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Sebastian Cummings

Canadian Expeditionary Force

Regimental No. 2476530

World War I

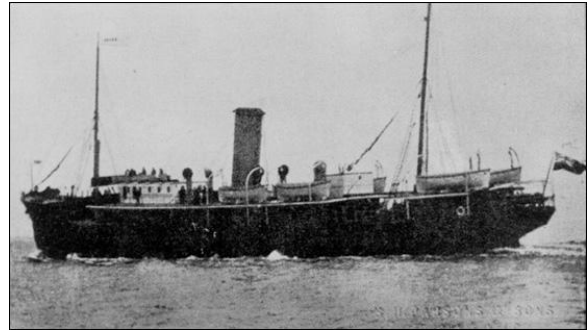
Born: 06 February 1889

Died: 01 September 1928

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 qv, 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) year's 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 CAMC (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 Winnipeg, Manitoba. The two met and were married in Winnipeg on 22 December 1917. They had 2 children, Haydee Violet and Harold. It seems that Emily died sometime before 1925 and Sebastian moved to Philadelphia. In 1925, he married Mary Morrissey Hurley (1894-1967, daughter of William Morrissey and Ellen Long). Mary was the widow of Patrick Hurley. Sebastian and Mary had one child together: Michael. On the 25 May 1927, Sebastian and family immigrated to Quincy, MA where his occupation was listed as "rigger".

Sebastian died on 01 September 1928 and is buried in Mount Wollaston Cemetery in

Quincy, MA. It is believed that Mary died in 1967 and is buried in Malden, MA.

Form 2202.-L.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

ORIGINAL

No. 202805
39010

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DECLARATION OF INTENTION

☒ Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof

District of Massachusetts, ss:

In the District Court of the United States.

I, Sebastian Cummings, aged 38 years,
occupation rigger, do declare on oath that my personal
description is: Color white, complexion light, height 5 feet 8 inches,
weight 136 pounds, color of hair brown, color of eyes gray,
other visible distinctive marks none

I was born in North River Newfoundland
on the 6th day of February, anno Domini 1889; I now reside
at 24 Charles St., Quincy, Massachusetts.
(Give number, street, and city or town.)

I emigrated to the United States of America from Montreal Canada
on the vessel via rail; my last
(If the alien arrived otherwise than by vessel, the character of conveyance or name of transportation company should be given)
foreign residence was said Montreal; I am married; the name
of my ^{wife} _{husband} is Mary; ^{she} _{he} was born at Newfoundland
and now resides at with me

It is my bona fide intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign
prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to George V. by the Grace
of God, of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond
the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India
of whom I am now a subject; I arrived at the port of St. Albans
in the State of Vermont, on or about the 25th day
of May, anno Domini 1927; I am not an anarchist; I am not a
polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith
to become a citizen of the United States of America and to permanently reside therein:
SO HELP ME GOD.

Sebastian Cummings
(Original signature of declarant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me in the office of the Clerk of said Court
at Boston, Mass., this 8th day of December
anno Domini 19 27

[SEAL]

Joseph J. Drew
Deputy Clerk of the District Court of the United States.