

WTT/x003
No

2/1/3

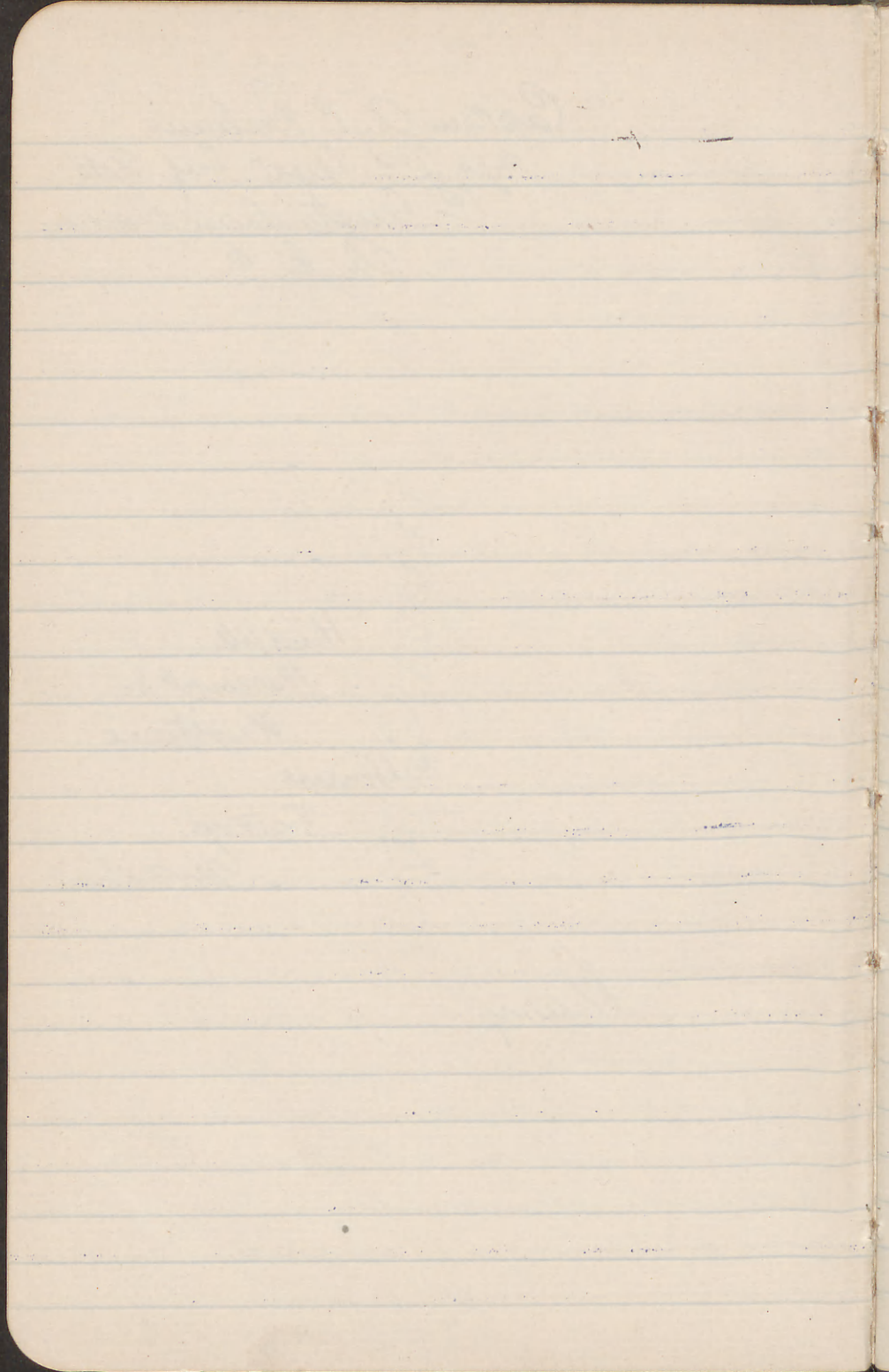
.....KAI...OLESSON.....

1963.0024.0003

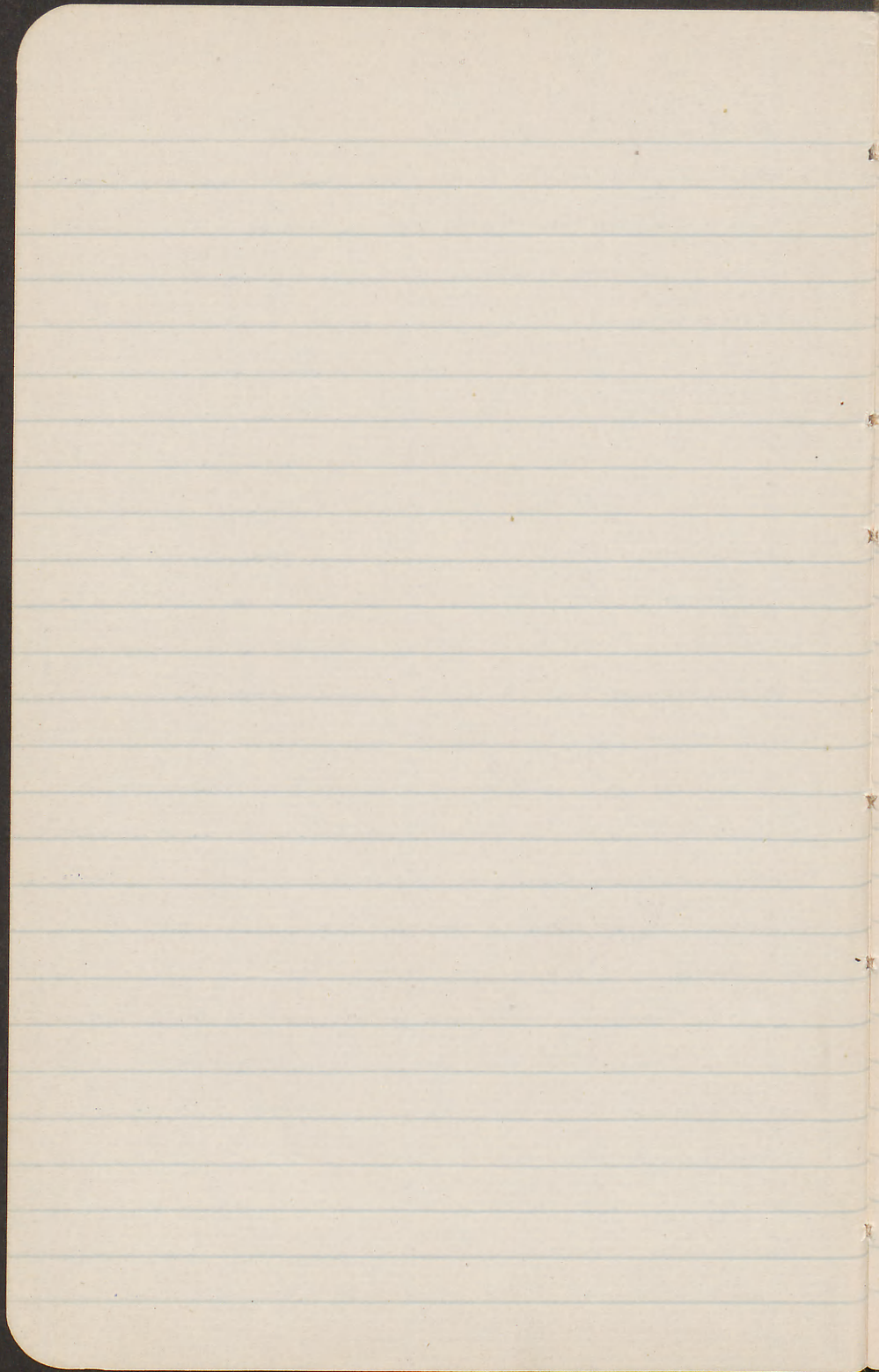
Captain A. P. Werhaur.
Hqrs 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde.
1st Australian Division
B. G. F.

Hudfell.
Harcourt St
Hawthorne
Melbourne
Victoria
Australia.

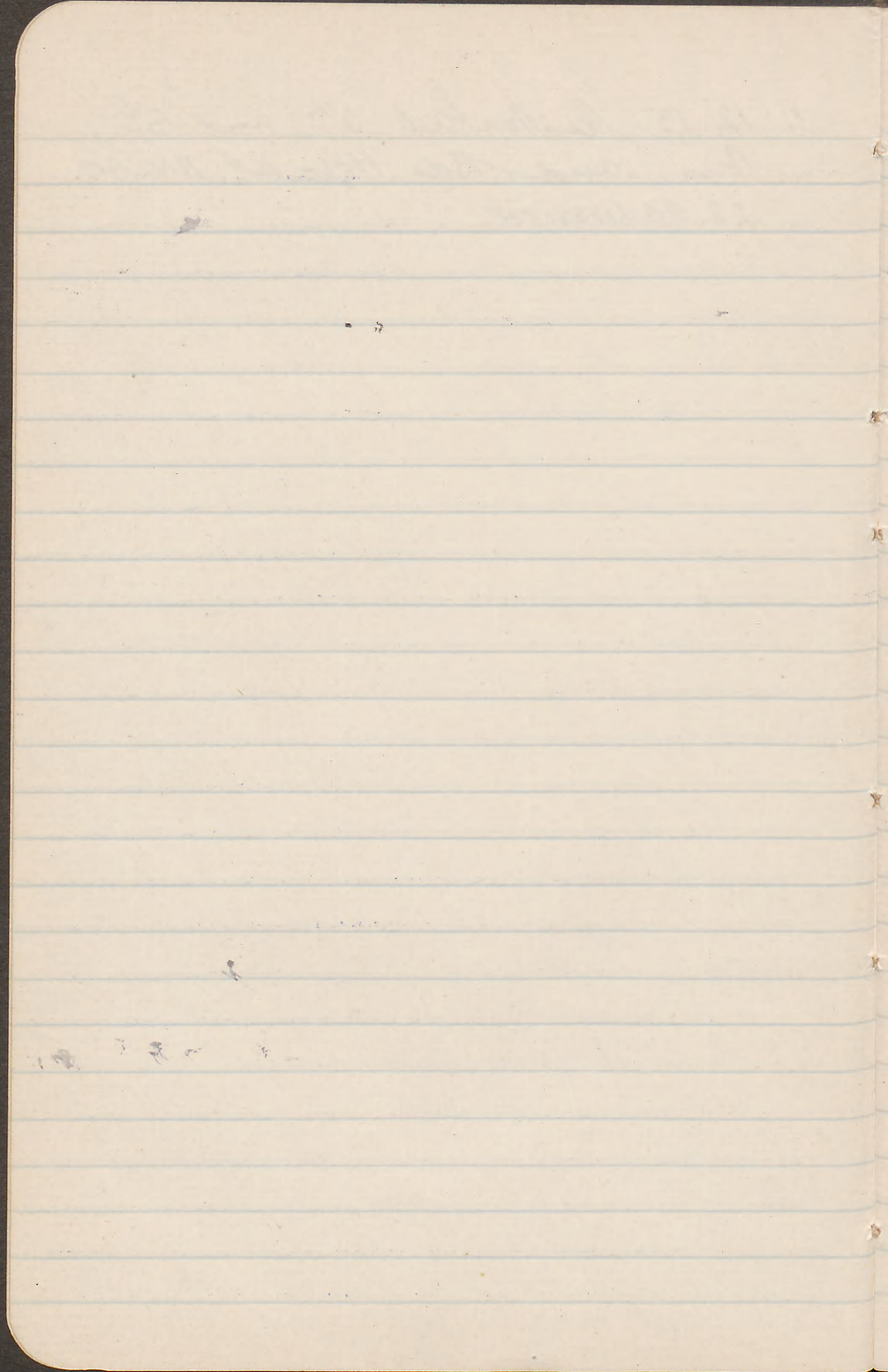
Diary.



End of 1915



11. 12. 15. Embarked 5th and 6th
Bns and Bde Hqs at ANZAC.
J. S. ABBASSIEH.



12/12/15. Arrived Madras Harbour
LEMONDS. Captain LAING. (J.S.O).
Came aboard and announced
the evacuation of ANZAC and SODA
in a loud voice.

31/12/15. New Year Concert No 3. A.G. Hospital.
Sisters. Curnow, Bentley, Duddy and
Durand. Supper and dancing.
Came home kissed the infant with
Eric Permyzel and found that
the General and B.M. had also
been over to the hospital. Drank
a bottle of wine and ate a whole lot
of mixed biscuits and chocolate.

Played bridge at camp with
Col. STORDEE A.D.N.S. Capt PARKER.
P.A.A.G. and. Lt. T. HASTIE. A.D.C.

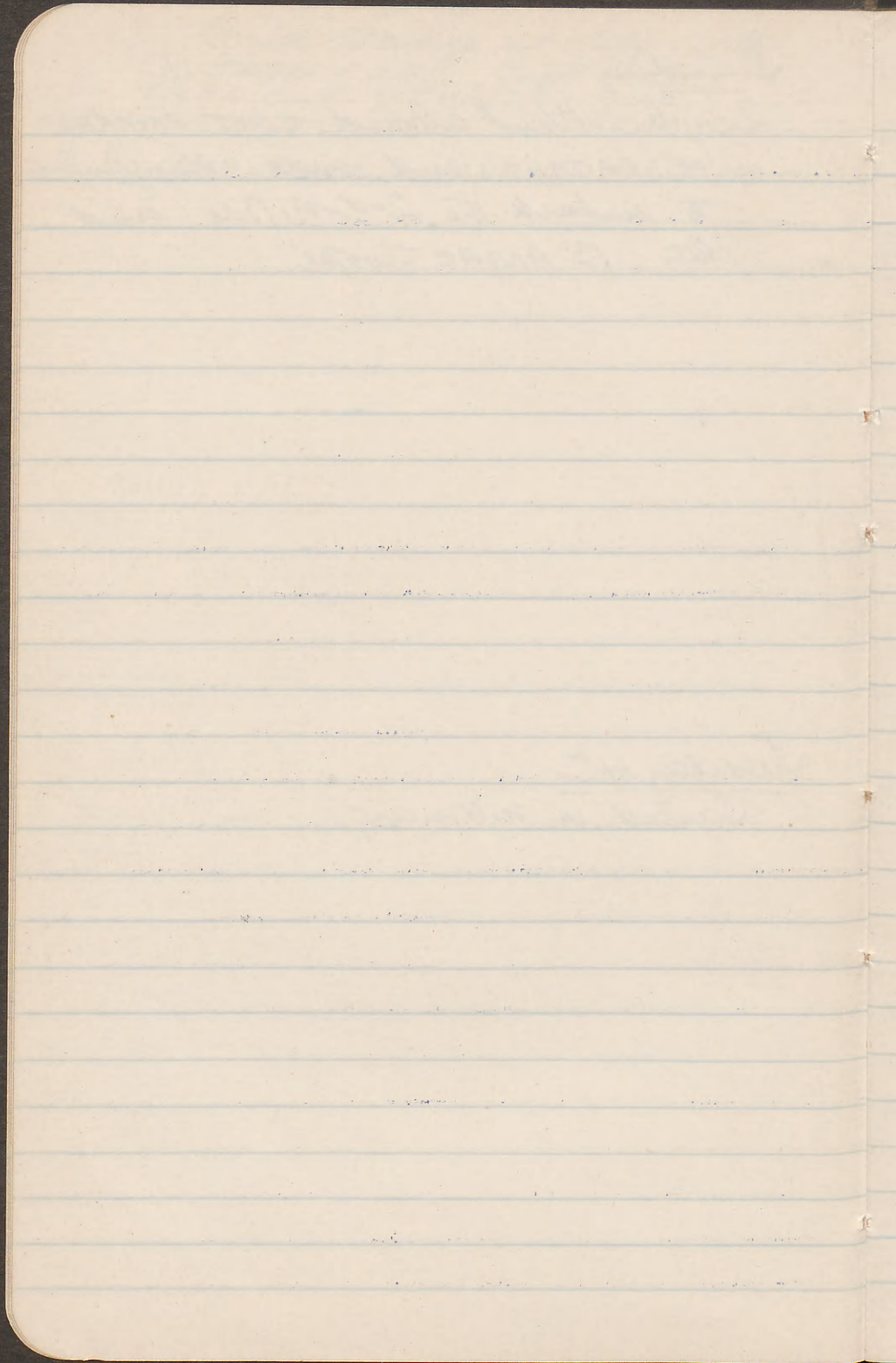
1/1/16 Went aboard S.S. ARASON
with Lieut. T. HASTIE. of Div. HQ.

Sunday

2.11.16. Went aboard H.M.T. EMPRESS
OF BRITAIN and made arrangements
to embark the 2nd A. Bde and
other 12 ANZAC troops.

Tuesday 4th

Sailed in morning

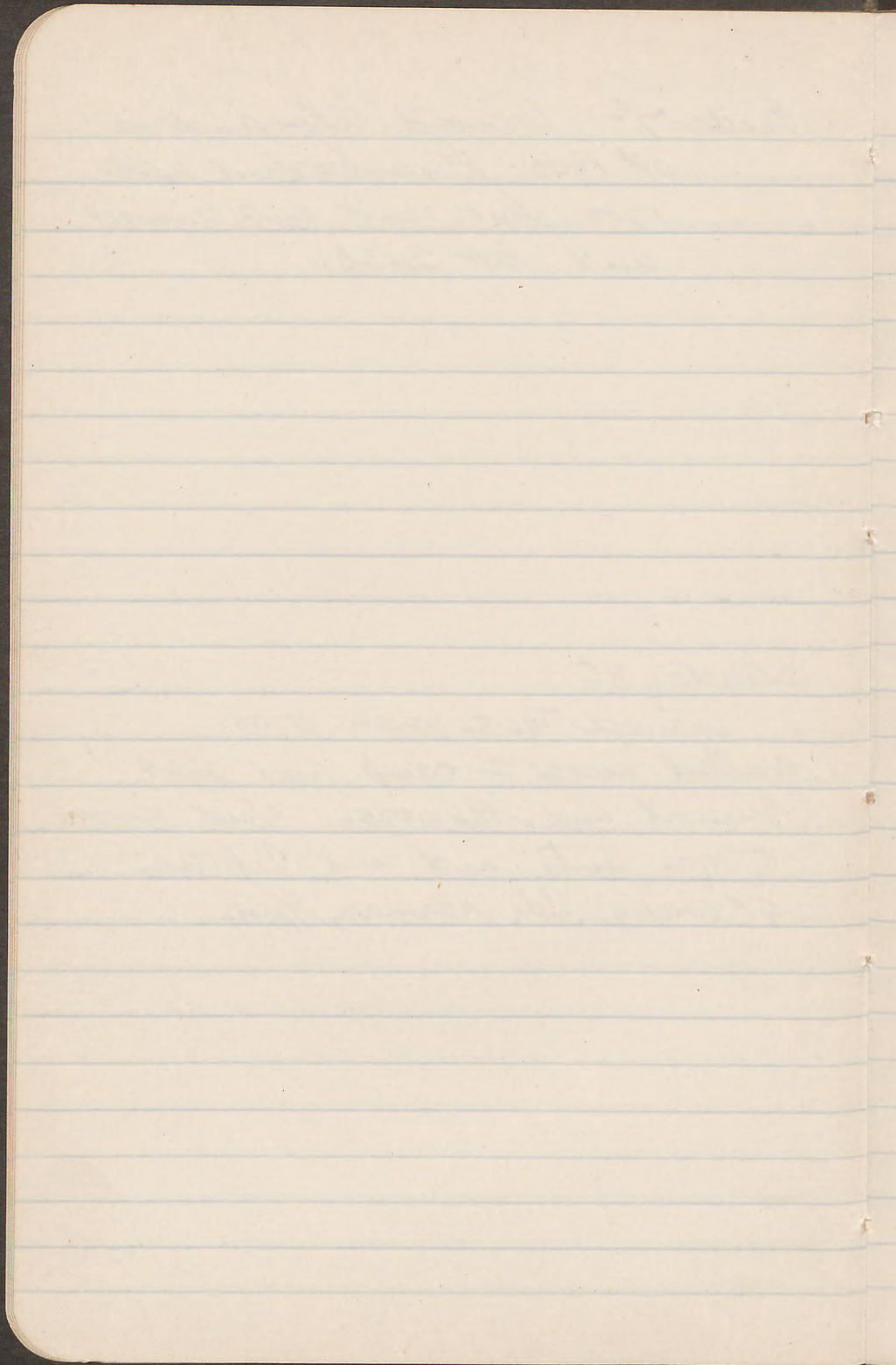


Friday 7th Arrived Alexandria
at 1000. Disembarked after
1700. Last unit entrained
and left 2430.

Saturday 8th

Arrived TEL-EL-KEBIR. 0700.

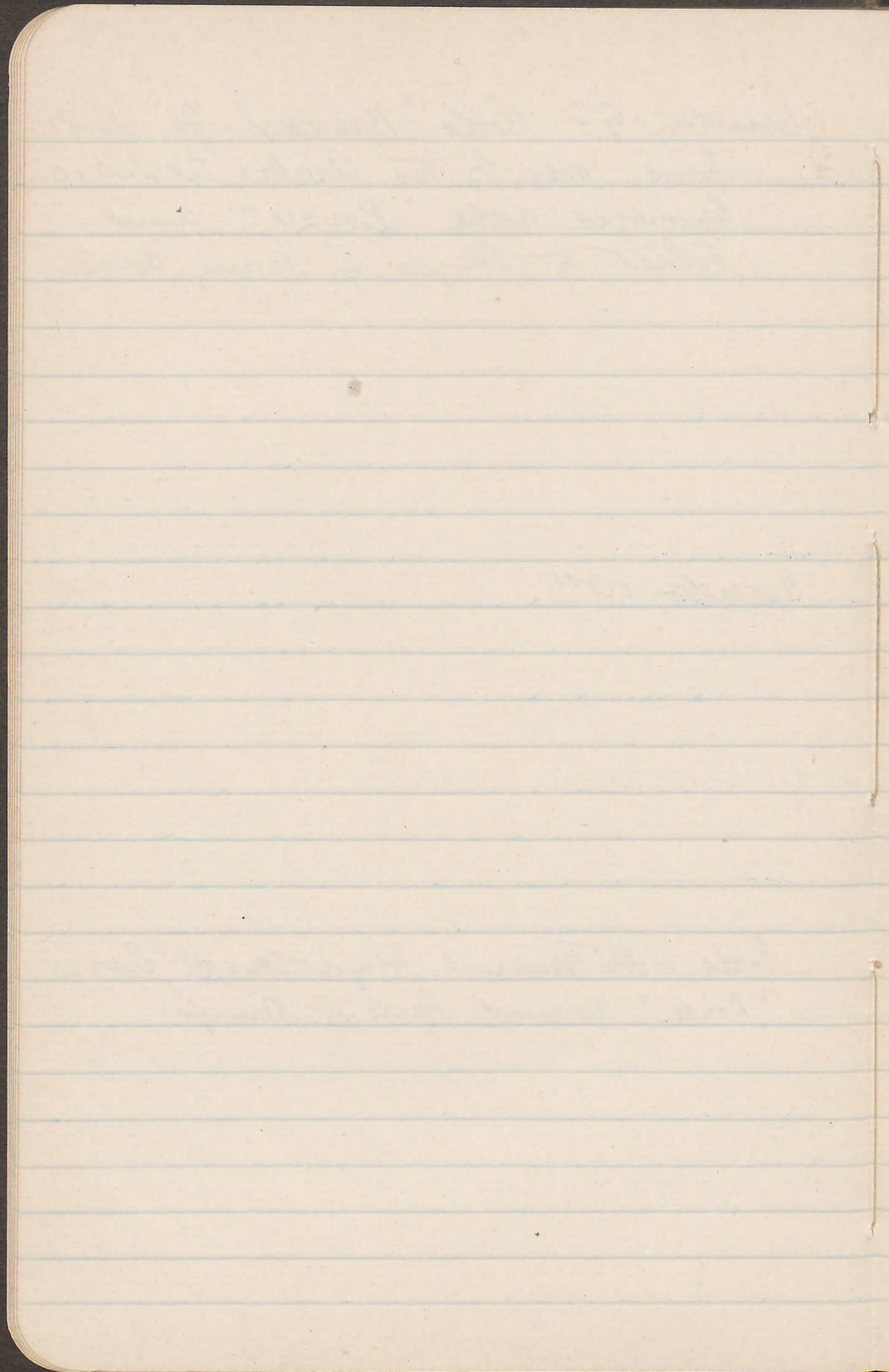
Walked across to camp and met
General and PERMEZEL. Went across
to Hqs tents and met Captain
G. F. FINLAY. Bde Veterinary Officer.



Sunday 9th Rode "BAWLEY" for first
time over by the Arab's trenches.
Permezel rode "PUNCH" and
bolted & played in many circles.

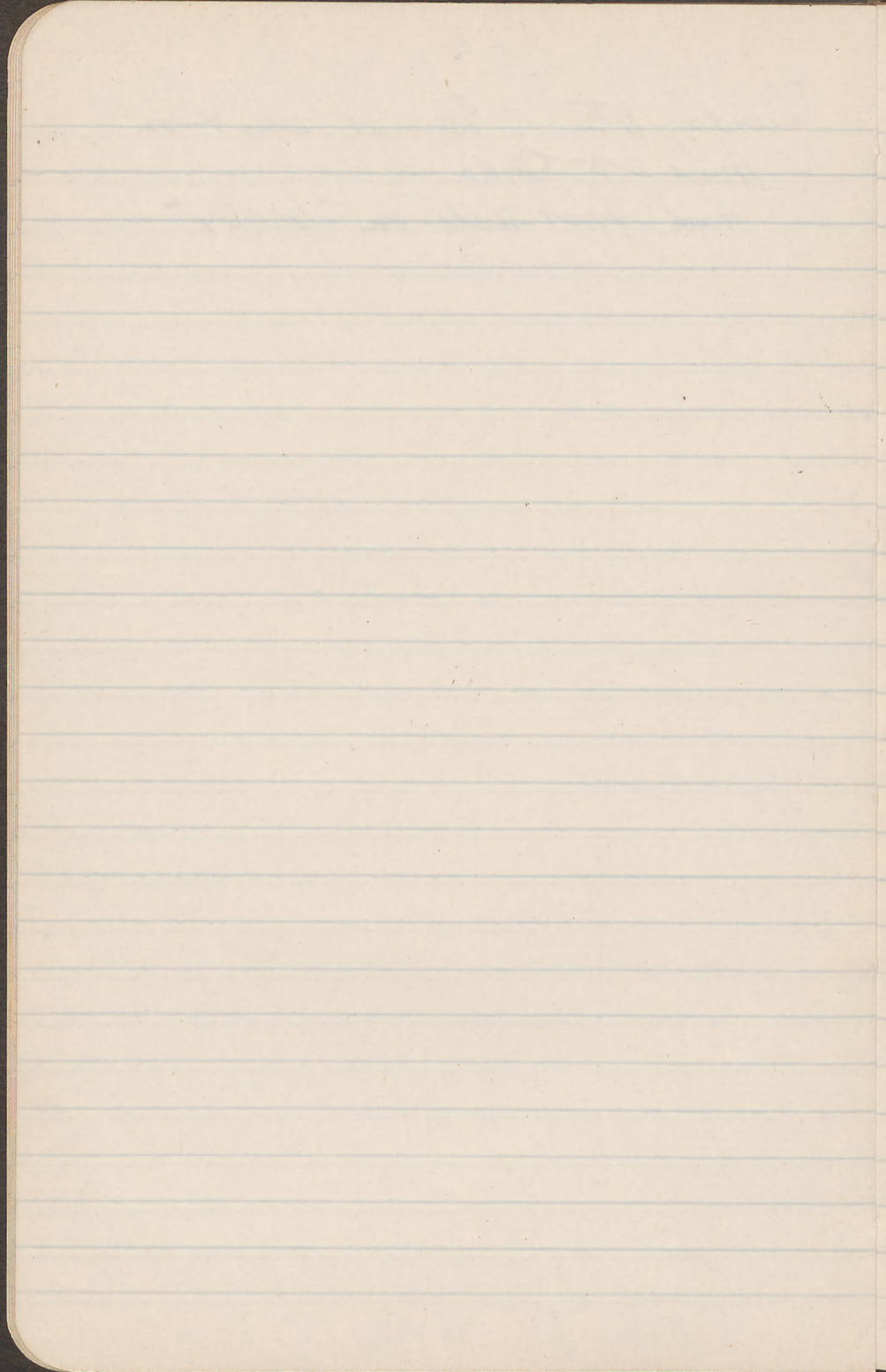
Monday 10th.

Rode with General. Major SAUER's horse
"Dick" round back of camp.



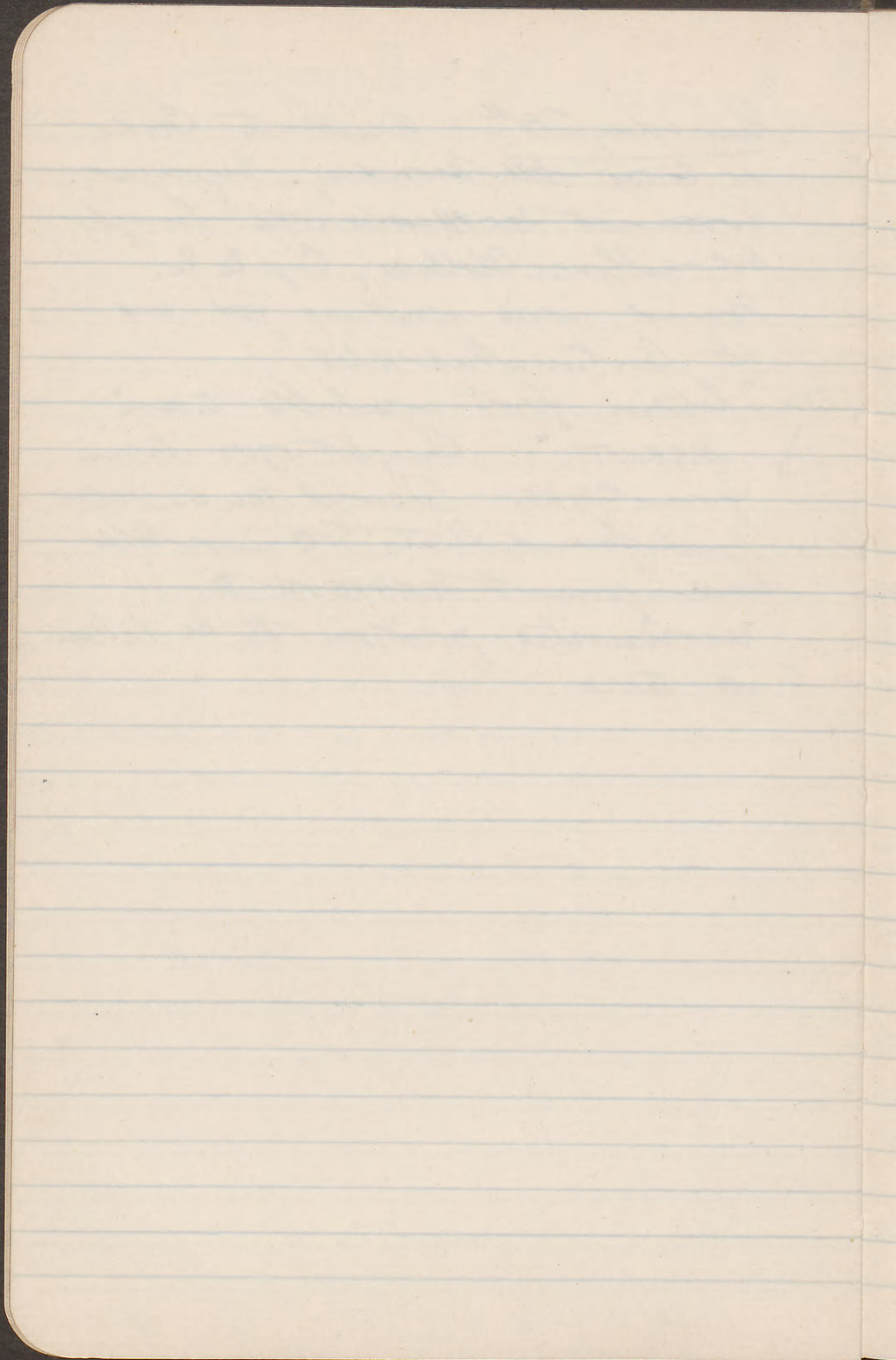
Tuesday 11TH . General went on
leave to CARO.

Had first ride on "DANDY"



Thursday 20th - Went to Cairo
on leave till Monday. Engaged
room at THE PHARO'S HOTEL. Bought
McC. ribbon, Clothes, Cap &c &c.
Found wife waiting for me
at Continental Hotel.

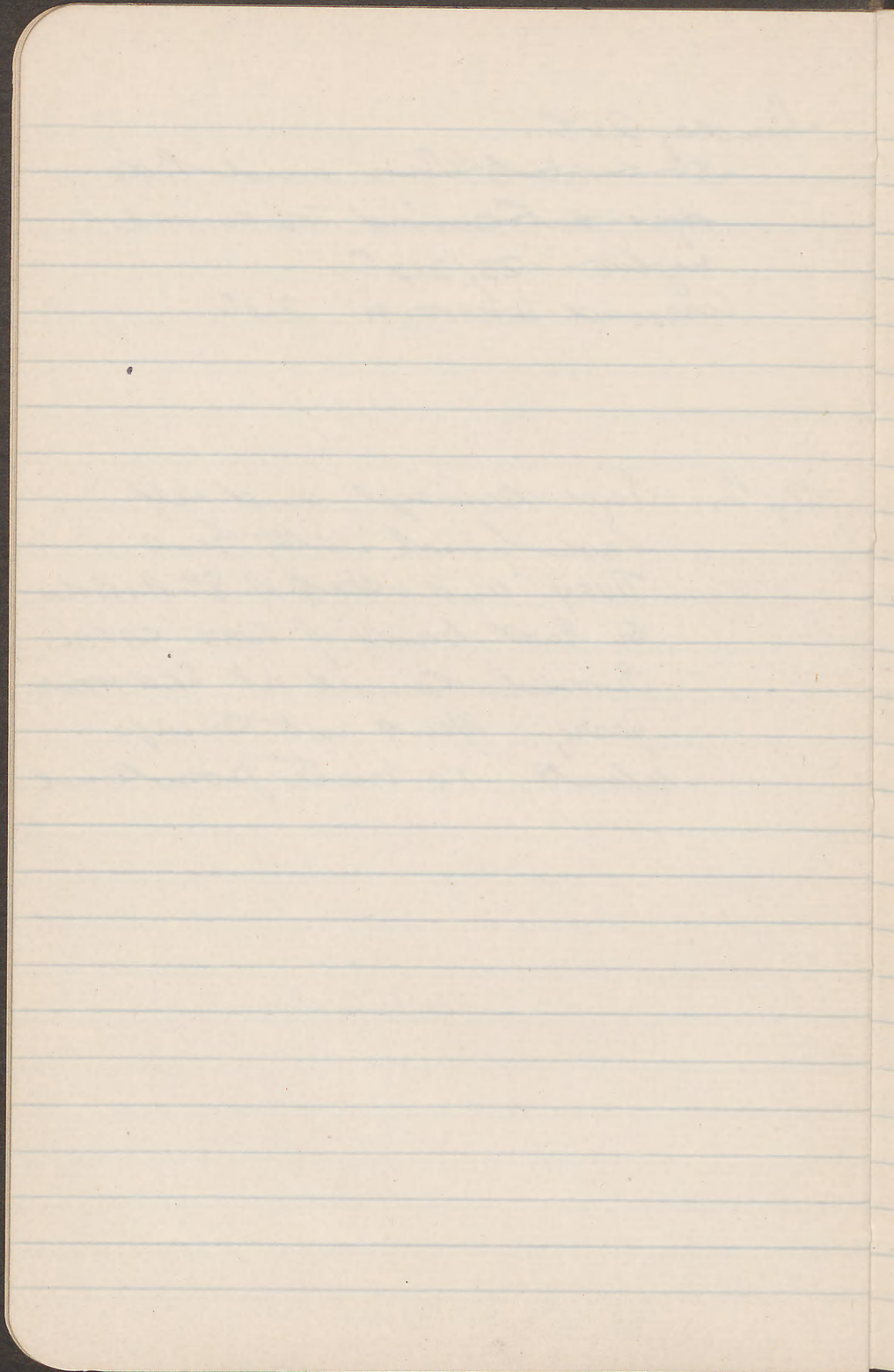
21st "Return first available train
↓ URGENT". Caught 0700 train
from CAIRO. Arrived TEL. EL. KEBIR
and found that SOC and B/M
had gone to TERAPEUM to
reconnoitre position to be taken
up there.



Sunday 23rd.

5th and 6th Bns and Bde
Hqs entrained TEL. EL. KERIR.
night 23/24th.
Arrived SERAPEUM. 24th.

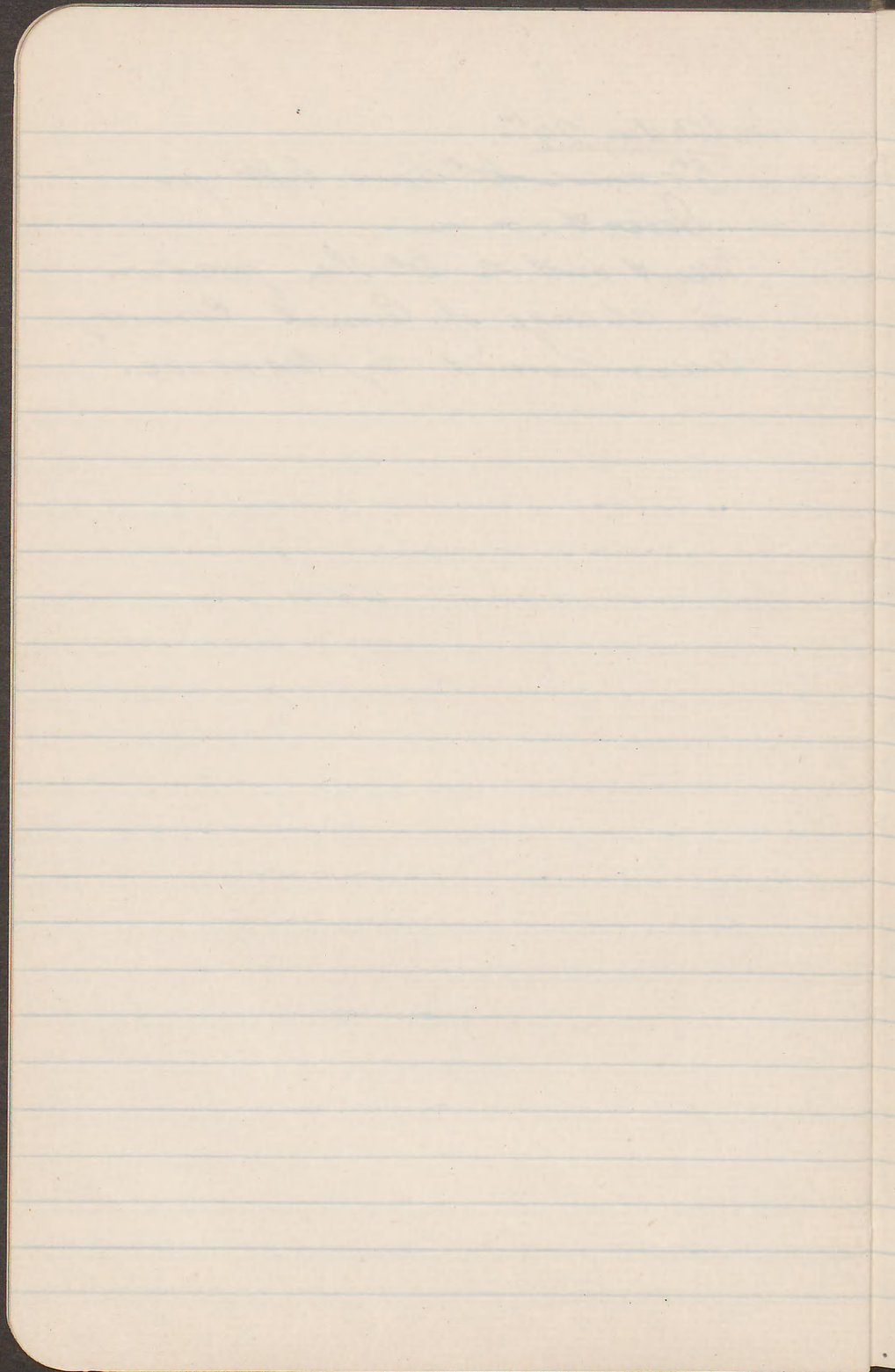
24th. Genl. Pernyezel and self
had lunch with Genl.
TIVEY and staff of 8th A.I. Bde
on East Bank of SUEZ CANAL.
Crossed Canal at SERAPEUM
Jerry. Went into Camp
about 1 1/4 miles from Canal.

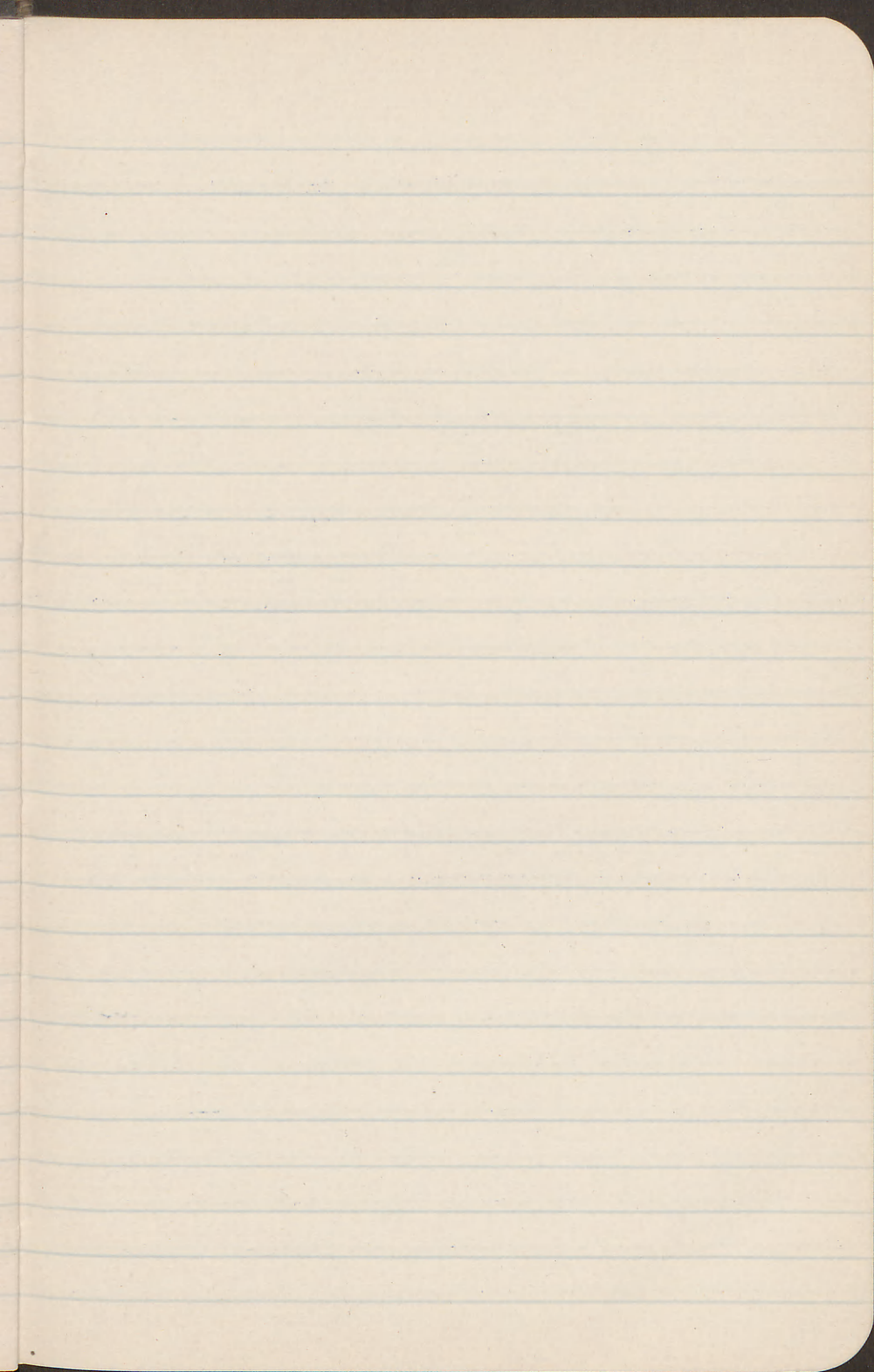


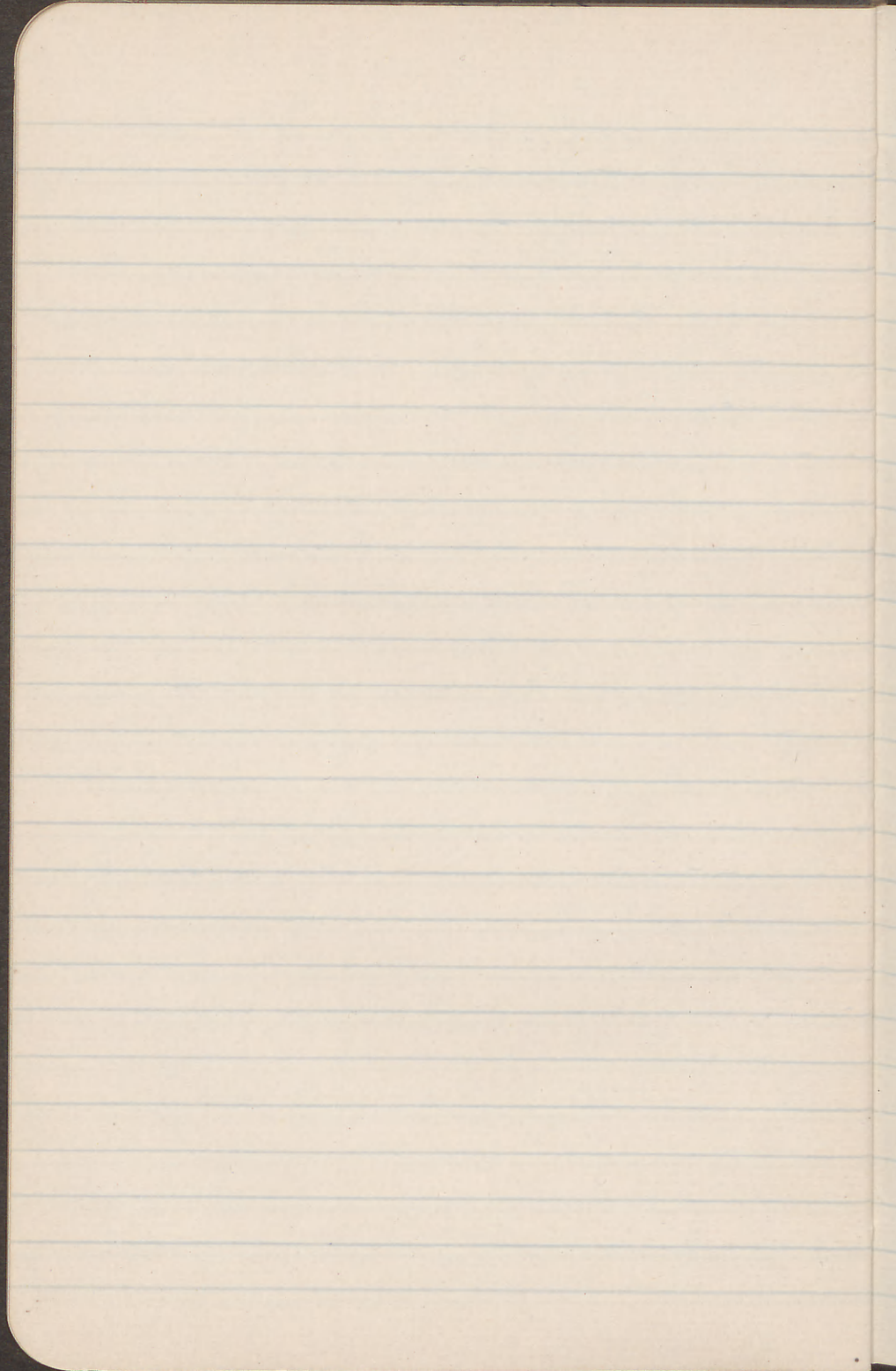
Saturday 29th.

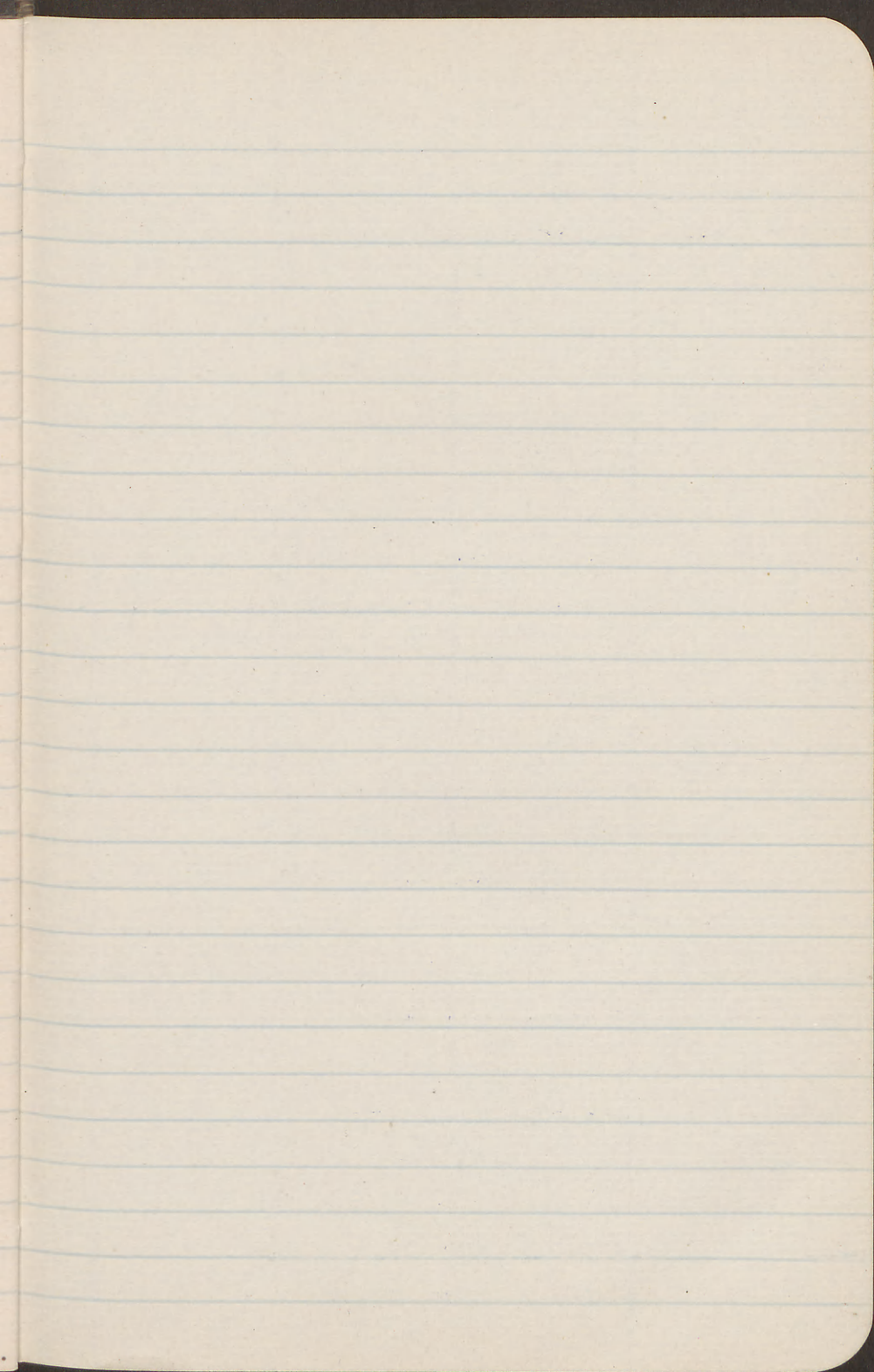
5th and 6th Bns left for
Desert.

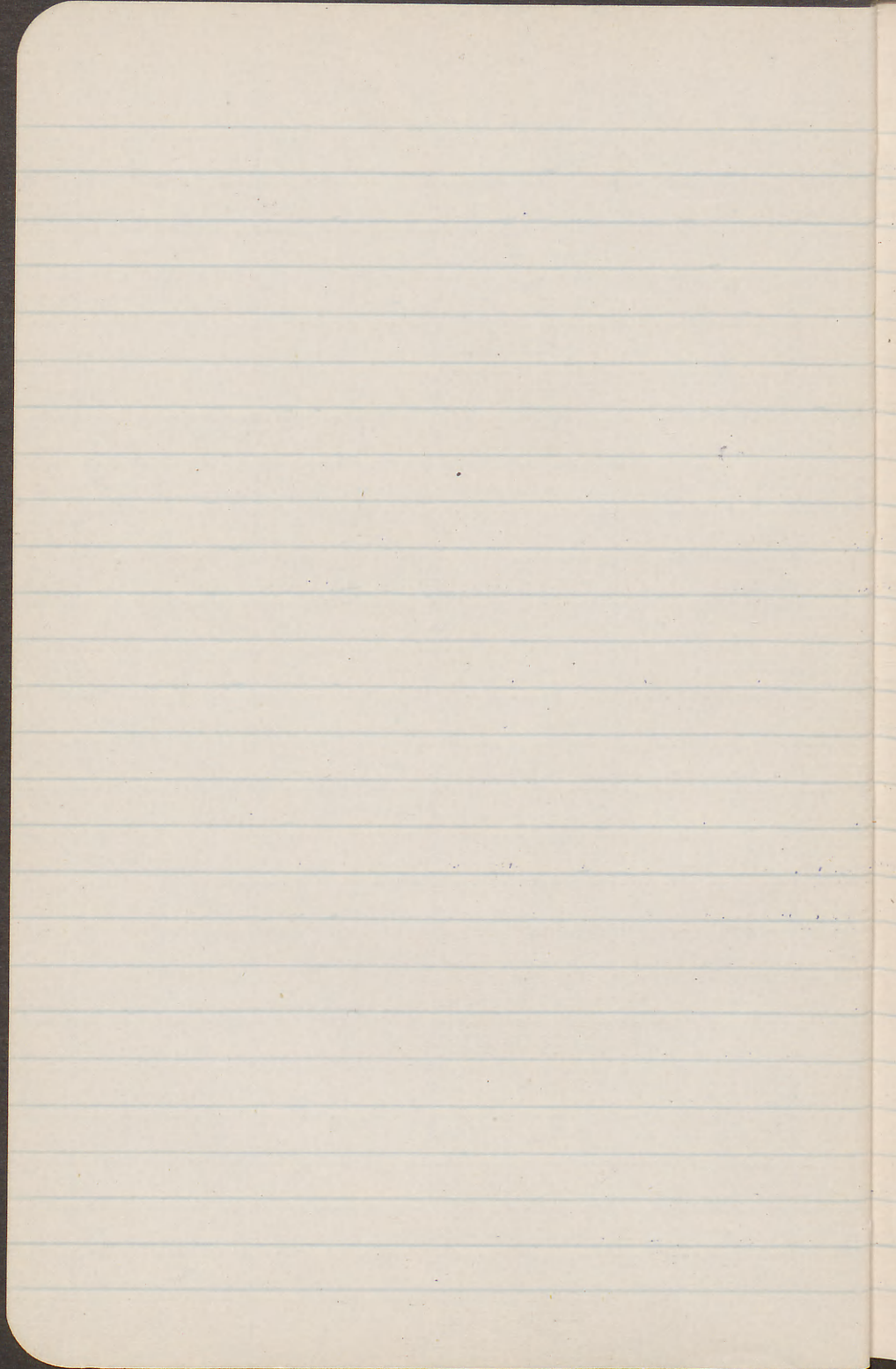
Went out to 6th Bn position
in charge of Camel Convoy.
Accompanied by PERMEZEL.









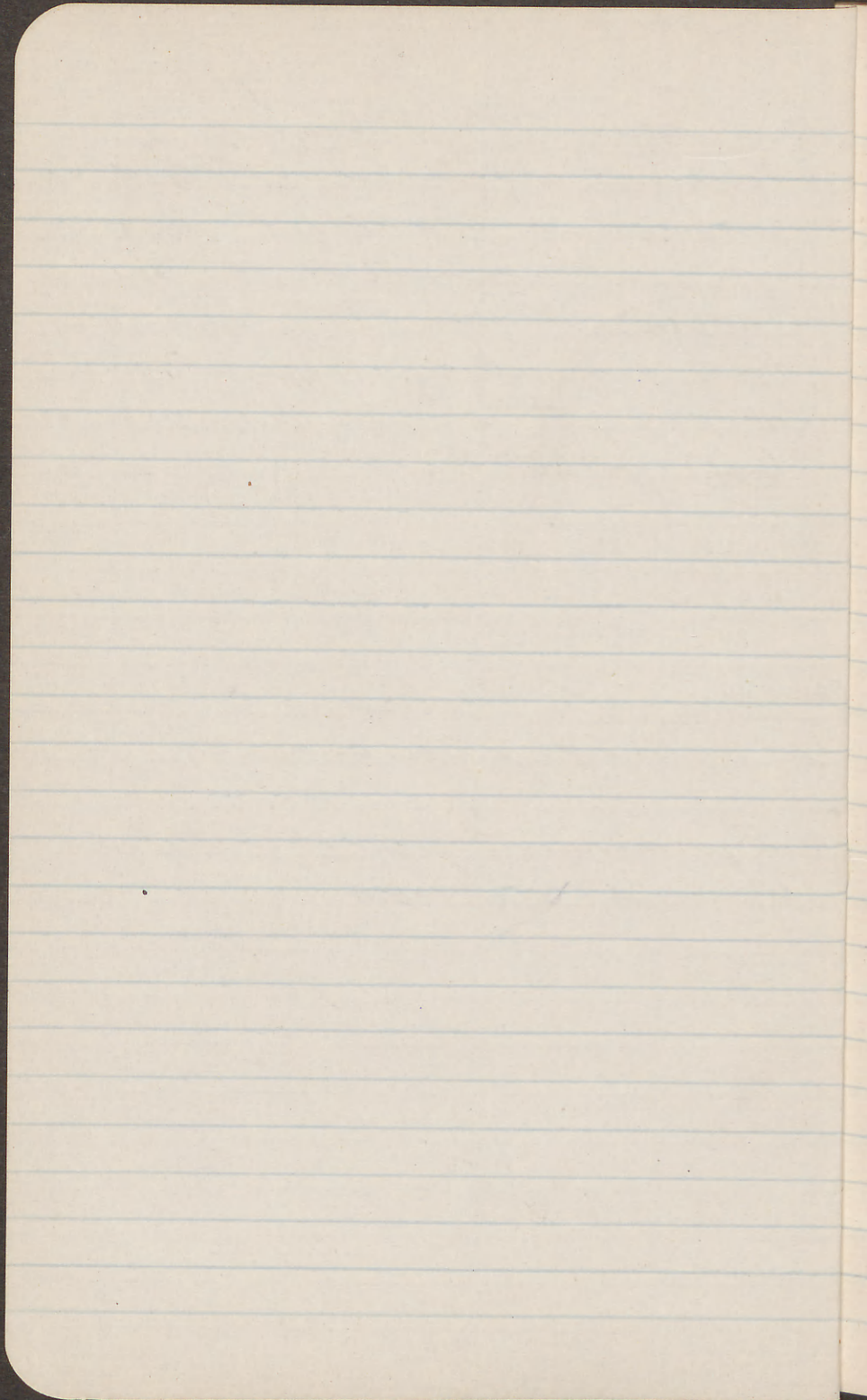


Thursday. 17th February.

"Victims" of 5th and 6th Battalions
arrived at SERAPEUM WEST
for entrainment to TEL. EL.
KEBIR. to form 57th and 58th
Bns respectively. 9 Officers 396 men
(405) for 57th Bn. 6 Officers 408 others
(414) for 58th Bn.

Monday. 21st "Victims" 5th & 6th Bns
entrained for TEL. EL. KEBIR.

"Reinforcements" for 3rd & 6th Bns
arrived SERAPEUM.

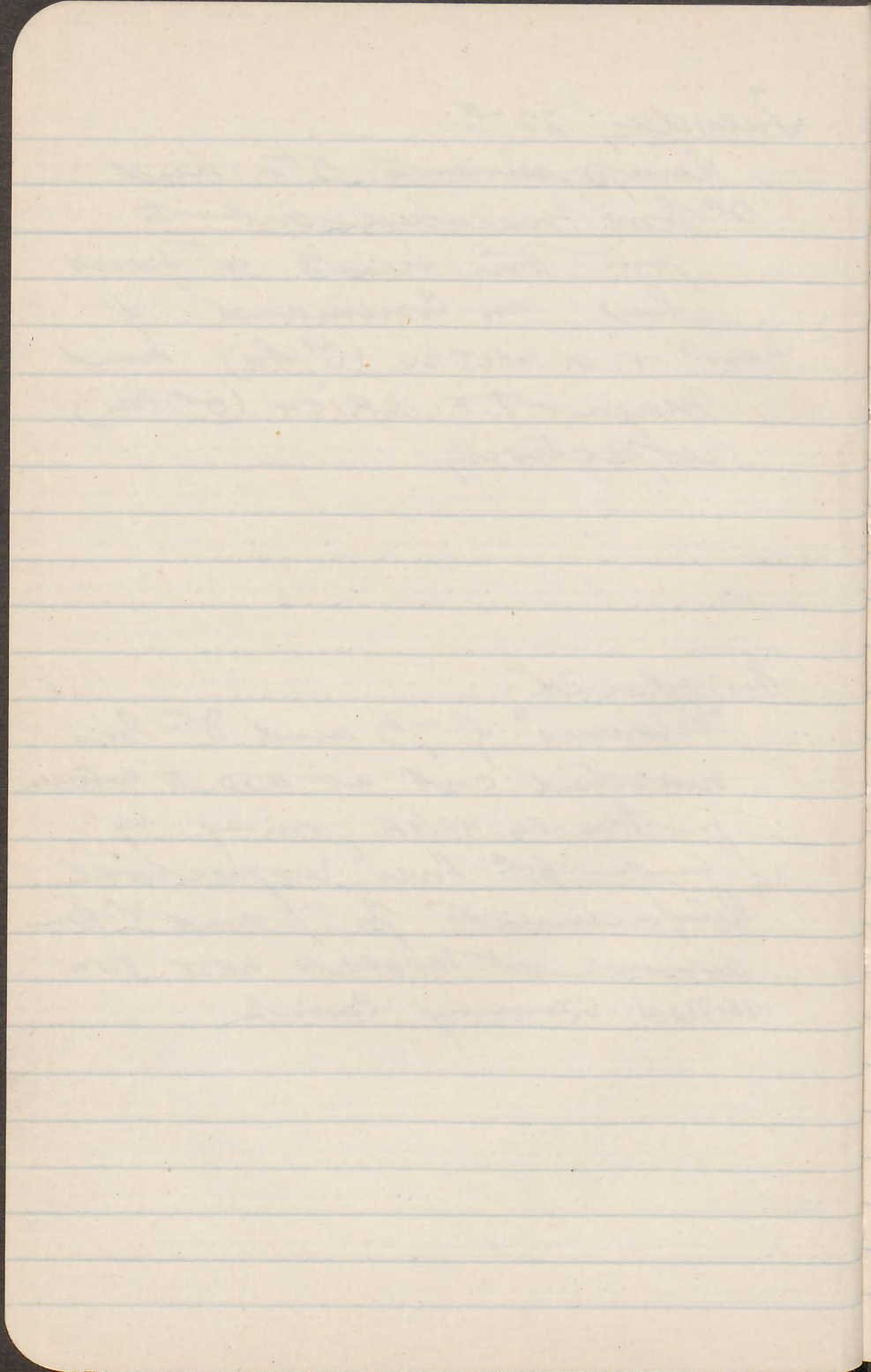


Tuesday, 22nd

Reinforcements 5th and 6th Bns marched out to join their units in front line in Command of
Lieut T. K. MALTBY (5th Bn) and
Major T. F. ULRICH (6th Bn)
respectively.

Thursday 24th

"Veterans" of 7th and 8th Bns
marched out at 1100 to enter
in TEL. EL. KEBIR joining 59th
and 60th Bns respectively.
"Reinforcements" in 7th and 8th Bns
arrived at SEKAPEUN WEST from
ZETSON training camp.

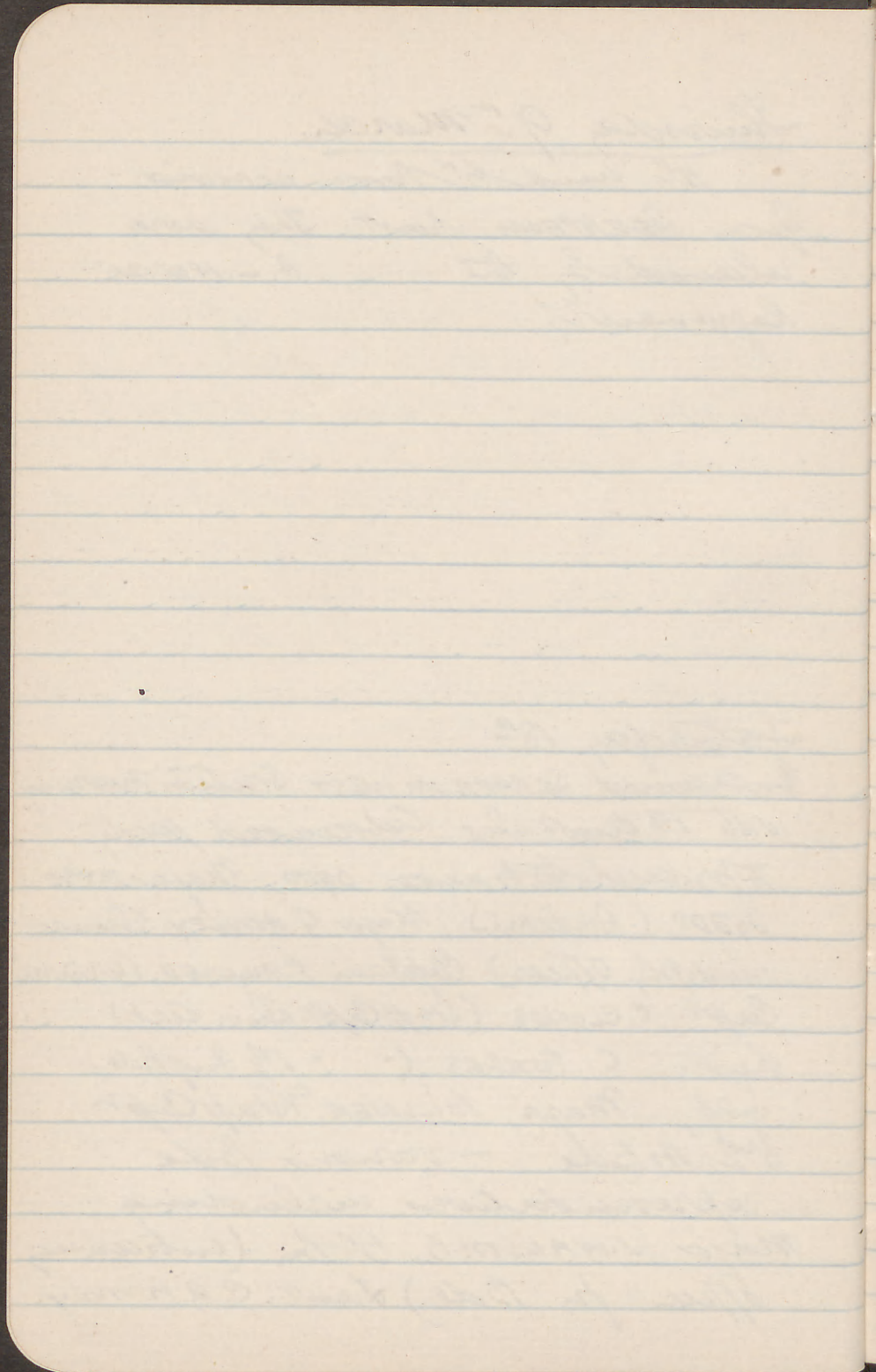


Thursday 9th March.

5th and 6th Bns arrived
from SERAPEUM East. They were
relieved by the A. L. Horse
Regiments

Saturday 18th

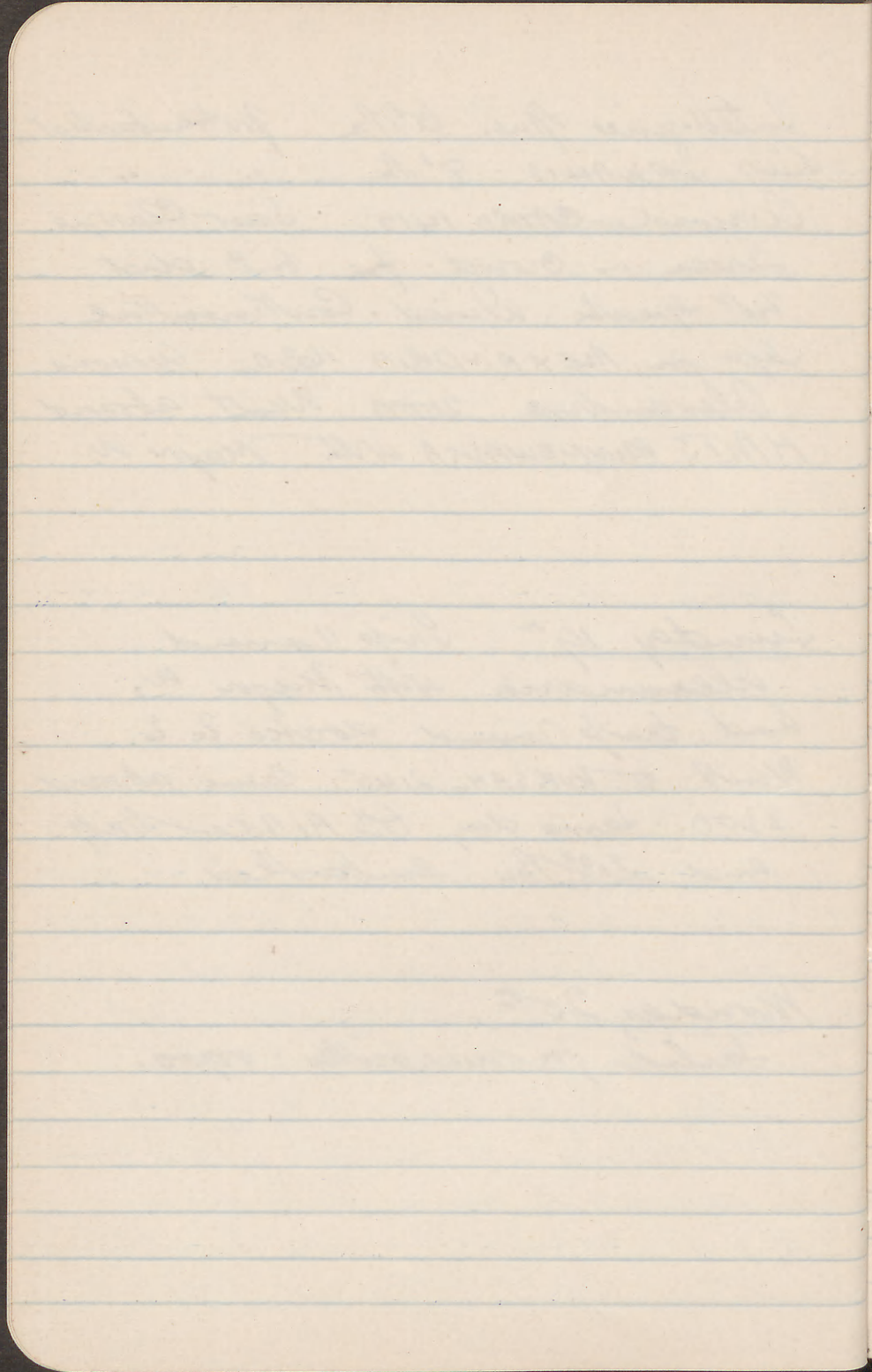
Entrained SERAPEUM WEST Station morning
with 7th Aust. Div. Advanced party
to proceed to France. 0900. Major EPIE
DODDS. (D.A.D.M.S.) Major G. HENLEY. (Senior
Supply Officer) Captain T. MILLNER. (D.A.D.M.S.)
Capt. C. CLOWES. (Staff Capt. Div. Art)
Lieut. C. FORBES. (" " 1st Inf Bde)
Sgt. Major MILLNER. (Staff Capt
1st Inf Bde. - various Bde
representatives including
Major J. WALSTAB. 5th Bn (entraining
Officer for Bde) Lieut. C. R. PINNEY



Intelligence Spec. 6th Bn for disembarkation
Lieut. R. WALLIS. 8th Bn " "
Arrived CAIRO. 1415. Saw Carrie
Green in crowd. for but did
not speak. Dined. Continental
Left for ALEXANDRIA 1630. Arrived
Alexandria. 2000. Went aboard
H.M.T.S. MINNEWASKA with Major W.

Sunday 19th. Trip round
Alexandria with Major W.
had trip round docks &c &c.
Went to KURSAHL. 2145. Came aboard.
2300. Same day 6th A/B Co Staff
and 210th Bn embarked.

Monday 20th
Sailed for marseilles. 0900.



Tuesday 21st

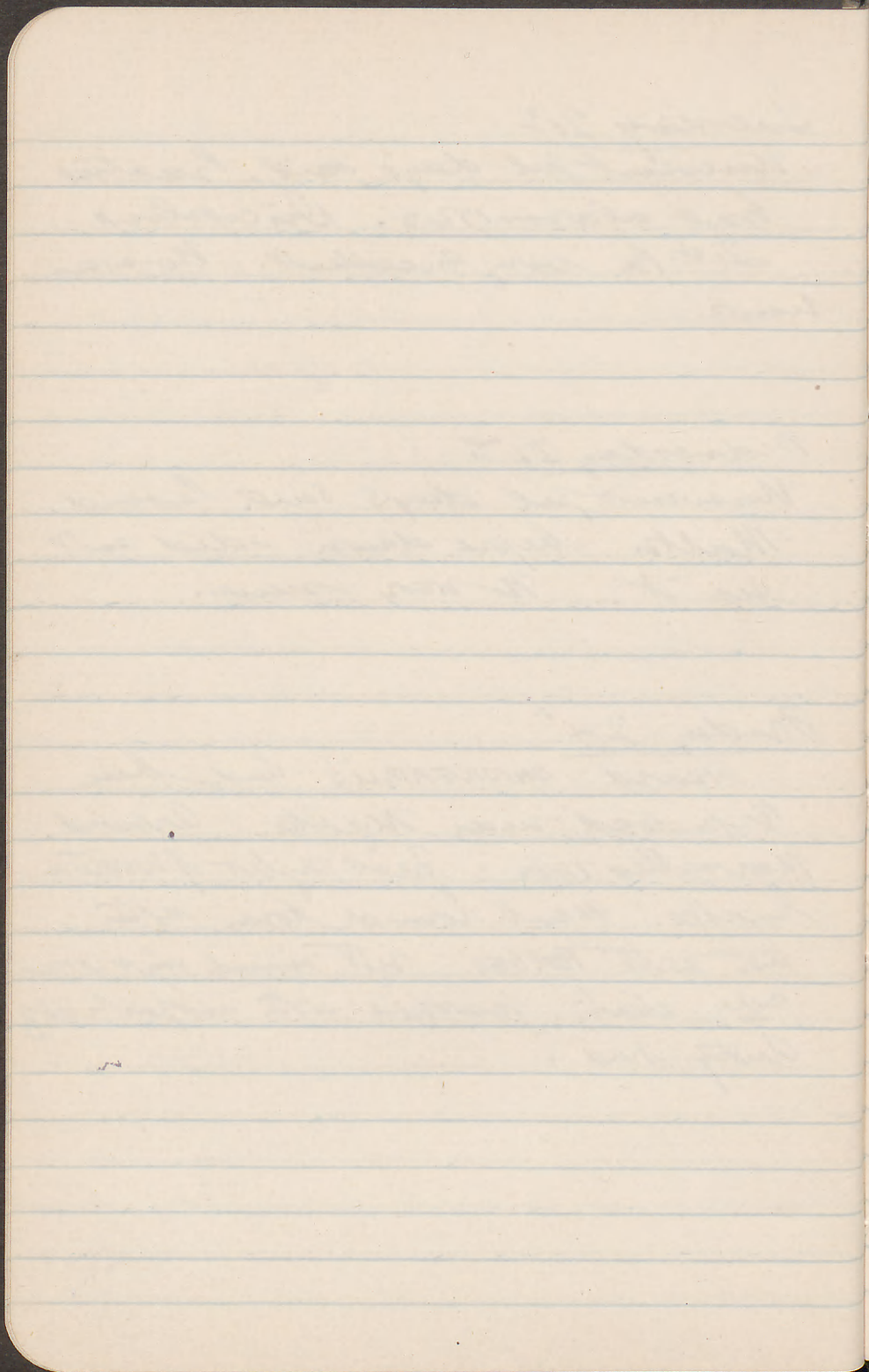
Uneventful day's sail. Practice
boat alarm 1545. Discipline
21st Bz very excellent. No war
news.

Wednesday 22nd

Uneventful day's sail. Passed
Malta. before dawn - did not
see it. No war news.

Friday 24th

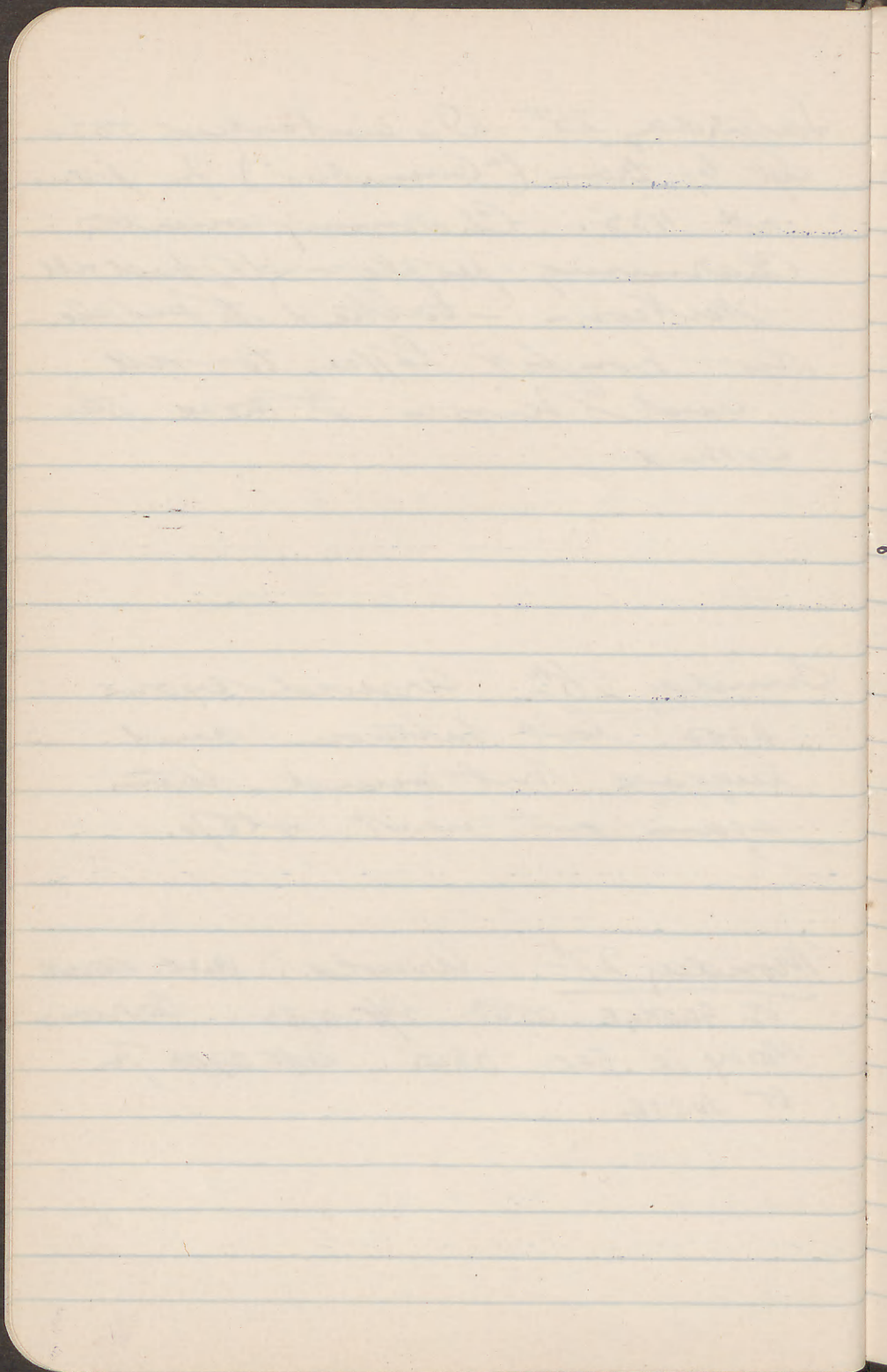
Heard MINNEAPOLIS had been
torpedoed near Malta. Arrived
Marseilles 1500 - first sight of Western
Europe. Went round town after
tea with FORBES. Not much impressed.
very dirty, preshore with unappealingly
dirty wind.



Saturday 25th Disembarked. 0830.
Left by train ("Cannibus") for Paris
at 1135. Charming country.
Charming people - stopped at all
stations - talked to people
who brought coffee to all
and kisses to those who
worked.

Sunday 26th. Arrived Lyons.
0300. Lost batman and
luggage but found them
again at next stop.

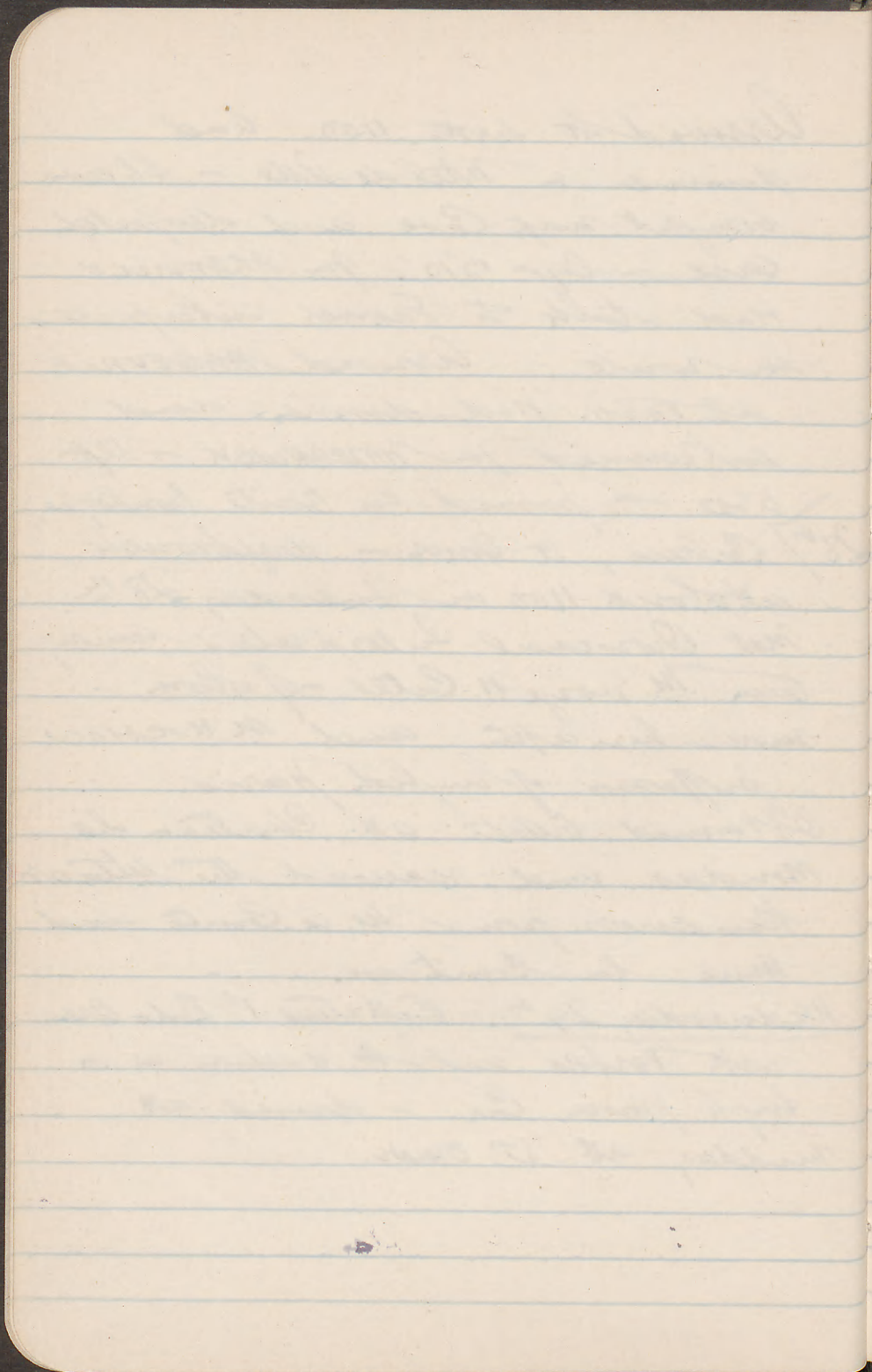
Monday 27th. Arrived. VILLE NEUVE
ST GEORGE 0500. Left 0735. Arrived
NOTSY LE SEC. 0845. Left 0900 for
ST JUSTE



Arrived St. LUSTE. 1100. Had
dinner in Hotel de ville - I have
bought map Case and despatch
Case. - left 1515. for ABBEVILLE.
Had talk to French interpreters
en route. Arrived ABBEVILLE
at 1830. Had dinner and
entrained for HAZEBROUCK - left
630. - passed en route Boulogne,
28th Calais, St Omer. - Hazebrouck.
at about 1100 on Tuesday, 28th.
Met Diurnal Interpreters - among
them M. George H. Cates - of whom
more here after and M. HUCHON.
professor of English Paris.

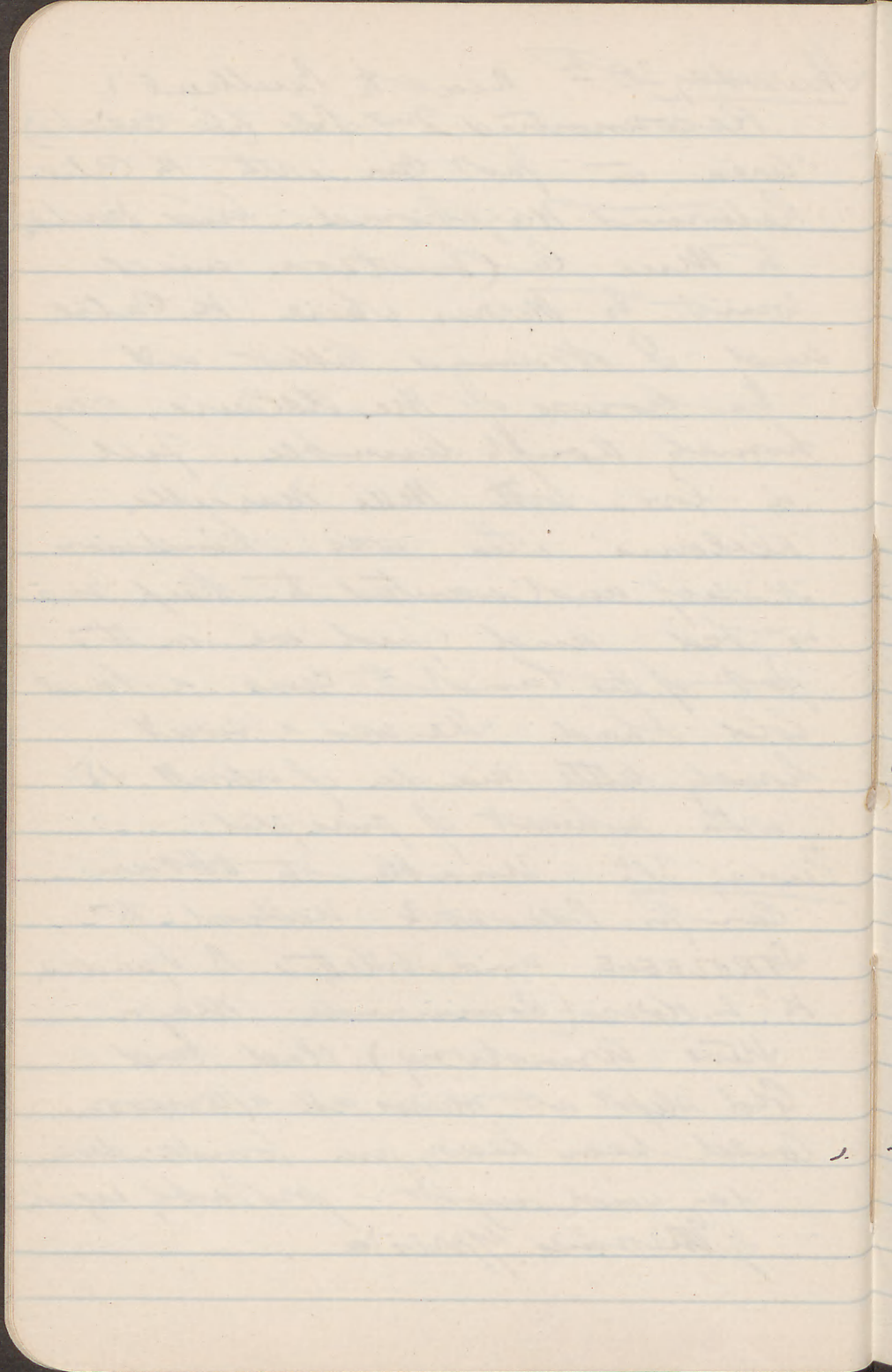
Obtained tickets at Chateau de
Mondas. and received the utmost
kindness from M. le Comte and
Mme la Comtesse.

Wednesday 29th. Ticketed 1st Bde Area
with Forbes and M. Huchon in a
high power Car. - dined at
midday at St. Omer.



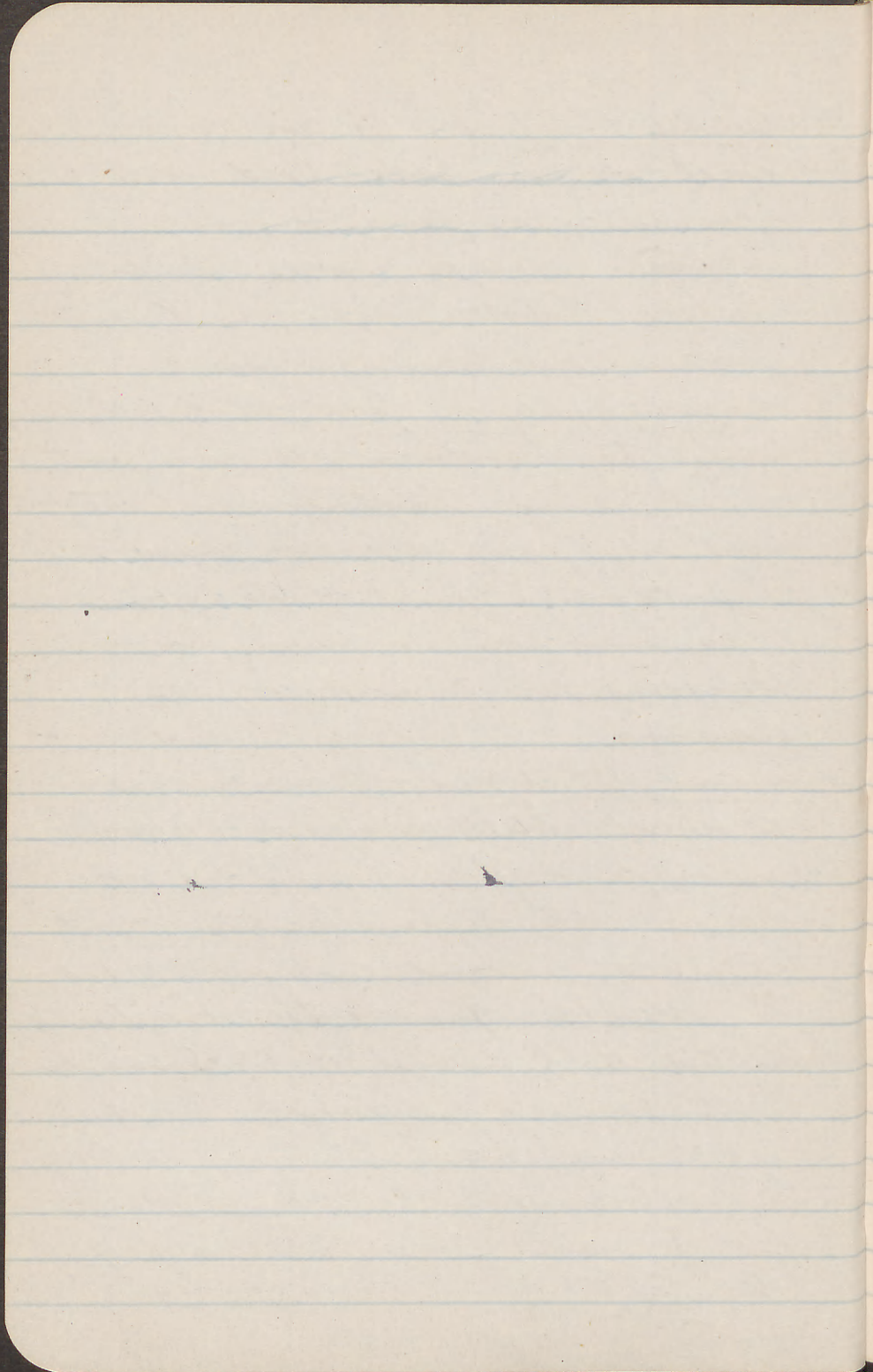
Thursday 30th Went to Bailluel &
Reconnaitred 2nd Bde. (La creche)
area in fast car with M. Catel.
Returned Hazebrouck. Sent parcels
to Mue la Chantonne. and
went to Morris where M. Catel
and I obtained ticket at
the house of Mr. Delaurie, very
homely though humble. fell
in love with Mlle Marcelle
Delaurie who was kind to
itself and wanted to keep me
in bed and feed me on the
fat of the land to cure a bad
cold I had. She was a sweet
homely little maiden of about 18
with a heart of pure gold.

Friday 31st Unable to obtain
Car for Bde work. Walked to
STRAZEELE and billeted B. Squadron
Lt L. Horne (Commander Major
Steve Armstrong) Had bad
cold slept at Morris all afternoon.
Could hear heavy gun bombardment
day and night - probably region
of Mennin. Ypres etc.



Saturday 1st April No car available.
Could do no work. Cold very fast
- running temperature - beautiful
weather - made some maps
of Bde billeting area and written
instructions to various unit
Commanders. Only staff available
were ^{Clark} & the ^{the} Statemen all unmounted
but being Australians they
served the purpose - An average
Australasian can fill the place
of anyone from an Army Corps
Commander to a Navy on
occasion.

Sunday 2nd April Transferred
Bde Hqs to Baillieux. ^{1st Lt} H. D. MAHRE
Bde Signal Officer joined me at
Merris with Signal Section and
the whole moved at about 1200
to Hqs 128 Rue de Lille Baillieux.
Billeted A.S.C. Det of 8.S.S. Wagon
with horse & personnel. Night 2/3rd
Went to GODWAERSWELDE in car with CATEL
and detoured to 5th Bn and part
of 6th Bn and Bde M.G. Company.
7th and ^{part of} 8th Bns. were delayed en
route

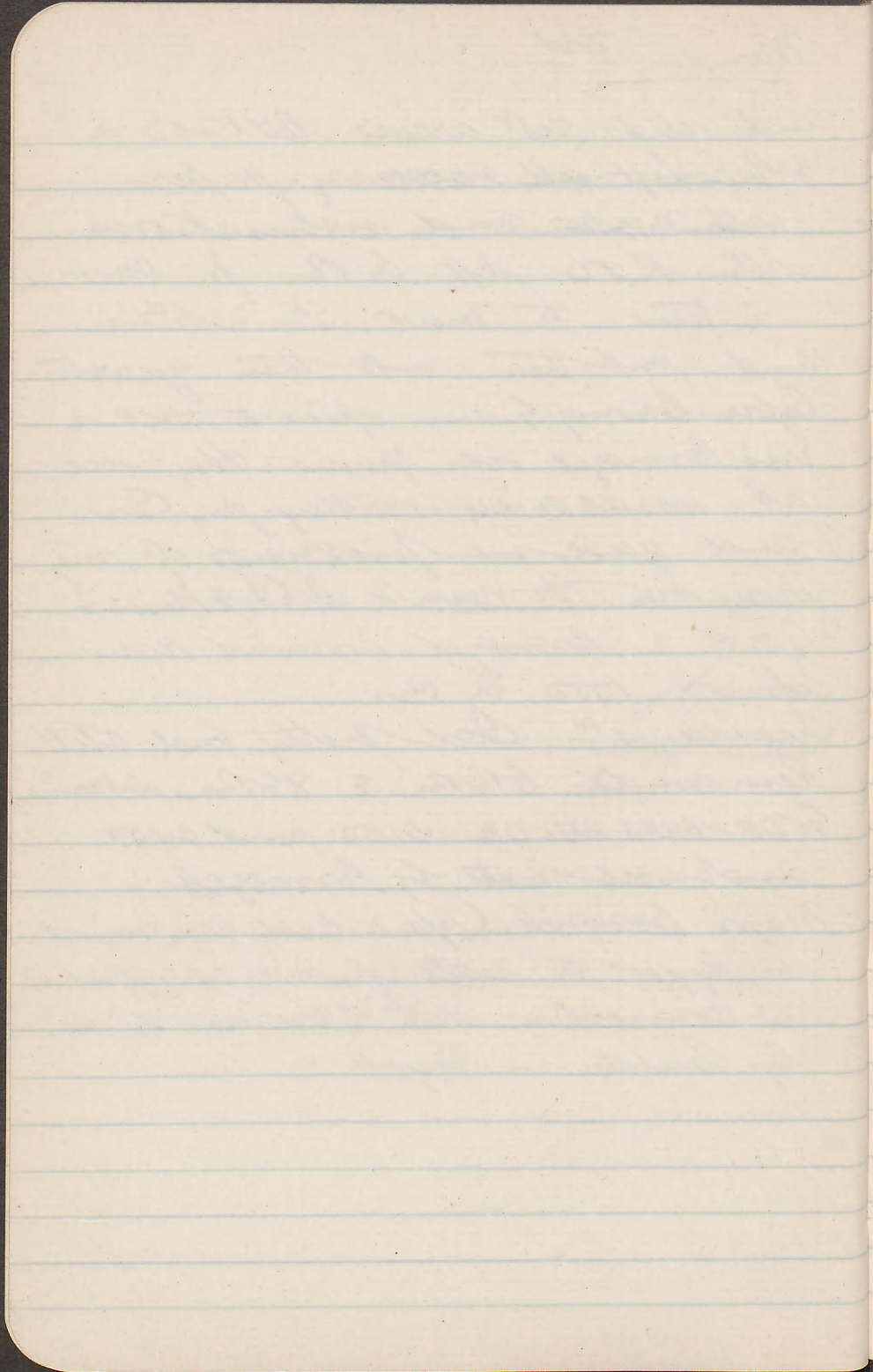


Monday 3rd

and did not arrive till 1200 on
3rd. Left all necessary papers
with maps and instructions
with R.T.O. left by Car for BAILELL
in time to meet 5th & 6th Bns
and put them into their quarters.
Before leaving S. spoke to J.K.F. &
Eric Bormezel over phone. They were
at HAREBROOK waiting for Car
and gave me first news of my
promotion to rank of Captain.
G.O.C. & Bormezel arrived Hqs
about 1500. by Car.

Tuesday 4th. Cold pretty bad still.
Remained 6th Bn & 8th Bn detained
GODEWAERS WELDE. 0100 and 0400
and were met by Bormezel.

Major Borwick. (B/n) had remained
in Egypt to settle financial affairs
in connection with claims made
by Cantons in Egypt.



Wednesday 5th April.

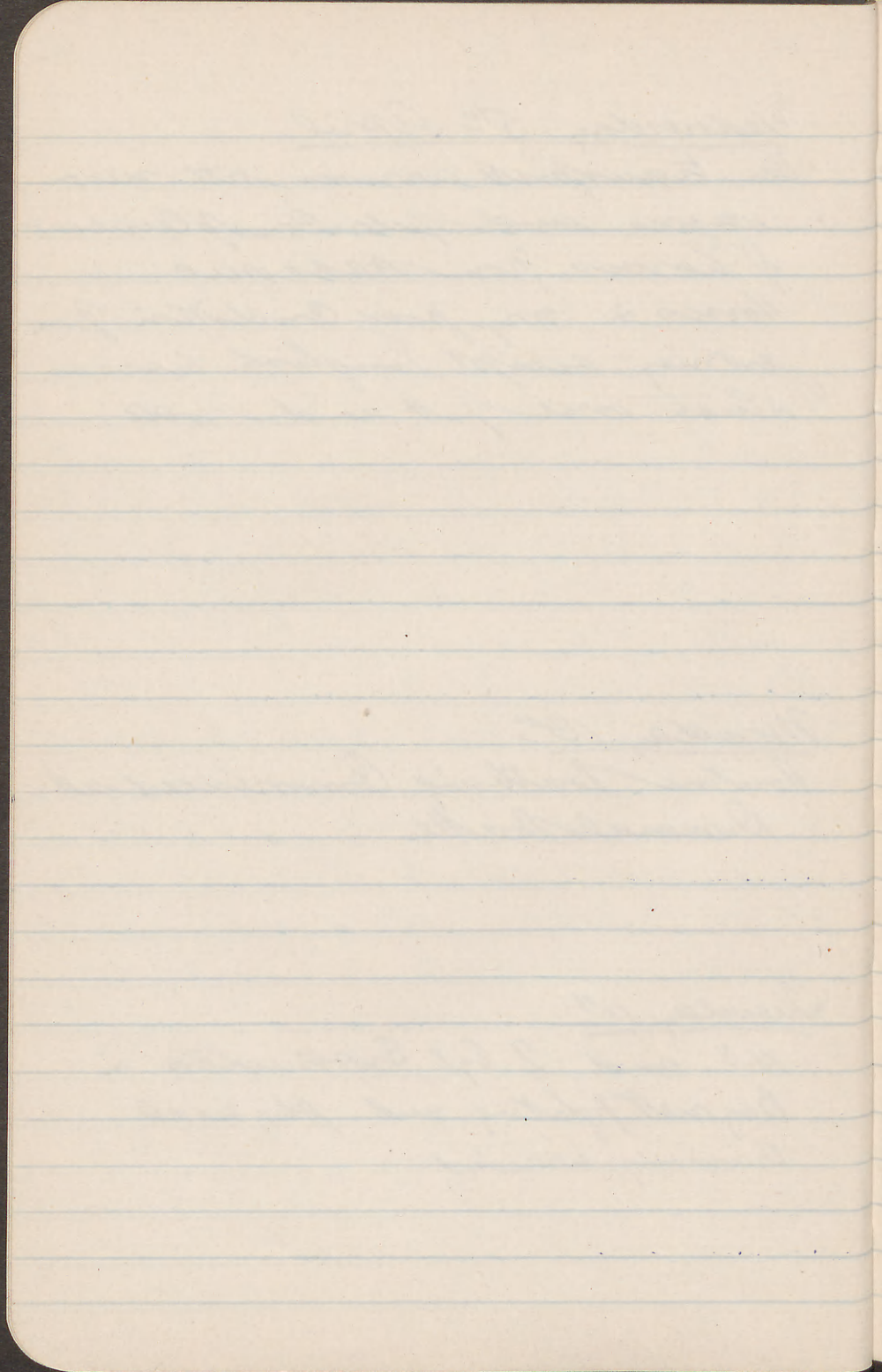
By transport arrived with new
wagons and full complement
of horses from ABBEVILLE.
Horses in very poor condition from
journey except English horses
which were fat and well.

Monday 10th

Routine Bathing commenced at
Divisional Baths.

Tuesday 11th

W.O. and 2 Sgt Instructors in
Bayonet fighting and physical
training arrived.

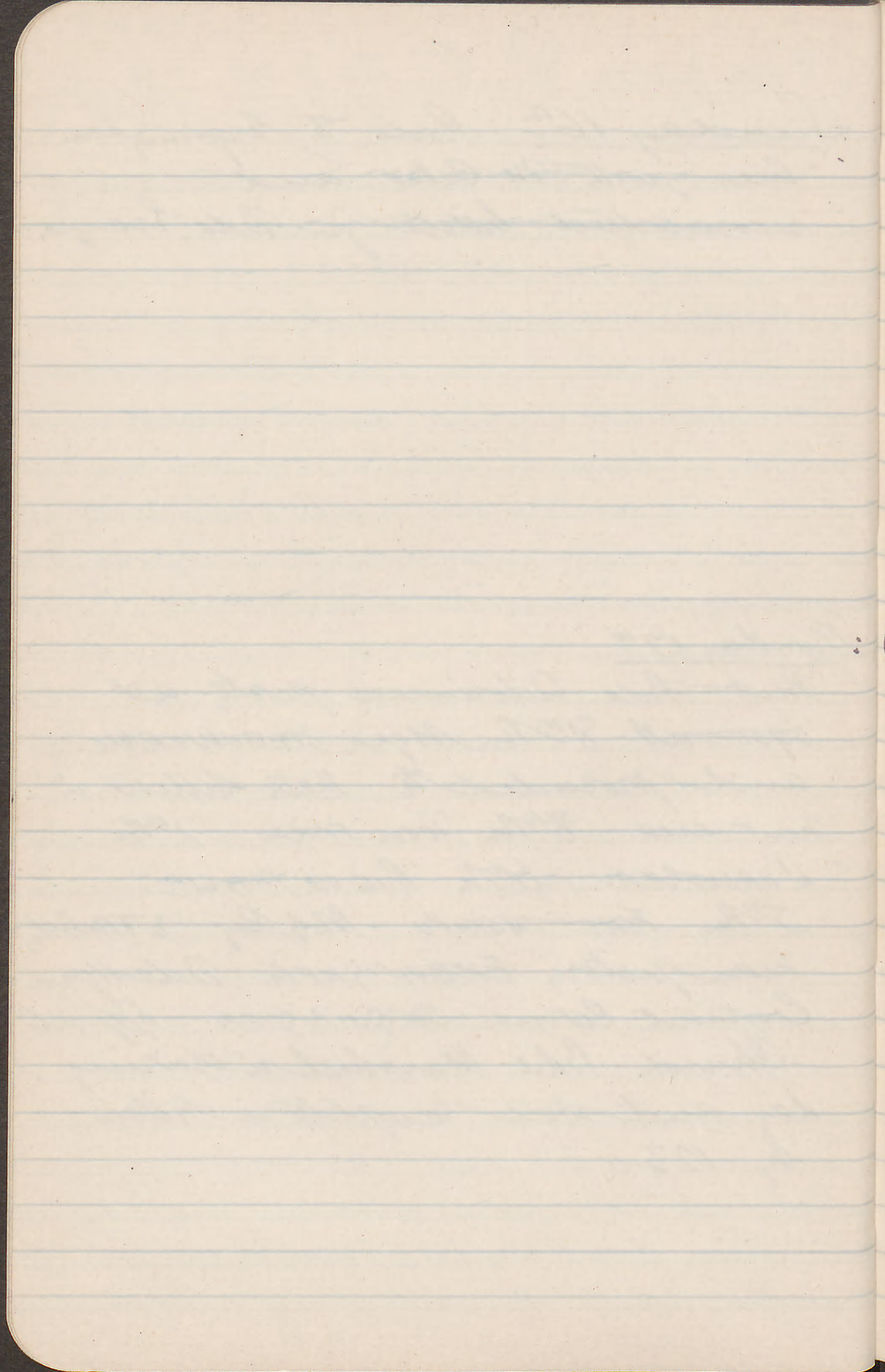


Sunday 16th Rode to Erquinghem
Area with M. Catel and
reconstructed billets for Bde Groups.

Monday 17th

Met Bde. Advanced party at
0900 at 8th Bn Hqs STEENWERCK.
and proceeded to their billets in
new area. 8th Bn JESUS FARM 7th Bn
L'HALLOBEAU. 6th Bn RUE DE MOULIN.

5th Bn FORT ROMAN. M.G. Coy. & T.M.Bty
near factory ERQUINGHEM. Bde Hqs.
Central Corner. ERQUINGHEM. Opposite
Church. Bde Marched in during
day and were complete in billets
by 1230

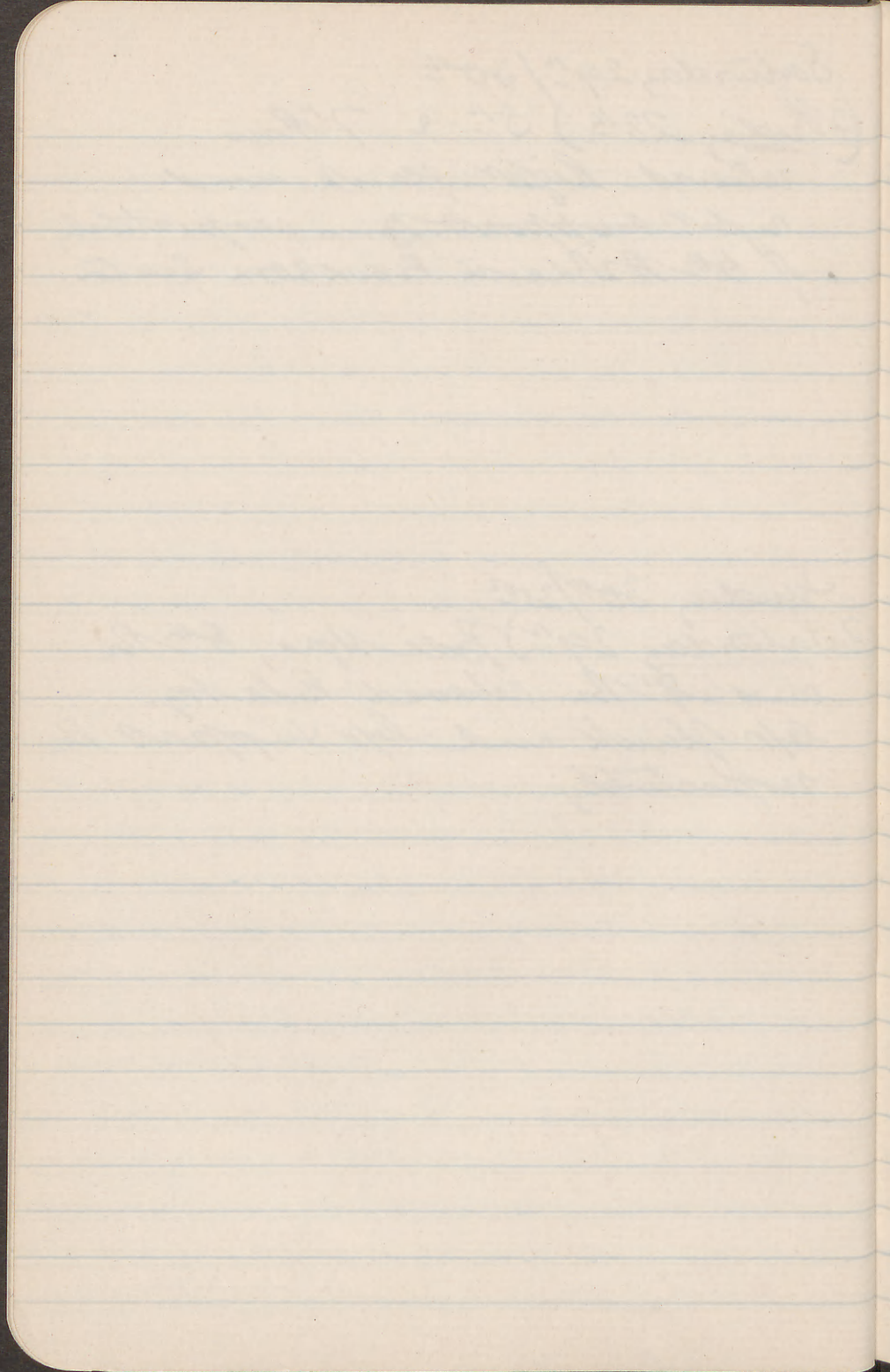


Saturday 29th/30th

(? Friday 28th.) 5th & 7th Bns
relieved Right flank and
right support Bns respectively
of 6th A. Bde in FLEUBAIX Sector.

Sunday 30th/31st

(? Saturday 29th.) Bde Hqs, 6th Bn
and 8th Bn relieved Bde Hqs.
left flank and left support Bns
respectively.



Thursday June 1st

Received letter from Mr. A ———

Friday June 2nd

M. Cate. fell off BAWLY and received injury to head.

Saturday 10th

Betty moved to JAILLY. Bread House.

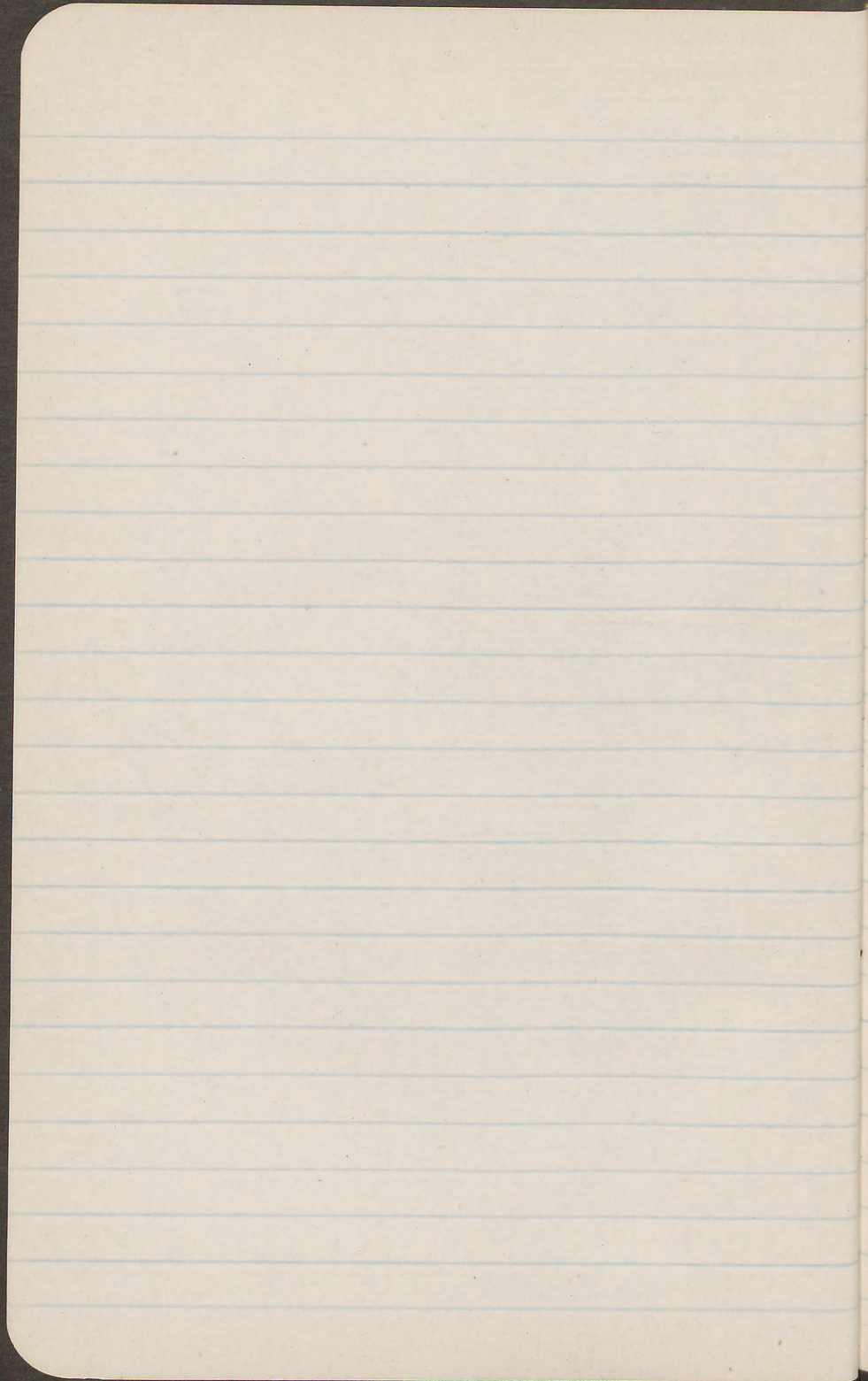
255

Saturday
June 10th

Monday 12th

Ammunition supply exercise JN Bde
in Reserve. —

Raid on enemy trenches by Gth Bn.



Tuesday 13th

Memorial Service to death of Earl
Kitchener in Tait's Empire Theatre.

Tuesday 20th

Bde moved to Newe Eglise (Aldershot
Hutts Camp)

The following page(s) was/were
inserted into the volume at this point

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by sun & home.

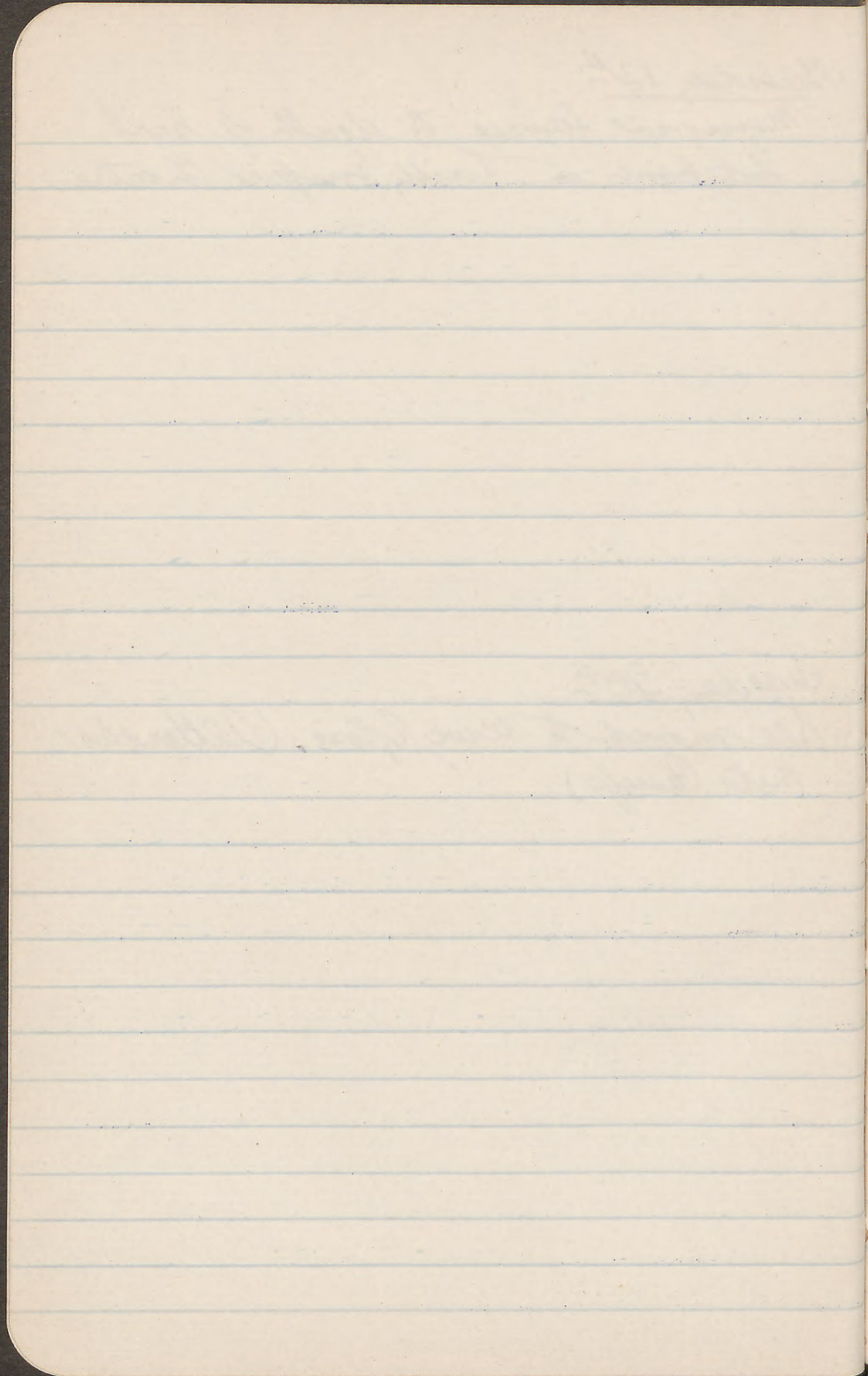
And think, this heart, all love shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England
Her sights & sounds: dreams happy as her day;^{given;}
And laughter, learnt of friends; & gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.
Rupert Brooke.

The Return.

how they come back to the winds & the stars they know,
how the ship lifts to the lift of the Southern foam,
From the fields of Troy, from the desert sands & the snow,
Wounded & blind, they have set their faces home.

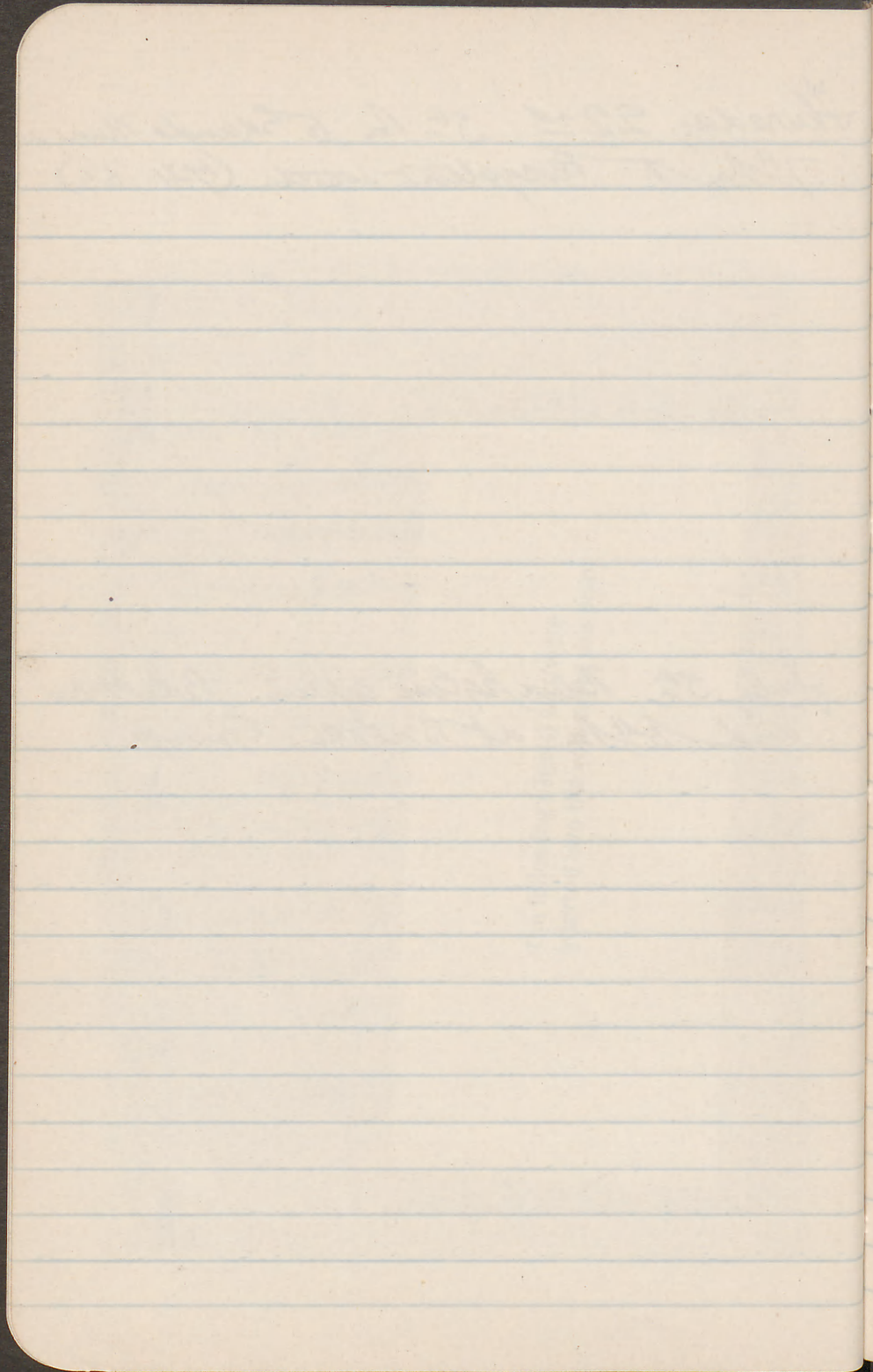
But who are those among them ~~that~~ that no man sees?
Whose are the feet that pace the deck unheard?
When the ship draws in & in to the shouting quays,
Is there no word for those shining ranks, no word?
There's a prayer breathed low & a tear that's truly shed,
And a light in the soul that the coming years shall prove,
Ye too return, O beloved, O faithful dead!
Ye too return, - there is no death in love.

Wid. Derham.



Thursday 22nd 5¹¹/₂ Pm to Grande Munja.
7¹¹/₂ Pm to Roegstein wood (Hill 63)

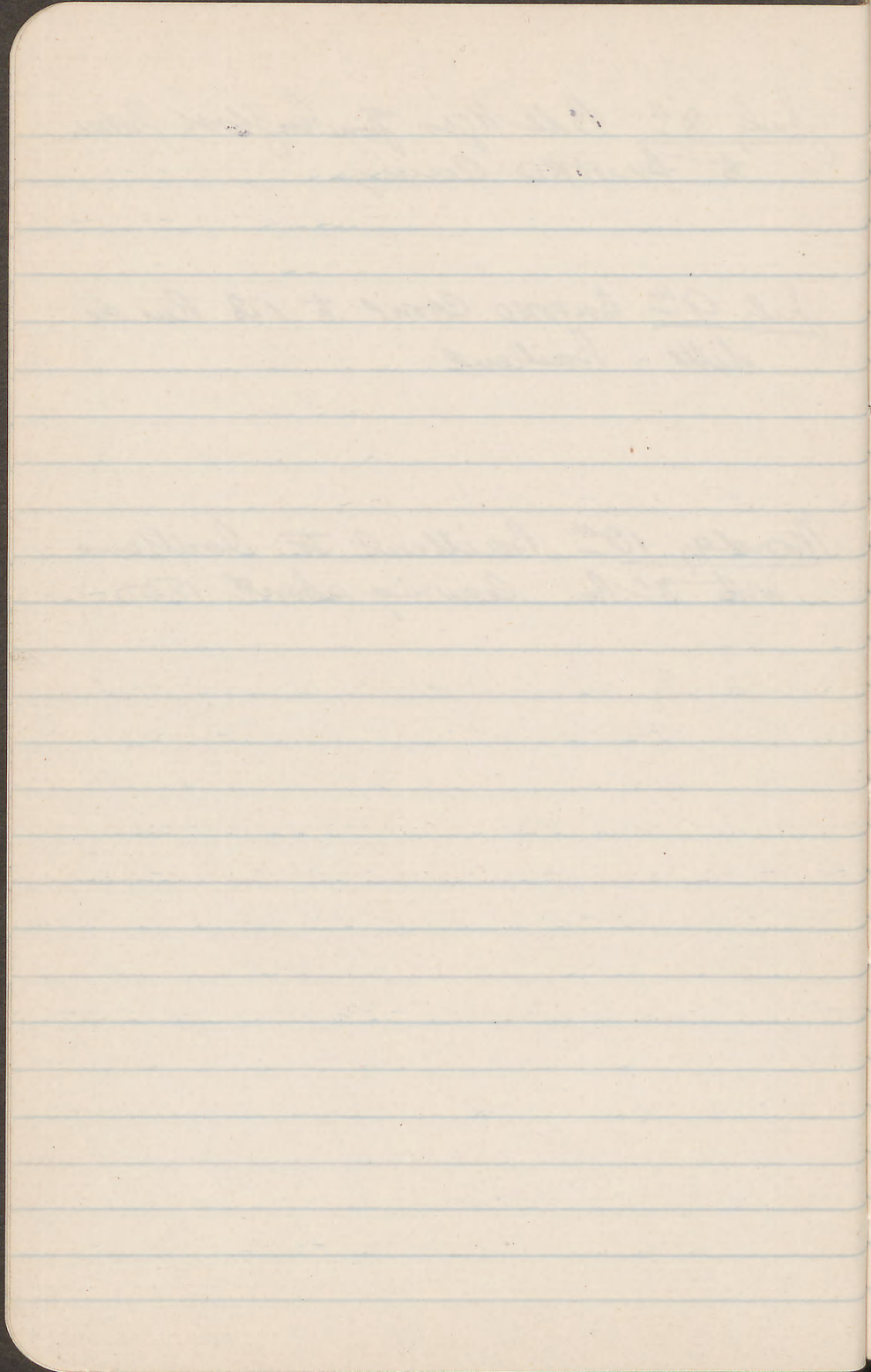
July 31st Newe Eglise again. Baetters
and 6¹¹/₂ Pm at BULFORD. Camp.



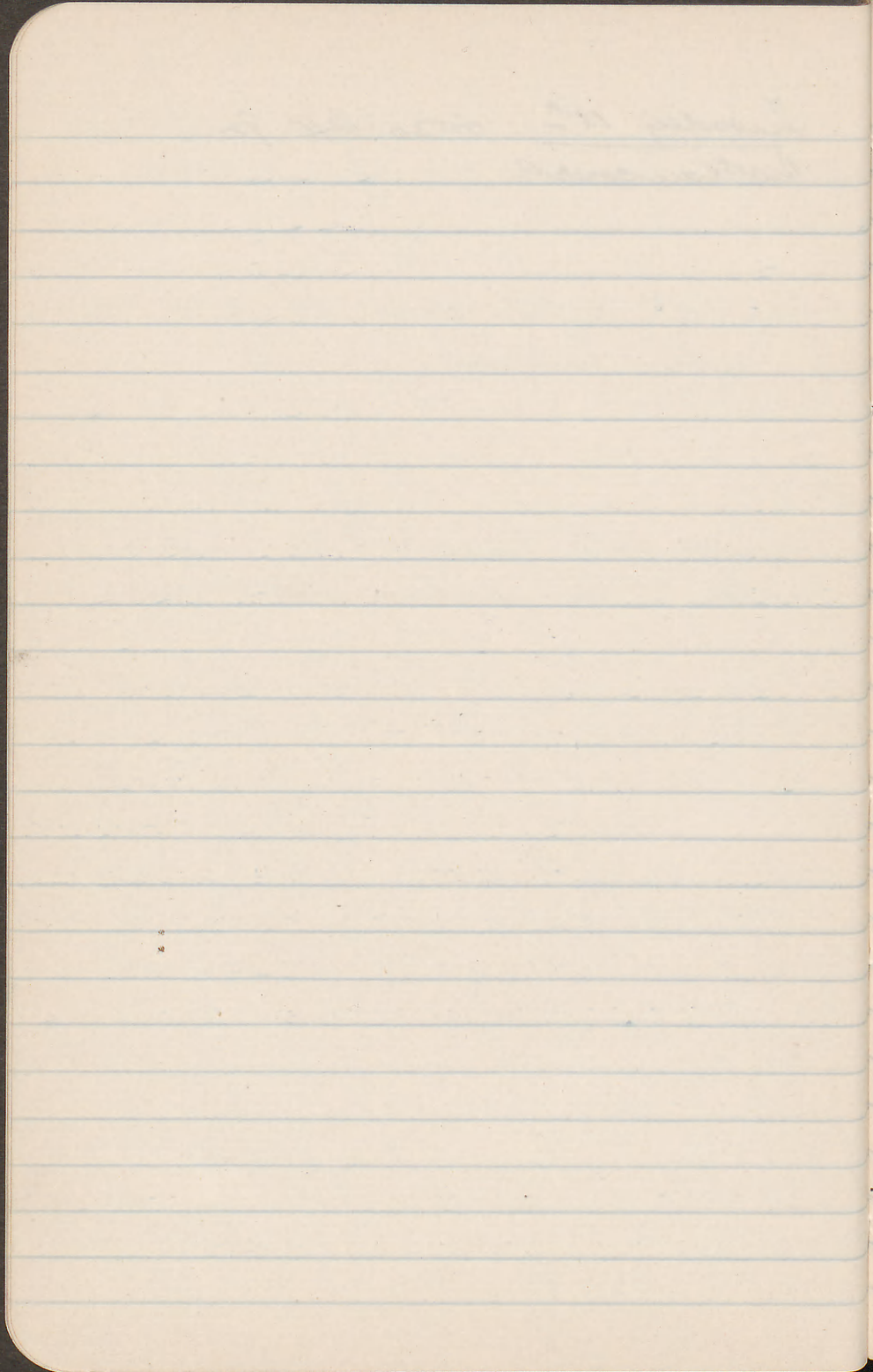
July 8th Bde Hqs from English farm.
to BULFORD Camp.

July 9th BULFORD CAMP to 128 Rue de
Sille. Baitheul.

Monday 10th Baitheul to Doullens
with 8th Bn leaving about 1800.



Tuesday 11th 0030 left fr
Bertheau court D.

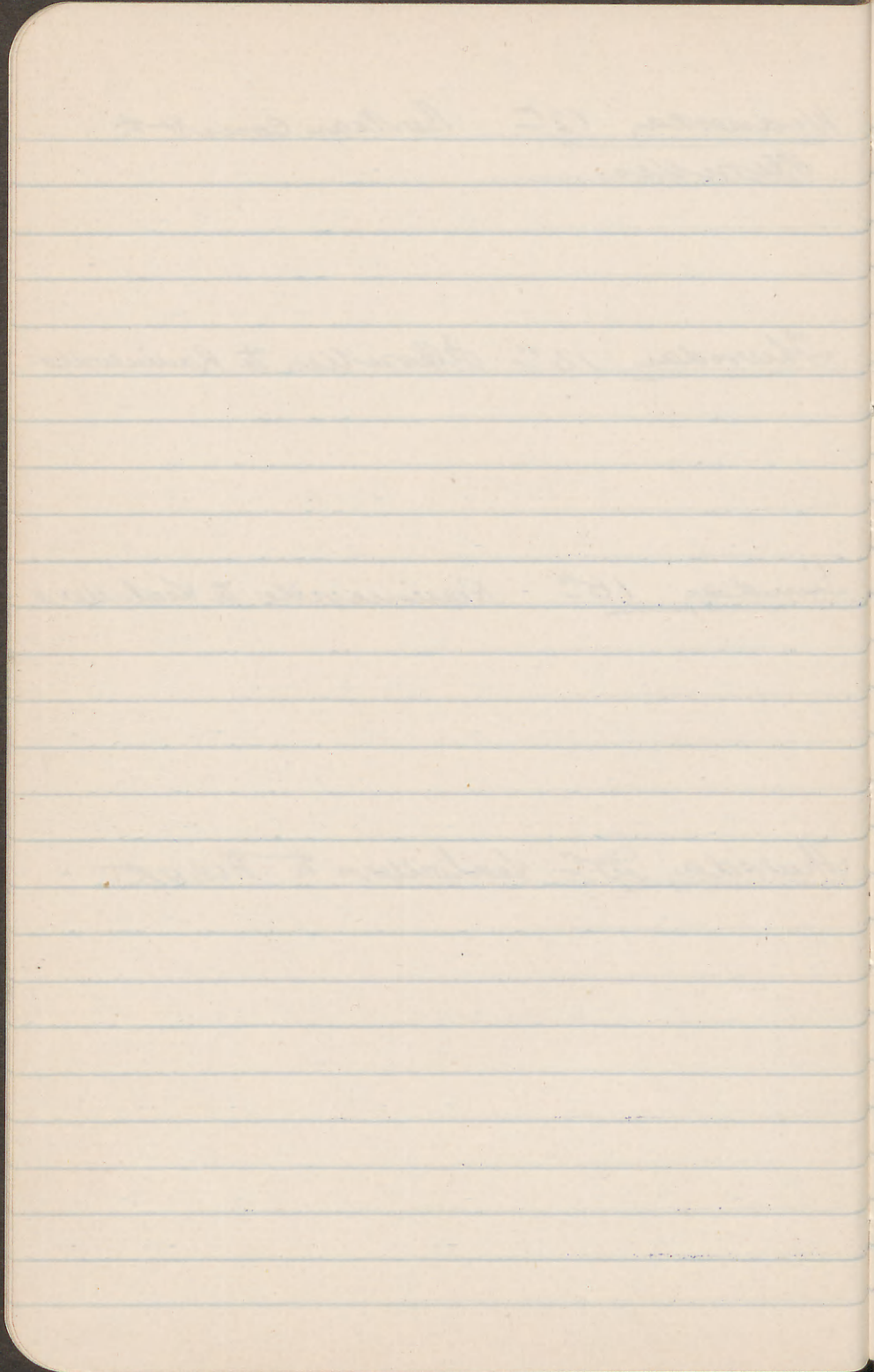


Wednesday 12th Berkean Court &
Hesselles.

Thursday 13th Hesselles to Rainneville

Sunday 16th Rainneville & Sealbidders

Thursday 20th Sealbidders to ALBERT



Saturday 22nd Albert to TARA HILL.

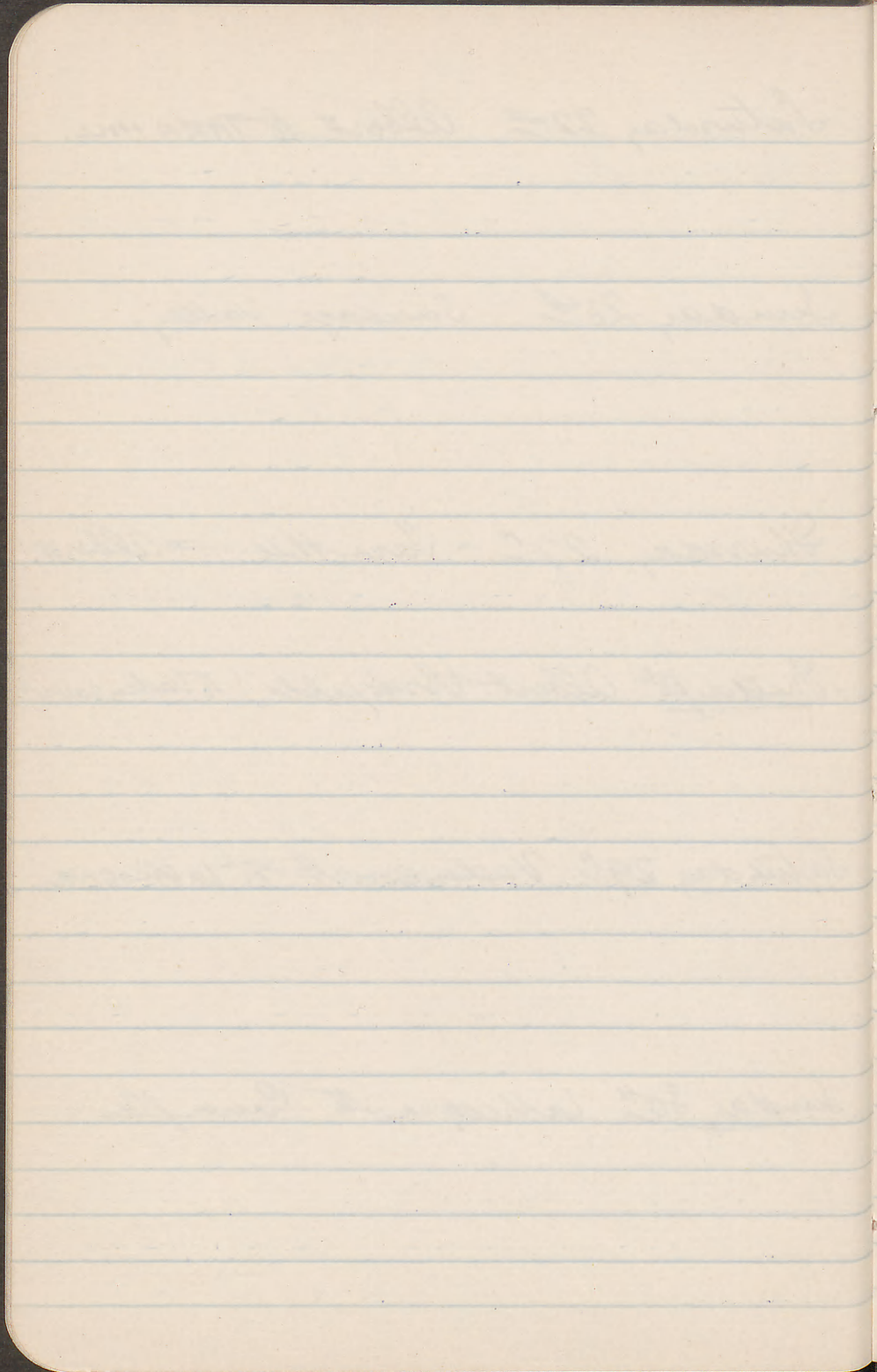
Sunday 23rd Sausage Valley.

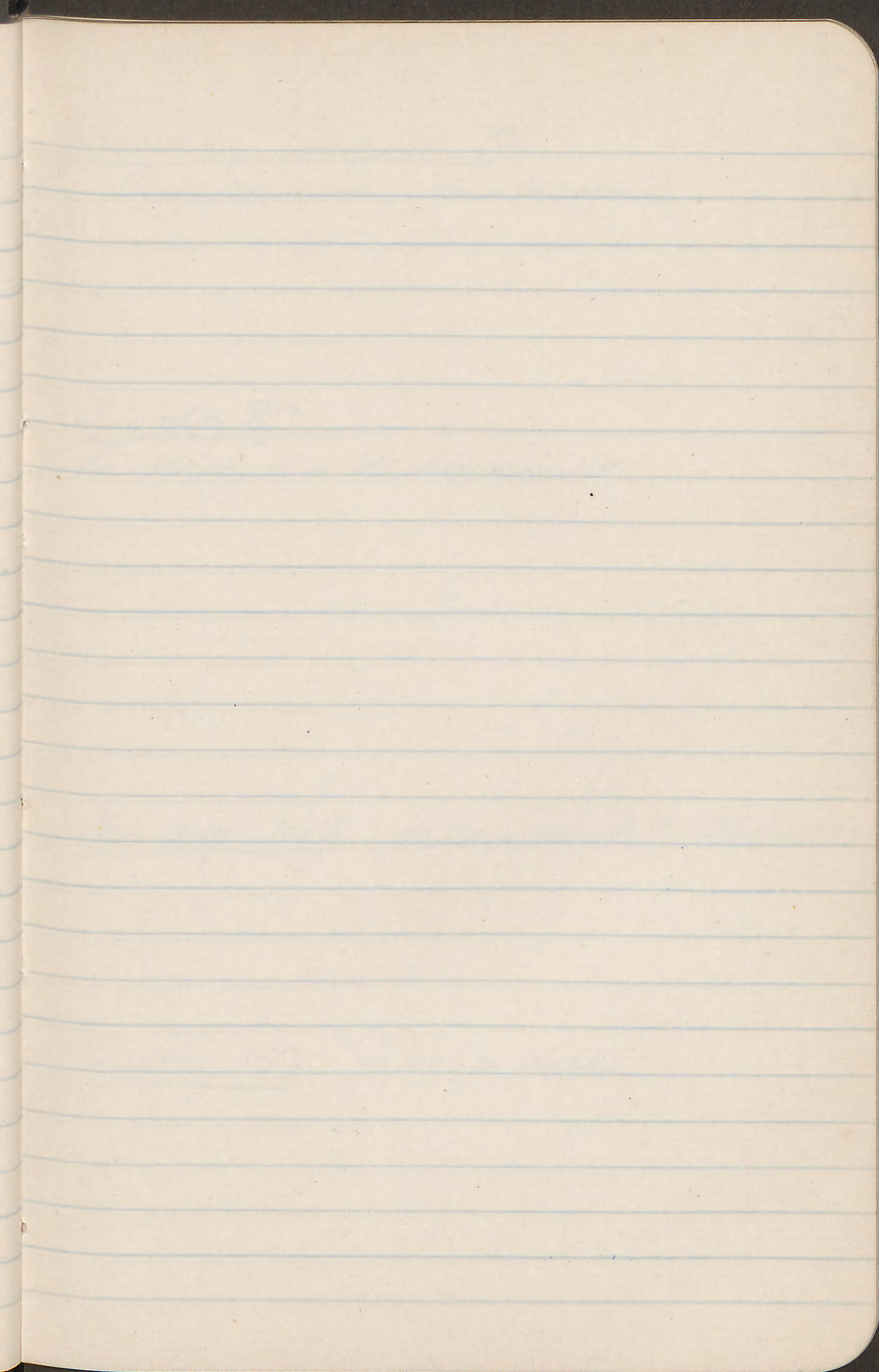
Thursday 27th Tara Hill — Albert.

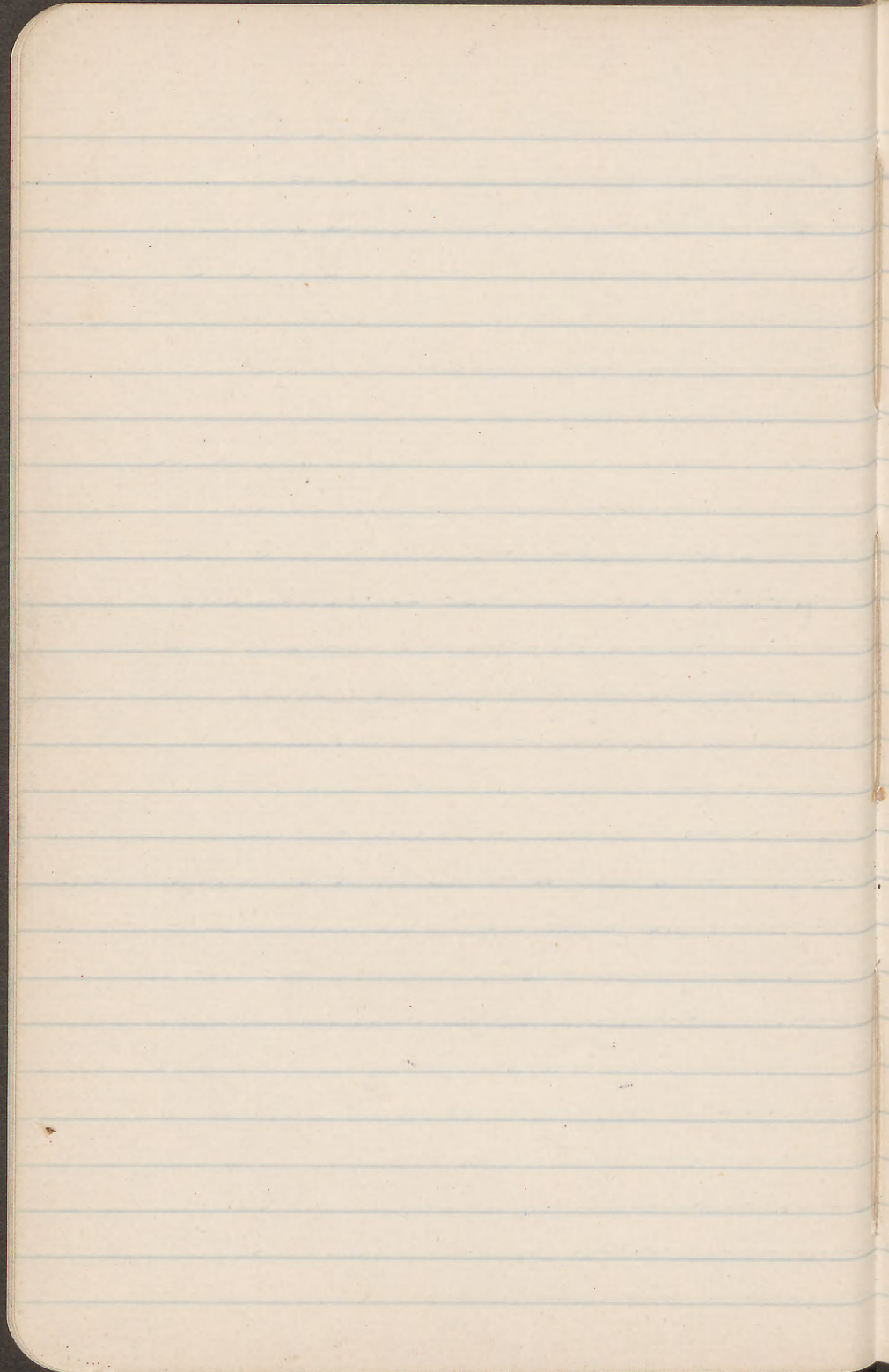
Friday 28th Albert (Brick fields) to Vaden court.

Saturday 29th Vaden court to La Vicogne.

Sunday 30th La Vicogne to Canaples







Monday August 7th

Canby — La Bicoigne

Tuesday 8th

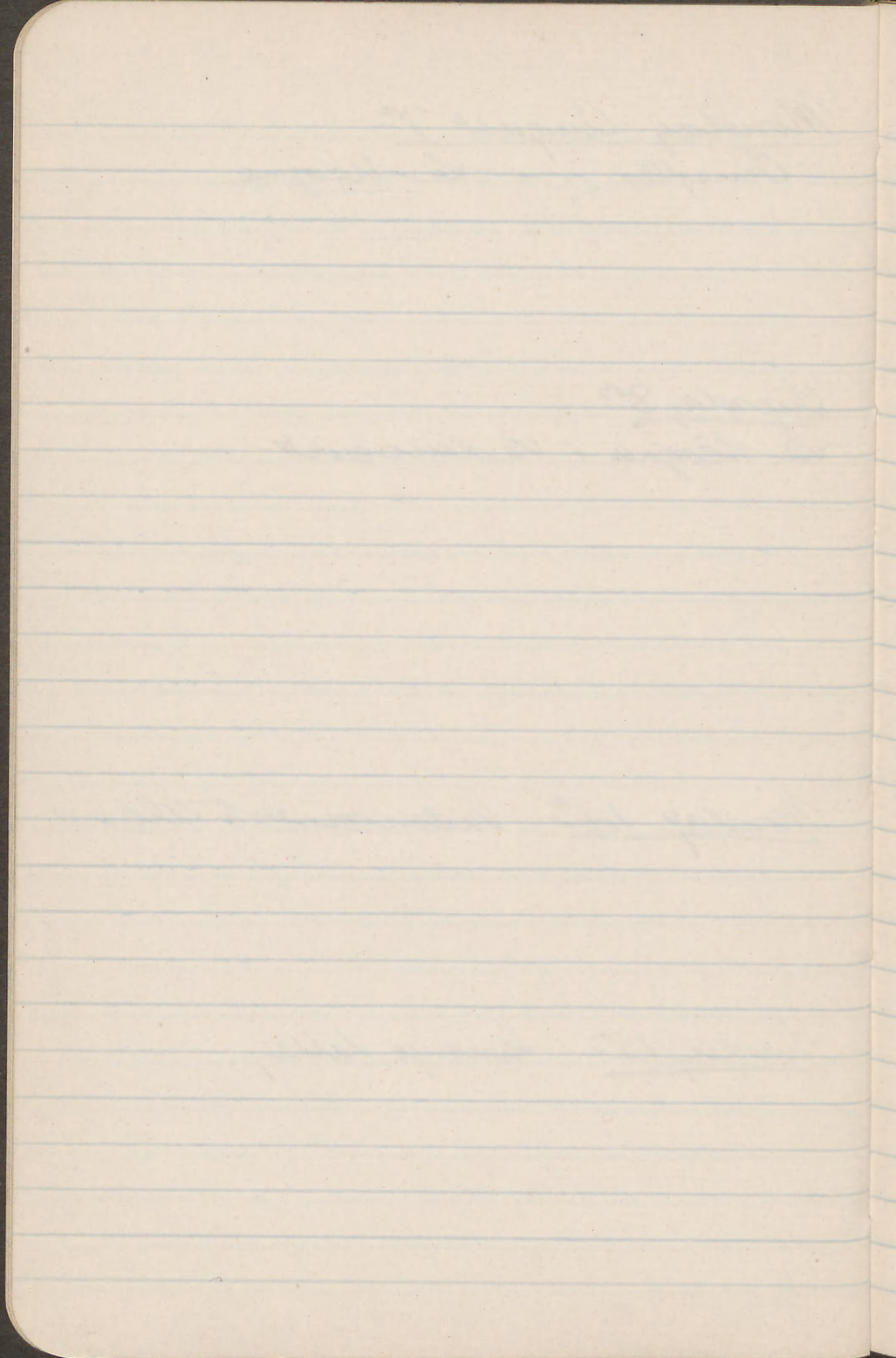
La Bicoigne — Vadencourt

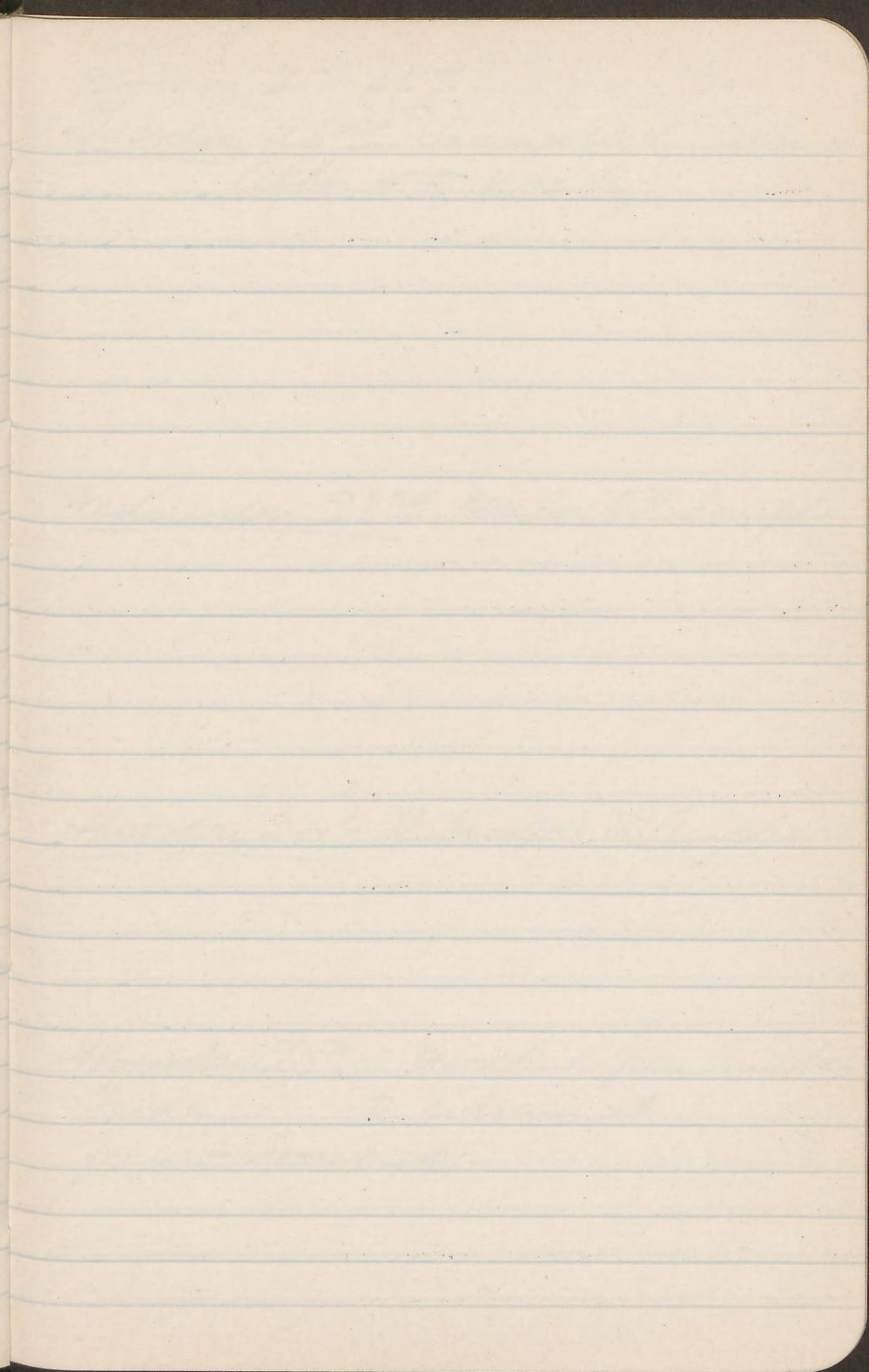
Monday 14th

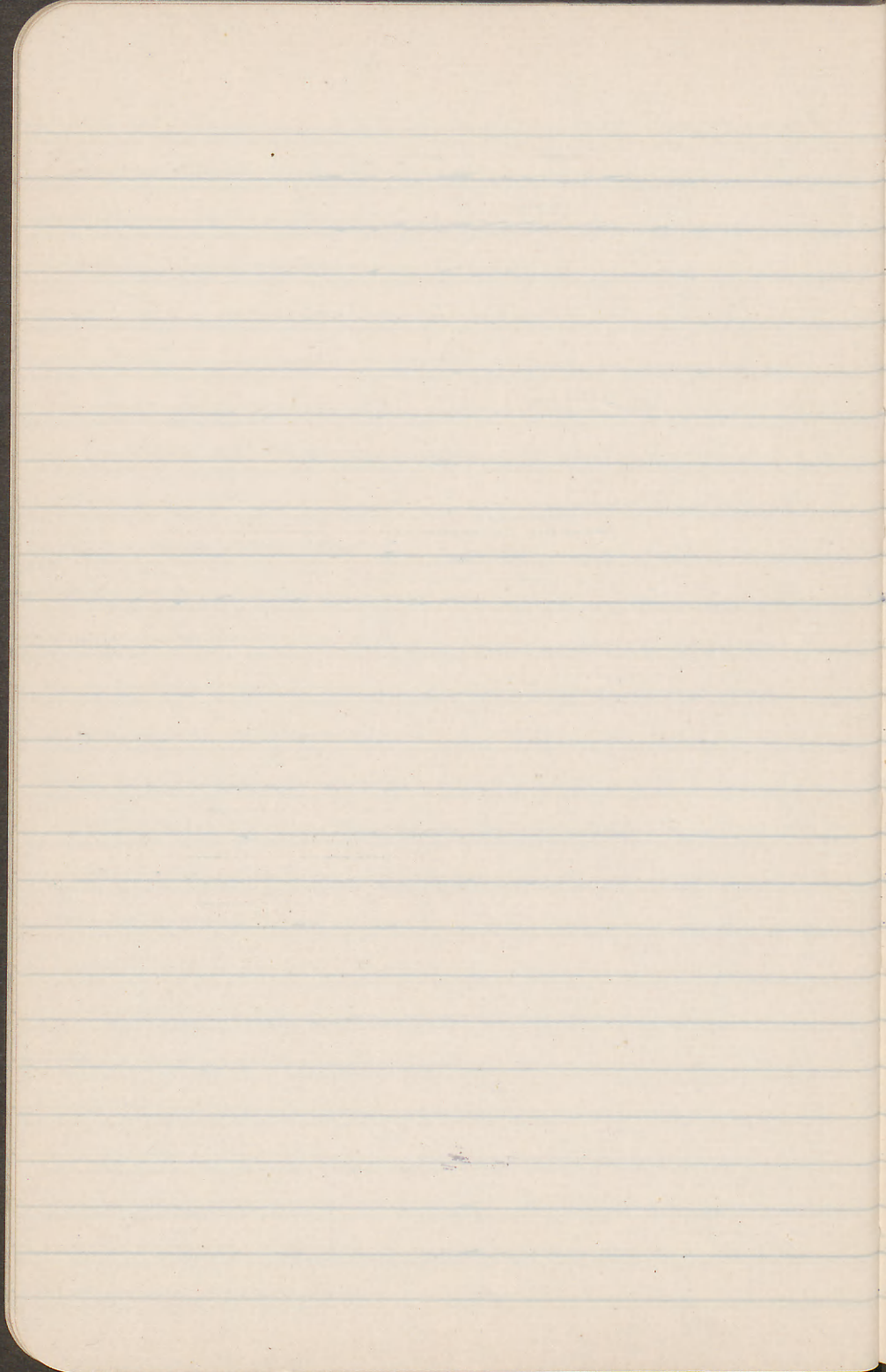
Vadencourt to Albers.

Tuesday 15th

Sausage Valley.







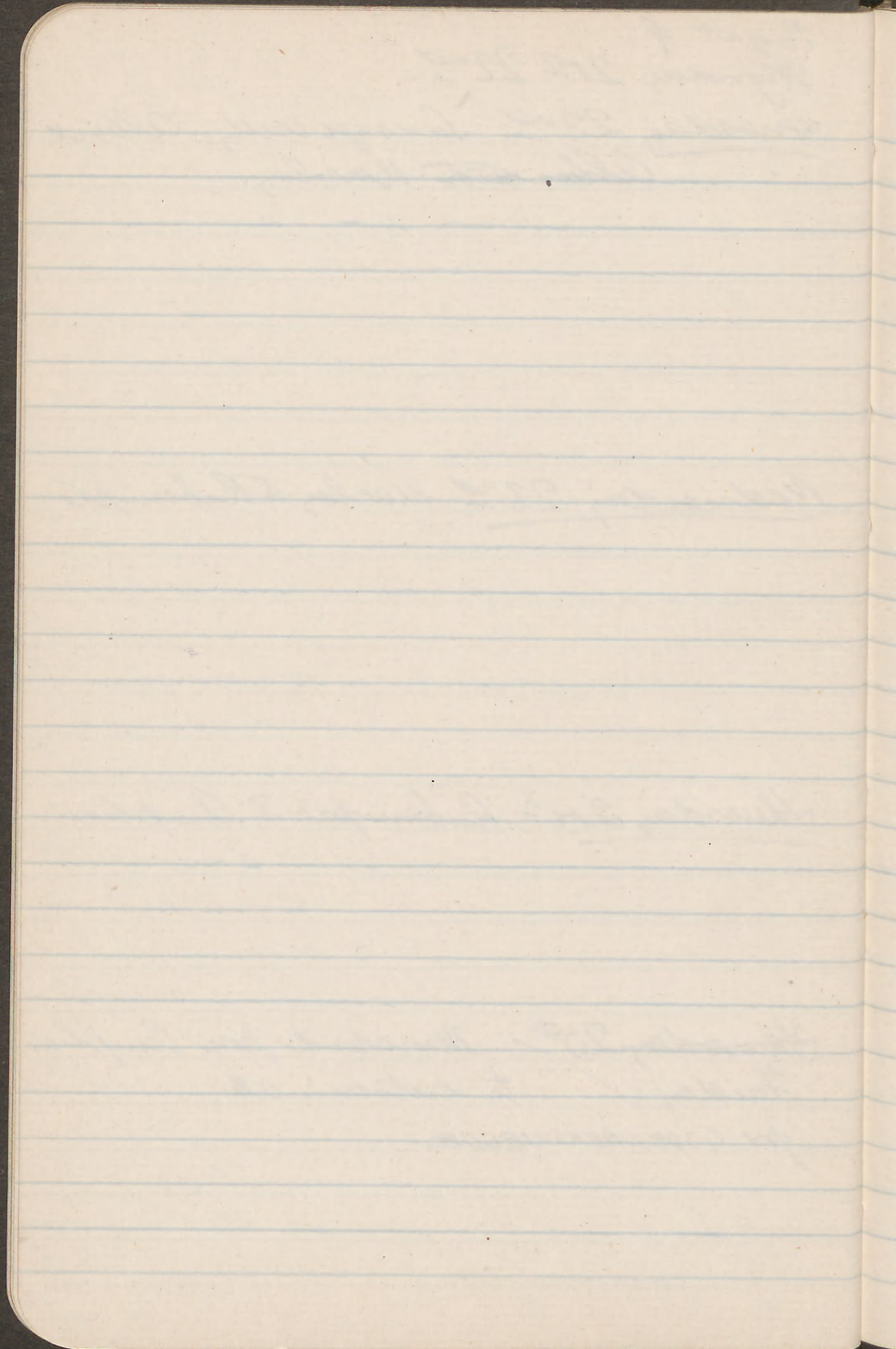
Night of
Monday 21st 22nd.

Tuesday 22nd Sausage Vally - Albert
Albert to Warloy.

Wednesday 28th Warloy to Rubempré

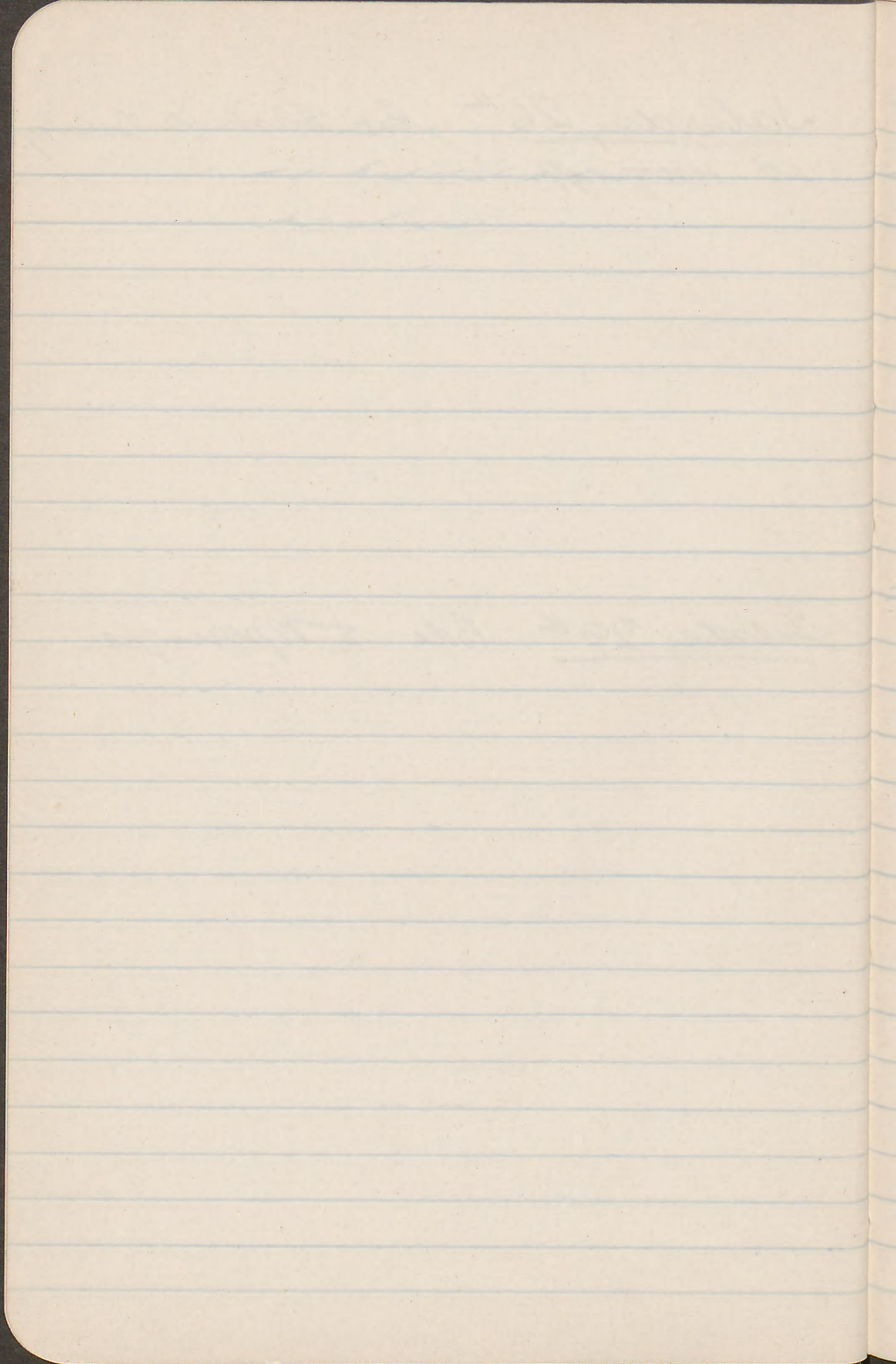
Thursday 24th Rubempré to Amplier

Thursday 25th Marched from Amplier
Friday to Laticain a.
for GODENAEKSWELDE.

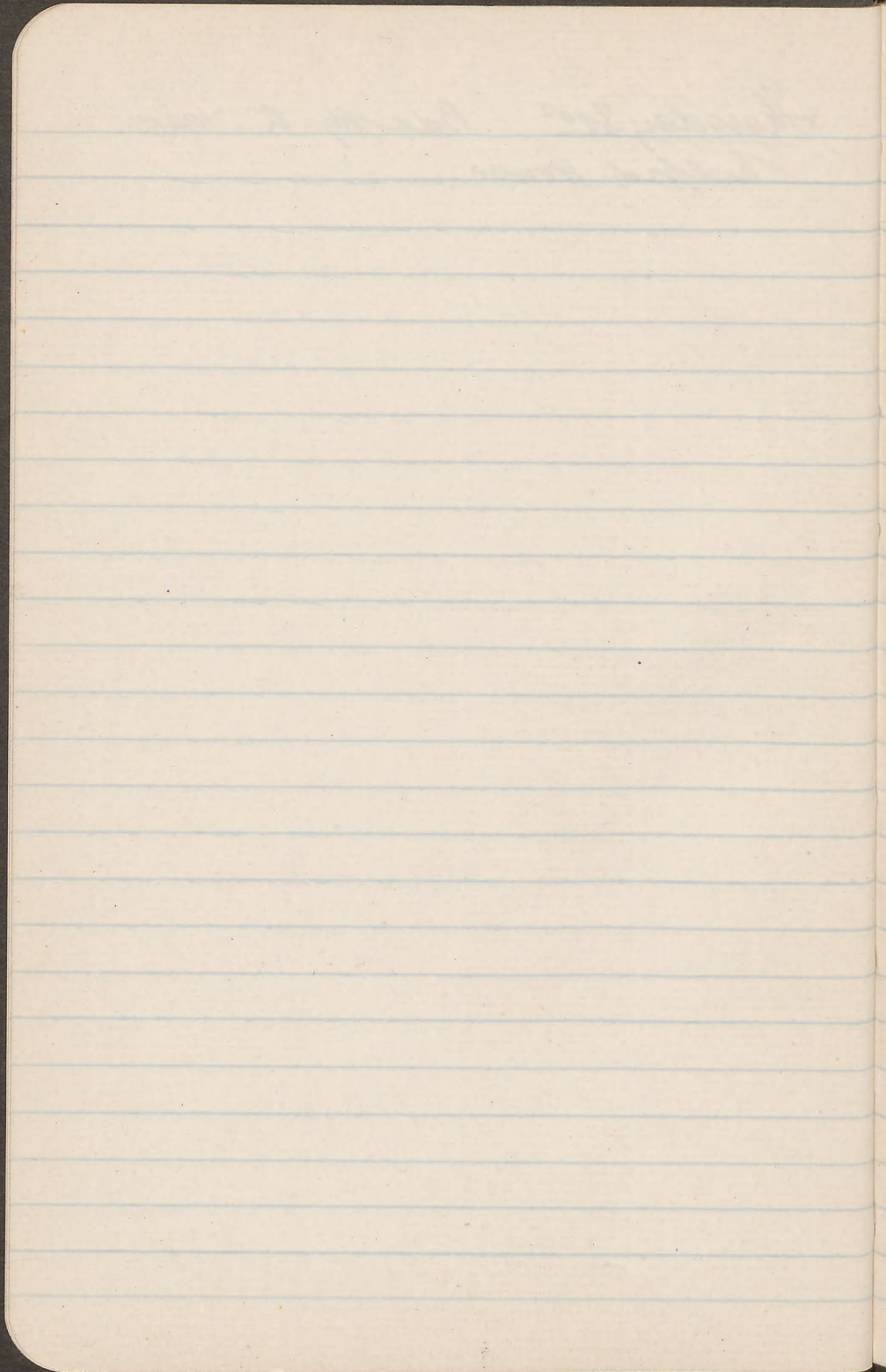


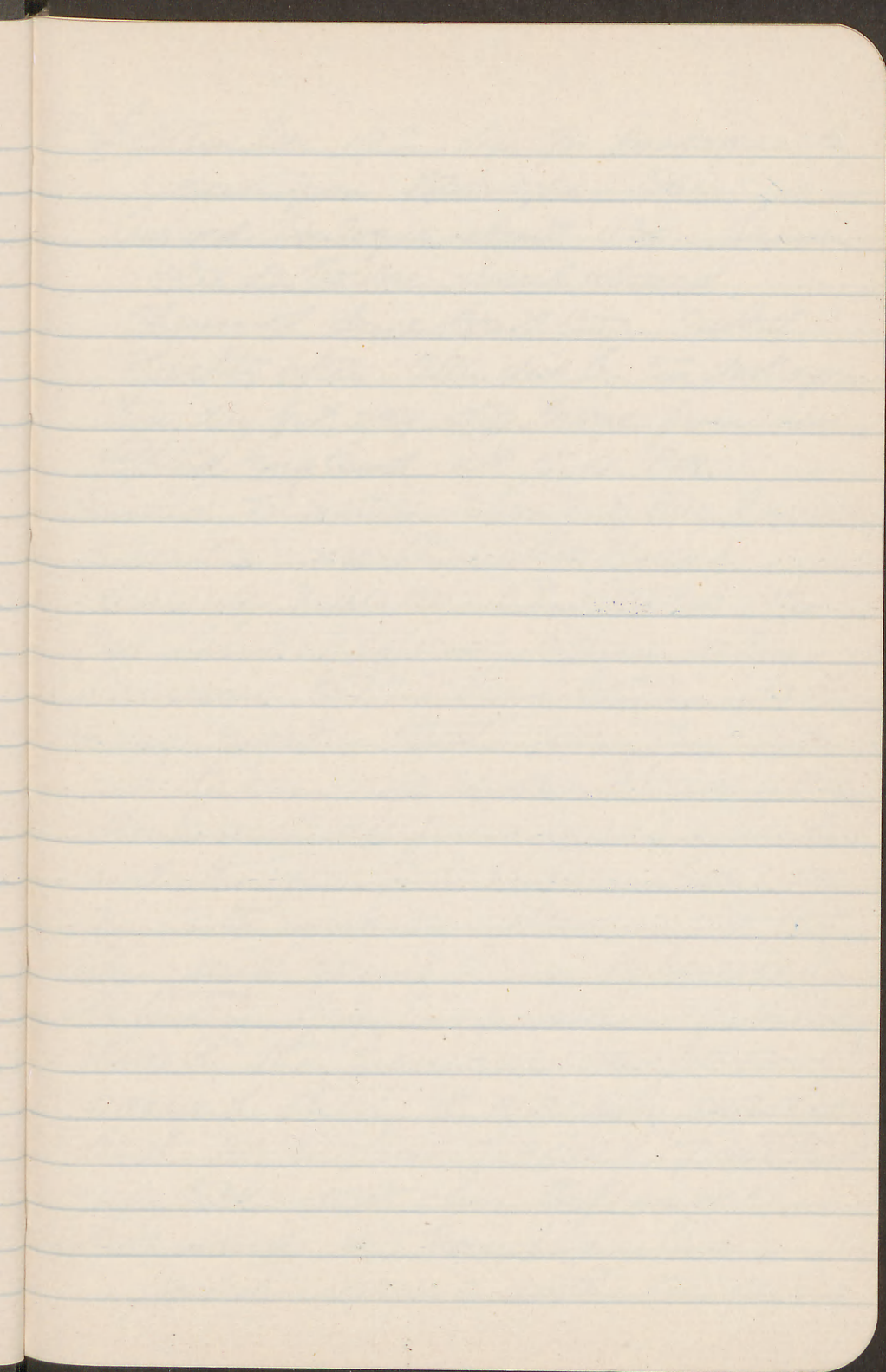
Saturday 26th Established Bldg
at Hoogradf.

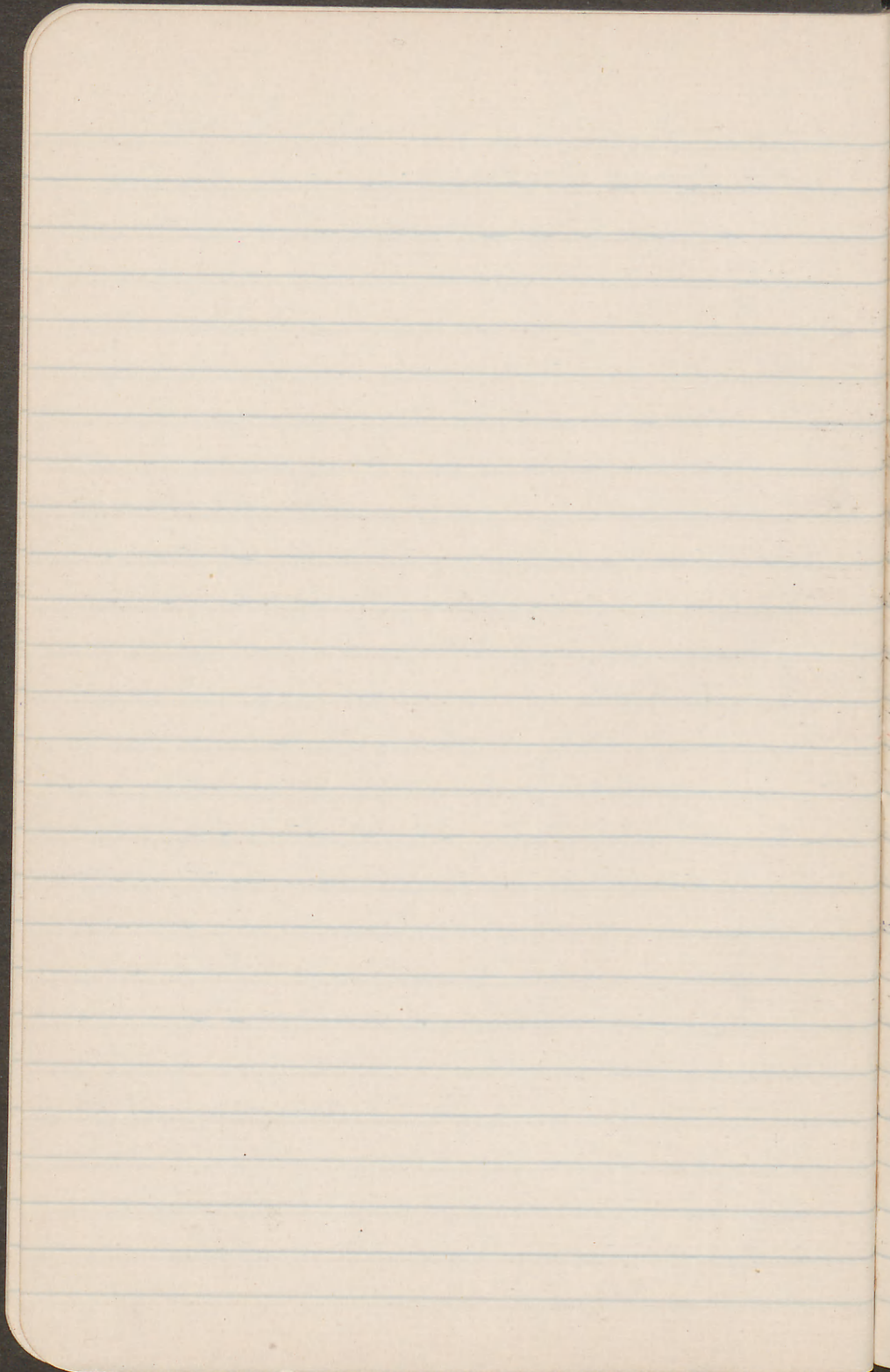
Tuesday 29th Bde to Pperingke..



Thursday 31st Bde Hq to YPRES.
Bedford House.







September 19th Left for Boulogne by
train from Arras 0615.

Arrived Boulogne about 1130. Dinner
Hotel de Bourse. Went aboard

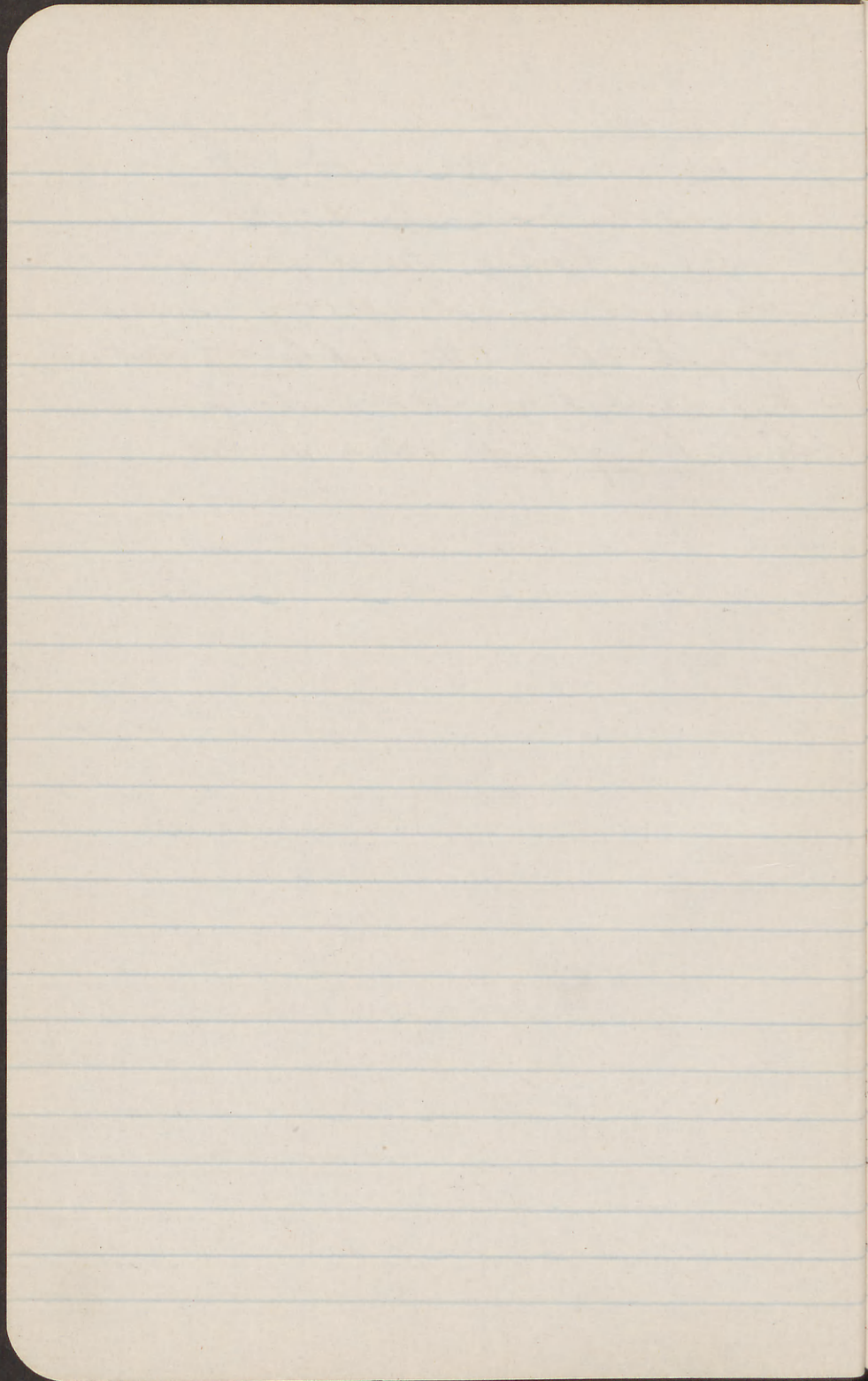
Channel leave boat 1500. Sailed
shortly after. Attended by two destroyers.
Fine day but very stiff breeze from west.
Sighted England at 5.10. P.M.

Landed Folkestone about 6 P.M. Express
to London - mostly in darkness

arriving 8.40 P.M. at Victoria Stn.

Met friend Gilmour again also

Cameron (57th) (now 60th). Dark
rainy night - streets fairly empty
- no taxis - no taxis obtainable.
- anti aircraft guns firing somewhere
and the few palestinians hurried
by with anxious glances at the
sky and young girls balanced
between giggling and screaming.
Shortly the rumour was passed
round that it was only practice
and an archer of about 7 stalked
up town with his Cap on one
side and his hands in his
pockets saying with an air



Sept 26th Bde. ^{plelete} arrived in reserve area
Burse boom.

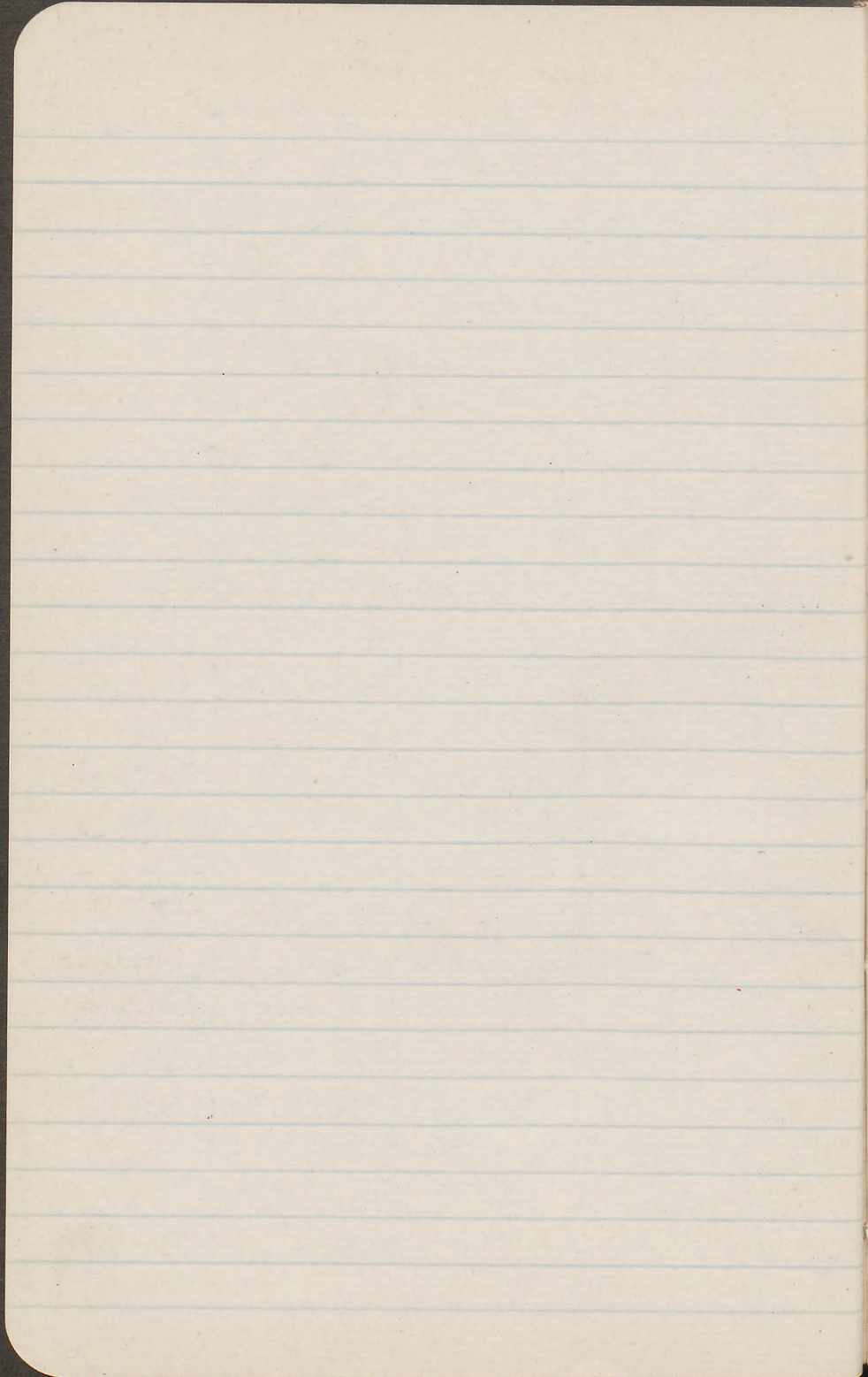
of wisdom and some bravaado
"Yain't nothin' is it mustn't?"
After some considerable difficulty
we obtained a taxi and
went to Alf Hgts. where we
left our names and London
addresses. I then drove to the
Windsor where I booked a
room and turned in.
An excellent Hotel in every
way - luxurious, dignified,
decent and eminently
homely. Prices from 6/3 tax
and breakfast.

Wednesday Sept 20th

Left in taxi 11 am. Lunch
in Hotel - Shopped Army & Navy
Stores where I met Pulchrust -
went to High Jinks - with him
supper at Catti's afterwards -
heavily over-eaten.

Thursday Sept 21st

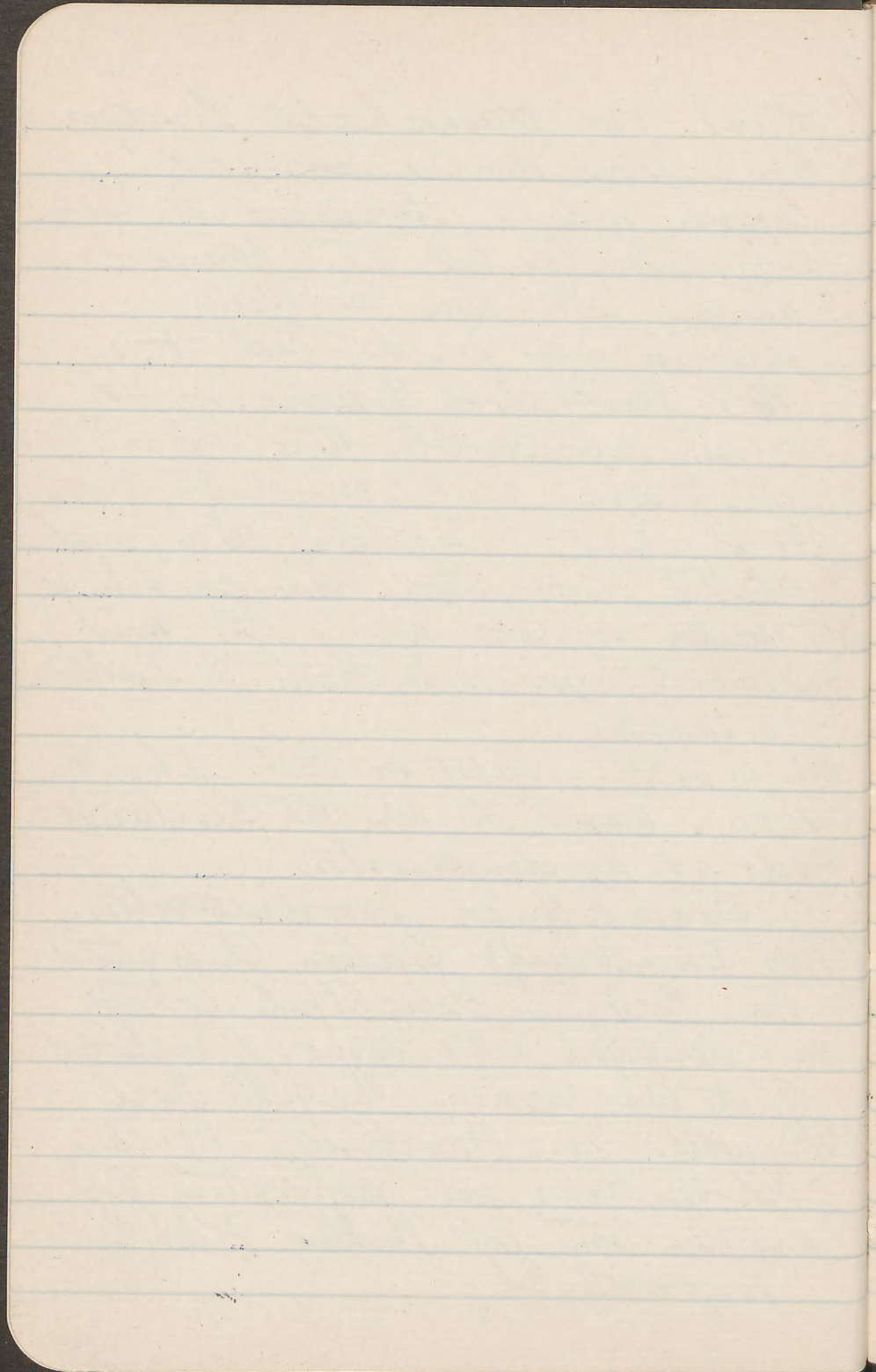
Morning Shopped. Army & Navy.
Went to Hailes 20, Gindlesham Rd
Balham in afternoon 6,



taxi via Vauxhall Bridge.
Mr & Mrs Hailes were at
home only - decided to look
Suzie Taylor at the place
where she was making
dresses for the Red +.
No 1. Cowensish Square. - she
wasnt discoverable there or in
the branch dept round the corner
so I went to Victoria Stn and
waited for her there. She an Lily
Hailes arrived at 7 PM and
I went home with them to Balham
to supper.

Saturday 22nd. Slept in till about
1000. Went to see the Cleveland
girls at Woodmanslow.

Oacre Cottage, Woodmanslow.
(Mr Standring) Station Chipstead
via Purley. - delightful Cottage
in a delightful little corner of England
quite near London. The girls were
very well. Mrs Standrings 17 year
old son was just departing for
his new term at Public School
forget which.



Returned to London and went to
Mr Manhattan with Aunt Liz and
Sily Hailes - took them home in a
taxi to Bulham.

Saturday, 23rd Morning went
over the Royal Exchange - thence
to Hampton Court - had lunch
on the balcony of a little hotel
overlooking the beautiful river.
Waited on by a dignified portcarch
of a waiter in a dress suit.

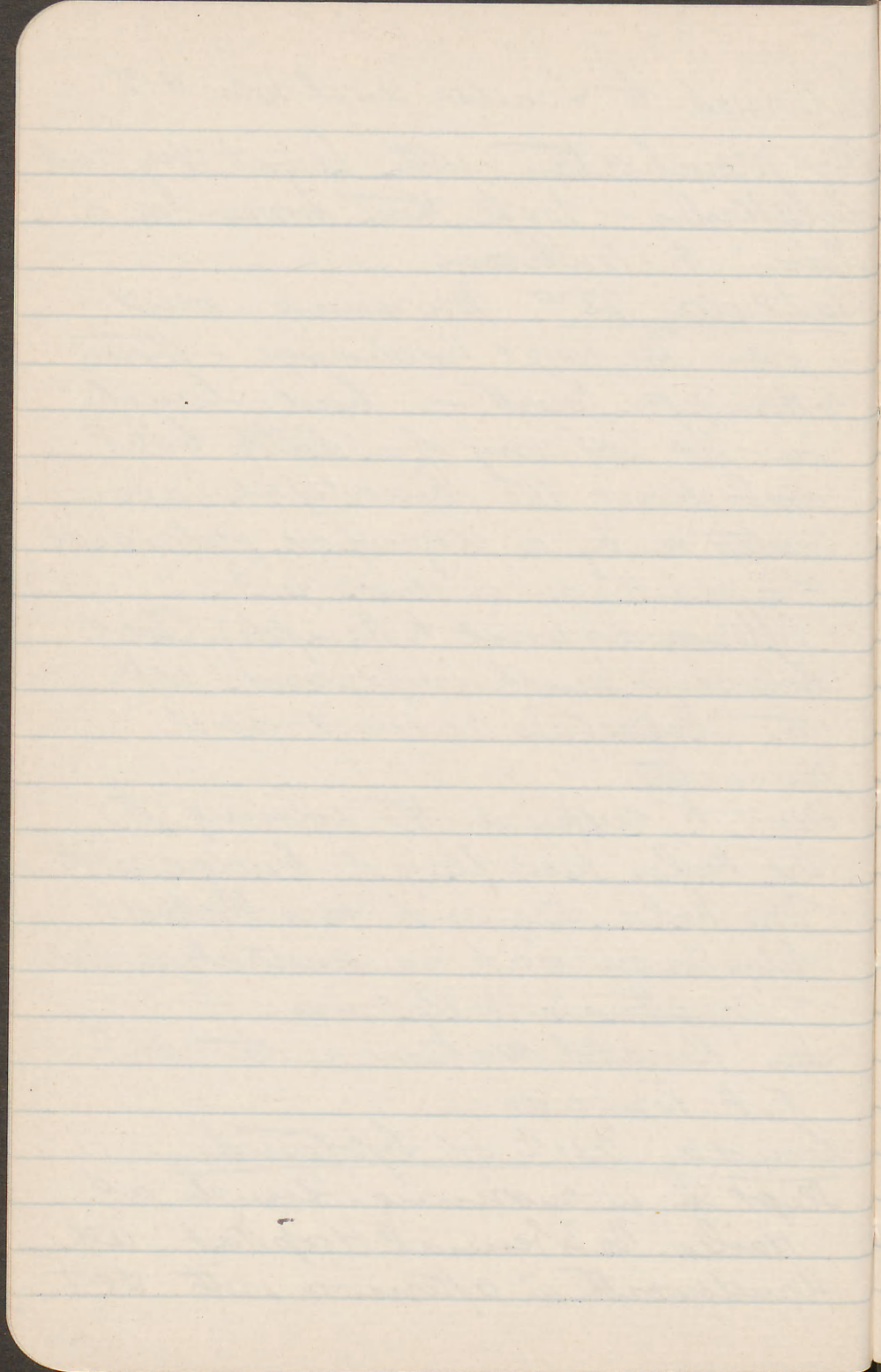
Afterwards went to Hampton Court
Palace - much impressed with
the tapestries ancient and
renovated.

Went to supper in the evening to
the Hailes and played bridge with
Mrs Hailes, Lily and Mrs Watson
Lily's Cousin and an Australian Lady
- squatters in the Riverina. -

Sir Ronald Watson in the 4th
F. A. Brigade

Sunday 24th of September

Slept in in morning. Lunch at
Hailes'. No. 3 General Hospital at
Wandsworth in afternoon with S.C.T.



Saw St Legginton (6th Bn) Capt Lodge
8th Bn. Just missed seeing Major Bowditch.
thence to No 1 H.G.H. Camberwell
— no one there I knew or wanted to
see. Tea Hailes — Church at
Balham with Lizzie and Lily
Supper at Hailes

Monday Sept. 25th

Caught 1055 from St Pancras to
Edinburgh — charming run
up Eastern Counties — Great
Northern Railway — with L.C. & J.
Arrived Edinburgh station
at 1840. Booked rooms at S. Nk.
Hotel. Walked round town —
dinner — bed.

Tuesday Sept 26th

Wid National Gallery — Edinburgh
Castle — (see Baedeker) The Royal
Mile — St Giles Church with the
Chapel of the Order of the Thistle —
Holyrood Castle and Chapel.
(see Baedeker) Lunch on balcony
tea room — afternoon tour to
Forth of Forth bridge. Caught
1020 night train to London

Wednesday 27

Arrived London 0820. - Breakfast
Windsor Hotel - Caught 1058
train from Waterloo to Cambridge
- did King's College Chapel
went for a row on the Cam
- strolled along the "Backs"

Thursday 28th

Touring car trip to Windsor Castle.
Katie Cleveland, Sissy
Taylor, General Forth and
self - beautiful drive
- through Burnham Beeches -
pass Stoke Newington Churchyard -
home. Took Katie home to Chipping

Friday 29th Left for France.

Charing Cross 0930. LCT and
L.H. Daw me off. Arrived Boulogne
about 2.30 PM. Went in car
run to Wimereux with
St. Helierist⁽⁶⁾, Hilland⁽⁷⁾ and
another officer. Called at
No 2 A.S.A. at Wimereux and
had afternoon tea with Jack
Norris. (M.S.) Train left Boulogne
about 2200

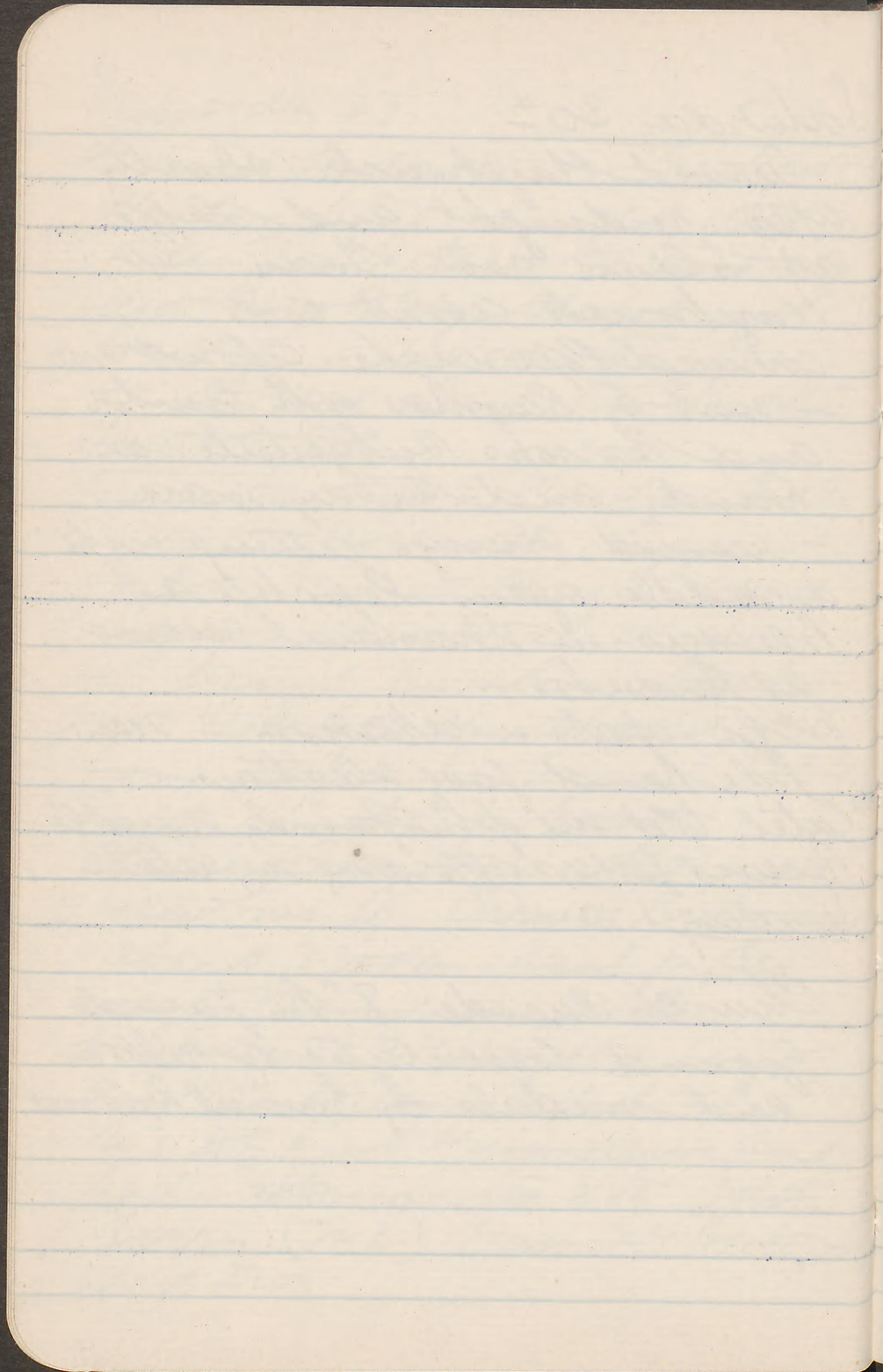
Saturday 30th

Arrived Hazebruck shortly
after midnight and slept
at Soldeis rest. Train left
Hazebruck about 0845

arrived Poperunghe about 1100
- met by Raymer with timber
and Pearson's substitute on
Dandy and the bay mare
- seemed strange getting into
a saddle again. Reported at
Bde Hqrs in Divisional reserve
at Busselton.

6th Bn sports in afternoon - new
Bde Band gave selections -
Mr. Catel told me of his family trouble.
Received papers approving my return
Sunday 1. 10. 16

Church Parade 8th Bn parade
ground. Presentation of ribbons
and medals by General Bridwood.



Monday 2nd Octobe

Riding School at Divisional
Barracks School. General Antill
Chief instructor. B/M, S/Capt,
A.D.C. asst instructors.

Monday 9th

Bde Hqs moved to left Bde Hqs

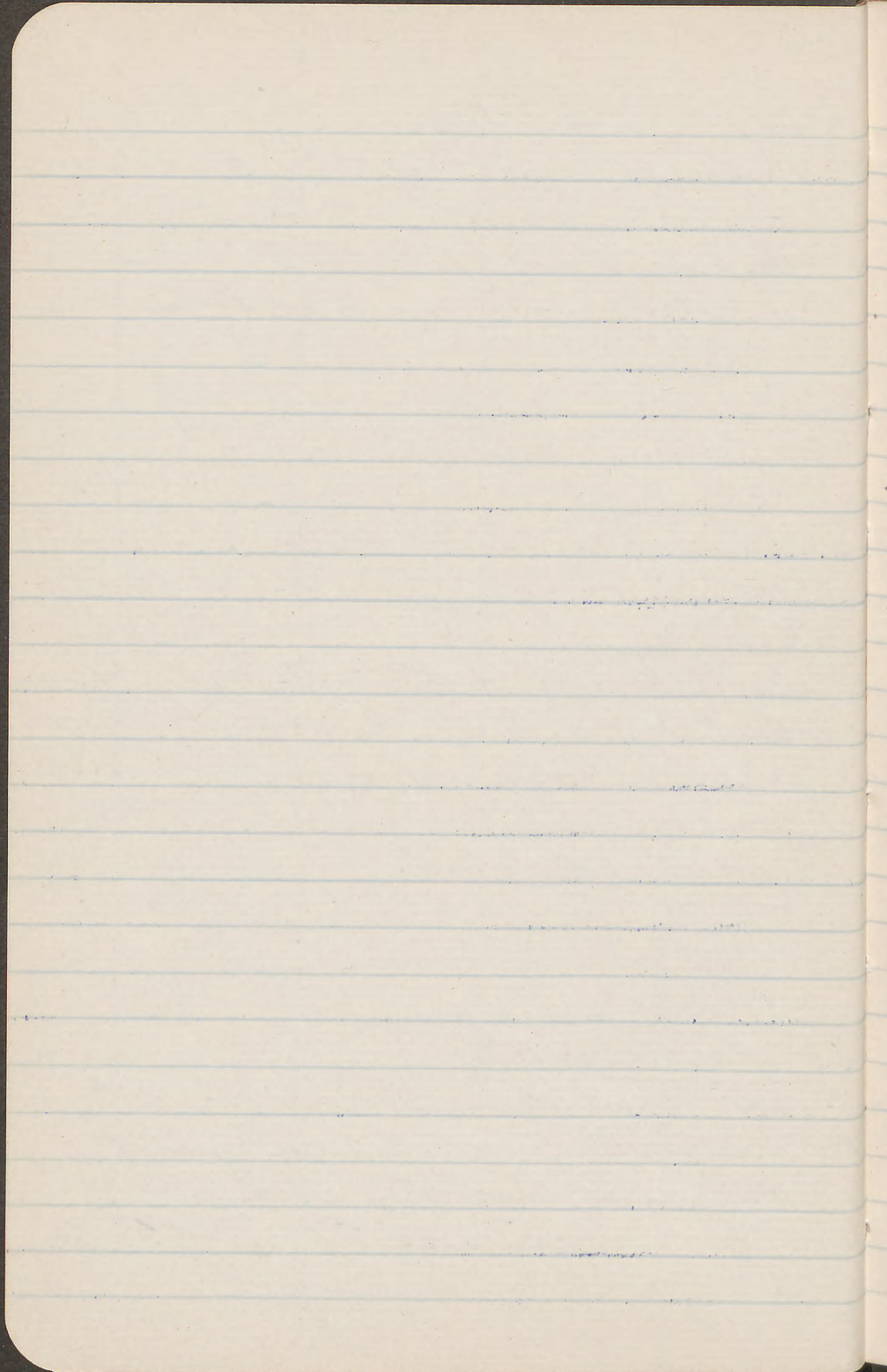
YPRES - Railway Dugouts.

Frank's battery only about a
 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away

Tuesday 10th

Wednesday 11th

Had dinner with Frank at
his battery — Harold Tunton
Mr Evans, Smith, and Capt
— — — Adjutant 4th F.A. Bde.



Wednesday 11th

Frank called at Bde Hqs
en route to take over right
Bde Group Hqs till late.

Rumours about our going
to St Omer in a month's
"training". Rumour
believed a bluff actual

fact being an immediate
move to the Somme. Gd General
Antill should remain on duty
till the Somme action was over

(as us) unless I could hand
over to my successor at once. To
this he agreed, but the same
day he went to D.H.Q. and told
them that they need not hasten
the appointment of a new

Staff Captain. I wrote to Frank
and told him of my final decision
and he sent back by bearer

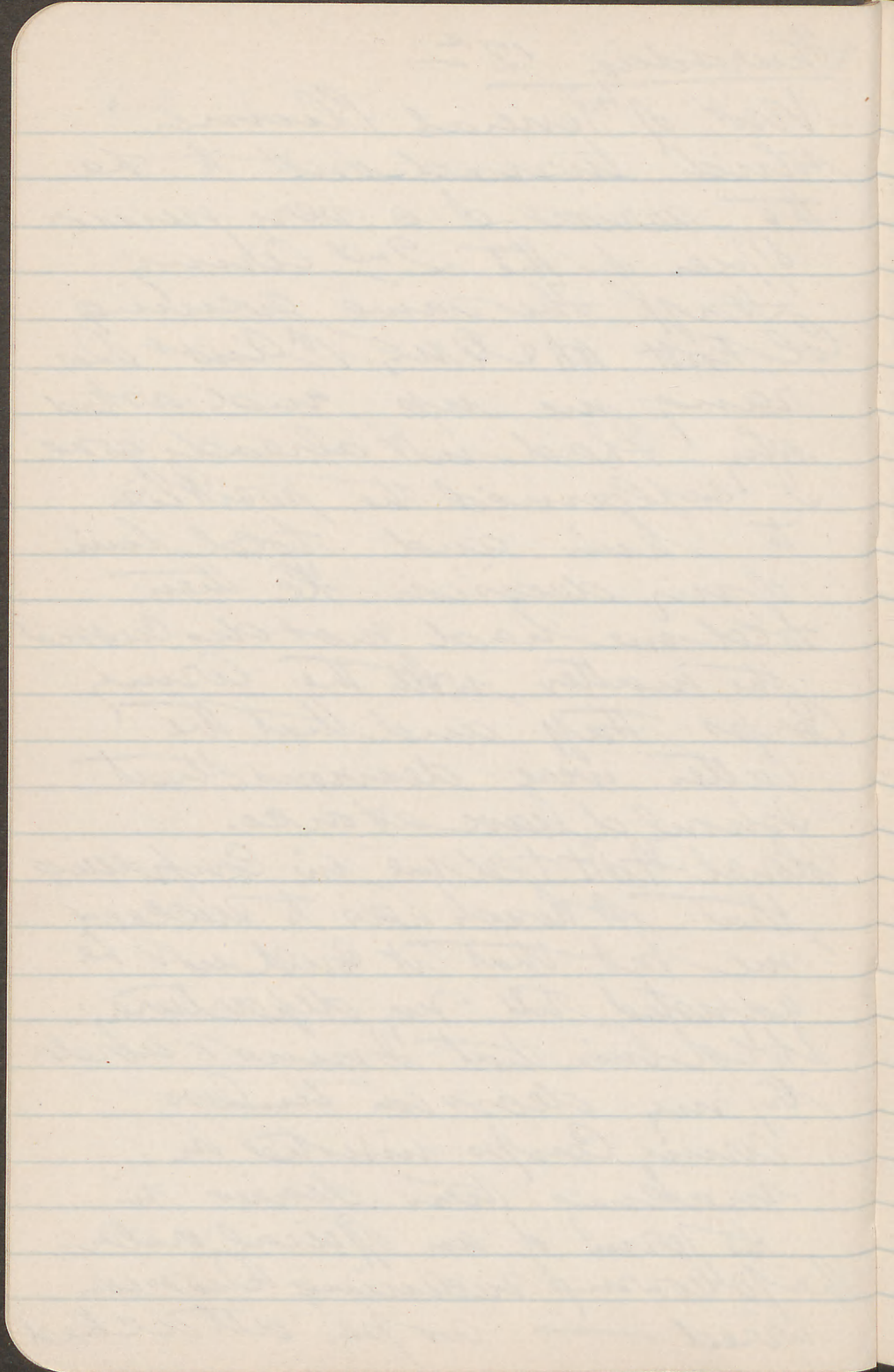
"your duty to your present
Brigadier is to leave at
once". General Antill had
previously forbidden me to
discuss the matter with
Colonel Fott.

Page 1

Thursday 12th

Visit of "General Plummer" which turned out to be the arrival of a very junior officer of the 2nd Army Staff. The same evening Col. Foss. AA & QMG. 1st Aust. Div. rang me up and asked why I had not already gone. I explained the position to him and told him of my decision. He then told me had just discussed the matter with the Army Corps Staff and that the latter were desirous that I should leave at once.

Colonel Foss told me in confidence that A. Reach was to succeed me but that it could not be adjusted till my departure. I told him that I must abide by my decision unless Army Corps insisted on making their desires in the form of an official order. The following morning Division wired — as per attached



This of course settled the matter
both for Antell and for my
own Conscience. I informed
Frank by special messenger.
and that gentleman was
much relieved.

Friday 13th

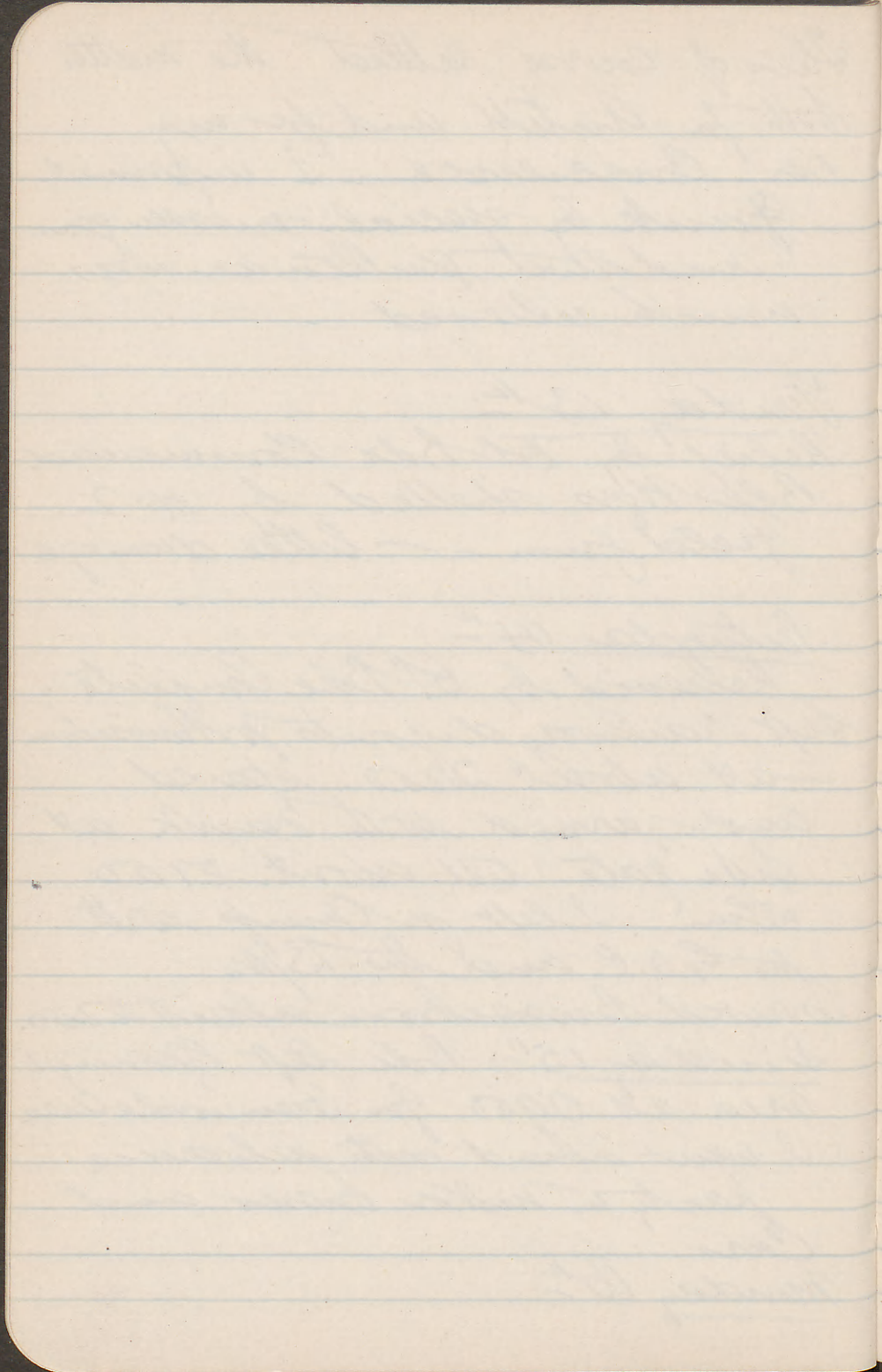
Relief by 6th Bde Commenced.
Bde Hqs shelled by H. 2
field gun - - little damage.

Saturday 14th

Relieved by 6th Bde Complete.
Left railway depots for Busseboom
at about 2200. Stayed
and gassed with Frank at
Jute gate till about 0100
when I left for Camp with
the G.O.C. and the B.M.
Arrived Busseboom about 0200.

Sunday 15th Bde left Broomfield
area at 0900 for Steenwilde area.
I went ahead with advance
party in motor busses and
Cars.

Monday 16th



Bde left 0830 for Nordpeene
area. I went ahead in
motor ambulance and
billed units in Nordpeene.
Then went on to Corneke
where I met the staff
at the Back Horse Cafe
and had some lunch
- then to Bde Hqrs selected
by Captain Agnis.

Distribution

Nordpeene
Dir. Sanitary Section. Farm. Nordpeene.
No 2. Field Ambulance. Chateau. "
No 2. L. T. M. Btry. Chateau Courvent. "
No 2. A. M. G. Coy. "
No 2. Field Coy. A. E. "
Corneke

Bde Hqrs

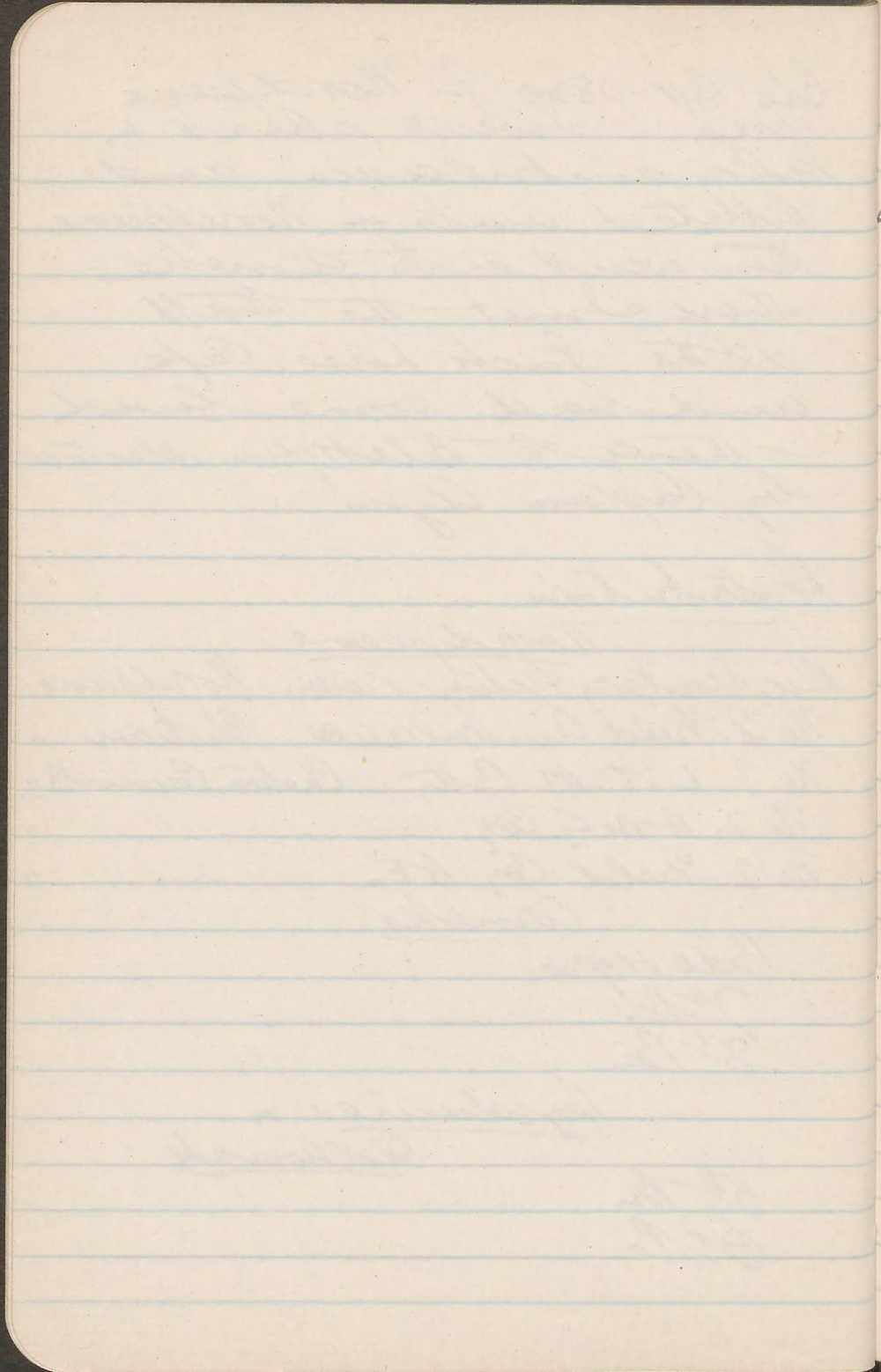
7th Bn

8th Bn

Bysschuire n
Bisthouck

5th Bn

6th Bn



Tuesday 17th Bde left for
Eperlecques Area 0830.
A Langhlin Mcz party went
ahead on bikes and
had most of the work done
when I arrived in the
motor ambulance car.
Distribution

Bde Hqs. & 8th Bn. Eperlecques.
8th Bn.

M.G. Company

T.M. Bty. " Eperlecques.

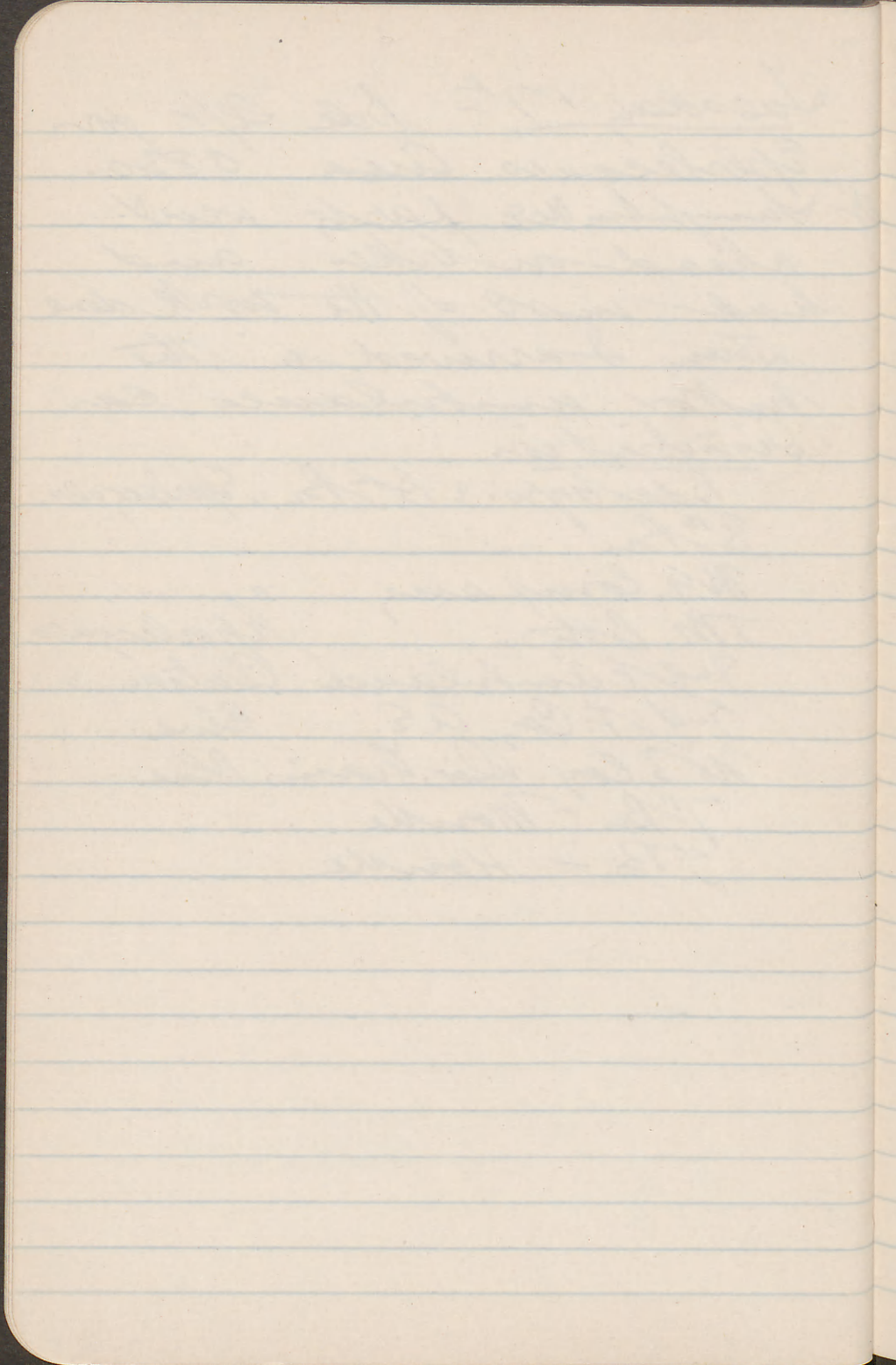
2nd F. Ambulance. Chateau. "

2nd F. Coy. A.E. Blue.

No 3 Coy. Div. Train. Blue.

7th Bn - Mouille

5th Bn - Houille



Wednesday 18th

Said goodbye to staff and
rode to St Omer - about
5 miles. leaving. Bde Hqr
about 0900.

Razmer and Lumber with
baggage and Pearson
on the Bay mare. Drove
the General's "ruffer".

Dandy had hurt his hoof.
Caught train 1115. St

Maine saw me off at

The Station. Arrived

Boulogne much delayed

3 P.M. missed Channel

boat. Stayed at Hotel

de Souvre. Met Genl Stave

2nd Aust. Div. Arr. Sub Park

en route in England to

join R.F.C. - went to the

Cinema with him in

evening.

Thursday 19th

Left Boulogne 3.45. P.M. was
not crossing Channel.

Arrived London 8.10. P.M. went
Windsor Hotel.

Friday 20th October

Went to Air Hqs. - saw W.O.
Perrin transport department.

Saw Lt Col. V. Hurley. A.D.M.S.

(vic). Saw Wally Simmons.

(Lt Col No 1. A.S. H.) Voted Yes to
Australian Conscription Referendum.
Supper at Harles.

Saturday 21st

Breakfast and lunch with
Consett Riddell - (Cousin also)
with L.C.T.) at Windsor Hotel

- then "did" St Pauls Cathedral
and Hyde Park - the Serpentine.
- dinner at the Regent's Palace
Bill room thence to "the
Professor's Love Story" (Barry)
(H.B. Irving.) - very sweet.

Sunday 22nd

Wandsworth Hospital with Aunt
Liz. - Saw Eggington, Lodge, (8)
Hemming (5) Roy Cox, Eric Kern

(visitor) and one or two other acquaintances. Tea & supper Hailes - wrote letters.

Monday 23rd A.F. Hgs, drew pay. Went and saw Katie Cleveland and Mrs Schelysheon - 30 Reg park Avenue Maidenhead. Muriel Durham was in hospital.

Tuesday 24th Lunch with Captain's Traill & Fay. 8¹⁵ Pz. to the M.C. at Berners Hotel Berners St London afterwards went to War Office and arranged for investiture for 1030 at Buckingham Palace for Saturday 28th.

Wednesday 25th Spent day with Paul Forsyth at St Albans - lunch at Mrs Heath's (natives) Australian Sisters' Convalescent home - billiards and afternoon tea - dinner with J.K.F. at pebble hotel.

Thursday 26th Shopping with Aunt Liz in Bond St.

List of Ships Composing the Fleet of
the Australian Imperial Force
which left Albany W.A. 1st Nov. 1914

<u>Left line</u>	<u>Centre line</u>	<u>Right line</u>
WILTSHIRE A18	ORVIETO. A3.	EUROPEDES A14
MEDIC A7	SOUTHERN. A27.	ARGYLLSHIRE A8
ASCANIUS A11	PERA A4	SHROPSHIRE A9
STAR OF ENGLAND A15	ARMADALE A26	AFRIC A19
GEE LONG A2	SALDANNA A12	BENALLA A24
PORT LINCOLN A17	KATUNA A13	RANGATIRA A22
KAROO A10	HYMETTUS A1	STAR OF VICTORIA A16
MAHARE A21	SUFFOLK A23	HOADRATA A20
CLAN. MAC CORQUODALE A6	ANGLO-EGYPTIAN A25	OMMAH. A5
		MILTIADES. A28

New Zealand.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 3. Mangamui. | 10. Anawa. |
| 6. Orari | 11. Atheni. |
| 8. Star of India. | 9. Hawkes Bay |
| 7. Limerick | 5. Ruapehu. |
| 4. Tahiti. | 12. Wairiana. |

Copied from Capt Forster.
 55. Wiltshire 27/12/16

(Omit)

Men o'war

H.M.A.S. Sydney.

" Melbourne.

H.M.S. Plymou

" Pyramus

" Minotaur.

" Pioneer.

(Japanese) Tonki.

later

H.M.S. Hampshire. (afterwards
sunk with kitchen on board)

Friday 27th October
Shopping in London. Linn
fitted Army & Navy.
Went out to see Mrs
King at Hampstead.
No 55 FROGNALL. HAMPSHIRE.
Had Annie with George & Mr
King and Mother's his
niece.

Saturday 28th October

Investiture Buckingham
Palace. 1030. Went to
palace with Tom Paul in
a taxi

Lunch with Tom Paul. Katie
Cleveland, & Mrs Schely Mead,
at Regents Palace Grill Room.
Met H. C. Marsh & D. S. O.

and Arthur Phillips. — thence
to Theatre Happy Day — thence
to afternoon tea at Savoy.

threw the girls into a taxi and
raced for the Windsor — thence
to Victoria St and train,
to Syngfield.

Arrived about 8 P.M. and
were driven home by Mr. Paul
- Mrs Paul, Miss Paul and
Master Ernest Paul.
Beautiful home at foot of
Surrey Hills.

Sunday 29th

Went to Church morning.
Beautiful old Country
Church - more impressive
than St Paul's Cathedral.
Went over the Estate with you
in the afternoon.
Church in the evening.

Monday 30th

Train for London about 11.00.
Duchess of Marlborough in
same train. - a neatly dressed
little miss.
Saw you off to Salisbury in the
2 P.M. Train.
Visited Mr Gardiner. 21 Whitehall
St W. - painter's nerve extraction
and tooth stopped.
Tea and Supper at Harles &
stayed the night.

Tuesday 31st Left London for
Salisbury with L.C.T. arrived
Salisbury about 1100. —
booked rooms at the White Hart
Hotel. Went to Sarkhill Camp
near Stonehenge via Amesbury.
Saw Gordon Killey and Rob
Sush. (Gyffs 308" Howitzer Btry)
Went with Gordon Killey to
Stonehenge and walked back
over the moors to Amesbury
— thence by train to Salisbury —
Dinner with Sam Paul & H. Dooly.
Felt feverish with cold — stayed
in bed Nov 1st and 2nd. Read
"Naval Occasions" and "A tall
ship or other naval occasions" by
Bartineus.

Nov. 3rd "~~did~~" Salisbury Cathedral
— was lent a book on the life
and work of Elias de Wrechan,
the builder.

Nov 4th Salisbury to Exeter
did Exeter Cathedral — thence
to Tavistock where we put up
at the Bedford Hotel.

Sunday November 5th

Cold, misty, raining
drove in Victoria with a
Groom in livery & Top Hat
to Princetown over the moors.
past Dartmoor prison.

Misty, Cold and raining
nearly all the way. The
moors were very beautiful
but would have been more
so if there had been sun to
gladden the occasion.

Lunch at the Hotel
at Princetown — returned by
a different route to Tavistock.
Dinner, bed, and breakfast
at Bedford Hotel. Train
to Plymouth. Run round
Plymouth Hoe in a growler
— thence to Newquay via Por.
Called on Mrs Caddy and
had great difficulty in
refusing her invitation to
stay with her. Had dinner
with Mrs C. Bed and breakfast
Victoria Hotel. — walk
round the headlands
to the South — bought

Tuesday 7th Monday Nov 6th

Wednesday Nov 8th

Some Cornish Curios. Lunch at
the Hotel — walk to the Island
of Porth in afternoon — across a
little bridge via the hamlet of
Dumies and
evening with Mrs. C. bed and
breakfast at Hotel. — thence
to Plymouth via Lar — lunch
at Plymouth Ry Stn. — thence to
Bristol — Clifton bridge by motor
bus — down the electric mountain
tramway (funicular railway)
Sea at Bristol Stn. train to
Oxford. arrived Oxford about
11 P.M. — rooms at the Arundel
Hotel.

Thursday November 9th

died Christ's College Oxford. Winning Hall
Kilcher &c. — Cathedral —
Bodleian reading room — Called
on Lane at Exeter College. also
saw Lieut. Sutton and Follen (8¹²)
all now R.F.C. School of Instruction.
after lunch went to Medical
School — went over anatomy
department with "Preston's"
prototype — only one subject

in dissecting room and about
20 students doing anatomy.
— the whole place seems to
be given up almost completely
to the Royal Flying Corps.
There the Museum with Aunt
Sylvia (who had been waiting patiently
outside) — very interesting
Collection — not nearly as
good as the Melbourne one
in any respect. — thence
to Magdalen College — Chapel
Addison's walk, quad,
the Cher with the
adjacent park with shy
peeping deer.

"Dark under Magdalens
towers the Cher like a
dream goes by."

Home to dinner and train
to London. — back to the
Windsor about 8 P.M.

Whom should we find in the
Dining room but Frank!

a Lieutenant Colonel
 and to Command a
 Brigade of the 2nd Division.
 Had a short talk. Frank
 left in theatre and I left
 in Hailer with L. Ct in taxi.
 Calling at A.I.F. Hqs en route
 - A.I.F. Hqs were not quite sure
 when the Wiltshire sailed and
 perhaps tomorrow 10!!
 So I dashed to Balham in
 taxi packed my things
 said a fond farewell to the
 dear old Hailer, so and went
 back to the Windsor where I saw F.P.W.
 - went to the A.I.F. Hqs ^{with F.P.W. & J.K.F.} and
 found that I had to be
 aboard by midday on 12/11/16.
 (Sunday). did some shopping
 - including going to Cocks
 Central Office Ludgate Circus
 and Randalls bookshop re
 my top boots - while Frank
 trotted round with Aunt Liz.
 - met Lily Hailer, Frank and
 Aunt Liz at the Regent's Palace
 ball room at 6 and

Friday 10/11/16

had a scrumptious dinner
— taxi to Waddy Long Legs.
which we all enjoyed — walked
back to the Windsor where we had
supper — (C/Mc) and met
General Forsyth — taxi to
Victoria Station — said goodbye
to Fizzie and Silly — back to
Windsor Hotel and packed.

In morning did a little shopping
and then taxi to Mr. Hays with
Genl. Forsyth thence to Waterloo
Station where we got the 12.30
train for Weymouth. Hank
arrived at the station at 12.00
and we had a long yarn.

Pleasant journey to Weymouth
via Bournemouth. Lunch en
route. — stayed the night at
the Hotel Weymouth and
went down by the special leaving
at about 09.00 for Port Canard
Bill — went aboard HMAT
A18. — Wiltshire at about
12.00. For details of voyage see
back of book.

At this point in the dairy it was turned
around and the details of the voyage
home and reflections was started at the
back of the dairy.

Diary Continued

Voyage home and
reflections

November 12th. Sunday.

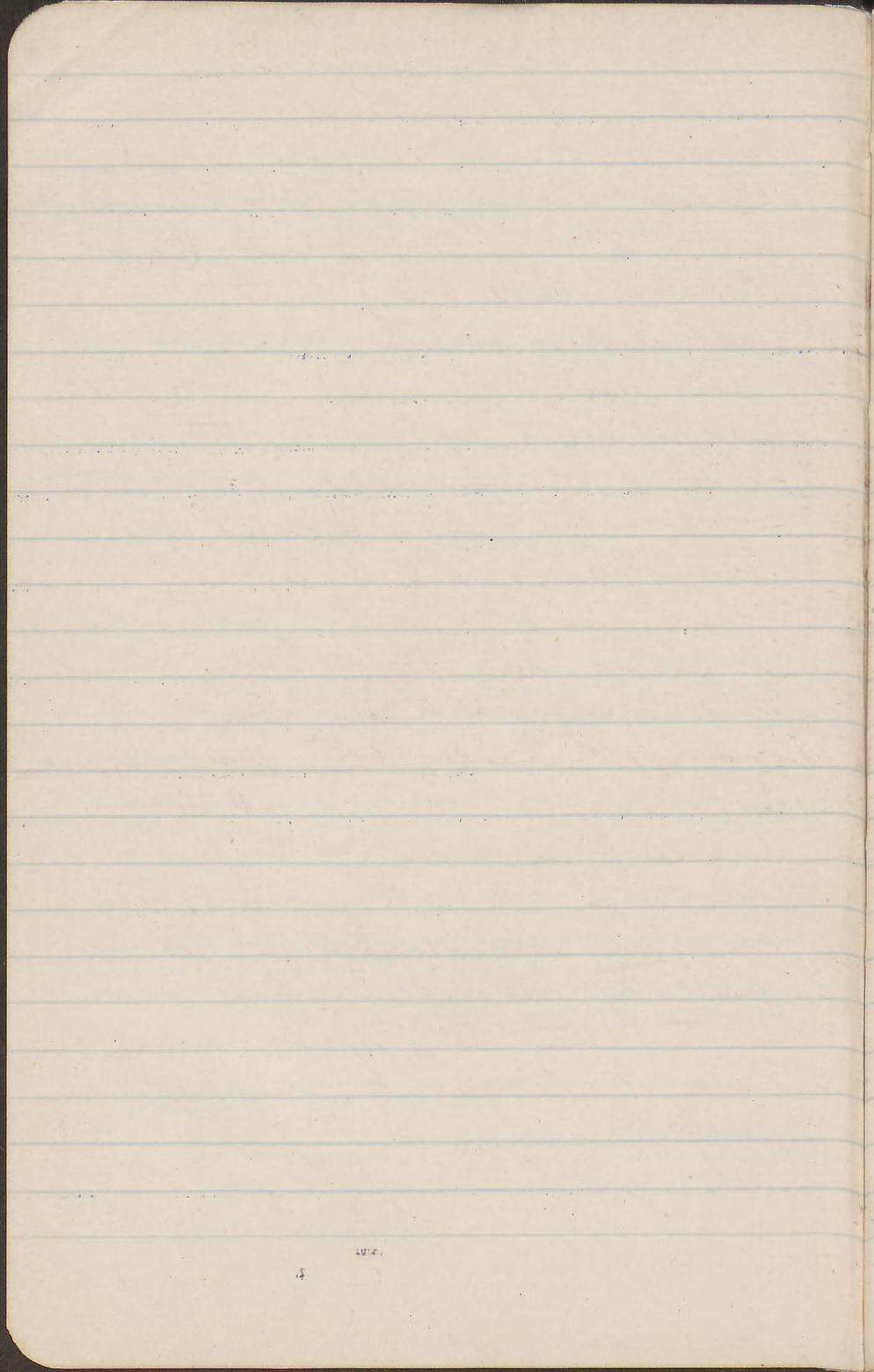
Embarked from Portland Bill
on H.M.A.T.S. A. 18. (Wiltshire).

Came aboard and was immediately
met by the Ships Adjutant. (Capt
P. McP. Woodhall V.D.) that I was
detailed as orderly officer. — in
this duty I remained till the
night of the 14th when the usual
routine commenced. I was then
appointed Ships Assistant Adjutant
and H. Hicks (of the Argus Staff) - Ships
Quartermaster. News of submarines
operating near Bay of Biscay and
some firing heard at sea.

Monday 13th Tuesday 14th Uneventful

Wednesday 15th Sailed at 2100.

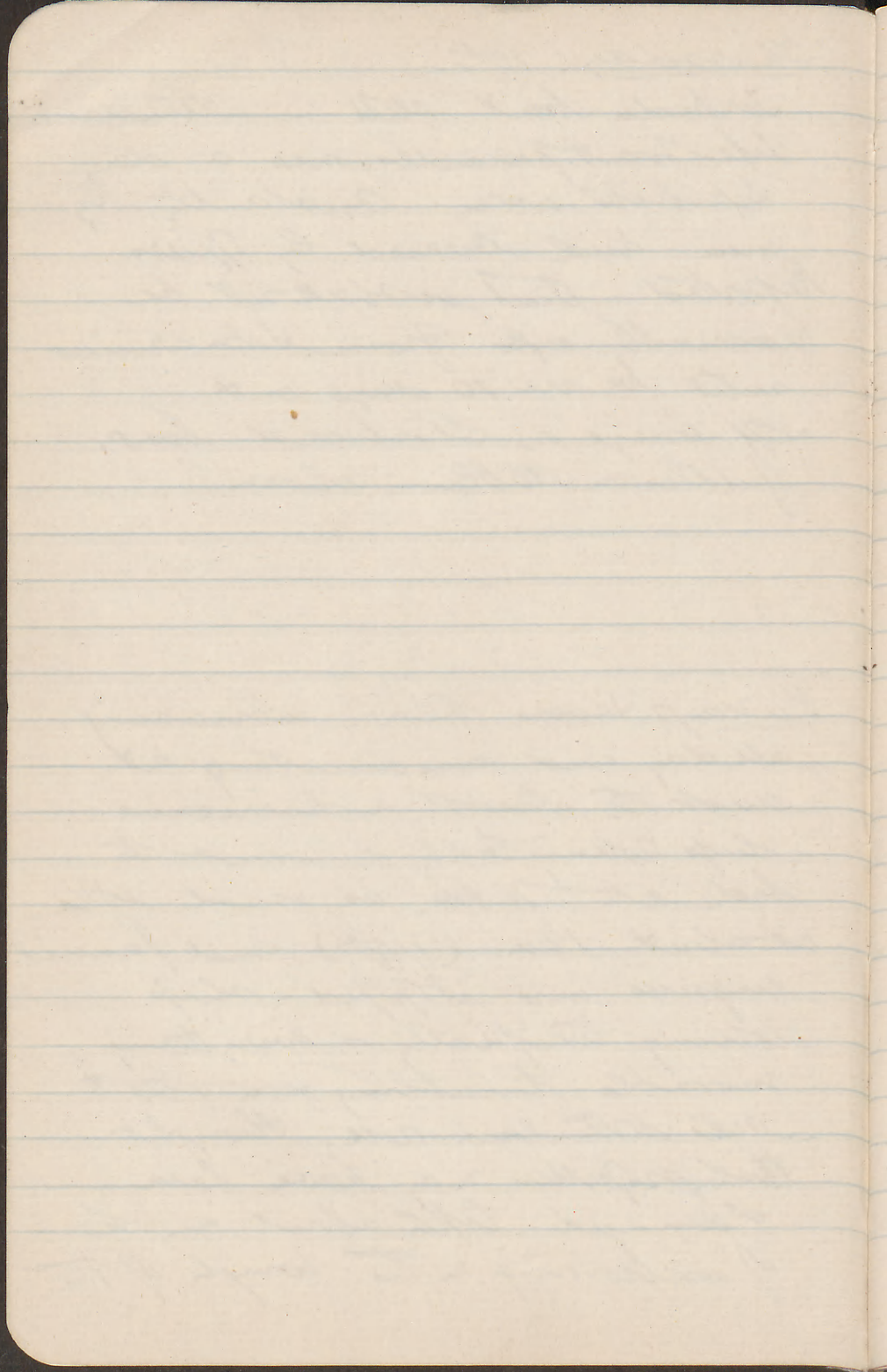
Uneventful night. — torpedo boat
destroyer in attendance. Am
given full responsibility for life boat
and raft arrangements on board
as the other old boats seem to
have got things into somewhat of a
mess.



Thursday. 16th.

Torpedo boat still in attendance.
Life boat parades once a day.
Life belts worn constantly by
men and carried by officers.
Reported that we shall not be
reasonably safe from submarines
until we are 10 days out.
Stiff breeze on Starboard bow.
Fiddles on tables in saloon.

Friday 17 Severe blow. increasing
all day and amounting at
times to almost a hurricane
- ship rolling badly - went to
bed at 11 P.M. as usual. Awoke
at about 1 A.M. (17/18th) and found
engines were stopped - ship
rolling terrifically - everything
movable tumbling from side to
side with each roll. Thought
that propeller may have been
damaged. After about an hour
of wallowing in the trough of the



sea - some anxiety began
to appear as at request of General
went up to investigate. Lounge
was a scene of Confusion - all
furniture including 2 pianos
was in one indescribable muddle
and sliding from side to side
with each roll. Adjutant was
~~so~~ reading a book in his chair
and said all was O.K. too.

If the Crew had been lost
overboard and ship had been
hoove'd in order to avoid the
strain of combating the
terrific sea that was running.
3 boats partially stove in and
one of the deck houses aft washed
away. - engines were started
before dawn and we moved along
very slowly. There was still a stiff
gale blowing and a terrific sea
such as one only dreams of.

The ship was empty and only
in half ballast so that she rolled
"some" but this probably was a
help at the height of the storm
as it tended to make the ship
roll over the mountainous

* It was afterwards learnt that the Captain and Chief Officer were very anxious during the first part of the storm and fully expected the ship to go to the bottom.

We sighted the Canary Islands.

About this time there was a ~~wireless~~ message (unconfirmed later) that Spain had declared war on the Isle of Germany. Passed various small sailing boats and steamers - including fishing craft and also some larger steamers - transports and tramps - but no mail steamer.

seas, very few of which broke
* inboard. During the whole of the
18th and 19th heavy sea
still continued and it was
difficult to get the meals to
the men on the mess decks
and impossible for many of the poor
Chaps with one arm or one leg
missing or perhaps two of them
(legs) and seasick to be
struggling around on the
slippery ladders. There were
very few accidents however. The
men were wonderfully cheerful under
the circumstances, and the loss
of the two sailors in the service of our
safety made a deep impression on
their minds.

On the 20th the wind and sea slackened
and there was a further submarine
scare and all belts were worn
once more until the Equator was
crossed. The tropical waters with
the usual flying fish, porpoises,
dolphins, &c. were entered and
the weather after crossing the line
became quite grey and cool.

21st - 30th. Uneventful.
Week quarts. - the General and
I did physical exercises on
boat deck almost every
morning from 7 - 8 am.
During this time passed a
Convoy going North - first
a two funnelled Cruiser
then the then the
Miltiades then the Argyleshire
- the latter two were in the
original 1st ANZAC. Fleet

1st to 4th Nearing Capetown
— no particular event.
My duty as assistant adjutant
involved daily inspection of ship
- with Chief Officer, Medical sanitary
Officer and Q/Ms. This party going
aft and forward on alternate
days the C.O.'s party consisting
of Co. Captain, Third deck Officer,
Orderly Officer, S.M.O. Q/M, Ship's
S/M, and S.O. &c. (!!) going to
the opposite end

2
Tuesday 5th December. Capetown
Dawn broke as we slowly drew
into Cape Town - dusty sunbeams
air and a morning mist
veiling everything - behind
the town the foot of the Table
Mountain and the Lion's Head
appeared beneath the wonderful
table cloth which enveloped
their summits. There is no
need to enter into detailed
descriptions of the town or of
the great mountain as it was
revealed later in the day when the
cloth lifted. General Smyth and
self were granted the special
privilege of visiting the shore
which we did at about 10.30 am.
Cape Town itself is a small
attractive town not unlike

Buenos Aires in a general impression
- the day was warm but not oppressive
and it was a delight to be on
shore in a free country again
- free from war and odours of war
lines. Went to the Inquiry
Bureau in a hansom and collected
some tourists pamphlets and

Some other useful information from
an obliging young lady in the office.
Thence to a barbers where S.K.F. got
his hair cut the while I did a
little shopping - thence by electric
train to Camps Bay - a delightful
hilly drive along the coast to the
East to Camps Bay a delightful
gem of an ocean watering place
at the foot of the "12 Apostles" Crags.
With much the social and
architectural characteristics of
a miniature Sandringham and
the Coastal and inland scenery
of a very rugged and stupendously
towering some. The electric trains
were "single deckers" and very
long. The suburbs reminded
General F. very much of Queensland
and there was a profusion of
semitropical foliage which gave
a sense of lightness and brightness
which was not oppressive in spite
of the heat. Very much less trying
than suburban Melbourne
under similar circumstances.

Everywhere the prettily dressed
beach servants - 2 or 3 more
girls or others of unknown
caste but all cheerful
looking and not repulsive
even on close inspection. On
arrival at Camps Bay at
about 12. noon a walk along
the sea edge and over rocky
reefs - (solid granite) alternating
in little points and bays
into which the unbroken
Southern swell came softly
sweeping ~~and~~ in spal blue
and green rollers. An exquisite
soft sea breeze and ocean going
steamers slipping past
on the horizon just as they do
at beloved Hinders. Now
for the first time do old memories
of similar never fading delights
of old times awaken as they have
not stirred in nearly three years.
Little healthy children with
sunburnt legs turning over
rocks and sweeping rock bound
ports in the discovery of unheard
of wonders of the shallow deep.

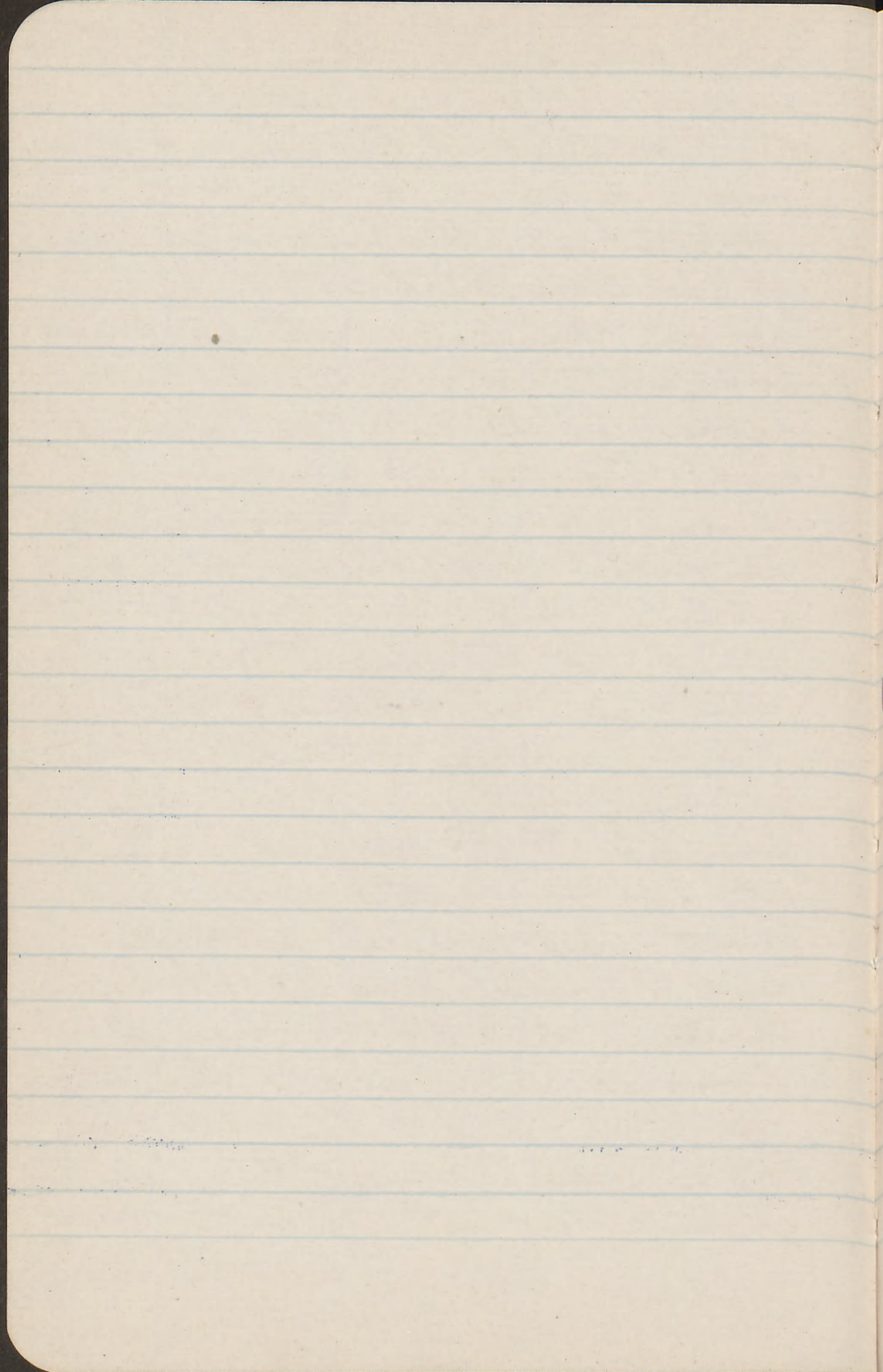
We then went to a Kiosk on the fore-dune
and had tea on a veranda
overlooking the sea. Weak tea
and cakes, strawberries and
cream and apricots! The
girls and youths here are very
pale and generally anaemic
looking but the children are
healthy, well mannered, and
entirely charming. Some small
trading visited us at ~~their~~^{our} meal
and collected sundry apricots and
three pences. We then boarded the
tram going East and returned
to Cape Town via the "Kloof." by
a round trip round the base
of the "Twelve apostles" and back
through the Kloof or gap between
the Lion's head and the Table
mountain approached by
red sandy roads winding
round the contours of the
cliffs and whirling steeply
down into Cape town on
mescalaminized roads. I was
intensely surprised by the great
beauty of Cape town - its greenness
- its tropical fringe and

above all the brighter and
cleaner both of town and
people. Natives say that the
winds at times are simply
terrible lifting up the very
pavement in the open places
in the town and whirling it
in cutting blasts into the faces
of the people who were sufficiently
courageous to venture out. The
people, particularly the males, have
somewhat the appearance of Anglo
Indians - and a very strong
mixture of Dutch element is
noticeable everywhere. - in this at
least it is a less attractive city
than Durban from the Australian
point of view.

Arriving in the city again we bought
some stationery; cosmetics,
pumpkins & and raced down
to the wharf in a touring car
- boarded among the jealous
snarls of the waiting populace who
had not been allowed on shore

much to the disgust of themselves and also
of the people of Capetown who had prepared
a feast and an entertainment. The
feast was sent on board - strawberries,
oranges &c. We untied and
sailed out about 6 P.M. and
turned our nose east for Durban
passing Capes Good Hope
and Agulhas in quick succession
and seeing the reef where the
Birkenhead struck. A grim forbidding
coast reminiscent of Sicily, and
Aden. Blue rolling days - passing
Monday 6th | north along the coast
Thursday 7th | coast of Cape Colony and Natal
Chiefly sandy beaches and rolling hills
inland - like western Port Bay Country.
Passed Port Elizabeth and East London
and several native villages on the
Seashore. Much interesting information
and yarns from my friends
Wilson and Williams of S. African
experience. Passed a little while
out of Durban. Weather clear.
Deck Quits rampant.

Friday 8th December. Rounded the
famous Bluff and stopped in
the Roadstead of Durban at 10. AM
and waited for the pilot who
boarded us at about 1030. Steamed
into Durban harbour through
narrow channel past new Concrete
breakwater still in course of construction.
Durban is less hilly than Capetown¹⁸⁷²
and there are ~~not~~ towering
mountains as a background.
The heart of the city is about
a mile and a half from the
wharf as the train runs and
there is an excellent electric
train service throughout the
city and suburbs. Leave was
granted to Officers and men
at 2.30 PM untill 9. PM. I & Col.
Fryer went ashore in mufti
and I joined him at the Inquiry
Bureau at 3. PM. We engaged
rooms at the Royal Hotel near the
Town Hall and then went down
to the Beach? where there are
excellent surf bathing baths and
shallow concrete pools for children.

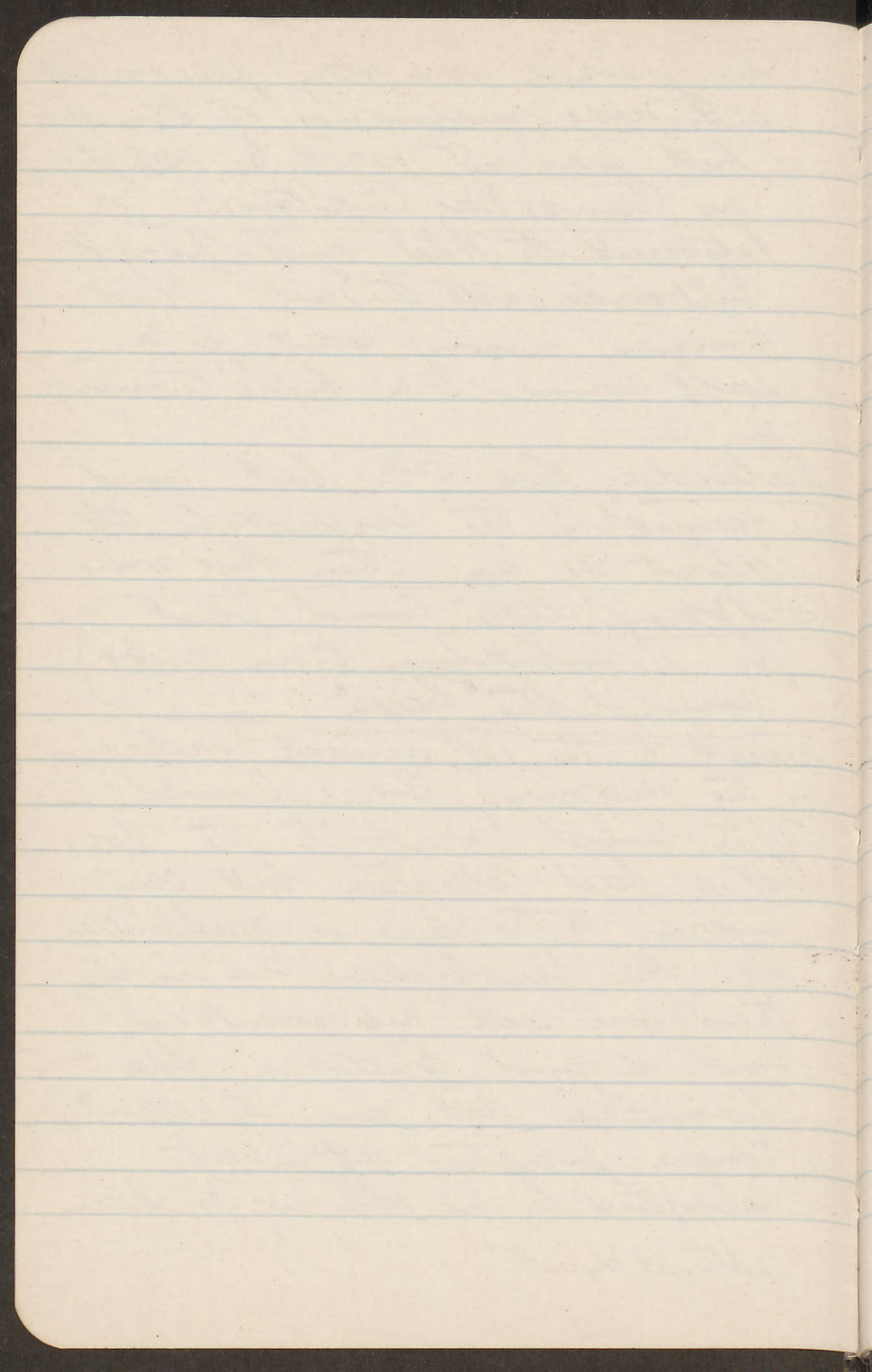


The fresh air was very pleasant with more memories of Florida but was not nearly so delightful as Camp Bay, Capetown.

I returned to Hotel and played Billiards with the Genl. Had dinner and went for a walk round town before turning in.

Saturday Dec. 9th. Sat and gazed in the Verandah till about 11. am. — then did some shopping. After lunch went for a suburban tram drive round the "Berea".

Went to the Botanical Garden in the morning before lunch — After lunch went to the Zoo. Not a bad collection but very inferior to the Paris or Melbourne one. The Australasian animals there were well represented and in good condition. The Chameleons did some excellent tongue practice at insects supplied by an obliging Indian attendant.

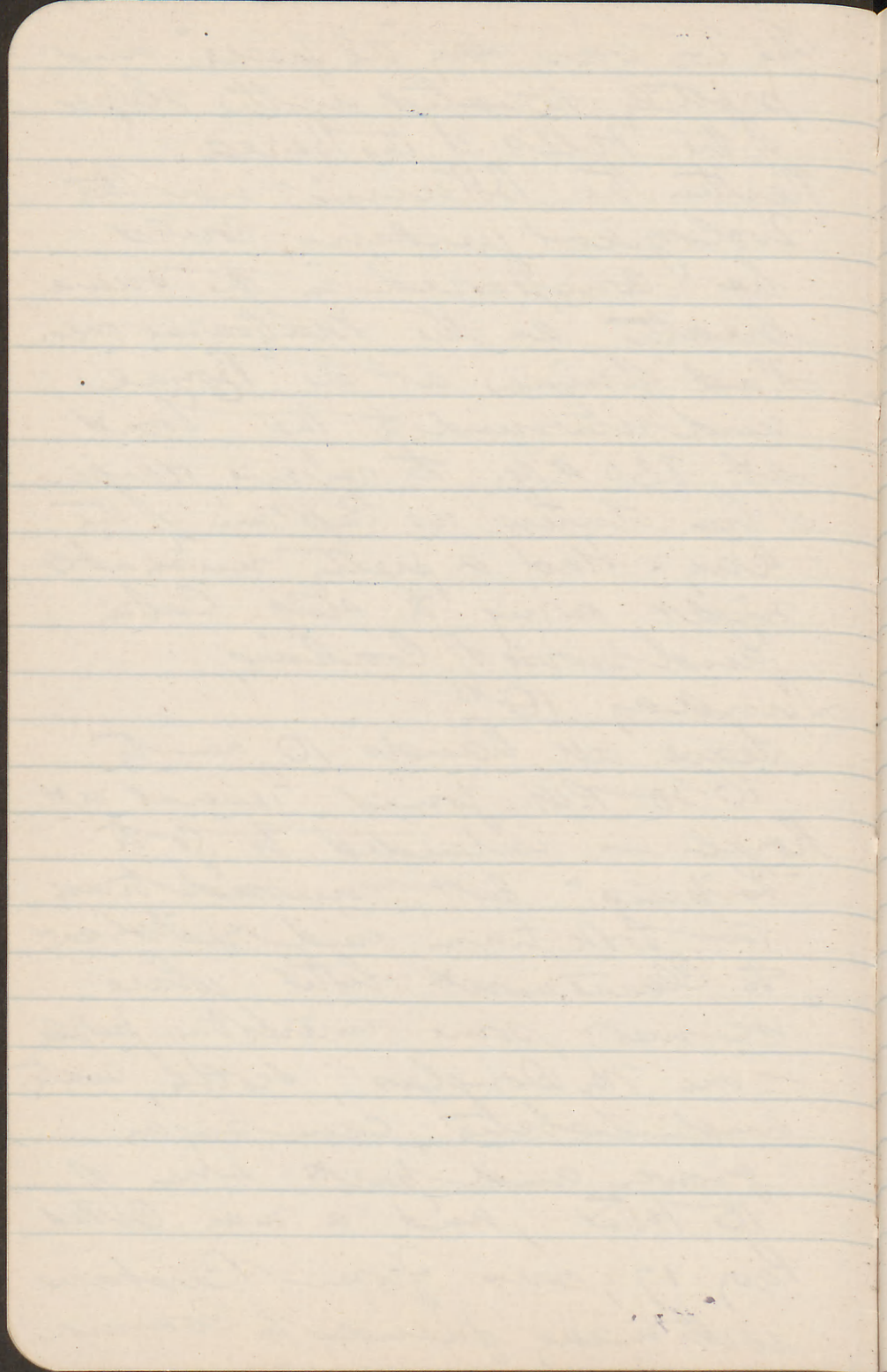


The Zoo was very "à la fresco" and
pretty situated on the slope
of the Hills of the Barea.

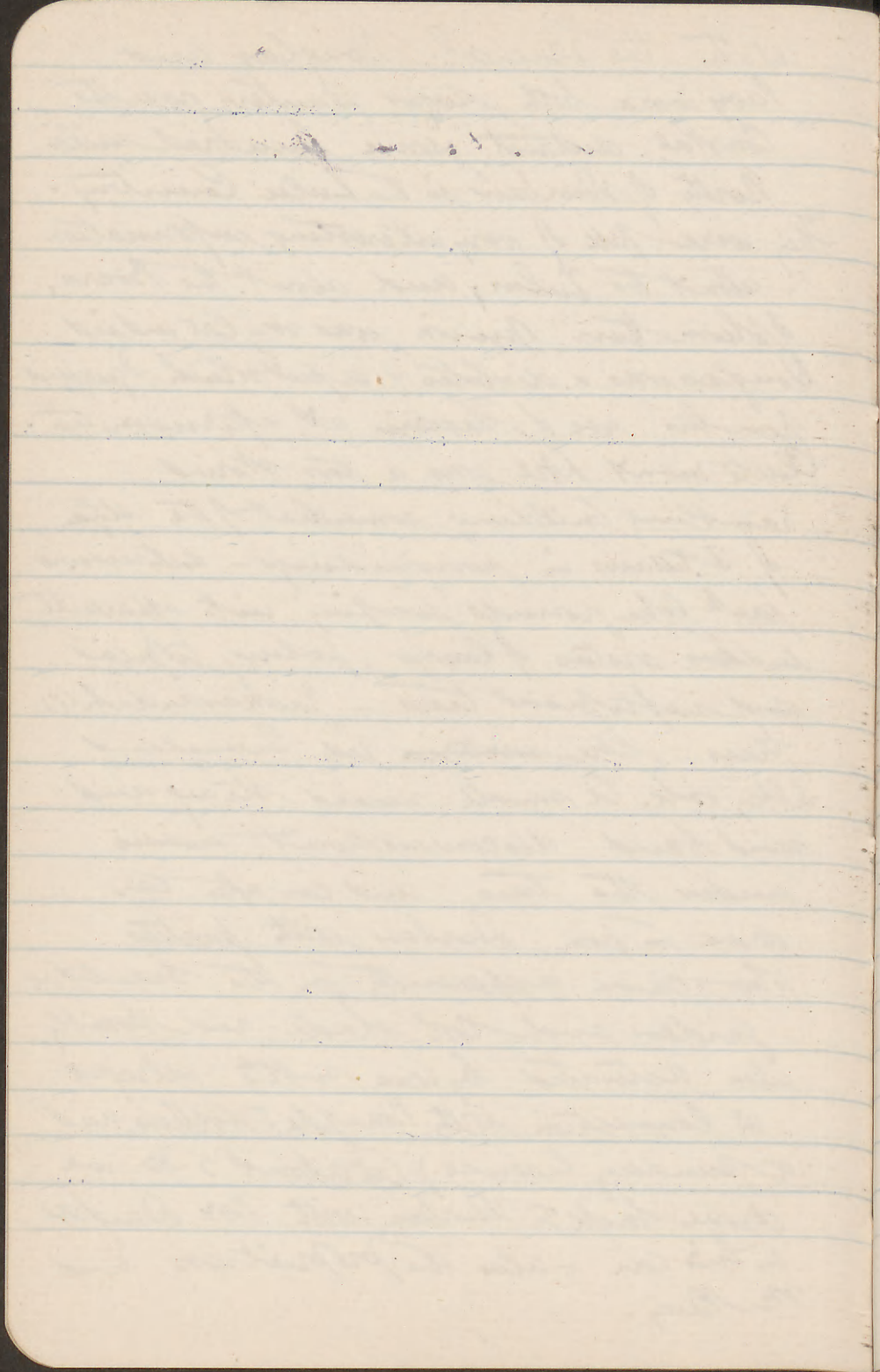
Neither the Botanic nor the
Zoological gardens could
be compared in the same
breath as the Melbourne ones.
Had dinner at the Royal.
and returned to the boat
at 8.30 A.M. to relieve Harper
of his duties as Captain of the
Day. Had a pretty miserable
night owing to stuffy Cabin
and noise of Coaling.

Sunday 10th

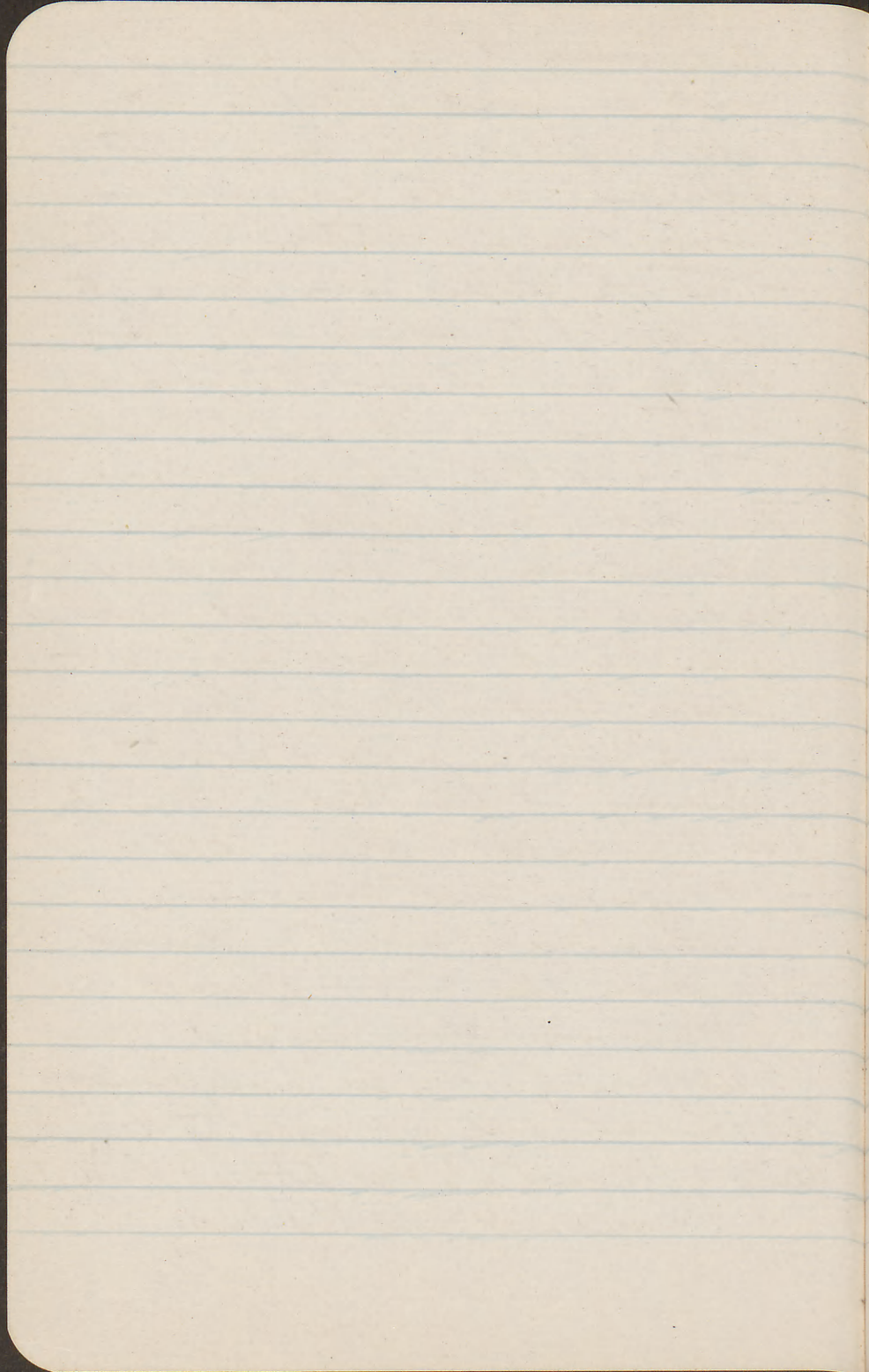
Leave all hands 10 am to
10.30 P.M. joined General at
Royal — intended to go to
"Lisping" but missed train
so took train and rickshaw
to Claremont hotel where
we met some interesting people
— one Mr Douglas, Scotch, sixty
and diabetic, cane sugar
grower and part owner of
the Hotel, and a man called
Pavy 17 years from Brisbane
with many quivers in common



with the General. Douglas and
Pavy were both sugar planters from the
Coastal district some hundred miles
North of Durban in the Zulul Country.
They were full of very interesting information
about the Zulus; and about the Boers,
of whom their opinion was very low indeed.
Douglas was a diabetic - a fact which I guessed
from his use of Saccharin at afternoon tea.
Claremont Hotel was a two storied
rambling building somewhat of the style
of St. Helens in surroundings - extensive
park like grounds sweeping with apparently
endless vistas of lawns, palms, tropical
and subtropical trees - Jackaranda ([?])
trees - like ~~water~~ red Queensland
Silky oak. A small mixed string and
wind band discoursed sweet music
under the trees and car after car
drove in from Durban with parties
who came apparently for the beautiful
garden and cool shade (and possibly
also actuated by some subtle intrigue
in connection with Bonaparte travellers and
a Sunday license) At about 5.30. we
drove back to Durban with Mr Douglas
in his car - also the proprietress and
Mr Pavy.



Had dinner at the Royal and
went on board the ship at
about 9.1. M. The chief features
of Durban are the charming river
mouth harbour buttressed by the Bluff
— the good electric tram service to
all parts of the suburbs — the beach
with its sunbathing — the clean wide
streets and elegant public square —
the fine Post Office and magnificent
Town Hall. The wonderful Zulu
rickshaws men with their magnificent
head-dress and magnificent graceful
stride. They hire their rickshaws from the
rickshaw Company at 2/6 a day and
run in Durban for 3 or 4 months
returning to their native towns for
a periodic rest. Their chief
danger is chest complaint
pneumonia and T.B. Caused
by chill due to insufficient care
of themselves when fatigued and
perspiring. They are fairly honest
but are not above imposing on the stranger.
News of formation of new Cabinet. Hall
of Bucharest reported fully.



Monday 11th

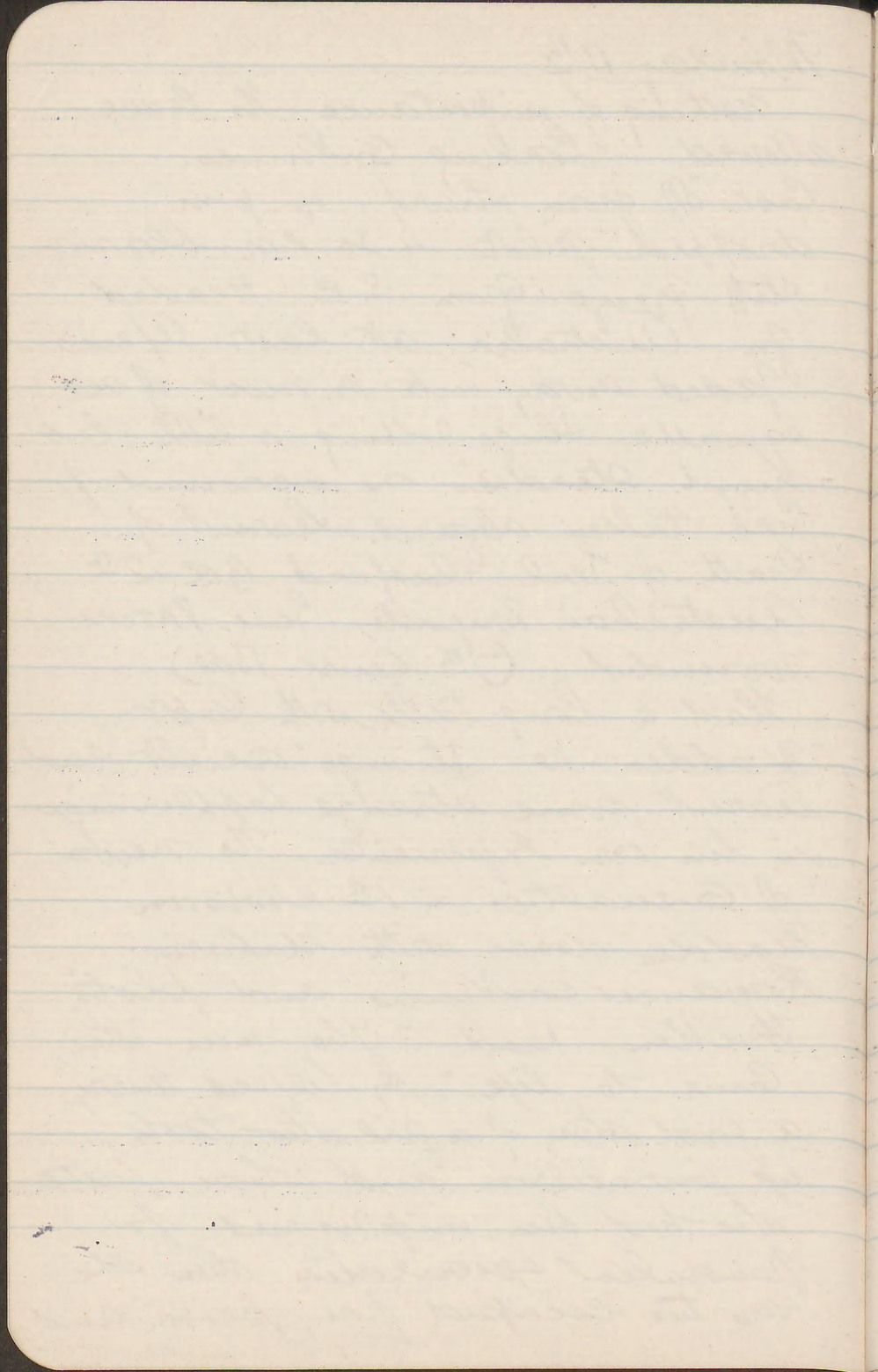
Nothing of importance. No leave allowed. Coalings continues.

Cast off from wharf. 4. p.m.
dropped pilot 4.30. P.M. blowing
still freeze from S.E. Headed
for Australia at last. Africa
faded away into a mist of sea
squalls. Ship rolling a little but
much steadier on account of
coal taken aboard. Learnt of
death of Genl Glasford. (GOC 12th
Australian Brigade) Genl. PATON
wounded. (5th Austr. Bde)

Had a long talk with Capt.
Madden re things occult and
learnt some strange happenings
in his own experience. No news
of casualties in 1st Division.

Madden down with Malaria.

Romances continue and plots
thicken. read "The man who
came to life." by Alfred Henry.
a good story of a girl who took
up journalism and whose father
who had been imprisoned for
fraudulent speculation when she
was two escaped from prison and



almost wrecked her life. She eventually marries Ware a Colleague on the London "Way" who was the son of Admiral Ware one of the men her father ruined and who was instrumental in bringing him to justice. A good story of the triumph of true love.

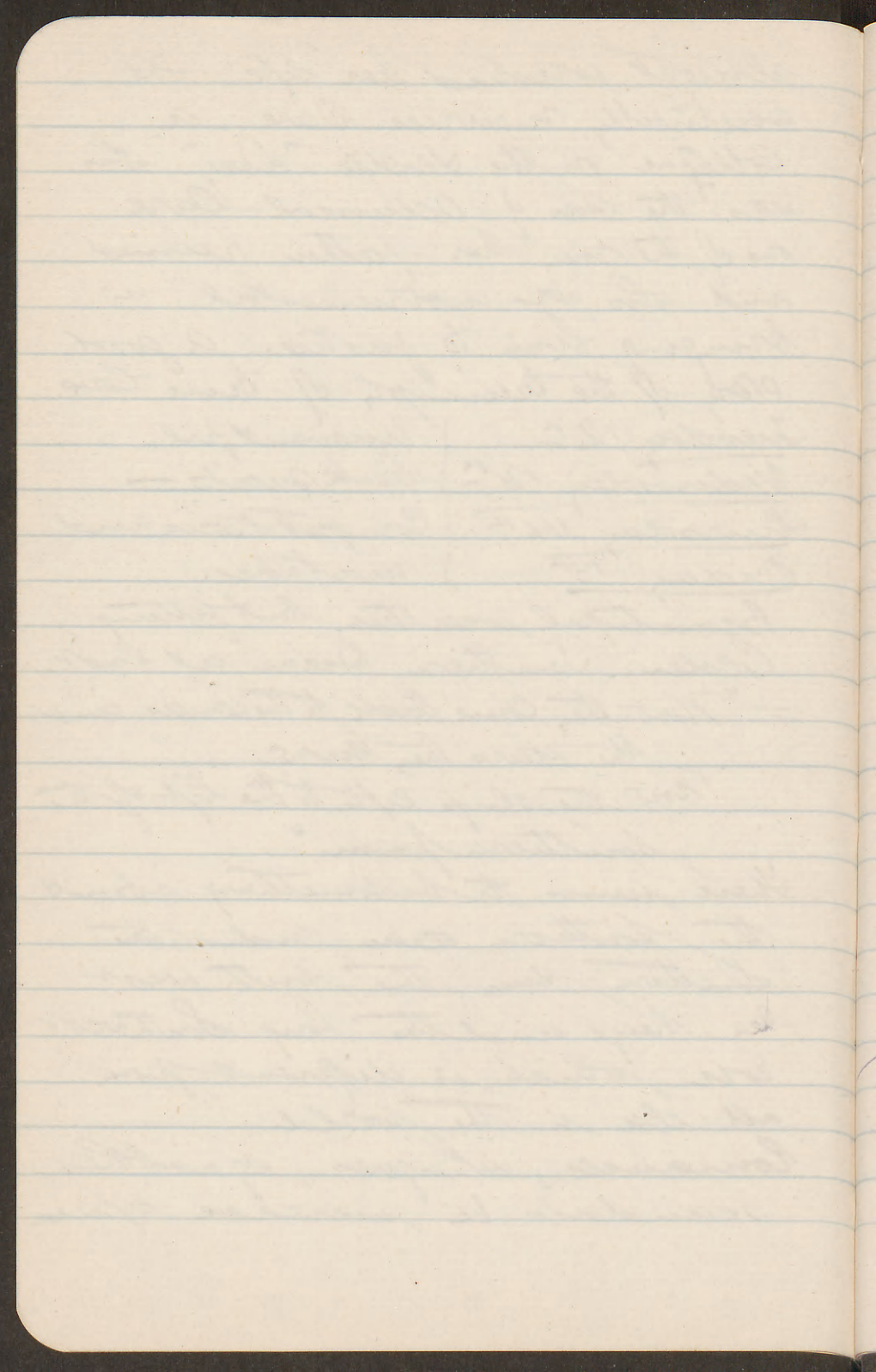
<u>Tuesday</u> 12 th	} Uneventful. Weak Quits — Competitions and matches.
<u>Wednesday</u> 13 th	
<u>Thursday</u> 14 th	
<u>Friday</u> 15 th	

Beautiful weather but fettering
Colder. Southern Ocean at last.
— "Now they come back to the winds and
the stars they know."

Now the ship lifts to the lift of the
Southern sun.

There seems to be something about
the Southern Ocean and the
Southern Sun, the South West
Sea breeze and the long South-west
roll which is different from
all else in the world.

Romances, intrigues, squabbles,
scandals &c increase apace.



There has been formed a little
Colony at the Centre table at
afternoon tea.

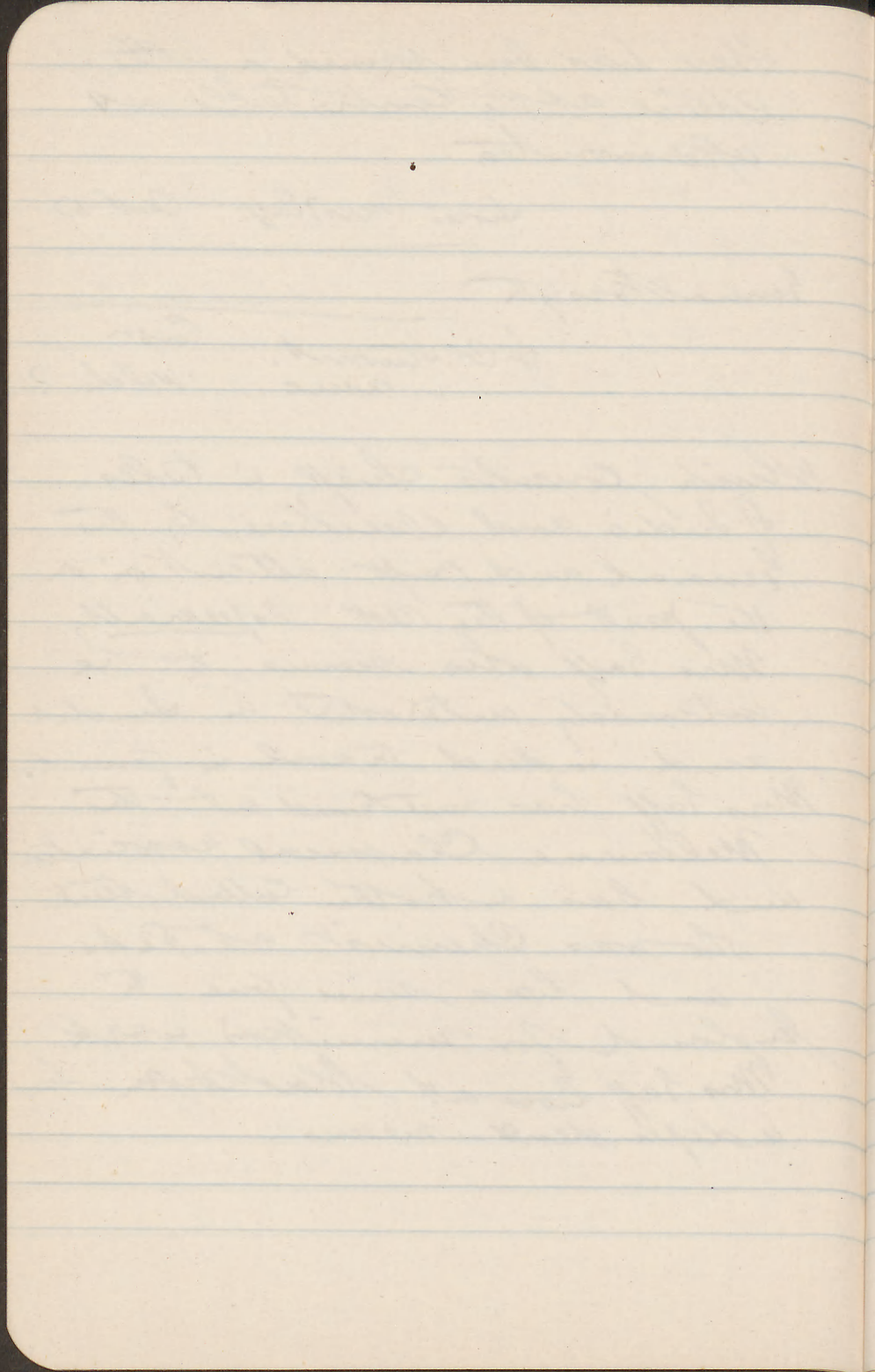
Sister. (Mrs) Saff. A. D. D.

General Forsyth

of Col. Stewart.
ame.

Capt
Welch. ?

Which counts chiefly in tales
of India and elsewhere by the
General and Capt attention on
the part of the rest especially
Mrs Saff who seems to be
intensely interested in India
and indeed travel in general.
Mrs Saff has met End at the
Melbourne Classical Association
and has a brother called Steel
who was Chemist at S.E.A.s
and has since gone to
England for munition work.
Mrs Saff lives at Blackdown has
independent means

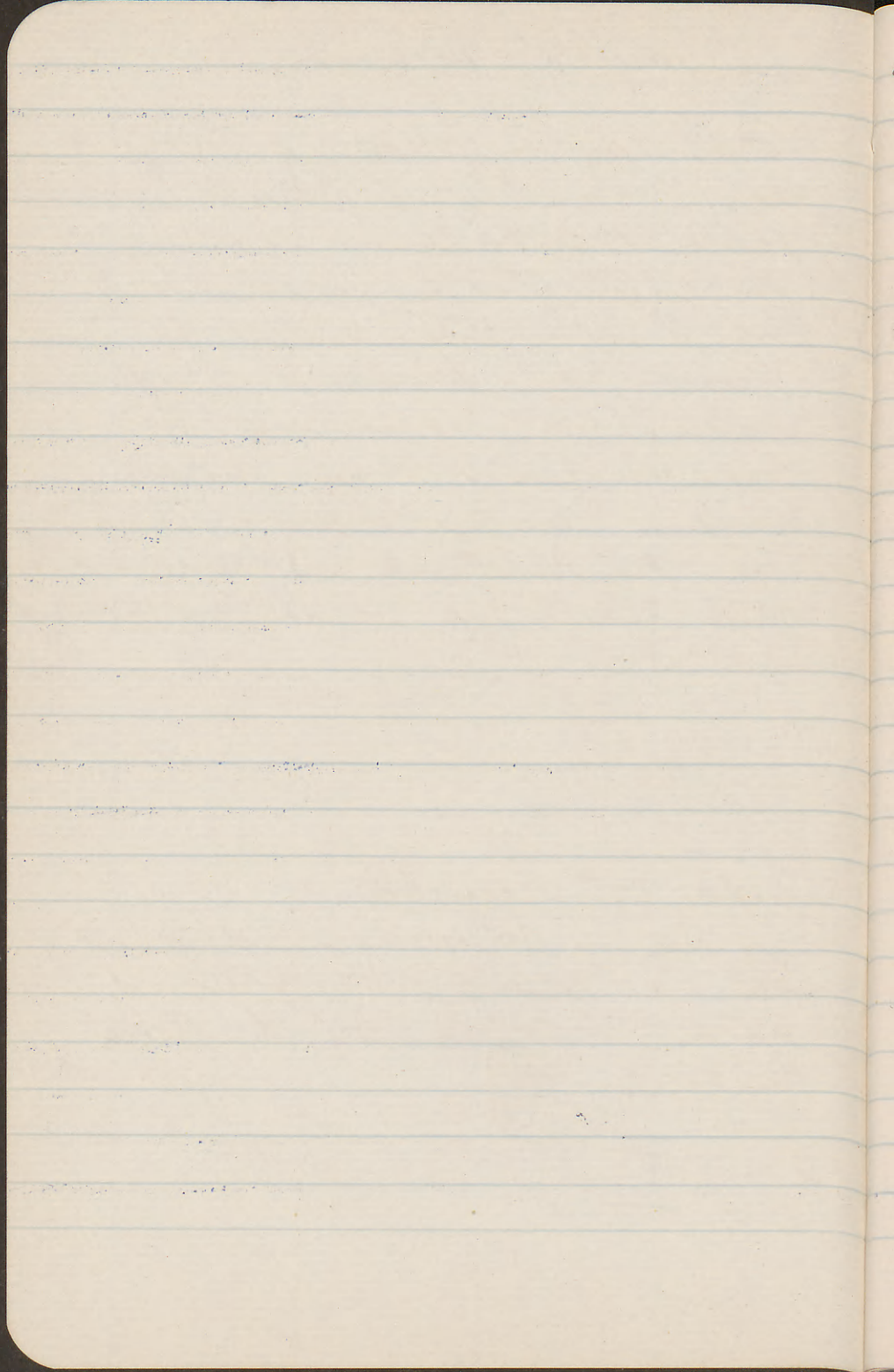


Saturday 16th December

Warm day — following breeze & sea. — News of Germany's peace proposals. — nothing particular to be cheerful about but a sign, that under the pressure of an immense bluff Germany is beginning to consider her position more seriously, and perhaps that there are internal influences at work which we do not at present know of.

Sunday 17th December

Frey day — following wind and sea — service 1000 forward hatch — sermon by Chaplain Kenton.



Monday 18th December

Read Little Dorrit. Medicine. Deek Quits.

— Following wind and sea. Clear blue day with fleeting clouds. Reported internal pressure for peace in Germany and Austria.

Talk with Captain Bennet re "Conscience hereafter" — he promised to send me a leaflet written by himself. Inspected aft. part of ship with Chief Officer. Question of the Hicks pump upon the Melbourne to be due as ships quartermaster raised. Feeling a little weary & depressed.

Tuesday 19th

Wednesday 20th

{ Weather colder
sky grey

Thursday 21st Finished "Little Dorrit." Feeling a little bit off colour — probably getting a cold.

Friday 22nd Feeling a bit feverish — touch of influenza — stayed in bed till 5 P.M. read "Hutchinson and Kamey" Clinical Methods.

1

Saturday 23rd Feeling O.K. slept in.
Xmas Dinner - (Menu kept.).

Toasts. "The King" by the Orderly Officer.
"The Captain and the Ship's Officers" by
Chaplain Francis. responded to by
Capt Hayward - the Master of the ship.
"The Co. Troops" by Chaplain Fowler
- responded to by the Co. (Lt. Col.
Burnage). "The S.M.O and his
medical Officers" by Col. Roth. D.S. V.D.
responded to by Major Howden (S.M.O.)
"The Matron and her nursing staff"
by Capt. Coleman. responded to
by Major Howze.

On my right. sister Vines - on my
left. Captain Welch.

After Dinner. Distribution of Xmas
presents by Lt Col. Grey. Santa Claus
received - imitation Cigar - 2 crackers.

A few songs and much tomfoolery
followed. Harmless fun in which
every one had to run the gamut
of a few dashing youths armed
with pasteboard weapons such as
penny sneakers etc. Everyone in an
excellent humour and of the opinion
that we weren't such an objectionable
crowd after all.

Sunday 25th - Slept in till lunch time.
Beautiful sunny day - Southerly
breeze. - Divine service 10 a.m. -
(did not attend) - garbled wireless news
about Americas peace note - looks
more like an ultimatum to the
allies than a peace note.

Looks more like a possible declaration
of war against the allies than
against Germany.

was paid £5. by Adjutant

Heard a funny story about
an Australian overheard in a
restaurant in London give utterance
to the following combination of 4
languages.

"Sorry the bloody pang Bill!"
(Arabic - English - Australian - and
French as they are spoke!).



was present
from Captain
Rayward.

7.30. P.M. Lecture by H. Hicks. (Q/M)
on "the effect of the war on character
in Australia" An exceedingly fine
address and one which branded Hicks
as an orator and a man of fine intellect
and of character.

Present were General Forsyth in the
chair and a majority of Officers
and men on the ship. The address
which was a straight forward and
eminently serious appeal to the
thoughtful side of the men's natures
was received with prolonged
applause of a nature which
marked his audience as something
different from what would be
found in a similar gathering
of any other Army in the world.

Australia's future is tremendous in
inheard of possibilities and
undreamed of realizations and
now if ever is the turning point
on which that future hinges.

After the address some hymns
- the three favourites.

Abide with me

Lead thou me on

And "Nazareth" solo by Sgt
Patterson

After the address - a "song service"
to Officers and sisters in the
lounge - solos and glees.

Nazareth by St Cles 8th Bn.
and
Home Sweet Home by

St Clarke. 30th Bn.

After the address a long talk
to Harris re things in general
particularly an ~~indictment~~ indictment
against the English from every
point of view by every Officer
present except myself.

We will be in sight of Australia
at Dawn tomorrow Xmas day
25th December 1916.

Am still collecting signatures
of Officers on my Xmas Dinner
menu Card.

I am becoming more and more
regretful of the precious opportunities I
have missed in not making a more
careful record of passing events since
the beginning of the war and more carefully
collecting trophies, photos, autographs
etc.

Sunday 25th December Kuas

Dawn. Australia in sight at last. Low lying islands with beacons &c - a sailing ship - the Anaconda. Norge anchored off the mouth of the Swan.

Rottne's island on the Starboard bow. Almost as soon as land was sighted the warm land breeze brought scents of Eucalyptus to our waiting senses and later on the strong and familiar smell of a small Coastal bush fire. It was a hot summers morning and the sea was glassy grey at sunrise.

The port medical officer came aboard and cursorily examined men and officers.

At about 8.30. A.M. we sailed up the Swan. ~~Port~~ Over - turned in a sort of swinging basin and tied up with our bows seaward to the left bank. Breakfast on board. Col. R. Courtney - Commandant W.A. came aboard and handed me a precious envelope

Containing a letter from Frankie
and one from Fred. Giving
details of arrangements for
arriving in Melbourne. Wise
people to realize I did not
want to meet my girl among
the madding crowd!
Letters also for General Forsyth
and Captain Dyring. General
Forsyth, Captain Dyring and
self went ashore with the
Commandant at 10 am and
drove in his car to Perth. The
town of Fremantle is unimpressive
and not unlike Williamsstown
or any other similar seaport
suburb - the drive to Perth at
first through straggly uninteresting
scrub and unclipped paddocks
becomes more beautiful as it
rises above the level of the Swan.
The trees become larger and
more graceful and King's
park itself is a blaze of
N.A. flowering gum and vistas
of the beautiful Swan River
in its broad reaches - below
and beyond.

[insert]

W. D. Harris Esq.
(54' Ba)

40 Royalist Road.
Mosman.

Sydney. N. S. W.

Perth itself appears on the far side of the river as an extensive and fairly concentrated city - few conspicuous buildings - but it looks cool and homelike in spite of the heat of the day - over 90° in the shade.

The A.M.P. building is one of the best business houses as far as architecture is concerned but of course not as fine as the Melbourne Office in Collins St. Called at the G.P.O. and wired Mrs. Forsyth and Maude. - Called at district headquarters and tried to make up some letters for the "boys" but unsuccessfully. Went round to a hotel where

we all had drinks as the
guests of the proprietor (as it was
sunday). Drove to Col. Courtney's
house dropping him there -
thence back to the wharf via
the river bank Road which
does not go through the park
cutting at Freemantle P.O. en
route - found it closed.
Drove onto the wharf just
in time to see the stern
of the Wiltshire sliding slowly
away from the wharf. The
Naval Embarkation Staff
Officers boat was standing
by for us and raced us down
the river after the old tub
and we boarded her gracefully
up a rope ladder just as
her screws stopped. Captain
Dyring was almost collapsed
when he reached the top of
the ladder due to his poor old
heart. Sailed for Melbourne
at 3.45 P.M. Myself slept
whole afternoon and only
woke up in time for dinner.
Spent evening writing up diary

and talking to Harris. Bed 1030.
called in by Padre Morris en route
and retained in Confidential Confab
until about 1. am.

Tuesday 26th December

Slept in till 9.30. Suspected ship 10.30.
Beautiful sunny day with soft
clouds and indigo blue horizons. Near
the coast to which I said good bye for the
last time in October 1914. Southerly
breeze. Passed Chatham Island a
bold lump of granite about 300
feet high and about as big as the
Hobby at Glindiers. On the sandy
coast shoreward of the Island was
a wrecked sailing ship high and
dry on the mud. Feeling very well
but not inclined for violent exercise.
Cannot help thinking of the near future.
Hope the Glindiers trip comes off. How shall
miss Ruth - the first time she will not
have been there in our two life times.

If only my whole life had been as perfect
as our Glindiers holidays though I like to
believe that they stand for the best in me and
the best in life in general. Passing near
King George's Sound. Albany of historic
and never to be forgotten memory

Wednesday 27th October Dec

Slept in for breakfast. Inspected
after end of ship 10.30. lunch.
dull windy day with patches
of blue - stiffish roll from S.W.
Out of sight of land - crossing
light. Read matches from
O. Henry and played deck
quarts with Lieutenant O'Brien.
(5^{1/2}) Dinner - Completed
some reversed boat rolls. -
yarned to Captain Godfrey who
was still in bed.

Thursday 28th October Dec.

Trouble with the men detailed
for scrubbing duty - about 40
men were paraded for this
duty and the following were
present to see that none
of them escaped (as they had
done on the previous day)

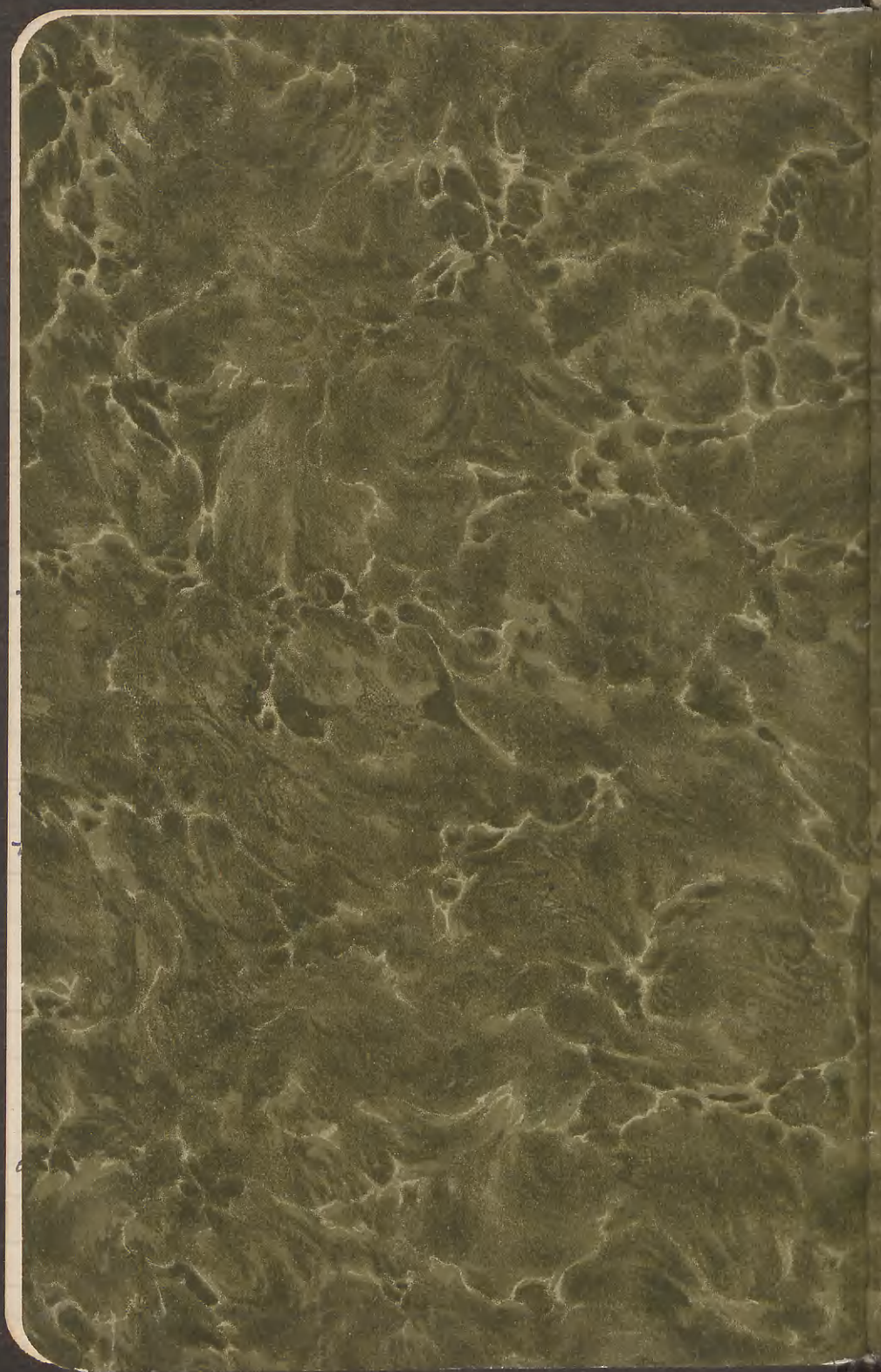
P.T.O.

- ① The Adjutant
- ② The Asst Adjutant
- ③ The Quartermaster
- ④ The Orderly Mtr of the Day
- ⑤ The Ship's Sergeant Major
- ⑥ " " G/M.S.
- ⑦ " " Orderly Sergeant
- ⑧ " " " Corporal.
- ⑨ Seven troop deck Officers 2 of whom were Captains
- ⑩ Seven troop deck N.C.O.s..

Yhat 22. Officers 2 NCOs !!!

"

Four and twenty tax Cors went
to catch a mail and the
best man among them dared not
touch her tail"



RAY OLSSON

