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Hedley Bertram Bartlett
Royal Naval Reserve Newfoundland
Service No. 669X.
World War I

Born: 11 Aug 1890

Died: 25 Dec 1983 (Age 93)

Place of Birth: Bareneed, Port de Grave, Newfoundland

Parents: Jacob and Anne (nee Winsor) Bartlett

Hedley was the first child born to Jacob and Anne in 1890. James and Annie followed in 1891 and 1893, respectively.

Hedley enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve Newfoundland in November 1914. He is described in records as being 6 ft tall, with brown hair and eyes. Prior to enlisting he had married Emma May Ash of Carbonear on June 18th, 1913. Together they had a total of eleven (11) children:

Olive born 1915 but died the same year, Audrey 1916, Ivy 1917, Angus 1918, Bertram 1920, Daphne 1921, Jacob 1922, Betty 1924, Hubert 1926, Valmore 1930, and Fern 1932.

Hedley's official WW I service record is rather short and appears to lack the proper information. It has only three (3) entries and reads as follows:

1. Calypso: 24 Nov 1914 – 30 Jan 1916
2. Britton: 31 Jan 1916 – 30 Nov 1916
3. "Invalided rheumatism"

His service record or Leger is provided on the last page below.

Since the Calypso was a training vessel in St. John's harbour and the normal training period was just 14 days, coupled with the "invalided" notation, it appears that there is something missing, perhaps no record at all.

The following clipping is from The Bay Roberts Guardian dated 04 December 1914.

Bareneed Notes

On Saturday night about 40 of our Conception Bay Naval Reserve boys came home to see their friends. They enjoyed themselves immensely coming around singing 'Tipperary.' One of the number, Hedley Bartlett, was taken sick since he came home, and was unable to return to H. M. S. Calypso by Monday morning's train with the other boys, but will return when he is well again.

Nevertheless, Hedley served eight years in the Navy and since the outbreak of the war served on Patrol and on Coastal Defense in Newfoundland. The following clipping from The St. John's Daily Star dated 15 February

1917 indicates that Hedley received a Services Rendered Badge from the Admiralty.

Naval Reservist Hedley Bartlett, this place, has recently received from the Admiralty a Services Rendered Badge. It is made of silver. In the centre is a crown with the initials "G. R. I." underneath, while around the edges are the words "For King and Empire; Services Rendered."

The following certificate accompanied the badge: "This is to certify that War Badge No. R.N. 5570 has been awarded to Hedley Bartlett, late seaman R. N. R., O. N. X 669 for Services Rendered in H. M. Naval Forces since 4th August, 1914."

Services Rendered Badge



From The St. John's Daily Star dated 17 January 1917.

BARENEED BRIEFS

Notes of News From Thriving Conception Bay Settlement

Mr. Hedley B. Bartlett, seaman, R. N. R. who served eight years in the navy and since the outbreak of the war has served on Patrol, and at Mount Pearl has been invalided from duty. He arrived home a little while ago and has since been undergoing medical treatment. He is anxious to get rid of the trouble and go to finish his bit for his King and Country, he says he will go further when he returns.

The 1921 Newfoundland General Census lists the Bartlett's as residing on Mount Royal Avenue, St. John's West. Hedley is 30 and Emma 29, they have five (5) children at this time.

Hedley was a carpenter by trade and over the years, he, Emma, and family would travel to the United States for work. The family immigrated to the United States in 1923, living in Huron, Erie County, Ohio. In fact, that same year, 1923, Hedley made a declaration for naturalization citizenship giving his occupation as brakeman.

By 1929, Hedley is working in New York as a carpenter, yet the family appears in the 1935 Newfoundland general census as living on Mount Royal Avenue, St. John's. Hedley is 45, Emma 43 and children are Ivy 18, Angus 17, Bertram 14, Daphne 13, Betty 11, Hubert 9, Valmore 5, and Fern 2. According to the enumeration entries, Hedley is working as a "taximan," while daughter Ivy is working as a saleslady at Ayres Department Store.

At the time of the next general census in 1945, the Bartletts are still living on Mount Royal Avenue at St. John's. Hedley is now 54 and Emma 52 while the children still living with them are Angus 28, Hubert 19, Valmore 15, and Fern 13.

1950 finds them in the United States as lodgers in the home of Alice Cook, in Huron, Ohio. Fern at age eighteen (18) is with them. Hedley is working as a carpenter. The census listing notes that Hedley is a veteran of World War I and World War II, yet no official documentation has been found to verify World War II service.

Hedley's obituary is reprinted below. His Service Record is contained on page 4.

Obituary:

Hedley B. Bartlett, 93, 2303 Hull Road, Sandusky, died Sunday evening in Fisher-Titus Memorial Hospital, Norwalk, after a lengthy illness. He was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, and had lived in Huron for 36 years. He had been employed as a carpenter and served in His Majesty's Navy during World War I and World War II. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Huron, Carpenters Local 941.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. Charles (Ivy) Gruchy, with whom he made his home the last nine years, and Mrs. Joseph (Daphine) Dzwonkowski, both of Sandusky; and Mrs. Charles (Betty) Lydic, and Mrs. Ward (Fern) DeLamatre, both of Huron; three sons, Angus, Huron; Bert and Hubert, both of Vermilion; three stepdaughters, Mrs. Warren (Marjorie) Marshall, Amherst, Ohio; Mrs. John (Jane) Ranft, Columbus; and Mrs. Robert (Ida) Hastings, Huron; a stepson, Edwin Henes, New London; 23 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Emma, in 1966; his second wife, Hannah, in 1974: two daughters, two sons, three grandchildren, and several brothers and sisters. Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. today at the Wheland Funeral Home, 410 Main St., Huron, where private family services will be conducted Wednesday. The Rev. Don Cummings will officiate. Burial will be in Restlawn Memorial Park. Memorial contributions, if desired, may be made to Fisher-Titus Memorial Hospital, Norwalk, or to Zenobia Shrine, Crippled Children's Hospital,

Contributor: Ty DeLamatre (51094267)

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<i>Name } in full</i>		<i>Date of Birth</i> <i>Place of Birth</i> { <i>Occupation</i>					
<i>Date and Period of C. S. Engagements.</i>		<i>Age.</i> <i>Height.</i> <i>Ft. in.</i>	<i>Hair.</i> 	<i>Eyes.</i> 	<i>Complexion.</i> 	<i>Wounds, Scars, Marks, &c.</i>	
<i>Ships, &c., served in.</i>		<i>List and No.</i> <i>Rating.</i> <i>RNR 14-1749 St. Snn.</i>	<i>Sub-ratings.</i> <i>Rating.</i> <i>From</i> <i>To</i> 	<i>Badges.</i> 	<i>Period of Service.</i> <i>From</i> <i>To</i> <i>24 Nov 14 to 16 Dec 16 St. Snn 16 to 18 Dec 16</i>	<i>Character.</i> <i>U.S. - Sat.</i> <i>Invalicled Rheumatism</i>	<i>If Discharged, Whither, and for what Cause.</i> <i>S.C.</i>
<i>Class for Conduct.</i>							
<i>Clothing and Bedding Gratuities.</i> <i>£3 G.C. Xmas 14</i>				<i>REMARKS.</i>			