

judgment and excellent capabilities greatly encouraged the men, and undoubtedly helped the company in an awkward situation.

25619 Sjt. V. Hopkins, 1st Bn., M.G. Corps (Cowbridge).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of two machine guns. Near Pontru, on the 18th September, 1918, he led his guns forward in spite of heavy machine-gun and artillery fire. Seeing the troops on his flanks held up by machine-gun fire he got his guns into action, engaged and silenced several hostile guns, thereby enabling the troops to continue their advance. Throughout he showed great gallantry and initiative, and set a splendid example to his men.

290333 B./S./M. F. J. House, 2/1st (Low.) Hy. By., R.G.A., T.F. (Catheys).

For conspicuous gallantry and skill at Hargicourt on the night of the 25th/26th September, 1918. When a gun wheel got badly jammed he took charge of a party, and after two hours' work extricated the gun. During more than half of this time a heavy hostile fire was directed on the village, causing several casualties amongst the horses, but he kept the men together, and by his example finally got the gun away. Shortly afterwards, when the area was heavily gassed, he was wounded, but remained at duty and set a fine example to all.

326329 C./S./M. B. Howard, 1/1st Camb. R., T.F. (Wisbech).

For most conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations south of Meault on the 22nd August, 1918. He led his platoon with great skill and courage against some enemy machine guns which were holding up the advance. He was successful in capturing two machine guns and crews, and gained and consolidated his objective. Later, while acting as C.S.M. he again displayed fine leadership in collecting a platoon whose leaders had become casualties, and leading it to its final objective, capturing a machine gun and crew. Throughout the above operations he set a splendid example to all ranks.

240819 Pte. A. L. Howe, 1/6th Bn., Notts. & Derby. R., T.F. (Peak Dale).

For conspicuous gallantry and good work as company runner in the dense fog while his company was moving up to support the attack at Bellenglise on 29th September, 1918. When a whole Lewis-gun team was knocked out he took over the gun and some ammunition, and used it with great effect. During the advance a battery of field guns opened fire on the leading troops and some Tanks behind. His platoon was ordered to charge the guns, and he was one of the foremost men in the charge and accounted for two of the team.

148008 L./Cpl. T. Howe, 32nd Bn., M.G. Corps (Denton).

For great gallantry and initiative near Joncourt on 2nd October, 1918. The enemy suddenly opened on the section with machine guns, the officer became a casualty as well as the other N.C.O.'s, and he took command.

The section was in a most exposed position when he took charge, but he gradually got all the guns safely back to a more sheltered place and was able to materially assist in beating off a counter-attack. He continued in charge of the section through the day, setting a fine example of cool courage and ability.

98399 Bdr. J. H. Howse, 327th Sge. Bty., R.G.A. (Handsworth, B'ham).

For marked gallantry and devotion to duty in action when acting as No. 1 of his gun in a very advanced and exposed position at Montay on 23rd October, 1918. He kept his men together under very heavy shell fire and machine-gun fire, and although struck by a splinter himself continued to serve his gun till it went out of action, whereupon he immediately took over another gun, whose No. 1 was suffering from shell shock, and stayed at his post, although again struck by a splinter in the face, till he was so dazed by a blow in the back that he was sent away.

G/63292 Cpl. E. G. Hudson, M.M., 11th Bn., R. Fus. (Islington).

During operations near Vendhuile and the Knoll, on the 29th/30th September, 1918, he was in charge of a patrol into the village which came under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire. In spite of the great danger to which he and his patrol were exposed, he so manoeuvred his men that he put an enemy machine gun out of action, capturing ten prisoners and an enemy field gun. His initiative, contempt for danger, and most excellent leadership throughout the day rendered a great service to his company and the battalion in the capture of the village.

720551 C./S./M. A. B. Huggett, 1/24th Bn., Lond. R. (Pimlico).

For conspicuous gallantry and determined leadership at St. Pierre Vaast Wood on 2nd September, 1918. Early in the operations the company commander became a casualty and he ably took charge of company headquarters and one platoon and proceeded through very heavy enemy barrage, where his party suffered severe casualties, towards the final objective, which he reached and held until the remainder of the company could be got through, although his party were practically surrounded by the enemy.

9132 Sjt. (A./C./S./M.) F. J. Huggins, 2nd Bn., R. Berks. R. (Southsea).

On 7th October, 1918, during the attack on Hollow Copse, near Fresnes, all platoon officers of the company were casualties. He went forward, reorganised two platoons and led them forward with great success. The trench was captured and flanks secured. He saw to the supply of bombs in a most efficient manner, and throughout his gallantry and devotion to duty were admirable.

17912 Sjt. H. L. Hughes, 2nd Bn., S.W. Bord. (Cwmaman, Glam.).

At Zillebeke, on 28th September, 1918, for very conspicuous gallantry and good leadership. During the attack he led his platoon with great dash. He himself with six men rushed a hostile post which was holding out and captured seventeen prisoners.