

NEW ZEALAND FORCE.

2nd Lt. John Edward Allen, M.M., 1st Bn., Canterbury Regt.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations east of Bapaume on 2nd September, 1918. During the attack on Mill Cross the platoon commander of the leading platoon being badly wounded, this officer went forward under heavy machine-gun and shell fire gathering the platoon together and reorganising them, and led the attack successfully, having to fight for every inch of the ground. His prompt and courageous action undoubtedly enabled the objective to be taken.

2nd Lt. Arthur Emmett Byrne, 1st Bn., Otago Regt.

On the 25th August, 1918, in front of Biefvillers, when all the officers of one of the attacking companies became casualties, he went up to take command. Under great difficulties he reorganised the company and speedily had them ready to carry on with the advance. He continued in command of his company for two weeks. On the morning of the 7th September, in front of Neuville, suspecting that the enemy were holding a position very close to his line, he organised and led fighting patrols round the flanks and secured 60 prisoners and several machine guns, without a single casualty to his own men. His courage, initiative and coolness under fire were most marked.

Capt. John Robert Cade, 1st Bn., Wellington R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the field from 28th September to 3rd October, 1918, near Masnieres. He led his company with untiring energy throughout the operations, on one occasion reinforcing a front line battalion which had suffered some casualties; two days later, after being relieved, he had to push forward again in the darkness to stem a counter-attack. His keenness and determination were an inspiration to his men.

2nd Lt. William Bertram Cooke, M.M., 2nd Bn., Wellington R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 1st October, 1918, near Crevecour, in command of the flank platoon in an attack. When the company became isolated by an enemy counter-attack, he hung on with his platoon in a most exposed position. He went about among his men encouraging them through this most critical period, and his personal example was responsible for the fine stand they made.

2nd Lt. David Doake, 2nd Field Coy., N.Z. Engrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at Turdoir Loch, Canal de St. Quentin, on the evening of 7th October, 1918. With a small party of sappers he constructed a bridge over the River Escaut, under intense shelling, including gas. Sticking to his work, he completed the bridge in time for the field artillery to cross in the morning.

Lt. Robert Dean Douglass, 2nd Bn., Otago R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations near Vaucelles on

the night of 29th-30th September, 1918. He took his platoon forward to reconnoitre the canal and bridgehead. Though twice driven back by direct rifle and machine-gun fire, he worked his way round and occupied the bridgehead, a distance of 1,000 yards, in the dark, which could never have been done by daylight.

2nd Lt. Horace Ellen, M.M., 1st Bn., N.Z. Rifle Bde.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty near Fremicourt on 30th-31st August, 1918. When all the officers of his company had become casualties he assumed command and supervised the consolidation of the objective. On the 31st the enemy counter-attacked in force, assisted by Tanks, and it was mainly due to this officer's initiative skill and gallantry that the attack was driven off and the line re-established. Again on the 12th September, near Havrincourt Wood, he organised bombing attacks, and, pushing forward, established posts on his final objective. He did fine work.

2nd Lt. John Weaver Ellis, 2nd Bn., Otago R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the operations about Hablin-court on the 2nd September, 1918. When the attack was held up, he, with the greatest coolness and initiative, reorganised his platoon, and under intense machine-gun fire, which caused 75 per cent. casualties, led them forward and captured the objective, taking a large number of prisoners and six machine guns. Although wounded early in the day, he remained on duty for twenty-four hours before going out. By his splendid courage and determination he set an example to all ranks.

Capt. Alexander McRae Forbes, 1st Bn., Auck. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 29th September, 1918, in the attack east of Ribecourt. He commanded the left front company of the battalion, and when a gap occurred between him and the troops on his left, he filled it with his reserve platoon. Largely owing to his initiative five 77c.m. guns, one 4" howitzer, one 6" howitzer, and two naval guns were captured. After reaching his objective, he pushed forward to reconnoitre the company front as far as the Canal, his work throughout being most praiseworthy.

2nd Lt. Arthur Morice Goulding, N.Z. Rifle Bde., attd. H.Q., 3rd Bde.

For conspicuous gallantry near Fremicourt on 30th August, 1918. He acted during the operations as brigade intelligence officer and followed the attacking troops on to the objective. At great personal risk he reconnoitred the position and was able to supply information which was of great value. Again, on the 12th September, near Gouzeaucourt, he remained in a very forward position to keep in touch with the continually changing situation, and later made a reconnaissance of the line under heavy shell and machine-gun fire. During the whole of the operations he continually showed contempt of danger and sent back clear and accurate reports.