



Solomon Taylor Porter



Winnie and Taylor Porter

Solomon Taylor Porter (Taylor) was born in Port de Grave, Newfoundland and Labrador, on January 9th, 1898 to Diana and Israel Porter.

Dar, as he was known by members of his family, with little schooling available went fishing with his father as soon as he was old enough.

During World War I and at a young age, he enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve (RNR2440X) to do his patriotic duty. He traveled to

different countries aiding in the war effort. Dar seldom talked about his experiences in the war. He did say he sailed the Mediterranean, saw the Rock of Gibraltar, and sailed to South America.

After the war he returned to Port de Grave. He married Eliza Winnifred (Winnie) Dawe on April 4, 1919. They made their home in Port de Grave and raised six children: three boys and three girls.

Until his retirement, Dar worked as a fisherman to provide for his family and was also a particularly good handyman. Dar and his brother, Bert, fished together for thirty years. Dar also partook in the Newfoundland tradition of seal hunting a few times. He saw the sealing ship, The Southern Cross, as she was heading to St. John's coming back from the ice. The Southern Cross was later lost at sea due to a storm.

Captain Robert (Bob) Bartlett, a renowned Newfoundland explorer, had asked Dar to accompany him on one of his expeditions to the Arctic. However, due to family obligations, he declined.

Dar was a well-respected and well-known member of the community and helped whoever needed it. He was involved in various activities with St. Luke's Anglican Church, which he always attended. Dar was a member

of the Orange Lodge in Port de Grave, a member of the Royal Canadian Legion in Bay Roberts, and a member of the Society of United Fishermen.

Grandmother died on March 3rd, 1986 at the age of 86 years. Dar enjoyed life a little longer spending time with family until he died on August 12th, 1989 at the grand old age of 91 years. They will be forever missed.

Below is the front and back of one of the medals Dar was awarded during his lifetime. He was awarded two other medals, but they are unavailable.



Submitted by Taylor's daughter, Sadie Bishop, in association with his grandchildren.