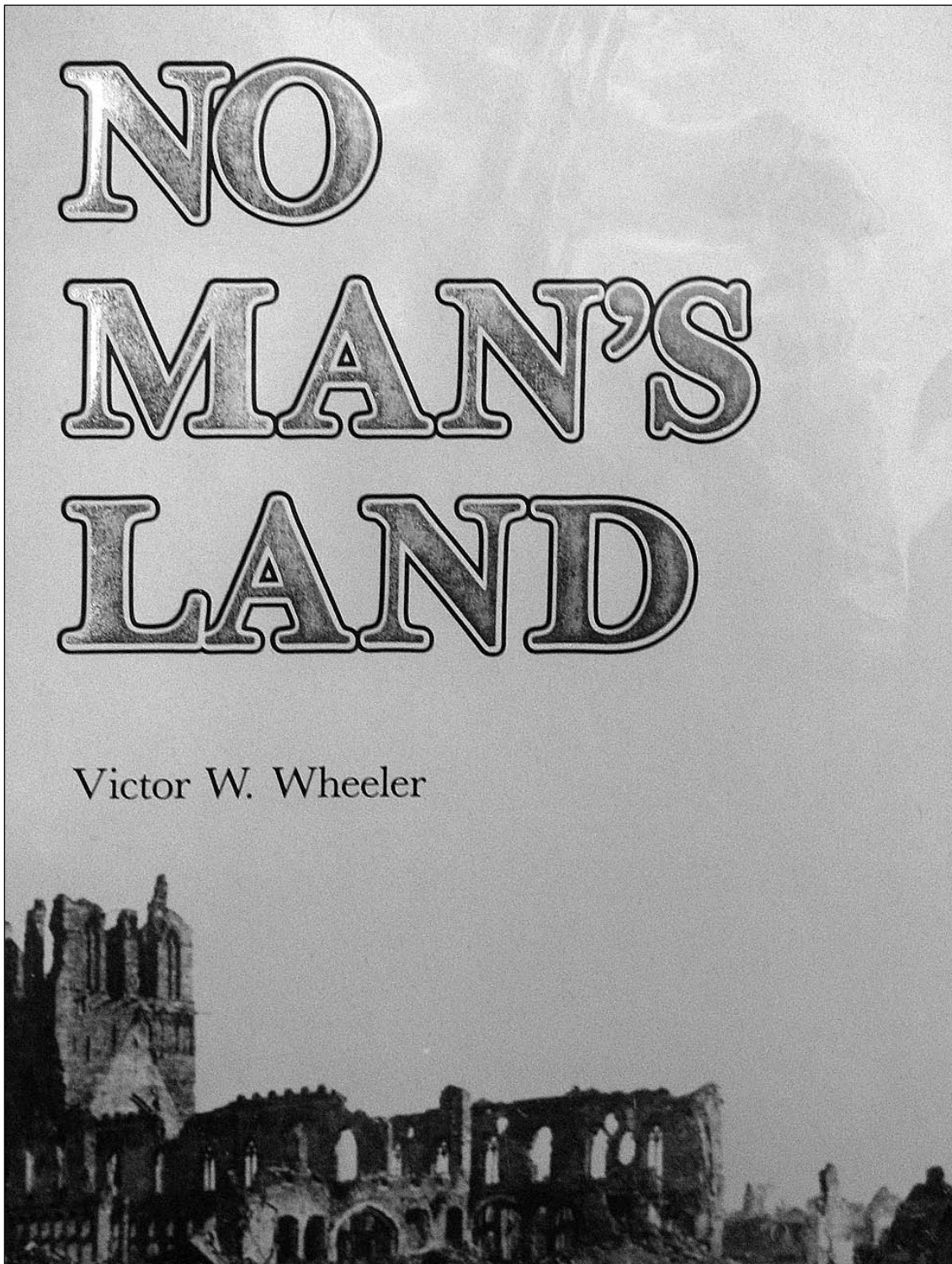




17-1

**EDWARD GEORGE MASON, OBE, MD  
1874-1947**



*The History of the 50th Battalion from Calgary, 1980*

## EDWARD GEORGE MASON, OBE, MD 1874-1947

*“he instilled confidence in us...  
convinced us that we could dispatch ourselves  
with honor to our King and Country”<sup>(1)</sup>*

### Introduction

Dr. Mason was one physician who heard the call of Dr. R.G. Brett to contribute to his community and the world outside medicine. He did so in the Canadian Army in WWI. Dr. Mason formed and commanded the famous 50th Battalion from Calgary, until November 1916 when he was gassed. He was the only physician to command an active Canadian Battalion, after Dr. John McCrae did in the Boer War. In April 1917 the 50th Battalion captured the two highest points during the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Five months after being hospitalized in Britain, Dr. Mason was assigned to the Canadian Army Medical Corps (CAMC) Medical Depot at Shorncliffe, England. He became its commanding officer in November 1917, under General (Sir) Sam Steele. Mason received an OBE at the end of the War. In 1919 Dr. Mason returned to Calgary and resumed his practice as an early neuropsychiatrist treating returning soldiers.

### Youth to MD 1874-1902

Edward George Mason was born on October 25, 1874 in Hamilton, Ontario. After public and collegiate studies in Hamilton, he attended Trinity College in Toronto and Bishops University in Montreal. Summer experiences included work as a draftsman with the Grand Trunk Railway where his father was a paymaster. He took his medical school training at McGill where he graduated with high honors in 1902.<sup>(2)</sup> Immediately after graduating and interning, Dr. Mason moved to Calgary as a NWT practitioner and registered on July 24, 1902.<sup>(3)</sup> In 1903 he married

Katharine Ritchie. In the years that followed Dr. Mason was joined in Calgary by five classmates.<sup>(4)</sup> In 1914 a contemporary rugby team member Dr. A.C. Rankin (McGill, 1904) arrived in Edmonton. A bacteriologist and hygienist, Dr. Rankin became the first UofA Dean of Medicine (1920-1945).<sup>(5)</sup>



McGill Medical School

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### Sports, Associations and Calgary

As a youth George Mason enjoyed tennis, curling, rugby and fishing. He particularly excelled at rugby. For six years he was a member of the Hamilton “Tigers” rugby team. Dr. Mason’s interest in rugby did not diminish with his move to Calgary. In 1906 he helped form and was elected the first President of the Calgary “Tigers” rugby team. It was named after the Hamilton “Tigers”, in his honor. The Calgary “Tigers” won the 1911 Western Canadian Rugby football championship defeating Winnipeg 13-6.<sup>(6)</sup> Mason

1. Wheeler, Victor W. *The 50th Battalion in No Man's Land*, page 15, Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, 1980.
2. MacRae, Archibald O. Edward G. Mason in the *History of the Province of Alberta*, Volume 1: 589-590, 1912. Confirmed by Mrs. K.E. Mason in her Biographical Data on the Physicians of Calgary, prepared for the Calgary Medical Society on December 7, 1953. Two pages. Deposited in the G.R. Johnson Fonds, M600 File 6, Glenbow, Calgary.
3. Stanley, George D. “Registrants over forty years and still living.” CACHB 8(4): 22, February 1944.
4. Johnson, George R. Letter to “Fred” with biographical information on six doctors who graduated in 1902 from McGill and came to Calgary. Dated December 6, 1939. The six physicians with their Calgary arrival years were Drs. Mason (1902), A.H. MacLaren (c1907), G.E. Coleman (1910), W.E. Saunders, G.R. Johnson (1908), R.G. Williams (1913). Not one of the six is “Fred”. Unsigned, it was likely written by Dr. Johnson, given the description of him. Deposited in the G.R. Johnson Fonds M600 File 6, Glenbow, Calgary.
5. Scarlett, Earle P. *Eastern Gate and Western Calvalcade*, CACHB 21(1): 8-24, May 1956. Dr. Rankin’s date of graduation was confirmed in the McGill University: Directory of Graduates, Dodd-Simpson Press, Montreal 1913.
6. Morrison, E.C., Morrison, P.N.R. *Calgary 1875-1950, A Souvenir of Calgary's Seventy-fifth Anniversary*, page 149, Albertan Press 1950.

remained its President for over twenty-five years, except during his army service in World War I. His example and dedication earned him the title of “Father of Football, Son of Fame”, for being “the epitome of high ideals of sportsmanship, high development of mind and body”, and for “giving to the game of football and the game of life”.<sup>(7)</sup> Dr. Mason was also a founder of the Calgary Philatelic Society, an avid curler, a gardener, and President of the Alberta Club (1907).

### The AMA and Alberta College of Physicians

Dr. Mason was a member of the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and Vice-President in 1914. From 1907-1909 he was the Calgary local editor for the *Western Canadian Medical Journal* and contributed several case studies to it.<sup>(8)</sup> He was an early examiner in obstetrics for the College of Physicians of Alberta. In 1947 he was



*Mason's Maneaters leaving Calgary for Berlin or Bust, 17-4 1915*

made a life member of the Alberta Medical Association.<sup>(9)</sup>

### Mason's Early Military Career 1891-1915

Dr. Mason's predominant extramural interest was his military career which lasted most of his lifetime.<sup>(10)</sup> It began in 1891 in Hamilton at the age of sixteen when he joined the 13th Infantry. During his university years which started in 1896, he joined the 3rd Victoria Rifles in Montreal. Upon his arrival in Calgary he joined the 103rd Regiment known as the Calgary Rifles. In 1910 he was gazetted a Major in the Reserve. He did not mobilize with the 103rd Regiment in Calgary or when the Regiment was merged to form the 10th Calgary Battalion in Val Cartier, Quebec. He did mobilize as Major Mason, the second in command of the 31st Calgary Battalion, when it began recruiting on November 16, 1914. When a third Calgary Battalion, the 50th, was authorized on December 15, 1914, it was short of officers. Dr. Mason was transferred to it as the Commanding Officer, on January 1, 1915 at the age of forty-one.<sup>(11)</sup> With the transfer he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. It was the first “all-Calgary” Battalion.<sup>(12)</sup>

### WWI 1915-1917

It was not until October 27, 1915 that the 50th Battalion was up to strength and could sail from Halifax to England as part of the 4th Canadian Division. Mrs. Mason and their three children went with the Battalion in 1915.<sup>(13)</sup> It arrived in Europe and saw its first action in the trenches of France and Flanders, on August 11, 1916.

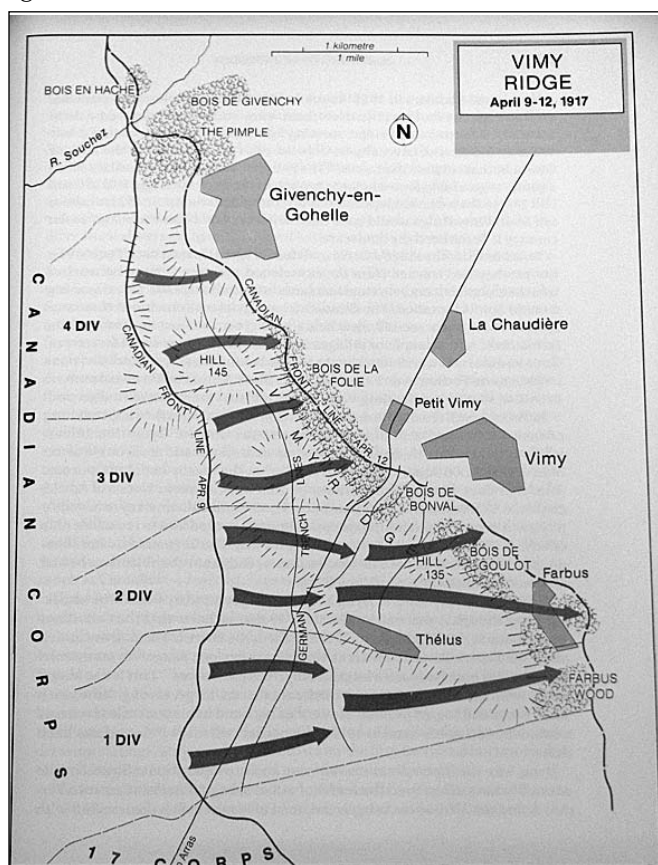
7. Barker, A.S. Dr. E.G. Mason, the Father of Calgary Rugby, has been President of Tigers ever since year 1906. Reported in the *Calgary Herald*, Alberta, October 26, 1929. The 1911 *Western Canadian Rugby Football* championship was the only major championship won by a Calgary football team, until the *Stampeders* won the *Grey Cup* in 1948.
8. Mason, E. George Local Editor, *Western Canadian Medical Journal* (WCMJ) 1907 and 1908. Articles he wrote included a: 1) *Case of Cerebral Thrombosis*, WCMJ 1; 22-23, 1907; and 2) *Ectopic Gestation*, WCMJ 1: 307-309, 1907. An Editorial in the WCMJ 2: 31-32, 1908 noted in one Eastern journal increased the number of references to Western medical matters from 4 (Jan 1907) to 21 (Dec 1908).
9. Jamieson, Heber C. *Early Medicine in Alberta*, page 151, AMA 1947.
10. Mason, E. George Letter to Colonel J.L. Potter re: Record of Service from 1913 to January 8, 1926, with an attached Record of Service to support an application for the Colonial Auxiliary Force's Long Service Medal. For more information on Lieutenant-Colonel E.G. Mason's military record see *Officers, NCO's and Men of the 50th Overseas Battalion CEF, Stafford and Kent, 1915* deposited in Glenbow, Calgary. Also see the *Statement of Service and Qualifications of E.G. Mason, November 13, 1928*, deposited with the Department of National Defence.
11. van der Schee, W. “Nominal Rolls: 50th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force: 1914-1915” p ii, deposited in Glenbow. For confirming details on recruitment and mobilization of the 50th, see John Blue's *Alberta Past and Present*, Volume I: 403, 1924.
12. Morrison, E.C., Morrison, P.N.R. *Calgary 1875-1950. A Souvenir of Calgary's Seventy-fifth Anniversary*, page 85.
13. Mason, Katharine E. *Calgary Albertan*, September 30, 1956. She served in the British Red Cross from 1915-1918 and the Canadian Red Cross before and long after that time.

On October 26, 1916, during one of the battles at Ancre Heights on the Somme,<sup>(14)</sup> a German gas shell exploded at the mouth of Mason's dugout. Shortly afterwards, the occasional headaches Dr. Mason had experienced after a fractured nose injury while playing football, became severe frontal headaches. He

was transferred to the Canadian General Hospital #8 on November 13 and then to England on November 17, 1916.<sup>(15)</sup> Because he was not able to return to his unit within one month, he lost his command.<sup>(16)</sup>

In "The 50th in No Man's Land", the author Victor Wheeler referred to the loss of Lt. Colonel Mason in November 1916 and how Dr. Mason had been the victim of weather, vile conditions on the front lines, physical demands, and the mental stress of being under constant fire. The 50th Battalion, known in Calgary as "Mason's Man Eaters", and in France as the "Suicide Battalion", sorely missed the psychological support and exemplary personal leadership that Lt. Colonel Mason provided during nearly two years as its Commanding Officer. Wheeler later wrote "God, not having been manifest to many of us on our first trip up the line, we turned to Lieutenant Colonel Mason...(he) had been the first man to step out towards the frontline on our maiden trip into the trenches...(he) instilled confidence in us...convinced us that we would dispatch ourselves with honor to our King and country..." And they did.<sup>(17)</sup>

At the Battle of Vimy Ridge on April 9-12, 1917, the 50th was one of the Battalions held in reserve.<sup>(18)</sup> When the highest point on the ridge, Hill 145, failed to be taken on the first assault on April 10, the 50th was called into action. Their advance was aided by a fortuitous snowstorm. When it was blocked by the German's defenders, Private Pattison Sr. saved the day and in the process won a VC. Alone, Pattison dove from trench to trench, until he reached the concrete abutments protecting the German pillbox and



The Battle of Vimy Ridge showing the Pimple and Hill 145

- 14. Blue, John *Alberta Past and Present*, Volume I: 403, 415-418, Pioneer Publishing, 1924. The initial strength of the 50th Battalion when it went overseas was 41 Officers and 1036 Other Ranks. The total strength more than doubled because of casualties that had to be replaced. The Battalion participated in ten battles from October 1916 to November 1918. Officers and enlisted ranks were awarded: 1-VC; 6-DSO's; 34-MC's; 23-DCM's; 227-MM's; 10 MSM's; 3-Belgian Croix de Guerre's; and 6 Russian Crosses of St. George. The 50th was continued as the 2nd Battalion, Calgary Regiment, after WWI.
- 15. Mason, E. George Medical examination upon leaving the service entitled Officers and Other Ranks who have no disability. Also see Dr. E.G. Mason's Canadian Army Form B.103 Casualty Form – Active Service – "certified correct 25 November 1916" form on the Department of National Defense website. On November 28, 1916 a hemorrhoidectomy was performed on Dr. Mason at the Southern General Hospital, Portsmouth, England, with the note, "This was delayed on account of the local infection, which originated in Somme area". He also had "neuralgia facial". There is no mention of any residual respiratory difficulties from the Chlorine gas. The document was signed by Dr. W. Whittemore M.O., May 24, 1917, at the Canadian General Hospital at Shorncliffe, Southern England.
- 16. Wheeler, Victor W. *The 50th Battalion in No Man's Land*, pages 15, 28, 45, 50, 70, 96, 130-131, 408-411. AHRF, 1980. In Lt. Col. E.G. Mason's Record of Service, it was documented that he was "detached to General List, H.Q., STD, Shorncliffe, 14-11-16". He was granted "sick" leave from 8-12-16 to 1-2-17. UofC Professor Pat Brendan, Ph.D. studied the WWI shell shocked syndrome and senior officer changes made by General Arthur Currie. He speculated that, where the changes in command were not documented or reasons were not recorded, it was usually stress related and that Dr. Mason was perhaps under severe stress in October/November 1916. Personal Communication December 22, 2003.
- 17. Wheeler, Victor W. *The 50th Battalion in No Man's Land*, pages 15, 50, 96.
- 18. Berton, Pierre *Vimy*, pages 282-288, M&S, 1986.

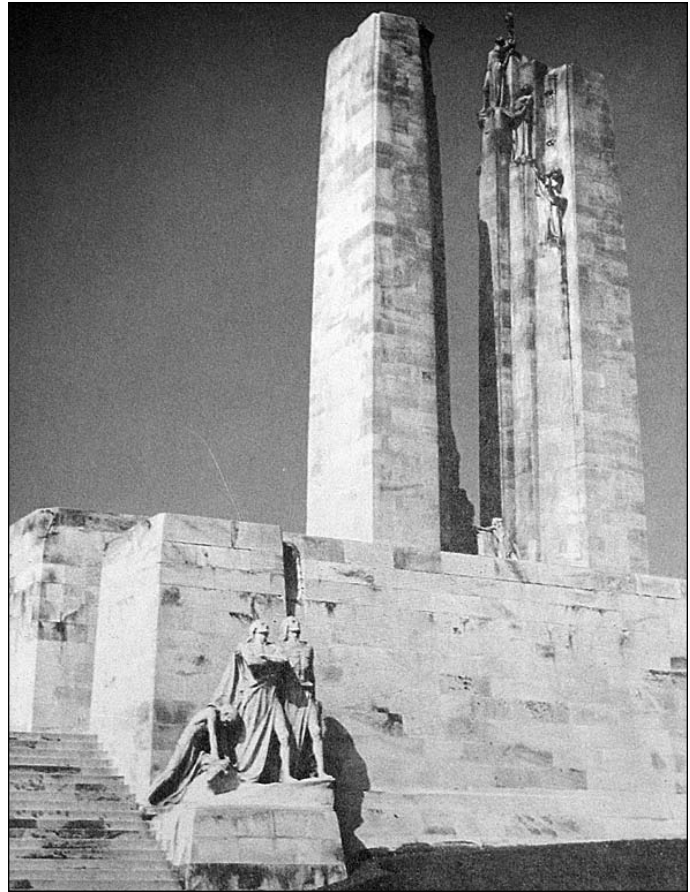
machine gun, that had pinned down the 50th. Then Pattison stood up and threw three grenades into the pillbox. No one except Pattison survived. Hill 145 was taken.<sup>(19)</sup> The Vimy Memorial now stands on Hill 145, the highest point on Vimy Ridge.

Two days later on April 12, 1917, the 50th was called upon to capture the Pimple (Hill 120). It was the second highest point on Vimy Ridge. They did so in less than one hour, knocking out the entrenched six feet tall elite Prussian Guards.<sup>(20)</sup>

Dr. Mason's battalion met and exceeded the demands and expectations of Canadian General Sir Arthur Currie during the Canadian Army's capture of Vimy Ridge. They trained and retrained, and learned to coordinate their advances with the timed advances of the artillery guns or under the novel timed rolling barrage. Currie said of his men that they were all volunteers and only wished to be well led with the absolute minimum loss of life.<sup>(21)</sup> The total Canadian Vimy casualties were remarkably few: 3598 killed and 7004 wounded. The 50th lost 228 men (killed, missing or wounded), or more than one-quarter of its strength.<sup>(22)</sup>

### WWI 1917-1919

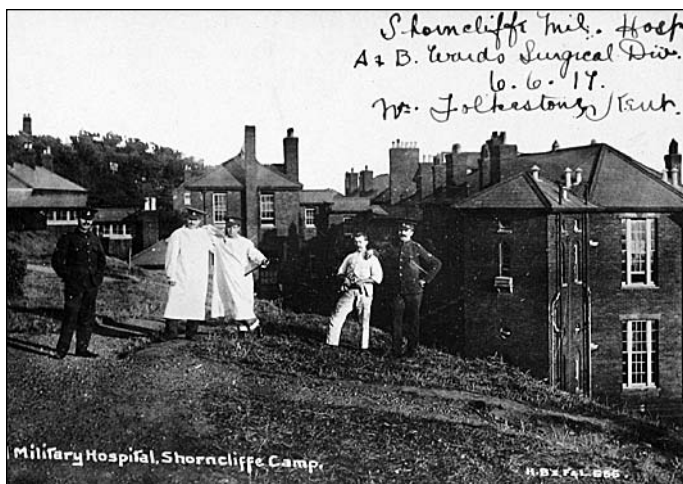
On February 13, 1917, Dr. Mason was transferred from the Canadian Army to the Canadian Army Medical Corps.<sup>(23)</sup> In March 1917, he was posted to the Canadian Army Medical Depot at Shorncliffe in Southern England. Dr. F.H. Mewburn joined him for the first month.<sup>(24)</sup> In November of that year he was given command of the Depot, and contributed to its rapid turnaround in function and reputation.<sup>(25)</sup> It was likely while at Shorncliffe that he wrote his article on the treatment of shock.<sup>(26)</sup> At Shorncliffe he was not



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*The Vimy Memorial, unveiled in 1936, refinished in 2007*  
appointed to the medical staff of either of the two large Canadian General Hospitals (Moore Hill and Orpington), that were part of the sprawling Shorncliffe camp. The huge Shorncliffe base was at that time, under the command of the Canadian General Sir Sam Steele, and remained so until the end of the war.<sup>(27)</sup>

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19. Blue, John                    *Alberta Past and Present*, Volume I: 416. For further details see Pierre Berton's "Vimy", pages 282-287; D. Morton and J. Granatstein's *Marching to Armageddon*, pages 141-143, 1989; V.W. Wheeler's "The 50th in No Mans Land", pages 131-132, 1980; D.G. Dancocks *Sir Arthur Currie*, a biography, pages 92-96, 1985.
20. Greenhous, Brereton, Harris, Stephen J.            *Canada and the Battle of Vimy Ridge 9-12 April 1917*, pages 121-135, Government of Canada, 1992.
21. Hyatt, A.M.                    *General Sir Arthur Currie: a Military Biography*, pages 144-146, UofT/Canadian War Museum, Historical Publication No. 22, 1987.
22. Berton, Pierre                *Vimy*, page 284.
23. Mason, E. George            Canadian Army Service Record, March 16, 1916 to June 30, 1919. Department of National Defence.
24. Lampard, Robert            Dr. F.H. Mewburn profile. Dr. (Lt. Col.) Mason's first month coincided with Dr. (Lt. Col.) Mewburn's one month transfer, from March 15-April 17, 1917. The one month overlap occurred at the same time as the Battle of Vimy Ridge, April 9-12, 1917.
25. MacPhail, Andrew           Official History of the Canadian Forces in the Great War: The Medical Services pages 244-245, Kings Printer 1925.
26. Mason, Katharine E.        Letter to Dr. G.R. Johnson dated December 7, 1953, with a completed ten page questionnaire attached to it. G.R. Johnson Fonds M600, File 6, Glenbow.
27. Nicholson, GWL            *Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1918* pages 113, 203-205, 223, 279, 498-499, Queens Printer, 1962. For more see Desmond Morton's *When Your Numbers Up*, pages 88, 200, 1993; and Andrew MacPhail's *Medical Services in WWI*, pages xix, 244, 1924.



Shorncliffe Military Hospital, Folkestone, England 17-7

Lieutenant Colonel Mason returned to Canada on June 6, 1919. For his war effort, Lt. Col. Mason was awarded the OBE, British War and Victory medals, and the Colonial Auxiliary Force's Long Service medal.<sup>(28)</sup> His wife Katharine, who had been associated with the Red Cross since 1902, continued her work during the war in England. Mrs. Mason returned with her husband in 1919 and was instrumental in starting the 50th Battalion Auxiliary.<sup>(29)</sup> She was awarded the British Red Cross and Service medal for her contributions from 1915-18. In 1935 she was awarded the King's Jubilee medal. Mrs. Mason maintained her Red Cross and Navy League affiliations until she left Calgary in 1956.<sup>(30)</sup>

### Post WWI 1919-1941

After the war Dr. Mason altered his medical practice. He polarized it to military medicine and accepted an appointment with the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Dr. Mason worked primarily at Calgary's Colonel Belcher Hospital. He became their neuropsychiatrist and consultant for shell-shocked veterans or those who had developed war neurosis.<sup>(31)</sup> Most of them

**DR. E. G. MASON  
IS FATHER OF  
CALGARY RUGBY**

Has Been President of  
Tigers Ever Since  
Year 1906

*Allen* 26/10/29  
By A. S. BARKER

It may be truly said of Dr. Mason, as it was of the great Walter Camp, that he is "Father of Football, Son of Fame" for, while Camp labored in the East to develop the game, Dr. Mason worked in Western Canada. Each achieved marked personal success and each contributed greatly to the game. With high ideals of sportsmanship, high development of mind and body, each gave unstintingly to the game of football and to the game of life.

If rugby football is to occupy its rightful place in the Western Canadian scene, it will be due, not alone to the foundations which Dr. Mason has had such a share in building, but in a far greater measure to those high standards of sportsmanship which he holds



**DR. E. G. MASON**

iversity of Alberta, on the championship Britannia team of Montreal, where he was again an outstanding player. In 1901, as president of the McGill University Club, he reorganized the club and started it off on the new policy which resulted in many winning teams for McGill. In 1902 Dr. Mason came West and settled in Calgary, then a pioneer cow town with a population of scarcely 5,000. His zeal for rugby was not long to be submerged in his new surroundings, and in 1904 he was busy organizing a team. March 4, 1906, a meeting was held in the old City Hall, and Dr. Mason was elected president of the Calgary Tiger Rugby Club, as it was named

Calgary Albertan, October 26, 1929

had been admitted by the Soldiers Civil Re-establishment Commission as veterans in the Red Deer (Provincial Ladies College) and Ponoka (Ponoka Mental Institute) hospitals, after their return from the European theatre. When the Red Deer facility was closed and reopened as the Provincial Training School in 1923, the remaining veterans were transferred to Ponoka or back to Calgary.

Although Dr. Mason formally retired from the military and was pensioned in 1926, he maintained his military medical connections and did induction medical work as late as 1941.<sup>(32)</sup>

### The Sexual Sterilization and Visitors Boards 1923-1947<sup>(33)</sup>

In 1923 the Alberta government appointed a Board of Visitors to inspect healthcare, tuberculosis, mentally ill, and mentally retarded facilities throughout the

28. Brault, R. National Archives of Canada CEF Service Medals. Letter on Lt. Col. Edward George Mason, dated May 13, 1993.

29. Wheeler, Victor W. *The 50th Battalion in No Man's Land*, page 411.

30. Mason, Katharine E. "Prominent Red Cross Worker Leaves Calgary." Calgary Albertan September 20, 1956.

31. Mason, E. George Obituaries in the AMB 13: 25, January 1947 and the Calgary Albertan January 6, 1947. For background information see T. Brown's "Shell Shock in the CEF 1914-1918," in *Health, Diseases and Medicine* pages 308-322 Hannah, 1948. Dr. Mason gave "a very excellent paper" to the Calgary Medical Society (January 3, 1928) on the care and treatment of Ponoka, Oliver and Red Deer patients after visits to them. Then he spoke on General Paresis of the Insane, Its Recent Treatment.

32. Lampard, Robert Dr. Mason did the induction medical on Lt. James Alfred Lampard, the author's father, in 1941. Private Alfred Lampard the author's grandfather was transferred to the 50th Battalion as a replacement in late 1917. Dr. Mason met Private Lampard after WWI and recalled him during conversations with his son in 1941. The author was a member of the URTF (1958-1963) and was posted to Aylmer, Ontario and Metz, France in the RCAF. He was a third generation member of the military from Alberta.

33. Lampard, Robert "The Sexual Sterilization Act of Alberta," in Part 2. Also discussed at the Calgary Medical Society meeting, March 12, 1928.



*The Sexual Sterilization Board, Dr. E.G. Mason, Mrs. Field, J.M. McEachern, Ph.D., Dr. E. Pope, 1935.*<sup>17-8</sup>

province. The Visitors Board operated at least from 1923-1930, and from 1952-1956, according to available records. The Board may have surveyed facilities between those dates but no source records have been uncovered. The Visitor Board reviews were an early form of accreditation. In 1928 two members of the Visitors Board, Professor John McEachern, Ph.D. (Chairman), and Mrs. Jean Field, were joined by Dr. Egerton Pope and Dr. Mason to form the Sexual Sterilization Board. It was merged with the Board of Visitors. The physicians were recommended to the Board by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Mason remained on the Board until shortly before his death on January 13, 1947.<sup>(34)</sup>

Dr. Mason was one physician, who contributed to his community and country, inside medicine<sup>(35)</sup> and like the well known Dr. John McCrae, in the Canadian army.<sup>(36)</sup>

## The Mason Family

Dr. Mason was survived by his wife Katherine, who died on February 17, 1966 and three children, Elizabeth Phyllis born in 1904, Katharine Emilie in 1911 and Anthony in 1913.<sup>(37)</sup>

**Related Profiles:** Brett, Mewburn, Scarlett, Rankin, MacLean

**Related Perspectives:** The Alberta Sexual Sterilization Act

**Key Words:** Rugby, McGill graduates, military medicine, the 50th Battalion in WWI, The Battle of Vimy Ridge, Shell shocked veterans, Sexual Sterilization and Visitors Boards

### Prominent Red Cross Worker Leaves Calgary

Calgary is losing one of its foremost citizens. On September 28 Mrs. E. G. Mason leaves for Bellville, Ont., to make her home with her son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. G. A. R. Mason but she is not going into retirement. "I shall continue my association with Red Cross in Bellville" Mrs. Mason, a resident of Calgary for 54 years, told The Albertan Wednesday.

**SHORTLY AFTER** the turn of the century Mrs. Mason came to Calgary as a bride and lived a rather uneventful life until the First World War when her husband in command of the 50th Battalion, (all Calgary regiment) took his unit overseas. Mrs. Mason who had been associated with the Red Cross in Montreal from which city she came, followed her husband in 1915 and served the British and Canadian Red Cross overseas.

On her return she joined the auxiliary to the Navy League of Canada, Alberta Division, and has been a continuous active member until a few days ago when she tendered her resignation. Mrs. Mason also assisted in organizing the auxiliary to the 50th Battalion the only military organization of women still functioning, and was its president for a good many years.

During her years in Calgary this veteran worker and organizer has been associated with Red Cross for 42 years and until Tuesday chaired the Women's Committee of the Alberta Division, CRS since the end of the First World War. This faithful worker who spends her afternoons at the work rooms supervising the packing, shipping

injured in a fall and has since had to rely on a cane. Mrs. Mason has never slowed down and has always been ready for each emergency.

Her services have not gone without recognition for Mrs. Mason is among the few to receive the highest decoration awarded by the Canadian Red Cross—that of honorary councillor. Warm in her praise of the work of the Alberta


THE WHITE haired mother of three who enjoys the respect of not only a city but a province and even further afield, is more ready to give praise than receive it. She does not talk in terms of what she has done for the Red Cross but rather what the Red Cross has done for her. It has given her a broad outlook and she likes to emphasize the fact that Red Cross meets emergencies regardless of color, creed or race.

Mrs. Mason has also been active in the auxiliary to the Holy Cross Hospital of which she is a charter member, again proving that her efforts are concentrated on relieving suffering humanity.

There has been much sadness in Mrs. Mason's own life though this is not obvious in chatting with her. Dr. Mason, the ninth surgeon in Calgary, died in 1946 and her two daughters, Mrs. C. B. Irwin and Mrs. G. S. Westgate died within a year of each other; the latter three years ago and the former two years ago. Her son, with whom she will make her future home is a graduate of Alberta University.

"I'll be coming back and I'll still read The Albertan . . ." she said cheerfully as she spoke about leaving her home, in which she has resided since the death of her husband.

Her daughter-in-law arrived Tuesday to assist Mrs. Mason with moving and to accompany her to



*Mrs. Mason, Calgary Albertan, September 26, 1956.*

34. Whitfield, Betty-Jo Lt. Col. Edward George Mason, OBE, MD of the 50th Battalion, *Proceedings: History of Medicine Days*, pages 201-204, University of Calgary, March, 1998.
35. Mason, E. George Dr. Mason's known publications and presentations include: 1) Case of Cerebral Thrombosis, WCMJ 1: 22-23, 1907; 2) Ectopic Gestation, WCMJ 1: 307-309, 1907; 3) Shock as referenced by his wife on Dec 7, 1953; 4) General Paresis of the Insane (or 3rd stage Syphilis) – Its Recent Treatment to the Calgary Medical Society, January 3, 1928; 5) Remarks in response to Dr. C.A. Baragar's speech on Mental ailments in Calgary, CMS, October 15, 1930; and 6) Some Problems of the Neuroses, to the Calgary Medical Society on March 8, 1938. At the same 1928 CMS meeting, Captain D.T. Fotheringham spoke on "The Civilian Aspect of the War Gases".
- Dr. Mason's interests extended from writing to books. Along with Dr. F.H. Mewburn they moved and seconded the motion that "the Registrar be authorized to pay the (Edmonton) Academy of Medicine the sum of \$500". This library, along with Dr. Mewburn's personal library became the core collection for the UofA medical library – now housed in the Dr. J.W. Scott Library. See the Alberta College minutes of September 21, 1914.
36. MacPhail, Andrew *In Flanders Fields*, pages 130-131, 1919. For more information on Dr. John McCrae see J.F. Prescott's *In Flanders Fields, the Story of John McCrae*, pages 32, 76, 79, 83, 195-96, 1985.
37. Mason, Katharine E. Letter to Dr. G.R. Johnson, December 7, 1953 with a completed two page Calgary Medical Society biographical questionnaire attached to it.