



SERGEANT "JACK" RAMSDEN

Who was promoted on the field for gallantry

of smoke that broke around him as he skidded, volplaned, and went through all the tricks known to the aviator when passing through the enemy's fire. Travelling at a great height and at a speed of over fifty miles an hour a bullet caught him in mid-air. Feeling weak he mechanically volplaned to earth, falling into the enemys hands. For seven days he was unconscious but he recovered sufficiently to be transferred to an internment camp in Switzerland, following an operation that necessitated change of air. A graduate of the School of Practical Science, Toronto, and of Woodstock College, Lieutenant Firstbrook first joined the Corps of Guides. Later he went to England and ob-

tained a commission in the Royal Flying Corps. Aerial scouting imposes a very severe strain on the physique of the pilot, and for this reason great care is exercised in the selection of the candidates.

Promoted on the field of action "Jack" Ramsden, son of Alderman J. G. Ramsden, of Toronto, should have special mention among those deserving of honour. Although he qualified for a commission, Lieutenant Ramsden decided that the shortest cut to the muddy trenches in Flanders was in the uniform of a Sergeant. He threw up his commission, parted with his cane and the other accessories of an officer's kit and donned the tunic with three stripes. He cast away