History of the 10th Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard 1918-1919

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Tenth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard
Reference: Adjutant General's Office
Location: Fresno, Fresno County
Mustered in: February 26, 1918*
Mustered out: February 20, 1919**

Commanding Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Commission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bert A. Primrose, Captain</td>
<td>Feb. 26, 1918</td>
<td>Mar. 23, 1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fernand Detoy, First Lieut.</td>
<td>Feb. 26, 1918</td>
<td>Mar. 23, 1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(resigned Aug. 3, 1918)</td>
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Activities:

The Tenth Separate Company of Infantry was mustered into the State Service at Fresno, February 26, 1918. The roll call was answered by one hundred one men; one more than the required number. While mothers, sisters, sweethearts, and little brothers who wished they were older, looked on, the new company formed into two lines and one hundred one right hands were held aloft as Major L. D. Collins administered the oath. After the men had taken the oath, Mr. M. B. Harris, in the absence of Mayor Toomey, addressed the new soldiers. Briefly he told the men they had now become soldiers, defenders of the flag. Their enlistment by choice, he declared, had contributed more to the service than one hundred one men. They had contributed heroism, patriotism and character, the kind of personalities which give them a supreme right to fight for democracy because they had displayed the qualities that are the strength of democratic institutions.*** Bert A. Primrose was elected Captain and Fernand Detoy, First Lieutenant.

Soon after the organization of the Tenth Company, the Federal authorities began drafting its members while many others enlisted voluntarily. The Government drafted members of the Tenth Company so fast that it was impossible to recruit enough new members to take their places. The result was that in one year's time the Tenth Company was so weak numerically, that the following General Order was issued by Adjutant General J. J. Borree on February 10, 1919:

***The Fresno Republican, February 27, 1918, page 16, column 2.


***The Fresno Republican, February 27, 1918, page 16, column 2.
Activities: (Continued)

"The Tenth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard, having fallen so far below the required minimum enlisted strength that it is not believed said organization can be recruited to the minimum enlisted strength set by the United States War Department, is ordered disbanded and mustered out of the service of the State, to take effect February 20, 1919."