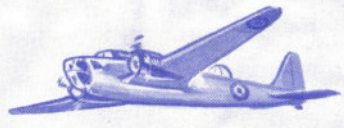


THE
Fingal Observer

NO. 4 B & G SCHOOL

SOUVENIR
NUMBER
FEBRUARY 1945





WING COMMANDER R. E. MORROW, D.F.C.

A Message from the Commanding Officer

The termination of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan marks the end of one of the most ambitious achievements in the history of the British Air Force. The personnel of No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery School, Fingal, may well look with pride on the part played by this school in that Air Training Plan. Our graduates have gone forward into operations overseas by the hundreds and the quality of their training is shown by the gallant services they have rendered in helping to destroy the enemy.

To those of you who were here in the closing phases of Fingal, I wish to express my thanks for your co-operation, your forbearance at a time which is most difficult, and the good work you have done in efficiently closing down the school.

R. E. MORROW, Wing Commander.



W/C W. H. SWETMAN, D.S.O., D.F.C.
May, 1944 — November, 1944



G/C J. G. KERR, A.F.C.
January, 1943 — May 1944

W/C D. D. FINDLAY,
May, 1942 — Dec. 31, 1942



W/C J. KENNEDY
October, 1941 — May, 1942



THE LATE W/C VAN VLEIT
December, 1940 — October 1941

THE
Fingal Observer
NO. 4 B & G SCHOOL

SOUVENIR EDITION FEBRUARY, 1945

CO-EDITORS

F/O Geo. Gibson Hank Coleman, Y.M.C.A.

ART

F/O "Tommy" Graham

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LAW Rosell AW1 Cosford

CONTRIBUTORS

F/L Mulligan LAC Miller

EDITORIAL

Here it is — the last issue of the Fingal Observer. The last piece of copy received and the final "thirty" scrawled. If we are sorry to see this come, we are only human — for we have truly enjoyed this work. There is a triumphant note now in the closing of the Station, for its closing stands as a symbol of the approach of victory — the fruits of the blood, sweat and tears that we were promised in 1939.

We want to think of those many people whose names will never lie in our galleys, as well as the artists, photographers and copy writers without whose labour and thought this paper would not exist.

Special thanks go to the former editors, Ben Sugarman and Vern Pillsworth, who even now are possibly on "civvie street." These are the people who made the name and the reputation for the Observer that our efforts can only seek to emulate.

These, then, are our last words. When the war is over and only its lesson remembered, pick up the old yellowed copy of the Observer and call to mind those happy days at Fingal. Until then, so long, fellows, we'll see you again



S/L HUGH McKIBBON
S. Ad. O.



F/L BILL BUCHANAN
Station Adv.



S/L BERT PRINDIVILLE
Equipment Officer



S/L BRUCE McBURNEY
Sr. Accounts Officer



S/L BUS IMRIE
O/C Flying



S/L PAUL HALE
Chief Instructor



S/L BRUCE SERVOS
O/C of G. I. S.



W/C BERT TAYLOR
O/C Maintenance



S/L BOB GRAHAM
S. M. O.



F/L "SET" SETTRINGTON
M. O.



F/L VIC HALL
Protestant Padre



Fl/O THELMA HOLMES
O/C WD's



F/L G. E. MULLIGAN
R. C. Padre



S/O BEA AMERY
Messing Officer



HEADQUARTERS



ACCOUNTS SECTION



CENTRAL REGISTRY

S. W. O. AND STAFF



POST OFFICE

FIRE HALL





P. T. AND DRILL



EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONNEL COUNCILLOR



SERGEANTS' MESS STAFF



OFFICERS' MESS STAFF



O. R. MESS STAFF



SERVICE POLICE



SERVICE POLICE



WORKS AND BUILDINGS



M. T. SECTION



STATION ORDERLY ROOM



CONTROL TOWER



M. T. SECTION



METEOROLOGICAL SECTION



Ruby



Ruth

Photo



Gale

Section



Doris



Vicky



MAINTENANCE



MAINTENANCE ORDERLY ROOM



F/L PENNELS AND SENIOR N.C.O.'s



AERO ENGINE FITTERS



WIRELESS



WIRELESS SERVICING



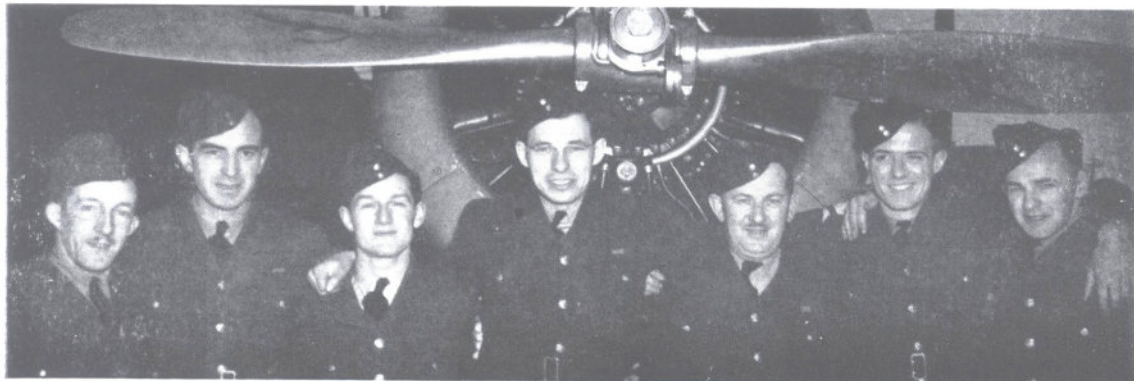
DROGUE FLIGHT (SERVICING)



INSTRUMENT REPAIR



ARMAMENT



CPL. LES
PHILLIPS

LAC PAT
DIAMOND

LAC
LAWRENCE
HENRY

LAC ERNIE
BRINKLOW

F/SGT "JAKE"
SHARP

LAC FRED
EDWARDS

CPL. JIMMY
TOMS



TECH. STORES



STATION WORKSHOPS



SERVICING SQUADRON — BOMBING FLIGHT



RIGGERS



REPAIR SECTION — N.C.O.'S



SERVICING SQUADRON — BOMBING FLIGHT



ELECTRICAL REPAIR



N.C.O.'S — REPAIR SQUADRON



SERVICING SQUADRON — ORDERLY ROOM



SERVICING SQUADRON — DROGUE FLIGHT



PARACHUTE SECTION

Fuel for the Fiendish Fires

By LAC F. E. Miller

'Tis not so long ago
When the summer eves were here,
We used to think it marvelous,
That old coal pile so dear.

We'd wander round it nightly
With never a thought or care,
For pleasure bent were we those days
'Cause our girls were waiting there.

And at the stroke of eleven
When the S.P.'s were on the prowl,
Doing their nightly duty
Ere the wolves begin to howl.

They'd drop a gentle warning,
And if that were not enough
They'd gently take you by the arm
And treat you sort of rough.

So now, my dear kind friends and true,
This fact I'll put across to you—
Don't throw all caution to the hounds,
For our dear coal pile is "Out of Bounds."

But now that summer's over
And winter creeps around,
We ignore the S.P.'s warning
And haunt this hallowed ground.

White collars seen there are very few,
For Headquarters have too much to do.
But Maintenance and Servicing — why,
they're the type,
They've nought to do from morn till night.

So away with pick and shovel
And a two-ton truck in tow,
Enveloped in our coveralls
It's off to work we'll go.

And meanwhile at the hangars
Serviceability drops so low
They're checking on inspections
And asking, "Why so slow?"

And where is Shorty Baxter?
Flight Post was heard to say.
Why, they lost him in the coal pile
A week ago today.

And when should we expect him back?
We'll have to search below;
The last we saw our little friend
He was headed for Tokyo.

Now whether you take it breezily
Or whether you work darn hard,
You can "soot" yourself quite easily,
Then from the mess be barred.

Now the honor of this duty
Is not confined to LAC's,
For we often see a corporal
Worn right down to his knees.

But now our station is closing
And the Air Force is through with you,
We reverently pass the old coal pile
And say, "Kind friend, adieu."



A Word About This Issue

The departure in size and style from regular editions of Observers was made so that you might have a more substantial souvenir booklet to keep throughout the years. With little exception, photographs were taken after word was received that our station was closing, and every effort was made to include all personnel on strength at the time. Nevertheless, some may be missing and more "old timers" previously posted will not be here, but their memories will not be forgotten and we sincerely hope they will not feel left out.

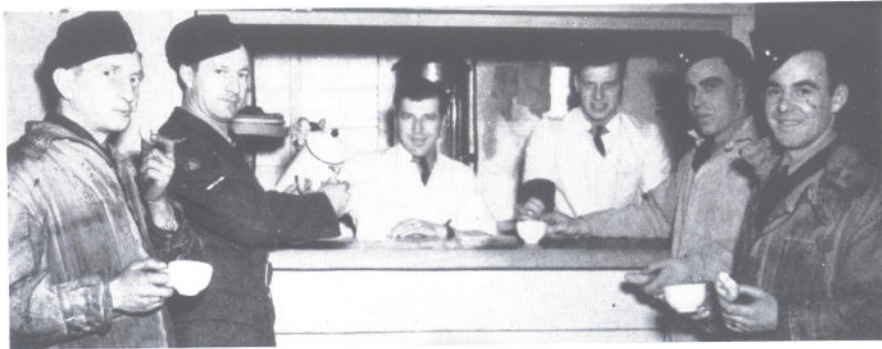
As long as the supply lasts, copies may be had by writing to Hank Coleman, Y.M.C.A. Supervisor, 378 Deloraine Ave., Toronto, Ont.



CAMERA HIGHLIGHTS



ONE OF OUR POPULAR STATION DANCES — THIS WAS CHRISTMAS, 1944



A FAVORITE SPOT — COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS AT THE MAINTENANCE SECTION SNACK BAR



THE LIBRARY — NEW QUARTERS OPPOSITE G. R. MESS AND REC. HALL



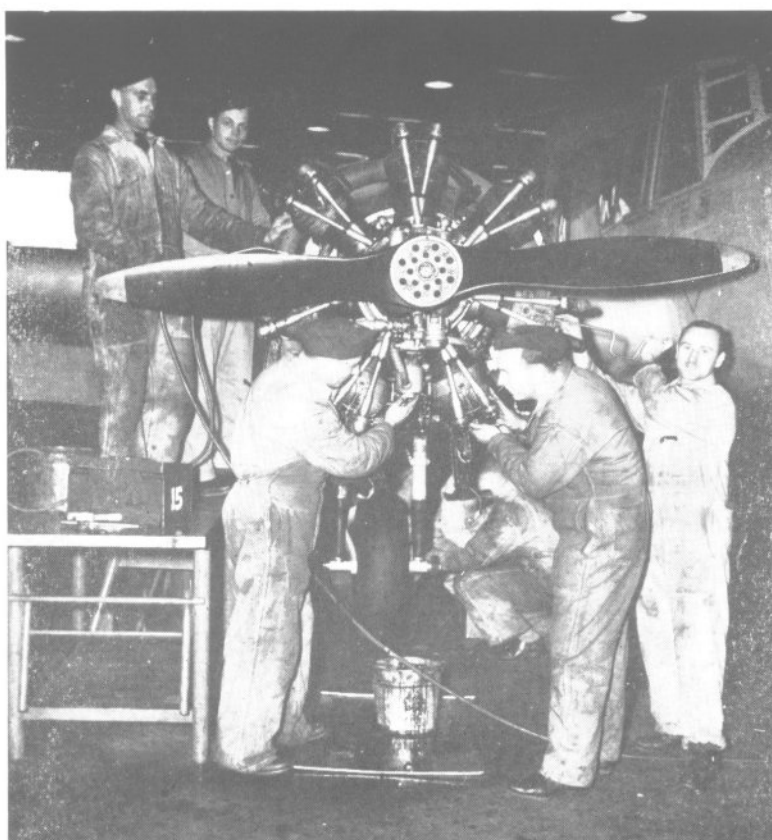
AL. "HAMMY" HAMILTON AND STATION ORCHESTRA
They played for most of our dances and were really "tops."



LAC BOB PEARCE AND CPL. RETA BRULOTTE
 Pitch in and help "dig out" after one of the big snow-
 falls in January. *NAMES*



LAC SLIM OLAFSON AND LAW RUBY KERR
 Do likewise. *REVERSED*



LAC BELLAMY, CPL. PERC. DAVEY, LAC BRUCE MITCHELL, CPL. ERNIE CLARK

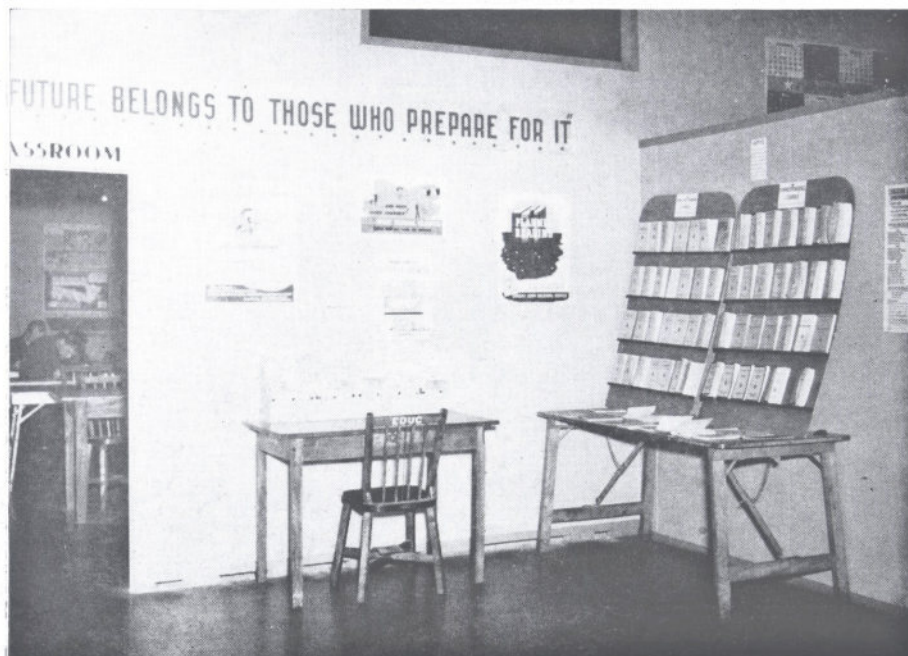


HOBBY SHOP AND Y.M.C.A. STAFF

Left to Right — LAC WILSON, CPL. "BUD" TROUNCE, AW1 LIL URQUHART,
CPL. JODY DOWDELL, SGT. BERT TETLEY, BARB. BROWN, HANK COLEMAN, Y.M.C.A.



Left to Right — F O FRANK DUCET, F O PAUL LAFORETTE,
S/O BEA AMERY, LAC RALPH ROSENBERG
(They were left out of their section photos.)

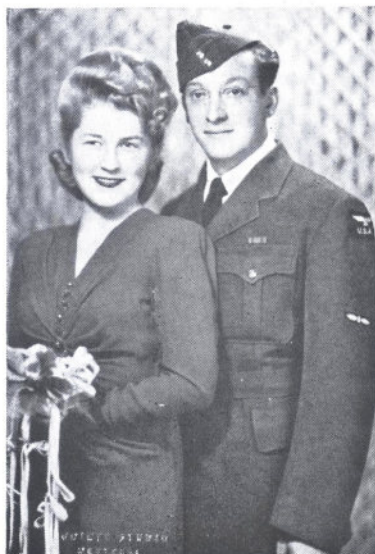


NEW EDUCATIONAL OFFICE AND CLASS ROOM IN BACKGROUND

S/L BRUCE SERVOS DIRECTS A
"CLEAN UP" SQUAD DURING THE
LAST DAYS OF FINGAL.



EVERYBODY KNEW THE MEANING
OF INVENTORY AFTER WORD WAS
RECEIVED OF OUR CLOSING. THIS
GROUP SEEM FAIRLY HAPPY
ABOUT THE JOB — OR MAYBE ONE
OF OUR WINSOME PHOTOGRAPHERS
COAXED THE SMILES.



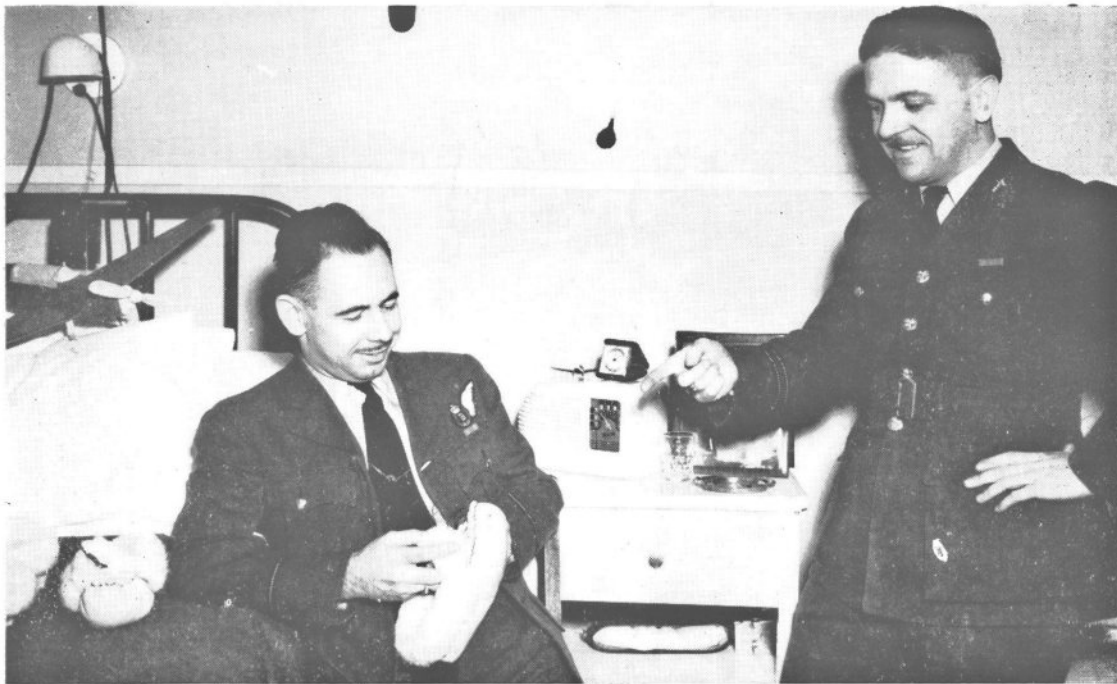
LAC ROSENBERG AND MRS. ROSEN-
BERG (nee Esther Shaver)
Married in Montreal, Nov. 5th, 1944.



ONE OF THE "TOWERING" BUILDINGS — PARDON US, WE MEAN
YE OLD CONTROL TOWER



M.O.'S, NURSING SISTERS AND HOSPITAL STAFF



FE'S O.K. ON HANDICRAFT WORK IN HOSPITAL
F/O "TACK" TACKABURY GETS F/L ROY JOLLIF



DENTAL STAFF

Front, Left to Right — SGT. ROMANCE, PTE. PHILLIPS, SGT. SANDHAM.
Rear, Left to Right — CAPT. SMITH, CAPT. METZGER, CPL. ANDERSON.



G. I. S.



G. I. S. HEADQUARTERS STAFF



TURRET SECTION



G. I. S. — N.C.O.'S



GROUND SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS



"AIRCRAFT REC." INSTRUCTORS



TURRET SECTION AGAIN



GUNNERY INSTRUCTORS



BOMBING FLIGHT — DAY PILOTS



DROGUE OPERATORS



GUNNERY PILOTS



BOMBING FLIGHT — NIGHT PILOTS



BOMBING INSTRUCTORS — PLOTTING AND ANALYSIS SECTION



CONTROL TOWER

*"Valete"--Farewell to Fingal
The Sky-Pilot's Tribute*

By F/L G. E. Mulligan, R.C. Padre

"V" is the Victory which your grads prepare,
"A" is your rating—you're "tops" and that's fair.
"L" is the loyalty your spirit inspired,
"E" is that pennant for you we desired.
"T" is the target—and no dummy runs,
"E" is eternal measuring true bonds for chums.

"F" is for friendship, your gesture to us.
"I" is for "gen's" quota you're graded "A plus."
"N" is for never—fotgotten you'll be—
"G" is for good-bye—proving mortality.
"A" is adieu or again au revoir.
"L" is Love's bond—God's link evermore.

And so we part. As rear party O.C. of things spiritual,
it is my pleasure and privilege to invoke the traditional
"father's" benediction for you all, "MAY THE BLESSING
OF GOD ALMIGHTY, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY-
GHOST DESCEND UPON YOU AND REMAIN WITH
YOU ALWAYS. AMEN."

G. E. MULLIGAN,
Station Chaplain.

