

However, this situation was to change when father was given the order to remove Winnie from their Headquarters as she would not be able to accompany them to the battlefields in France where the Brigade was shortly to go. Consequently, on the 9th of December, 1914, father proceeded to the London Zoo with his 'pet' where he left her in safe keeping until the end of the war. According to his diary writings, it was his full intention to bring Winnie back to Canada with him after the war was over. His diaries indicated that he was very fond of her and would often visit her when on leave from war zones in France.

However, when the war ended in 1918, father remained there temporarily and in 1919, he reversed his original intentions to bring Winnie home to Winnipeg and instead, donated her to the London Zoo as a gesture of his appreciation for the London Zoo's efforts in caring for her during those four war years. It was to be noted that Winnie had also become a feature attraction for the many thousands of visitors and especially young children. She was considered to be completely trustworthy by her bear keepers who said that ^{could} of all the bears they had in the Zoo, Winnie was the only one they say this about. She was also the tamest and best behaved bear that the Zoo ever had.

The London Zoo in 1919 held a dedication ceremony by erecting a plaque reading to the effect that Captain Harry Colebourn of the Canadian Army Veterinary Corps had donated her to the Zoo. Numerous newspaper stories were written telling about this extraordinary bear and her friendly nature and antics. Two of her admirers of that early period after the war were A.A. Milne, a writer and his young son Christopher Robin. They frequently visited the Zoo where the young Milne boy would always want to go and see "Winnie". In 1926 as a result of his son's keen enjoyment in visiting with Winnie, Mr. Milne published the first and probably the best known of the series of Pooh's Classics called "Winnie-The-Pooh." The other books were called, The House at Pooh Corner, When We Were Very Young and Now We Are Six. Winnie past away on May 12, 1934 at the ripe old age of 20 years, a good life span for a bear.

Father, later on in the War was to be honored for his services by being recommended for the O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) by the Directory of Canadian Veterinary Services, C.E. Edgett, D.S.O. "For his untiring devotion to his duties as Veterinary Officer first with the Units in the Field, with whom he served for over three years, then as Senior Veterinary Officer of Bramshott Area. This officer has always been most attentive to his professional charge and unsparing in his endeavors to produce efficiency, both when employed as an executive officer and as an administrative officer. He has been twice mentioned in the Despatches of the Field Marshall Commanding in Chief, British Forces in France, and was previously recommended by this department for an Honour."