

Facilities Of E.F.T.S. Amaze Legion Officers

"BORN 30 YEARS TOO SOON," NATIONAL LEGION HEADS SAY

High national officials of the Canadian Legion, now convening in Vancouver, visited No. 24 EFTS Sunday afternoon and marvelled at its facilities.

Headed by their president, J. V. Ritchie, and the dominion president of the Imperial Division, James Lynham of Montreal, the Legionnaires toured the entire station following luncheon in the Officers' Mess.

Members of the party were the guests of Manager Stewart Mc-Kercher, KC, who himself is a member of the organization. For most of the visitors, it was the first time they had seen a flying school at close range and they were amazed at the completeness of its equipment.

'30 Years Too Soon'

"We were born 30 years too soon," one of the visitors was heard to say as he inspected the Town Hall at the school and saw all its entertainment and recreation centres.

The tour arranged for the visitors included the hangars, the tarmac, Town Hall, ground school and the Officers' Mess; time did not allow their further sightseeing.

An impromptu entertainment in the Mess featured Lieut. Arch Russell at the piano and PO Dick Blake, tenor. James Wood, Saskatoon city librarian and one of the visitors led in the singing of "Waltzing Matilda" and recited "The Battle of Hastings." PO Frank Martineau, public relations officer, was master of ceremonies.



THIS COW, in a nearby barnyard, is not posing prettily or the photographer, but is thoroughly dead—victim of a freak accident. Gamboling on the Doherty farm in Rosedale, the young animal treid to clear a fence but wound up with its neck in the tree crotch. Cut courtesy A. S. & M. News, Abbotsford.

WAIT FOR OVERSEAS POST

Back at No. 24 EFTS this week are FO Doug Stewart, FO Ed Brock and FO Don Boutwell. Stewart and Brock have completed a two-month refresher course at Calgary SFTS and are now awaiting overseas postings. FO Boutwell has been on the sick list for several months in Vancouver.

Athlone Presents DFC's to Trio Training Here

Four of the seven Distinguished Flying Crosses awarded to RCAF aircrew at an investiture Wednesday in Calgary were won by officers now or recently attached to No. 24 EFTS here as student pilots.

The Governor-General of Canada, the Earl of Athlone, made the presentations at the formal ceremonies in Mewata stadium before more than 2000 troops of the army, navy and air force and a throng of interested civilians.

Cited and decorated were Flying Officer Gordon Craddock, air gunner; Flying Officer Bruce Croxton, observer; Flying Officer Louis Cavanaugh, air gunner, and Flying Officer Alan J. Francis, wireless operator-air gunner who has completed his training here and is now at an SFTS.

On Same Course

In all, 38 awards were made by the Governor-General on behalf of the King, with 19 presentations to army officers and men and a similar number to air force personnel.

Flying Officers Craddock, Cavanaugh, and Croxton, all on the same pilot training course here, were given temporary duty assignments in Calgary to be present for the ceremony.

A citation covering his award was read over a public address system while the winner of each decoration stood before the Gov-

(Continued on Page Eight)

WHAT WILL YOU DO, BUB ?

After the war (not saying it's over already) a good many officers and airmen will find themselves untrained for any peacetime job. they'll be in a world where, even as ex-servicemen, they'll find it hard to get along.

Those men should prepare now for the future through the facilities of our educational officer, FO Bert Price.

If we face it realistically, we all realize that we won't be coddled in peacetime as we are now in wartime; we'll have to make our own individual lives.

It's easier when you're prepared.



THE BREEZE

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

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PO George Sturgiss

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR give way to Invasion news this week; letters on tap will appear next week.

TUESDAY WAS D-DAY...

Ground school classes heard the news of invasion at 0800 Tuesday, if they hadn't heard it before, and realized the big push was on.

There was a universal interest in the progress of our forces, for all of us knew somebody on those French beaches, in the air above or on the sea before then. It was the goal toward which the war had been pointing since the tragic days of Dunkirk.

In all hearts, however, was the sober realization that this was but the beginning — not the end; that the toll of battle would be heavy and would certainly hit somewhere close to home.

Mass prayer was commanded, but even without a parade there was a moment of supplication in every heart...

WO1 George Latimer, old-timer as a flying instructor, is now in his native city of Toronto acquiring his discharge from the air force on medical grounds. A pilot before the war and an instructor for four years both under the civilian and RCAF elementary schemes, George now plans to seek a flying job and then take up engineering.

Sunday's church services on the station will not be compulsory, Rev. C. J. Bryce, padre; announced; Holy Communion will be served. The services will be held at 6:15 in Town Hall.

A fence enclosing the buildings area is now being erected; work on road paving has not yet started, although the contract is let.

Visitors to the station this week included FL Douglas Fraser, TF2 at No. 4 Training Command, who holds the position vacated by SL G.E. Kerley, now RCAF commanding officer here. FL Robert Tait, of High River EPTS, also looked in.

Manager Stewart McKercher, KC, spoke on the Commonwealth Air Training plan and explained the work of civil operated schools at last week's meeting of the Abbotsford Lions club.

The Lions club presents a variety show tonight in the Abbotsford high school auditorium. The proceeds are for charity.

BITS

C. J. Clark, station manager, is expected to leave from his position here in order to supervise work on his extensive orchard farm in West Summerland, B.C. The acute labor shortage forced the move.

Eric L. Adams, messing officer and canteen supervisor, has returned from a week-long business trip to prairie schools. While at No. 4 TC in Calgary he met FL Ben Knowles, former Link OC here, who is now OC of motor transport at command headquarters.

This is a wonderful summer!



UE'S START SPORTS LEAGUE

Awaiting postings to SFTS, the recent graduates of this school who are now serving as Useful Employment have started another basketball and bordenball league, similar to the one they played while on course.

In order to make play more interesting, the boys pitched in to build up a "pot" for the winning team.

Coming Events

MOVIES, TOWN HALL, 8 pm.

Tonight:

FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR
Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake
Larry Sims

Tuesday:

JACK LONDON
Mike O'Shea, Susan Hayward

Next Friday:

ADVENTURES OF MARTIN EDEN
Glenn Ford, Claire Trevor,
Evelyn Keyes, Stuart Erwin

HOSTESS CLUB

Every nite — 7 to 10:30.

ABBOTSFORD HUT

Open Every Nite - Dance Sat.

MODEL CLUB

Thursday nite TownHall 7:30

STATION DANCE

WEDNESDAY NITE AT 7:30

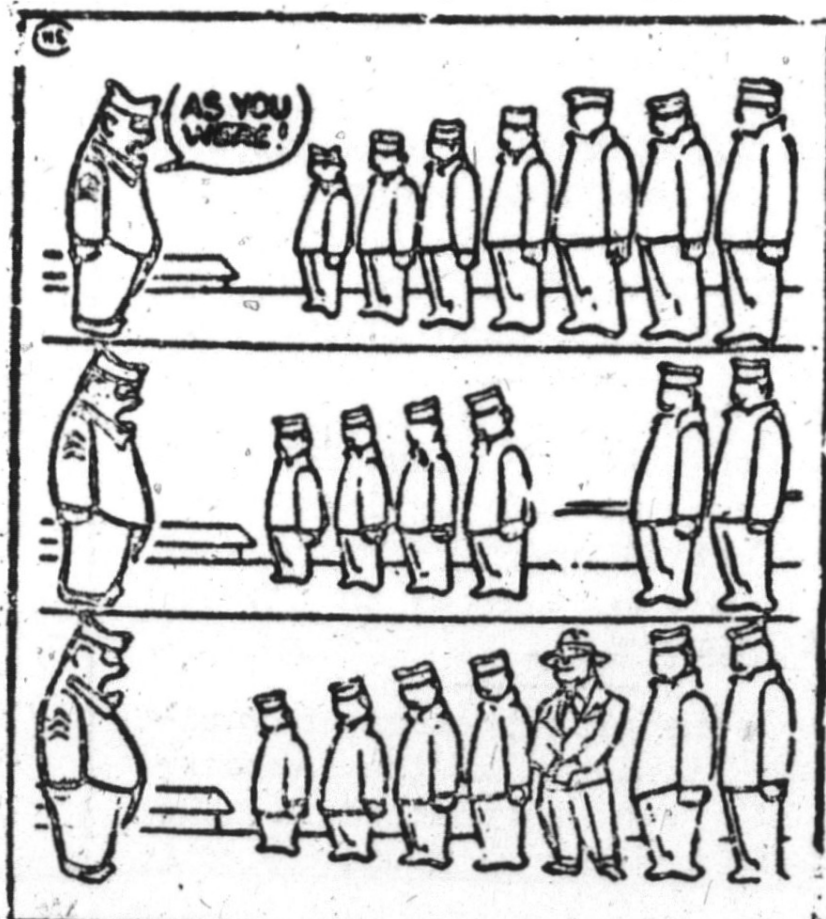
EIGHT PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED ON PARADE THURSDAY BY SL KERLEY

Eight pilot officers became flying officers this week, it was announced by SL G.E. Kerley, CFI, during Thursday's CO's parade on the tarmac.

Pilot officers Art Klein, Bob Hayes, Bob Hill, Bert Mullen, Merv Pace, Morley Sparrow, Phil Briba and Giles MacKenzie put up the wider braid as a result of the advancement.

A picture of all instructors on strength was also taken following the parade by H.J. Nugent, official photographer here. Prints of the picture will be given by the company to all staff members.

Graduation parade next week.



MALE CALL



STATION PARTY WEDNESDAY

A variety show featuring a cast of 37 airmen and airwomen from Boundary Bay and Ole Olsen's big Vancouver band will be the tempting menu for Wednesday night's station party in Town Hall, PO Wallie Peters announced today.

The stage show -- about an hour and a half in duration -- will begin at 7:30, with the dance due to start at about 9:15.

Invitations go out today to the leaders of social groups in Sumas, Langley, Prairie, Mission, Abbotsford, Lynden and other surround-

CONCERT AND DANCE SLATED FOR ALL IN TOWN HALL

ing communities but the general public is not being invited, contrary to a current impression.

Planned originally as a dance for airmen only, the event was thrown open to station personnel generally when student strength was decimated by postings.

The combined entertainment and dance promises to be one of the most successful evenings in station history. Through the courtesy of the Vancouver Air Training Co., Ltd., refreshments will be served to all.

A revamped and decorated stage will greet the throng expected to attend the concert-dance, which is being arranged by a committee headed by PO Peters, entertainment officer, and including M.J. Nugent, PO Bill Colquhoun, E.L. Adames, Evelyn Gould, WO2 Al Puttonen and Mrs. Sue Jackson.

SPORTS

NEW FASTBALL LEAGUE
STARTS MONDAY NIGHT

Commando Course Ready Monday

Made even tougher by the latest crew of its builders, the No. 24 Commando Course is expected to be finished and ready for use Monday, FS Gordon Gauley, station warrant officer, said today.

All classes on the station — and staff too — will have a try at it several times a week, for plans call for inclusion of the obstacle race in regular physical training periods.

Latest airmen to work on the devilish maze are members of a recent graduating class, now back here awaiting SFTS postings. They have boarded in the climbing wall at the start of the course, built to 10 and a half feet the projected nine foot wall, graded the pathways and installed more obstacles.

Their only hope is that they, like the original constructors, will be posted before they have to try the course themselves.

NICOL LEADS TEAM TO CLOSE VICTORY

By only one point, LAC Nicol of course 104 led his basketball and bordenball team to victory in the course league which finished this week.

Cpl. Jack Pomfret's boys, minus Jack's leadership the last days of the fight when he went on the injured list, contested keenly but dropped the title to Nicol's lads, 28 to 27.

Called "the best course tournament to date" by Sgt. Al Weaver, PTI in charge, the play started with six teams but was reduced to four halfway through the schedule when the two weakest outfits were absorbed by the others.

NEXT WEEK'S BALL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED BY SPORTS OFFICER

FO Keith Young, sports officer, today announced the formation of a new fastball league, replacing the one which recently met its Waterloo through postings.

Staff officers, staff NCO's and 3 Repair Depot will have teams in the new league, as well as the various student flights. Only one

game will be played a night — at 6:30 Schedule for the week:

- Monday - Officers v C flight
- Tuesday - NCO's v G flight
- Wednesday - Off. v 3 RD
- Thursday - NCO's v C flight

Co-operation of teams in carrying out the schedule has been asked by FO Young. Schedules are to be arranged from week to week.

**BREEZE INCLUDED
IN SASKATOON'S
WAR EXHIBIT**

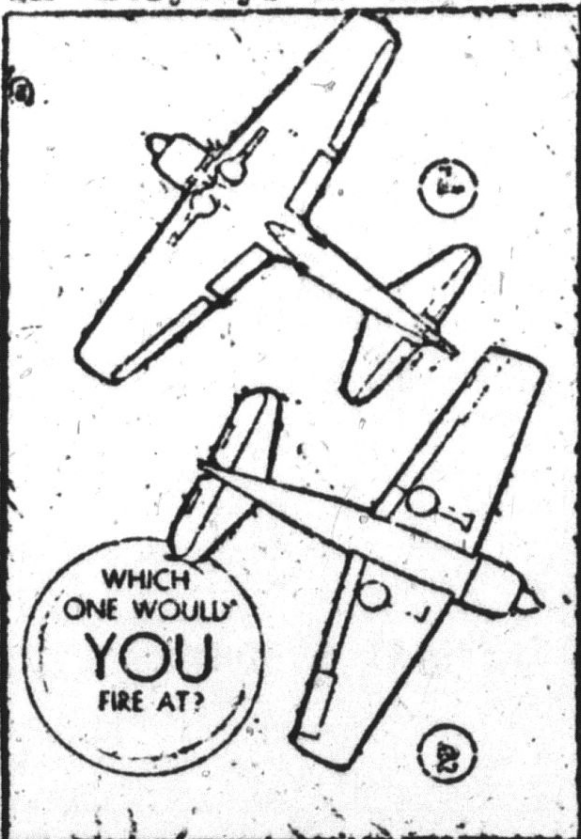
With the return of J. S. Wood, chief librarian in Saskatoon, to his home city from the Canadian Legion convention in Vancouver, The Breeze will become a part of the library's war exhibit of station newspapers.

A visitor here with the Legion delegation Sunday, Mr. Wood arranged to start a file of this newspaper for his organization.

**STREET SIGNS UP;
FIRE MAPS PLACED.**

Streets, named after school directors, were tagged this week as signs were erected at all corners on the station.

Maps showing locations of the nearest fire alarmboxes are now in entryways of all main buildings.



FIRE AT NO. 1 ! It's the Japanese "Hamp," a low-wing, single seat fighter powered by a radial engine. Both edges of the wings taper to square tips with a greater taper on the trailing edge. Its fuselage is rounded and pointed. The leading edge of the tailplane is swept back to rounded tips. Fire away at this baby !

NOT AT NO. 2 ! It's the USN's "Hellcat," a low mid-wing, single seat fighter powered by a radial engine. It has a deep egg-shaped fuselage. The leading and trailing edges of the wings are equally tapered to square tips. The tailplane has a tapered leading edge, straight trailing edge and rounded tips. Hold your fire !

**COUNCIL VOTES FREE EATS
AT STATION DO NEXT WEEK**

Free refreshments — sandwiches, cake and coffee — will be provided at the station dance in the Hall next week, the school council decided Wednesday.

Discussing cameras, the council pointed out that possession of such instruments on the station is a definite infraction of standing orders and only with written permission of the Manager may they be brought onto the grounds.

All cameras must be deposited at the guard house, where a receipt will be given in exchange.

Visitors to the station to-day will be 30 girls (cadets from Abbotsford high school) whose uniforms are white skirts and middie blouses.

The meeting was held in the conference room, admin building.

COMETS CONTINUE STREAK OF FASTBALL VICTORIES

Daly's Comets continued to set a fast pace in the Abbotsford and Services fastball loop as they rode roughshod over the Reserve Army boys 24-4 Tuesday evening. Wednesday night, a strong EFTS team walloped the RCAF staff by a score of 8-4 in a hard fought contest.

The RCAF are still trying for their first win and the game was keenly contested.

Friday the Comets will be putting their record on the block as they tackle the EFTS nine. The two squads have split in two contests, although the EFTS victory was in an exhibition clash.

Other games are: Thursday, RCAF Students vs Reserve Army; Monday, RCAF Students vs Mission; Tuesday, RCAF staff vs EFTS; Thursday, Reserve Army vs Mission.

LYNDEN AGAIN HOST TO MEN OF NO. 24 EFTS

International hospitality again was manifest by the Lynden, Wn. community Friday night when about 40 officers and men of No. 24 EFTS were entertained at a dance in the American Legion hall in the U.S. town.

Led by Manager Stewart McKercher, KC, and including staff and student officers; aircrew and groundcrew, the group was transported across the border in an RCAF bus for an evening of recreation.

Chief Charles E. Moore of the US Border Patrol and a member of Mount Baker post of the Legion, arranged the affair, at which Lynden girls were hostesses. Refreshments were served and PO Dick Blake sang, accompanied by an orchestra.

AVM G. R. HOWSAM, MC, AND AUSTIN C. TAYLOR WEEKEND VISITORS

Air Vice Marshal George R. Howsam, MC, air officer commanding No. 4 Training Command, Calgary, and President Austin C. Taylor of the Vancouver Air Training Co. Ltd., were Saturday visitors to No. 24 EFTS. FL A. McGrath, officer commanding navigation flight at Macleod, Alberta, SFTS and member for a southern Alberta constituency, was on the station Monday.

ATHLONE PRESENTS

Continued from Front Page

ernor-General to have the medal pinned on his tunic.

Citations Noted

FO Craddock's citation mentioned his 29 trips in Wellingtons over Europe on bombing missions as a member of the Moose squadron. FO Croxton, whose home is in Vancouver, made 32 trips in the same squadron, all over Naziland.

FO Cavanaugh topped the trio with 29 trips over Europe and 13 in Tunisia. Before he was repatriated for pilot training, the officer had acted as wireless op and gunner in Wellingtons over two continents.

FO Francis, who was decorated with the operational wing while he was a student here in February, won his DFC for 33 flights as a WAG over occupied Europe and Germany in Wellingtons and Halifaxes.

ABBOTSFORD MOVIES

Saturday: "His Butler's Sister"; Monday & Tuesday, "The Adventures of Tartu" also "My Kingdom for a Cook"; Wednesday & Thursday "The Kansan" also "My Heart Belongs to Daddy"; Friday & Saturday "Guadalcanal Diary"

EFTS PERSONNEL PRAYS FOR INVASION FORCES

The entire personnel of No. 24 EFTS, service and civilian, stood in prayer on the tarmac Tuesday afternoon to seek the favor of Almighty God for the Allies' invasion forces.

With bowed heads the airmen and company employees of the school joined sincerely in the petition to the Creator offered by Rev. Charles W. Bryce, Anglican minister and protestant padre, at the RCAF unit.

The special parade, called in response to the King's request on the radio address that morning, was commanded by SL G. E. Kerley, RCAF commanding officer, and was attended by civilian personnel headed by Manager Stewart McKercher, KC.

FO HOWARD SMITH MISSING OVERSEAS AFTER BOMB RAID

Flying Officer Howard W. Smith, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Smith of Sumas Prairie, has been reported missing from air operations overseas.

The young officer, pilot of a bomber, had only commenced his operational duty, it is believed.

FO Smith was born in New Westminster and took his early schooling there. The family came to Sumas Prairie in 1934. Howard completed his studies at Upper Sumas school and enlisted in the RCAF immediately upon graduation from Philip Sheffield high school in Abbotsford.

He won his wings at Saskatoon in August last year.

SOFTBALL SUNDAY

Pacific Veneer girls fastball team from New Westminster will tangle with Clarence Nelson's Abbotsford proteges Sunday afternoon at Abbotsford.