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JULY 31st, 1941
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Thumbs Up!

Published Semi-Monthly by Airmen of R.C.A.F. Station

Vol. 1

DARTMOUTH, N. S., JULY 31, 1941.

No. 12

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(Cover by LAC Drouillard)

Regretfully we, the Editor and Business Manager, are forced, because of pressure of work, to terminate our association with Thumbs Up with this issue. It has been pleasant work and we wish all good luck and good fun to our successors. To the Supervising Editors we extend our sincere thanks for their assistance in getting the publication under way, and to the advertisers—our heartfelt thanks for their splendid support. Bouquets, too, to the Patriot's staff who had to work many hours overtime to get some of the issues off the press. We will follow subsequent issues with eager interest.

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OUR PERSONNEL

WITH this issue of "Thumbs Up" the present staff regret that they must say "Good-bye".

Early in February of this year, personnel of No. 4 Repair Depot saw the need of a Station publication. With the wholehearted co-operation of the Halifax and Dartmouth merchants "Thumbs Up" was born on February 15th and has continued to this day to fill a very definite function on the Station.

The magazine is being taken over by an entirely new staff under the general supervision of the Station Padres and the Director of Y.M.C.A. Services, Mr. Hart Devenney. This change-over will necessitate the suspension of our August 15th issue, but by September 1st "Thumbs Up" will be back in circulation again.

Any Station personnel wishing to assist in the publishing of this magazine, please contact Mr. Devenney. Help is needed and lots of it—so "dig in" and do your share. This—your publication—can be only what you make it.

To one and all the present Editorial Staff extend their very best brand of thanks for the help received from our advertisers and our contributors. From them we would ask that same happy spirit of co-operation for our successors.



WAR GASES

By L.A.C. H. W. A. WOODS

TODAY with the greater part of the World Powers once again at war it would seem quite appropriate to give a summary of war gases, a short history and the part that they may yet play in this struggle for our very existence.

Let us then, for the historic phase, go back to 617 B.C., when the first-known war gas was used by the Spartans. Their method to us now is very crude and it is doubtful whether they did achieve anything of value. In the Crimean War of 1856 the Russians used gas against the British forces. It did prove effective but the wrong way that the Russians had planned. Instead of dislodging our forces, through a turn of the wind which is very important in the administration of gas warfare, the gas returned to the Russian trenches like a boomerang, killing and disrupting the entire enemy front.

In the World War of 1914-1918 the Germans used gas on our Canadian troops who were at Develaux Hill, Ypres, April 22nd, 1915. This method of attack was carried out in spite of the Hague Conference which was held in Holland in 1912. At this conference all nations including Germany agreed not to use gas in any armed conflict. The Germans, with the usual excuses, claimed that our troops were so firmly consolidated that they were forced to use this weapon. Our forces did not have respirators and very little means of combatting this killer. It was then that the first potent Mustard Gas appeared.

Science has universally exploited

the gas problem since the last war. This vast military weapon improvement which has resulted can readily be appreciated why all countries fear the dreaded gas.

There are several types of gas which may be used in this World War, blister gas, tear gas, choking gas, and including the new terrible Lewisite gas, probably the most potent of any. Many of these gases can be detected by comparing their odors to the smell of fruits, such as the pear, the scent of flowers or products of the tilled field.

The respirator gives complete protection in practically all cases, but for those gases that the respirator does not protect we have contaminated clothing and methods of treating exposers which are second to none. In some cases artificial respiration is necessary; a few have to be isolated, and others given stimulant. The respirator is an excellent measure against attack and does a great deal to cut down serious casualties which is very important. It would be wise if every military and civilian personnel in threatened areas learn the preventatives in cases of emergencies.

Gas is a terrible weapon and all of us would like to think that it will not be used in this war. We all know Germany's promises by now and that they have large quantities in store for use. Knowing this we should all make it a serious problem to acquaint ourselves with the different types and how they can be fought. Now is the time to learn—not when it is too late.

COLOR

ANONYMOUS

WE ALL know what color is! It is what artists use, and what women put on their faces and on their fingernails. And color is what runs up a pretty bill when all the perfectly good kitchen pots and pans are discarded, and a whole new set in blue and white installed—to match the curtains. Yes! Color is a force. If it can make one woman buy all new pots and pans, it can make others buy whatever you have got to sell. If, by any chance, you doubt the emotional response of the masses to color, just go to a super-color movie. Just listen to the sigh of rapture that rises from every part of the packed house when a particularly magnificent piece of color appears. Almost certainly you would not hear that if the same movie were running in black and white. People, maybe, do not realize it, but color affects everybody to some extent.

Now here is something primitive that goes right to the heart of the people, and most of us do not know any more about it than we know about how a crocus bulb can tell when to come up. Most of us have not even any language to express our ideas and feelings about color, and if we want to match a color we just cannot do it without a sample.

Some Color Uses

Considering how important it is, color knowledge has been slow in spreading. Color is currently used to identify, to grade farm products such as hay, to judge drug purity, to check rancidity, to add visibility, to preserve light-susceptible chemicals, to cut down evaporation, reduce heat

absorption, to reduce the accident rate in factories, to make rooms feel warmer (even though the thermometer remains constant), to destroy germs, to grow plants, to sell more goods, to pacify the unbalanced, to improve the morale of fighting troops, to make military objectives less visible. Those who have mastered colour science may use this force to work apparent miracles, but without knowledge the tricks color can play may be a rich source of headaches.

Color Plays Tricks

Put some colors together, and they will change in one, two or three ways. They may change their apparent position in the color circle—for example, blue may appear to be greener or more purple than it appears alone; green may look bluer or yellower; and so on round the circle. The second way colors may surprise you is to appear duller or more intense than when seen alone. The third way they can fool you is by appearing to be darker or lighter than the sample seemed to be. Or they may change in all three directions at once. This peculiarity can be embarrassing, or it can put a weapon in our hands. Sometimes it is handy to be able to add a spot of color alongside and make dull hues sparkle. Occasionally it is desired to “take down” a color that “shouts.” Often it is a life-saver to be able to swing a hue a point or two around the color compass by setting another color close to it. Most often of all it is useful to know what to expect in order to forestall unwanted changes.

(Continued on page 15)

Training In 1918

Written by a Flying Officer Instructor at Levin
who was trained in England in '18.

THE system of training for the R. A. F. some twenty-odd years ago bears quite a similarity to the early stages of present-day training in New Zealand. The principal difference, apart, of course, from the vast alteration that has taken place in the types of machines used, is that almost all ground training was completed before any flying training was commenced.

The raw trainee recruit was first posted to billets in London where he was put into uniform and did elementary drill for about a week or so. He then went into camp at St. Leonards on the south coast of England, where a further two weeks was spent doing almost entirely nothing but drill. He slept in a bell tent, about seven to a tent, on a straw mattress placed on duck-boards raised about six inches from the ground. From there, a shift was made about three miles down the coast to Hastings, when a four weeks' course of drill and lectures followed, the course being similar to that which a trainee receives at Levin. The trainee was housed in billets, mostly in old two-storey brick houses, which had been taken over by the R.A.F. Most of these buildings were over 100 years old—had no conveniences other than one cold water tap in the kitchen, this being the total amount of water laid on in each house.

The men slept on mattresses on the floor, about three or four to each room. Food at that period was a great problem. Colonial trainees who were used to substantial meals were al-

most always hungry.

Owing to the submarine campaign, almost everything was rationed, or in short supply. One of the favourite dishes was curry made of hunks of swedes, turnips and carrots, and one was lucky if one got two small pieces of meat about the size of a walnut. There was no sugar in anything, and margarine allowance was a piece an inch square, and a quarter of an inch in thickness. The bread, grey brown in colour, was mainly made with potatoes, and had to be sold at least a day stale.

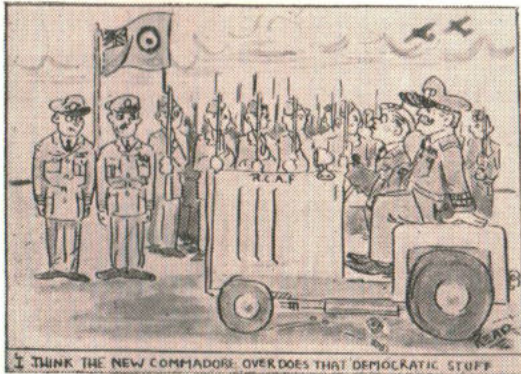
From Hastings the trainee was transferred to various colleges at Oxford (and other places) which had been taken over as an officers' training unit both for the Army and the R.A.F. Conditions in there were much improved, and the trainee dined in the wonderful old college dining halls, and slept in the ex-students' quarters. The syllabus includes navigation, aero engines, rigging, map reading, compass, air fighting, reconnaissance, drill, etc. Much time was devoted to compulsory sports, and two half-days a week were set aside for this purpose. Every one had to take part in some sport, such as football, soccer, or hockey, and go for a cross-country run of three miles or so. Time for sport was also provided each evening, and was on certain days compulsory.

There was physical training every morning, the instruction being absolutely first class, and a very good show was put on by the pupils.

After six weeks at Oxford and at

similar places, the pupil was then moved to Uxbridge, a Station composed of temporary hutments on rolling downs some 25 miles out of London. The course here was almost entirely practical, and little drill was done. Morse, machine guns—Lewis and Vickers—were taught and actual target practice on the ground carried out. Bombs were also studied, and the use of the bomb sight was practiced by means of moving screens with electrical contacts. After a month here, the pupil's ground training course was finished, and he was then considered capable of trying to learn to fly.

—oOo—
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 —oOo—



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SOFTBALL

The R.C.A.F. Softball team started out right on the bit, so to speak, in their first game against the 7-Ups, taking them 11-2. The battery of Kellough (pitching) and Srigley (catching really gave their stuff, handing out 18 strikeouts. It seems with Kellough toeing the mound, the opposition waved the game good-bye, and we mean wave.

However, after such a good start we took a bow in the second game to the North Stars, taking a 13-5 rap. Grant started the game one the mound with Cochrane behind the bat. In the first two innings opposition scored 11 runs, which is no boon to the Roxbury stables, so Kellough replaced Grant and held the Stars down to 2 runs for the rest of the game. Apparently Grant was not getting full support of the team in the two innings he did pitch, so all the blame for the merry-go-round of scores cannot be placed on his shoulders.

BOXING

The large crowd that attended the Maritime boxing championships—large crowd from every unit except

Airforce—got an eyeful of our Chatfield dealing out a K.O. to Sullivan of Army who kissed the canvas in the third round. Our congratulations to Mr. Chatfield who had little support as far as crowd was concerned, the number of Airmen present being very meagre. Only sport most Airmen seem interested in is Chesterfield Rugby.

HORSESHOES

Horseshoes pits are still taking their daily beating at noon from the lads; every team being unbeatable as far as themselves are concerned. "Black Boys" are one of the most consistent winning teams, as a six-bit increase in their change would indicate — details sadly given by "Goose" Gosselin. "Goose" has his brilliant plays, however, pitching ringer after ringer, but money matters seem to rattle him. Team of Kellough and Burroughs, however, are right up their in the front brackets, giving Black Boys a run for their money.

All-time champion "Bein hosed" Pappy Shaver is back in the pits, but the new terrific double weights on either arm render it nigh to impossible for him to throw a shoe the normal distance.

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PROP WASH

Our agent reports that Harry Hutchinson will trade his car for an old set of golf clubs or anything use-

* * * * *

"Autie, were you ever in a predicament?"

"No, dear, but heaven knows I tried hard enough."

* * * * *

It is noted L.A.C. Seaman has settled down considerable since the better half has moved to town.

* * * * *

Mr. A. Logan, manager of the Dartmouth Patriot, wishes to express his gratitude to the boys of the R.C.A.F. Station. Every time one takes a trip Mr. Logan manages to make a notation of the trip in the paper.

* * * * *

The private was brought before his commanding officer and charged with disorderly conduct.

"This," said the officer, "is the tenth time you have appeared before me on this charge. What have you to say?"

"Well, sir," replied the private, "I hope our acquaintance will ripen into friendship."

* * * * *

Mr. Jones: "I served two years in the Air Service."

Mr. Smith: "In the House or the Senate?"

* * * * *

The wheels of industry are humming again. Hanson is back at the main gate.

Cpl. Smith has his troubles. Ask Cpl. Smith, don't ask us.

* * * * *

LAC Ryder has decided that Halifax can be as nice as Bridgewater.

* * * * *

Flt. Sgt. Greene has his worries now that he is with No. 116 Squadron.

* * * * *

One Headquarters N.C.O. still keeps his car a mile from the Station so that he won't have to give anyone a ride to town.

* * * * *

Student: I hear the Board of Trustees is trying to stop necking.

Second Student: That so? First thing you know they'll be trying to make the students stop too.

* * * * *

The riggers are still going the rounds looking for a "pint of propeller pitch". One of the AC2's will find it one of these days.

* * * * *

AC Read of No. 11 Squadron is still at a loss about how to make sure of transportation both ways.

* * * * *

AC1: Just stopped smoking?

AC2—Yes, a fellow can't pick up a good smoke on the field any more. It's too muddy.

* * * * *

AC Rodney likes 'em, loves 'em, and leaves 'em. One of these days Rodney will bite the dust.



PROP WASH

Mountie: "Hey, didn't you see me wave at you?"

Sterna: "Certainly, and didn't I wave back? What did you want me to do—throw a kiss?"

* * * * *

Pete Nobes is still hoarding his money for the big event. Reliable information tells us that it will take place early in the fall.

* * * * *

They say that a certain N.C.O. in the Orderly Room of No. 4 Squadron has learned how to cook bacon and eggs since his recent marriage.

* * * * *

Frenchy Bernard is very fortunate in having such an indulgent laundry. He has his clothes washed after every hot parade in the summer time.

* * * * *

AC1: "What do you do when the world is all grey and gloomy?"

AC6½: "I get up and go on parade."

* * * * *

Tow Target Flight are having a time figuring out what to tow.

* * * * *

Who is the Flt. Sergeant in No. 5

Squadron who is still waiting for an answer to that certain letter?

* * * * *

The crowd in the canteen are enjoying themselves again. LAC Alexander is back again.

* * * * *

Cpl. "Pappy" Shaver, now that he has his stripes, has declared a dividend on his bank stock.

* * * * *

What Sgt. Major in No. 4 Squadron has his car running in his garage?—and we mean running.

* * * * *

Fishing tackle for sale. Apply LAC Nobes, No. 4 Squadron.

* * * * *

Mother: What are the young man's intentions?

Daughter: Well, he's been keeping me pretty much in the dark.

* * * * *

The pawnshop has lost a good customer now that Butler has decided to settle down and be a good boy.

* * * * *

The boys are having trouble with the Galloping Dominoes now that the personnel has moved out of A block.

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PROP WASH

Judge: "Is the prisoner a well-known thief?"

Lawyer: "A known thief? Why he would steal the harness off a nightmare."

* * * * *

Awfully hot to gather wood—or is it, Flt. Sgt. Hall?

* * * * *

We take this opportunity to bring to the attention of our editor that Cpl. Kelly has got feelings.

* * * * *

Anyone wanting to learn cooking apply to Cpl. Latraverse. He excels in eggs. He claims his next venture will be steak and mushrooms.

* * * * *

Mussolini became all out of sorts his wrath on the unlucky man, and with one of his advisers. He let loose ended up by order, ". . . and don't keep saying we shall win.

* * * * *

The attraction in Moncton must be very good for a certain officer in No. 5 Squadron to take a trip every 48 and the odd 36.

* * * * *

Nemo Motaleum Omnibus Hori-sopit. We wonder if this Latin (I assume it's Latin) phrase could apply to Cpl. Schultz the morning after his mysterious sojourns in the country.

* * * * *

"You've read that passage wrong, Miss Jones—It's 'all men are created equal' — not 'all men are made the same way'."

The Casanovas of Eastern Passage must realize that the black-outs only last for a certain length of time.

* * * * *

What Corporal appeared in the canteen the other day with his tunic tails adorned with a large and brilliant sign?

* * * * *

Cpl. L. Hawkins has been walking on air since the arrival of the new bride. How about the reception, Lorne?

* * * * *

Would some kind soul please give Shimmy a hand with his spark plugs?

* * * * *

A man in charge of secret papers in a branch of the government received a large envelope marked "Most Secret". Inside was another envelope also marked "Most Secret". Inside this was a letter which read: "Most Secret Paper No. 123456/xyz/ABC may now be considered no longer secret."

* * * * *

Sgt. Berg is still stalling with the chocolate bars. He has promised the boys a treat when he received his third. Don't let them down, Sergeant, and show them the true Western spirit.

* * * * *

Since joining the staff of "Thumbs Up" LAC Evans has taken a new lease on life.

* * * * *

"Are you Scotch by birth?"
"Nope, by absorption."

MAURICE CHISLING

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(Continued from page 5)

COLOR

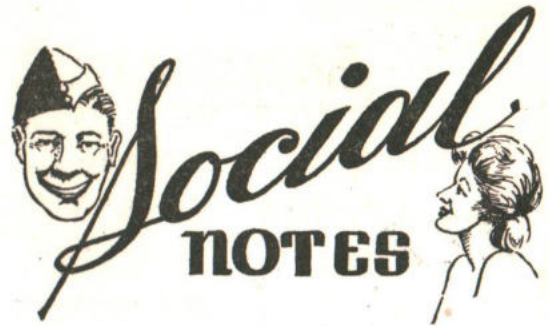
The human eye compares colors with their backgrounds, and at the same time it mixes the wave-lengths. Weak colors are apt to appear weaker if associated with blue, but put blue dots all over a yellow ground and at a short distance you will have—no, not green but neutral grey. Purple and yellow-green will also give you grey, and so will any pair of visual complementaries. Large areas of complementary colors, on the other hand, stimulate each other, and even vibrate to the point of being painful to the eye.

Warm colors, yellow-green, yellow, orange, scarlet, crimson, magenta and red-purple represent an attraction to action. Cool colors, purples, blues, blue-greens, greens represent a retreat from stimulus. The warm hues appear nearer to us—the lens of the eye become short-sighted when looking at red. Cool hues appear further away — we are far-sighted when looking at blue. The maximum sensation of warmth is reported by most people in the red-orange sector. The coolest hue is in the purple-blue area. Red is proverbially an attention-getter. But it must be separated from other red areas in order to be seen.

Color is capable of as many kinds of composition as music — swing, comic, classic or what-have-you—the variety is infinite.

—oOo—

August 12, 13, 14 — “Cheers For Miss Bishop” and “No, No, Nanette”.



Anything can happen on a “48” and A.C. Benjafield believes in making them happen. His marriage to Miss Jean Shuttleworth was solemnized at All Saints Cathedral in Halifax, July 26th at 8.30 a.m. Miss Shuttleworth hails from London, Ontario, and is the daughter of Captain E. H. Shuttleworth of that place. A.C. Benjafield, as everyone knows, is the business manager of “Thumbs Up”. Congratulations and life-long happiness are extended wholeheartedly to “Benjie” by all who know him.

* * * * *

The long awaited annual dance of Headquarters Squadron is soon to be held at the popular ballroom of the Nova Scotian Hotel. May it be the grand success everyone is expecting and give the committees in charge the credit due them.

* * * * *

On Sunday, July 20, 1941, A.C. Harry Bagshaw and Mrs. Marjorie Bagshaw became the proud parents of a son, David Bagshaw, born at the Grace Maternity Hospital in Halifax. Congratulations are heartily extended with the hope that the promised cigars will soon be passed around.

* * * * *

E. H. Shuttleworth, of London. LAC H. I. G. J. A. Bootman pulled a sneaker and was married July 9th, 1941.

LITTLE JOE.



"I CAN SEE YOU'RE WEARING ONLY ISSUE CLOTHING BUT THERE'S STILL SOMETHING HORRIBLY WRONG!"



SOLOMON BROS.

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CAPITOL

August 8, 9, 11

BOB HOPE

... and ...

DOROTHY LAMOUR

... in ...

"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

ORPHEUS

JULY 31—AUGUST 1 & 2

ANNE SHIRLEY and RICHARD CARLSON in—

"West Point Widow"

MAYFAIR PORTLAND H. 2354

AUGUST 5th, 6th, 7th

Ginger Rogers, Dennis Morgan in

"KITTY FOYLE"

2nd Feature:

"The Man Who Lost Himself"

CAPITOL

July 29, 30, 31—Madeline Carrol and Fred McMurray in "One Night In Lisbon".

Aug. 1, 2, 4—Myrna Loy and William Powell in "Love Crazy".

Aug. 5, 6, 7—Tyrone Power and Rota Hayworth in "Blood and Sand".

Aug. 9, 10, 11—Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in "Caught In The Draft".

ORPHEUS

Aug. 4, 5, 6—"Lady From Louisiana", "Get Away".

Aug. 7, 8, 9—"Friendly Neighbors" and "Bowery Boy".

Aug. 11, 12, 13—"Prisoner on Devil's Island" and "Flying Wild".

Aug. 14, 15, 16—"Ringside Marriage" and "Carson Kid".

Aug. 18, 19, 20—"Two In a Taxi" and "County Fair".

MAYFAIR

August 1, 2, 4—"Santa Fe Trail" and "Ellery Queen's Penthouse Mystery".

August 5, 6, 7—"Kitty Foyle" and "The Man Who Lost Himself".

August 8, 9, 11—"Western Union" and "There's Magic In Music".

oOo

Drunk: "Didja see me come in that door?"

Plastered: "Yesh."

Drunk: "Never saw me before in your life didja?"

Plastered: "Nope."

Drunk: "Then howja know it was me?"

* * * * *

Caller: Is your mother engaged?

Little Boy: I think she's married.

THE SOLDIER'S WIFE

And must we part so soon,
And sever now while life is new?
Is this the end of hopes that grew
Through peaceful toil and love so true?

And must we part so soon?

Oh, no, it cannot be.

And must we part so soon?

Can I remain when you have gone
Through waiting years while war goes on?

Must there be war where peace has shone?

And must we part so soon?

Oh, no, it cannot be.

And must we part so soon?

Is duty to your country so
Much more to you? It is, I know,
So willingly I let you go.

Then parting must be soon.

Ah, yes, it has to be.

—oOo—

Teacher: Young man, I'll have to keep you in after class again.

Eight-year-old: Okay, but I'll have you know that half the town says we're going steady.

—oOo—

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THE EARTH

The earth is 24,901 miles in circumference at the Equator, 7,926 miles in diameter at the Equator, and its superficial area is 196,550,000 sq. miles.

There are 55,500,000 square miles of land, and 141,050,000 square miles of water; nearly three times as much water as land.

The Earth travels round the Sun at an average velocity of $18\frac{1}{2}$ miles a second.

The Age of the Earth is computed by scientists to be from 1500 to 3,000 million years.

Tides are carried by the attractive influence of the Moon on the Earth. As a general rule, high water occurs twice at any given place in 24 hours.

—oOo—



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ENTERTAINMENT

Arrangements have been made to have a feature movie on Sunday evenings for the balance of August.

oOo

THE AIR GUNNER

If I must be a gunner
 Then please, Lord, grant me grace;
 That I may leave this Station
 With a smile upon my face.
 I may have wished to be a pilot,
 And you, along with me,
 But if we all were pilots,
 Where would the Air Force be?
 It takes "guts" to be a gunner,
 To sit out in the tail,
 When the Messerschmitts are coming
 And the slugs begin to wail.
 The pilot's just a chauffeur,
 It's his job to fly the plane;
 But it's we who do the fighting,
 Though we may not get the fame.
 But we're here to win the war,
 And until this job is done,
 Let's forget our personal feelings,
 And get behind the gun.
 If we must all be gunners,
 Then let us make the bet;
 We'll be the best damn gunners
 That have left this Station yet!



In order that requests and ideas, etc., may reach him, the Director of Y.M.C.A. War Services advises that his quarters are now on the Station and that he may be reached at Local 127 which is the Landplane Officers' Quarters.

Free writing paper and envelopes is placed at the following places on the Station: Landplane Airmen's Canteen, Seaplane Airmen's Canteen, and at the Station Post Office. It is placed in Y.M.C.A. containers. The only request is that it be used for the purpose intended and in a judicious manner.

oOo

The Dartmouth Services Canteen again urges the boys of the Services to enjoy the hospitality that they are offering. It is a grand place, fellows, and worth while taking in.

oOo

"Like games?"
 "Yeah, I like to play havoc!"

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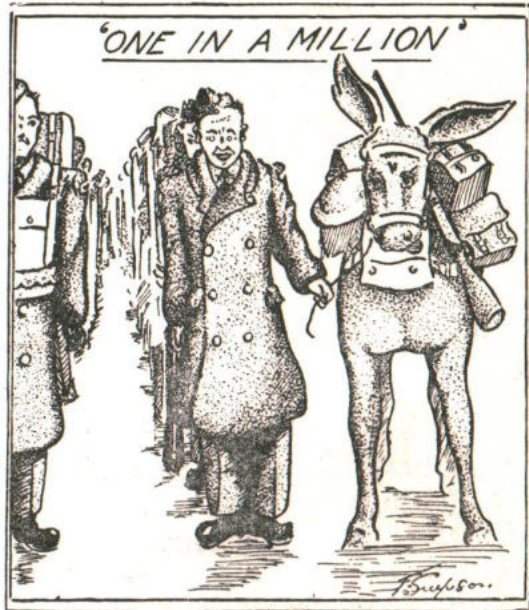
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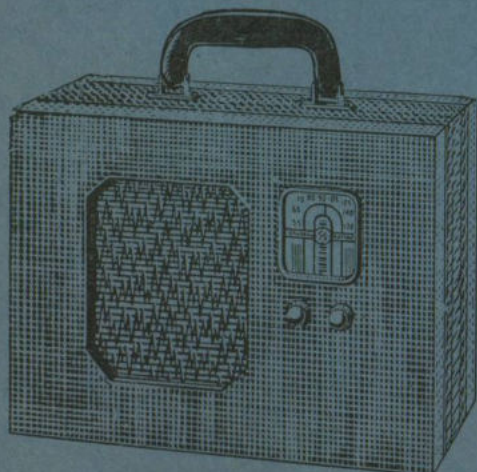
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