

Feed up with the idea of permanently remaining in Kitchener he went away on 19 Aug., intending to get married which he did on 3 Oct. After a honeymoon with his wife, who is about the same age, Sapper McCloy lived in London and made no attempt to get a job, although he could have done so easily, intending to return sooner or later but never getting around to it. He wore his uniform but occasionally when going out with his wife wore civilian clothes. He committed no civilian offences while away.

Sapper McCloy is not an habitual absentee but has reached a point where he feels he is completely at the end of his tether in the Army. His health is gone and with a chronic cough and prospects only of recurring lung trouble he should be discharged as unfit for further service. After 2½ years of being a good soldier and, as a cook, of doing a good deal more work than the average soldier, he went AWOL without any realization of the result of his act in the minds of the mass of his fellow soldiers but thinking only of his personal trouble. He has seen over four years service, is now 43 years old and feels in his own mind that he has fulfilled his responsibilities to his country as far as he possibly can. I believe he deserves to be dealt with as leniently as this court can permit and to be discharged from the Army upon his release.

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21, C.E.R.S.