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THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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October 2019

Fox Wellington Somerset F.I.P. Patent 14214-1909 Puttees. The Fox family's interest in woollen fabric began in the early 1700's, when Edward Fox married into the Wellington based Were family, making Fox Brothers one of the earliest entrants into the UK wool industry. At this time the company was a cottage industry, mainly producing woollen serge known as 'Tauntons'. The early British woollen industry naturally established itself in areas where sheep were farmed, as was the case in Wellington, Somerset.

Influenced by the Fox family's Quaker faith, the company was enlightened in the care of its workers, building housing and schools for employees in Wellington. Fox Brothers was also one of the first employers to have a pension scheme.

At its peak the company employed approximately 5,000 people and owned and operated nine mills and factories in Somerset, Devon, Galshiels and Oxfordshire. The Fox family even had their own legal tender from 1787 until 1921; Lloyds bank in Wellington is to this day known as the Fox Branch.

From the late 19th century into the 20th century, production became increasingly focused on fabrics for the British military. During the Boer War, Fox Brothers developed the new serge drape mixture known as 'khaki', which eventually led to the demise of the British Army's traditional 'redcoats'. During the First World War, Fox Brothers completed the largest ever, single order for textiles: 852 miles of cloth supplied to the Ministry of Defense. This was used to make 'the puttee' - spiral leg puttees were used by the military as a part of the regular soldier uniform.

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CMHS Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on

**Tuesday,
October 15th,
2019**

7:00 pm



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The
CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is a non-profit registered society
which fosters the study of the
military and the police, and the heritage of
Canada, the British Empire, and the world
as well as the preservation of military
artifacts and records.

The CMHS meets once every calendar month
at: Petty Officers' Mess
HMCS Tecumseh
1820 - 24th Street SW
Calgary AB T2T 0G6

Notice of Next Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on
Tuesday October 15th, 2019
19:00 (7:00 pm)

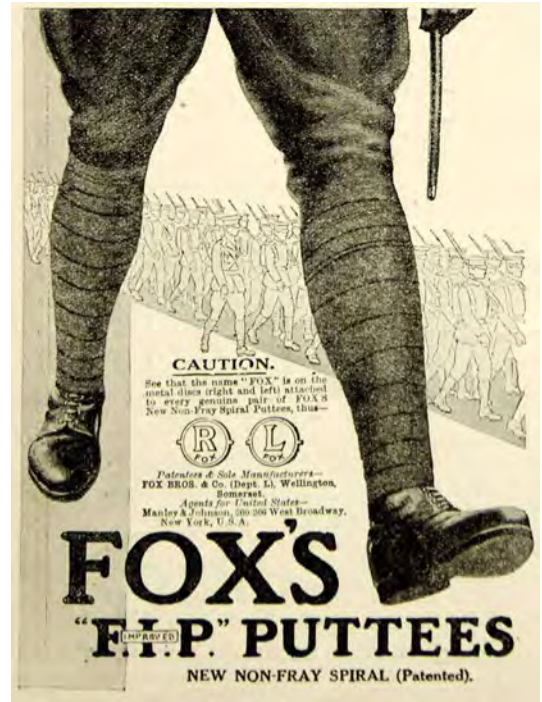
At the Petty Officers' Mess, HMCS Tecumseh.
Members are reminded that an offering of foodstuffs for the Legion Food Bank is
considered your unofficial entrance fee to our regular scheduled meetings.

The unofficial agenda of this meeting will be:
Introduction of guests, Minutes of last meeting Correspondence, Membership report
Treasurer's report, Old business / New business Break, Show & Tell
The President, **Allan Ross** would like to invite everyone to remain after the meet-
ing for an informal time of fellowship.



Duane B. Gale, Jack
Mortimer and Albert
Smith.(KIA)

Two members of the
195th Battalion C.E.F.
are wearing Fox Put-
tees.



THEY WERE GOOD IN SOME WAYS

Puttees provided the soldier's leg support, prevented dirt and insects entering both boots and trousers and provided a *measure* of protection against the weather and abrasions. *When wrapped properly*, puttees helped to insulate the leg from cold weather and to reduce injury without restricting movement. In hot weather, the material breathed and could be removed and washed. Importantly, puttees could be used as a dressing or splint, or to provide support to a part of the body.

... AND NOT SO GOOD IN OTHERS

While puttees helped to prevent or at least reduce damage to soldiers' legs, they could also cause harm. Once they became wet and if worn in cold weather, the puttees could cause frostbite and extreme pain. Also, "tightly wrapped puttees might have encouraged or aggravated trench foot by restricting blood flow to the feet. Trench foot was prevented by keeping boots well-oiled and generously sized, loosening the puttees, rubbing oil into feet and lower legs and wearing clean, dry socks".

Minutes of last meeting / Calgary Military Historical Society

CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of General Meeting held on September 19, 2019
Petty Officers Mess: HMCS Tecumseh

Meeting called to order by President Alan R. at 7:04 pm.
13 members present and 0 guests.

Minutes of last meeting. Acceptance moved by Brian H. Second by Marty U. Approved.
Thanks once again to Roy A for newsletter article.

Treasurers Report provided by Floyd. Moved acceptance by Barry E. Second by Brian H. Accepted.
Membership report by Floyd S. - Currently 39 regular members. 3 Life members 2 Honorary. Renewals are now due for 2020. Approval moved by Brian H. Seconded by Barry E. Approved.

Correspondence: None

OLD BUSINESS: Rum and Roti night at the Military Museums was a great time for all.

NEW BUSINESS:

AACCA Gun show at Thorncliffe will be on Sept. 21st.

Best wishes are sent to under the weather members Marj N., John E. and Bob Mc.

The movie "They Will Not Grow Old" at the museum is now sold out.

Book Auction – Saved for AGM next month.

Called for volunteer to conduct book raffles. Postponed to AGM in October.

Called for volunteers to take positions on the executive.

4 resolutions / motions presented to President Al R. tabled till AGM and will be presented again at that time.

No Break . Raffle on hold till we get a new volunteer to conduct them.

SHOW & TELL:

Al R – Regimental photographers grouping of medals and certificates to 107th engineers, US Army
Marty U - Attended American Insignia Convention and showed an 1886 .45 revolver holster and US Indian scouts insignia.

Dave S – Story of strange questions and answers by a collector on line.

Indra R – Question – If an applicant was rejected by CEF can they be tracked or traced?

James B – Binoculars – WW1? Discussion re book titled "7 Days in Hell"

Frank -1919 copy of painting called "Home Lad Home"

Brad M – WW1 grouping, Bulgarian, mounted in 1920's

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm by Brad M. and Seconded by Indra R.



C015168 U.S. M1 COMBAT HELMET WITH FIBER LINER.

BACKGROUND: The M-1 helmet was developed as a replacement for the M-1917 helmet that had seen use since WW1. It was designed by using the crown of the M-1917, removing the brim and adding extensions to



protect the neck, ears, and forehead. The resulting form was then used as a template for the production of a helmet body from a single piece of Hadfield Manganese Steel. The liner and suspension were developed after a modified Riddell Football helmet. The M-1 helmet was approved for production in June of 1941. Early models had solid loops (fixed bale) for the chin straps but they broke off too often and were replaced with a moveable hinged loop. The original rim of the helmet was made of stainless steel but it was found that the paint that was used would wear off too easily and leave a shiny reflective surface. To remedy this they switched to a Hadfield Manganese Steel and also changed the butt of the rim from the front to the rear of the helmet body. This change took place in October of 1944. Characteristics of any helmet developed up to then could withstand the force from a 230 grain, .45 calibre bullet with a velocity of 800 feet per second. The fiber liner's specifications were to be a one piece rigid fiber form that would be water proof. A piece of olive drab gabardine was affixed to it to meet this specification.

