

The Breeze



March 3rd, 1944

No. 24 EFTS, RCAF, Abbotsford, B.C.

Vol. 2, No. 1

THREE-CAR ACCIDENT AT COAST INVOLVES TWO FROM 24 EFTS

Local People Unhurt
Third Driver Jailed

FO Jack Hulton, an instructor at No. 24 EFTS, suffered only minor cuts and bruises as the result of a three-car accident in Vancouver early last Sunday morning, but is deprived of the use of his automobile until repairs can be made. The damage, estimated at more than \$100, is partially covered by insurance.

The mishap occurred when an allegedly inebriated army private side-swiped the automobile driven by Sgt. B. Steck, also of No. 24 EFTS, before crashing his car into the front end of the nearly stopped Hulton vehicle. No one in the Steck machine was hurt.

Adjudged guilty in Vancouver police court Monday, the private was sentenced to serve a 30-day stint at hard labor in Oakalla.

Other uninjured members in the Hulton party included FO and Mrs. Hugh MacMillan of Abbotsford.

SIX MONTHS! FRESH BREEZE

Today No. 24 EFTS is six months old.

In its half-year of life, the station has begun to take on a feel and a look of permanence.

The Breeze is doing likewise.

In honor of his semi-anniversary we present herewith the first edition of the new, more settled and — we hope — smarter Breeze.

RCAF AT NO. 24 EFTS RAISE OVER \$400 IN HOUR FOR RED CROSS

In just one hour during pay parade Tuesday at No. 24 EFTS more than \$400 was collected for the Red Cross, as a committee headed by FO Floyd Glass accepted contributions from RCAF personnel. Solicitation of civilian staff members is now underway, though no results have as yet been announced. Other members of the RCAF drive committee are PO George Sturgiss, WO Nick Gilcher and FS Charles Rice.

ABBOTSFORD PILOT FINDS NEW THRILLS ON INDIA FRONT

The first operational flight for Warrant Officer Jack Blinch of Abbotsford, over Burma, is an experience he will not easily forget.

Piloting a Beaufighter in a recent low-level offensive sweep over Japanese-occupied Burma, the 22-year-old RCAF pilot dove in to attack a stationary goods train from about 50 feet. Leaving the target his aircraft was hit by pieces of the exploding engine. One blade of his port airscrew was knocked off and the door of his aircraft blown inwards.

"All of a sudden the ship lurched and vibrated intensely," said Blinch.

"I shut off the damaged engine and immediately set course for home hoping the remaining engine would see us through. We managed to make height alright but the temperature of the starboard engine kept rising, so I made a landing at a forward air-

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INTERNATIONAL HOOP GAME OPENS NO. 24 EFTS "TOWN HALL"

Nooksack Wins 51-46

"Town Hall", the new recreation centre at No. 24 EFTS, opened its doors Tuesday night for its first sports feature, a basketball game between the station team and the Nooksack, Wn., high school aggregation.

On a perfect playing floor, the airmen suffered their second defeat at the hands of the hard-fighting youngsters from south of the border, who have the reputation of being the top high school team in the state. Score of the battle was 51 to 46, with the Nooksack Pioneers leading all the way.

UNIQUE "MISS RICH" PRIZE WON AT DANCE BY MRS. C. BOURQUIN

Lucky winner of the \$25 "Miss Rich" at the United Services Hut benefit dance in Matsqui hall on Friday night was Mrs. Cecilia Bourquin, Abbotsford, a clerk in the Valley Hardware store here, according to H. S. Andrews, president of the M-S-A Citizen's Committee sponsoring the Hut.

Approximately \$150 was cleared on the sale of tickets for the drawing of the unique prize. "Miss Rich" was a doll dressed in 25 one-dollar bills. A majority of the tickets sold prior to the benefit were disposed of by Andrews' Grocery, The Teddy Bear confectionery, Mrs. George Malton, and at the canteen at No. 24 EFTS.

Mrs. Malton, originator of the doll idea and benefit dance, was in charge of the drawing, and to her, committee members say, goes a major part of the credit for the success of the venture.

97's FAREWELL STAG
FIRST SOCIAL EVENT
BILLED FOR TOWN HALL

With a sigh of "Well, that's all over and done with," Course 97 will dust off its hands on Wednesday night and give the fine accommodations in the new Town Hall an informal dedication with a graduation party which -- so far at least -- is billed as strictly stag.

LATEST OPF AWARDED
FOR ABSENTEEMINDEDNESS

Another of our illustrious students enters this week into the select group of members of the Order of the Prominent Finger, that ignoble order which has grown to such proportions here at No. 24 EFTS.

The citation which accompanied the award said, in part: "This student was running up his aircraft solo in preparation for flight, all according to the best of instruction. When he was completed with his check of the engine, he attempted to taxi forward to the takeoff position but found the aircraft would not move.

He then shut down the motor and walked to the hangar.

"An inspection of the plane by a mechanic revealed that the brake was fully on."

What won't they think of next?

The boys are making the event a strictly communal affair. Everybody on the course is on one committee or another, preparing entertainment and speeches.

LAC W.L. Mullis of Toronto is to be master of ceremonies.

Including flying and ground instructors, as many as 85 men are expected to be present.

MOON PITCHERS

(Town Hall: 7 p.m.)

Tonight:

CHINA, war drama

Loretta Young, Alan Ladd and William Bendix.

Tuesday:

LET'S FACE IT

Bob Hope and Betty Hutton

Next Friday:

STREET OF CHANCE

Burgess Meredith and Claire Trevor.

TUESDAY NITE SHOWS ALL 'A' PICTURES

THE BREEZE ----- Published every Friday for the personnel of

No. 24 EFTS, RCAF, Abbotsford, B.C.

EDITOR: WO Frank Martineau; ASSOCIATE EDITOR: PO George Sturgiss;

JOE BOYS: LAC Peter Inglis, LAC Orville O'Neill

I wonder if I got all the parts back?



For Print

ALL CARS ON STATION
MUST HAVE STICKERS,
SCHOOL COUNCIL RULES

Effective immediately, according to a decision by the School Council at its Wednesday session, is a drive against improper parking on the school grounds. To be admitted onto the station, cars must bear the appropriate sticker - yet to be produced.

Only those vehicles which are owner-insured will be allowed to pass through the gate by guards on duty there, it was decided at the meeting, at which C.J. Clark, assistant manager, presided.

Work is underway on the parking lot on which accredited autos must be left, north of the students' barracks.

Other Council business included reports and discussions on the establishment of a Public Relations Office, the Red Cross drive and the recent order governing the use of shortcuts.

Weekly personnel orders, similar to the weekly flying orders now being issued by the RCASF here, will be published for civilian personnel, it was announced, with Secretary-Treasurer Fred Graham as issuing officer.

Quotas have been set up in each civilian department for the Red Cross drive and section heads are responsible for collection of contributions.

Report on grounds and the landscaping plans was made by M.J. Nugent, works chief. Other members of the committee include Mgr. McFarcher, Mr. Clark, Mr. William McCready, buildings chief, and W. S. Newcombe, adjutant.

BITS OF THE BREEZE

Officer commanding the RCASC supply depot here is Lieut. J.R. Wittins, who travelled extensively taking further army training prior to his posting here.

Each incoming class of trainees will in future receive copies of The Breeze to acquaint them here.

GRASS AND TREES
AND BIRDS AND BEES -
MAREY DOATS, WE GROW EM

On the station today is a B.C. Experimental Farm expert from Agassiz, looking into the landscaping possibilities on this enormous campus.

The School Council, meeting on Wednesday, came to the conclusion that our beautification program should be left in the hands of a master in the tree and grass business.

According to the group's decisions, the station area will be subdivided and each section allotted a plot to look after.

BITS of the BREEZE

Highlighting the official news this week was the announcement of promotions to flight sergeant for three link trainer instructors - Sgt Dave Begg, Sgt. Pete Scholefield and Sgt. Don Revie. All have seen long service in the trade. Another link note is the posting of FL Ben Knowle to Deseronto, Ont., for advanced instrument training.

EVERY TIME IT RAINS IT RAINS PYREX FROM HEAVEN

Dorothy Mowat, the tall dark gal who used to pack parachutes, has traded her chutes for, among other things, a complete set of pyrex kitchenware and a husband.

The pyrexware she acquired the other night at what the wop girls around the front office call a super-shower.

This remunerative function was sprung on Dorothy as a complete surprise. The girls fetched her downstairs to the lounge in their quarters and confronted her with a gigantic cake, fresh from the station baker's, decorated with rosettes and marked "Good Luck" and stuff.

The cake - a good three feet by two - was eaten later in the evening, along with sandwiches and coffee.

The pyrexware will be used to cook meals for FO Don McIntyre, late of this station's instructor staff and now of No. 25 EFTS, at Assiniboia, Sask.

Dorothy leaves today.

Next graduation smoker is due Wed. in Town Hall, according to FL Frank Mylrea, class member making arrangements.

FO Ralph Burton is currently on an advanced flying course at Trenton.

Sgt. Mel Barwick and Sgt. Hal Lowes, absent, are due back at work here Monday after a special course at Leithridge.

FO Wallie Peters and FS Fran Mould are currently on leave on compassionate grounds. Fathers of both died recently.

Sergeants' Mess meets Monday noon in a lounge to which more furnishings were added this week.

WO George Proctor, our Outdoor Club impresario, has made a call for assistance with the leadership involved in hikes and other such ventures.

Attempts are being made by station officials to stage the Navy Show in a special performance in Town Hall.

SL Morley Gain, CFI, returns from leave next Thursday. FL L. S. Milne is temporarily commanding RCAF personnel

Activity Club Plans Fishing and Hiking to Beauty Spots

By FRANK MARTINEAU

British Columbia doesn't need a Chamber of Commerce to sell its scenic grandeur; all it needs is a continual turnover of personnel on the various military stations within this beautiful province.

To no one is this more apparent than to the pilot, be he instructor, operational or student, for a flying man sees more country than any groundling ever hatched. From his perch thousands of feet in the blue, he looks over a vast expanse of terrain rolling as far as his keen eye can see toward distant but interesting horizons.

That's colorful language but—brother—you need colorful language to describe adequately this luscious B. C. landscape. It's superb!

Most of us at No. 24 EFTS count other parts of Canada or the United States as our homes. You all know what home is to any man—it's a rainbow-colored heaven to which we want to return, soon. But British Columbia has been a wonderful experience for us, for it is nature's paradise, the Garden of Eden and a sweet dream all rolled into one great big hunk of gorgeous scenery.

A pilot never gets tired of flying over such country as this, for the mountains and the

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Engraving courtesy International Scenic Loop Association, Abbotsford, B.C.



Pilots Like Fraser Valley Panorama

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lakes are continually changing their personalities. The prairies are dull and the flat eastern country hardly better; slowly rolling bush country is only a shade removed from such monotony. But scramble a few mountains with your lakes and rivers and trees and meadows and what have you—why, the most interesting flying area in Canada, and it's right here around Abbotsford!

With a great outdoors like this, what better reason is needed for a large-scale outdoor activities club?

"Activity Club"

WOII George Proctor, announced today that No. 24 EFTS would have one of same. The plans he announced were complete; the arrangements were the culmination of weeks of interviews and trips on his own during his spare time from flying instructional duties. George has done a good job.

Fun for all at the flying school is available in great jobs in this vicinity, George is convinced, through fishing trips (this is the best fishing country in the Dominion), pack trips, mountain climbing, skiing, hikes and weekend outings of all kinds. The program is complete; now all the lads and lassies have to do is scrape together the energy to write their names on the reservation lists which will appear in the station canteen for these various excursions.

Before we go on to tell you about all the trips lined up for the Abbotsford airmen and the company girl employees, here's how the whole idea came about:

Friend Proctor is a fishing enthusiast from Ontario. As one of the first arrivals here at the flying school, he made good use of his time exploring the country and its possibilities and soon came to the keen conclusion that here he had a good thing; this was the best locale for outdoorsmen

he had ever seen. The area has everything, he told himself—and others.

One of the others was Squadron Leader Morley Gain, himself an Ontarioite and a sportsman. SL Gain suggested to George that he form a fishing club; George consented to his commanding officer and went even further. The results of his planning are being announced today.

Through the co-operation of the operating company, transportation will be provided to the scenes of all these outdoor activities. If fishing is the prospect, a bus will take the "Isaac Waltons" to the nearest point and will later pick them up; if it's hiking, transport will be on hand for the trip to the starting point and then for the journey back.

As for fishing, Proctor's report lists such likely spots as Harrison Bay, the Vedder River, Yarrow Runs, the Fraser, Lost Lake (on Sumas Mountain) and the Liumchin River, which is 5,400 feet above Cultus Lake. He even has the data on when the cutthroats, steelheads, coho and white spring salmon are available.

Citizens Co-operate

Two of Abbotsford's leading citizens, J. S. Daly and George F. Pratt, have given their assistance in the formulation of this fresh air program. Through Mr. Daly, George has secured 30 sets of fishing tackle which will be loaned out to the boys for organized trips. Mr. Pratt, village clerk and secretary of the ration and library boards, has already guided a number of the airmen on fishing excursions up the Vedder and in the vicinity of Yarrow and has offered to keep up the good work.

And pack trips: seven horses are available for such jaunts up the Vedder river to Lake Chilliwack, with cabin accommodations there. Several pack trails in the vicinity of Cultus lake are interesting too, sportsmen declare.

Arrangements have been made with the Vancouver section of the Alpine Club of Canada, following suggestions by A. M. Lambert of New Westminster, for five-man mountain climbing trips up Mount Seymour on weekends, bringing blankets and food. If interest in such projects is sufficient, the Alpine club has stated, up to a dozen lads can be accommodated.

Then, too, there are several climbs in the vicinity of Cultus Lake which are of interest to the adventurous, with capable guides available, says George.

And for skiing, the Alpine Club also has facilities on Mt. Seymour. A dual purpose climbing and skiing party could be fixed up, since skis can be rented at a lodge which operates near the club quarters on the mountain.

Hikes, for which guides are also on tap, can be planned for the vicinities of Harrison Lake, Cultus Lake, the Vedder River and Elk Mountain, with the hikers bringing their own blankets and food for the one to three-day trips.

Weekend outings for the boys in blue to Harrison Lake will include a boat trip for 50 miles up to the north end of the big puddle, through lumber camps and for fishing in the Lillooet river there. About 10 to 15 men can be taken care of, bringing their own food and blankets, with cooking facilities there.

And at Cultus Lake, there is a dance every Saturday night, a roller rink, boats and canoes at very reasonable rates, picnics, swimming (not quite yet, chum), shore dinners and, in general, "the works". A cabin will house 12, with two tents taking 20 more lads, who will have to bring their own gear.

Helps Build B.C.

H. A. Jamieson, Cultus Lake manager, and caretaker Nichol of the park area aided WOII Proctor with the arrangements there,

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**CANTEEN FACE-LIFTED;
'UP-TO-DATE EMPORIUM'
PROMISED BY ADAMES**

Station canteen fiends, for the past week stumbling madly over carpenters, boards and boxes in their frequent scrambles to the counter, were given high hopes of improvement today by Messing Officer E. Adames with his announcement of the formal opening "shortly" of the new and improved Airmen's Canteen.

The remodelling activities are aimed, the messing officer said, at better display and more convenient peddling of coffee and cakes.

A full-length counter is being installed, with service currently being given under stress by the bewildered bevy of bustling beauties.

(If you want it in fewer words, they're cutting a bigger hole in the wall, chum.)

WHA, BUD, DON'T WALK ACROSS THERE...

Too bad, but from now on you've got to go the long way round. All those convenient (even if muddy) short cuts that you used to take are now formally and officially out of bounds and the Gestapo has been instructed to deal harshly with such of the station's hopefuls as believe the piece in DRO's on the subject a couple of days back was just so much hooey.

**RED, WHITE AND BLUE -- BUT ONLY
ONE OF THEM'S FOR LOVE-LETTERS**

If the gal-friend complains you never write and you swear yourself black-and-blue in the face that you do, maybe all the misunderstanding comes from the fact that you've been dropping your billets-doux in the wrong box.

Some day somebody is going to get round to lettering identification on the three (from left to right blue, red and white) drop boxes in the entrance to the canteen.

For the record, the red one is for mail, the blue one for contributions to The Breeze, and the white one for suggestions for station betterment.

**FL MILNE SUCCEEDS
FL VANDERBURGH AS
OFFICERS' MESS HEAD**

FL Len Milne became president of the Officers' Mess Committee, succeeding FL A.W. Vanderburgh, medical officer, following the latter's resignation at the March meeting of the Mess Wednesday night. The new president was elected by acclamation.

After calling the meeting to order, FL Vanderburgh proffered his resignation, explaining that a recent command order forbids the activity of medical officers in such a capacity. The doctor's position as honorary president of the Sergeants' Mess is not affected.

Other business discussed at the session included the establishment of a date, Thursday, March 9 - for the first Mess Dinner, the selection of PO Willie Peters as entertainment committee head, succeeding FL Ben Knowles, who is on course at Deseronto, and the naming of PO Art Klein to assist PO Jim Murphy, secretary, in the final draft of the mess rules.

Following a lengthy discussion of evening messing, the Mess approved a suggestion that PO Walter Wicks of the messing committee meet Messing Officer Eric Adams for a conference on the matter before action is taken by the Mess. The possibility of laundry delivery to the quarters was mentioned and tabled until the April session.

**G FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS
WIN BATTLE OF BRAINS
ON TRAINEES' QUESTIONS**

Using student mid-term questions, taken from recent papers, as the meat for the regular fortnightly instructors' quiz program Wednesday noon, PO Bert Brice, master of ceremonies, conducted the session between C and G Flights which the latter group won by a good margin.

Wep-money question, worth \$5 in cash to PO Jowse if he answered it correctly, went begging, as did also a dollar query and several others of lesser value. Prizes for the war of wits were put up by the company.

FL Len Milne, acting CFI, opened the program, at which all flying and link instructors were present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by FL Pete Denbigh, with W.E. Sambrooke, chief engineer, commenting briefly on cylinder heads and methods of operating aircraft to preserve the engines.

Manager Mc Kercher proffered his congratulations to instructors on the fine showing for visiting Flight when it was here last week.

TOWN HALL TOPICS

for

Week Beginning March 6

Monday

Station House
League Basketball

Tuesday

Movie (See 'Moon'
Picture Notes)

Wednesday

Ladies' Night

Thursday

Station House League
Basketball Games

Friday

Movie

Sports equipment can be borrowed daily from 0830 hours to 2100 hours--but it must be returned the same day.

and what will you have?
Oh, no, really I'm broke -- I just came here to look!!



FORNARD

MORTINEAU NAMED
PUBLIC RELATIONS
CHIEF FOR STATION

Warrant Officer Frank Mortineau, editor of the weekly Breeze and flying instructor at No. 24 EFTS, has been appointed Public Relations Officer for the unit, it was announced at the school this week by Manager Stewart McKercher.

Pilot Officer George Sturgiss has been named, associate PRO

SPORTS



EFTS HOOPSTERS NOSE OUT WEST VAN

Three points up on the West Vancouver Athletic Club's hoopsters as a result of last night's triumph by the No. 24 EFTS squad in Town Hall, FO Tommy McGill's Airmen are today pointing toward next Wednesday's final game in the home-and-home total points playoff series of the Lower Mainland B.C. basketball league.

Nosing out the West Van lads by a tight score of 43 to 40, despite a desperate surge in the last minutes of play, the EFTS team kept themselves well in the running for the championship of the whole of Lower British Columbia.

LAC Frank Jankovich led the scoring for the Airmen with four baskets and a foul shot, with LAC Crouch tallying eight points, LAC Aitken and FS Leonty chalking up six points each.

J. Lynn and K. Thomas tied for the high-scoring honors for the visitors with 12 points each.

The tilt was furiously-contested from the start, with little rough play until the final quarter when LAC Gordon of the home squad was banished via the foul route.

League officials working the game were T. Milton and H. Leach.

Fans galore including lots of gals enjoyed themselves immensely as they cheered the boys to victory.

DUTY (CHOAN) FITNESS ! Hospital Replenishes Stocks of Liniment

With the opening of Town Hall, the new duty fitness program will come into effect immediately.

PT classes for trainees will be conducted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and will include interflight competition in basketball, volleyball and floor hockey.

Flying instructors are also to get PT — two hours of it weekly.

Competitive sports will be stressed more than anything else during the new PT periods.

The sports department (Sgt. Ben Steck, prop.) is trying to organize a basketball house league which will include teams from the officers, the NCO's, the civilian staff and from each of the student courses. It is hoped that the proposed schedule will be ready some time within the next week. Several more basketballs have been received and are ready for use.

ABBOTSFORD PILOT

(Continued from front page)

field."

WO1 Blinch is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Blinch of Abbotsford, was born here and graduated from Upper Sumas school and Philip Sheffield high school in Abbotsford. He has been overseas for two years during which he had operational flights over Germany and the occupied countries before he volunteered for transfer to the India theatre of operations.

GARDNER—WILSHIRE-SMITH

A quiet wedding took place in Vancouver on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m., when Gloria Davis, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Wilshire-Smith of Gladwin road, Abbotsford, became the bride of Gordon Hugh Gardner, third son of Mr. and Mrs. William Gardner of Fort Langley. The groom, who has recently returned from service overseas, is employed at the control tower at the Abbotsford Airport.

Entire personnel of 24 EFTS on hand to witness presentation of operational wing by Air Vice Marshal G. R. Howsam, MC, air officer commanding No. 4 TC, to FO Alan J. Francis, DFC, of Vancouver last week.

PRINCIPALS IN MARCH WEDDING KNOWN HERE

Wedding plans of Miss Dorothy B. Mowat, who will next week become the bride of Flying Officer Donald J. McIntyre, were announced today by her parents, Flying Officer and Mrs. S. A. Mowat of Ladner.

The ceremony will take place in Moose Jaw, Sask., on March 10 with the No. 32 EFTS station chaplain officiating, according to present arrangements.

Miss Mowat, for two years employed by the Vancouver Air Training Co. Ltd., which operates No. 24 EFTS here, left her position as a parachute packer today. FO McIntyre, whose home is in Marriott, Sask., was formerly stationed here as a flying instructor and flight commander and is now on staff at the Assiniboia, Sask., elementary flying school.

Miss Mary Smith, flight office head at the school here, will be bridesmaid, with Flying Officer Ralph J. MacDonald, AFC, best man. FO MacDonald, also a former flight commander here, is now stationed at No. 2 FIS, Pearce, Alberta.

The bride-to-be first worked at an EFTS at Boundary Bay then moved to Caron, Sask., and

Activity Club

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with Carl Wilson of Vedder Crossing helping to plan hikes and fishing trips up the Vedder for the airmen. Mr. T. Bell has agreed to provide the pack horses for the trips into the mountains, while Forest Rangers Little and Mahood of Harrison Hot Springs have promised their full co-operation in giving the boys a good time.

In all, George Proctor has announced a fine program, one which should serve to make more citizens for postwar British Columbia, for what man with a mind of his own would not choose to live in this part of Canada? After having seen it both from the air and from the ground, as these student pilots of ours are doing, they can most easily be convinced that this is the place for them.

George doesn't know it, but he's helping build the future of this province in his outdoor plans just as much as he is developing present-day recreation for fighting airmen.

thence to No. 24 here. FO McIntyre was a bank teller in civilian life.