

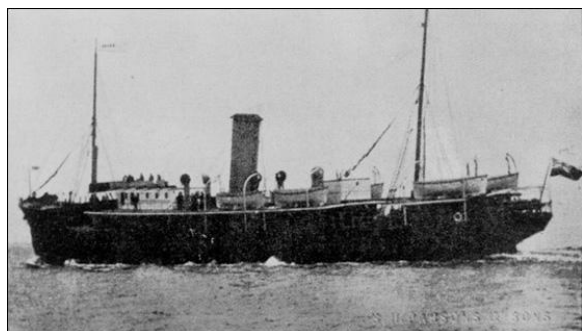
Sebastian Cummings
Canadian Expeditionary Force
Regimental No. 2476530
World War I

Born: 06 February 1889

Place of Birth: North River, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: James and Bridget Cummings

Records show that in October 1909, Sebastian (18) arrived in North Sydney, Nova Scotia from Port aux Basques, Newfoundland on board the vessel SS Bruce



SS Bruce

(Built in 1897 by A. and J. Inglis, Glasgow, for the Reid Company Alphabet fleet of the 1100 ton Bruce, under Captain P. Delaney, arrived in St. John's in October of that year and was the first boat to carry passengers, mail and freight under contract between Port aux Basques and Nova Scotia. Prior to the arrival of the Bruce travel between Newfoundland and Canada was irregular and undependable but this steamship provided a regular triweekly service connecting passengers from the Port aux Basques railhead with the Intercolonial railway station at North Sydney.)

The 1911 Canadian census shows him at age 21 living in Cape Breton South.

At age 22 he arrived at Island Pond, Vermont from Canada.

Sebastian enlisted in the CEF (Canadian Expeditionary Force) in September 1917 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. His attestation (enlistment) papers dated 18 Sep 1917 describe him as being 28 years old, weighed 135 lbs, stood 5' 7" tall, of a rather dark complexion, with brown hair and grey eyes. Sebastian is single and gives his work as waiter. Interestingly, he gives his place of residence as Superior, Minnesota.

Sebastian would spend just over two (2) in service from enlistment in September 1917 to his discharge in October 1919. He would never go overseas but served in Canada only.

It seems that he spent time in the Manitoba military hospital with severe bronchitis and once released was posted to staff of the hospital as a member of the CANC (Canadian Army Medical Corps). His official service record reads as follows:

1. 18 Sep 1917: Enlisted
2. 17 Oct 1918: hospitalized at MMH (Manitoba Military Hospital)
3. 30 Oct 1918: Discharged to duty on hospital staff
4. 01 Feb 1919: Transferred from CAMC to MMH staff
5. 01 Feb 1919: Promoted to Cpl
6. 01 Feb 1919: TOS (taken off strength to MMH)
7. 14 Oct 1919: Demobilized and discharged

Sebastian would marry Emily Forstick, an immigrant from England who was born in 1895 and immigrated to Canada in 1916. According to the 1916 Canadian census, Emily, 21 years old, was working as a maid and living in a rooming house in Manitoba. The two met and were married in December 1917.

Following Sebastian's discharge in 1919, both he and wife Emily disappear. After extensive research no additional information was found. This biography will be revisited when/if more information comes to light.