

Crosswinds

R.C.A.F. Station Rockcliffe, Ont.

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CROSSWINDS

Rockcliffe, Ont.

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AIR COMMODORE G. S. O'BRIAN, A.F.C., COMMANDING OFFICER

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EDITORIAL

As this magazine is written the whole world is tensely awaiting the invasion of western Europe by the Allied armies. To most it appears imminent; to all it is inevitable. All possible precautions are being taken, and thorough preparations are being made to ensure the success of this decisive venture.

The combined Air Fleets of the Allies are already constantly engaged in blasting coastal defences, communication systems, and production centres of Axis Europe, until it now rocks and reels. The world has never seen such tremendously devastating attacks. Soon the assault by land, sea, and air will break loose. When this comes we are confident the final outcome will be victory for our arms.

Most of us have comrades, friends, and loved ones that will share in this tremendous enterprise. For all of them it will be a day of unremitting toil, and for many death. We are being urged especially to remember these men in our prayers. Do not let this admonition go unheeded, but let us privately and publicly pray that God will be merciful to all our Allied soldiers, sailors, and airmen who shall experience this Calvary of war.

Cpl. J. R. Marshall of "Mad Wog" fame was awarded the five dollar prize for his poem entitled "Peace" which was featured on the cover page of the May issue. This is the second such award for "JR". Congratulations and keep up the good work.

J.S.

Depicting the happy holiday spirit, the cover photo is the work of Sgt. Bennett of the Photo School.



HIGH FLIGHT

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings,
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew.
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high, untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

P/O J. MAGEE



The five members of the crew who received awards for gallant action while flying a Mail Squadron Fortress are shown above. Left to right F/O H. B. Hillcoat, AFC, F/O E. M. Rosenbaum, AFC, F/O F. B. Labrish, AFC, Cpl. A. DeMarco, AFM, and F/O C. A. Dickson, AFC, are in front.

(Photo by Cpl. Stan. Brede)

Awards to Rockcliffe Personnel

"It all happened in the stillness of the night as our plane was headed for the Mediterranean area with a cargo of mail," stated F/O H. B. Hillcoat, AFC AFM. "To evade enemy fighter aircraft we kept out of sight by clinging to the clouds. One of those things that happen once in a thousand was destined to take place. We all seemed to have the feeling that things were going too smooth. It was over the Bay of Biscay at 5,000 feet that the crashing jolt was felt. This seemed to bring us all back to reality, and at the moment it was hard to conceive just what was brewing. It was apparent then that it was an almost head-on collision with a Wellington bomber. The whole bottom of our aircraft was damaged and we began to drop in a sickening plunge from 5,000 feet to 1,200 feet. In the intermediary F/O E. M. Rosenbaum,

AFC, accomplished in the space of approximately four minutes a remarkable feat of jettisoning everything movable, including bag after bag of the precious mail."

Instruments Useless

"Although with many instruments put out of control, F/O F. B. Labrish, AFC and F/O C. A. Dickson, AFC, worked relentlessly and efficiently under very trying conditions to maintain contact with shore installations. F/O F. B. Labrish, AFC, had a narrow escape when his earphones were torn off his head by a flying fragment from the nose of the aircraft."

"Cpl. A. DeMarco, AFM, can be commended on his exceptional calmness, and initiative when facing almost sudden death. He also assisted F/O E. M. Rosenbaum, AFC, in the

unloading procedure, and his knowledge of engines helped in no immeasurable way to get the most out of the damaged engines."

Engines Battered

"As we levelled off the whole damage could not be ascertained, but one engine was useless and the one beside it had the blades bent forward so they exerted no pull. The inner port engine had a twisted propeller, and chunks had been gouged from the blades of the outer one. It seemed a long way back and the only thing to do was to resort to prayer. Finally we sighted land and then located a coastal airdrome. I was forced to set the aircraft down in a semi-blind landing as fog hovered over that area."

In recognition of the gallantry and resourcefulness of the five members of the crew, the award of the Air Force Cross to the four officers and the Air Force Medal to the crewman was given. Congratulations! We are indeed proud to hear of your decoration and know that through the hardship experienced it was well earned.

Unique Decorations

F/O H. B. Hillcoat, AFC AFM, was very conservative in the important part he played. It was his strenuous effort and skillful flying that enabled him to pilot the crippled aircraft back to safety. It is understood that the two decorations held by this officer are a combination that are not equalled by any other member of the R.C.A.F.

O.W.S.

The squadron commander walked across the tarmac. He saluted and said, "Good morning, Flight Lieutenant."

The "Flight Lieutenant" answered loudly, "Mass-massas!"

The commander did not blow up in flames at this gross insubordination, nor did the other pilots who each received the same answer.

They were paying respects to Flight Lieutenant William the Goat, D.F.C., the mascot of a West Riding Fighter Squadron.

He must be saluted every morning, otherwise the squadron will have no luck that day. When the station commander first did it the squadron went out and shot down six Germans and scored a lot more probables. He gave William the Goat the D.F.C. for that.

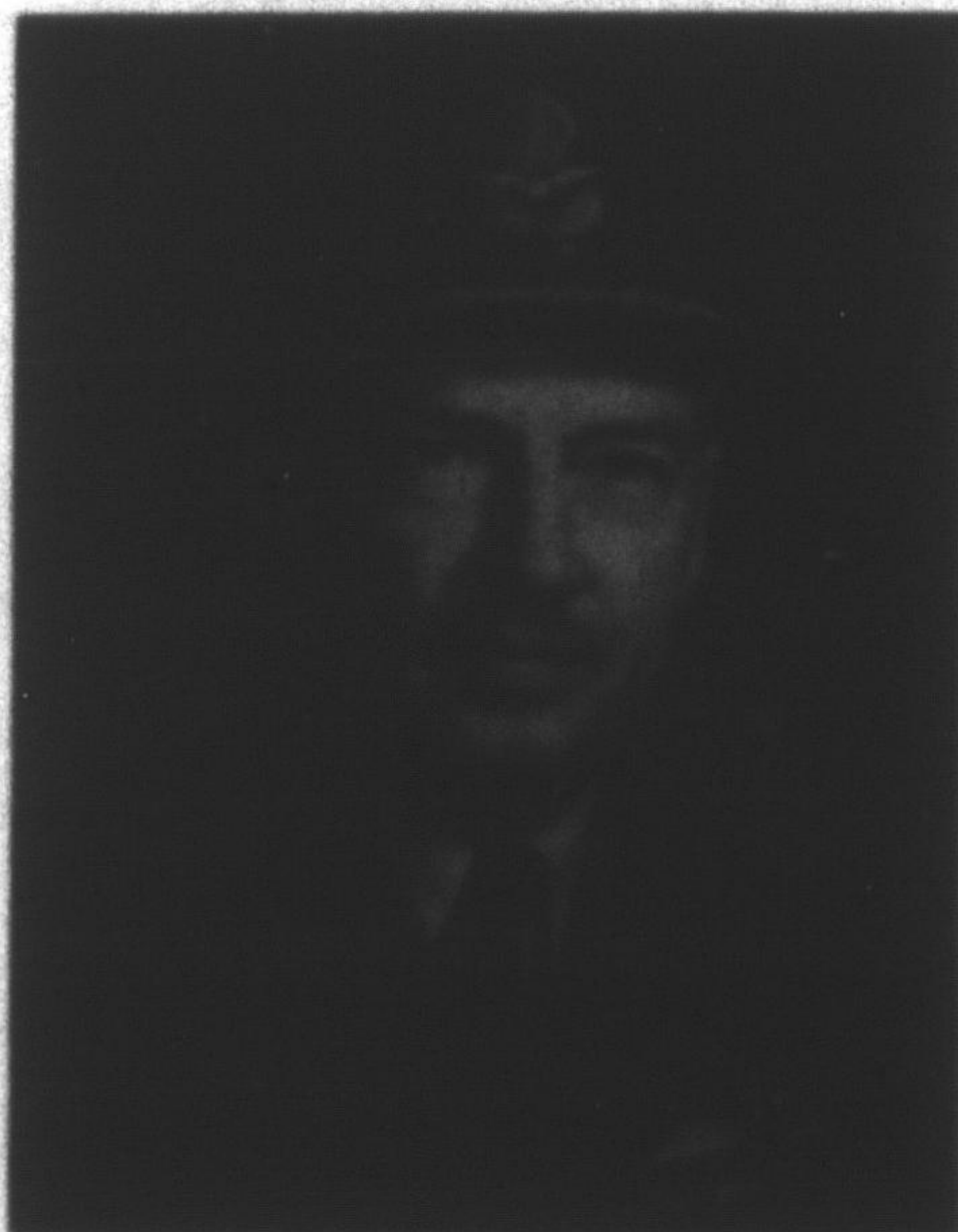
—London Daily Herald

CONGRATULATIONS, SIR!

Heartiest congratulations are extended by personnel of all units of Rockcliffe station to our Commanding Officer upon his recent promotion to the rank of Air Commodore. Since his earliest association with this station, Air Commodore G. S. O'Brien, AFC, has won the respect and admiration of every officer and airman who serves under him.

After service with the R.F.C. during the last World War, and continuing his active interest in aviation during the years of peace as test pilot and executive of a large aircraft firm, it was inevitable that he should go on active service with the R.C.A.F. at the outbreak of war. A/C O'Brien has served as Commanding Officer of No. 1 T.S., Toronto; No. 16 SFTS, Hagersville; R.C.A.F. Personnel Reception Centre Overseas; the Repatriation Depot, and now Rockcliffe.

Always it has been the aim of our Commanding Officer to look after the welfare of his men. His lofty ideals; ability to instill morale; boundless friendliness; enthusiasm in his work; and unquestioned leadership have merited this heartily deserved promotion. Congratulations, sir!



Air Commodore G. S. O'Brien, AFC.

Flies London to Rockcliffe

We pricked up our ears as we heard the message crackling through the speaker in the Despatcher's Office of No. 12 Communications Squadron: "Montreal calling Rockcliffe . . . five miles west of Montreal at nine-thirty eight." Reporters standing near the telephones were enquiring about the expected time of arrival. "Should be here about 10:02" remarked F/O Broadley after making a rapid calculation.

The message soon swept through the large crowd of distinguished visitors who had gathered out on the tarmac to welcome Prime Minister MacKenzie King on his return from Great Britain, where he had attended the widely publicized conference of British Prime Ministers. There was an air of increasing expectancy as they anxiously watched the sky for the first sight or sound of the approaching aircraft.

Publicity Preparations

Cameramen from the National Film Board were busy making the final adjustments to their battery of lights. They wanted to get as close as possible to the spot where the giant plane would be parked to photograph the arrival. A C.B.C. commentator was testing his equipment for the recording of this event that would be broadcast over the national network. After making sure all was in good working order he proceeded to interview F/O Maynard, the despatcher, to get local colouring. Reporters from several newspapers and press associations were running to and fro to the telephones giving the latest gen to their waiting editors. Cars containing distinguished government officials continued to arrive. Almost the entire Cabinet was now on hand. A large group of members of Parliament, together with ranking officers of all three services had gathered. Airmen who had stood by for hours lined the apron to keep the crowds back. Group Captain O'Brian, the Commanding Officer, was busy greeting many.

Large Crowd on Hand

Soon there was the drone of motors, and after first circling the field at 10:05, the

aircraft made a wide sweep, and with a long low approach touched its wheels down and taxied in at 10:14. Colonel Ralston stepped forward to be the first to welcome the Prime Minister. Standing in the open doorway of the giant Liberator, Mr. King waved a hearty greeting to the large crowd which by this time had grown to about three hundred. Stepping out of the plane he shook hands with many of the Cabinet and then friends in the crowd surged forward to add their welcome. The Prime Minister appeared fairly fresh after his long trip. Flash bulbs went off from all sides as he endeavoured to make his way through the crowd to the Reception Room of the Communication Squadron, where a movie camera was grinding away as Mr. King broadcasted to the people of Canada.

When this was finished the Prime Minister went over to thank the members of his crew for their good work. "Thank you for a splendid trip," said Mr. King to Major Read of Bethesda, Md., United States army pilot of the Liberator on the flight to and from London. Then he posed for a photograph arm in arm with Major Read and Major Tilton of Ohio, the co-pilot, and Capt. William Hicks of New York, the Navigator.

Broadcasts from Comm. Squad

During his broadcast Mr. King said: "I return to Canada with a feeling of confidence in the ultimate success of the war—victory for the Allied forces greater than ever before." "It will be a long struggle, greater than we realize," warned the Prime Minister, "but the outcome is certain. While I was in Britain I received the impression that everything possible has been done for the success of the Allied forces, and in the great events now pending the Allied forces are sure of victory."

"Say, Zeke, when are you going to marry Eliza Jane? You know you been goin' round with her for 20 years."

"Don't rush me, Peppy, I want to make sure she isn't a passing fancy."

I believe that this war, with the immeasurable evil it has brought in its train, has done one good thing to us. It has restored our moral purpose, our belief in ourselves. We have learned, I hope, that peace is something that must be won and worked for and paid for. We have learned that past heroism is only valuable if linked to present courage, that ideas dis-

regard frontiers, that unemployment or war in one country brings unemployment or war in others, that peace requires endurance, sacrifice, and vigilance as much as war. Even after the victory there can be no easy road from war to peace.

ANTHONY EDEN,
British Foreign Secretary.

FLIES LONDON TO ROCKCLIFFE

At the right Prime Minister King is greeted upon his return from England by A/V/M Curtiss. Directly below Mr. King is seen broadcasting to the Canadian people from the Reception Room of No. 12 Communications Squadron. Colonel Ralston, the Minister of Defence, is shown at lower right welcoming Mr. King as he stands in front of the *Liberator* at Rockcliffe station.

(Photos: Courtesy National Film Board)

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Sparkling Performance by U.S. Band

Under the leadership of Capt. A. Heiberg, the head of all music for the United States armed forces, the U.S. Army Air Force Band visited Rockcliffe during their recent good will tour in connection with the Sixth Victory Loan. This outstanding aggregation of noted American musicians is regarded as one of the finest military bands in the world. Their performances while here at Ottawa amply justified the rave reviews they received throughout their tour.

Travel by Air

Travelling in five large Douglas aircraft, perhaps the first time in history that a band has accomplished such a feat—they reached Rockcliffe air port shortly after eleven o'clock. Welcomed by the Commanding Officer, as well as officials from A.F.H.Q., the bandsmen were greeted by the playing of our own R.C.A.F. band as they alighted from the aircraft.

Popular Performance

The Station Drill Hall was crammed to capacity to hear a noon hour concert by the

visitors. Capt. George Howard directed his men in masterly fashion. The versatility of the group was evident throughout as they ran the musical gamut from Tschaikowsky, Strauss to Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and a medley of popular airs. The latter were arranged by Pvt. Beitel, famous for his arrangements of hit tunes used on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade. The hundreds of airmen present were thrilled with the excellent program so well done.

Top Players Featured

The ninety artists who comprise this noted musical group were selected after more than eight hundred had been given auditions. These include representatives from thirty-two symphony orchestras, and thirty-eight "name" bands.

The U.S. Army Air Force Band is featured over the N.B.C. network every Wednesday night. It has travelled thousands of miles on tour, and has played before royalty from many countries.

Crosswinds Monthly Contest

\$5.00 Prize

Story, Article, or Poem

Send Contributions to Chapel

Around the World with the Mail Squadron

One of the best boosters of soldier morale is mail. There is nothing like getting a letter from home to give a fellow a real lift when he's thousands of miles from home. The "Flying Postmen" of the R.C.A.F., who are operating the mail service for the armed forces overseas, are seeing to it that their cargoes reach the men on all the fighting fronts without undue delay. There have been several instances reported where men have received mail from home in much less than 48 hours after its departure.

The crews who do this important job have their work cut out for them. They fly through all kinds of weather maintaining

this service throughout all the year. They have to go unarmed over enemy held territory, and are subject to all the hazards of their comrades flying on operations. Most of these men are veterans of the airlines and they love to fly.

Even this arduous work is not without its play. Talking a while ago to one of the crew members he said that one day he had been swimming at the Azores, the next he was playing tennis at Cairo, the following he was golfing in Scotland, then finally back doing a bit of ice skating in Canada. These fellows sure do get around, and all in a good cause.

S/L Lewis engineering officer of the Heavy Transport Squadron watches LAC Freemantle as he paints the fifth mail bag on one of the Flying Forts that has just completed another trip with the mail to troops overseas. LAC Murray is in the background.

At the left below the long arm of the law in the person of Sgt. Harrison takes a hold of F/L D. Ritzel at Redford, England. Hopping over to the Azores we find one of the crews gathered in front of their tent: Cpl. A. Spring, F/O G. Williams, WO H. Fielding and F/L D. Ritzel. It was in one of these tents that P.M. King breakfasted on his return trip from England. At the right another extreme in temperature is found with a group of the R.A.F. Ferry Command gathered in front of the barracks at Goose Bay with the temperature at 40 below zero.

(Photos by F/O Williams and Sgt. Prophet)

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THE TELEPHONE GIRL

The Telephone Girl sits in her chair
And listens to voices from everywhere.
She knows all our troubles, she knows all our joys,
She knows all the girls who are calling the boys.
She knows all our worries, she knows all our strife,
She knows every man who is mean to his wife.
She knows who is happy, and who had the blues,
And who has the habit of hitting the booze.

If the telephone Girl was to tell all she knew,
She could have the whole station in a
of a stew.

She could start a small wind that would soon
start a gale.

She could make people cry and even make a
few wail.

She could make a few people start tearing
their hair,

And create several ghosts from out of
nowhere.

In fact there's a secret 'neath each saucy curl
Of that quiet, demure little Telephone Girl.

D.S.

At one of those very fortunate stations where the bus-stop to the nearest town is just outside the main picket, a group of airmen were in some sort of ragged queue which got a trifle agitated at the approach of the hourly bus. The weaker were in danger of being elbowed to the back when the corporal S.P. on the gate decided to take a hand.

"Come along, you blokes," he bawled, "Let's 'ave same discipline 'ere; tallest at the front and shortest at the back!"

D. L. in the R.A.F. Journal

"Young man, I understand that you have made advances to my daughter."

"Yes, sir, I wasn't going to say anything about it, but now that you have, I wish you could get her to pay me back."

Officer (to man pacing the sidewalk at 3 o'clock in the morning): "What are you doing here?"

Gentleman: "I forgot my key, officer, and I'm waiting for my children to come home and let me in."

Cartoons by Hunt



Well—don't be in so much of a hurry
next time, that's all!!



"He wants to know if we are almost through
with the session so he can go to sleep?!"

W.D. Chatter

"They called her a Frivolous Gal" (sung to the tune of aeroplane motors and the twang of the taut strings of an opened Parachute)—and down fluttered "Susy" in her best W.D. Blue issue uniform . . . out of a T & D plane . . . and into space . . . the first W.D. to make a test jump . . . Rockcliffe's own brave airwoman.

There was no sign of fear on her cotton dummy face, and she tossed a wide painted adhesive smile back at the spectators, as she leapt out of the aircraft doors. Many of her fellow service personnel were on hand when she plopped to earth with great shakes of her sawdust interior; some were unkind enough to refer to her as a 'dummy', but under her W.D. jacket we swear rests the real spirit of the Rockcliffe gals. Here's to Susy . . . the jumping lass . . . and to another 'First' for our illustrious airwomen.

Sorry that we cannot claim a first for the W.D. Officers' and Sergeants' team in the Softball league. To them a "south paw" is the rear foot of an animal pointing north-east, and a fly is something that one swats at with a rolled newspaper; . . . however, everyone knows that the umpire favoured? the Photo Section . . . certainly the verbal battle over this was faster than the ball, and held more excitement than a home run for the spectators.

The cry of "Batter up" found an answer in 9 W.D. teams entered in the Inter-unit league. Photo Flashes are pitching some fast ones over the home plate, but the chefs and the messwomen are really knocking them out in the field, so it promises to be a well contested league. A bow to our station team because they won the first game of the Inter-Service league against the C.W.A.C's.

Along with the cry of "Batter up" in the wind we have the scent of many flowers, all most carefully planted along cottage walks . . . around the W.D. canteen, and in flower boxes. In line with Mr. Churchill it was a case of "Give us the tools and we'll complete the job" . . . but, the tools consisted of sticks for plowing, smuggled whitewash for stones, and scrounged nameless seeds

that promise to blossom in mystery, and burst forth in uneven rows of clashing colours.

The same wind to the South of us blew in the first 44 W.D. recruits last week, and it is with pleasure that we see No. 7 Manning Depot being reopened to receive them. Like good neighbours we have hung over the back fence to watch then shaking the dust out of windows, moving back the Equipment, and sweeping the path that connects Upper and Lower Rockcliffe (a good path, very well traversed, and one that links the two W.D. units firmly together). Hail! to the Manning Depot, we are glad to see you back with the Spring to Rockcliffe.

Picnic time along the banks of the "Ottawa", and droves of fruit flies enjoyed the hard boiled eggs that the Chets and Messwomen took along in their 24th of May hamper. Cpl. Sargonia garnered a bus, purloined sandwiches, gathered up the airwomen and planned a lovely day for the Mess Staff. Cpl. Fullerton has an outing planned for the airwomen of Control Tower, and many other sections are bent on gamboling on a distant green, near cool waters.

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD (since like all station secrets it has travelled in and out of every feminine ear in the camp) . . . six W.D's. went overseas, and we wish good luck to Sergeant Hillis, Corporal Whitney, AW W. I. Brown, AW H. MacDonald, AW Barton, AW Landry. This is one occasion when pounding a typewriter spelled adventure, all the postings were for clerks, and it has caused the 'fingers' left behind on the Rockcliffe 'Keys' to fly much faster in anticipation of more postings coming in.

The postings in brought us S/O Bachelor, the new Adjutant of the Photo Wing, and A/S/O Porter who is to assist Fit/O Chandler in the whipping up of Rockcliffe's good food. . . . Fit/O Bie has just returned from a six weeks' course at Trenton . . . plus an administrative course, and minus a front tooth. . . Did you have to go at that precise "Tooth and Nail" Fit/O Bie? . . . but we are mighty pleased to see you back "in part" or otherwise.

Communique from Communications

Matching Nature's latest Season, Comm Squadron has donned summer dress and become a beehive of activity promising to surpass our recent busy and successful Spring and Winter schedules. Evidence of this is the number of aircraft to be seen on the runways and at the Passenger Station these sunny days, bearing Very Important People on missions of significance, prominent among whom are many distinguished visitors from south of the border and many Canadians of high rank. Outstanding among the latter is the Prime Minister, Mr. King, to whom it was the squadron's privilege recently to play host on his departure and subsequent safe arrival from conferences overseas. Many friends and associates were on hand to see the chief statesman set out, and later make a safe return from a long and hazardous flight across the Ocean, creating a scene not soon to be forgotten, with Newsreel cameras grinding and recording the event for public display. It looks like a busy Summer, and even the Norsemen has traded its skis for pontoons preparatory to hard work.

The appearance of the horseshoe pitch beside the hangar heralds the arrival of Summer Sports, and has engaged the attention of the barnyard athletes of whom we point with pride to Corporal Johnston. Where did you learn that fancy "shoe", Johnny? The softball teams have swung into action, and in usual Comm fashion are setting the pace in both Major and Minor Leagues. Among the familiar faces is the effervescent Aurel Myre, supplying the comedy relief while playing a great game afield; good natured Jimmy Shields, the best pitcher and track star on the station; Eddie Miron, erstwhile hockey player at third base and Jerry Code behind the plate. F/S Toby Carisse at the keystone for the Minors is a picture in action, throwing his not inconsiderable weight into every play. Station teams, softball and baseball, have an excellent representation from 12 Comm and with the doughty Flight McArdle coaching the soccer team we expect to see another winner, having already tied Ottawa United, perennial champs, and beaten Uplands in the first two encounters of the season. In the newly

formed Borden Ball league, Communications displayed its ability by winning over Photo School 6-4. Golf enthusiasts are emerging from their winter shelter and led by F/O Maynard and Corp. Foster are beating a path to their favourite courses after work these nights. How about that lovely big score on the 24th, F/S Sheine? A bridge tournament in the near future to settle the question of who is champ would seem to be an excellent idea. Who will sponsor same? There will certainly be no dearth of competitors.

Congratulations and good luck to the newlywed Halsteads; the marriage ceremony was a recent event at the Station Chapel and many friends were present; as were also at the lovely wedding of Sgt. Jimmy Brown and Corporal Helen Ries last month. Orchids to the Mrs. Jenkins, Jackson and Mager for presenting those lovely daughters to your proud husbands, and to Mrs. Raynard for bestowing a husky son on a happy father. Speaking of additions to the family, Sgt. Lee, our new discip., is a regular guy and has won popularity while doing a very tough job. Welcome to the squadron, sergeant. Sgt. Cook is awaiting posting to Air-crew training; best of luck Cookie. Good luck also to those six riggers, LAC's McNaughton, Faggiolo, Martin, Snider, Hopkins and Stephen, on your overseas postings. We'll miss you.

Corporal McElligott continues to round up blood donors regularly, keeping the Squadron at the top of the list with well over 100 contributors making regular donations; with his Honour Roll keeping tab we are giving other units a mark to shoot at in a very worthwhile cause.

The first Summer dance for squadron personnel will be forthcoming in a couple of weeks, and judging from past experiences it will be a party NOT to be missed, and we'll see you there.

"Do you love me, darling?"

"You know I do, Harry."

"Harry? My name's Sam."

"Of course! I keep thinking today is Monday."

Station Personalities

F/O Graham at left and F/O Maynard at right are the two popular despatchers of No. 12 Communications Squadron.

F/O Graham, a commercial traveller in civilian life, joined the service at Toronto in 1941. At present he makes his home in Ottawa. Since graduating from the Honor Commerce and Finance course at U. of T. his main business has been to sell service to the public. This comes in handy in a despatcher's job.

F/O Bill Maynard served as a staff pilot at both Mountain View station and with No. 12 before assuming his present duties. He makes his home in Toronto where his wife and child are at present residing. After three years of service with the R.C.A.F. F/O Maynard knows the answers, and handling movements of aircraft is his specialty.



With nineteen years of experience in the banking business F/O Jim Wright (of Pay and Accounts) is well able to hand out the cash on pay parades. He has seen service on many stations since enlistment in 1940. Hailing from Regina, Sask., he now calls Montreal home.

Sgt. Ellen King of the Service Police is a product of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her secret ambition is to be T.O.S. at Rockcliffe as she is now completing 10 months here on temporary duty. Vivacious and versatile, Sgt. King has the reputation of being well known to all station personnel.

Cpl. Bob Gibb is the busy circulation Manager of Crosswinds. With his wife Peggy working in Equipment Accounts, he has doubly enjoyed his work as an auditor in the Pay and Accounts office. Cpl. Gibb's untiring efforts have made a great contribution to the success of this magazine.

(Photos by Cpl. Stan Brads and Sgt. Jim Prophet)

Night Flight

This is a story of the air—not of R.C.A.F. personnel but of a man who is closely associated with the Force, and has been ferrying aircraft overseas since early in the War. Capt. Louis Bisson, of Ferry Command, told this story on himself some years before the War.

A likeable, roguish sort of chap from Hull, Louis Bisson was, at that time, a pilot for the Roman Catholic church with a fleet consisting of one Waco biplane. His duties carried him up and down the Mackenzie River Valley in the North, over the barren lands and into the isolated outposts. But it is not of adventures in the North that we write—this incident occurred at New York City.

With Bishop Breynat, O.M.I., as passenger, pilot Bisson left Albany, New York, late in the afternoon on the last lap of a flight from the West. Unfortunately, there was some slight mix-up in the time-change from west to east and, instead of arriving over New York at sunset, the plane reached there in the dark. In this modern age such a situation isn't too bad—but Bisson had no idea where to look for an airport, nor any radio on board with which to make enquiries.

New York at night presents a beautiful sight from the air, with its millions of twinkling lights dotting the ground for miles. However, the occupants of the Waco, lost and with gas dwindling, were more interested in finding a place to "sit-down".

After circling for a few minutes, Pilot Bisson spotted a string of lights along an apparent runway and nosed his craft down to investigate. Brooklyn Bridge, however, offered little in the way of landing facilities, so he climbed back into the dark sky and tried again. Several times he made passes at likely looking thoroughfares, but each time they turned out to be bridges or Avenues.

Cruising around at a respectable altitude, Bisson was becoming somewhat anxious—he wanted the feel of ground under his wheels. Suddenly red and green lights flashed past the nose of his ship as an air-liner

swept majestically into the night. Not wasting a second, Bisson wheeled the Waco over and gunned her after the fast receding tail of the other aircraft. At the same time he prayed with all his heart that the liner was arriving at, not leaving, the City. Luck was with him for, after a few moments, the lights ahead slanted down and there, beneath his wings, was spread a perfectly adequate landing field.

The Waco circled just along enough for the liner to land and come to a stop, and then dropped swiftly after it, unaware of the instructions being radioed from the tower below. Its wheels touched smoothly, and the trip was over.

Washington (CNS)—The British have discovered a method of fighting mustard-gas burns with pills containing the gas itself, according to a report that has reached Washington.

The report asserts that volunteers who bared their forearms to the blistering action of the gas found its effects markedly lessened by taking the pills.

Burma (CNS)—Lt.-Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell was crouched in the bottom of a fragile Chinese river boat when it pulled up to a dock here. "Look at that poor man," said one of the native dock-workers. "He must be over 60."

Gen. Stilwell translated this conversation to his companions. "See," he remarked wryly, "you've got to take a lot of insults when you get to be my age."

Recently a fighter pilot we knew was best man at a wedding. A will-o-the-wisp in the air, grounded he's the clumsiest type you could meet and on this occasion he got himself tangled up in the bride's train, with disastrous consequences.

"That's the second train I've busted this week," he told us. "The other was on a siding in Northern France."

D. L. in the R.A.F. Journal

D-Day Dawns

JUST as we are going to press the invasion of Europe by the Allied Forces has been announced. The long awaited D-Day has arrived. Thousands of airborne and assault troops are pouring into France. The Allied air and naval forces completely dominate the vital sea and air lanes. Our land troops have made a magnificent initial endeavour. All leaders of the Allied Nations have called their peoples to prayer as they realize the tremendous sacrifices involved. The freedom of all mankind is at stake.

HERE at Rockcliffe the news swept through the station like wildfire. Ears are glued to radios for most recent news reports. It is the chief topic of conversation in every mess. Expressions of desire to be taking part in this "big show" are heard on every hand.

BY noon hour a special service of intercession had been arranged. Air Commodore O'Brian spoke briefly to more than two thousand personnel gathered on the Parade Square. The station Band played for the singing of "O God Our Help in Ages Past", while F/L Scott and F/L Howell, station chaplains, led the cast throng in a brief service of special prayers for the men "over there."

THIS is a solemn hour. A new intensity is evident everywhere. There is no doubt that the critical period of this war has come. Everyone is working with a renewed purpose. Both sleeves are rolled up. We feel at last we are about to deliver Herr Hitler the knockout blow. There is no better boost for morale than to know we are measuring ourselves with the enemy. It draws out the best that is in us.

THIS feeling of confidence and determination that we see in every airman and woman here at Rockcliffe is general throughout the country. It spells certain doom for the Axis.

R.C.A.F. Stage Show Returns After Tour

"All Clear" the sparkling R.C.A.F. variety show is back at Rockcliffe after a record breaking tour of some 90 Canadian and American Army, Navy and Air Force stations.

The trip throughout eastern United States and Canada was made by train, plane and boat. F/O Marshall reports that some 175,000 service personnel witnessed the show. It was received with the keenest enthusiasm everywhere, and was rated as one of the finest service shows ever to go on tour.

One of the highlights of the recent trip was at Goose Bay station where the nine W.D.'s of the cast were the sole females at a dance attended by some 400 airmen. The girls say it was swell—nothing like Ottawa's competition!

Believe it or not the wind at Newfoundland was so strong that it blew the show's baggage car right off the tracks. LAC Weaver, one of the versatile performers, said he wished it would blow him right home to Vancouver.

The cast is rather tired after an unbroken schedule which began last September 19. However, they still appear quite fit, and put plenty of zip into their performance at the Red Triangle Club, given immediately upon their return to the Capital city. Sgt. Goodman led small parties of the show in performances at station hospitals that brought gales of laughter and pleasure to the patients.

Included in the cast of "All Clear" are such popular performers as Sgt. Goodman, orchestra leader, Sgt. Burgess, dead pan comedian, and LAC Sicombe, magician, all of Toronto; Cpl. I. Ricknell, acrobatic dancer of Windsor; Cpl. Margo LeBlonde, comedienne of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan; and LAW Parker, ballad singer from Niagara Falls.

S/O Alice Fahrenholts of Elmira, Ontario, supervises the W.D.'s., while the entire show is under the efficient management of F/O Archie Marshall of Toronto.

A good woman inspires a man, a brilliant woman interests him, a beautiful woman fascinates him—the sympathetic woman gets him!

Summer Sports in Full Swing

Schedules have been drawn up for the coming months and the Sports Staff have an interesting programme lined up for sports enthusiasts. This covers baseball, softball (airmen and W.Ds.) soccer and Bordenball.

At the time of writing, the Station Softball team have won two and lost as many. The first game against No. 3 D. Depot resulted in a 14-2 decisive victory for Rockcliffe. Ted Davies had a no-run, no-hit game in his grasp until the seventh inning when darkness interfered and he walked four men, forcing in one run with the second one coming in on a wild throw. The Rockcliffe team ended the second game with R.C.E. at the small end of a 15-7 score (they claim it was poor umpiring?). The third game saw the C.P.C. triumph with a 13-4 score. On May 24 at our Station diamond our Station team defeated Rideau Military Hospital (not patients) by a 25-1 score.

The following comprise the team: Jerry Code, c; Norm Taylor, 1b; Chuck Appleton, 2b; Ed. Miron, 3b; Jerry Mohan, ss; Ted Davies and Andy Murray, p; Obie Obront, Doug Langille, Jimmy Sherwood, Jim Crothers and Harry Carson, outfielders.

The opening of the Women's Inter-Service Softball League took place on May 24th at this Station. Two games were played with Rockcliffe defeating No. 12 CWAC 20-16 and WRCNS taking No. 7 M.D. 30-9. Timmie Gunther hit a home run with two on, thereby contributing three for the winners in the fourth inning. Marj. Summerfield was a tower of strength for the W.Ds. and caught faultlessly to the sparkling pitching of Ino Middlemass.

At Hull Stadium the Inter-Provincial Baseball League holds games each Sunday afternoon, doubleheaders being the order of the day. Four teams make up the league



STATION SOFTBALL TEAM: Players Back Row: Code, Carrothers, Murray, Sgt. Silmer (manager), Henderson, Obront, and Taylor. Front Row: Langille, Miron, Davies, Sherwood, Mahon and Appleton. Sgt. King unofficial coach is at extreme right. (Photo by Cpl. Aubrey Doubleday)

and to date each team has played two games. The Rockcliffe Flyers lost their first game on opening day to Lauriers after a bitter 9 inning struggle. At the end of the seventh inning the score was tied 4 all. Lauriers forged ahead with 3 runs in the 9th for a final 7-4 score. The second game played on May 28th went the required seven innings and the Rockcliffe Flyers were victorious with a 7-5 score. The line-up for the Station Baseball Team is: Ed. Miron, ss; Jimmy Sherwood, cf; Benny D'Entremont, p & lf; Joe Pelky, 3b; Art O'Connor, c; Mac McElligot, 1b; Norm Taylor, rf; Joe Howard, 2b; Doug Langille, 1b; Benny Bennett, p; Bill Garvey, 1b.

The Station Soccer team have played four games so far in there league—losing 3 and tying 1. They have some very promising material on the team and with a little more practice will be right in there kicking.

The Inter-Unit Softball League is well under

way and has created considerable interest on the Station. Two Leagues, Major and Minor, have been organized with eight teams in each league and to date there has been no defaults. This has been made possible through the fine co-operation of the Unit representatives, and the players themselves.

Standing in the Inter-Unit Softball League is as follows:

Major League		Minor League	
	Points		Points
Band.....	4	No. 168.....	4
No. 12 Comm....	4	No. 12 Comm..	4
Flying Postmen...	2	Repats.....	2
Repats.....	2	W. & B.....	2
T. & D.....	2	S.P.....	2
Photo.....	1	H.O.....	0
A/C Mtce.....	1	T. & D.....	0
Navan.....	0	Sgts. Mess....	0

(Continued on page 19)



W.D. STATION SOFTBALL TEAM: Back Row left to right: Cpl. Moody, LAW Pooley, LAW Summer-Sold, LAW Taylor, Cpl. Latrielle (manager), and LAW's Hayter, Gunther and Robinson. Front Row left to right: LAW LaFleur, Cpl. Anthony, LAW O'Halloran, Cpl. Middlemass, LAW Kelly, and in the centre Cpl. Sanbury.

(Photo by Cpl. Audrey Doubleday)

The Gen from the Flats

Postings to and from T & D continued at a good rate last month and many familiar faces disappeared from the scene to be replaced with new personnel. Among those posted out were Sgts. W. F. Gribble and T. L. Hanson—the former to a lengthy course in Newark, N.J., U.S.A., while Sgt. Hanson is on his way to being a Flight Engineer. LAW C. G. Steele has moved uptown to No. 17 Equipment Depot, Victoria Island, while Cpl. "Pat" Whitney and LAC M. M. Campbell are on embarkation leave. Cpl. H. Lewis has been discharged on medical grounds while Cpl. "Bob" Crinean has been speeded on his way to join the U.S. Armed Forces. To "Lou"—good health and to "Bob"—good luck.

Former Unit personnel who made brief return visits were Sgt. "Don" Perkins and Cpl. "Bert" Sewell. R. L. Miller, formerly one of the boys in the Smoke Room, returned

with brand new "AG" badge, three hooks and Canada badges. Congrats and happy landings!

For sports and practice purposes, the Unit constructed a softball diamond, complete with back stop, in the field just west of the hangars. It is expected that many games will be played on it before the end of the summer.

Club T & D activities were somewhat curtailed during the transition from spring to summer. A Sunday picnic, planned to be held in the Gatineau Hills, was cancelled when no transportation could be obtained.

Landscaping and improvement of the ground surrounding T & D buildings was continued through the month, and every effort is being made to produce that "Spic and Span" effect, especially around the "White House".

(Continued on page 24)

COMING MOVIE ATTRACTIONS

AT PHOTO AUDITORIUM—2000 HOURS

<p>June 18 Phantom Lady</p>	<p>June 19 Around the World Key Keyser and Band Joan Davis, Mische Auer</p>	<p>June 22 Casablanca Humphrey Bogart Ingrid Bergman Paul Henreid</p>
<p>June 26 Purple Heart</p>	<p>Watch D.R.O.'s for Special Movies</p>	<p>June 29 The Gay Sisters Barbara Stanwyck George Brent</p>
<p>July 2 Calling Mr. Death</p>	<p>July 3 Mrs. Miniver Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon Richard Ney Theresa Wright</p>	<p>July 6 Now Voyager Bette Davis, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains</p>

Repat Repartee

Some unusual forms of humanity have been seen and are to be seen at this depot, but we believe that the fox that reported in on temporary duty tops them all. He presented his credentials about a week and a half ago, appearing first just outside our staff WD barracks, leading us to believe that possibly he was a wolf, and not a fox at all. However, he has made himself scarce since that first encounter, and while yours truly saw him the other night while en route to visit Moe the barber, it would seem that he has left in search of greener fields. Anyone seeing said fox is asked to inform him (or her) that his (or her) clearances are ready, and to see WO1 Sutherland before starting on the rounds.

A lot more of the Repats here are turning out for the sports events that are arranged for them, and with the advent of summer, more are taking part in the swimming sessions. As the transient number at the depot increases, the job of sports officer takes on greater significance. WO1 Ernie Goble assumes responsibilities of Sports Officer here, and in addition to doing a fine job of looking after sports arrangements for the Repats, Ernie has organized a staff baseball team. You should see our team some time, also our Ernie.

I thought it might be nice to introduce you to some of the members of our staff. A number of them have seen quite a bit of service at this unit. Take Sgt. Bea Johnstone for instance. Bea has been with the Repat Depot for over two years now. A Westerner, Bea's home is in Coderre, Sask. She took business and commercial courses in Regina, and upon completion of these enlisted in the R.C.A.F. WDs. She's one of the originals at the Repat Depot, and only F/S Laframboise and Sgt. Linton have outdone her in time spent on the station. She's in charge of the Central Registry, and does a fine job of looking after the various duties that this position entails.

F/O D. S. Smart, DFC, who is a comparatively new member of the staff, is an Ottawan. He enlisted in the air Force practically at the outbreak of war. Proceeding Overseas as a

Sergeant in Jan. 1941, he completed a tour as an NCO. Upon receiving his commission in July, 1942, he completed another tour of "Ops" as an officer. With 56 operational flights to his credit, he now works with F/L Adams on the incoming drafts. He was awarded the DFC for "pulling thru a couple of close ones" . . . the most that can be coaxed out of him.

A while back a dog and a monkey passed through this depot, repatriated for special Haircrew leave. They're away on leave right now, no doubt basking in the sunshine of their home towns. Another notable figure of the fourlegged variety, whom you might have seen was W/C Hutch, a fluffy little bundle of fur who has been on ops. He has the proper insignia markings on his collar, which also shows off his CVSM and Maple Leaf. I miss having him come into the Admin. Bldg. to rub his little nose up against my leg. Must check his docs some time to see where he was posted, and send him a bone, wrapped in a copy of Crosswinds.

With this thought in mind we shall say farewell until the next copy of this mag is passed over the counter to you. In the meantime, we shall say the furniture factory farewell . . . see you in the spring when the mattress wears thru.

SUMMER SPORTS IN FULL SWING—Continued

The Bordenball League is away to a successful start with seven teams competing. Competition so far is very keen. This is a new game and has been heartily endorsed by all participants. The A/C Mice. and No. 12 Comm. teams have chalked up 2 points each in this game at the expense of T. & D. and Photo.

The track and field team has been getting in shape for the various sports meets to take place this summer. This is under the supervision of F/O E. F. Bullis and F/O B. H. Maynard. It is expected that a strong team will represent this Station.

Headquarters Ramblings

Headquarters Squadron is represented in the Softball League by a team from the Admin. Bldg. They put one foot on the ladder of success but were promptly "knocked for a loop" by the Mail Squadron team 24-4 in the first game, however they improved in the second game dropping it to the S.Ps. 14-9. With more practice and a few changes in the lineup they should make a fair showing during the rest of the schedule.

F/Sgt. Jack Keay of the Service Police was posted overseas in May and all our best wishes go with him. His brother LAC Mel Keay is also on his way with the Entertainment Group.

Sgt. Margaret Hillis of Bomber Rec. School and LAW Helen MacDonald, are also tagged "over" along with F/Sgt. Haddow of the Stn. Orderly Room. In Flight Haddow's place we welcome Flight Rodgers from T.T.S. St. Thomas.

To the Pay Office comes WO2 Frank Burch from 9 R.D. St. Johns. To a welcome we add congratulations as he has just become a father.

To Equipment Accts. came F/Sgt. Tipple to replace F/Sgt. Patterson who wended his way to Dunnville.

S/L. H. E. Renaud former O.C. of H.O. Sqdn. and A.A.O. has gone to 9 B. & G. Everyone wishes him every success in his new surroundings.

F/Sgt. A. L. Froment has taken over the other ranks mess having come from Dartmouth to replace F/Sgt. H. J. O. Lalonde who has returned to his old post at 7 MD.

With permission of R.C.A.F. Station, Dartmouth, we reprint the following: The local bus company recently received the following letter from a disgruntled rider living at the R.C.A.F. Station, Dartmouth:

Gentlemen:

I have been riding on your busses for the past two years and the service seems to be getting worse every day. I think the transportation you offer is worse than that enjoyed by the people of 1,000 years ago.

Yours very truly,

P/O ERK, I.R.

Reply from the local bus company:

Dear Sir:

We received your letter and believe you are somewhat confused in your history. The only transportation of 1,000 years ago was on foot.

Yours very truly,

LOCAL BUS CO.

Reply of disgruntled airman:

Gentlemen:

I am in receipt of your letter of May 1st, and I think you are the one who is confused in your history. If you read the Bible, Book of Judges, 9th book, you will find that Balaam rode into town on his ass. That, gentlemen, is something I haven't been able to do on your busses in the past six or seven months.

Yours very truly,

P/O ERK, I.R.

Cartoons by Callaghan



Just as I was nicely on my feet!

Chaplains' Columns

CHRISTIAN OPTIMISM

One of the most noticeable things to emerge out of these years of war—a thing which can be easily seen by discerning men and women, is the development of two types of character which are diametrically opposed. I am referring to the optimist and the pessimist. Of course we have always had these people with us and always will, but in a time of national danger when we are receiving news, good or bad, day by day, those types are more noticeable.

To the sensible man nothing is more irritating than the baseless optimism of the shallow thoughtless person who has never had the courage to face the awful tragedy of life on earth—the stern battle by which alone a man can retain faith in a good and loving God, in spite of the blinding cruelty, suffering and pain which he sees around him.

This affliction of mankind, the cackling of "fools" is merely a defense mechanism to protect himself from the painful process of thought. It is fully exposed in the Book of Proverbs, and justifies the later definition of the optimist and pessimist. "An optimist is one who doesn't care what happens, as long as it doesn't happen to him. A pessimist is one who has lived with an optimist."

There is a rational basis for optimism in the man of cheerful disposition to make the best of life, and a God implanted Faith that good will ultimately triumph over evil. Christian optimism is based in a firm belief in the goodness and love of God in spite of appearances which seem to the contrary.

F/L L. C. HOWELL,

Station Chaplain (P)

EMPIRE DAY MUSINGS OF A CANADIAN

In my boyhood it was a great day: a day of unpunished noise making when thundering fire-crackers would be bought for a few cents. I did not know then what it was all about. But today as I listened to the radio-recording of the noisy clash of armies on the Italian front, as I thrilled at the heroic advance of the Canadian soldiers, French and English fighting side by side, deep down in my heart Empire Day took on a new and inspiring significance.

As a priest I belong to no one people, nation or race: I am dedicated to the spiritual welfare of mankind. But as a man, I was born in a country; I am subject to its Government, bound by its laws, inspired with its hopes, proud of its achievements and ashamed of its possible deficiencies. Thus did Saint Paul who proclaimed himself to be the apostle of all nations and races boast of being a Jew and of the best and most faithful. But I feel that I can hear an unmistakable note of pride too in his claim that not by purchase but by birth did he enjoy citizenship in the Roman Empire, though he was well aware of its corruptness.

No mystery there! It is all explained by the historical principle discovered by Saint Augustine: like individuals, nations as such deserve a reward for the good they do; but as there is no after-life for them, they are rewarded on earth through increased prosperity.

The Roman Empire has gone the way of all flesh and of all Empires. But the last century-and-a-half has witnessed the expansion of another Empire of which I am a citizen and with more cause than the Apostle I may feel proud of this birthright for though it has not been without its faults, the good done has of necessity surpassed immeasurably the bad, and I like to think that her standing alone in the face of the enemies of civilization is one of the rewards granted by God to the British Empire. May she deserve always to live forever!

J. M. BELANGER, F/L,

Station Chaplain (R.C.)

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The Hospital Talks Back

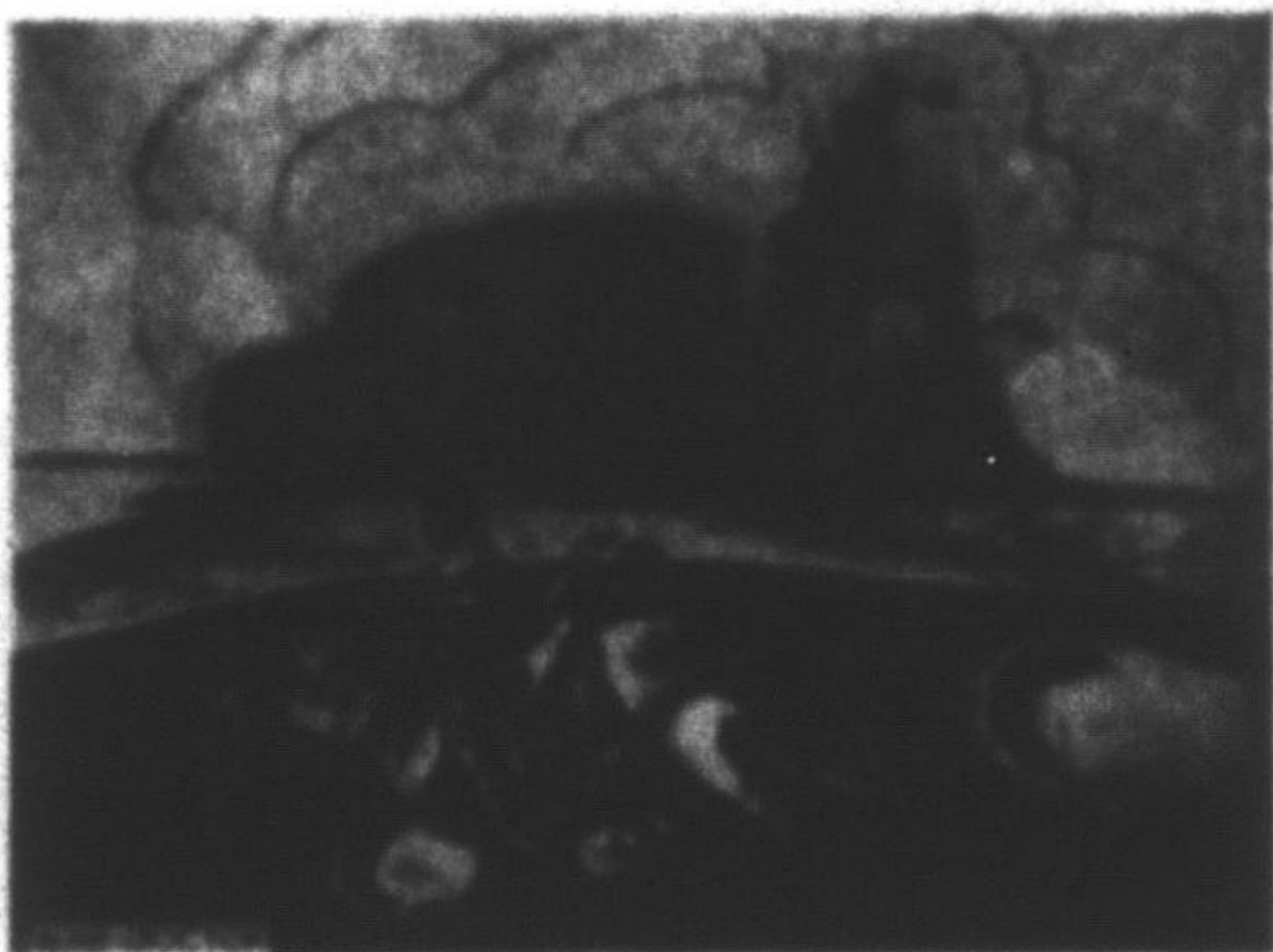
Scalpel Scrapings

The hospital was fortunate in receiving a number of donations in the past month. The Women's Canadian Club of Ottawa generously sent out seven dozen potted plants which have made a cheerful show in the wards and hallways. The RCAF Officers' Wives Association donated lawn furniture, as did the Officers' Mess and the Citizens War Services Committee. The staff have had a lot of fun painting the furniture and the patients are enjoying the added comfort it provides out of doors.

WO1 Richardson, F/S Graham, Sgt. Roche and AW1 Maxwell have the victory gardens and flower gardens well in hand. We expect to obtain a good supply of fresh vegetables throughout the summer. One of the ever-greens which was transplanted from the woods to the side entrance of the hospital was found to have a nest with two eggs in it. The bird is apparently not much disturbed by the move or by the numbers who pass her nest going on sick parade, for she has hatched the eggs successfully.

F/L O. B. Millar, well known on the station as a sportsman, has been posted in the past month to W.A.C. where he will be Consultant Radiologist in Vancouver.

N/S E. Hadwicke, a graduate of the U.S. Air Ambulance School, left for No. 1 C.N.S. Rivers, a few weeks ago. She was replaced here by N/S Sarah Lack who has



"Must be one of those native lawyers."

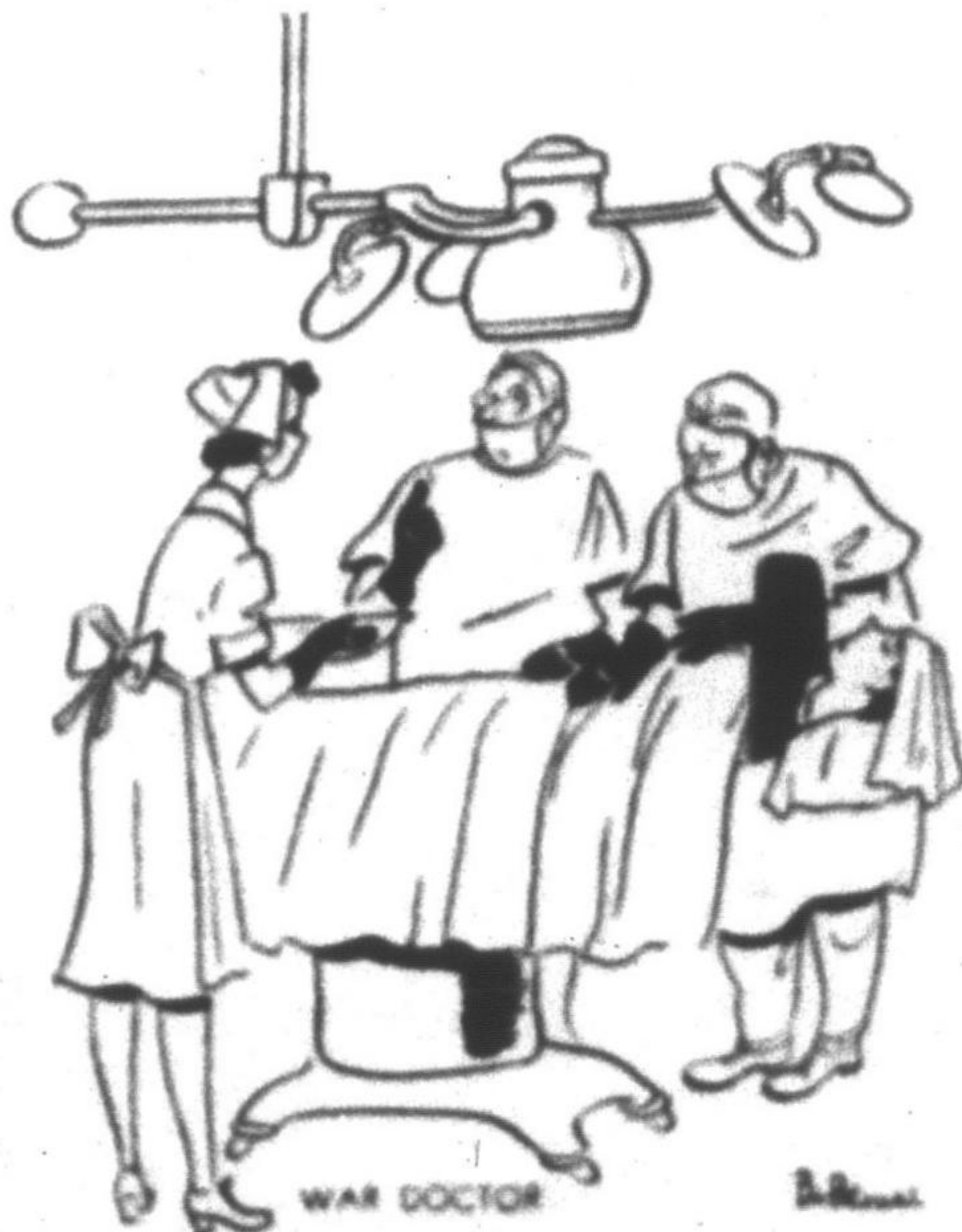
also trained as an Air Ambulance nurse and recently served at Gander. N/S M. K. Collings from P.E.I., has joined our staff on posting from Goose Bay. N/S G. Williams of Portage La Prairie, a graduate of the Winnipeg General, arrived recently from Dartmouth. Sgt. Mary Keays of London, Ont., is a recent Hospital Assistant arrival from T.T.S. St. Thomas. Sgt. Keays will shortly conduct courses in First Aid for Station personnel.

Cpl. Zenith Baby, whose home is Cherrill, Alta., has come to us from the Officers' Mess staff. She will remuster to Hospital Assistant after a short period of contact training.

Cpl. Jeanne Grand'maitre from Hull is a new addition to our Kitchen Staff, and has been in the RCAF (WD) since October, 1941.

LAW Myrtle Yonkers was recently moved to the main hospital from No. 7 M.D. She is also from Alberta; Leduc to be exact.

LAW Vangie Perry from Saint John, N.B., has also come from No. 7 M.D. Hospital lately. Both of the above girls were members of the Second Precision Squad before becoming Hospital Assistants.



"Remind me, Miss Jones, to take some liver home for dinner!"

Dr. Snerd's Column

Rather more cries for help this month, but you can't overwork S/L Snerd. He won't let you.

Case No. 25

I note that Sgt. Avoir Dupois of our mess puts a vitamin tablet in his beer. Can you suggest why? WO2 Guzzle.

Answer: He is probably trying to build himself up while tearing himself down.

Case No. 26

My mother told me there is often a bushel of germs in a kiss. Is this true. AW2 A. Morus.

Answer: No, sometimes only a peck.

Case No. 27

Why do bagpipers always walk up and down when they are playing? Sgt. Groan.

Answer: They realize that it is harder to hit a moving target.

Case No. 28

A friend of mine overseas once had to crawl out on a wing to repair a damaged motor. Do you think this experience, if repeated, might injure his nerves? LAC Greesgun.

Answer: Not if he keeps the hangar doors closed.

Case No. 29

An AC2 in my flight is so sloppy he looks as if he "Lives" in his clothes. How can I improve him? WO1 S. Pickenspan.

Answer: Try getting him to take in boarders

Case No. 30

To save metal wouldn't it be a good idea to remove horses' shoes when they aren't working. AW1 Neigh.

Answer: They'd look pretty silly in carpet slippers.

Mail Squadron Hosts at Dance

A very successful dance was held in the Station Drill Hall with No. 168 Squadron personnel acting in the capacity of hosts.

We were very fortunate and indeed pleased to have as our guests our Commanding Officer, G/C G. S. O'Brian, AFC, Mrs. O'Brian and W/C E. W. Tyrrell-Beck, DSO, MC. G/C G. S. O'Brian was called upon to say a few words and gave a very inspiring speech. He outlined the functions of the Mail Squadron and stamped his approval on airmen having dances held at intervals so that station personnel may get acquainted with other units' personnel. The prizes for the various novelty dances were presented by the Commanding Officer. The prizes for the spot dances were won by Cpl. Johnson O. (T & D) and Mrs. Johnson, LAC R. Moisan (168) and Miss A. Belleau. A special Discip. call dance was held in which Sgt. O. Scheuneman, Master of Ceremonies, directed Cpl. Drybrough by Commands through the hall to the winners, Cpl. R. Baker (MT) and Miss L. Malone, who were located at the final stop.

A vote of thanks is given Sgt. J. Clark and his orchestra who played the enchanting music for the occasion. We are indebted to all those who helped in any way to making this dance one to be remembered.

Case No. 31

In post-war planning, I think we should make appendix operations cheap enough so anyone can afford them. Do you agree? F/L Slask.

Answer: Yes, what Canada needs is a good 5-cent scar.

Case No. 32

What makes unopened parachutes so dangerous? LAC Wyndcock.

Answer: It takes only one drop to kill a person.

Case No. 33

What is the usual effect of immersing the body in warm water. WO2 Scrub.

Answer: The doorbell rings.

Reinstatement Answers

- Q. If ex-service personnel wish to return to the position which they held prior to the war, is there any provision insuring their reinstatement?
- A. *The Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act was one of the first measures passed. Under this Act it is laid down that it is an employer's duty, if application is made, to reinstate ex-service personnel who were bona-fide employees for at least three months immediately prior to enlistment.*
- Q. Is this a blanket ruling or are there any exceptions?
- A. *Reasonable safeguards, both for the employer and the employee, were made. For instance, if the ex-service personnel was hired in civil employment to replace a man who was already in the Services and the original employee in that position had applied for reinstatement, then the original employee has the preference.*
- Q. Are there any other regulations?
- A. *Yes. Steps of necessity had to be taken with regard to the possibility of changing economic conditions. For instance, an employer's business might be seriously jeopardized by the war and he might not be able to offer employment which was as good as, or better than, the situation the ex-service man left. In this case proceedings will not be taken against the employer under the Act if he offers employment under the best possible conditions and if he is not retaining someone else in the position that ex-service personnel left to enlist.*
- Q. Is seniority protected under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act?
- A. *Yes. Ex-service personnel employed in an industry where there are seniority rights must be reinstated with seniority for the period spent in the Services. If there are no seniority rights the employee must be re-engaged with preference according to the first date of employment and on terms no less favourable than would have prevailed had the period of employment not been interrupted by war service.*
- Q. What about disabled personnel under this Act?
- A. *If the employer can show that ex-service personnel are physically or mentally incapable of doing work which he has to offer, the Act does not apply.*
- Q. Is reinstatement in civil employment a permanent right or is there a time limit?
- A. *The onus is on the ex-service man to apply for reinstatement within three months after discharge from the forces or from hospital in Canada, or within four months of similar discharge overseas.*
- Q. Who administers this Act?
- A. *It is administered by the Department of Labor and cases of infractions may be reported to the nearest Employment and Selective Service office.*

THE GEN FROM THE FLATS

Continued

For the third successive time, T & D is sporting the pennant for receiving top score in the Victory Loan Drive. Despite close competition provided by other Units, T & D canvassers buckled down to the job and managed to end up ahead of the field. The three pennants for the fourth, fifth and sixth Victory Loan drives now grace the top of the main hangar, and are regarded with pride by all personnel. With an eye to the future, everyone is again salting away part of his pay so that still another pennant may be added to the array next November. However, it is not true that an effort is being made to have a battery of floodlights trained on the pennants during the hours of darkness.

In the statistical department, we find that AC.1 J. A. Jocas was married to Miss Denise Gagnon of Montreal—that LAC J. S. Blower became Daddy to a son—that Cpl. "Gord" Swarta is "expecting" and that F/O Dowell fathered a son and heir instead of a daughter as announced in the last issue.

AROUND THE STATION: AC1 Dumoulin holds one of the pups of the Fox family that are well known inhabitants of these parts. At right Group Captain O'Brian and Air Commodore McKell welcome officers in charge of the visiting U.S.A.A.F. Band. At centre left is a group of 188 Squadron taken during a break in their duties at Seattle, Washington. The station discip. staff including left to right LAC Aybar, F/S Crowe, WO2 Vesina, F/S Clark, and LAC Proulx are seen at centre right. Lower left shows a group at station ball game, and beside them the U.S.A.A.F. Band is shown playing at the Drill Hall.

(Photos by Cpl. Audrey Doubleday, LAC Tony Lacelle and Cpl. Stan. Brede)



Mail Squadron Jottings

I have just come back from the crewroom after trying to locate a member of one of our crews. Yes, he was here the day before yesterday. That reminds me he has probably left on the aircraft yesterday. This is just an indication as to the rapid movements that take place on such a short notice. With the runs on schedule he should be back next week. The rumour is that the only place you can't find them is in the crewroom.

Perhaps you have all noticed the increasing arrivals and departures of our Fortress aircraft. Most of the credit must go to our engineer officers, S/L W. H. Lewis and F/O J. F. Irvine, his assistants and the remarkable group of mechanical personnel of this Squadron. They work day and night and their only reward and consolation is that they are assuring their brothers in the service Overseas of a continual flow of mail. And it seems this is the only reward they want. At every take-off you will see them lining the tarmac, mentally helping the aircraft down the runway and into the air, swelling with pride as she climbs and turns to the East; not feeling the night's sleep they missed or thinking of double pay for overtime. "This is what you call morale," claims F/L J. W. Iredale, who is a member of the aircrew and fully realizes what it means to have efficient ground crew.

It is now our eighth month of operations and things are pretty well working on a permanent basis. Our Officer Commanding, W/C L. G. Fraser, DFC, has been Overseas and has flown over our whole route so as to have a first hand picture of any difficulties that may arise.

Promotions are as rare as Canadian beer in the U.K. explained one of the boys but the saying goes that you can't keep a good man down. We are glad to see the following rise in rank: WO1 for WO2 G. I. MacKenzie and WO2 J. Demaine; Sgt. for Cpl. J. A. Hunter and Cpl. E. F. Tredree; Cpl. for LAC J. N. Poulin, LAC W. Fairley and LAC A. Anderson. Best wishes to LAC S. Peholes who recently tied the knot. The following were endowed with additions to their family: F/S J. Kendrick and Cpl. W. LeBlanc. We bid farewell to LAW Devereaux, F/S Desjardins, Cpl. Luty and Sgt. Premeau who were posted and

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welcome Cpl. Martin, F/S Kellett, AW1 Rogers and AC2 Steinberg.

The thirty airmen that proceeded to Seattle for a special course have come back and are swinging their knowledge around in the same manner as hooks. We envy the boys that had the chance and give them credit for taking the break and making the best of it by studying while in Seattle. A letter was received from the Commanding Officer commenting on their fine behaviour and the excellent discipline they maintained.

HAVE YOU HEARD—Why F/S Ellison is so anxious to get Overseas—is there any string attached, Flight? We wonder if F/L Durnin told the boys the truth about "Scarlet O'Hara" and where she really came from. Is "Mary Louise" the one and only pin-up girl for this Squadron. Ask F/O Gowling or F/O Sharpe, the Squadron's "International Goodwill Ambassadors". What characteristic has the personnel got who answers to the name of "Curly". F/O H. B. Hillcoat, AFC AFM is credited with making a round trip in five days. We hear the boys had a great trip to the West Coast and that one Sgt. still hasn't got used to doing without a porter. What purchase created quite a commotion in the barracks at Seattle. What pair are known as the Burlesque twins. What Corporal figuring on an evening of inebriating and ended up by being loed to sell jelly beans for boy scouts. What two acted as farmers one evening. Where money is involved, anyone can become a herring-choker—is that right, Sgt. Hyrdman. What Sgt. brought back some unmentionables to a Cpl. W.D. The thirty boys were all out on a fishing trip while there and there are now some tall fish stories floating around the hangar. We can believe some of them as I saw actual pictures but don't let them get too big.

Rumour has it that the orchestra at the Capital Club is deteriorating now that they have lost their able leader who has returned from Overseas. Are bull-fights the most important events in Spain? For information on how to get to Spain in one easy lesson—contact F/O Niblo.

Note—All contributions for this column will be greatly appreciated by the undersigned.

Sgt. O. W. SCHEUNEMAN

Photo Wing News

Amongst many other changes, the name of No. 1 Photographic Centre has been changed to read No. 7 Photographic Wing.

Movement in and out of the Unit has been fast and furious during the last month. WO2 Frank Adair was posted to 6 R.D. Trenton with WO 1 Wilcox replacing him. F/O Doug Hodson reported from Winnipeg to take up duties as Technical Officer at P.R.F. He was formerly a WO1 on this station. LAC's Cornfield, Mizek and AC Pratt are very lucky and are proceeding Overseas. WO2 Ernie Bussiere went on Temporary Duty to the School of Administration for a course. S/L I. Hone is again assembling his Northern Survey Squadron for some work this Summer in the north. Old faces turning up for Course No. 15 in Simulated Bombing were Sgt. H. L. Gordon, Cpls. L. R. Ralston, P. E. J. Hillman, L. Ambler and LAW M. L. Wamboldt.

Congratulations to all those who got promotions on June 1st and laurels to the boys of P.R.F. who have worked so hard keeping their aircraft serviceable.

In the realm of sport, the AW's softball team, "Photo Flashes" is maintaining the lead for this Unit. They have won one game while all other teams have either had draws or lost. At an early date we were very unfortunate in losing the sports ability of Cpl. Frank Wansbrough when he broke his wrist while playing Bordenball. Tough luck, Frank! After some hard work by F/Sgt. Bill Hudson one horseshoe pit was built and immediately WO1 Ted Harper and F/Sgt. "Uchi" Craven went to work to determine who was the better pitcher. It came out a draw. A "Pee Wee" golf course was generously loaned the Section and so far F/L Bill Neale has taken top honours, setting 25 as par. With 4 hours per week P.T. and Games organized for all photographic personnel we expect to be able to field better practiced teams in the Inter-Unit leagues. Everybody is anxiously awaiting the starting day on our own Sports Field as we have lots of equipment, but no place to put it.

We have taken considerable pride in watching over a family of losses behind the

7 M.D. Notes

On Monday, we said farewell to the last table and the last chair, locked countless doors, and then said with a certain amount of regret: "Well, the Depot is now officially closed." On Wednesday, we were surrounded with thousands of E 42's trying frantically to regain all the equipment that had slipped through our fingers back to stores or into the hands of predatory vultures all around the camp. No. 7 Manning Depot had officially re-opened!

On the 15th of May the Depot once again started to function under the command of F/O E. M. Ward, and at the time of writing we are awaiting our first intake of recruits with the same breathless interest as must have prevailed at the opening of the Woodbine. During these two weeks we have scrubbed, painted, scrounged, laboured and organized—now, exhausted but undaunted, we are ready. Wish us luck!

PHOTO WING NEWS

Continued

section, but we were very dismayed when some unknown person or persons tried to smoke them out of house and home.

The Photographic "Full Moon Party" held at the Gatineau Country Club was voted a wonderful success by all who attended.

We know that when people leave the Station Dance to be sponsored by Photographic on June 27th, they will vote it the best yet as they will be very pleased with the entertainment arrangements which are being made. So come on, come all, and let's all have a wonderful time together.

Little Winnie had evidently been thinking hard as she sat on mother's knee before the fire. Presently she asked:

"Mother, why did you marry daddy?"

Mother looked at her sadly and sighed.

"So you've begun to wonder, too, have you?"

Bible Class Study Creates Interest

One of the newest activities on the station is designated as the Bible Study Class. Perhaps to most people the name in itself is not very attractive, but the fact is that each succeeding meeting of this group has seen an increase in the attendance. Started only a few weeks ago with the rather small number of six, it has grown until now the average attendance is approximately twenty. The Class meets every Wednesday night at 1900 hours in the YMCA Lounge Room upstairs in the Drill Hall. Even the warm summer evenings have not dulled the enthusiasm of those who come.

F/L J. Scott, the Senior Station Chaplain, is in charge. He states that great interest is manifested by the personnel who gather at these meetings. They want to know what practical applications of the teachings of the Holy Scriptures can be made to the problems

confronting young men and women to-day. Questions and comments are encouraged, and keen enthusiasm is evident. Such gatherings as these are not unlike the "Padre's Hour" which is now part of the program of the Canadian Army.

It is good to know that men and women in the service are concerned about understanding the great principles and precepts of the World's Best Seller. After all His Majesty the King commended the reading of this Book to all serving in the forces, to which he added: "For centuries the Bible has been a wholesome and strengthening influence in our national life, and it behoves us in these momentous days to turn with renewed faith to this Divine source of comfort and inspiration."

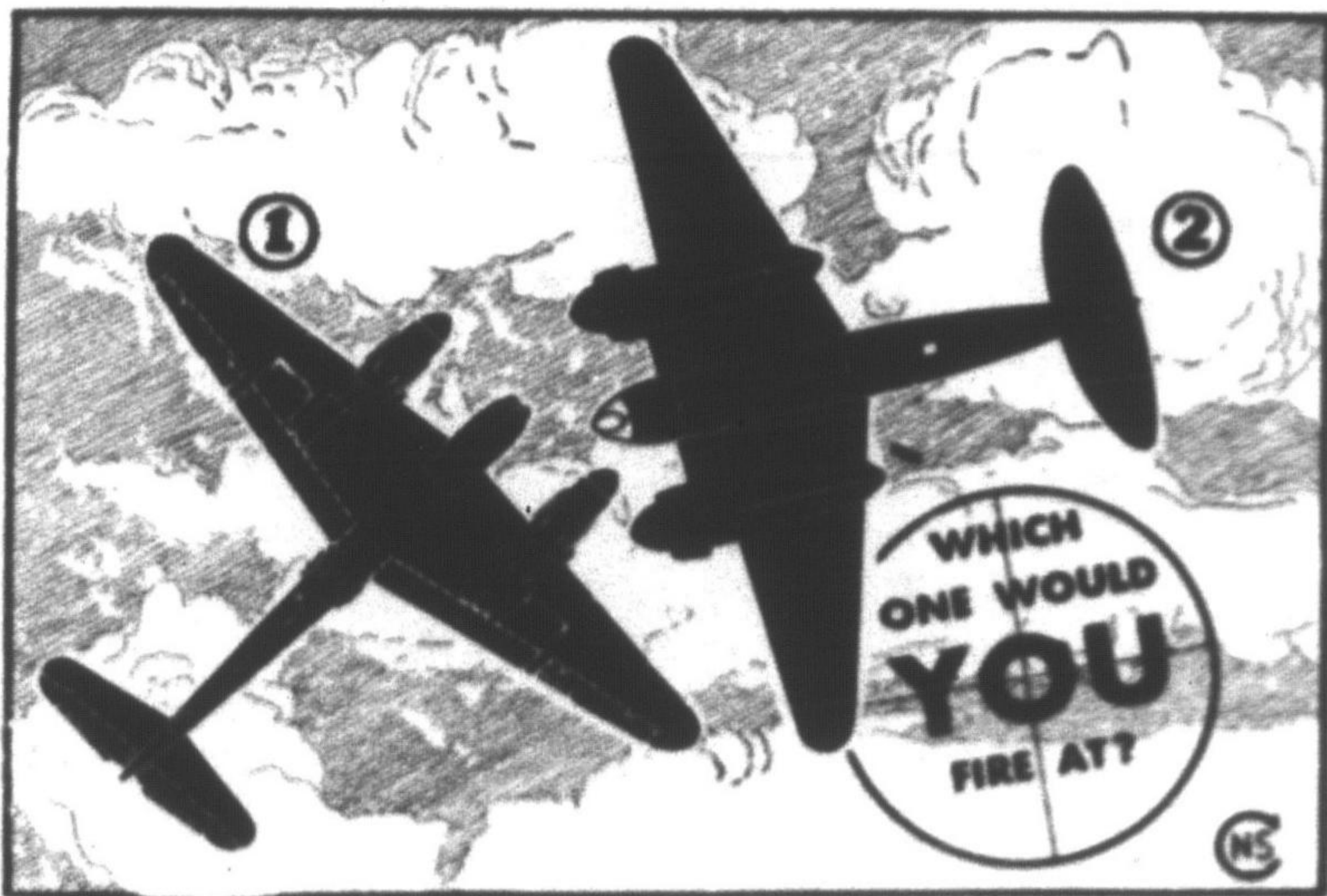
You are invited to drop around any Wednesday night at seven and pay a visit.

A representative group attending a recent meeting of the Bible Study Class is shown below. F/L Scott, padre in charge, is seen in centre of back row.

(Photo by Cpl. Audrey Doubleday)



How's Your A/C Rec?



See Answer on Page 31

Library Notes

Your station library has recently received no fewer than twenty-nine new books. They have a wide topical range. The religious, philosophical and psychological realms are represented by John Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress", well illustrated in full colour by Byam Shaw; the "Rubaiyat", a beautifully designed book with Persian cover and end papers with Edmund Dulac's illustrations lending colour to the whole; (there are biographical sketches of Fitzgerald and Omar in the book); and George W. Crane's "Psychology Applied". Fiction is represented by Mary Ellen Chase's "Windswept"; "The Clock Strikes 12", a mystery thriller by Patricia Wentworth; and, many of the Rockcliffe personnel will be pleased to hear, Henry Bellaman's "King's Row".

We get a glimpse into Lawrence's world in "Seven Pillars of Wisdom"; and Charles J. Holo tells us of the new Lawrence, Wingate of Burma, and the trouble he causes the Japanese in "Wingate's Raiders".

Many Present at Smoker

Under the kind permission of our Commanding Officer, G/C G. S. O'Brian, AFC, a Smoker was held in the Sergeants' Mess on May 19th.

The entertainment was provided by the Custer family who displayed great talent, both musical and dancing. Entertainment was later sought from the members present, and to the surprise of all, many were gifted beyond our imagination.

We enter the field of science in Paul de Kruif's well-known "Microbe Hunters".

There is an instructional book on art by Alan De's Bogored, "It's Fun to Draw". This latter goes into the branches of sketching and cartooning with a section on commercial art and it's necessary adjunct . . . lettering.

The above mentioned books as well as many others help to make the library a very interesting place to spend your off-duty hours.

L. G. H.

As I Always Say

As I always say—where does it git yuh? Brings to mind the mess a guy gits into when he aint careful to do some careful scrootinizing before he puts in his two cents worth when the boys is swapping lies over a couple cold ones down in the snake pit. It allus happens that that extra one you just got handed to yuh just loosens the tongue fer yuh to say—now when I was home in Hamville and useta pitch a purty fair curve—and my drop was no slouch neither. I can remember when we wuz playing off with Dill town for the champeenship etc. etc. ad nauseum. You hands out this sorta headcheese in gallon lots coz the boys sit around with a look on their pans like they actually believes yuh. So yuh go home that night figgerin cheez I guess I aint no conference hall fer lies. Next morning you walks into the hangar unsuspectinglike and then some bloke pops up from under a wasp junior or something and sez Hey! Mercedes! we's playing T & D tonight and we need a pitcher. We figger since you were so good in Hamville you'd pitch fer us. Before you can think up an excuse like Im sorry my wife's having twins tonight or something they got your name down. So you show up that evening on the diamond with as much confidence as a german in stalingrad. Natcherly you have trouble keeping track of the ball coz the oppuzishun insists in knocking it outa the park. So after they yank yuh in the first innings you sits on the bench racking your brains away to explain wot happened yuh between the time yuh lived in Hamville and when you arrived in the air farce. Course yuh could blame it on the easy life and the wunnerful food and the bootiful wimmin—did you say wimmin, Godfrey? Where?—or as I always say—where does it git yuh?

GEORGE

Did It Ever Happen to You?



How About You?

Would you like to win five dollars cash? Yes? Well here is an easy way to try for it. Each month Crosswinds awards a five dollar cash prize for the best short story, article or poem contributed by personnel of Rockcliffe station. Your effort may win the prize. Why not get your entry in now? This is your station magazine, and we need your contributions to make it a success. This contest is open to all.

Entries must be submitted not later than the twenty-fifth of each month. Send them to the Station Chapel. You could use that five dollars, couldn't you? Well then get busy, and give your literary talents a chance to adorn the pages of the finest station magazine in the R.C.A.F.

A/C Rec Answer

FIRE AT No. 1! It's the German Messerschmitt Me. 210, a low-wing, twin engine fighter-bomber. Both edges of the wings taper to rounded tips. There is a gun blister on each side of the fuselage. The tapered tailplane has rounded tips and a single fin and rudder. A new version of this plane, the Me. 410, has a similar silhouette.

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

Courtesy Dodd, Mead & Co., publishers
Aircraft Spotter by Lester Ott.

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Gatineau Sunset

Quiet now, except for voices softly falling,
And sudden, tinkling laughter on the evening breeze.
Across the rippling field a killdeer raises echoes,
And whispered gossip rustles through the clustered
trees.

The river's calm, impassive face reflects the crimson
Of sun-swept clouds which muster on the topmost peak
Of western hills. The sun, in majesty, sweeps onward,
And finally pauses 'mid their serried ranks to speak.

The stretching shadows, silent, reach their last objective,
The nodding trees are mute, their idle talking through.
The killdeer stills his vibrant cry and perches, waiting,
The sun's last rays search through the sky's translucent
blue.

A soothing breeze draws darkness out of eastern valleys,
And sighs, a benediction in the fading light.

A queenly moon sails through the cedar's sweeping
branches;

Below, a cricket's voice upraised proclaims the night.

-A.L.J.