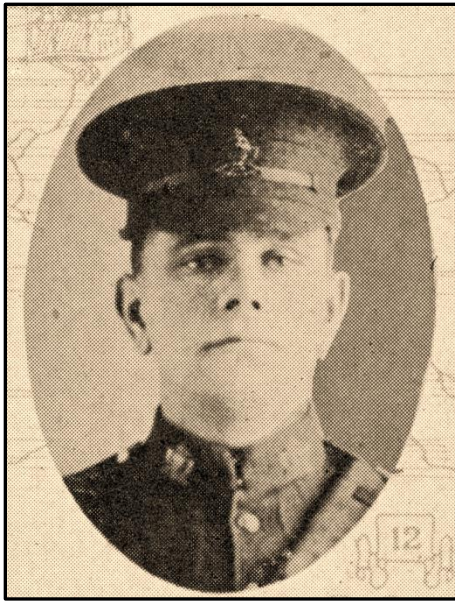


Ernest Griffen



Ernest Griffen (also spelled Griffin) was a resident of South St. Paul when he enlisted; he worked as a shipping clerk and lived at 301 4th Avenue South. He was born in Hampton, London, England on 25 July 1883. He went to Canada with his brother, Frank, lived in Saskatchewan, homesteaded in Alberta, and came to South St. Paul before deciding to join the Canadian Army.

Griffen was recruited by the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force through its British Recruiting Mission in the United States. Canada had entered the War in 1914, far earlier than the United States did. Griffen enlisted at Winnipeg, Canada on 27 September 1917, ironically exactly one year before his death.

Griffen served as a private in the 6th Company, 18th Canadian Rec. Battalion, a Manitoba regiment. He was killed in action on 27 September 1918 while cutting a railway near Bourslon, France, when he was severely wounded by shrapnel from an enemy shell. He was 35. He is buried in Bourslon Wood Cemetery. His mother, Mrs. Jane Griffen, was living in London. His wife, Laura George Griffen, whom he married in spring 1918 in England, resided in Cornwall.

