



**Leonard Snow  
World War 1  
Canadian Expeditionary Force  
Service No. 248544**

Late in 1896, October 19<sup>th</sup> in fact, parents William John and Elizabeth (nee Thompson) welcomed a son to their family. They would call him Leonard.

In the summer of 1916, Leonard who was working as a labourer in North Sydney, Cape Breton, Canada at the time decided he was going to enlist to fight in the war.

Since he was in Nova Scotia, he made his way to Halifax and volunteered. His Attestation Papers (enlistment documents) are copied in full on the next pages. We can, however, learn a lot about young Leonard at first glance. He was 20 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, single, had a scar on his left thumb and of the Methodist faith.

Leonard was assigned Service No. 248544 and to the Unit described as “Draft Giving Field Artillery Howitzer Ammunition Column,” the horse cavalry it seems.

Leonard saw action in France and more specifically the Battle of the Somme. He was present at the battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. He was injured during that battle and subsequently following recuperation was discharged as medically unfit.

*Story: “He told the tale of how he was injured and according to him, he was carrying messages from the Front Lines to the command post at Vimy Ridge when he was fired upon. The bullets missed him but hit and killed the horse he was riding. He was badly injured upon hitting the ground and never fully recovered from the incident. He was honourably discharged as he was no longer fit for active service, but he did continue service as a recruiting officer upon his return home.”*

His injury lasted his lifetime but did not deter from living a full life.

The census of 1935 shows Leonard, now 35 married to Edith, 32, a young lady from Placentia. They have a family of four girls: Elizabeth, Hazel, Ethel and Sybil.

The next census in 1945 shows Leonard and Edith alive and well but with just one child at home.

Leonard died on December 20<sup>th</sup>, December 1979 at the age of 83. He is buried in the Trinity United Church (Churchyard) Cemetery in Shearstown.

TRIPPLICATE

ATTESTATION PAPER.

No. 248544

Folio.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION. (ANSWERS.)

- 1. What is your surname? Snow.
- 1a. What are your Christian names? Leonard
- 1b. What is your present address? North Sydney Cape Breton, Canada.
- 2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? Shearstown, Newfoundland.
- 3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? Wm. J. Snow.
- 4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? Shearstown, Newfoundland.
- 4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin? Father.
- 5. What is the date of your birth? Oct. 19th, 1896.
- 6. What is your Trade or Calling? Laborer.
- 7. Are you married? Single.
- 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated? Yes.
- 9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? No.
- 10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? No.  
If so, state particulars of former Service.
- 11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? XXXX Yes.
- 12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the } Yes.  
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? }

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Leonard Snow., do solemnly declare that the above are answers made by me to the above questions and that they are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

Leonard Snow (Signature of Recruit)  
Date August 23 1916 Humfrey J. Cameron (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Leonard Snow., do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

Leonard Snow (Signature of Recruit)  
Date August 23 1916 Humfrey J. Cameron (Signature of Witness)

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.

The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act. The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at North Sydney this 23rd day of August 1916.  
Humfrey J. Cameron (Signature of Justice)

Description of Leonard Snow. on Enlistment.

|  |                                   |   |                 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Apparent Age. <u>20</u> years ..... months.  |                                   | Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.<br><br>(Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will, unless the man acknowledges to any previous service, attach a slip to that effect, for the information of the Approving Officer).<br><br><p align="center"><b>Small scar on left thumb.</b></p> |                 |
| (To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.) |                                   |   |                 |
| Height .....   | <u>5.</u> ft. <u>10.</u> ins.     |   |                 |
| Chest measure-ment.  | Girth when fully ex-panded.....   |   | <u>37.</u> ins. |
|  | Range of expansion.....           |   | <u>3.</u> ins.  |
| Complexion .....   | <u>Fair</u>                       |   |                 |
| Eyes.....  | <u>Blue</u>                       |   |                 |
| Hair.....  | <u>Light.</u>                     |   |                 |
| Religious denominations.   | Church of England.....            |   |                 |
|  | Presbyterian.....                 |   |                 |
|  | Methodist.....                    | <u>Methodist.</u>   |                 |
|  | Baptist or Congregationalist..... |   |                 |
|  | Roman Catholic.....               |   |                 |
|  | Jewish.....                       |   |                 |
| Other denominations.....<br>(Denomination to be stated.)   |                                   |   |                 |

**CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.**

I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.

He can see at the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him\* fit for the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force.

Date. August 23 191 6.

Place. Halifax, N.S.

*[Signature]*

Medical Officer.

\*Insert here "fit" or "unfit."

**Capt. A.M.C.**

Note.—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will fill in the foregoing Certificate only in the case of those who have been attested, and will briefly state below the cause of unfitness:—

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**CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.**

**Leonard Snow**

.....having been finally approved and inspected by me this day, and his Name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.

Date. August 31 191 6.

*[Signature]* (Signature of Officer)  
O. C. DRAFT GIVING P. A.  
HOW. AMM. COLUMN.