



Private Albert Edward Quinton (Regimental Number 3525) is interred in the Church of England Cemetery in Princeton, Bonavista Bay.

His occupation prior to military service recorded as that of a *fisherman* earning a monthly twenty-five dollars was a volunteer – a *Coaker* Recruit* - of the Ninety-Ninth Recruitment Draft. He presented himself for medical examination at the Church Lads Brigade Armoury in St. John's on March 9 of 1917, also enlisting – *for the duration of the war* at the private soldier's rate of \$1.10 per diem – and attesting on that same March 9.

**** W. F. Coaker was a politician, cabinet minister, and founder of the Fisherman's Protective Union. He eventually took it upon himself to recruit among the fishermen – although there were several exceptions to this rule – and sixty-nine young men enlisted, to become known as Coaker Recruits. Ten of them died in service.***

After enlistment he boarded in the capital city, as was the case with many of the new recruits - there was also the Curling Club in St. John's which had been transformed into barracks - awaiting further orders to travel overseas. In the case of Private Quinton, temporary residence was taken at the house of a Mrs. Pippy of 42, Young Street, from March 9 until June 13, some three months later.



(Right: The photograph of Private Quinton is from the Canadian Virtual War Memorial web-site.)

Private Quinton was not to sail from Newfoundland for service overseas. From Mrs. Pippy's house on Young Street and (as seen below) after the visit of a local doctor on April 23, he would be ordered transferred directly to the *Jensen Camp** on Blackmarsh Road and there diagnosed as suffering from pleurisy, peritonitis and tuberculosis.

****The Camp was opened in 1916 for service personnel suffering from tuberculosis. The name derives from a Private Philip Jensen of Harbour Breton, a Newfoundlander enrolled in the Canadian Forces who gave time and effort into raising monies for the Jensen Camp project and also for the Red Cross.***

The son of Alfred Quinton, fisherman – to whom he had allotted a daily sixty cents from his pay - and of Susannah (also found as *Susan Jane*) Quinton (née *Hapgood**) of Southern Bay Island, Bonavista Bay, he was also brother to Henry, to Mary-Elizabeth, to Annie-Jane and to Andrew.

****The couple had been married in the Bonavista Bay community of King's Cove on June 22, 1896.***

Private Quinton was reported as having *died of sickness* in the Jensen Camp in St. John's, of pulmonary tuberculosis, on June 27/28, 1917.



Albert Edward Quinton had enlisted at the *declared* age of eighteen years and one month: date of birth in Southern Bay, Newfoundland, February 19, 1899 (from the Newfoundland Birth Registrar's Office).

(Right: The Summerville War Memorial honours the sacrifice of Private Quinton. – photograph from 2010)

The following is a subsequent report found among his papers:

Apparently:- This man got sick April 6th; came home wet from duty all night at the wharf when the contingent left to go away. After this he was sent home on

leave April 9th on leave; returned April 19th still sick. Reported Headquarters on the 20th April. Was put on outside guard at five o'clock that evening; stayed on duty for twenty-four hours. That night, Saturday, April 21st, he was taken bad. Sunday morning reported sick to Headquarters, being unable to go on Sunday's parade. Asked for doctor. He regimental doctor visited him on Monday, April 23rd, at five o'clock, attended him at Mrs. Pippy's house up to the 13th of June, when he was sent to J(ensen) C(amp).

Notes by Doctor Tait from his enquiries

Notes sent to Dr P T McGrath

No further action in this case was noted in his personal records in the Provincial Archives, nor was any medal awarded as neither *overseas service* nor *active service* had been undertaken.

The above dossier has been researched, compiled and produced by Alistair Rice. Please email any suggested amendments or content revisions if desired to criceadam@yahoo.ca. Last updated – February 1, 2023.