

Special Collections, Hartley Library

Archives Information Sheet 6 - World War I

The Home Front

For the duration of the war the new buildings at Highfield, completed for the **Hartley University College**, a predecessor to the **University of Southampton**, were used as a war hospital and Highfield Hall was lent to the Red Cross Society. There is a printed booklet *The University of Southampton as a War Hospital* by Norman Gadiner (1983) which gives more information (MS310 A4008/57/3). The University collection includes Council and Senate minute books covering this period (MS1/MBK1/5 and MS1/MBK2/1/1-2) plus MS101/8, three scientific reports and a notebook belonging to Gertrude Long, a laboratory assistant at the University War Hospital during World War I. A further local perspective is recorded in the pictorial souvenir paper *Southampton and the Great War 1914-1919* (MS310 A1000/5).

The avid diarist, **Samuel Morris Rich** taught at the Jews' Free School and was also the lay minister of the South London Liberal Jewish Synagogue, later becoming full time minister and secretary. The diaries MS168 AJ217/10-13 cover the years 1914-18 and provide an insight into a civilian perspective on the Great War and provide a example of the extent to which life continued as normal for British people.

MS174/D contains material, mostly notes and press cuttings, on **English anti-German** feeling during the First World War. There is material concerning **religious services and prayers** in the papers of H.M.Lazarus (MS130 AJ27/H7, 9, 12, 14 and 15).

With in the papers of Miss Ruth Phillips (MS116/5) there is a printed quarterly report of the **Endsleigh Palace Hospital** for officers, Oct 1915 and an article from the *Daily Graphic* concerning Endsleigh Palace hospital, 26 Jul 1915. Miss Phillips was secretary to Lucian Wolf and Israel Zangwill.

Broadlands in Romsey provided a base for some of the **Australian and American troops** stationed in Britain. There is (MS62/BR 104/3) a visitors book signed by US army officers entertained at Broadlands plus photographs of their visit, 1918. There are also two photographs of Australian troops parading for inspection at Broadlands, 1915 and papers regarding billeting Australian troops on the estate, 1915-21 (MS62/BR182/13). Among other events, Broadlands hosted a Officers' Jumping Competition in 1919, a programme for which can be found in MS62/BR136/21

William Wilfred Ashley, Baron Mount Temple, resident at Broadlands during the First World War, was chairman of the executive committee of the **Comrades of the Great War** (later the **Royal British Legion**). The Broadlands Archives include (MS62/BR136/26) a poster advertising meeting of the Comrades of the Great War, 1917; (MS62/BR199/17) a letter from Thomas G.Stagg to W.W.Ashley concerning a dinner of the Romsey Post comrades of the Great War to be held at Broadlands and a statement of accounts listing donations and subscriptions of those attending the dinner, 28-9 Dec 1917.

Papers of **Gladys, Lady Swaythling** (MS383) contain material relating to charitable work and the use of Swaythling House by the Red Cross, refugees and the entertainment of American forces.

On Active Service

Letters, some copies, to Alfred Salinger from his nephew Frederick Elias Mocatta at Gallipoli, dated May and Oct 1915 give an account of warfare during the Dardanelles Campaign. (MS209/1/2)

MS124: **Letters and diary of Private Paul Epstein**: Epstein was of Russian parentage and nationality. He had an orthodox religious upbringing. Epstein was first a member of the Thirty Ninth and Forty Second Battalions, but later the Thirty Eight Battalion of Royal Fusiliers. He war perhaps typical of the Russian conscripts 'the

Schneiders' who did not like the army but lived up to every duty imposed on them. They remained proud to have taken part in the Palestine campaign for the rest of their lives.

The majority of letters were written between January 1918 and October 1919. They are address to members of his family. The letters reflect Epstein's war experiences and opinions on various subjects. There are references to his commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel J.H.Patterson and to some operational events. The letters are arranged chronologically into seven 'chapters': mobilised, on the move, on labour, recalled, rejoined, return to duty and demob. The diary covers the period January-November 1919.

The papers of **James Parkes** contains a file of material (MS60 /1/3) concerning his service as a private in the artists' rifles. This folder includes call up papers; record of service; roll of service of students of Elizabeth College, Guernsey; sketchbook and a newspaper article about the war service of members of Elizabeth College, 1916-18 and 1975.

Louis Alexander Mountbatten, first Marquis of Milford Haven, (formerly **Prince Louis of Battenberg**) was a naval officer and eldest son of Prince Alexander of Hesse. Prince Louis was appointed First Sea Lord in 1912; his selection was later questioned in view of his German birth and the threatening situation which was developing aborad. He show great initiative when, shortly before the outbreak of war Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, was absent from his post. By October 1914, however, he was finding his position increasingly untenable and he resigned. The section MB1/T of the Broadlands Archives contains Prince Louis's naval papers, 1886-1921. Additionally, there is a typescript reminiscence by Prince Louis's son, **Lord Louis Mountbatten of Burma**, recounting his time as First Lieutenant and second in command of **HMS P31** in 1918 (MS350 A3002/2/1/9).

An addition to the papers of the **Parnell family, Barons Congelton** (MS64 A3093) includes papers of the three sons of Henry Parnell, fourth Baron Congleton, all of whom saw service in the First World War. Lieutenant Henry ('Harry') Parnell, fifth Baron Congleton, 1890-1914, was a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards. He died 10 Nov 1914, aged 24, killed in action. His younger brother, John ('Jack') Parnell, later sixth Baron Congleton, 1892-1932, was educated at Royal Naval College, Osborne, Isle of Wight. He gained the rank of Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy (Emergency List) and succeeded to the title of sixth Baron Congleton following his brother's death. And finally, Lieutenant William Parnell, was born in 1894 and died on 25 Sep 1916, aged 22, at Somme, France, killed in action. Will gained the rank of Lieutenant in the service of the Grenadier Guards (Special Reserve) and was decorated with the award of Military Cross.

The collection includes correspondence from Will and Harry while on active. Additionally, there is material concerning memorials and remembrances for the deceased members of the Parnell family including a considerable amount of correspondence sent to Dowager Elizabeth Lady Parnell following the death of her son, Will.

Cecil Chilcott served in the army during World War One. MS89 is a small collection of his personal papers which include official documents for military service and correspondence regarding his commission and status with the Army Service Corps. All material dates from 1916.

Henry D.Myers was a Major in the Royal Fusiliers. His experiences of the First World War are recorded in MS116/8 AJ14, a volume of typescript excerpts from his letters, 1918-19 and MS116/8 AJ253, a typescript account, 'Soldiering of sorts', covering the years 1913-19.

Revd Michael Adler was senior Jewish chaplain to the British Expeditionary Force in France during the First World War. The collection MS125 contains four diaries recording services for regiments in France, as well as describing enemy attacks, bombings and other military events, including courts martial, Jan 1915 - Nov 1918. It also contains correspondence between Revd Michael Adler and Wolfe Bandau, Feb and Apr 1915 and a prayer booklet for the feast of Passover, compiled by Revd Michael Adler for Jewish sailors and soldiers, Mar 1915.

Leonard J.Stein served in the army 1914-20, working for the Palestine Military Administration and on the political staff, EEF, 1918-20. The collection (MS170) includes family correspondence, predominantly to Stein from his parents and his sister Agatha, c.1898- 1919, including letters from Palestine, 1918-19, and while travelling in the Middle East, 1918. Other correspondents include Sir Moses Montefiore, Albert Hyamson, Israel Sieff, S.Landman, Lucien Wolf, S.Goldberg, Abraham Tulin, S.Adler, Robert Henriques and Joseph M.Proskauer, c.1913-65.

There is also correspondence and papers more specifically related to World War I, including medical board and transfer documents, a soldier's handbook for Palestine and Jerusalem, 1917, a prayer book, military orders and two testimonials of service rendered by Stein during the war, a certificate of duty, orders and other papers relating

to service in the Home Guard in World War II. There is a detailed record of Stein's period in Palestine 1918-19 in the form of a diary.

Papers of **M.J.Landa** relating to the 'Jewish regiment' (MS185) includes articles relating to the regiment, 1916-44, some covering technical aspects such as Hebrew words of command as well as reports of the Jewish regiment committee, 1917-21; statement of receipts of payment of the Jewish regiment committee, 1917-20; programmes for performances by supporters of the regiment in aid of the 'comforts fund' and in aid of the Distressed Polish Jews Fund, 1915-18; balance sheet for concerts at the Hackney Empire, 1918, and for the motor ambulance fund, 1918. There is also correspondence and telegrams relating to the formation of the regiment, 1917-18: correspondents include Lord Rothschild, Leopold Frank, Lord Rosebery, Rose Hertz, E.M.Adler and A.J.Rosenberg.

The papers of **Fred Samuel** (MS336) depict in grim detail life at the front line. In the main, the collection contains correspondence written on an almost daily basis to his fiancée and, subsequently, wife, Dorothy, from 1915-18, when Fred was part of the British Expeditionary Force in France.

The papers of **Dr C.Suffern** include some manuscript and typescript reminiscences (MS205 A523/1/1): 'The log of a loblolly boy at sea, 1915-17'. While Suffern's principle interest was in natural history, he trained as a doctor and served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a surgeon probationer.

The naval service of **Frank O'Brien Adams**, including during the Great War, is detailed in his typescript reminiscences (MS70 A325)

A record of **Dr Maurice Ettinghausen's** internment in Spandau, Germany, c.1915-16 survives in the form of three postcards (MS217/13) he sent to his wife, Mrs Maurice Ettinghausen.

The Special Collections also hold a copy of the postcard King George V sent to the British soldiers in 1914 (MS371 A3042/2/5/5)

A file (MS217/4) of papers gives details of **Jewish soldiers in the German army**. It includes issues of *Judische Volkszeitung* (Breslau), 1914; *Adressenliste des K.J.V.*, of Jewish soldiers in German service, Feb 1918; copies of *Der R.J.F. Schild: Zeitschrift des Reichsbundes Jüdischer Frontsoldaten*, with lists of Jewish soldiers killed while serving in the German army during World War I, 1928-9.

A more **visual record** of the Great War can be found in MS187 AJ352. This collection of black and white studio photographs and assorted papers relating to Anglo-Jewry includes (2/1) soldiers in World War I uniform and (2/2) Sketch of a World War I trench, 1918. Item MS224/13 is a photograph of a man, most likely connected to Hartley University College, in First World War military uniform. There are photographs of Jewish servicemen and others at Knockaloe Camp in 1915 in file MS217/7. The Montse Stanley Collection contains postcards relating to knitting and war and knitting for soldiers (MS331/2/1/14/201-50) as well as images of the war blind men of St. Dunstan's Lodge (MS331/2/1/5/167-87). A printing block depicts German soldiers in the trenches going "over the top" (MS287 A991). Additionally, a photograph album provides black and white photographs of the expeditionary force to Egypt, 1918-19 as well as loose signed photographs of members of the force. (MS116/115).

Politics and negotiations

The papers of **Sir Ernest Joseph Cassel** (MS62 MB1/X) slightly pre-date the First World War but include material detailing negotiations with Germany concerning naval armaments. Most of the negotiations were between Cassel and Albert Ballin, the head of the Hamburg-Amerika Steamship Company. As grandfather of Edwina Mountbatten, Cassel's papers form part of the Broadlands archives. He was a merchant banker and financier.

William Wilfred Ashley, Baron Mount Temple, (father of Edwina Mountbatten), was Conservative MP for Blackpool, until 1918, when he became member for the Fylde division of Lancashire. He completed military service in the First World War, commanding the 20th battalion of the King's Liverpool regiment in 1914 in the rank of lieutenant-colonel. He returned from France in 1915 to become parliamentary private secretary to the financial secretary of the War Office.

His papers include political and private correspondence, 1898-1938, plus material relating to the Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union, Comrades of the Great War and the Anglo-German Fellowship (MS62 BR70-93; MB1/W). In particular, there are items such as BR80/35-6: W.G.Max Muller's confidential reports from the Foreign Office on the economic situation in Germany and Austro-Hungary, 1917-8 and BR81/4, papers and

correspondence relating to the Comrades of the Great War (later the British Legion), 1917-32 of which Ashley was chairman of the executive committee.

Recovery and remembrance

The archive of **Revd Joseph Herman Hertz**, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, 1913-46, (MS175) contains a fair amount of correspondence and papers relating to the First World War, including: MS175/141/2: Correspondence, including material about the British and Australian forces Jewish chaplains, the Jewish War Services Commission and the Australian YMCA, 1915-18; MS175/137/3: Jewish War Services Commission: correspondence, reports, accounts, 1918-45; MS175/7/4: Jews' College and Jewish War Memorial: correspondence, bulletin, committee papers, draft constitution, printed report of the sub-committee on education of the Council of Manchester and Salford Jews, c.1920-2; MS175/52/2,77/6, 86/2, 77/8, 38/3, 116/4, 87/3 and 135: papers concerning the Jewish War Memorial/Jewish Memorial Council, 1919-4; and MS175/141/4 and 30/8: Correspondence with the British military forces, postcards from the front line, pamphlets, leaflets, articles, newspaper cuttings, notebook, correspondence with Sir Isidore and Gertrude, Lady Spielmann and list of members of Sir Isidore and Lady Spielmann's families killed during World War I

The papers **Waley Cohen family** (MS363) particularly Robert, contain several files concerning World War I. Robert was on the board of directors of Shell and his papers include notes on petrol supply in the First World War, 1918-19 (e.g. MS363/1/3/12). He was also involved in several Jewish forces welfare and memorial organisations, including the Jewish War Memorial; see files MS363/1/3/86 onwards. Further papers concerning the years 1914-18 can be found in files MS363/1/1/10 and MS363/1/3/119-122

An additional file of papers relating to the **Jewish War Memorial** (MS116/87) contains a letter from R.Waley-Cohen, F.C.Stern and Lord Swaythling about the Jewish War Memorial, with a reply, 5 and 6 May 1919; 'An exposition of the aims of the Jewish War Memorial', 1920; memoranda and articles of the association of the council of the Jewish War Memorial; and 'A tribute to Sir Robert Waley-Cohen, 1877-1952' produced by the Jewish Memorial Council. A report of the meeting of the **Million Shilling Fund** (for a Jewish War Memorial), Oct 1920, is present in the papers of the Union of Jewish Women (MS129 AJ26/C/6/1).

Peace celebrations were held in Broadlands Park on 19 July 1919 and a programme for the event can be found in MS62/BR 136/1. There are also papers (MS62/BR 136/13-4) concerning **Romsey War Memorials**, 1920-1 as well as a programme for the celebrations organised by the National Association of Discharged Sailor and Soldiers, 6 May 1921 (MS62/BR 136/15)

A **memorial address** and other papers can be found in file MS116/93, namely: orders of service for memorial service and for an intercession service plus a copy of an address given during the unveiling of a memorial, 1915-17. The Special Collections also holds a scrapbook containing war **poetry**, 1914-17 (MS331/1/57).