

19 Jan 1916

1916.

- Jan. 19th I joined H.M.C.S. " Rainbow ".
- Feb. 2nd Worst snowstorm in many years visits Victoria and vicinity all traffic stopped; took me 3 hours to walk from home to N.Y.D., consequently 3½ hours over leave. Many of our Ships company were unable to get aboard - about 2,000 soldiers were employed in cleaning the car tracks - car service suspended for nearly a week. From Victoria to Esquimalt 27 inches snow fell in 24 hours; at one period of spell 5 feet of snow lay on ground and some snow drifts were from 10 to 12 feet deep.
- " 3rd C.G.S. " Galiano " sent to Victoria for provisions also liberty men of the 2nd Feb. " Galiano " made several trip during spell also " Restless ".
- " 8th 8.15 a.m. left for Vancouver - 4 p.m. arrived Vancouver. Went ashore, met Dad and spent a pleasant evening, stayed at his place for the night.
- " 9th Returned aboard 8 a.m. 19 Naval Ratings arrive aboard at 4.30 p.m. and 19 R.F.R. left for England 10 p.m.
- " 10th 8 a.m. left Vancouver. 3 p.m. arrived Esquimalt.
- " 11th Coaled ship off collier " Gwladys " in harbour, finished 2.30 p.m.
- 2 13th Took on 3 cases containing gold bullion. 12.10 p.m. proceeded in company " Galiano " under sealed orders. 1.40 p.m. passed U.S.S. "New Orleans". Patrolled off Flattery during night, exchanging signals with Japanese Cruiser. Heavy swell off Flattery.
- " 14th 10 a.m. anchored in Barclay Sound - " Galiano " anchored some distance off. 1.50 P.M. weighed anchor and proceeded with " Galiano " 4.15 p.m. arrived at Uchucklesit, went alongside Jap. Cruiser " Tokiwa " and took aboard from said " Tokiwa " a consignment of gold bullion.
- " 15th 7.35 a.m. Shoved off from " Tokiwa " and went alongside Jap. Cruiser " Chitose " and took aboard another consignment of gold bullion. (Note. both consignments total 949 cases, containing 5 bars each box, weighing about 200 lbs, total about 98 tons gold, estimated \$75,000,000) 11.30 a.m. left " Chitose " and proceeded to Vancouver full speed.
- " 16th 2.30 a.m. arrived Vancouver, went alongside jetty (C.P.R.) unloaded gold. 8.10 a.m. proceeded to Esquimalt, 2.15 p.m. arrived Esquimalt.
- " 17th 8.20 a.m. " Tokiwa " and " Chitose " arrive.
- " 22nd Collier " South Pacific " entered harbour. 1 p.m. went alongside collier - coaled ship, I go on leave, coaling finished 8.50 p.m.
- " 24th We proceed to sea 10.15 a.m. bound Southward.
- " 28th Sighted collier " South Pacific " , signalled her asking her when she would arrive - answer - Early morning March 2nd, Magdalena Bay, Mexico.

1916.

- Mch. 1st 3.40 p.m. arrived Magdalena Bay. Mex. Large Cod caught over ships side weighed 168 lbs. Several sharks around. No bathing allowed.
- " 2nd Our collier " South Pacific " arrived. We commenced coaling ship.
- " 3rd At Magdalena Bay.
- " 4th Went ashore. Posted letter to Lillie; brought off shells from natives.
- " 5th 8.20 a.m. left Magdalena Bay for Manzanillo, Mex. collier astern.
- " 6th Crossing Gulf of California.
- " 7th 3.40 p.m. arrived Manzanillo. Captain went ashore interviewe Consul.
- " 8th 5.10 p.m. Left Manzanillo for Socorro Island. Picked up collier North of Manzanillo in Bay.
- " 9th At Sea; ran into shoal of Porpoises.
- " 10th 4.50 p.m. arrived Socorro Island; Officers killed sheep on Island.
- " 11th Various kinds of fish caught, some all colours of the rainbow. Southern ~~I~~ seen, also many whales and sharks. 5.30 p.m. left Socorro Island for Salina Cruz.
- " 12th At Sea. Temperature 84 to 96 W.T.O.
- " 13th At Sea. Gunlayers tests carried out on 4-7" and 12 pdrs. good hits. Collier towed target.
- " 14th)
15th) At Sea
- " 16th 7.30 a.m. Anchored off Salina Cruz. Could not enter harbour on account of heavy gale. Mexican tug boat came alongside. Captain went ashore, interviewed Consul and ordered provisio
- " 17th Mexican tug boat brought off provisions 6.30 p.m. Strong gale still blowing. Left Salina Cruz steaming S.E. bound for Amapala, Fonseca Bay, Honduras, Central America.
- " 18th)
19th) At Sea
- " 20th Anchored off Amapala at 7.30 p.m. - collier alongside. Temperature 95. Start coaling at 4.45 p.m.
- " 21st Left Amapala 10 a.m. steaming South, bound for Corinto, Nicaragua, C.A. Anchored off Corinto 4.30 p.m. Tem. 90.
- " 22nd Captain, Doctor and Paymaster go ashore. Fresh meat and ice sent on board. 7.15 p.m. left Corinto steaming S.E. bound for San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua.
- " 23rd 9.15 a.m. arrived San Juan Del Sur. Temp. 92. C.P.O's go ashore afternoon. Natives bring off coconuts. 6 p.m. C.P.O's come aboard. Temp ashore 120.
- " 24th 6.45 a.m. left San Juan Del Sur steaming S.E. 9.30 a.m. arrived at a Bay in Costa Rica just over border line of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Port Elena. Many Pelicans seen in bay. Temp. at noon 92 in W.T.O.

- March 24th. 8 p.m. left Bay bound for Punta Arenas. Left collier behind at Port Elena.
- " 25th 12.30 p.m. arrived Punta Arenas, Costa Rica. British Consul came aboard. 2 p.m. Ship saluted Costa Rica ensign with 21 guns. Temperature 92 in W.T.O. Wrote letters to Lillie & Mother & Walter. 11 p.m. we received message from Jamaica
- " 26th British Consul slept aboard last night. Natives bring eggs, oranges and bananas aboard also fresh meat. Our bread and pastry allowance cut down to economise flour. 1 p.m. left Punta Arenas steaming N.W. Temperature 92.
- " 27th Tried to get Jamaica during middle watch. N.D. 7.30 arrived at Port Elena. 8 a.m. tied up alongside collier and prepared to coal ship. 12.45 p.m. finished coaling ship. 1 p.m. left Port Elena and put to sea at full speed 15 to 16 knots. 2.45 p.m. arrived San Juan Del Sur. Messenger sent ashore to cable telegram (strong wind blowing) 4 p.m. left San Juan Del Sur and put to sea at full speed 15 to 16 knots, bound for place 600 miles N. probably Salina Cruz. Course N.W. Temperature 88.
- " 28th At Sea steaming N.W. 15 - 16 knots bound for Salina Cruz. Mex.
- " 29th Anchored off Salina Cruz outside 3 mile limit 11.45 a.m. Sail boat brings off press from shore. 6.30 p.m. sighted two funnel cruiser same type as " Rainbow ", probably U.S.S. " Raleigh " Distance hull half down.
- " 30th Left Salina Cruz 1 p.m.
- " 31st At Sea bound for Acapulco.
- April 1st 9.30 a.m. off Acapulco, Mexico, course N.W. 10 a.m. we turn about and steam S.E. 10.30 a.m. steamer sighted, one funnel, no wireless, steaming N., vessel flying American ensign. We change course and head her off. 10.55 a.m. We come within semaphore range of vessel, she hoists K.M.A.J. Commercial Code, her name appears to be " Washtenaw ", of San Francisco. We do not stop her but turn about again steaming S.E. 3 p.m. we turn about again as collier is sighted and proceed to Acapulco. 5.30 p.m. arrive Acapulco, Mexico. 6 p.m. collier comes alongside and we prepare to coal ship.
- " 2nd 5.30 a.m. we commence coaling. 7.30 a.m. natives come aboard with many kinds of fruit including bananas, plantains oranges, limes, melons, pineapples, coconuts and tomatoes. Also fancywork, pearl shells, flowers, parrots, parrakeets, skins, cigars etc. 11 a.m. finished coaling. 12 noon natives come aboard again. 1.30 clean up Ship and prepare for sea. 1.45 p.m. collier shoves off. 2 p.m. weigh anchor and leave Acapulco bound for Manzanillo, Mexico.
- " 3rd At Sea. 6.25 p.m. arrive Manzanillo, Mexico. Two Mexican gunboats in harbour. During middle watch we pick up Koko Head Wireless Stn. Hawaii. distance 3120 miles.
- " 4th 7 a.m. collier arrives and anchors. 12.30 p.m. collier comes alongside for supply of fresh water from our tanks. 1 p.m. Mexican steamer " Bonita " from Guaymas arrives. 5.15 p.m. collier shoves off and anchors. 7.30 p.m. we weigh anchor and leave Manzanillo, steaming N.W. by W $\frac{1}{2}$ W.

1916.

- April 8 2.45 p.m. Anchored off Guadalupe Island, Captain goes ashore 6. p.m. weighed anchor and left Guadalupe; Sent message to Estevan during middle watch. distance 1300 miles.
- " 9 Midnight 300 miles N.W. of Guadalupe; we turn about and steam S. E. , bound for Manzanillo, Mexico; we work with VAE and VAK during night watches.
- " 11 Guadalupe abeam 6 a.m. Our speed 8.5 knots.
- " 13 Arrive Magdalena Bay 10.30 a.m. but did not drop anchor. We leave Magdalena Bay and continue S.E. to Mazatlan. 7 p.m. we pass American ships " Nero " and "Glacier"
- " 14 Cape Sn.Lucas abeam 6 a.m. Crossing Gulf of California we encounter heavy weather.
- " 15 8.50 a.m. arrived and anchored at Mazatlan, Mexico. Our collier in harbour. One American ship and 3 Mexican Ships also in harbour. Natives come aboard at noon. At 11 a.m. we fire 21 gun salute which is returned by Mexican shore battery. British Consul comes aboard; we take on fresh water from 2 water scows for our boilers.
- " 15 Sent off letter to Lillie. 10 p.m. provisions come aboard.
- " 16 7 a.m. 4000 lbs of flour comes aboard. 10.20 a.m. left Mazatlan, Mexico bound for La Paz, Mexico. Collier astern.
- " 17 Steaming up Gulf of California. 2 prize crews told off, rifles and ammunition served out, men get their kits together During forenoon our steam gear is disconnected and hand gear is used for evolution. 7.30 p.m. anchored in Amortajada Bay, San Joseph Island, Gulf of California. 8 p.m. collier comes alongside, we prepare ship for coaling. Captain gives wireless staff orders to install wireless set on collier.
- " 18 5 a.m. we start coaling ship. 7 a.m. wireless staff take out emergency set and commence installing it on collier. 2 wire T aerial put up between masts. Table built in Captain's reading room, accumulators set beneath table, coil and spare Marconi Condenser set on deck. Plain aerial hook up not used, but loose coupled circuit is used, giving about 550 metres. P.O. Irvine is sent aboard to operate set at sea. 5.30 p.m. Tests completed, wireless installation finished on collier. 7.45 p.m. coaling finished, 450 tons aboard. 8.20 p.m. collier shoves off. 9.p.m. we leave Amortajada Bay and proceed at 15 knots up Gulf. 9.30 p.m. overtake collier. 10 p.m. exchanging signals with collier which are successful. strength R.7.
- " 19 MY 21st BIRTHDAY "Oh You Kid"
8 a.m. exchanged signals with collier, distance 70 miles, signals successful, strength R.5. 7.15 p.m. we darken ship. Lookout kept at masthead night and day.
- " 20 Cruising off Guaymas, Mexico. 7 p.m. darken ship.
- " 21 Do. (Sunday Routine) 2 p.m. closed in on collier and made semaphore signals, also worked her with buzzer set. 2.30 p.m. finished with collier and headed for Guaymas. 6.45 p.m. arrived and anchored at Guaymas. U.S.S. " Denver " in harbour.

- April 22 8 a.m. we salute Mexican ensign with 21 guns.
 9 a.m. American officer from U.S.S. " Denver " comes aboard. 9.30 a.m. Captain Rose goes aboard U.S.S. " Denver."
 10.15 a.m. left Guaymas. 7 p.m. darken ship.
- " 23 Easter Sunday 9 a.m. Three masted schooner sighted, she appears to be vessel we are after. We turn about to meet her; our two foremast 12 pdrs are got ready in case she wont heave to. She flies American ensign. 10.30 name of vessel is " Oregon " of San Francisco. Prize crew is sent aboard to take charge and bring her alongside. She is thoroughly searched and considered suspicious - put under arms and prepared for towing. 4.30 p.m. we get under way with vessel in tow, bound for La Paz, Mexico. The vessel is schooner rigged, three masts and twin screw gasoline engines. full general cargo. She is fitted with a 3 K.W. Marconi Wireless set, 8 wire inverted L aerial. Collier goes on ~~km~~ to Guaymas. 5 p.m. I am told to get my gear ready and be prepared to go aboard prize vessel tomorrow for wireless duties.
- " 24 Our time one hour ahead of Victoria. Collier still at Guaymas. 8.30 a.m. we receive code message from collier 9.12 a.m. we sent code message to collier. 2.30 p.m. I am sent aboard schooner " Oregon " to take charge of wireless installation. 4.30 p.m. we heave to; I manage to get apparatus into working order. 6 p.m. exchanged signals with " Rainbow ". His signals about R.7. mine about R.8. distance 60 miles. " Rainbow " proceeds into La Paz with Mexican crew from " Oregon ", discharges crew there. Two members of crew appear to be Germans, so are retained aboard " Rainbow " to be sent to Esquimalt We get under way again, picked up U.S.S. " Yorktown " and U.S.S.T.B. " Whipple " 10 p.m. we heave to again and drift all night off shore.
- " 25 5 a.m. we get under way, I give " Rainbow " call.
 6 a.m. Do.
 8 a.m. Do.
 8.12 a.m. NQXwkg ZAE
 9.5 a.m. Called " Rainbow " and asked for time he gives me time and R.8. 10 a.m. " Rainbow " sighted. 10.45 we go alongside. I make my report and rejoin " Rainbow " 1 p.m. " Oregon " shoves off, collier sighted. 1.5 p.m. " Rainbow " gets under way. 2.15 p.m. we go alongside collier and prepare ship for coaling. 2.30 start coaling. 8.30 p.m. finish coaling, 9 p.m. collier shoves off bound for Esquimalt with " Oregon " in tow. Two Germans sent along with " Oregon ". P.O. Irvine to go aboard " Oregon " to operate wireless gear. Ships company on quarter rations. Butter and sugar run out, practically everything else in tins.
- " 26 2.25 p.m. left Amortajada Bay . communicated with " Oregon several times during the day.
- " 27 Entrance to Gulf of California, 2 p.m. 3 masted schooner sighted, one funnel; we clear away guns and increase speed On approaching vessel she is found to be the American gunboat " Annapolis " we change course and carry on cruising. 10.15 darken ship as a vessel is sighted, searchlight is used and two other vessels are seen, apparently fishing boats. 10.50 ships dynamo No. 1. breaks down, had to use candle in W.T.O. Communicated with " Oregon " several times. Received time signal from NPG. Our time one hour ahead of VAK. 11.5 p.m. discovered that dynamo No. 1. burnt out field coils. Started up No. 3 upper deck dynamo.

1916.

- April 28 Patrolling off San Blas, Mexico. 7 p.m. darken ship, 10.45 p.m. picked up Bermuda Wireless Stn. working British vessel in Atlantic. Worked " Oregon " several times.
- " 29 1.34 a.m. we intercept following message from U.S.S. " Denve to Point Arguello. State U.S.S. 2 " Annapolis "
" Govt. Secretary, State Washington. April 28, Passenger Golden Gate from La Paz, Mexico. Advise Sunday April 23 British Cruiser " Rainbow " captured American Schooner " Oregon " fifteen miles from Guaymas, hauling down American flag. No further details. " Alger, Mazatlan. 10.30 a.m. two masted schooner in full sail sighted, heading North. 7 p.m. darken ship and patrol off San Blas.
- Sent mail by collier to Lillie and Dad and letter by Irvine to Wallace on 25th April.
- " 30 Work wireless with " Oregon " during middle watch-distance about 650 miles. 8.45 a.m. Ship's dog falls overboard, ship stopped and dingy lowered to pick him up. Water alive with large sharks, sword-fish, blanket-fish and porpoise. 9.30 a.m. we heave to. 5.30 p.m. two masted vessel sighted 7 p.m. darken ship and get under way, we continue patrolling off San Blas all night.
- May 1 7 a.m. we heave to. during forenoon maxim guns crew carry out Maxim gun firing. 1.45 p.m. we get into position again for Maxim gun firing. 3.30 p.m. we finish Maxim firing. 7 p.m. darken ship and patrol same as previous night.
- " 2 5.45 a.m. three masted schooner sighted. She appears to be vessel we are after, we proceed at full ~~max~~ speed to stop her. Vessel flying Mexican flag. As we close on her she ~~has~~ heads off towards land and tries to get within the three mile limit, so we fire gun at her which brings her to. Vessel's name " Leonor ". Prize crew sent away in Cutter to board her. Rifles and ammunition served out. Provisions and cooking utensils sent aboard prize ship. 10.30 we proceed with " Leonor " in tow. Could not get vessel alongside owing to heavy swell. 5.30 p.m. weather calmer - " Leonor " brought alongside. We fill her water tanks and give her coal for cooking purposes. 6 p.m. S.S. " Peru " passes on Starboard beam. 8 p.m. we proceed to Mazatlan with " Leonor " in tow.
- " 3 We drop anchor, " Leonor " brought alongside at 11.30 a.m. we are just outside 3 mile limit off Mazatlan, Mexico. 4.30 p.m. passengers and crew of " Leonor " sent ashore by tug to Mazatlan. Natives come aboard with birds, fruit &c. 5.30 p.m. we get under way with " Leonor " in tow (her Captain and 1st Mate are detained) bound for Esquimalt.
- " 4 Crossing Gulf of California. 2.15 p.m. Cape San Lucas abeam
- " 5 We run into heavy weather.
- " 6 & 7 Bad weather continues - strong wind and big seas. We work wireless with " Oregon "
- " 8 & 9 We work wireless with " Estavan " B.C. but his signals are very faint. We expected to reach Guadaloupe by noon, but bad weather and the towing of the " Leonor " hold us back. Average of 4 knots made since May 5th. Arrived Guadaloupe 10.30 p.m. Collier and " Oregon " at anchor. Owing to rough weather we take hour and half to come to anchorage.
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