

The Breeze



January 7, 1944

No. 24 EFTS, Abbotsford, B.C.

Number 18

VANDERBURGH NAMED TO HEAD EFTS GROUP

Functioning smoothly although but a young organization, the Sergeants' Mess at No. 24 EFTS is scheduled to hold its third meeting on Monday. Members include all non-commissioned officers on staff at the school and those sergeants now on the station as student pilots. WO1 Art Bell, chairman, will conduct the session.

Appointed today as honorary president was F/L A. W. Vanderburgh, medical officer, who will now act as the personal representative of S/L M. Gain, RCAF commanding officer, in the organization. WO1 Allan Pattonen is president of the group with WO1 Frank Martineau as secretary-treasurer.

Recently named bar officer for the mess was F/S Charles Riss with WO1 Nick Gilcher acting as barrack officer. The rules committee is functioning under WO1 Charles Durand and will submit mess regulations for approval at Monday's meeting. WO1 Robert Twiss heads the messing committee, and will report on the current food situation.

NESS MUSTERED OUT. RCAF PHONE CHIEF HERE

Sgt. John (Jack) Ness, head of the RCAF telephone crew which installed the Abbotsford EFTS system, and well known in this area, has been honorably discharged from the service because of physical disability.

A resident of Montreal, he was on loan to the RCAF from the phone company there for the duration and had worked at air force units all over the west coast.

WOLVES STALK ON FOOT

Wolf Wagon Meets Flying Finis

Holiday Accidents Hurt Two Airmen

Two colorful vehicles which of late have been gracing the roads of the M-5-A Area are no more, the victims of separate holiday accidents which left their drivers in the No. 24 EFTS station hospital.

F/O Keith Young and P/O Henry Saave, both EFTS flying instructors, were today reported in "satisfactory" condition following treatment. Young, driver of an ancient chariot known locally as the "Wolf Wagon", suffered wrist lacerations, cuts and bruises about the face and a sprained ankle when his car swerved off Mt. Lehman road near the airport after hitting a break in the road early in the morning of Dec. 23. Five stitches were required to close his wrist wounds.

P/O Saave, in his accident on Sunday afternoon on the station, swung out to pass a light delivery truck as they approached a corner and was not able to check his forward motion when the truck turned off across his path. Striking a deep ditch at the side of the road, he was pinned under his cycle. Six stitches were taken in his scalp.

"Blew Roll off Deck"

The driver was the only person riding in the "Wolf Wagon

SON OF POSTMASTER MISSING



F/O George B. Malins.

son of Postmaster G. W. Malton of No. 24 EFTS, was reported missing last fall after a Dusseldorf raid in which he was pilot of a Spitfire acting as fighter escort. The postmaster's son-in-law was killed in a bomber crashup in Wales last summer.

NEWS-BREEZE EXCHANGE AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED

The A. S. & M. News, Abbotsford, and The Weekly Breeze, No. 24 EFTS, today announced an exchange agreement which will give readers of both newspapers more complete news coverage. The reciprocal action by The News will give EFTS personnel up-to-date information on the events of the area surrounding the airport, while The Breeze will furnish accounts of all station activities for publication in The News. The Breeze will henceforth be printed by The News.

EFTS HOLIDAY QUIET WITH FEW ON STATION TO WELCOME NEW YEAR

With a bright new year ahead, No. 24 EFTS has plunged back into harness after the return of its staff and students from holiday leave. Half the station had taken five days off at Christmas with the remainder enjoying leave over the New Year's period. Today, however, all were back together with renewed spirit, ready to take another concerted crack at the enemy.

The airport's holiday season was a quiet one, with few persons spending Christmas or New Year's on the grounds. All social activities were at a standstill at the school itself, while airman and staff celebrated the season elsewhere. Only a skeleton group remained to carry out essential work on Christmas Day, though training was resumed for a part of Jan. 1.

The officers' mess, the sergeants' mess and the airman's canteen were quiet spots on New Year's Eve, with only a few choosing to greet 1944 sanely, listening to a radio pealing out the news of the end of the old and the beginning of the new.

From the flying school came the only report of minor accidents in the M-5-A Area, however, as two officers were admitted to the station hospital for injuries suffered in separate road crashes during the period.

TRADE BOARD MOVES TO EASE WARTIME HOUSING SHORTAGE

Abbotsford's acute housing shortage was receiving additional attention today as a committee of the Board of Trade planned to hold a conference with S/L M. Gain, chief flying instructor at No. 24 EFTS, to investigate means of alleviating the situation.

A further appeal to the citizens of the town to throw open their homes to make space for families of staff at the airport was in prospect, though it was recognized that in nearly all cases where local residents have been able to do so they have cooperated to the fullest extent. Sub-letting portions of their own homes, they have provided living quarters for a large number of flying instructors and permanent personnel.

No Local Vacancies

In addition to the trade board committee, which includes President Lang, Sands, J. S. Daly and H. S. Andrews, a committee has been operating in conjunction with the M-5-A servicemen's centre at The Hut, aiding in finding suitable quarters here. Reports indicate, however, that virtually no vacancies are known in the vicinity, the only ones occurring when men are transferred to other stations.

The aim of the trade board in forming the committee was to canvass the situation with a view to additional building in the area to make homes for those men unable to find other places to live. A number of Abbotsford residents have expressed their intentions of building if authorization can be obtained.

when it went off the road. He walked to the station hospital from the scene of the crash, which left the vehicle a total wreck—none of which was covered by insurance. Damage to the motorcycle driven by Saave included a collapsed front wheel; his first words when aided were, "How's my bike?"

With the passing of the Wolf Wagon—it has been sold for junk to the farmer in whose yard it landed—goes one of the few institutions at No. 24 EFTS, for the old car was recognized far and wide as part and parcel of the school. Its reputation long ago preceded it to all parts of the Fraser Valley and Vancouver when its original owner, F/O L. Godfrey, was at the wheel, and later when F/O Butch Merrick, DFC, DFM, and P/O Young purchased it. It furnished a constant source of amusement to residents of the area as well as to EFTS personnel.

P/O Young, in speaking of the gallant vehicle's demise, remarked that it met its end still faithful to aviation. "It did a slow roll off the deck," he declared, "then flicked out of it to head in the other direction. It was a pretty maneuver."

**CARON EPTS WORKERS
ADD TO STAFF HERE**

Four company employees added to No. 24 EPTS staff here this week who were formerly employed at the Caron, Sask., EPTS, are the advance guard of a sizable group we will be taken on strength, it was announced today by Sec.-Treas. Fred Graham of the Vancouver Air Training Co., Ltd.

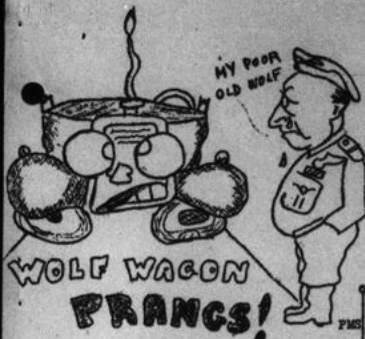
The workers are being brought here, the official declared, as the prairie school ceases to function, on the termination of its contract with the RAF.

Already here are H. McAllister, who will serve as an assistant to Control Officer Jiggs Harrison; Miss Isabelle Long and Mrs. Margaret Combe, timekeepers, and Miss Mary Fulton, a waitress.

Operations insofar as flying training at the Caron school stopped recently, it was learned, and preparations were made to transfer the civilian staff here. The companies operating this school and that at Caron were closely allied.

"Many new faces will be in evidence," Mr. Graham said, "but it is not known exactly how many there will be." Control operators, time-keepers, engineers and waitresses will be in the group.

Manager Stewart McKercher, KC, who also managed the Caron school, will return here this week from Saskatchewan.



FROM PAGE ONE -

F/O Merrick's reaction to the loss was one of profound sorrow and a move is now underway, under the leadership of F/O Godfrey, to commemorate in suitable verse the episodes of the famous buggy. A tablet together with a part of the wagons steering wheel will become a permanent monument in the officers' mess.

**HOSPITAL NOW IN NEW QUARTERS;
OLD BUILDING BEING ADDED ON**

Now in progress is the moving of the building formerly used as the station hospital onto the new hospital quarters, where it will form the west wing. A construction crew is skidding the structure to its new location with the aid of a bulldozer, over a route behind the RCASC depot and the administration building.

The hospital staff, under the direction of F/L A.W. Vanderburgh, medical officer, last week transferred operations to the new center across from the admin offices. Facilities in the spacious building include a large kitchen, offices, a dental drug, clothing and linen storage rooms and much ward space.

Announced officially this week was the promotion of Cpl. Cecil Stewart, in charge of the hospital's orderly room, to sergeant.

**BIG SPORTS PROGRAM
IN PROSPECT FOR '44**

Announced today by F/O Tex McGill, station sports officer, was the list of sports to be in operation here when the new recreation hall opens early in February.

The list included basketball, with the unit team practicing and playing on the hardwood floor here, and an inter-station league composed of student, staff and civilian teams playing a regular schedule.

Volleyball teams will also be formed into a league on much the same basis, the sports officer declared. Badminton will be played as well, though no league is planned at present. Courts for all games will be marked out on the two hall floors.

Later in the spring, when outdoor ground conditions permit, the trend will be toward softball, soccer and rugby, with leadership to be offered in those sports by the committee headed by McGill. The group includes F/O Ralph Burton, Harvey Orr, Margaret Smith and Ken Becott.

Equipment for all sports is coming in slow but it is expected sufficient will be on

**FLIGHTS REORGANIZED;
NEW LEADERS NAMED**

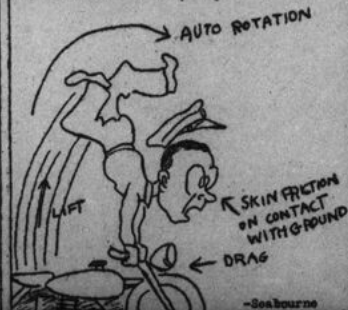
A reorganization of flights, creation of a testing flight and appointment of new flight leaders were made this week.

With the change, deputy squadron commanders become responsible for two flights each. F/O R.A.J. Burton will head A and D flights; F/O Austin MacNab E and H flights; F/L Peter Denning F and G and F/O Tex McGill B and C. Acting as flight OC's will be F/O Roger Dinelli, F/O Frank Grant, F/O Reg' Witt, F/O Herb Lotimer, F/O Jim Murphy, F/O Mac McMillan, F/O Bob McBride and F/O Andy Duncan.

Named to testing flight, which will be under F/O Carl Agar, were F/O Jim Shaw, P/O Ed Brook, F/O Bert Price and F/O Frank Scott, AFM. This group will begin activities shortly, with quarters in the steel hangar.

A reallocation of offices affected nav and testing flights, CFI, ACPI and flight office.

**PRINCIPLES OF FLIGHT -
ILLUSTRATED BY P/O SAUVÉ**



'FOR MAN'S CALENDAR'
IS FEATURE THIS WEEK

Feature of this week's edition of The Weekly Breeze is a Seabourne-illustrated calendar designed to satisfy a very evident need in every part of the station. While we make no pretence of equalling Esquire's Varga effort, we do feel you can use our product.

A few minutes with a colored pencil do wonders to that plain black-and-white sheet; just try filling in the outlines with red and shading the drawings, and you'll have something you'll be glad to hang up inside your locker door for easy reference.

Or, if you are minus a wallet calendar, get out your shears and clip the calendar apart - they're all the same size...

(This calendar is the first in a series of weekly feature pages in this newspaper.)



BUS COMPANY ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE TO TAKE EFFECT TOMORROW, JAN. 8

More frequent Saturday runs for the bus connecting the airport and Abbotsford were announced today, to take effect tomorrow, Jan. 8th. Connections will be made with all Vancouver busses at the corner of Mt. Ishman road and the main highway.

The bus will leave town at 0830, 0730, 1030, 1130, 1245, 1345, 1445, 1545, 1645, 1745, 1815, 1915, 2030, 2130, 2200, 2330, 2530 and 0015, on Saturdays only.

From the station to town, the bus will run at 0645, 0800, 1045, 1215, 1300, 1415, 1515, 1615, 1800, 1830, 1930, 2045, 2145, 2215, 2300, 2345, and 0030 hours.

BITS OF THE BREEZE

Y Supervisor Harvey Orr is currently undergoing treatment in a Vancouver hospital.

F/S George Proctor, who spent a week of December in the station hospital, has undergone a tonsillectomy in an RCAF west coast hospital which will give him two more weeks off.

Works and Buildings Chief Myles John "Bud" Hout, in reply to last week's intimation in The Breeze (all in fun) that his toyshop was much behind schedule, has announced that all orders for next Christmas must be made now if delivery is to be guaranteed.

Rugh Barclay, chief ground instructor, is due back shortly from a tour of EFTS schools on the prairies, prospecting for new ideas.

THE WEEKLY BREEZE

Published Weekly for Personnel of No. 24 EFTS,
Abbotsford, B.C. No. 19 January 7, 1944

EDITOR

WOII Frank Martineau

Contributors this issue: LAC Peter Seabourne, F/O Tex McGill, F/O Butch Merrick, F/S Frank Mould, Mrs. Sue Jackson, Sgt. Coe Stewart, F/O Keith Young, WOII Bob Twiss, F/L Ben Knowles.

SKY'S THE LIMIT ...

When plans for the foundation of a station magazine, to be called SKY, were announced in the Christmas issue of this newspaper, they drew interested comment from the whole of No. 24 EFTS. We don't intend to tease you with a tentative publication date for the first issue; we can candidly tell you we don't know ourselves.

Having been through this magazine organization business before, we know there are hundreds of things to do before an issue even hits the press. Those things are being done now, on a volunteer basis which of course puts a crimp in speed. But they are being done.

SKY, when it appears, will put WINGS to shame so far as information goes, though it can scarcely hope to compete with the lavish illustrations that RCAF monthly can afford. In short, if present plans materialise, your station magazine will be the best in the country - a periodical of which you can well be proud.

But - for now - you'll have to wait for SKY with the rest of us...

FURTHER PUBLISHING PROGRESS...

Announced elsewhere in these pages in a short news story is the new agreement reached between this newspaper and the A-S-M News, Abbotsford's weekly, with regard to interchange of material.

This represents another step forward by The Breeze, which originated as a bulletin-type sheet and has in a few short months become a legitimate newspaper. Readers will profit by the pact in a more attractive front page and an increase in Abbotsford news carried.

BITS OF THE BREEZE

One flying instructor here, whose laundry has evidently been received in town in a somewhat lipstick-stained condition, found this note in with his clean shirts this week, "Why don't you try out brand?" The missive was smeared with scented lip rouge and signed, "The Laundry Girls."

F/O Phil Bribe, appointed investigating officer in the Sauve crash, much in evidence. F/O Herb Lotimer, who recently returned from leave in Toronto, appointed to look into another incident.

F/L Ben Knowles, entertainment committee chairman, will call a meeting of the group for early next week, to clean up business of the Christmas dance and make new plans.

F/L W.W. Benn, OC of No. 3 Squadron, was shuffled out of a home in the latest changeover of offices here Wednesday. He is currently sharing space with F/L Lon Milne, ACPI.

Miss Beverly Martin, daughter of the late manager and an employe of the canteen here, is leaving to take up nursing training in Vancouver. Her brother, F/O Chuck Martin, was a recent visitor here.

Sergeants sandpapering floors after recent CFI inspection of quarters.

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