

PTE. J. S. NICHOLLS, EAGLE LAKE, KILLED IN ITALY—LETTER RECEIVED FROM HIS SUPERIOR

Pte. Nicholls Was One of First to Enlist—One of First From Eagle Lake District to Pay Supreme Sacrifice.

Pte. James Sheldon Nicholls, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Nicholls, of Eagle Lake, has been killed in action with the forces in Italy, on Sept. 24th. Pte. Nicholls, who was the first to enlist at Eagle Lake, is also one of the first casualties. He signed up with the 1st Midland Regiment in Lindsay on August 9th, 1940 and received his training in Lindsay, Ottawa, St. John's N. B. Niagara-on-the-Lake, Edmonton, Prince Rupert and final course at Kingston before going overseas a year and four months ago. He had been in Italy since last November and was serving with a Westminster Regiment when killed in action.

Pte. Nicholls was born at Parry Sound but for the past 12 years

lived in Eagle Lake. He has one brother Roy and a sister Mary at home. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls have received the following letter from Lieut. H. Oldfield, one of the officers of the young soldier.

Dear Mrs. Nicholls:

It is my sad duty to write to you at this time regarding the death of your son, who was killed in action with my Platoon.

Pte. Nicholls was one of my best wireless operators and the work he did on more than one occasion played a very important part in the success of the Platoon's operations. The energy he put into his work at all times and his cheerful friendly nature made him popular with all the officers and men of this Company and his loss was a very great blow to all of us.

He was killed when a Carrier in which he was operating his wireless set, struck a mine in a recent action here. The whole thing happened so suddenly that mercifully

Continued on page 6

he suffered very little. You will doubtless hear officially of his burial place, which is on land that he helped to win.

While I know that nothing I can say can relieve the grief that you must feel I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to you in your loss. If there is at any time anything I can do or any questions I may be able to answer regarding your son, please do not hesitate to let me know.

H. Oldfield, Lieut.