

# SL KERLEY'S FIRST GRAD PARADE AT NO. 24 EFTS

With a remustered wireless operator-air gunner, Flight Sergeant J. R. Domina of Toronto, as its honor student, the latest graduating class at No. 24 EFTS received its token wings Thursday from Squadron Leader G. E. Kerley, new chief flying instructor at the school.

The entire RCAF personnel of the flying centre paraded under a hot sun in honor of the latest graduates. Manager Stewart McKercher, KC, spoke briefly to the course, lauding the airmen for individual and group records at the local school and wishing them well at their next assignment on the prairies.

Distinguished passes were given Squadron Leader E. C. Miller of Vancouver, formerly an equipment officer; LAC J. M. Anderson of Prince George, LAC D. Barnes of Hamilton, Ont.; LAC H. Pollard of Coronada, Alberta; LAC E. Sparks of Edmonton and LAC R. W. Thorpe of Victoria for their high standing in the class.

## Station Tour Arranged

Two former air gunners with the course, FO N. D. Dewar of Vancouver and FO J. Steward of Calgary were graduated as was also WO1 D. Deans of Muskoka, Ont., an observer.

Special invitations were extended by the school to parents and friends of the graduates to attend the exercises. A tour of the station, tea and a reception were also arranged for visitors.

Manager McKercher pointed to the high class average here in his remarks, declaring that—with application throughout service school—he hoped that the entire course would find success as pilots.

## Students Hold Smoker

A graduation smoker was held



**C. J. CLARK**  
Assistant Manager

who looked like this a number of years ago. An Okanagan orchardman, Mr. Clark has been connected with the EFTS company since the start of the war.

Thursday nights on the station, with SL Kerley, Manager McKercher and other station officials as speakers. Special entertainment was provided by the class, with WO1 Deans as master of ceremonies.

Other British Columbia graduates included Sgt. J. R. Hill of Ocean Falls; LAC V. MacLean, LAC J. Ruskey and LAC H. K. Stanley of Vancouver; LAC E. A. Mahood of Chilliwack; LAC E. Shelling of Nakusp, LAC D. Truscott of Creston and LAC A. Watson of Revelstoke.

Another of the graduates was LAC Charles F. Courtman of Marylhurst, Oregon, and formerly of Abbotsford.

## Missing With HMCS Athabaskan

Word was received today by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Blinch of Abbotsford that their nephew, Able Seaman Harry Cliff Blinch RCN, 21, is missing from HMCS Athabaskan, the speedy tribal class destroyer sunk in action off the French coast in the English Channel Saturday morning.

The year-old Canadian ship was lost during a running fight with two German destroyers. One of the Nazi ships was left a burning hulk on the rocks. The other escaped. HMCS Naida, with the Athabaskan in the engagement, picked up 46 survivors and the Germans claim, by radio reports, to have picked up 85. Normal crew was about 200.

Son of Pte. H. G. Blinch, who is serving at a western dispersal depot. AB Blinch came here from Saskatchewan when but 18 months old and, with his brother LAC Charles J. Blinch, RCAF, grew up with the family of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Blinch.

## DISCUSSION CLUB

What will be done for the returned serviceman after the war will be the subject of discussion at the next session of the No. 24 EFTS Discussion Club, with FO Gilbert Gesell, officer commanding the Link section, as speaker.

Meetings of the forum will be held every two weeks during the spring season, it was decided at Monday's meeting when farm rehabilitation was discussed.

THE BREEZE

Published Fridays for Personnel  
of No. 24 EFTS, Abbotsford, B.C.

EDITOR

PO Frank Martineau

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PO George Sturgiss

JOE BOYS: LAC Wilt Walman

LAC Henry Chow

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RELIABLE BUS SERVICE...

A reliable bus service is the right of every military station - in fact, it is a necessity.

If there is no such public utility, men will always be returning late on pass -- whether it be for a 10:30 curfew or for work after a weekend 48. If the available service is unreliable, they will perforce resort to the thumb as a means of transportation.

On a unit such as this, an up-to-snuff busline is vital, for we must keep to schedule; we must produce pilots during every available moment as our contribution to ultimate victory.

A man absent equals an hour -- perhaps more -- lost in the grim Battle of Training. That Battle has a direct bearing on our war success

It all ties up into a great big package called "Victory" if we work together on it.



(During our eight-months existence, the only bouquets this newspaper has received have been verbal. In a letter to Manager Stewart McKercher, the manager of the High River, Alta., EFTS sends a few posies our way. - Ed.)

....On my return to the station I find on my desk a couple of copies of your station publication, "The Breeze." I should like to congratulate the editorial staff responsible for this publication. It is well named. In my opinion it is the brightest and the newsiest station paper I have yet seen....

D.K. Yorath

Sir:

Since the grand opening of our Town Hall there has been no station dance. A lot of the boys have been wondering when we're to have another one.

(No plans are currently in the making for such a dance. - Ed.)

Sir:

A waterwagon should be put into operation on our streets to lay the dust, it seems to me. What can be done about it?

(Paving is planned. - Ed.)

# BITS OF THE BREEZE

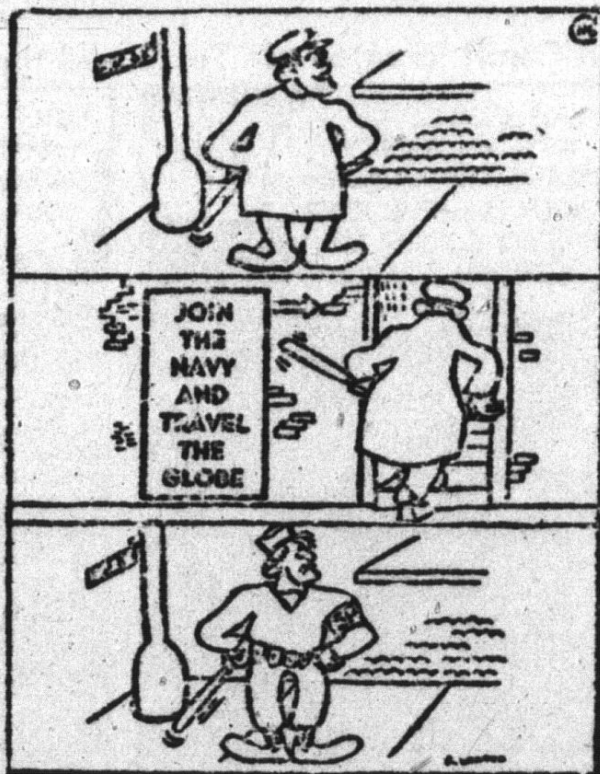
## WHAT'S COOKING ON THE STATION

Look for another stage show in Town Hall next Wednesday night; it's not definite yet, but it looks as though PO Wallie Peters had dood it a-gain as the station's entertainment man.

Speaking of said PO Peters, his Radio Quiz has been moved to odd Thursday nights, in the Hostess Club, to avoid clashing with graduation parties such as was held last night in the games room. Time for the do next Thursday is 9 p.m., with all sorts of fun in prospect.

Three parties of visitors are expected on station within the next few days — a group of Peardonville school kids tomorrow, 14 Lynden high school girl cyclists Sunday and about 20 Elks from Mission and Powell River on Tuesday. New plans for the reception of such guests here were made by the school council this week, with Mrs. Sue Jackson and Charles Wilde named to supervise as official greeters.

PO Jim Murphy, the unfortunate victim of barber's itch contracted in bygone manning pool days, was being called "Bluebeard" this week 'cuz Nurse Margie Tudge applied a potent purple potion to his puss to clear up the trouble.



PO Jack Greenwood, an oldtimer as an instructor, is a new addition to the staff. PO Bob Waltham has been posted to High River and Jack Austin takes over his Model Club presidency. WOI Nick Gilcher is on TD at Calgary, preparing for an expected GR course.

CGI Hugh Barclay made known to the School Council Wednesday that arrangements with UBC have been completed which will make university lecturers available here.

We repeat: Gad, but it's hot!

# \$75,000 REACHED HERE IN SIXTH V-BOND DRIVE

Its success assured in both the RCAF and EFTS divisions, the No. 24 EFTS Sixth Victory Loan was all over but the shouting today with an estimated \$75,000 in the national coffers as a result of subscriptions by personnel at the school.

A three-star pennant, indicative of more than 90 percent coverage of its employees in the drive, has been won by the Vancouver Air Training Co., Ltd., operators of the school, Secretary-treasurer Fred Graham announced. The civilian workers went nearly \$6000 over their \$27,500 quota to salt away \$33,200 in the national securities.

FL Len Milne, chairman of the RCAF campaign to raise \$35,000 for the war fund, reported that, after a slow start the airmen began to roll toward their objective. "We should hit the \$40,000 mark easily," he declared. "With only three-fifths of the applications in, we now have subscriptions for \$30,000."

### Paper Shortage

The RCAF loan was held up by a dearth of application forms

but the school was finally supplied on Monday and the air force committee workers went into action.

Air force personnel at the flying centre will be entitled to raise a victory flag to the top of their flag pole when 75 percent of the personnel have bought the bonds, FL Milne said. Both the company's pennant and the RCAF loan streamer will float in the breeze from the highest point on the mast.

### Engineers Feted

Chairman Graham of the company committee lauded the engineering department in the school for its fine showing. "The engineers undoubtedly made the best effort," he declared, "for every one of them purchased bonds and the whole department went far over its quota."

A turkey dinner Tuesday night on the station feted the department personnel for its esprit-de-corps and patriotism. Department heads W. E. Sambrooke and J. Bertalino accepted for their staff the Victory Loan committee's praise of the section's effort.

## The Wolf by Sansone

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"... just help yourself to anything you see, soldier!"

# FASTBALL OPENS WITH ERRORS, 1-SIDED WINS

## VICTORY LOAN BROADCAST BASED ON NO. 24 EFTS

A special radio program featuring No. 24 EFTS is being prepared by station CJOR, Vancouver, following on-the-spot recordings of airport sounds here last weekend.

Presentation date for the program has not yet been announced, but the half-hour dramatic show will be aired before the end of the Sixth Victory Loan campaign next week, according to the program manager of the radio outlet.

In company with PO Wallie Peters, former CJOR program director and now a flying instructor at the local school, technicians toured the flying centre Friday and Saturday to "cut" recordings of aircraft noises, control tower conversations and Link trainer instruction. These will be built into a radio script and broadcast. Theme of the program will be "Where your Victory Loan Money Goes," citing

Minus the usual official opening ceremony but with plenty of individual color, the Abbotsford and Services Fastball League opened Monday night with J. S. Daly's Comets walloping the RCAF staff nine 21-2. The Tuesday follow-up was taken by the EFTS civilians 18-2 over the Reserve Army boys.

Combining their efforts in a magnificent effort, the RCAF boys tried to outdo each other in showing their friendliness for the Comets by applying the boot to nearly every ball in sight. The first inning saw the count knotted at 2-2 and the game promised to be an even tussle, but in the third the air force boys started making things more interesting and contributed to the six counters tallied by the Dalymen.

The diamond was in good shape for the opener and a sizeable crowd was present to encourage the players from the rickety seats in the bleachers.

Errors in Tuesday's contest accounted for a good portion of the EFTS margin, but some runs on both sides were properly earned.

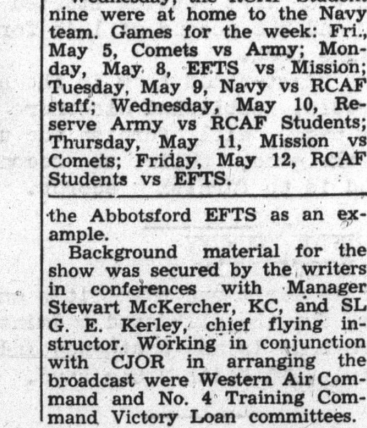
Wednesday, the RCAF Student nine were at home to the Navy team. Games for the week: Fri., May 5, Comets vs Army; Monday, May 8, EFTS vs Mission; Tuesday, May 9, Navy vs RCAF staff; Wednesday, May 10, Reserve Army vs RCAF Students; Thursday, May 11, Mission vs Comets; Friday, May 12, RCAF Students vs EFTS.

the Abbotsford EFTS as an example.

Background material for the show was secured by the writers in conferences with Manager Stewart McKecher, KC, and SL G. E. Kerley, chief flying instructor. Working in conjunction with CJOR in arranging the broadcast were Western Air Command and No. 4 Training Command Victory Loan committees.

## Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



## Not Afreud Of The Dark



# SPORTS

## BALLPARK BUILT; SERIES STARTS

A certain bunch of Useful Employment Joes can tell you in short, concise terminology just how a ballpark is built, for during the past week they've built one, just east of the south end of Lt. Baker avenue, if you can figure that out.

'Twas finished Wednesday afternoon after much sweating and torrid toil, just in time for the first game of a new house league to start its balls and strikes.

The Breeze last week mentioned the schedule — for ten teams and each flight represented, with a double entry for UE. — but then it was bemoaning no place to play. That's all been fixed up.

No officers' or NCO's teams are on the list because instructors will play for their flight teams.

Two games will be played every night, Monday through Thursday, with the first getting started at 1830 and the second at 1945 for 7 innings each.

The first-named team in the new schedule, published elsewhere on this page, will furnish the ump for the game, while the second-named is to furnish a scorer.

### BADMINTON TOURNEY OFF INDEFINITELY

If it isn't one thing it's another, for the ill-fated badminton tournament is now postponed indefinitely, PO Keith Young says.

### HERE'S WHEN YOU PLAY:

Monday - 6:30, C vs A; 7:45, UE(1) vs UE(2)

Tuesday - 6:30, B vs D; 7:45, E vs G.

Wednesday - 6:30, UE(1) vs A; 7:45, F vs H.

Thursday - 6:30, UE(2) vs B; 7:45, C vs F.

Remember, lads, first team on schedule furnishes ump, second furnishes scorer.

### RCAF TRAINEES WHIP NAVY BOYS

Jubilee Park in Abbotsford was the scene of another gruesome 7-inning fastball debacle (for the navy) when the No. 24 EFTS student pilots walked all over the Navy team, 14 to 8.

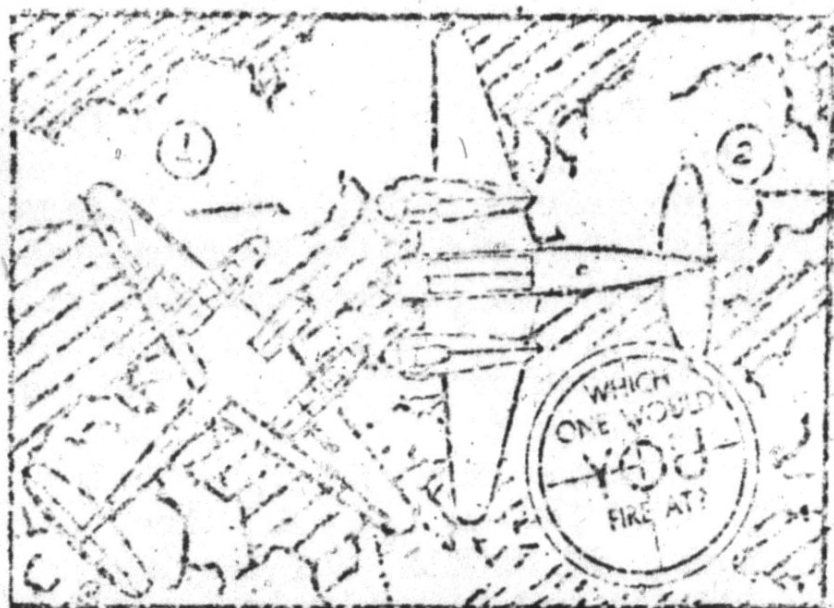
Powerful hitting by the trainee bunch and the steady pitching of LAC Coce "Lefty" Flaman saved the game for the airmen.

A sensational running catch by PO Monck in centerfield and a homer by Cpl. Jack Ponfret were high lights of an error-filled tilt.

# ENGINEERS FETED; ACHIEVEMENTS PRAISED

Plaudits for men too often forgotten when the praise is passed around were forthcoming Tuesday night when the engineer staff were guests at a company-sponsored banquet in the girls' mess.

Testimonials to their efficiency were passed on to the men by their leaders, by pilots and even by a visiting chief engineer -- Bert Langdon of the Regina EFTS. That their work has been of high calibre and that the engineers deserve thanks for it are equally evident, the speakers opined. The boys and girls took it modestly but it gave them that bubbly feeling, you could see.



**FIRE AT No. 1** --- It's the German Messerschmitt Me. 210, a low-wing twin engine fighter-bomber. Both edges of the wings taper to round tips. The tapered tailplane has rounded tips and a single fin and rudder.

**NOT AT No. 2** --- It's the Mosquito, a twin engine, low-wing bomber. The main taper of the wing is on the trailing edge. The line of the leading edge is broken at the centre panel by projecting radiators. The engine nacelles extend beyond the trailing edge. Tailplane is tapered and has a single fin and rudder.

Manager McKeocher cited their Victory Loan response -- they put in \$15,300 when asked for \$10,000. He said that "as part and parcel of the air training plan...we've sent our representative to the second front."

"Because of your efforts we are one of the nine EFTS's left open" he told them.

SL G.E. Kordley, CFI, backed up his statements with interesting but secret figures which indicate that No. 24 is at the top of the command heap in aircraft serviceability.

Mr. Langdon ungrudgingly admitted he's never seen ships kept in better condition. "The work you are doing is more important than you realize," he pointed out, "for lives depend on your care."

Praise came too from FL Milne, C.J. Clark, H.J. Nugent, Hugh Barclay, Fred Graham and Eric Adams. Chief Engineer W.E. Sambrooke, acting as master of ceremonies, responded for his boys, ably aided by his assistant, Joe Bartalino.

But the rest of the gang was speechless!

SPRING HAS SPRUNG,  
THE GRASS IS RIZ;  
I WONDER WHERE  
THE FLARZ IS ?

It's true, our grass is green-  
ing on the newly-seeded dust gar-  
dens about the station !

Gardeners are making noticeable  
progress with their efforts near  
the gate and even the most unima-  
ginative lad or lass can now see  
that this will soon be a Garden  
of Eden, a virtual beauty spot in  
the wildwood.

Flarz ? Oh, they're coming...

## Coming Events

### MOVIES

This Friday:

BLONDIE'S BLESSED EVENT  
Penny, Singleton, Arthur Lake

Tuesday:

FLESH AND FANTASY  
Charles Boyer  
(Subject to Change)

Next Friday:

AFTER MIDNIGHT WITH BOSTON  
BLACKIE

Chester Morris

### HOSTESS CLUB

Every night, 7 to 10:30, all  
invited Thursday at 9 for  
Wallie Peters' Radio Quiz

### DANCE

Abbotsford Hut, Sat. Nite

Thurs. MODEL CLUB 7:30 pm

### GRADS WHOOP IT UP

Throwing a big party to cele-  
brate graduating from EETS is a  
time-honored tradition, but it's  
a good thing for instructors that  
such things don't happen more of-  
ten.

The latest grads did things up  
brown last night in the games rm.  
of Town Hall and, following usual  
farewells by the staff, the ser-  
ious business was then given full  
attention.

Two entertainers, the Misses  
Rita LeRoy and Alice Pearson, had  
the floor as singer and pianist,  
respectively, and then WO Frank  
Mould took over the keys to lead  
a singsong of vast proportions.

Speakers included SL Kerley,  
Manager McKercher, FL Milne, FL  
Agar, FO McGill, CGI Barclay, FO  
Dinelli, FO Dewar, FO Steward.

