan, Rolands, E. Markham [2] blank
 1918 Apr 23 Tue [1] Drill – lecture on hygiene – received a parcel from Aunt Jean [2] blank
 1918 Apr 24 Wed [1] P. T. – B. – Gas – Route March past Bulford aerodrome – lecture on V.D. – saw H. Mead, Earin Cubbon

 1918 Apr 25 Thu [1] Anzac Day (Beer and cigarettes for dinner) – sports in Bulford field – everything went grand, weather beautiful – The Airmen gave us an exhibition & soon NZ airmen took some of our officers for a fly – one machine slightly damaged, no-one hurt – concert in evening & NZ mail [2] blank

 1918 Apr 26 Fri [1] Drill – Roy Julian is here – walk down to Bulford [2] blank
 1918 Apr 27 Sat [1] Fatigue on Sports Ground – cross country run – Garrison Theatre [2] blank
 1918 Apr 28 Sun [1] Walk to Amesbury & Stonehenge with Dilks, Callaghan, Julian [2] blank
 1918 Apr 29 Mon [1] Drill as per usual – an hours squad drill on the Battalion Parade Ground as not drilling properly

1918 Apr 30 Tue [1] Drill bombing (dummy) – rifle bombing – walk down to Towing Town [2] blank
 1918 May 01 Wed [1] Live bombing – Gas chamber [2] blank
 1918 May 02 Thu [1] On the Range – did fairly well – only hit 2 silhouette – Dilks & I went down to Garrison Canteen [2] blank
 1918 May 03 Fri [1] End drill – Fire piquet [2] blank
 1918 May 04 Sat [1] Scrubbed hut in the morning and went to a lecture (Pay Day) – Fire Piquet [2] blank
 1918 May 05 Sun [1] Walked to Amesbury [2] blank
 1918 May 06 Mon [1] Drill as usual – Piquet – went for a walk with J. Dilks [2] blank
 1918 May 07 Tue [1] Wet – Drill in the sheds & an hour looking at aeroplane maps or on general knowledge – pictures at YMCA [2] blank
 1918 May 08 Wed [1] Ord Drill – Route March – went for a walk across Bulford Field [2] blank
 1918 May 09 Thu [1] Ord Drill – walked to the YMCA [2] blank
 1918 May 10 Fri [1] Drill – Handed in our Pay Books & going on Draft leave Monday [2] blank
 1918 May 11 Sat [1] Ord Drill – had a sleep in the trees in the afternoon [2] blank
 1918 May 12 Sun [1] Walked through Netheravon & through the aerodrome [2] blank
 1918 May 13 Mon [1] Leave washed out – fatigue in Bull Ring morning – Louis Gure afternoon (Tommytown) [2] blank
 1918 May 14 Tue [1] Bull Ring fatigue all day – received some NZ letters [2] blank
 1918 May 15 Wed [1] Fatigue cutting sods for a lawn round the Battalion Parade ground [2] blank
 1918 May 16 Thu [1] Still on Fatigue and doing very little – wrote a few letters & had supper with Cpl Brown – beautiful weather [2] blank
 1918 May 17 Fri [1] Building a fowl run – stayed in cam – beautiful weather [2] blank
 1918 May 18 Sat [1] Went for a swim in the Avon at Bulford – Garrison Theatre – Dilks & Callaghan [2] blank
 1918 May 19 Sun [1] Primitive Methodist Church – Mrs Pennells for tea with Cpl Brown & Len Callaghan [2] blank
 1918 May 20 Mon [1] Started our Louis Gun Course – Lecture on Russian... N Z E [2] blank
 1918 May 21 Tue [1] Louis Gun – Lecture on Distribution of Land in England [2] blank
 1918 May 22 Wed [1] Louis Gun – wrote some letters – developed a film [2] blank
 1918 May 23 Thu [1] Louis Gun – showery – printed off a few gaslights [2] blank
 1918 May 24 Fri [1] Louis Gun on the range all day – saw the Manxman at Garrison [2] blank
 1918 May 25 Sat [1] Louis Gun on the range in the afternoon [2] blank
 1918 May 26 Sun [1] Walked down to Bulford [2] blank
 1918 May 27 Mon [1] LG on the range all day – wrote some letters [2] blank
 1918 May 28 Tue [1] Ordinary Drill – Theatre (with Jim Dilks) Triobe [2] blank
 1918 May 29 Wed [1] LG Drill on the range in the afternoon – developing prints [2] blank
 1918 May 30 Thu [1] Had our Louis Gun Test – Saw Jane at the Garrison [2] blank
 1918 May 31 Fri [1] Had a stunt on the range with some of the 34th Rfs using Louis Gun [2] blank
 1918 Jun 01 Sat [1] Cleaned the gun – Paraded for leave pay [2] blank
 1918 Jun 02 Sun [1] Draft L Des F (Des Forges), Ern Gibbon, E. Rowland, G. Markham [2] blank

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7 days leave
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1918 Jun 03 Mon [1] Leave - Shakespeare Hut – Bank of NZ Lower Bridge (Seven days leave) [2] blank

1918 Jun 04 Tue [1] Stock Exchange - BNZ talk to Manager – Tower of London – Selfriges Mansion House – saw the Lon Mayor – Paladium Theatre (Len & I) [2] blank

1918 Jun 05 Wed [1] Went to the base Post Office & saw Gordon in the morning – went to Shepherds Bush and saw Mrs Herman – through Hyde Park – Buckingham Palace (Len & I) [2] blank

1918 Jun 06 Thu [1] Arr Bournemouth – went Tram to Boscombe – went through the winter Gardens & to Pier – also to Pictures with Miss Murch & the chaplain – My Ladys Dress [2] blank

1918 Jun 07 Fri [1] Walked from Boscombe Pier to Bournemouth Pier – had an hours row – Dinner at YMCA – met Aunty at the Station – we went to Christchurch & saw the Bird Museum – concert & winter Gardens Miss Murch [2] blank

1918 Jun 08 Sat [1] Left at 9am & arr Southampton – Wandered round the town & to the Common – saw a good many Yank’s going over to France – Landed Home about 12.30 [2] blank

1918 Jun 09 Sun [1] Church Parade – Slept part of the afternoon – to bed early [2] blank

1918 Jun 10 Mon [1] Fatigue Bull Ring miniature Range – Tommy Town - Gaslight Paper [2] blank

1918 Jun 11 Tue [1] On Guard – wrote a few letters [2] blank

1918 Jun 12 Wed [1] On Quarter Guard – Went down to Tommy Town & got fixing salts & developer [2] blank

1918 Jun 13 Thu [1] On Parade with No.1 Platoon [2] blank

1918 Jun 14 Fri [1] On fatigue gardening – Did some more prints & supper with Cpl Brown & Chapman [2] blank

Letter written in pencil at Sling 14 June 1918

Dear Everybody, At present I am on guard. We are on until 4pm tomorrow and really there is not very much to do. On Monday last we went out on Draft Leave, Len Callaghan and I. We went up to the 'smoke' of the little village and stayed at Shakespeares Hut. We wandered about and saw London and the Lower Bridges, also the Tower of London. In the evening went ~~(to the Paladium Theatre)~~. Seven days leave. Next morning went down to the BNZ and had a yarn to the manager. Went through the Stock Exchange past St Paul's and out to the Lower Bridge and through the Tower of London. Later we went into Selfriges for afternoon tea. Then two ladies collecting for the Salvation Army or something took us into the Mansion House where we saw the Lord Mayor as he came in and went out. Saw the lovely reception room, billiard room etc. In the evening we went to the Paladium.

Wednesday morning we went to the Base Post Office in London as large as life and looking very well gave us a batch of NZ letters. In the afternoon we went out to Shepherd's Bush to see a Mrs Harman who is a sub supervisor at the White City Factory where Gas Resparators and canvas articles are manufactured. The workers entertain the boys from hospitals nearby every week, give them afternoon tea and cigarettes (supper I might say with meat etc) and arrange concerts given by professionals. Coming back we walked through Hyde Park past Albert Memorial and Albert Hall along to Buckingham Palace, passing on the way South Kensington Museum and other noted buildings. Walked from there to Trafalgar Square and back home again.

Thursday morning left Waterloo and arrived at Boscombe YMCA in time for dinner. Train to Bournemouth through the lovely gardens and down to the Pier. After tea we were lucky as the YMCA Chaplain and Miss Murch from Wanganui, O/C of YMCA showed us Pictures – "My Lady's Dress". It was very interesting from the silkworms upwards including the fur and the flowers. Each stage in the making of the dress was a little story of its own.

Friday walked along from the Boscombe Pier to the Bournemouth one, had a row for an hour and dinner at the YM. Met Aunty Jean at 3pm and went with her to the Bird Museum at Christchurch. The old chap collected all the birds eggs, butterflies, moths and small animals and has studied them all his life. He was so very interesting. In the evening Miss Murch, Auntie, Len and I went down to an entertainment at the Winter Gardens which was just lovely as entertainments there are second only to London. We did not half like saying goodbye to Auntie at 11.10pm, I can tell you.

In the morning we left for Southampton arriving about 3? Am. Stayed until about 6pm. Saw a good many Yanks leaving for France. Also saw their camp on the Common. Spent from 7pm until 11.10pm in Salisbury so did not get back to camp very early. Yesterday we were on fat-i-gue.

All the little villages just look lovely now everything green with flowers everywhere. I suppose you people wonder what we think of the war. Well everyone wishes for it to soon be over but no-one worries at all. They watch the papers closely but take things as a matter of course. There are supposed to be 1000 000 [sic] American Troops landed in France by the 6/6/18 and another 500,000 by the end of the summer. By this time next summer I think Fritz will be getting all that he wants. What about his giant Gotha, 145 feet across against out Hanley Page machines 72 ft (Just half the seg.) I think we have a late plane just out which is a good deal larger than the 72ft. That Gotha has four 200 h.p. motors and travels at about the same rate as the Hanley Page, 75 to 80 miles per hour.

The 35th Reinforcements coming through the Mediterranean said that they were attacked five times by submarines, four of which were believed to have been sunk. We lost three ships. This was not published in the papers. Not long ago a boy who spent his leave in Ireland told us a story of how a submarine was captured in the Irish Channel. This large submarine was coming to the surface where a little armed trawler saw her. She fired a shot and scored a hit. The Submarine thinking she was caught came to the surface and of course it was too late when they found out what had fired the shot. They say the commander almost wept at the thought as it was his 40th trip.

Gordon Markham, Lionel Des Forges, Ern Cubbon, Erix Cutfield, Ernie Rolands and Roy Julian have all gone overseas just lately and Len Callaghan is very likely coming over with me but is getting some glasses first. You see we are qualified as 1st class Louis Gunners not in France though I hope as it means too much work. They are putting through 160 of us per month and goodness knows how many through the Vickers Gun Courses.

I don't know whether I said before that Fritz surprised our entrenching battalion not long ago. They were in support of some-one who must have been taken too. There were a number of casualties and 230 odd men taken and about five escaped, one Officer, a Chaplain, an NCO or two and a man or two. I heard the boys talking of one of our fellows buying a six seater Cadillac, buying a case for it taking to the ship and landing it in NZ for about £80. Quite a new car. Petrol cannot be bought and taxes still go on as cars seem very cheap. Very likely motor bikes are too (second hand).

The weather over here lately has just been glorious even too dry. There was a shower or two Monday but not enough. Near the Camp our boys have a potato patch of about forty acres so that should help to feed us a bit. In the last Air Raid on London another Bomb dropped on John Bulls Office and another on the Mansion House. Very few people knew as very little damage was done. Possibly they did not explode.

Thanks very much for the news all about the Winds and Fires in NZ. It must have been a storm. I think France is getting worse too as they seem to be able to hear the guns on the front quite plainly in Paris about 35 miles away. The papers say that the last enemy push has been the most fierce battle yet known. You might not know that now the line is held by divisions from all the Allies placed alternately so that no individual army can be struck at. This seems to be a wonderful good thing together with one Commander.

I think I have written quite enough for just now anyway can't think of any more just now. Very Best Love to all from Lawrie.

P.S. Went to the Grafton Galleries where Australian and a few New Zealand war pictures are shown. The colour photography shown by a lantern is really beautiful. Hope this doesn't find the bottom.

1918 Jun 15 Sat	[1] On Fatigue on Signal Square – Cpl Daysh is here – Supper at Cpl Browns – Chapman, Len & I [2] blank
1918 Jun 16 Sun	[1] Went down to Tommy Town [2] blank
1918 Jun 17 Mon	[1] Fatigue on Signal Square – Pictures with Cpl Daysh [2] blank
1918 Jun 18 Tue	[1] Guard [2] blank
1918 Jun 19 Wed	[1] Guard – Went to Garrison Theatre to A Pair of Spectacles – very good [2] blank
1918 Jun 20 Thu	[1] Fatigue in the Bull Ring – LG Badges to sew on our sleeves have been issued – Garrison Pictures with Daysh [2] blank
1918 Jun 21 Fri	[1] Fatigue [2] blank
1918 Jun 22 Sat	[1] Fatigue – went to Garrison Theatre [2] blank

1918 Jun 23 Sun [1] Church Parade – walk over the hills [2] blank
 1918 Jun 24 Mon [1] Officers Mess – parcel from Eunice [2] blank
 1918 Jun 25 Tue [1] Officers Mess – night watch [2] blank
 1918 Jun 26 Wed [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jun 27 Thu [1] Officers Mess – parcel Mrs Stronge [2] blank
 1918 Jun 28 Fri [1] Officers – afternoon watch [2] blank
 1918 Jun 29 Sat [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jun 30 Sun [1] Afternoon watch [2] blank
 1918 Jul 01 Mon [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jul 02 Tue [1] Evening watch [2] blank
 1918 Jul 03 Wed [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jul 04 Thu [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jul 05 Fri [1] Officers Mess [2] blank
 1918 Jul 06 Sat [1] Officers Mess – transferred to C Coy [2] blank
 1918 Jul 07 Sun [1] Walked over to Figheldean & took a couple of snaps
 1918 Jul 08 Mon [1] Watch [2] blank
 1918 Jul 09 Tue [1] Walk to Milson & Durrington [2] blank
 1918 Jul 10 Wed [1] NZ Mail – heavy rain [2] blank
 1918 Jul 11 Thu [1] Heavy rain [2] blank
 1918 Jul 12 to 19 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Jul 20 Sat [1] Weekend at Oxford – went to Nuneham Courtney to see Aunty Jean but she had gone back to Broc. [2] blank
 1918 Jul 21 Sun [1] Mansfield Cottage [2] blank
 1918 Jul 22 to Aug 06 [1] & [2] blank

 1918 Aug 07 Wed [1] Three days special leave having been in camp two months since Draft Leave – went to Poole, Bournemouth & Boscombe [2] blank

 1918 Aug 08 Thu [1] Went to Brockenhurst and had a day at the hospital with Aunty Jean. Saw McCaffery & H. Coker – back to Boscombe [2] blank
 1918 Aug 09 Fri [1] Wandered about the beaches and did not go back to camp [2] blank
 1918 Aug 10 Sat [1] Left by 5am train & were home about nine with five NCOs – nothing said [2] blank
 1918 Aug 11 to Sep 23 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Sep 24 Tue [1] Lark Hill – smashed up the wet canteen & drank all or most of the beer started on the dry canteen [2] blank
 1918 Sep 25 to 26 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Sep 27 Fri [1] Met Sgt Watchhorn who was in Quarters Stores in Trentham – he is now a private [2] blank
 1918 Sep 28 to 29 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Sep 30 Mon [1] Draft for France - Pearce went over – going straight up to the Line [2] blank

1918 Oct 01 Tue [1] NZ Mail – 103 bags of parcels [2] blank
 1918 Oct 02 Wed [1] Walk in the morning & afternoon [2] blank
 1918 Oct 03 Thu [1] Walk morning & afternoon up on the hills [2] blank
 1918 Oct 04 Fri [1] Out with Bertha – 41st Rfe arrived about 2am Sat morning – four? Wellington Officers [2] blank
 1918 Oct 05 Sat [1] Ken Cannell arrived with the 41st Rfs – slept all the afternoon [2] blank
 1918 Oct 06 Sun [1] Col. Shortt went to Aldershot [2] blank
 1918 Oct 07 Mon [1] Booked seats for the Theatre – Col. Holderness has taken over – sent Aunty 6.2 Brown Films per Reg Post – Now A Coy [2] blank
 1918 Oct 08 Tue [1] Sent two weekly sketches Eunice Home [2] blank
 1918 Oct 09 Wed [1] Wet – Guest night – no fish [2] blank
 1918 Oct 10 Thu [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Oct 11 Fri [1] Padre Roberts lost all his money when in Trafalgar square (pick pockets) [2] blank
 1918 Oct 12 Sat [1] Jim Evans went out on leave (4 days) [2] blank
 1918 Oct 13 Sun [1] Frost – went for a walk over the hills [2] blank
 1918 Oct 14 to 17 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Oct 18 Fri [1] Filled my album – McKenzie is back from honeymoon [2] blank
 1918 Oct 19 Sat [1] Sling played football against an Aussie team – won 40 odd to nil – cycled to Amebury – cut down 2 Brownie films [2] blank
 1918 Oct 20 Sun [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Oct 21 Mon [1] A Message from Mars [2] blank
 1918 Oct 22 Tue [1] 17 officers in from O.T.C. – total 43 now [2] blank
 1918 Oct 23 Wed [1] A very heavy day – 9 sisters in from Codford – supper after 10pm [2] blank
 1918 Oct 24 Thu [1] Walked to Boscombe Aerodrome. Had look round & saw an aeroplane model range [2] blank
 1918 Oct 25 Fri [1] More foggy and frosty weather – Wither the Law [2] blank
 1918 Oct 26 Sat [1] Walked to Neilson Durrington – had a yarn to Ken Cannell [2] blank
 1918 Oct 27 to 28 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Oct 29 Tue [1] Theatre, Pictures out of bounds – Sling isolated for Spanish Flu [2] blank
 1918 Oct 30 Wed [1] Sergeants dance cancelled [2] blank
 1918 Oct 31 Thu [1] Turkey surrendered – Sgt Watkins on leave [2] blank
 1918 Nov 01 Fri [1] Austria evacuating – Italy for Armistice – New corporal now in charge of the mess [2] blank
 1918 Nov 02 to 03 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Nov 04 Mon [1] Xmas mail closes – our new Corporal asked to wait on Head table but Tuesday told it was not necessary for him to wait [2] blank
 1918 Nov 05 Tue [1] Walked down to Tommy Town – Police Sergeant took own names being out with no father [2] blank
 1918 Nov 06 Wed [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Nov 07 Thu [1] Nothing were about being out without passes [2] blank

 1918 Nov 08 Fri [1] A rumour that the Armistice has been signed but afterwards contradicted – Sergt Lang helped himself to the flares and charged 12s [2] blank

1918 Nov 09 Sat [1] We have had some great fun during the week reefing each others blankets [2] blank
 1918 Nov 10 Sun [1] Sling is to be made the one NZ camp – box... Codford washout [2] blank
 1918 Nov 11 Mon [1] 11th hour 11th day 11th month Germany surrenders – there was never a day anywhere with more fun [2] blank
 1918 Nov 12 Tue [1] Lt. Andrews, V.C. to be married [2] blank
 1918 Nov 13 to 14 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Nov 15 Fri [1] Received parcel from the Feavers & another from home for Xmas [2] blank
 1918 Nov 16 to 24 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Nov 25 Mon [1] Jim & I walked to Amesbury – took a snap & dropped Paybook pass & a few letters in the River & fished them out again [2] blank
 1918 Nov 26 Tue [1] Walked over to the Boscombe Aerodrome & took snaps – Brigade officers dance [2] blank
 1918 Nov 27 Wed [1] Sergeants Dance – Ted supplied everything for Officers dance & ... for Sergeants dance [2] blank
 1918 Nov 28 Thu [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Nov 29 Fri [1] Aunty Jean is off by the 'Willochra' in a few days – put in for weekend leave [2] blank

 1918 Nov 30 Sat [1] Pass turned down – got a buckshee one - Cycled down to Brockenhurst – left 11.30 & did some shopping in Salisbury – arr 4.45
 found Aunty was back – shopping in Bournemouth & Southampton [2] blank

 1918 Dec 01 Sun [1] Spent the day with Auntie & cycled home arriving about mid-night [2] blank
 1918 Dec 02 Mon [1] Another NZ mail in [2] blank
 1918 Dec 03 Tue [1] Jim on 3 days leave – Ken Cannell in isolation at Lark Hill [2] blank
 1918 Dec 04 Wed [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Dec 05 Thu [1] 43rd Rifles arrived – Peter 3 days leave with P. Ryan [2] blank
 1918 Dec 06 Fri [1] On duty [2] blank
 1918 Dec 07 Sat [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Dec 08 Sun [1] Reg letter £5 from BNZ Authority to draw £7 a month [2] blank
 1918 Dec 09 Mon [1] Wet – Peter back from leave [2] blank
 1918 Dec 10 to 13 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Dec 14 Sat [1] Taking on the bar as Archie is on leave – B & C class on leave forever to going home [2] blank
 1918 Dec 15 to 29 [1] & [2] blank
 1918 Dec 30 Mon [1] Revalle at 2am train to London Euston to Holyhead – delayed a few hours [2] blank
 1918 Dec 31 Tue [1] Arrived in Dublin with Eising – through Guinness Brewery – left for Cork [2] blank
 1919 Jan 01 Wed [1] Had a look round Cork – went through the Cathedral – saw the gaol, Queens College etc [2] blank

 1919 Jan 02 Thu [1] Left for Blarney which is a small village with a large Liseed? Mill (600 hands) – saw Capt Simmonds & Capt King – arr Killarney
 (Grahams Hotel) [2] blank

1919 Jan 03 Fri [1] The long trip up the lakes
Notes at end of [1]

59274 H. H. Meads
59865 F. Chapman – Batt Electrition – No.3 Camp Sling
19105 Cpl T. P. Browne A. Coy Wellington Regt Sling Camp Wilts – T. P. Browne c/o John Jones Glandwr, Wanganui East NZ
69507 L. Markham C. Coy 34th Rfs
66651 K. L. Cannell
56856 Cpl T. J. Randal – Litchfield Aramaho
Cpl C. R. Brown – DCo Wellington - Domain St Parnell Auckland
44385 Roy Julian – 2nd C.I.B. France 11 Jun 1918
Sister Parkinson, Drummond, Reidy
Miss Murch YMCA Boscombe from Wanganui

D.1.a.4.2

20	21	22	23	D 24
25	26	27	28	29
30	31	32	33	34
a b				
1	2	3	4	5
c d				
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15

Start counting from bottom left hand corner to right hand bottom corner. Next from bottom line upwards. Do not count starting point.

Kansas Cross D 14 a 2.2 1.2
Waterloo D 9 d 8.5-9.5
Gravenstafel D 9 c 8.5-2.5

Messrs Boots Ltd Chemists Photographic Dealer Salisbury
54 Westhill St, S&S Club

Wanganui Herald 17 Jan 1918 page 2 Roll of Honour

The following reported wounded:-... Pte. L. D. Chambers...

Hawera & Normanby Star 18 Jan 1918 page 4 Personal Items

A casualty list issued on Wednesday include the following:-... Wounded: L. D. Chambers (W. L. Chambers, Opunake, father), J. S. Tosland (J. S. Tosland, Pihama, father)...

A handwritten account, in pencil, by Laurie – Family Papers – Passage of the 'Remuera' from England to New Zealand October 1919

After fourteen months had passed I became fed up of Wellington Officer's Mess. No-one would work with anyone else so on the 13th Oct 1919 [sic] I turned in the job. Went out into the lines and was made Battalion Runner for a week otherwise I did nothing except during the last week the necessary Boat Parades. It was at 3am that we left Bulford Siding for the last time. We arrived at Exeter about 8am and the Mayorees Patriotic Committee supplied us all with tea and buns. Very exceptable [sic] they were too. A train left just as we pulled in carrying many sergeants with their English wives and a good many officers and civilians. About midday we arrived at Plymouth within a hundred yards of the tug which took us out. The British Embarcation Officer was there calling the rolls to check us as we went aboard. Each man was given a card with the number of his hammock mess table and deck. By six pm we were on our homeward journey. Many heads being over the side for the first two or three days but soon we were settled down. During the first week the ship was very quiet excepting for a couple of concerts. In the evenings some of the boys amused themselves dancing and singing on deck. Gambling went on in a small way but no-one had much 'brass'. About eight days out our kits were given us so that we might be ready for Newport News. On the evening of the 22nd Oct we lay off Old Point Comfort and in the early morning pulled in near the coaling machinery. Before we had dropped anchor scores of motor launches looking for business were alongside each one trying to get aboard first. The anchor was dropped & within a very few minutes coaling machinery was alongside & work was very soon under full swing. The Captain wanted to take his ship alongside where the 'Ionic' was when we came in. The coaling machinery sent out was barges & steam shovels. To start with there was a fair wind and a little rain. Just imagine what it was like when the jaws of the shovels opened at about twenty feet above the hold. Even before some of the boys got ashore they were looking real pictures. As it happened as Ken & I hopped on to a tug upon the far side of a coal barge – leeward – when a squall came on. Some women were on the barge at the time & were almost drowned with dust & rain & spray as the barge broke away from the 'Remuera' which had also dragged her anchor. Ken & I were lucky as we went in alongside the Captain with some of the women. When the rain cleared off we went along to the Y.M.C.A. Later we went between the showers to the Y.W.C.A. for tea. It was a lovely tea too served in the American style. Take a tray and choose what you wanted & pay before you sit down. Later we went to a picture show where we saw the clearest pictures we have ever seen and a good programme too. We stayed at the Red Circle Club which was very good. Wednesday morning the weather had cleared so we went to Old Point Comfort where there is a large & very beautiful American Camp. We saw one of their Guards Change in front of Chamberlins Hotel or Hydro where the tariff is fifteen dollars to fifty dollars per day. Attached to this Hotel is a shooting reserve of ten thousand acres. Close by was a wireless station and the forts. Coming back we had a look at Hampton which is one of the oldest settlements in Virginia. Another town was built before Hampton but for many years it was afterwards deserted. We took a snap of the Hydro & one or two of the Hampton Boat Harbour also an American soldiers' Cemetery. The Officers were buried near Washington. We strolled through the park which contained many buildings:- Hospital Clubs, gymnasiums & educational buildings. There was a large memorial library. We spent an hour or so in the Newport News shipyards where there were a few destroyers and a battleship under construction. It is said that the owner not very many years ago started it with about five hundred pounds. In Newport News there is an arch built in memory of the fallen soldiers but

somehow did not take a snap of it. Thursday we went over to Norfolk via Oldpoint Comfort. We had lunch at the Red Circle and spent a hour or so – Cuckshes – ride in a motor bus round the town which is very pretty. The houses in the different places we went were all wood bungalows with very few exceptions. The streets were all either concrete or nothing. They either had a good road or a bad one. The roofs of the houses were either slats or shingles. The waste land was covered with tropical vegetation most of which was flat & low lying. We arrived back at Newport late in the evening and on our way back had to call in at the Y.M.C.A. for a last ice cream. One need not talk about a mess. The old ‘Remuera’ was as pretty a sight as one might wish to see. A fortnight after though things were almost back to normal. We left at about 6pm Friday evening leaving what is recognized at the present day the greatest coal market in the world. Even here labour is very expensive as the ordinary niggers drew \$.70 per hour or more. A barber said he earned \$45 per week but seemed to spend it all just as quickly as the cost of living is very high. Saturday evening the ships master (Captain Cameron) showed us a few lantern slides of the Panama Canal & told us many interesting things about it. For every ton of coal we took through the canal charges users \$1.50. While lying in my hammock I watched a great display of lightning. Very many times this lightning looked like some burning projectile falling into the sea. Sunday morning it rained a good deal and during the evening got drenched sleeping on deck. Monday afternoon the rain all disappeared and left us with a most beautiful day when we pass San Salvador. Late in the evening we passed a lighthouse on the Port side and overtook a steamer which looked lovely with all her lights burning. The reflection was lovely on the calm sea. Tuesday morning we passed Cuba & a New Zealand ship going in the opposite direction. In the evening we passed Haiti and another small Island. Evening five hundred tournament. For some time now we have noticed many flying fish which look very pretty especially on a dark night under the lights of the ship.

1/10/17 [sic] Wednesday we started competition platoon sports. Each platoon will have a representative team which were to play the finals on Sports day. Many of the boys were writing as a mail closed at 8pm. A dance was held in the evening on the Promenade Deck. Thursday evening a concert was held. Some of the singing was very good & the haka was very fine. About midnight we pulled in to Christobel harbour and between then & breakfast

3/10/.. Friday took aboard a full supply of water. We were soon in the canal the first lock in three steps being Gatun. We snapped away at everything of interest as we passed on through the Gatun lake where we saw the limbs of dead trees which were flooded when the lake was formed. Pedro Miguel was the next lock where we went down one step to the small lake the same name as the next lock. Miraflores has two steps which once more brought us down to the level of the Pacific. We left the canal about 3pm & passed many islands until late in the evening. Saturday morning was my turn as mess orderly.

Sunday 5/10/19 we had church services on No.4 Hatch after which we were all paid the large sum of £1 per man. Twice since we left Newport News we received “Buckshes Parcels” which were given by the Y.M.C.A. Red Circle Clubs & Jewish Welfare Clubs. With the one pound we receive buckshes (Newport News Y.M.C.A.) spearmint and Red Cross books on the Panama Canal. In the evening there was a song service on No.4 hatch. For a time the old ship was not doing very good mileage per day but on Monday 6th oct when a record of 332 miles was recorded we heard that one of the boilers had been leaking. As soon as this was repaired there was a great difference. Monday evening a eucere tournament. At all these tournaments prizes mostly money were given. Tuesday we again made good mileage as the weather is still very good. The ships master says that since leaving he had never seen such beautiful cool weather. Since Sunday Pay Day the crown & anchor under & over & two up kings have worked with a vengeance gathering in **[end of account]**

Hawera & Normanby Star 11 Oct 1919 page 4 Coming Home

The following men are returning to New Zealand by the troopship ‘Remuera’, which is due at Auckland, on October 26:- ... L. D. Chambers, Opunake

Hawera & Normanby Star 29 Oct 1919 page 4 Local and General

The Hawera draft of men who returned by the 'Remuera' and 'Ionic' on Monday were accorded a cordial welcome, on arrival at the station, by the Mayor (Mr E. Dixon). A number of them were accompanied by English wives, to whom a welcome was also given. Included in the drafts were: 'Remuera': Privates W. Bauld (Hawera), R. S. Campbell (Manaia), L. D. Chambers (Opunake), F. Muggeridge, Corporal C. U. Paine (Normanby). 'Ionic': Drivers L. A. Bailey (Okaiawa), C. E. Baker (Hawera), Privates L. I. Marter, F. H. Ogier (Okaiawa), S. A. Tippet (Okaiawa), N. H. Wren (Tokaora)

Bank of New Zealand Archives – Card Index

Lawrence Dudley Chambers, Masterton – 56745 B Company, 29th Reinforcements, Corporal – 28 May 1919 £135 Salary / War bonus; wounded 29 Dec 1917 Gunshot wound left arm – to return ss 'Remuera' at Auckland 26 Oct 1919. Resumed 24 Nov 1919 at Opunake. Retired 31 Dec 1919.

Opunake Times 06 Jan 1920

Mr L. Chambers has relinquished his position on the staff of the local bank to follow farming pursuits.

Otago Daily Times 03 Jun 1929 page 13 Visitors to the City

Wain's Hotel... Mrs T. Fountaine (Eltham), Mr and Mrs L. D. Chambers (Opunake), Mr A. L. Jones (Hawera), Mr A. Marfell (Stratford)...