

Leonard Tretheway Stick World War I Royal Newfoundland Regiment Regimental No. 1

Born: 7 February 1892

Place of Birth: St. John's

Parents: James and Emma Stick

Leonard Tretheway (LT) Stick was the fifth of eight children born into the Stick family; he had three sisters and four brothers.

A look at LT's enlistment documents paints a picture of a 22-year-old bank clerk who stood 5'5" tall, had light hair and blue eyes. He enlisted in the Newfoundland Regiment on the 5th of September 1914, a day after the 23rd General Assembly of Newfoundland passed an Act authorizing the formation of the First Newfoundland Regiment, Leonard Stick was given Regimental No. 1 as the first person to enlist.

He was made Sergeant on 21 September 1915 and was part of the British Mediterranean Force in 1915. With the Regiment at Beaumont Hamel, he was wounded and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on the same fateful day of 1 July 1916. On 1 October 1917, he was transferred to the Indian Army and served in the Third Afghan War. He later served as the first Chief Ranger of

the Newfoundland Ranger Force, serving with them from 1935 to 1936.

| | Member of Parliament for Trinity—Conception |
|------------------|---|
| | In office |
| | June 1949 – February 1958 |
| Personal details | |
| Born | Leonard Tretheway Stick |
| | 7 February 1892 |
| | St. John's, Newfoundland |
| Died | 7 December 1979 (aged 87) |
| Political party | <u>Liberal</u> |
| Profession | accountant, businessman, clerk, manager, |
| | policeman, military soldier |
| Military service | |
| Allegiance | Newfoundland, India |
| Years of service | 1914–1917 |
| | 1917–1919 |
| Rank | Second Lieutenant |
| Unit | Royal Newfoundland Regiment |
| Battles/wars | World War I, Third Anglo-Afghan War |

He was first elected at the Trinity— Conception riding in the 1949 general election then re-elected in 1953 and 1957 election. After completing his final federal term, the 23rd Canadian Parliament, Stick left the House of Commons and did not seek further re-election.

Transportation and Works June 22, 2012

Veteran Leonard T. Stick Honoured in Road Naming Ceremony

A special event was held today (Friday, June 22) in Bay Roberts to name a road after an honoured local historical figure and veteran, Leonard T. Stick. The Honourable Tom Hedderson, Minister of Transportation and Works was joined by area officials, as well as Mr. Stick's family members, to celebrate the official naming of L.T. Stick Drive.

"It gives me great pride to be able to honour such a remarkable man in this way," said Minister Hedderson. "Mr. Stick devoted his life to serving his country, first in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, then as a Newfoundland Ranger, and later as a Member of Parliament. By naming this road L. T. Stick Drive, we hope to show our appreciation for his public service and to

show how much his contribution means to this community."

Leonard T. Stick, a long-time resident of Bay Roberts, was the first Newfoundlander to enlist in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment in 1914. He was a member of the Blue Puttees, rising to the rank of Captain, and was wounded at the Battle of Beaumont Hamel on July 1, 1916. He went on to serve in the Indian Army and in July 1935, Mr. Stick was the first man appointed to Chief Ranger of the Newfoundland Rangers and given the rank Major. Upon Confederation in 1949, he became the first Member of Parliament for the then District of Trinity-Conception, where he served until his retirement in 1961. Mr. Stick passed away in 1979.

"L.T. Stick is known as the 'man of firsts,' for his trail-blazing public life in the military, the Rangers, and in public service to his province and country," said Glenn Littlejohn, MHA for Port de Grave. "I am so pleased to be here today to see this great man honoured for his contributions to both his community and to the shaping of our province's history."

The access road into Bay Roberts from Veterans Memorial Highway (Route 75) was named L.T. Stick Drive in the ceremony at Bay Roberts Town Hall.



Bay Roberts

Town of Bay Roberts with L.T. Stick Family

(Left side - I-r) Hilda (Stick) Morrow; Nigel Black (CAO Town of Bay Roberts, Enid (Stick) Starr; Mayor Phillip Wood. (Right side - I-r) Councillor Clarence Mercer, Marne Hillyard (Granddaughter of L.T. Stick); Councillor Walter Yetman; Councillor Melvin Walsh; Andrew Hillyard (Great grandson of L.T. Stick)

"The naming of L.T. Stick drive was a priority for the Town of Bay Roberts and was supported by the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion," said Philip Wood, mayor of Bay Roberts. "L.T. Stick was a brave and patriotic Newfoundlander and I share in the pride of his family and our community today as we name this road in his honour."

Mr. Stick holds many accolades for his service in the military, policing, and political fields but it is primarily for his service as a WW1 soldier of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment that we pay tribute to him.

LT Stick's Service Record reads as follows:

- 1. Enlisted 5 Sep 1914
- 2. Embarked for the UK 3 Oct 1914
- 3. Promoted to Sergeant 21 Sep 1915
- 4. Promoted to CQMS 7 July 1915
- 5. Reverted to Sergeant 26 Jan 1916
- 6. Promoted to A/CSM 25 Nov 1915
- 7. Embarked Plymouth (England) for the British Expeditionary Force 20 Aug 1915
- 8. Disembarked Alexandria then on to Cairo 13 Aug 1915
- 9. Embarked Abyssinia for Gallipoli 13 Sep 1915
- 10. Landed at Gallipoli the night of 19 20 Sep 1915
- 11. Arrived Suez following evacuation 16 Jan 1916
- 12. Embarked for the BEF 14 March 1916
- 13. Arrived Marseilles 22 March 1916
- 14. Wounded at the Somme, gunshot wounded to the head 1 July 1916
- 15. Transferred to Wandsworth Hospital, England 6 July 1916
- 16. Promoted to 2nd. Lieutenant 1 July 1916
- 17. Transferred to Indian Army Reserve and embarked for India 9 October 1917

His war service saw him in action at the Dardanelles Campaign for 4 months, in Egypt for 2 months, in France 5 months and India and Turkey. He was slightly wounded in the head at the Battle of the Somme July 1, 1916.

The 1945 census shows Leonard and wife Hilda living in Bay Roberts with son Norman 17, daughter Enid 10 and father-in-law James J. Norman 76.

Leonard Stick died in 1979 and was laid to rest in St. John The Evangelist Church Cemetery at Coley's Point, Bay Roberts. His wife Hilda died in 1995 and is buried beside her husband.