

## A PAGE OF HEROISMS

ALTHOUGH this little narrative of reminiscences is primarily intended for Officers, they will be the first to admit that the battalion history rests on the courage and fidelity of the men. It is, therefore, fitting that there should be inserted here a few specific incidents of outstanding courage. The following are taken at random from the recommendations for honours which followed the fighting on the Somme. They are typical cases of the courage which marked the bearing of our men in every action of the war.

For personal initiative and resourcefulness the conduct of Corpl. L. A. Morrison was hardly surpassed. On September 15th he found himself senior N.C.O. of his platoon, all the others having been shot down. He led his men successfully to the first objective, and then was ordered to advance to the second. While crossing No-Man's-Land, he and his platoon were suddenly fired on from a German strong-point on his flank. Without hesitation Corpl. Morrison led the thirteen remaining men of his platoon on this position, stormed it with a rush, and captured twenty prisoners. Having achieved this end he continued his advance on the second objective with all speed.

How Pte. G. Dunn covered the retirement of his Company during the action of September 16th is another record of courage and fidelity. He alone was left of his Lewis Gun Crew, nevertheless he continued to advance through an intense fire, until he was well ahead of his Company, when he proceeded to direct a hot and continuous fire on the enemy's trench. When the remnants of the Company were safely back in the trench, Pte. Dunn remained at his post for an hour, firing repeatedly to cover the withdrawal of the wounded.

The memory of Pte. R. A. Parry, Battalion Runner, will long remain with the 42nd. During the past year Pte. Parry again and again had given evidence of his trustworthiness and courage as a bearer of messages, and in the operation of the 15th inst. he gave final proof. Having on that day come and gone through continuous fire with frequent reports, he was ultimately mortally wounded. Just before he died he raised himself on his elbow and said, "Tell the Adjutant I delivered his message; I am sorry that I could not get back," and "faithful unto death" Pte. Parry passed on to receive his crown of life.

Though only nineteen years of age Pte. V. Papps displayed the highest quality of courage. When on the 16th inst., he alone of the Lewis Gun Crew was left alive, he took the uninjured gun on his shoulder and crawled to within seventy-five yards of the German trench, where, lying in a shell hole, he began to traverse the enemy's parapet with bursts of fire until his ammunition was expended. He then made his way back to where an ammunition carrier lay dead, and taking the cartridge drums from him, made his way back to the gun and resumed his lone engagement with the enemy until his gun was put out of action by a direct hit, when he returned to his own lines taking the damaged gun with him.

## A V.C.

During the height of the war there left Denmark, unbeknown even to his closest friends—the son of a famous fighting family. His Danish father and grandfather had seen service for their country against the very enemy who now engaged the Allies, and on his Scottish mother's side, he was cousin to Capt. Blair Wilson, that gallant officer who gave his life on the Somme, leading his Company in the attack of September 15, 1916. All the family traditions called for the conventional career of distinction, but No. 2075467 Pte. T. Dinesen had his