

assigned to the 159th Depot Brigade. With this organization he served until early October when he contracted influenza and broncho-pneumonia. On October 11th, 1918, he was promoted from 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant. On October 12th Edward Robinson died. It was his twentieth birthday.

Consider the boy of twenty who had "made good" as a soldier. In retrospect his friends can share his thrill of pleasure as the boy who was content to serve as a wagoner in his Country's cause, worked his way sturdily forward until he became a 1st Lieutenant. And though he never "got across" he placed all his power at his Country's bidding, and on his own birthday gave his life. Rightly do we commemorate such alumni among the bravest of our heroes, and whether it be a bullet on the field or a disease in the home camp that takes it, it is the offering of the life that counts. This offering of Edward Robinson will ever be remembered, not only by his loved ones and his Country, but by his old School.



NORTON DOWNS, JR.

1908-1913

NORTON DOWNS, JR., the second son of Dr. Norton Downs and Phoebe McKean, was born in Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., on June 5th, 1895, and his early boyhood was spent there in the suburb with which both branches of his family had long been associated. At the Germantown Academy he received his preliminary education and even at a youthful age showed those qualities of initiative and determination for which he is well remembered. There, too, was developed a fondness for athletics which was fostered by his outdoor summers, many of which were spent camping in Maine.

In January of 1909, following one term at the Cloyne School in Newport, he entered the Third Form at St.

Paul's and, despite the difficulty of coming in the middle of the year, had soon established a place for himself. He was never a brilliant student, but he maintained a consistent average because of the determination he had to carry out whatever his task might be. His relations with his fellows were always cordial; no one of his quiet bearing, backed by evident ability and unassuming power for leadership, could have failed to surround himself with friends. His athletic career was splendid and characterized by high ideals of sportsmanship, and he was, before he graduated in 1913, a member of Old Hundred football and hockey teams, and winner of his School letter in football and crew. The latter sport was his best and he rowed on the Halcyon crew of 1913.

In the fall following his graduation from St. Paul's he entered the University of Pennsylvania, continuing the successes of his school years, especially in rowing, for he was stroke of his Freshman crew. It is sure that he would have done as well throughout his college course, but in the fall of his Sophomore year he left college and went to work with the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, at Lansford, Pa.

In 1916 the outbreak of the trouble on the Mexican border caused him to enlist in the First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, after a brief service with the Phoenixville Battery. Upon his return from the Border he went to the Boston office of his former company, but the declaration of war upon Germany soon sent him into military service again.

Early in April 1917 he married Miss Alice Thompson, of Philadelphia, and almost immediately was sent to Ithaca, N. Y., for ground training in the Aviation Section. It is characteristic of his cool-headed, adventurous nature that he chose this branch of service, and it was evident from the

very first that he was well fitted for it. He graduated in September 1917 from Ithaca, second in his class, and at once sailed for Europe to complete his training. This training took place at Foggia, in Italy, and it was not long before Lieutenant Downs went to the front, attached with other Americans to an Italian Squadron.

There was no doubt as to his suitability for the air-service, if ever there had been. Even in a daring squadron he made a name for himself for bravery and efficiency, and he had a splendid reputation with his allies. He showed no wild recklessness, no fondness for useless tricks, but bore more than his share in the many raids in which he took part, conducting himself with such gallantry in a daylight raid on Pola, the Austrian Naval Base, that the Italian Government bestowed on him the Croce di Guerra.

His fine work by September 1918 had so won him recognition that he was transferred as Commander of Night Flying, instructing at an air camp at Ford Junction, in England. It was here that his brave life met its end. On October 23rd, 1918, he made an ascent at eight o'clock in the evening to test the air for student flyers. It is believed that the coming of a heavy fog forced a blind landing in the Channel, from which his body was later recovered and buried with military honors.

The cause of his death was one which brought him glory and shows why he was great. Like a fine officer, he would not have his men do what he would not do himself, and this noble unselfishness in first testing air conditions in person ended a life of high promise and brought honor to those whom he left, among these being a little son of the same name.