

World War One—the Western Front by Anjali Patel

Every year on the 25th of April there is ANZAC Day. ANZAC Day is a day of remembrance for the allies who fought in the war to defend our country. It stands for Australia, New Zealand Army Corps. On ANZAC Day, one of the main symbols are the Red Poppies because they grew where the allies died.

When World War One was declared, some of the allies celebrated and were very excited because they didn't expect it to be as bad as it was. A few of the reasons why the allies went to War were: for an overseas experience; to defend the mother country; they thought it was going to be a little fight; and for economic reasons. The people from New Zealand sold dairy products to Britain, and while the war was going on, Britain would be spending their money on new weapons and gear instead of on our dairy products. So the New Zealanders went to help Britain so the war would be over quicker. But when the allies got there, it was nothing like they had expected, and went from 1914 to 1918.

In World War One, more soldiers died than expected, mainly because of all the new weapons that were introduced into the war. A few of the new weapons were: shells; gases; and machine guns. Before the "Great War" started, both sides of the war signed a treaty to not use gases, but both sides broke the treaty. Some of the gases caused blindness or coughing, but other ones were so bad they caused deaths. Shells were fired into the sky and once they landed on the other side, they blew up and killed a lot of soldiers. Machine Guns were also very deadly because they fired lots of bullets at once. They killed hundreds of soldiers. All the new weapons led to many casualties and deaths.

During the war, one of their Battle Grounds was "The Western Front". The Western Front was a long, huge battle ground that started at Belgium, went through France, stretched out and ended at the border of Switzerland. It was a very famous Battle Ground and had trenches dug all through it. Sometimes the trenches were quite close to each other, and in other places they were more far away.

During "The Great War", there were many injuries. Some of the injuries were: Trench Foot, where they stayed in the trenches while it rained and their feet got soggy and rotted; Shell Shock, where they were afraid of random noises because of all the shells that were being fired; diseases like Dysentery or Typhoid; and some of the soldiers were in the trenches getting their body parts amputated because they were too bad to fight with. They also got really bad infections with rats and body lice going around. The dead bodies that laid on 'man's land' were sometimes getting eaten by the rats. Many soldiers got gas poisoning with all the horrible gases going around. Some gases also caused slow painful deaths.

In my opinion there is no point of risking people's lives in war.

Governments should find another way of solving problems. I think having war is really sad. Rudyard Kipling also thought it was really sad, he wrote this poem.

My Son

My son was killed while laughing at some jest. I would

I knew

What it was, and it might serve me in a time when jests are few.

Killing all those people is really sad.

