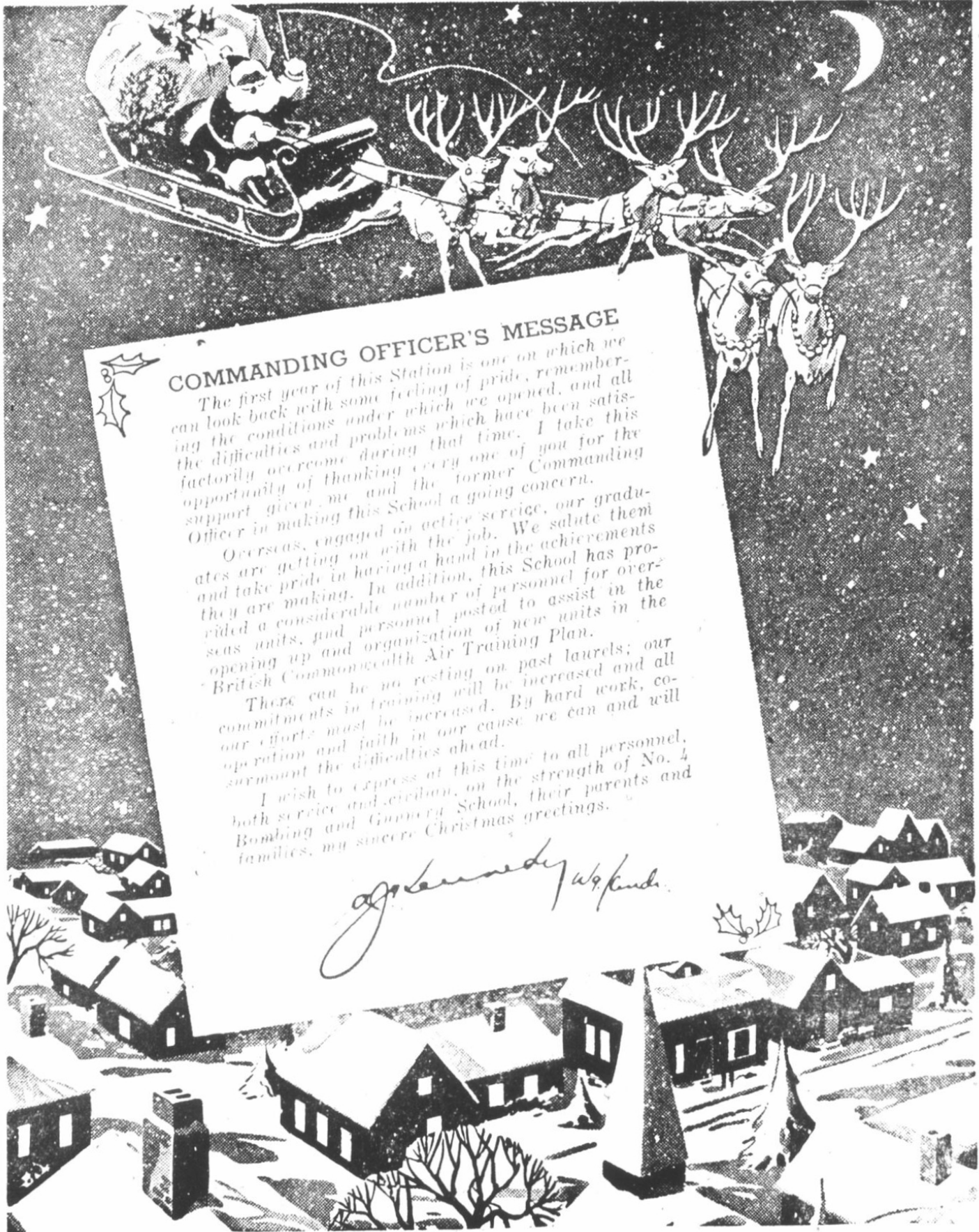


THE FINGAL OBSERVER

No. 11, Monthly

No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery School, R.C.A.F., Fingal, Ontario, Canada

December 15, 1941



COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

The first year of this Station is one on which we can look back with some feeling of pride, remembering the conditions under which we opened, and all the difficulties and problems which have been satisfactorily overcome during that time. I take this opportunity of thanking every one of you for the support given me and the former Commanding Officer in making this School a going concern.

Overseas, engaged on active service, our graduates are getting on with the job. We salute them and take pride in having a hand in the achievements they are making. In addition, this School has provided a considerable number of personnel for overseas units, and personnel posted to assist in the opening up and organization of new units in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan.

There can be no resting on past laurels; our commitments in training will be increased and all our efforts must be increased. By hard work, co-operation and faith in our cause we can and will surmount the difficulties ahead.

I wish to express at this time to all personnel, both service and civilian, on the strength of No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery School, their parents and families, my sincere Christmas greetings.

J. Kennedy W. G. Fingal



The Fingal Observer

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WING COMMANDER A. J. KENNEDY

"For the grace of God that brought us safely here,
appreciated to all men." THOMAS 241

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DON MARKS

War Aims

In July 1917 Woodrow Wilson declared the war aim of the United States as "the destruction of every solitary power anywhere that can separately, secretly, and of its single choice disturb the peace of the world or if it cannot be presently destroyed, at least its destruction to virtual impotence."

President F. D. Roosevelt, speaking to his people on December 8th, 1941, proclaimed:

"We will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make very certain that this form of treachery, the attack of Japan, shall never endanger us again."

Despite the distance of years, and circumstances, there is a common ring to these pronouncements. Stirring conviction and determination of purpose is behind every word. The aims are almost identical. It is that every menace to freedom and every tendency to the rule of the gangster shall be utterly cast down.

Our First Christmas Edition

Since the birth of THE OBSERVER occurred in February 1940, this December issue can be rightfully called the first Christmas number.

Since the last Yuletide season the changes have been great; there has been a change in Commanding Officers and in other personnel. New buildings have been erected and others are in the process of building. The flow of graduates has been continuous and throughout it

ful and friendly Fingal spirit, all there has prevailed that cheer-

Christmas has always been a time for rejoicing and thanksgiving. In keeping with that spirit we look with those feelings over the efforts of the last year; we rejoice that our Station has established such an enviable record in the Royal Canadian Air Force; we rejoice that we can look forward to greater achievements in the coming year; we rejoice that THE FINGAL OBSERVER has played its part in the growth and success of the Station.

Finally, in this season wherein that theme of hope, "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men," rings throughout the civilized part of the world, we rejoice and pray that our efforts will be the instruments, the means, by which that hope will be transformed into a reality.



It was with deep regret that we published information of the death of Wireless Air Gunner David Crosby, who graduated from our School last spring. While stationed here he wrote a number of interesting articles for THE OBSERVER articles which were appreciated by one and all. Sgt. David Crosby was killed overseas on October 25th in a flying accident. He was about to leave immediately for the Near East, where he had volunteered for service. Previous to his passing he had been on operational flying over enemy territory.

"Two in One"

Following the example of the November 15th, strangely, or shall we known date for the 1941-42 season, coincides with the anniversary of the December edition. We are fortunate in that one of the world's great things at once Yuletide decorations, the Christmas Tree, the Flying Plan (B.C.A.T.P.), and Christmas are all brought to the attention of the reader. The number of two great facts in one is a very fortunate coincidence. The number in itself, fortunate perhaps, is a very good one. The number has a permanent value, for the date of the 15th of December and some of the dates are in November. In some cases the date of the 15th of December make the November-December period, and in some cases the 15th of December is the Birthday Number.

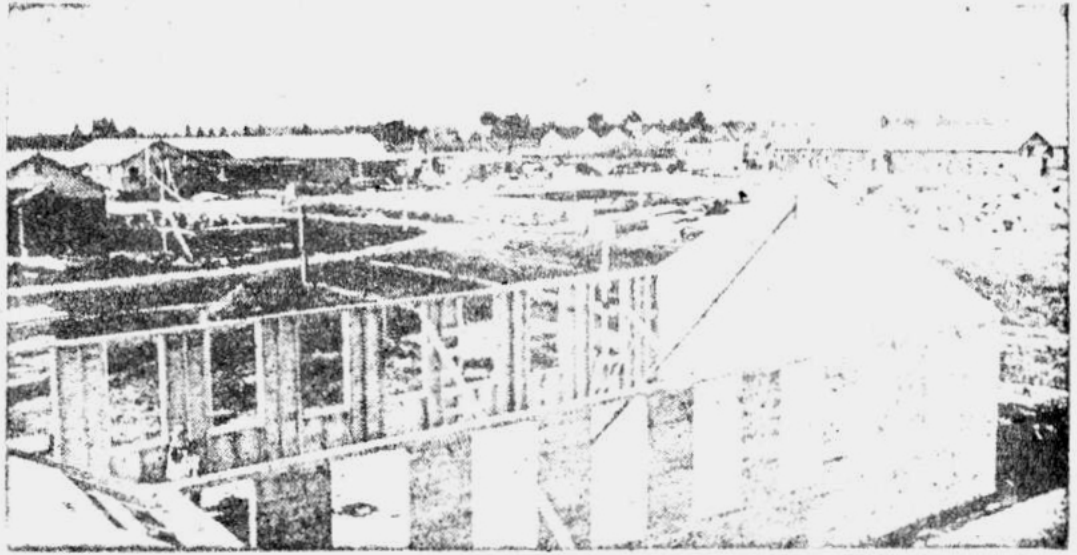


Roll of Honour



- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| No. R69575 | No. 6 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant J. S. LAPPIN | |
| Missing after air operations, November 8th, 1941. | |
| No. R52050 | No. 3 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant T. E. ELLIOTT | |
| Missing after air operations, November 8th, 1941. | |
| No. R65466 | No. 7 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant J. B. DICKS | |
| Missing after air operations, November 8th, 1941. | |
| No. R63908 | No. 7 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant G. L. CHAPMAN | |
| Missing after air operations, November 8th, 1941. | |
| No. R64467 | No. 6 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant D. Y. N. CROSBY | |
| Killed in flying accident, October 26th, 1941. | |
| No. R65205 | No. 5 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant C. E. WHEELER | |
| Missing after air operations, October 25th, 1941. | |
| No. R65349 | No. 7 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant L. C. BENTLEY | |
| Missing after air operations, October 26th, 1941. | |
| No. R60364 | No. 7 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant F. W. WADE | |
| Missing after air operations, October 26th, 1941. | |
| No. R58184 | No. 8 Air Observers |
| Sergeant H. R. WILSON | |
| Missing after air operations, October 25th, 1941. | |
| No. J5079 | No. 11 Air Observers |
| Pilot Officer E. M. SANGSTER | |
| Missing after air operations, October 26th, 1941. | |
| No. J1521 | No. 8 Air Observers |
| Flying Officer E. L. SHEA | |
| Missing after air operations, November 5th, 1941. | |
| No. R69731 | No. 7 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant P. V. BRAZIER | |
| Missing after air operations, November 1st, 1941. | |
| No. R65069 | No. 9 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant A. W. CLARKE | |
| Missing after air operations, November 1st, 1941. | |
| No. R65579 | No. 5 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant J. J. KELLY | |
| Missing after air operations, November 5th, 1941. | |
| No. R77437 | No. 12 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant E. D. SIMON | |
| Missing after air operations, November 1st, 1941. | |
| No. R56088 | No. 5 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant F. J. HART | |
| Presumably reported missing, now presumed dead, Jan. 27th, 1941. | |
| No. R54993 | No. 4 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant F. G. NADEAU | |
| Missing after air operations, November 12th, 1941. | |
| No. R65587 | No. 6 Air Gunners |
| Sergeant H. MacAULEY | |
| Missing after air operations, November 19th, 1941. | |

No. 4 B. & G. School Marks First Anniversary



THE FORGOTTEN MEN OF FINGAL.

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Wanted or strangle. Franchises be

page of a job well done.

Every one of us.

Continued on Page 105

Letters to Ye Ed

When will we going to get some decent rubber table tennis bats? When will the person responsible for the purchase of table tennis equipment at around 8.00, going to settle down and get some good rubber bat. Since the Station started, we have tried 15 different kinds and sizes of table tennis bat - sandpaper, linoleum, wood, etc. A few weeks ago a table tennis team came down from Aylesbury to play a representative team from the Station, and when the tournament started we found that we had some low-bum covered bats to play with. The remarks heard around the Drill Hall would have caused whoever was responsible for the purchase of these bats to hide his head. There are quite a few players around this Station who have had tournament experience. Why aren't they consulted about the type of bat most suitable? The writer realizes that none of us is perfect, but, after all, it shouldn't take a year to get in the groove and buy the proper equipment.



Sir,

Could not something be done about the bus service to and from this Station and St. Thomas? At present the service is unsatisfactory. We have one bus leave at 1715 hours, which is solely for the convenience of personnel living in St. Thomas. However, since the chaps who live on the Station cannot eat until 1715 hours, it is impossible for them to take this bus and eat their supper on the Station.

The next bus leaves at 1820 hours, which, if you catch it, means that you have hurried your ablutions. After all, one has to dally while shaving, etc. in the evening, and not tear around to get it done as soon as possible, as is the case in the morning when you operate on a split second schedule. But we will take it for granted that the fortunate man does catch the 1820 bus. He is deposited in St. Thomas to find that two of the three theatres in that metropolis (kaff, kaff) do not open until 2000 hours. Sta-

tion time. This means that he wanders idly about up and down the main street, to a cinema, dramatic centre, until the theatre opens. Then to the theatre, in an out, passing, for example, because that used to be one of the chief attractions.

Now to put an end to this sorry performance and get down to brass tacks. WHY DON'T WE HAVE MORE BUSES? COME OUT TO THE STATION AFTER 1830 HOURS? Couldn't we have one come out at hourly intervals, say 1900 hours, 2020 hours and 2120 hours, so that if some fortunate AC we has to attend some social function in St. Thomas he doesn't have to go on the 1630 bus, and then sit in a restaurant trying to make a coke last for three hours. After all, with night flying now in operation, there should be a pay load obtainable both ways.

Even if my foregoing argument is as full of holes as a sdogue it could at least be experimented with.

Thanking you for allowing me to give expression to my theories about the bus service this Station has suffered from for the past year,

I remain, until Fingal gets some water free from sulphur,

MOANER McGRUFFEY.



Dear Sir,

Not being able to procure your admirable paper now that my friend is no longer at Fingal, I wondered if you would be kind enough to mail me a copy or two.

Enclosed money will cover expense and buy "Flight" a bone.

Yours very truly,

E. B., Toronto.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dear E. B.: "Flight" asks me to thank you for the bone. It tasted all the better for the sentiment behind it. He sends you the Season's Greetings in this issue. We all join him.



Patronize our Advertisers

Letters to Rocky

Dear Rocky:

Christmas is nearly here, and I will take all my money to get a present out west for Christmas. I could also agree to an open invitation for my sweetheart, she's forty-one.

AC 2 Perplexed

Answer:

A nice young girl has her weight probably like something you mean yourself. I would suggest asking her if she has an old bed lying around the attic. This you could cover with one of your old shirts, and a piece of ribbon. Would be a lovely bed lamp, don't you think? Or do you?

Dear Rocky:

I need a new uniform. I only have one. How long must I be in the service before I can have two?

L'AC Tubbs.

Answer:

You'll never live that long, so stop worrying.

Dear Rocky:

I've been at Fingal for six months now, and I haven't had a flip yet. How should I go about getting one?

Ally.

Answer:

Well, in your case I would suggest a subtle approach - walk into

the Squadron Leader's office, salute him, knock your cap off onto his desk, upsetting the ink all over his papers, excuse yourself and throw all his stuff off the desk onto the floor, then take his cap to wipe the ink off of him and the desk.

You'll certainly fly, Algy! Yes, sir! You'll fly.

Dear Rocky:

How is it that I can't seem to get a pair of pants to fit me at stores; they are always too large?

Sloppy Joe.

ANSWER: It seems unimportant that the pants are too large, but if you must be the Bear Brummed just cut the pants up the centre and wear one leg at a time; put both your legs in the one pant leg, can't you? In a short time you'll be able to get around just dandy. Of course if you want to stand at ease - well that's another question, Sloppy. One question at a time you know.

Dear Rocky:

I work at one of the flights and I've been working on one of these Merlin engines. Well I've worked for a week now and still it aint fixed. What shall I do to get it done in a hurry?

A WEARY FITTER.

(Continued on Page 7)

FINGAL R.C.A.F. OFFICERS

... May We Be of Service to You

CUSTOM TAILORED UNIFORMS and GREATCOATS

◆ COMPARE ◆

Our Representative will be at Officers' Quarters Weekly for Short Periods.

ORTH LIMITED - London

Gentlemen of the R.C.A.F.

THE EMPIRE HOTEL

Talbot Street

One Block East of L. P. & S. Depot

Welcomes You



Visit Our Modern

COFFEE SHOP and SODA BAR

Excellent Service Reasonable Prices



NEWLY INSTALLED COMPLETE FOUNTAIN SERVICE



DONALD THOMAS MARKS

Don needs no introduction at No. 4 B. & G., but now that he has the record of being one of the first civilian employees on the Station, and an enviable credit of a year's service behind him, we owe him honorable mention.

We find that Don was as fastidious about his birthplace as about everything that concerns him. He came to earth in the Classic City of Stratford, Ont., and was nurtured for some succeeding years in Lovely Lambeth. By and by, fortune drove him nearer the lake and for some years past he has lived at Port Stanley by the Sea.

Don made fair use of his early years. In education he equipped himself for university entrance. He has been an ardent Boy Scout since early boyhood and passed through the ranks to the position of Scout Master, and a worthy member of Rover Scout Work.

Despite a slight handicap, which, by the way, is the only obstacle that keeps Don out of an air crew, but not enough to keep him out of sport, he has participated in games often too fast and furious for the average individual. Basketball, track and softball are among his accomplishments.

If Don couldn't make the Air Force, he decided to get as close as he could to it. Today he is an airman in everything but the uniform.

Don moved in along with "Flight" and the mud shortly after the Station opened. His many jobs range from Deputy "Y" man in the absence of the Director, to song leader, umpire, cashier at dances, escort to social functions, preacher for local clergy, while all the time having official duties as Station Librarian.

For two long months Fingal missed its versatile utility man while Don went to Toronto for a bone operation in the ankle. Recently we welcomed him back on crutches. But some men on crutches are supermen nevertheless, and Don is hopping around at his old pace and we all wish him a speedy and complete recovery.



Forgotten Men - Fingal

(Continued from Page 3)

Rigby and master of ceremonies was AC 2 Rod Smith, who came along to help entertain the boys. Numbers were sung by the Johnson sisters and accordion solos by Rod Smith.

Remembrances went back to October 28th, 1940, when in open trucks the boys arrived (frozen to death) from Manning Pool, Toronto; then found they had to turn around and go back to Shelden to unload box cars to get their beds, blankets, etc., etc.; then they proceeded to "set up" No. 4 B. & G. School. Mud, mud, mud and more mud was the order of that day. W/C Kennedy, our ever-genial C.O., who was in charge of the party, was the life-saver of that ever-to-be-remembered day, when at Jarvis he ordered the transports halted and took every man to a coffee shop and treated all to pie and coffee.

The first three days at Fingal there were no messing facilities, so all and sundry had to make three trips a day to T.E.S. for meals, come rain, snow, sleet and MUD. We all enjoyed it and will long remember our first days at Fingal.

Also present on this momentous occasion was our old friend Frank Toevin, who is now stationed at Aylmer. Since the day of the Anniversary Banquet, the following have been posted: "Farmer" Warren, "Jude" Pelchat and "Happy" Lapiere.

The Art of Dancing

After viewing the art of terpsicore from varied angles, and in modern dancing many angles may be observed, one sweet young thing winces in obvious pain from the pressure of an iron boot mauling her pretop, we, John Q. Pudge, would like to do an old-fashioned waltz quadrille for a change.

Now, taking the jitterbug, for example, even the most biased observer must admit that he performs marvellous feats of dexterity, but think of his partner. Unless she is a dropie of Alice Mailli and capable of enduring such high speed tactics under tremendous difficulties I shudder to think of what is happening to the joints and muscles of her arms when rug cutting begins in earnest.

Apart from what many five pounds will tell you, an accomplished jitterbug can be trained by following this simple formula: Wear a pair of extra large trousers with only traction for support, carry under one arm a basket of eggs and under the other a case of L.P.A. and begin to cross a busy street; half way across the light changes and the nervous reaction caused by this will cause aforementioned sloppy bags to waver precariously around the middle

region; without dropping either parcel I'll guarantee you'll be a first class jitterbug by the time you cross the road. This lesson is free to all and is not copyrighted; the inventor does make one stipulation, however, that you do not allow your life insurance to lapse.

Square dancing is still popular in the more rural districts (and what could be more rural than Fingal), but the proper surroundings are never observed. To square dance as it was meant to be done, it must be performed in a drafty inn and surroundings typical of arctic; also the fiddler must chew tobacco and be a notoriously bad shot; the mouth organ must be off key and their rhythm section must contain a cracked guitar and a three-stringed banjo; add this collection to a keg of hard cider and the old timer can show us moderns the secret of how to win friends and influence people, but as that isn't done in the Air Force let's skip the whole thing.



When I was one and twenty
I heard a wise man say,
"Give crowns and pounds and
guineas
But not your heart away;
Give pearls away and rubies
But keep your fancy free."
But I was one and twenty,
No use to talk to me.

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Christmas Headquarters!!



THE STORE
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MILLION
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Gifts for Everyone Here

YOU'LL ENJOY SHOPPING AT ELGIN'S
GREATEST DEPARTMENT STORE

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THE SCOTT STUDIO

"Established in St. Thomas Over 65 Years"

HIGHEST QUALITY PORTRAITS

at
SPECIAL RATES to AIRMEN

OPEN EVENINGS

685 Talbot Street

Upstairs

"Aceytooo Hardbottom Writes To His Love"

Dere Mable:

Well Mable, this is supposed to be the Xmas season as the padre says, "Peace on Earth, Goodwill Toward All Men." Pretty deep for me Mable, but I guess he ought to know, seem as how he is an ossifer, but yet Mable when you comes to figure out that everyone is trying to cut each other's throat it don't seem, coposetic or whatever flite lieutenant Bendall would say; you know Mable it seems pretty child ish to think that we are giving one another gifts here at Xmas time, listening to Xmas Carols, having a good time at home, etc., while little kiddies in Europe are listening for the "All Clear" to get a chance to eat their breakfast and they call us human beans. I think Mable there was a slight mistake in the beginning. Anyway any human with children of his own certainly could not sit back and direct pilots and observers to drop bombs on children who don't know what its all about. Xmas Eve, instead of looking into the sky for signs of the Christ child that came to Bethlehem so many years ago, bringing peace and good will, they are met by a shower of Molotoff Bread Baskets that wipe out their houses. It just don't seem reasonable Mable. You know Mable I've talked with quite a few of our chaps goin over seas as pilots Observers and Gunners and their whole request is "Just give me a chance to bring one of them down to pay for at least one little kiddie and I figures I've done something."

You know Mable it makes a fellow feel kinda dumb to know that he can't get in the swim with these chaps who are really doing and going to do things. If I could just

get one wallop at some beer ballied son of a swine from Berlin who thinks he can bomb the morale from a British Subject, but the French had a name for it, "C'est la guerre." Well Mable I think you knows Sgt McKenzie who used to be in charge of the recruits at number one hangar. Well Mable, Mac was made a flight Sgt, today. He's just the same old Mac, Mable, and his D.T.'s has all gone. He's in Toronto now as a disciplinarian.

I sees by the Trues Journal that Flite but Corporal Fox or Vice Versa. You know Flite put up with a lot from Fox for a long time, waitin for him in the mornin, mounting the guard for him, everything except askin the C.O. for his passes. As Jack Gray says to me "I'm damned if I don't think one of them is human."

Well the war situation has peped up a bit Mable. If yer old man can scratch up three cuts you'll see by the paper the Russians are puttin up a good show. In fact the Fritzies are running so hard it keeps the wops pressed to keep ahead of them. I figures by next summer I'll have to go to work (in civilian life I mean). If I had been an ossifer I could have got a job as pilot of an elevator in some store.

I've been tryin to figure out what to get yer old woman for Xmas. Maybe a couple of towels. Those I got from stores might do if I wrapped them up in nice fancy paper. You'll have to tell her what they are for when she gets them. She has used the old man's worn shirts for so long that I guess they may be strange to her. As far as yer old man is concerned I've got some dices to put under his beer glasses. I had the name Labatt printed on them. Just tell him I didn't spare any expense to get them for him. I haven't figured out your present Mable unless I get you some lifebooy soap or something, but I won't tell you what it is until after Xmas. Now that you are workin, maybe you could loan me a few bucks until a while after New Years. Well Mable we have the same excitement over the Xmas holidays. One guy says we are gettin five days, another says a forty-eight hour pass and another none at all. Some want Xmas because they are married, some because they are single, others because they got families and some because they expect to have some day. I tells you it just leaves the Sargint Majer about goofy. In fact

the other day the C.O. says "Now about this Xmas leave," and the M. says absent merrily, "Make out yer pass and I'll O.K. it."

Well Mable I gotta go over to the Hostess house and get some buttons sewn on my tunic so I can set in the mess room for breakfast. I hope to see you at Xmas and have some of yer old woman's stew, so until yer old man gets a job, I am yours,

ACEYTOO HARDBOTTOM.

P.S. Mable I wish all the staff of The Observer a very Merry Xmas.

HEZERIA HARDBOTTOM.



Letters to Rocky

(Continued from Page 4)

ANSWER: You forgot to tell me which part you were working on, but I would suggest that you remove the part which isn't working and stuff the hole with old rag like the other fitters do, then put the cowlings on and take her up for a flip; she'll be O.K. Look at all the rest of the stuff that's been taken off, compressors, generators, indicators, shutters, crash pads, bulk heads, mud guards— she'll fly. So dont worry, Weary.

FINGAL'S FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT



Sgt. Thomas Charles Mann



Save for Victory!

ATTEN-SHUN!

R. C. A. F.

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Gray Broadcloth, fully pre shrunk. Cut full and roomy, perfect fitters. All sizes and sleeve lengths.

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Airmen!

We Cater to Banquets

PRIVATE DINING ROOM

Ask the Entries who have banqueted here.

QUEEN'S HOTEL

Sid. Smith, Manager

First Wedding At the Hostess House

Recent Mrs. Marion Healy Healy was the bride of a pretty wedding when Sergeant Orville J. Healy of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was married to her at the Hostess House in the station. The ceremony was a most attractive affair. An hour before the wedding the bride had her hair styled by the staff of the Postmaster's Office. The bride is a daughter of WALTER W. Healy and Mrs. Daniel J. Healy, of Wood Island, Ontario. The groom is a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The bride's bridesmaids were Misses M. Savage, the Hon. Mrs. Healy and her sister, Mrs. Healy. The ceremony was conducted by the station Pastor, F. H. Gowen, who gave the bride a special gift. The bride and groom were the toast of the bride at the party afterwards. Mrs. Savage said that this was the first of many offers to the station. The Hostess House was a grand affair and the bride and groom were

Station News



CANTEEN

The canteen is a most interesting and well-kept affair. It is a place where you can get a good meal and a good drink. The canteen is open to all and is a most interesting place to visit. It is a place where you can get a good meal and a good drink. The canteen is open to all and is a most interesting place to visit.

LECTURE

Those who heard Dr. Flova's talk, November 15, on "The Significance of the Arctic Regions Today," received a clearer view on the importance of these remote but regarded regions of the world.

Dr. Flova, who is head of the Geography Department of the University of Western Ontario, pointed out that the Arctic region and military value of the Arctic today. It was the stepping stone between both our continent and a Hitler dominated Europe and a warlike Asia. He traced the Russian strategical plan to get Healy from using this region as a power over the Western Hemisphere. Although he has not been unable to use this region to further his ambitions, he realizes its value more than we do. In addition to its value as a stepping stone, it is also the shortest route for the going between North America, Europe and Asia. With the invention of long-range bombers, this route could reasonably be used by our enemies as a highway for attack.

LIBRARY FACTS

In the last year our library has increased in size from 200 volumes to nearly 1200 volumes of a great variety. We now have a complete set of the English edition of Canada's important books on travel, geography, psychology, a complete set of technical books dealing with maintenance of Aircraft maintenance. During the past year some 12000 books have been loaned from the Station library.

Every book can be for the most part. The common motto is "Have you something that I can read in a couple of hours?" However, it is not only the people who are interested in the books. Books are also for the people who are interested in the books. Books are also for the people who are interested in the books. Books are also for the people who are interested in the books.

A book may be kept for a month or more and returned at the end of that time. A technical book may be kept three days and renewed once. A book of the sort a day is

charged for books, over a month, in the hope that it will be an incentive to return books on time.

The library conducts a most successful branch also that of distributing magazines and periodicals to the men. Some thirty-five magazines are put out in the Recreation Hall each day for the men to read and take away. This service, available to all, is used to its fullest extent. The library rules and regula-

are provided down by a Library... (The text is partially obscured and difficult to read due to the image quality.)

TIME MOVES FAST!
TAKE OUR TIP
 and
SHOP EARLY
 Choose your gifts at
FLACH'S
 Jewelry Gift Headquarters
 for Elgin County!
 Use Our Lay Away Plan
E. H. FLACH
 DIAMOND HALL

Compliments of
Percy Spackman
 YOUR  DEALER
 Opposite Grand Central Hotel
 ST. THOMAS

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CITY DAIRY
 St. Thomas Doubly-Protected Pure Pasteurized Dairy Products

SAVED BY THE BRIDGE

... a little green bridge was built across a very wide ditch between the Sports and the Attention Area in front of the Officers' Quarters...

... appeared one morning... the Drill Hall... the Sgt. Major's great feat of the day...

... During the inspection all went well with Headquarters Squadron and its new commander... The Drill Hall for the dismissal of the officers...

... On part the corner at the Sgt. Major's... At this point, Ft. Sgt. Hamilton, who is at his post in front of No. 1 Flight...

Station News

of the heads of the Squadron, especially the senior N.C.O.'s. "Are we going up in front of the Administration Building for an inspection by the new O.C. of H.Q.?"

Well, on and on march H.Q. past the Hospital so the "bayonet practice" is out. Into the Attention Area and we hear the odd N.C.O. shout "cut out the talking and pick up the step!"

First, he decides to be a good airman and lead straight on, and then he finds he has made the wrong decision because H.Q. can't get across that little green bridge that lies in their path.

Now, where is the Sgt. Major? After dismissal, "Hammy" decides to find out. The Drill Hall on inspection is as empty as it always is about 15 minutes after the last man has been taken care of on Pay Parade.

... With "Lampy" the fish blind at a hawk hunt to F. J. Currier? Or has he gone to the hospital for another cold treatment? Where is the Sgt. Major?

New Legion Hall Is Open to Airmen

We heartily recommend to all airmen the facilities in the new Canadian Legion Club Room on Bell Street at Fingal. You are welcome to drop in any time and use the Reading and Writing Rooms.

Each Sunday a most enjoyable entertainment is provided for all men in uniform.

SCHEDULE OF HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

- Monday, December 22nd Airmen's Christmas Dance.
Tuesday, December 23rd Movie, Sing Song.
Wednesday, December 24th Movie and Sing Song; Midnight Mass for R.O.'s and any others interested.
Thursday, December 25th Dinner served by the Officers; Smoker in the evening for all personnel.
Friday, December 26th Big Bingo Game.
Saturday, December 27th Movie and Quiz Contest.
Sunday, December 28th Church and Carols.

REFRESH...



The Ideal Gift to Send to MOTHER, WIFE and SWEETHEART. A Beautiful Box of Christmas Stationery with Her Initials. Embossed in Gold or Silver. Free of Charge. Wendell Holmes Bookshop. 3 Doors West Times Journal.

GIVE...

Vair's Home-made Candies for Christmas

OPPOSITE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL

PRESENTING . . .

Well, to follow so many good things . . .

It is a pleasure to announce that we have received authority to remodel and redress our stage.

We are endeavoring to fulfill our obligations to present entertainment that will keep you happy.

A thought has just occurred to us regarding the Station dances.

We really did enjoy the London Life show. It was brilliantly presented and we think it had a more professional touch than anything we've seen in a long time.

- Entertainment -



These beautiful belles, appearing with the Fingalians Troupe at the Christmas Legion on November 20th, provided one of the evening's highlights of the evening's entertainment.

money. The London Life Players are supplied with sufficient funds to really equip their show.

It may interest you to know that an investment of over \$500.00 was required for equipment to light the

two mercury vapour lamps that produced the black light effects. Mind you, we did appreciate the Twoed-man Revue, and we're hoping for the best in the Originals show, which is due here on the 17th of this month.

It is a pleasure to announce that we have received authority to remodel and redress our stage. It will be somewhat larger when completed, and will be completely redressed.

We will also revamp our projection and sound system within the next few weeks, so just be patient, fellows, because we're really trying.

It is rumored that our Recreation Hall is going to be redecorated throughout, so that's something.

We would appreciate your comments and suggestions on past and future entertainment so that we may do things your way.

Enough has been said for now, so until next month and in the meantime, wishing you the best of Merry Christmases and Happy New Years, we are,

Entertainingly yours, SMITTY.

MAKE CHRISTMAS COMPLETE DINE AT THE GRAND CENTRAL



CHRISTMAS MENU SERVED IN COFFEE SHOP

Served from 11 A.M. ASSORTED RELISHES

Yule Log, Roast Turkey with Cranberry Sauce, Ham with Pineapple, etc.

DESSERTS

English Fruit Tart with Whipped Cream, Ice Cream, etc.



"We Cater to Your Taste and Comfort"

The Grand Central Hotel

ST. THOMAS' LEADING HOTEL

Boxing

With the last month boxing enthusiasts have had the opportunity to work out twice a week, on day and Thursday nights, from 1900 hours on, under competent supervisors.

The boxing room located in the Drill Hall is stocked with excellent equipment. Cpl. Payne, L. AC Jackson, and others are contributing their services in order to encourage the practice of this art on our Station. So far the numbers turning out have been quite small but enthusiastic.

We do lack a ring but that may be forthcoming if sufficient interest in boxing is shown.

So if you would like to have a ring or just like punching, come around and we shall do our best to accommodate you.



Basketball

Basketball got off to a flying start on the night of December 2, when two Fingal teams played host to St. Thomas Collegiate Institute and St. Thomas Y.M.C.A.

The first game turned out to be a one-sided affair with Fingal "B" team taking a real licking at the hands of the High School quintet. However, our boys do not feel at all discouraged, and prophesied that their next meeting would have a different result.

As is usual, we've saved the good news for the last. In the second game of the evening, a hard-fought battle between our "A" team and St. Thomas Y.M.C.A. "Shaitans" ended in a 31-23 count, with Fingal on the winning end.

Fingal, with a classy, fast-stepping outfit, forced the pace from the start and had little difficulty maintaining a lead throughout the game. Art Walker and Tom Church of the Air Observers led the attack and were ably supported by the remainder of the team—Rolanda, Urnhart, Thornsteinson, Tolfece, Gibson, Colman, Morgan and F. Sgt. McMahon—all of whom played winning basketball.

Keep your eye on this team—we really think it's going places.



Bowling

When the bowling season opened in St. Thomas on September 15th the Canadian Iron Foundries found that, due to so many enlistments, their five-pin league would be two teams short. As a result T.T.S. and No. 4 B. & G. School were asked to field a team to complete the schedule. The Fingal Bombers took it on the chin on opening

night, but since then have climbed to first place, and at present are still leading.

The team was formed from the Equipment Section and lines up as follows:

- Cpl. Slaughter AC 1 Kirchner
- Cpl. Hume AC 1 Lacey
- L. AC Lansdell L. AC Campbell
- L. AC Thompson L. AC Peckham

Later on in the season another team was forced to drop out, leaving an opening for "Red" Herbert to horn in with a team from the Sergeants' Mess. The N.C.O's were forced to take the points of the team which vacated, leaving them in last place. However, the boys shut their eyes and dug in, and when the smoke cleared away found that only half the league remained between them and the leaders (us) instead of all of it.

"Red" managed to gather quite an aggregation on such short notice, and looks like this on a score sheet:

- WO 1 Martin F. Sgt Herbert
- DO 2 Mullen Sgt. Weston
- F. Sgt Coulson Sgt. Larose
- F. Sgt Noseworthy

The league bowls every Friday night at 2200 hours at the Strand Bowling Alleys, directly over Woolworth's, so come up and see us some time.



Softball

The indoor ball league got away with a bang on November 17th, with Barrack 8A defeating 8B by a score of 16 to 14. Since then the league has been moving right along with all games to date played according to schedule. The highlight so far has been Barrack 10A's defeat of 9B by a score of 3 to 2 in extra innings on November 24th. The armourers from 13A must have uncovered a good pitcher in Cook, for after losing to 11A by a score of 3 to 5, they put Cook in against 13B on December 1st and won 30 to 3, to hand out the worst drubbing of the season suffered by any team. Looking to the future we expect to see both improvement in all the teams and the brand of ball displayed. The standing as at December 15th, 1941, is as follows:

	P.	W.	L.	Pts
10A	2	2	0	4
8A	1	1	0	2
8B	2	1	1	2
11A	2	1	1	2
13A	2	1	1	2
13B	2	1	1	2
9B	2	1	1	2

- Station Sports -

18B	0	0	0	0
18A	1	0	1	0
9A	2	0	2	0

Incidentally the sports program and softball in particular constitute no fifth column activity. Announcements are made almost daily in D.R.O.'s. Your team needs YOUR backing. It requires your physical, moral and vocal support. Even if you have a broken arm or leg, the least you can do is to turn out and root for your team.



Station Hockey

With the hockey season coming on, the hockey situation is again taken care of by the Sports Committee. Ft. Sgt. Ordidge and Sgt. Millar.

The Station is being organized to be entered in the St. Thomas City League, which is composed of four teams: Old Mill, Labatt's Breweries, St. Thomas Iron Foundries and Fingal Air Station. This ought to prove a very fast league, with plenty of entries being provided for supporters of our team.

The team is rapidly coming into shape, having had two practices at the Stratford Arena, which will prove a big help to them.

Of last year's team we just have two players for this year, namely, Krasnowski and Dunsenith, but there is plenty of new material on the Station with the following showing promise of being fast hockey players: Meko, Hudson, Chapman, DeGarno, Savard, and numerous others.

The next hockey practice will be held on the 18th, and we would like to see a large turn-out.

This is about all the information we can give you right now but we promise a very fast hockey team, and hope to get the support of the entire Station.



Volleyball

Take it from us, volleyball is not a game that is full of fun, good exercise, and just about the easiest game in the world to play. Any of you from babes in arms to old women can play this game and have a good time doing it. If you don't believe me, ask any of the fellows in 18B, 11A, 10A or 8A who play.

At first interest was a little low, but now that we have started the turnouts have been more than satisfactory, and the reason must be that it is good, clean fun.

So far this season 10A seems to have the team to beat, but that is to be expected with such stellar athletes as Cpl. Baker, "T. & O." Thompson, "Constable" Reilly, "18" Craig, and "You See What I Mean" Kirchner, to mention but a few.

Barracks 8A with "Red" McNabb, 11A with Cpl. Richardson, and 18B with Cpl. Pooley, all have fair teams, but they just seem to be a little outclassed.

But keep on trying, men, we in 10A back to learn the hard way ourselves, and what is the difference if we do wallop the stuffing out of you, you'll have a good time while learning.



Ping Pong

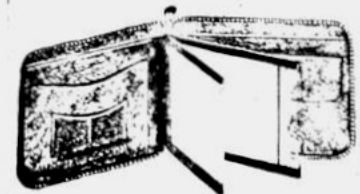
Tournaments in Ping Pong have been held successfully during the last month. Despite the appearance of other indoor sports, the quality of play among table netters has risen. L. AC Smith, Sgt. Cunningham, AC 2 Henderson and L. AC Goshover have been the winners of the main tournaments.

In addition to the aforementioned series, on November 24th the six leading players of Fingal and Aylmer met in tournament play here. Each of the players had a set of singles with their opponents. The play, which see-sawed back and forth during the evening, ended in a 37-37 tie. The Fingal team was composed of Henderson, Watson, Smith, J. Cunningham, Richard and Reach. The outstanding player of the night was Henderson, who won all his matches. We are awaiting the return game with the able netters from Aylmer.



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THIS AND THAT FROM GUNNERY FLIGHT

By the way, talking of sections and of flights, this is the flight that set and holds the record for flying time in one day. Now in case anyone misunderstands what that means, it's not a case of the A/C just flying around for the amusement of the people watching on the ground; somebody has to do the work and for your information there wasn't a man in Gunnery Flight that wasn't going on the double.

With the transfer of Cpl. Daoust to Maintenance Flight there are now three of the original Gunnery Flight left who were here when they started operations a year ago; those remaining being Sgt. Miller, Cpl. Tripp and L/AC Hope. We wonder how many of us will be here a year from now.

Visitors are always welcome at Gunnery Flight, but don't be offended if you should go away minus some of your small change. For in order to keep our Tobacco and Coffee Fund replenished we have found it necessary to impose a few rumbles here and there.

Now, to keep our visitors comfortable, we have a table that looks inviting to sit on; ah, but that is where the catch comes in, for if you do it will cost you ten cents. The ten cents we collect is placed in F Sgt. Shaw's Tobacco Fund for Broken Down Flight Sergeants. By the way, there are a few visitors' names who are on our credit sheet and we hope that they pay us a visit and help us bring our books up to date. There is still another rumble for dropping matches and cigarette butts on the airman's nose from above. So when you come to visit us come well prepared with some small change.

We wonder how many faces will be as red or black as we bring to light our ingenious invention in the way of a lung tester.

We hope that the Station winter sports will be a great success, for if you could have seen the two or three night's hard work that Sgt. Miller did in drawing up the baseball schedule you wouldn't have the heart to let down those who have spent their time and energy to prepare these sports for you.

Snuffy's engaged again! By the way, Snuffy's engagements are becoming like the sinkings of the Ark Royal; it happened so often. But this time we hear he finally did manage to get that ring out of the store, so maybe this time he will win (or lose).

Gunnery Flight held a banquet at the Canadian Legion Hall in St. Thomas on the 3rd. Many of the

boys really over-ate. The pilots were our guests but only four of them were present. F/O Parsons was our guest speaker and was admirably supported by F/O Warren. Not to be outdone was Sgt. Pilot Beaudoin, who held forth on the virtues of the east from under one of the tables. The fourth guest was our O.C., F/O Poupore, who, although unable to attend in person, was there in spirit. Master of Ceremonies was in the form of one Sgt. Miller, who really surprised the boys with his wit and wisdom.

The organizer of the banquet was Cpl. Wright. The results showed that he knows how to organize. A good time was had by all and we hope to have another in the near future.

I just received a news flash to the effect that our F Sgt Shaw has scored again. He has managed to get away from Stores with his soul and a new shirt.

Drogue Flight is about to claim our typewriter so I'll close now and try to continue next month.



BOMBING SECTION

On behalf of the Officers and Airmen of Bombing Flight, I take this opportunity to wish to Fingalites "A Merry Christmas."

Here at our Flight, F O Smith (who may be leaving us for Mont Joli) has been doing some fast travelling in the privately owned aircraft by flying his own little two-seater Dart plane from Fingal to Chicago. It took the Flying Officer 4 hours to reach his destination, with stops at Detroit, South Bend, Ind., and Valparaiso. On his return trip he took 2 hours and 10 minutes, with stops at South Bend and Windsor, Ont. The reason for his fast return trip was because of the tail wind he encountered.

On the return from this flight, F O Smith asked for coffee, which I think most fellows know is now being served in Bombing Flight.

in fact, we already have a reputation for being able to serve out Topping Coffee. We hope to be able to provide decent Cocoa and pretty good Tea later on. Our Coffee Canteen was started by each member of the Flight contributing towards the commencement of the same, and the idea is running very smoothly now. Most fellows emphasize that the beverage is really splendid, especially Pilots and Air Crew.

I think that quite a number of fellows knew Sgt. Garve of our Flight; he was also on the Entertainment Committee. Well "The Garve," as he was popularly known, has been posted to Mont Joli. Before he left he whispered to me that he was going to head for the "State of Michigan" and that he was going to "Pop up the aisle" in the near future, with a fair damsel from Hamilton. Garve also has a weakness for horse-riding, and I wonder whether he'll be riding any horses around Mont Joli.

Jerry (Link Trainer Instructor) Bell, another well-liked fellow attached to our Flight, has also left us for Mont Joli, and he follows in Bunkhouse 15A. Formerly he had a job of delivering mail to the barracks, but that job has now been left. His weakness was trying to get Private Hugh into traps, and also a habit of the same as the last-mentioned, but that is not the main point. Presently the flight has a letter from Sgt. Pilot Arthur, who says that the Flight before us will be a pretty interesting one, and that he is going every day. I was a little surprised to see

condensed Milk from Contented Cows has anything to do with it.

By the way, the little kitten's Flying Log Book is quite blank now that Sgt. Pilot Orshman has left.

P. H. U.

The "International Squadron," name No. 4 Personnel Helicopter Unit, is again sticking its monthly plug in the ground. A full paper in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Since we have been filled with our names, Royal Squadron, we have a few more to mention. The name of the unit is the "International Squadron."

They will be out of the way of the "International Squadron" in the near future. (Continued on Page 14)

Wire Flowers Home FOR CHRISTMAS

We invite the Officers and Men of the R. C. A. F. to send us their Christmas wishes. Write and let the Postal Service do their Service.

RYLAND'S FLOWER SHOP

102-104 St. Patrick St. Bonded Telegraph Florist

DIAMOND HALL...

AVIATORS' GOGGLES E. H. FLACH WATCHMAKER - JEWELLER

You can bank on WINGS

CANADA'S Top Flight VIRGINIA CIGARETTE



EXODUS

With the Boys in the Service



"THAT WILL BE THE DAY"

Morning Sick Parade Advice by Sgt. Murphy



"Where To?" "Sorry! But I can't divulge my destination"



"That Recruit from out West is awful stubborn"

Sparks From the Electrical Section

Well, boys, things have happened in the Electrical Section since you last heard from us.

We got the painting bug just like all the rest of the sections. So, one day in the wee hours of the morning, AC 2 Bolling and yours truly, Eddie Haddock, decided to beautify our section. When Cpl. Lanouette and his squad of wire pullers came in the next morning there really were sparks flying. You see when we did the painting it was quite dark - so was the paint - so we were kindly asked in a few short phrases to do the job over again.

We don't see a great deal of Don Eaton since he has become one of the Entertainment Committee, but we do see all of his shoes which he puts on in the Recreation Hall, and they are really good.

Cpl. Lanouette received a letter from our old pal and boss, Sgt. (Jeff) Ellis, the other day, and I suppose it will be good news to you all to hear he has been promoted to Flight Sergeant. Keep up the good work, Jeff.

Poor old Renaud (Wimpy to most of us) is going grey trying to convince all the Flight Sergeants that we are short of batteries and can't make all their aircraft serviceable.

The weather's getting cold now so the pilots have to use the pilot heaters in operation; so a word to the wise lads: please see that the switch is turned off after every flight. It will be helping us to keep the batteries up, and also be giving old Hitler a push in the face.

Well, boys, I have to go down to Sam's Stores and get a painful of volts for Planché to put in some new batteries so I'll see you again soon.

"THE FINGAL SPARKS"



Bingo

"Bingo," the exultant cry of a strident voice, choking with pride and corn, rings throughout the Recreation Hall as fickle fortune places her finger on a Fingalite. Yes, Bingo, the game of thousands, bids well to becoming one of the major attractions in entertainment here.

The prizes offered so far have been large and small packages of cigarettes and needless to say they have met with general approval. So the next time you would like good entertainment, free smokes, and delicious corn, drop in at the Bingo game.



C.O.: Say, wait a minute young man; do you know who you are talking to?

Cpl.: No, and I don't care.

C.O.: Well, I happen to be the C.O. of this Station.

Cpl. (after a moment's silence): Well, sir... do you know who you are talking to?

C.O. (surprised): Why, no!

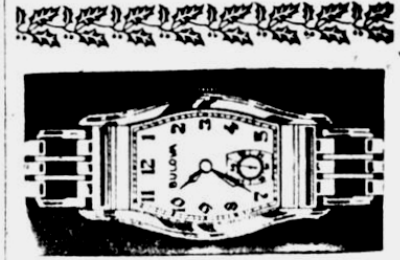
Cpl.: Thank God!



Pickle Barrel Club

Direct Hits

Balcon	2	McGregor	1
Bond	1	Munnis	2
Brown	1	Pete	1
Chant	1	Rae	1
Coleman	2	Renaut	1
Easton	2	Softly	1
Gauthier	3	Southcotte	1
Hatch	3	Sproulle	3
Hewes	5	Stewart	3
King	1	Thorpe	1
Lanchberry	3	Timmins	4
Levin	2	Wood	1
Marshall	1	Mark	1
Martin	1	Perkins	1
Mathews	2	Gray	1



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