

# The Breeze



February 18, 1944

No. 24 EFTS, Abbotsford, B.C.

Number 25

## Servicemen's Social Centre in Abbotsford



Several interior views of the Servicemen's Hut in Abbotsford, sponsored by MSA Citizens' Committee  
Photos by M. J. Nugent  
Cut courtesy A. S. & M. News, Abbotsford

### INSTRUCTORS COP QUIZ CASH PRIZES

#### Bi-Weekly Question Periods

The regular bi-weekly meeting of flying instructors at No. 24 EFTS officers' mess Tuesday proved to have more than the usual allotment of zeal as two groups of instructors vied for cash prizes in the question and answer period, following the business session.

P/O Henry Sauve copped the top individual award by identifying the International Commission for Air Navigation, and walked off with \$5. Other questions rated prizes paying from 7c to \$1.05. Cash for the prizes was put up by Stewart McKercher on behalf of the Vancouver Air Training Co., Ltd.

FO Bert Price was master of ceremonies for the contest and was assisted by SL Morley Gain, FL Len Milne and FO Ralph Burton as judges. Each contestant was allowed 20 seconds to answer his question before his prize money was deposited in the "kitty" and at the conclusion of the question period all contestants tussled mentally in an attempt to lift the jackpot. FO McGill, FO Klein and WO McCormick divided the \$2.75 "kitty." Fred Graham, company secretary-treasurer, was timekeeper.

Other business at the meeting included the mention of postwar reconstruction and rehabilitation plans and the introduction of visitors, including FO C. W. Hammond, DFM; FO D. H. Swan, DFC, and FO B. Hadden, RAF navigators on a tour of Canada following operations overseas.

### HANGAR CANTEEN TO OPEN

Announced today by Messing Officer Eric Adames was the opening Monday of a new canteen in No. 2 hangar.

## Visiting Navigators Can Boast 166 Raids on Enemy Territory

Three members of the RAF, who together can add up their operational score to 166 raids on Germany and other enemy-held territory, are visiting in Abbotsford a few days. They are Flying Officer C. W. Hammond, DFM, London, a former stock broker's clerk; Flying Officer D. H. Swan DFC, Newcastle, who was school master before enlistment, and Flying Officer B. Hadden, Glasgow, former civil servant.

The trio of young navigators are in Canada on a tour of flying training schools of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan in a liaison position, and have been in Canada less than three weeks. They will return to England on completion of their tour, and hope to be returned to operational duty, and later to re-muster for pilot training in Canada.

Members of the famous "Lancaster bomber group," which they claim is the best in the world, they have participated in all the major 1000-bomber raids and also raids on dams in the Ruhr Valley which played such an important role in eliminating Hitler's industrial plants.

Hadden has 48 night raids and 20 day raids to his credit; Swan 40 night raids and 10 day raids; and Hammond 45 night raids and 6 day raids. A well-known member of the same bomber group is Flying Officer W. T. "Butch" Merrick, who recently graduated from No 24 EFTS, following his remuster from gunner.

#### First Time in Canada

The boys told The News this is their first trip away from the British Isles except for one

raid when they bombed power stations in Italy and later landed in North Africa. On that particular raid, their squadron laid 8000-pound bombs on the target.

It is a unanimous statement among the three airmen that the Lancaster is the best bomber in the world.

Their tour of Canada began when they landed in the east less than three weeks ago. Immediately they came west, and will now work their way back east. No. 24 EFTS is the first station on their itinerary, and it received high praise from the visitors. They approved not only of the school, but of B.C. generally. Tonight they are being entertained at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Weir.

#### Trip to United States

For the weekend, The News arranged for the visiting airmen to spend a day in Seattle as the guests of the Seattle Times. They are looking forward to this, since it will be their introduction to the United States.

On operational duty, the trio flew with many Canadians, and spoke highly of their flying ability and personal qualities.

### VISITING FLIGHT HERE

Commanded by SL A. Patton, No. 5 Visiting Flight, from the RCAF central Flying School at Trenton, Ont., is currently on station testing all instructors for higher instructional categories and checking generally on the progress of training.

Included in the flight are FL H. C. Forbell, FL E. James and PO G. N. Seeler.

**TOWN HALL TO OPEN SOON;  
SPORTS PROGRAM PLANNED  
TO START ON MARCH 1**

With the station recreation hall nearing completion, (a state of affairs which has been noted in The Breeze from time to time for the past few months), FO Tommy McGill, station sports officer, today announced that the new sports program will tentatively go into effect March 1.

Equipment for badminton, volleyball, basketball and sundry other indoor sports is now on its way to supplement a stock already on hand, he declared. A physical training sergeant has been here for the past week on temporary duty from command to assist in getting the schedule under way.

Dubbed "Town Hall" during the recent contest conducted by this newspaper, the large rec hall will be the after-duties activity center of the campus, with space available for almost any kind of game.

**BASKETBALL RESULTS**

Our hoopsters took a terrific shellacking in Nooksack, Washington, on Tuesday night, but came right back Wednesday night to win a game in Cloverdale. Score of the Tuesday tussle was 44 to 28, when the lads were playing a team which is rated as the best in high school circles in the state of Washington. The game with Cloverdale was won to the tune of 43 to 31, in the first of the BC Southern Mainland playoffs.

Accompanying the local team to Nooksack was a busload of supporters, both male and female, to help root the lads on, but it was to no avail. Nooksack will play a return game here the 29th. Cloverdale will play here on Wednesday night, if the gym is ready, and on the Abbotsford floor otherwise.

**VICTORY GARDEN SLATED  
FOR SPOT ON CAMPUS**

A big Victory garden just resembling with all types of vegetables (no cabbage, ~~potatoes~~) will replace an empty plot of ground behind the officers' mess this spring, it was decided at a meeting of the School Council Wednesday.

Archie MacLean, newly-arrived flying wing adjutant who is acting as coordinator of flight line activities, was welcomed as a member of the council. Assistant Mgr. C.J. Clark presided.

Size of the proposed parking lot was increased, at the direction of the council, to provide space for 140 automobiles at one time. A report on the possibilities had been submitted to SL M. Gain, CFI, by WOII Charles Durand prior to the meeting. The conservation of electricity also drew attention of the group, with all personnel asked to douse any unnecessary lights.

**PIPER NOW ACEY-DEUCEY;  
REMAINDER TO ARMY, NAVY**

Louis Piper, formerly flight line boss, is now AC2 Piper, awaiting air crew training. The station band, of which he was a mainstay, is no more, with the departure of the remainder of a group of 26 members of the engineering staff for military service. All but Piper and J. Miller, army, enlisted in the navy.

**THE WEEKLY BREEZE**

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We thought people liked The Breeze enough to want it continued, so last week we made a request for help, in the form of a PRESS CLUB. Thank you, you four gals...

**CALHOUN MADE PRESIDENT  
OF NEW STATION RIFLE CLUB**

Jim Calhoun, GIS instructor, heads the station Rifle Club, with Mary Nugent as secretary and Alfred Stringer, LAC K.M. Wilson, Mary Parks, Jean McKenzie and Sgt. Horne as the advisory committee, it was decided at the group's first meeting Monday.

A range will be built by the club in the Town Hall. Meetings will be held each Monday night at 7:30, in GIS until further notice.

**GIRLS FORM HOSTESS CLUB  
TO OPERATE IN TOWN HALL**

At the regular monthly meeting of the girls' mess, held in the mess building this week, plans were made to organize a Hostess club to assist in the entertainment in the new Town Hall.

The committee in charge of the planning was named to include Mary Nugent, Eleanor Rice, Evelyn Gould and Rose Finnigan. Asst. Mgr. C.J. Clark and CGI Hugh Barclay were present at the meeting to discuss the club formation.

VISITORS... S/L Kerley, S/L Morden and FL Aikman, DFC, are currently visiting the station... FO Butch Merrick and FO Lloyd Godfrey spent a highly publicized weekend in Seattle last week and helped in the bond drive.