



**John Hayward Mercer**  
**World War I**  
**Royal Newfoundland Regiment**  
**Regimental No. 5902**

**Born:** February 14, 1893

**Place of Birth:** Bay Roberts

**Parents:** Levi and Elizabeth Mercer

John enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1918, and according to the information contained in these papers, John is:

- a) 25 years old
- b) A sailor
- c) A Methodist
- d) Is 5 feet 7 inches tall
- e) Has dark brown hair, blue eyes and is of fair complexion

His service record, which covers about a year began with his enlistment on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1918 and ended on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1919. His record reads:

1. Embarked St. John's by train to Halifax, Nova Scotia on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 1918
2. Embarked for overseas on 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1918
3. To Newfoundland for demobilization 24<sup>th</sup> of June 1919
4. Arrived Newfoundland the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1919
5. Demobilized on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1919

In 1921, John is living at home with his parents and is now married to wife, Fannie Violet, who is 21.

In 1934, there is a letter in John's file that shows he was in Ossining, New York, where he wished to join the American Legion. Ossining is a village in Westchester County, New York, United States. It is known as the home of the Sing Sing Correctional Facility, one of the most well-known prisons in New York State.

1935 shows John and Fannie with a family of four (4) children

The 1945 census shows John (52) and Fannie (45) living in Bay Roberts and they have three (3) children, Gertrude, David and Isabella, at home with them.