

345416 Sjt. W. Collier, 14th Bn., R. Highr's (Kirkcaldy).

At Moisilains, on 2nd September, 1918, when all his officers had become casualties, he took command of the company and rushed the position, throwing out the enemy and causing many casualties. His prompt and gallant action did much to further the success of the operations. He was again conspicuous for his initiative and vigour in command of a company at Ronnsoy, on 18th September. He has invariably shown great resource, fearlessness, and power of command, and has set a fine example to those with him.

15459 Sjt. D. Collins, 2nd Bn., Bedf. R. (Redbourn).

On the morning of 21st September, 1918, during the attack on the enemy position east of Ronsoy, he showed great gallantry when his platoon was held up by machine-gun fire and shelling, pushed forward by himself to trench running behind Holland Post, which he cleared, capturing twenty prisoners. He then returned to his platoon and brought them forward to the trench. He later worked untiringly under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire to find out the situation. By his cheerfulness and contempt of danger he set a splendid example to the company.

19116 Cpl. (A./Sjt.) W. Collins, 11th Bn., Notts. & Derby. R. (Chesterfield).

On the 5th October, 1918, in the attack and capture of Guisancourt Farm, south of Villers Outreaux. He was one of the carrying party, and noticing that the line was held up by very heavy machine-gun fire, he rallied all the men near him and rushed forward into the firing line, thus materially assisting the advance and capture of the objective. Again, on 9th October, when the leading line had been held up by very heavy machine-gun and artillery fire over open sights in the railway cutting south of Honnechy, he rushed forward alone, and then by crawling reached an enemy machine gun, which he captured single-handed. He showed splendid gallantry and determination.

320294 Sjt. W. O. Collis, 16th Bn., R. Suss. R. (Henfield, Sussex).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 13th October, 1918, in the outpost line east of Quinquebus, when the enemy, under cover of a heavy barrage, succeeded in getting within bombing distance of his party. Although he was wounded in the leg, he directed the fire of his men with great success until everyone of them was a casualty. He continued firing himself until he was again wounded in the foot and thigh. His leadership and courage resulted in the enemy having to withdraw without being able to secure an identification. He has repeatedly given proof of his courage and initiative.

63203 Pte. (L./C.) M. Conroy, 2nd Bn., W. York. R. (Dawden).

During operations against the Haute-Deule canal on the 12th October, 1918, he showed marked gallantry and determination when in command of a Lewis-gun section. When the company became engaged by

enemy snipers and machine guns, both the platoon officer and platoon sergeant became casualties. He took command of the platoon, got two rifle sections forward, and with his Lewis gun engaged the enemy machine gun on the canal bank. Throughout he did excellent work.

492114 2nd Cpl. G. Cooke, 46th (N. Mid.) Div. Sig. Coy., R.E., T.F. (Nottingham).

Near Magny-la-Fosse, on 3rd October, 1918, he laid a line to a flank brigade. At zero he continued the line, following up the battalions which were attacking, and succeeded in getting in touch with two battalions. The whole of this work was carried out under very heavy shell fire, which continually smashed the wire. He showed the utmost disregard for his own safety, and his untiring energy and devotion to duty in maintaining the line under the greatest difficulties resulted in the line being through for sufficient periods for the brigade staff to keep in touch with the attacking battalions.

52595 Pte. J. L. Cookson, 14th Bn., R.W. Fus. (Ashton-on-Ribble).

For most conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In the attack near Montay on the 20th October, 1918, he found that some men of his company were held up by two enemy machine guns on the railway embankment. He crept up the embankment and bombed the enemy posts from the right flank and enabled the men of his company to rush in with the bayonet. Whilst going in himself with the bayonet he was seriously wounded, and has since died of wounds in a field ambulance. He behaved splendidly.

9648 Sjt. G. Coombes, 9th Bn., Manch. R. (Manchester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 8th October, 1918. During the advance to the second objective near the village of Serain his company had suffered many casualties through cross fire from enemy machine guns, and when the objective was gained all the company officers had become casualties. He promptly reorganised the company, laid out the system of defence, and consolidated the position with the men he had left until relieved by another company. It was greatly due to his initiative, determination, and cheerful encouragement of the men that the position was maintained at a critical moment with a minimum of loss.

18799 Pte. J. Cooper, M.M., 1st Bn., Bord. R. (U.S.A.).

For most conspicuous gallantry and initiative near Courtrai on 14th October, 1918. When his platoon was held up by enemy machine guns he worked well forward under heavy fire, located the guns, and returned. In the attack on these guns he was one of the first to reach them, and killed two of the enemy gunners; the remainder surrendered. He did fine work.

S/3629 Sjt. M. Corbett, 8th Bn., R. Highrs. (Wishaw).

He showed marked courage and leadership throughout the operations east of Ypres from 28th September to 4th October, 1918, and his skilful handling of his platoon enabled several enemy machine-gun posts to be captured with very few casualties. When his