

Honoured in His Majesty's Birthday List

Mr. A. E. (Bert) Wright was both pleased and proud to hear that his brother, Sergeant Harry Wright, had been awarded a "Certificate for Good Service and Devotion to Duty" for his commendable record during the "blitz" on England. Sgt. Wright is a member of the London, England Civil Service Battalion and can be justly proud of his award which was approved by His Majesty the King in connection with the Birthday Honours List, 1942.

We think it would not be amiss to reprint in its entirety the recommendation for the honour which Sgt. Wright's Commanding Officer sent in to headquarters. We might mention that Adastral House is occupied by the Air Ministry of Great Britain.

HOME GUARD

"A" Company, 2nd City of London (Civil Service) Battalion
Serial No 38
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AWARDS—Birthday Honours List.
His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the Award of a Certificate for Good Service and Devotion to Duty to No. 11 Platoon Sergeant H. Wright, No. 1 Platoon, "A" Company, in connection with the Birthday Honours List 1942.

The Zone Commander and the Commanding Officer, 2nd City of London Battalion have asked that their cordial congratulations may be conveyed to Sgt. Wright.

"A" COMPANY (ARIEL)
2nd City of London (Civil Service) Battalion, Home Guard Recommendation for Certificate to Personnel of the Home Force

SERGEANT HARRY WRIGHT

I recommend Sergeant Harry Wright, of this Company for the award of the above certificate.

1. Sergeant Wright has been a Section Commander in No. 1 Platoon of this Company since its inception, and as such has done regular duty on the roof of Adastral House, Kingsway, where this Platoon has mounted a guard every night since the early summer of 1940 and all through the worst of the London Blitz period.

2. Sergeant Wright has never missed his turn for guard and has in fact done extra turns when the necessity has arisen, and he never took any rest while danger threatened the building or while air bombing was taking place. During such periods he kept continual company with his sentries and, by his own example and encouragement, sustained the morale of his men.

3. On more than one occasion, when incendiary bombs fell on the roof of Adastral House, it was mainly through Sergeant Wright's own action and example that the building was saved from destruction by fire. On one occasion at least 50 incendiaries fell on the roof of this building and the lion's share of putting them out was taken by Sergeant Wright and the men of his Section, who were on the job even before the official fire fighters arrived on the scene. Sergeant Wright was commended for his action on this occasion by the Principal Establishment Officer of the Air Ministry.

4. On this and other occasions, very large fires were burning in the immediate vicinity of the Air Ministry, and this Adastral House something in the nature of the bull's eye in the middle of the target.

5. On the night of 16/17th November, 1940, when a delayed action bomb fell in the St. Clement's Press building behind Adastral House, Sergeant Wright was N.C.O. in charge of the guard, which comprised a fair number of young recruits, and his outstanding courage and cheerfulness on this occasion contributed very largely to the cool behaviour which all concerned displayed.

(Sgnd.) I. V. H. CAMPBELL, Major, 10th April 1942, Commanding "A" Company (Ariel) Home Guard.

Sgt. Wright was presented with the award on a ceremonial parade at Somerset House, London, England. Such exploits as the above are probably just a sample of the courage and bravery of the English people "under fire."

R. C. Vaughan New President C.N.R.

During a career extending over forty-three years Mr. Vaughan has gained by practical experience, a very thorough knowledge of all branches of railroading, including operation, maintenance, finance, traffic promotion, steamships, and executive administration, and an intimate acquaintance with every part of Canada and the railway requirements of all sections of the country. He numbers among his friends many of the leaders in Canada's industrial and commercial life and is well known to thousands who are prominent in business and professional circles throughout the Dominion and the United States.

Robert Charles Vaughan was born in Toronto in 1883. His father was Robert Crawford Vaughan, a builder and contractor. He was educated at the Toronto public schools, the Harbord Collegiate Institute and the Central Business College. He began his railway career before his twentieth birthday, starting at the bottom of the ladder. He secured a job as messenger boy with the C.P.R. in 1903 and won speedy promotion to clerk. In July, 1907 he joined the Grand Trunk Railway and a year later went to the Canadian Northern. In 1904 he was appointed General Manager of the Canadian Northern and as such came into contact with officers and employees in all branches of the service over all sections of that System. He never overlooked an opportunity to learn something new about railroading, whether by listening carefully to the discussions of executive officers while acting as secretary at an important conference, or by the

odd few minutes of informal chat with an engineer, trainmaster or section foreman while "on the line" with the chief.

This ability to seek out and absorb the varied details of railroad practice brought young Vaughan his first important promotion. In July, 1910, he was appointed assistant to the Vice-President and General Manager. In that capacity he came into daily contact with officials of all departments of the railway and made the most of the opportunities which these contacts afforded to still further widen his knowledge of all branches of railroading. He also had charge of the operation of the Royal Line Steamers trading from Montreal to the United Kingdom. Then, in September, 1918 came his advancement to the position of Assistant to the President of the Canadian National and Assistant to the President of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine.

During ten years of service in these capacities Mr. Vaughan's ability as an organizer and executive became more

than ever apparent and in December, 1920, he was selected as Vice-President in charge of Purchases and Stores for the Canadian National Railways. Mr. Vaughan was responsible for the organization and administration of this department which became Canada's biggest buyer. Purchases averaged nearly \$100,000,000 annually and included everything from pins to steel bridges. Some eight thousand Canadian firms sold goods to the department. One ton of coal out of every five produced in Canada was bought by the Department. Mr. Vaughan declared that the function of his department was to secure for the railway the right material, at the right price, and at the right time, and following out that policy, the department obtained a very high degree of efficiency, while a system of checking and distribution of materials established under Mr. Vaughan's direction served to effect economies of considerable value to the railway. Mr. Vaughan's jurisdiction also included operation of ocean ships and lake steamers and the operation of the Rail and River Coal mines

(owned by the railway) in Ohio.

When in July of 1930 the Canadian Government decided to set up a defence Purchasing Board, Mr. Vaughan's abilities as an organizer were quickly recognized and he was requested to give his services for limited time as a dollar a year man. On July 13th he was appointed Chairman of the Board on the understanding that he would organize it and would be permitted to return to his position as Vice-President of the Canadian National. For six months Mr. Vaughan practically did double duty, spending long hours in organization work at Ottawa, and still keeping tab on the department of the railway for which he was responsible. Mr. Vaughan remained in Ottawa until the Ministry of supply was set up.

In July 1941, on the retirement of S. J. Hungerford from the Presidency of the railway and the Trans-Canada Air Lines, Mr. Vaughan was appointed President of the Canadian National Railways, Canadian National Steamships, the Central Vermont Railway, and the Grand Trunk Western Railway

and a Director of Trans-Canada Air Lines.

In March, 1942 Mr. Vaughan was elected to the presidency of the Canadian West Indies League. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Technological Institute of Northwestern University, a member of the executive committee of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, and a Director of Belding-Cordell Limited.

Mr. Vaughan has frequently been called upon to give his spare time to organization work for various philanthropic institutions and has always responded generously. He is a Governor of the Montreal General Hospital and a member of the United Church of Canada. His chief diversions are golf and bridge and he is a keen hockey fan. He is a member of the Cranke Club, Toronto, and the St. James' and Mount Beuno Clubs, Montreal. In 1908 Mr. Vaughan married Miss Rosalie Chabala, of Toronto. They have two sons and two daughters.

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