

signies on 26th October, 1918, he gallantly led his platoon under heavy machine-gun fire and occupied an enemy post. Later, when the platoon on his left was subjected to very heavy enfilade machine-gun and trench-mortar fire, he held on to his position and covered their withdrawal. It was only due to his tenacity and courage under heavy fire that the flank platoon was successfully extricated. Throughout he set a very fine example to his men.

24308 Cpl. J. Kirkman, M.M., 8th Bn., R. Lan. R. (Shaw).

For most conspicuous gallantry and initiative during operations at Flesquieres on 27th September, 1918. During the attack he came upon a party held up by an enemy machine-gun post; with his rifle and two bombs he crawled towards the post, threw a bomb into the position, and following it up, shooting three of the garrison and taking the remainder prisoners, together with two machine guns. His splendid action enabled that part of the line to advance.

24078 Sjt. A. G. Knightley, 2nd Bn., R. Dub. Fus. (Stratford, London).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, on the 4th October, 1918, near Vendhuile, in charge of a platoon ordered to attack Hargival Farm. When the enemy counter-attacked from the farm, by his able leadership and great coolness he successfully beat off the attack and saved two platoons from a dangerous situation. He personally led several attacks on the farm, until it was finally captured.

G/71621 Pte. (A./Cpl.) R. W. Knights, 13th Bn., R. Fus. (Northwold).

For conspicuous gallantry in charge of a section, on 8th October, 1918, north of Hurtebise Farm. He showed great skill in maintaining touch, and led several patrols forward, sending back most valuable information as to the location and numbers of hostile machine guns; and after being wounded he carried on, and when his officer had become a casualty he assumed command of the platoon, reorganised them and led them to the objective. Though weak from his wound he completed consolidation, and showed the greatest pluck and devotion to duty.

R/7726 Sjt. A. Kymer, 4th Bn., K.R.R.C. (Manchester).

At Le Catelet, on 3rd October, 1918, he showed great courage and initiative in command of his platoon after his platoon commander was killed. With a few men he rushed two machine guns and put them out of action, killing or capturing the teams. Later, he volunteered and took a patrol through the village, locating further machine-gun nests, and directing the artillery fire, by which they were silenced. On 8th October, near Villers Outreaux, he again led the attack against a strong machine-gun nest, which he assisted to capture, with five machine guns and thirty prisoners. During the two days' fighting he set a magnificent example of soldierly conduct to all ranks.

268306 Pte. (L./C.) A. Laishley, M.M., 2/7th Bn., R. War. R., T.F. (Birmingham).

For conspicuous gallantry at Sommaing during active operations, on 24th October, 1918. He, with his section holding an advanced post, maintained his position against enemy counter-attacks, and inflicted severe casualties on the enemy. He maintained his position for ten hours, until relieved. His section suffered 50 per cent. casualties. His courage and determination were of a high order, and had a good effect upon his command. The handling of the situation was skilfully carried out.

131210 Spr. E. Lake, 122nd Fd. Coy., R.E. (W. Wingate).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty under heavy fire during the bridging operations at Courtrai, on the 16th October, 1918. Although wounded early in the operations, he carried on for eight hours. When the bridging party was withdrawn, he returned through heavy machine-gun fire, and brought in his officer, who was lying out wounded in a most exposed position. He remained at duty, and acted as a guide and runner under heavy shelling, until the far side of the river was evacuated.

7976 Cpl. (A./Sjt.) A. Laker, 29th Bn., M.G. Corps (Hayward's Heath).

On 3rd October, 1918, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the attack on Cheluwe. He led his gun teams across country under very heavy fire, and got his guns into action. Throughout the day his fine example encouraged his men under the most trying circumstances. Later, when his guns were holding an exposed and threatened flank, he went forward under heavy fire and brought in a wounded man. His conduct throughout the six days' fighting, when men were tired and needed encouragement, was exemplary.

241929 Pte. F. Lane, 5th Bn., Leic. R., T.F. (Sheffield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as company runner during the attack on Pontruet on the 24th September, 1918. He became attached to an officer and 20 men, who were isolated in the village; and twice got in touch with other parties on right and left in spite of heavy machine-gun fire. On his return he volunteered to carry an important message over exposed ground to battalion headquarters. This he succeeded in doing, and returned with an answer. During the advance he killed four of the enemy with his bayonet. His work throughout was of the highest order.

60821 A./Sjt. W. T. Lane, 6th Bn., R.W. Surr. R. (W. Bromwich).

For marked gallantry in action. At Noyelles, on 9th October, 1918, his platoon commander having become a casualty, he assumed command though himself wounded. He led his platoon forward, captured his objective and consolidated his posts with great skill and determination in spite of heavy machine-gun fire and intense darkness. Hearing movement in front he went out alone on his own initiative and encountered five of the enemy, whom he captured. In