

line was lost, he organised a line of defence, and by his courage in face of heavy artillery and machine-gun fire he so inspired his men that he was able to hold up the enemy for a considerable time. Later, when his battalion had taken up a fresh position, he displayed the greatest coolness and courage under most trying conditions, and it was largely owing to his untiring efforts that the enemy was prevented from forcing the line.

CANADIAN FORCE.

Maj. Frederick Merrett Benson, R. Can. H.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty throughout a long period of intense fighting, when he commanded his battery with the greatest courage and skill. Although the battery was constantly subjected to heavy machine-gun fire, and from as many as seven low-flying aeroplanes at once, he continually kept up a heavy fire, covering the retirement of the infantry and the remaining batteries of the group. His magnificent example to his men was of the greatest value.

Capt. William Cedric Nicholson, M.C., Can. M.G.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer, with his motor machine gunners, was successful time after time in holding up large masses of the rapidly advancing enemy. He personally tended to wounded men, and sent them back in his motor transport. Later, he had his right arm taken off, and while waiting to be evacuated cheered his men by his courage and grit.

Lt.-Col. John Garner Reid, Can. Overseas Rail. Const. Co.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Without awaiting orders he arranged to maintain the railway and operate signals. Again he organised parties to maintain railways when labour companies were removed without notice, and also organised demolition parties and a service of runners. By example he encouraged both officers and men under heavy shell fire, and the satisfactory results obtained were largely due to his skill and untiring endeavour.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Capt. William George Adams, M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on several occasions. When his battalion was moving up to support the front line, through a heavy barrage, his control and leadership averted many casualties. After digging in, he went forward and found another company being surrounded by the enemy; he extricated them, and held a position further back for two hours against heavy odds. His courage and judgment throughout the operations were beyond praise.

Capt. Charles Ahrens, M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He moved his company forward by night, established contact with the enemy and dug in, supervising the siting and construction of the posts under constant sniping

and machine-gun fire. The next night, after a daring reconnaissance, he manoeuvred his company to within thirty yards of a strong enemy post, compelling them to withdraw. On another occasion he led his company against a strongly held crest line, capturing 73 prisoners and four machine guns. On several other occasions his splendid handling of his company caused heavy losses to the enemy at small cost.

Maj. Archibald John Collins, M.C., A.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of the evacuation of wounded during intense fighting. Although the A.D.S. in which he was located was subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire, by his splendid energy, coolness and courage, he was enabled to evacuate safely several hundred casualties. His magnificent example inspired all who came in contact with him, and stimulated junior officers and exhausted stretcher-bearers to further efforts.

Capt. Walter John Clare Duncan, M.C., Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while commanding a company. Troops on his left were being pressed back, but his fine dash and accurate fire caused the enemy to withdraw, leaving him in an excellent defensive position. Later in the day, he led his company in a counter-attack in conjunction with the cavalry, and again drove the enemy back, inflicting heavy casualties. Early next morning, his company made an advance of 600 yards, and materially improved the position. He kept headquarters constantly informed with useful information.

Lt. Harry Taylor, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When at dawn a large party of the enemy were seen approaching, this officer went out alone with a Lewis gun and dispersed them, killing many. When the enemy attack developed in overwhelming force, he worked along the whole of his sector, bombing, sniping, and using captured machine guns; for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours not a single enemy could get within 10 yards of his line.

Capt. Charles Euston Young, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When two divisions attacked our front line in force, with field guns at close range, this officer's company, under his supervision, held on for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, saving the situation. Field guns at 250 yards opened fire on his headquarters, but he sniped the gunners. Later, he crawled out and knocked out a machine gun with rifle grenades. Through-out attack and defence he kept his company well in hand.

NEW ZEALAND FORCE.

Maj. Reginald Miles, M.C., N.Z. Fld. Arty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He fought his battery until the enemy were within 500 yards and his ammunition exhausted, at the same time rallying infantry stragglers and manning a fire trench. Then