

Crosswinds

December, 1944

A black and white photograph of a young man and woman holding a large sheet of paper. The man is on the left, looking towards the right. The woman is on the right, looking towards the camera. They are both wearing dark clothing. The paper they are holding is open, and the right page features the words "Silent Night" written in a highly decorative, calligraphic script. The background is dark and indistinct.

Silent
Night



CROSSWINDS

December, 1944

Published at RCAF Station, Rockcliffe, Ontario — "Show Station of the Nation"—under the authority of Air Commodore G. S. O'Brian, AFC, Commanding Officer.

Editor—LAC Charles Iliffe Dean.

Staff Cameraman—

LAC William Powell.

Staff Artists—

LAC Howie Hunt, LAC Stuart Callaghan.

War Correspondents—

Great Britain: LAC Jack Masters, RAF.

Sgt. Stan Mays, RCAF.

France: Sgt. Ron Laidlaw.

India: F/L Jack Scott.

Reporting Staff—

S/L. A. O. Lloyd, F/Sgt. O. W. Scheuneman, Sgt. W. J. Cross, Sgt. Tommy Fairbairn, Sgt. Ruth Bird, Cpl. Millie Evans, LAW Joyce Detweiler, AW1 Gladys Verity, LAC, G. H. Medland, AC1 Keith Howden, AC2 Bob Steele.

Entertainment—

Walter Shea, YMCA.

Circulation Manager—

Sgt. R. Gibb.

Crosswinds is distributed free to all Rockcliffe personnel on the mid-month pay parade. Extra copies at 10 cents may be obtained on pay parade or from Crosswinds Office in the Drill Hall. Subscription rates anywhere in Canada or Overseas, \$2.00 a year.

Press Room in Drill Hall Opposite Library

Telephone: 3-4041 Local 229

COMMANDING OFFICER'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

BY AIR COMMODORE G. S. O'BRIAN, AFC.

HERE is Christmas over us at Rockcliffe, and we cast our minds back to holly and mistletoe at home and snowy boots making puddles in church, and carols and bells and very tired children—maybe ourselves not so very long ago. Then we hung stockings, and mother was in supreme command around the kitchen, and father and uncle Bill had another glass of cordial, and everybody was glad.

We can't quite bring all those things out of the background of each of us into our Christmas here. Some of us will manage to get home, some of us will be in England, in France, in Italy, in Africa; one crew will be over the Atlantic, maybe one in Baffinland. Anyway, people of Rockcliffe wherever we are—and there'll be a whole lot of us right here on the Station—a Merry Christmas to us all.

Here, for our fifth old war-time Christmas let us sing in our hearts "*Peace on earth and good will towards men.*" Of course we don't see much of either of them with the war still going on, but we can't do much about it ourselves, especially on Christmas Day. So let us sing the old hymns and grin at Bill and wave at Mary, and knock back the plum pudding if we get any. Even the war is not going to dim the Star of Bethlehem we all have shining in our minds.

So from me a very happy Christmas to everybody of Rockcliffe, everywhere. My favourite little fellow of Charles Dickens had the right way of finishing: "*And so*", as Tiny Tim observed, "*God bless us everyone.*"

THE SILENT SLEEPER

To us from failing hands you threw the torch,

And hold it high we did, or so we thought.
But years soon passed; the trail you bravely blazed

Became obscured, your quarrel we forgot.

The larks still flew, and must have known that you

Were not asleep, but silent, watching lest
The light you gave had died, and darkness ruled

Undisputed o'er your place of rest.

The flame has been rekindled. We have come

To guard your gift of liberty bequeathed.
Where poppies grew now glows a richer red,
Our blood to blend with yours to safeguard peace.

Our race is run; we sink to rest, and fling
The torch to those who follow close behind,
The task is never done. To do our part
Our solemn pledge, and with our honour signed.

—A.L.T.

CROSSWINDS

December, 1944

SECURITY FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY?

In the early years of this war it was fairly easy to guess what service men discussed in barracks. Now, however, the main topic of conversation is rehabilitation and "What is the Government going to do for ME?" Following are extracts from a letter written by an LAC in Persia who has given a great deal of thought to post-war problems and his remarks are very timely.

"Dear Bruce: You asked me a few questions in your last letter which are going to take some answering. It's a big order but I'll do my best.

First of all—there are few Canadians out here—none that I have met, with the feeling that the world owes them a living for their efforts in this war, or for any other reason. The war is, for one thing, on such a colossal scale that individually to us our efforts seem fruitless; yet as a unified group, we are at least getting somewhere. The feeling is more that when we return, it's up to us to see that, through our efforts, the world can be made to produce what we require.

It's not much. The chief requirement is security. Security from future conflagrations such as this, that are burning out our youth, our mothers' hearts, our complete homes, and in some cases our morale. Security to have a wife and a home with the knowledge that tomorrow it won't be a heap of rubble with our family underneath it. Security in that if we work hard and well at our job—from our rich country we can supply that home with a standard of living that we know can be supplied.

It's just too damned bad that it took a Hitler and death and destruction to wake us up. I fear that there are too many people back home that do not realize what war, if brought to our country, would mean to them. Their neighbour's sons are spilling their blood over Berlin while they are whining about having to take a street car to work. If they could only realize that those same twenty-two year old boys have mothers and fathers, sweethearts and chums, prairies and mountains, snow and sunshine, that they are dying to see, and never believing until they are dying that they will not see them again;

then, those people would probably be of assistance to us in building our securities, instead of a rut inspired hindrance, which I am afraid they will be.

Granted, we have the biggest per capita war production of any country in the world. We are a rich country and we are a few in number. Why then, can't we have the biggest per capita peace production the world instead of twenty-percent of our populations solely dependent on government relief or government jobs? It can be done—we're proving it now.

We want to see that it is done—and we don't want to sign our names to any accomplishments as "last war veterans" but as "Canadians" that love the sweet soil that our homes are built on. This may sound like a lot of National Eyewash, Bruce, but I say this from the bottom of my heart. I love that big red patch on the map at the top of North America, and if anything happens to me out here, I'll haunt it.

You mentioned certain rehabilitation plans that were in progress, or should I say—the thinking stage. They sound grand, believe me. I'm in complete agreement with you Bruce, on the points that you have mentioned, but as you say, we require a broader and a more humane outlook. I would rather see a rehabilitation for everyone in a New Canada or North America than a plan just covering returned service men.

Until the benefits of our resources are available to everyone, benefits for returned men only is insecurity in its early stages. Our security depends on our neighbour's security. Why discriminate? Why offer benefits to us when the end product of those benefits is undermined by the insecurity of our neighbour's position? Why offer a university education plan to ex-servicemen? Why not offer it to all men and women physically and mentally capable of assimilating the knowledge?

Rehabilitation of a small minority of our population can lead to one thing only, and that is—an upset to any form of balance that we can scrape together after this war.

(Continued on page 4)

Crosswinds Wishes All It's Readers A Merry Christmas and A Very Happy New Year.

SECURITY FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY?

Granted, we will require certain things such as hospitalization, pensions, etc., but there are thousands like us, even if they didn't go to war, who will need it just as badly. A helping hand to one group and a cold shoulder to another isn't going to help our country.

If beneficial organizations in our Government can operate for small groups they could with a bit of expansion and a gearing of technique function as a national scheme and handle larger problems. The Beveridge Plan in England is an example of what can be figured out. There will be opposition from a lot of people and companies, and there will be a lot of bugs to be ironed out, but it's a shot in the right direction. Our old age pension scheme at present is scandalous for a country such as ours.

We are so wrapped up in our own little worlds that we can't see that others around us are suffering. Elderly men and women, after struggling all of their lives, to keep a good home and bring up their children as good citizens and a benefit to our country, are in most cases forced to bear the insult of an old age pension, such as we now offer. Are we so thoughtless and ruthless as to begrudge two old people ten years of comfort for the forty of fifty years of toil which they have put in, and which has helped to build our country? Their requirements are very small.

Every shortcoming of our Government, of our law, and of our institutions, is indirectly a flaw or weakness in the structure of our security. Some are near the top and are of minor importance, but others are rotting and festering away at the foundations of our security. They are the ones to be taken care of immediately or we are asking for trouble, as other countries of the world have asked for it and received it.

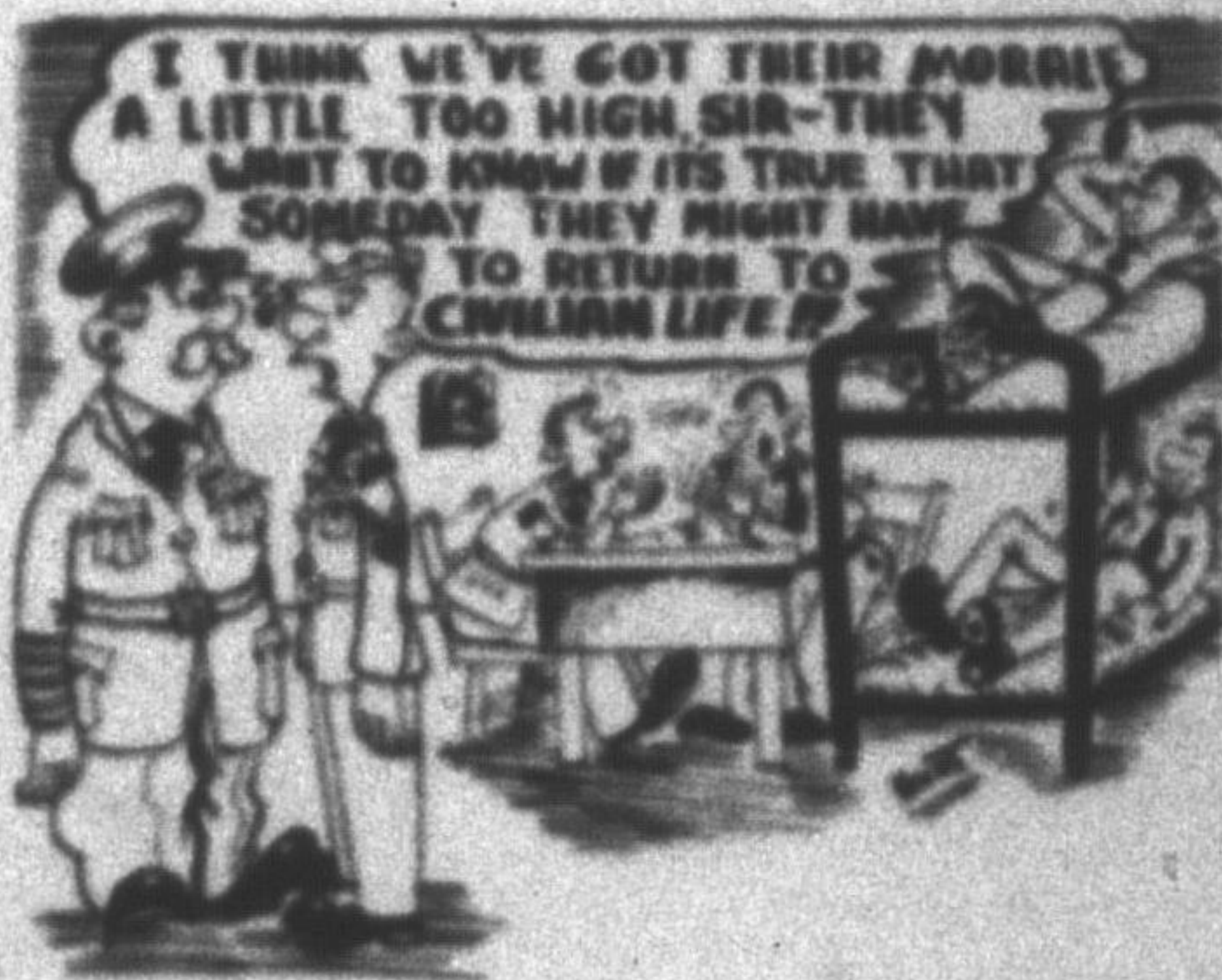
Basically speaking, all of our efforts are toward future security in one form or another. Why do people struggle to pay off a mortgage? To have the security of a home of their own for their old age. Why do people work hard to get a better job? Why do women, getting on in their twenties want to get married so desperately? Why do squirrels gather nuts in the fall? It all boils down to the same thing.

Now if those struggles could be assisted by removing the fears of expensive sickness, of old age poverty, of getting married on the proverbial shoe string, of lack of education, etc., etc.—how much happier and joyful life would be. The organization and control would be a big job, but we have the men, the brains and the resources to do the job and do it well. We can do it. It may necessitate the Government going into business, but why not? The thing is to do the

job while we have a Government, and not to wait until we get a revolution or a dictator.

Well, Bruce, I have been rambling gaily along and I hope that in a general way I have given you an idea of my views. We all know what's wrong and we are all willing to tell the next man what is wrong, but there are very few willing to go out and rectify the situation. It would be an easy job if everyone climbed out of their rut and tackled it the way they have their war effort. It wouldn't take long then.

Sincerely, Ralph."
(LAC R. G. SMYLLIE, R101100)



OUR FRONT COVER

AW1 Gloria Newman of Montreal, and AC2 Johnny Beveridge of Vancouver, B.C., portray the Christmas message recorded in the carol "Silent Night, Holy Night" beloved of all at this festive season.

Gloria (HQ, Steno. Pool) has had eight years experience in drama and specialized in Hawaiian dancing. Prior to enlistment she took part in army and navy shows, modeled for "College Junior", Malvern Sportswear, Magolia and Kerner, and posed for photos for Associated News.

Johnny worked in civilian life as a clothing salesman with Turpin Bros., of Vancouver, and later with Boeing Aircraft. At present he is busy with a photographic course at the School, as well as gaining practical experience at No. 7 Photo Wing.

Photo taken in the Station Chapel by LAC William Powell.

BOTH RIGHT

"Your husband seems to be a man of rare gifts."

"I'll say he is—He hasn't given me one since we were married."

A YEAR OF "CROSSWINDS"

With this issue of Crosswinds we celebrate the first anniversary of our station magazine, which has grown and become well known throughout Canada, across the sea, due to the work of our reporters and correspondents, and members of Rockcliffe station, who have carried Crosswinds wherever they have gone. 168 Squadron has been instrumental in making sure that Crosswinds has wide circulation, and copies have gone to the Azores, Scotland, Gibraltar, and all parts of the world. Other have helped too in distribution, as witness numerous copies sold on pay parade and from Crosswinds office, for the folks at home, which are passed on and on.

Other units have helped in distribution—12 Comm., T. & D., 7 Photo Wing, Repat. Unit, &c. &c., and many a patient has left the hospital with a copy of Crosswinds. Copies have been sent to the B. W. I., Argentina, Australia, Africa, the U. S. A., and we have no doubt that copies have become known among our allies and enemies, and we'd appreciate any stories regarding old copies of Crosswinds and their whereabouts.

Crosswinds first saw the light of day at the initial meeting of the Station Magazine Committee (November 22nd., 1943). It was unnamed as yet, the proud title it bears today was suggested and the prize won by F/O. Irwin in a competition open to all. The following were present at the first meeting: S/L. W. L. Scandrett, F/L. J. V. T. Van Gorder, F/L. G. V. Grimes, F/O. H. M. Bennett, Mr. Walter Shea, YMCA, F/Sgt. O. W. Scheuneman, LAC J. H. Masters (now overseas correspondent), LAC Masters was first Editor, and on posting overseas his place was filled by F/L. Jack Scott, our Far East Correspondent. Later a Guest Editor was provided, but the continuity of publication was not lost, and despite major difficulties Crosswinds has continued publication month after month, and it is the hope of the present magazine committee and Editor that this lusty breeze will ever continue to develop, which it can do, with the support and help of all station personnel.

However we still feel that there are people on the station who have yet to come forward and display their talents in journalism. There are still sections which are unrepresented, there is still news occurring daily, which does not find its way into Crosswinds, simply for the reason that no one troubles to put it down on paper and send it to us. We cannot be everywhere on the station, our reporters are engaged with their everyday tasks, so it's up to you if you have a few spare moments to write up that news story, that amusing happening, that inspired poem, and send it our way.

We are trying to give you a news coverage and records of events of interest around the station. We do not profess to cover Canadian news and world news as a whole, but only to stress Rockcliffe events.

We hope that our anniversary number combined with our Christmas number will give you the type of magazine you want, one that has been developed by trial and error, by sounding out the requirements of the station, by listening to criticism of all kinds, by helpful co-operation on the part of the staff, by the guiding hand of Rockcliffe's CO's, by the keen interest of all concerned, and we wish to thank all who have done anything no matter how large or how small, that has helped make our magazine a vital part in Rockcliffe's life, and a real link between all units. Crosswinds has not been publishing long enough to develop much tradition, but it has the work and duty of covering station news, it will build its tradition, but it's up to the personnel of Rockcliffe to ensure that the right tradition is built. Very little can be done if we just sit back, but if all work together, success is ensured.

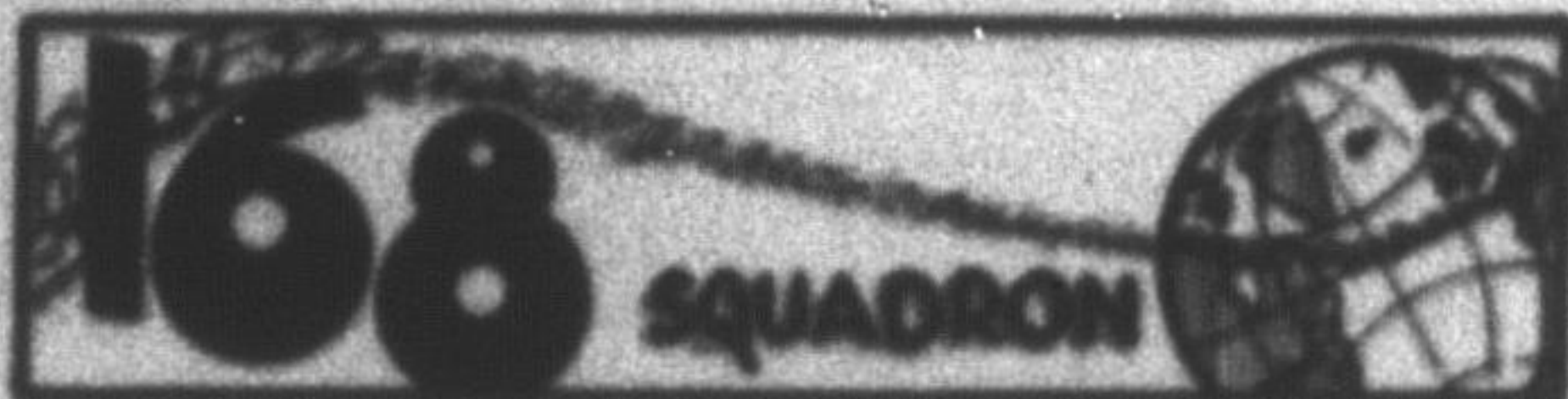
STEELE STYLE SUPER

AC2 Bob Steele, Crosswinds reporter, is the winner of the \$5.00 prize for best contributions in December Crosswinds. His reports on the various sections have appeared in Crosswinds, and are valuable for their clarity of detail, and information. Bob is a member of the Central Band, and when not reporting has dance jobs to occupy his time. Congratulations Bob, and keep up the good work.

YMCA ATTRACTIONS

Photo Auditorium, 7.30 p.m.

- Dec. 17: "Sensations of 1945"
- Dec. 18: See D. R. O.'s.
- Dec. 21: "Weird Woman"
- Dec. 25: "Babes On Swing Street"
- Dec. 28: "There's Something About a Soldier"
- Dec. 31: "Andy Hardy's Double Life"
- Jan. 1: "Irish Eyes Are Smiling"
- Jan. 4: "Crime Dr's Strangest Case"
- Jan. 7: "Three Men In White"
- Jan. 8: "Shine On Harvest Moon"
- Jan. 11: "Jam Session"
- Jan. 14: "Song of Russia"
- Jan. 15: See D. R. O.'s.
- Jan. 18: "Nine Girls"
- Jan. 21: "Journey For Margaret"
- Jan. 22: "See D. R. O.'s."
- Jan. 25: "Invisible Man's Revenge"
- Jan. 28: "Cross of Lorraine"
- Jan. 29: "Wing and a Prayer"
- Feb. 1: See D. R. O.'s.
- Feb. 4: "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble"
- Feb. 5 & 8: See D. R. O.'s.
- Feb. 11: "Whistling in Brooklyn"
- Feb. 12 & 15: See D. R. O.'s.
- Feb. 18: "Swing Shift Susie"



BY P/SGT. O. W. SCHEUNEMAN

A considerable change was witnessed last month in our air routes and detachments overseas. One of our detachment's surroundings changed in less than twelve hours from the glowing ramparts of Gibraltar to swaying palm trees, white buildings, sand and hooded Arabs. The entire unit complete with personnel, furniture, equipment, the jeep and the trailer were transported 200 miles to a new base in North Africa. The expedition was under the supervision of the capable Officer Commanding, S/L. B. G. Smith. All pitched in and the excitement and tumult experienced will long be remembered. Hard work and long hours were necessary to get things organized and running on a smooth basis and the personnel are certainly worthy of every possible credit. Six Dakota loads were required to move the unit. The next day operations were in full swing and the first aircraft departed with its valuable cargo of mail. Subsequent days resulted in this detachment giving their new base more business than any other group stationed there. The accommodation at present is only temporary and consists of a partitioned section of a hangar.

There is unlimited opportunities for swimming, hunting, fishing, and the nearby city provides numerous diversions.

Our prestwick detachment has now been moved to Istres with F/O Quinn, Sgt. Crifero, Sgt. Nimmons, Cpl. Anderson, Cpl. McCord, Cpl. E. C. Phillips, and LAC. Silk commencing operations. Sgt. Kritsch proceeded over for dispatching duties with F/L. Wilson at Rabat, French Morocco.

With Christmas near we can see where our Squadron will be taxed to the extreme. Every consideration must be given to the boys overseas, who are fighting so gallantly, to ensure that they will receive their Christmas parcels and gifts in time to enjoy Christmas to the full.

The Seventh Victory Loan Drive brought 168 Sqd., to the front with a total of \$53,250.

A decided victory in basketball was won when we played our first game against 12 Communication Squadron. Our second game was played with Uplands on their floor and also gave us the top end of a score: 29-12.

HAVE YOU HEARD? What accounts for the great variation in the scores when our personnel bowl at the Station Bowling Alleys instead of the Bolo-Drome. Has the spare time spent in the canteen prior to 10.30 got anything to do with it? Sgt. Haloran's team has dropped down somewhat.

Probably the addition to the family can account for it. We have heard of a similar case with Sgt. O'Leary so if you boys get together you may be able to work out a solution. When looking at the team standings we don't understand why Sgt. Spring comments about playing on the high numbered alleys.

Competition is open for the weekly prize money for bowling. So far Sgt. Coomber is having little trouble in winning it. Nobody seems to envy LAC Phelan with his weekly work on figuring out handicaps, standings and the various scores. It is quite a job. Cpl. DeMarco with experiences galore, seems to account for some locally. LAC Elias claims the buses aren't safe anymore. Would it have any bearing on the saying "three dozen"? Whose wife gave her word to the Squadron Discip., that her husband would be on time for parade in future? The recent Order in Council seemed to have some effect on a Cpl's discharge application. He is now a regular onlooker at the sessions held in the evenings. What's the latest, Ric? We have demonstrators in every trade but we have a case where this one didn't put his point over. It all happened over an argument on how to remove the snow off the wings of a Lib. This Sgt. was sure his suggestion would work and even went so far as to show how it should be done. He was just reaching the top of the ladder when everything including himself came crashing down. It is not known whether he gave in to his idea but seemingly actions speak louder than words. With the cold weather here we should be seeing your sweaters again. Steve.

Sgt. Coady seems to be having some trouble with the Goon Guards in Rabat. For your information a pack of cigarettes or the word "Angle" will eliminate this. By the way these Arabs are a dead shot. They will lie anywhere in order to see a person's silhouette against the skyline.

Wally Owen spent a week at Casablanca and claims he didn't miss a thing. Many of us are members of the "Short Shorters Club", known throughout the flying world. With the extensive travelling to the various parts of the world done by our personnel proceeding overseas, questions on foreign exchange can be answered by these experts.

One of our Forts was credited with the first non-stop flight of 14 hours 7 minutes from the snow banks of the east coast to a country where dates and oranges were plentiful.

A recent visit to the crewmen's room raised the question of "What do you know boys?" A response was given by Sgt. Speed and Cpl. E. E. Phillips to the effect that: "We don't know anything, we're just mechanics." By all indications though, they

168 SQUADRON

continued

seem to know a little as you invariably see them trying to figure or draw something out on paper.

Cpl. Bruce must have a clean sheet for we can't get a thing on him.

Fan-fare: Presenting the airman who claims he always makes print: CPL. "HERBIE" LAWSON.

We bid farewell to LAW Johnson, LAC Battison, LAC Hill, Cpl. Goldner, LAC McIver and LAC Strong who received their discharges.

Our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS?

A brakeman, fireman, and engineer are employed on a train. Their names are Robinson, Smith and Jones, not respectively. On this train are three passengers with the same names, Robinson, Smith, and Jones, hereafter referred to as Mr., to distinguish them from the employees. (1) Mr. Robinson lives in Detroit. (2) The Brakeman lives halfway between Detroit and Chicago. (3) Mr. Jones earns exactly \$2000 per year. (4) Smith beat the Fireman at billiards (5) The Brakeman's nearest neighbour, one of the passengers, earns three times as much as the Brakeman. (6) The passenger living in Chicago has the same name as the brakeman. What is the Engineer's name?

2¼ hours are allowed, but the problem can be solved in 5 minutes. Each statement must be given due consideration in arriving at the correct answer.

Question submitted by LAC Steve Proulx, 168 H.T.S.

CROSSWINDS HIBERNATES FOR THE WINTER

BY AIR COMMODORE G. S. O'BRIAN, AFC

For a while at least, this will be the last edition of Crosswinds. Group Captain D. D. Findlay exactly a year ago very wisely launched our first number, and throughout the year we have kept up, or tried to keep up, to what was started. Crosswinds has help up the mirror to our widespread activities, kept us informed and amused, told each corner of the Station the news about the rest of us, and done it all on good paper, with good pictures.

It's pretty hard to keep it going—not that Rockcliffe is ever going to be beaten by anything that has to be done. But nowadays personnel seem to be changing pretty fast; editors get posted; good paper is no longer obtainable; and the cost is beginning to mount.

MOSHER, MAN IN WHITE

Airmen living in barracks can accumulate most of the comforts of home, and many of them do. But as far as we know, only one has his own private piano. He is Whalen Mosher, bassoonist and piano tuner of the Central Band. The piano was originally in the wet canteen of a nearby air station, and every evening the hearty airmen gave it a going-over equal to a year in the life of an ordinary piano. It did its bit uncomplainingly, though, night after night, taking on all comers and patriotically sacrificing slices of its varnish to extinguish the cigarette butts that were left burning on it. It was a real plucky piano. Each new scar was another badge of honour.

Slowly it disintegrated. Strings slipped and it developed a bar room waver. Ivory was chipped off, and a sprinkle of keys went silent. Somebody carried off the front panel—but that just made the old piano louder. It knew its duty, and with two pedals gone, it still carried on until some music lover, with one swipe of a beer bottle, swept away thirty-five of the hammers, and that was the end.

It was about to be tossed out, when LAC Mosher happened along on a piano tuning spree. It was given on the condition that he would remove it—which he did in eleven bushel baskets. Dr. Mosher worked on it for six days under the bright lights of his surgery. He splinted, grafted, spliced, sutured, stitched, trussed, bridged, transfused, till every part was healed and working again. Now it stands in the band hut, brought back to life by Dr. Mosher—and if you are nice to him, he might let you play on his piano. H.B.

I don't feel justified in spending more of the canteen profits on it, at present, and figure that we'll start off 1945 without Crosswinds. Maybe nobody reads the darned thing anyway. In any event it has served a useful purpose in pulling the old Station together, and group Captain Findlay can be proud of what he began.

If we find we want a magazine next year, we can maybe run it off on our duplicating machine. Whatever happens, I want to thank everybody who has worked for Crosswinds during the past twelve months. There are a very great number of names, and some of them sacrificed all their spare time:

So Crosswinds will temporarily retire and hibernate for the winter. It leaves to each of you its pleasant job of keeping Rockcliffe one station, one gang.



No. 7 PHOTO WING'S CHRISTMAS PARTY PROVED POPULAR WITH THE KIDDIES AND GROWNUPS TOO, FRIDAY, DEC. 8. SANTA ARRIVED WITH GIFTS. TOP-NOTCH ENTERTAINMENT WAS PROVIDED. DECORATIONS BY LAC STUART CALLAGHAN.

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING

Crosswinds, in an endeavour to determine how various members of the station live, work and play, is investigating various units around Rockcliffe. One of these units is the Heating Plant, on the corner of Middle Road and Repat. Boulevard—but in case you don't realize the significance of the location, it's the large plant that often causes you to mutter words of scorn, when you attempt to dig a large cinder out of your eye. This is the site of that huge mountain of coal—dread of station details—the "coal-pile" feeding that monster heating unit which never seems satisfied, and keeps its high-priests working night and day. By day the unit is just another building, with an annoying cloud of smoke, which, when the wind is in the wrong direction, covers the surroundings with a thick pall of smoke, making one think of the industrial cities of the USA. By night, a poet could find romance and drama in the noise of the mighty furnaces, the bright glow of fires fed by the pneumatic spreader, the dusky firemen bending to their toil, ever watchful of their water gauges, their dials and indicators, and the vast complex machinery, complicated to the layman, stretching up into the dim recesses of the building.

We always seem to have the good fortune to find someone we know wherever we happen to go on the station, and this visit proved no exception. Cpl. Bill Thompson met us, and we had quite a chat. Later we met Cpl. J. A. Picot, known to the boys as "Jack", who gave us the gen on the men working there. F/Sgt. John Lewis is the NCO in charge, a 2nd. Class Engineer, living in Ottawa. He was at 17 Equipment Depot as a civilian, and formerly worked at Canada Packers. Other men on the day shift are Sgt. Paul Goulet, Ottawa, who takes care of Equipment, Sgt. H. Bourque, Moncton, N.B., in charge of repairs, and Sgt. Bill Dayley, Ottawa, who tests the water in the boilers to prevent corrosion, and tests for alkalines.

The establishment is under strength—two firemen have just been posted—Cpl. H. Bouch, to Montreal; and Cpl. J. H. T. Jean-Louis to Edmonton, Alberta, so the boys have to work extra hard and keep long hours, to maintain your quarters at a comfortable temperature. Last winter the boys worked 12 hours per day so that they could have their Christmas or New Year's Leave, and are hoping that a similar situation won't occur this year.

The men work on three eight hour shifts, and there is a qualified Engineer and two firemen during each period of duty. Sgt. R. Bucknall, formerly of the Veterans Guard, is in charge of the first shift. The Sgt. is from the Northern Mining District, and with him are LAC's "Mac" McLeod,

of P.E.I., and E. E. Anderson, ("Andy") of Bartiboge Bridge, N.B. Cpl. Jim Dunn, Richmond, Quebec, is in charge of the second shift, and with him is Cpl. Dave Carlson, North Bay, and LAC "Islander" MacDonald (PEI).

On the third shift, with Cpl. "Jack" Picot, of Barthurst, N.B. are Cpl. Bill Thompson, Ottawa, formerly with the SP, and LAC R. A. Box, Brockville, Ont.

Engineers receive A Grouping, and firemen B Grouping, but the responsibility for lives and property is carried by both.

A few figures might be of interest. The Plant uses an average of 30 to 35 tons of coal in 24 hours, which is shoveled by the men into automatic carriers and the iron fireman or pneumatic spreader takes over from there. A chain grate stoker is also used, and the burning coal is slowly carried along the floor of the furnace, and ash and clinkers removed at the rear of the furnace, through doors, by sheer hard work. The water-tube boilers deliver an average of 20,000 pounds of steam per hour at a pressure of 110 pounds. In cold weather two boilers are used and 35,000 pounds of steam are produced.



The firemen and engineers stress the fact that all persons concerned should make an attempt to conserve hot water supplies by taking note of the peak hours which are between 4 and 8 p.m. Therefore if you are staying in camp you won't need that shower so early, so do wait until 10 p.m. Also don't open the windows when the radiators are turned on, as you are merely heating the outside air, wasting fuel, steam, and making the firemen work unnecessarily in maintaining the extra head of steam.

If you bear these points in mind you are not only helping yourself, by having extra steam in readiness for that cold spell during the night, but also the long-suffering firemen who are short-handed enough as it is, and conserving that supply of coal for the long, cold winter months. C.I.D.

THE GEN. FROM THE FLATS

BY SGT. RUTH BIRD

Now that the snow has come (it would be my good fortune that the ground be bare the day this is published) we can all rest easier. The reason: our beautiful hedge of "Burning Bush" is safely covered and no longer will we worry every time the hooter sounds for fear the Fire Fighters are on the way to T. & D., to put out our blazing hedges. Can't blame them much though—we've established quite a reputation. Let's get rid of it quickly! We shouldn't be proud of it.

Best we check wind direction before the next speech the OC gives the boys (ref: Muster Parade 1015 hrs. 27-Nov-44). I wonder if the Winco knows that most of Rockcliffe was listening in as the wind was carrying every word very clearly to the other side of the field. One NCO at the hospital has asked us to thank him for clearing up a few points of which he wasn't quite certain. The efficiency of this PA system with good wind conditions has been proved because our little Mike Menace was very surprised to have the 'phone ring one day and a Sgt., he had been paging ask him what he wanted. "Where are you—" quoth Giesler. "Oh I'm in the Sgt's Mess playing pool, heard you calling me and wondered if it was important" was the reply.

Our promise of a bigger and better party was fulfilled completely. I think you'll agree. Not that many of our "Walking Wonders" remember what they did but they do know they had a swell time—all free, gratis, for nothing. We want to thank you all for some splendid co-operation, especially the boys BEHIND the bar and LAC Doug Arbuckle for rescuing us from a difficult orchestra situation.

If you sit beside a perfect stranger on the Eastview Bus and he tells you he belongs to T. & D., don't think you're losing your memory. They're coming in so fast now we're afraid we'll lose track. Among the "bashed" newcomers are F/S. Clow, LAC Drysdale, and LAC's Bruce, Crawford, Dooner, Hawkins, Herries, and Philpott. Treat them kindly boys, it's no fun being passed from one Bush Station to another. Drifting in from other points also, are tradesmen to learn how to punch a time clock (guard duty, you know) and renew old memories of Manning Pool route marches.

Sports afternoon continues to be popular but we fear some of you are going to get on weight with all that heavy reading you're doing in the Library.

We thought all red-blooded T. & D'ers would be at our party on Nov. 20 so you

can imagine with what surprise we heard of how two of our well known Flight Sgts., had a fast game of Chess in preference to the fun we were having. Such things make us wonder!!



"Spouse they're having this much fun at the Bellevue?"

Seasons Greetings to all of you and don't blame us if you don't get your passes, rations, and warrants all at the same time—we've got five days off too.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, and here's to more civilians in the New Year!

RCAF HONOURS P/O BREADNER AT FUNERAL

THE funeral of P/O D. L. Breadner, son of Air Marshal L. S. Breadner, C.B., D.S.C., and Mrs. Breadner was held from Rogers Funeral Home Tuesday December 5th. P/O Breadner was killed when a Mosquito crashed on a flight out of a operational training unit in the Maritimes. The streets were lined with people, many of whom were service personnel, gathered to pay last tribute to a flying comrade. The slow march to Beechwood Cemetery was lead by the RCAF Central Band, directed by WO1 E. A. Kirkwood—drum majored by F/S S. Smolyk. The funeral party was under the direction of F/L K. Hardy and the supporting party consisted of Flying Officers J. M. Gray, J. P. Guerin, H. V. McRae, C. Cohen, C. W. Doodson, and D. R. Bloome. Sgt. Fairbairn was in charge of the firing party and an escort party was lead by F/O E. E. Crisp. At the cemetery the impressive military rights were performed over the grave, three quick volleys were fired by the ten riflemen and LAC G. Heron sounded Last Post and Reveille.



"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND"

F/O. J. M. Williams, (Repat. Depot), Cpl. C. Watkin, and LAC J. Nanson, of Rockcliffe were active in the delightful Dutch Musical incident by Paul A. Rubens, presented by The Orpheus Amateur Operatic Society of Ottawa, Nov. 29th, 30th, and Dec. 1st, 2nd, at the Ottawa Technical School Auditorium.

F/O. Williams was one of the principals and carried a major part of the dramatics and vocals.

Cpl. C. Watkin and LAC J. Nanson were members of the Chorus.

The principals were supported by a large talented cast, directed by Mark Brooks, with H. Branwell Bailey, Musical Director, dance arrangements by Yolande LeDuc, and Richard W. Mitchell, Accompanist.

Crosswinds was fortunate in attending a dress rehearsal and final night production of "Miss Hook of Holland", and as many have seen this musical treat we publish a photo of part of the cast and synopsis to recall memories of a splendid musical entertainment.

ACT. 1. *The Cheese Market at Arndyk:* Mr. Hook (James G. Scott) is celebrating his fifty-eighth birthday as the play opens. He is a wealthy distiller who has made his fortune through his daughter Sally (Esther Henry) having invented a famous liqueur "Cream of the Sky". Sally loves Van Vuyt (F/O. J. M. Williams), the bandmaster of the regiment, and Van's C.O., Capt Paap (Lt. L. W. Monk, RCNVR), is also in love with Sally. Paap determines that he must have Sally, and his chance comes when Hook drops the recipe for the famous liqueur, which is picked up by the lazy Slinks

(Sidney Bagnall), who in turn sells it to Paap. Paap intends to offer his services to help find the missing recipe, and thus gain the favour of Mr. Hook.

ACT 2. *The Interior of the Liqueur Distillery, Amsterdam.* Van Vuyt disguised himself and goes to the distillery in the place of Slinks, who has been offered employment. Schnapps (Howard Trueman) is the foreman of the distillery, and is in love with Mina (Hook's maid—Alison Thomas). Eventually Van Vuyt succeeds in returning the lost recipe to Mr. Hook—who is then accused of having stolen it. In the end everything is cleared up—Paap decides to take Frede (Joane Sansome), Schnapps is taken over by Mina, and Van and Sally are happily united.

We hesitate to name solos, choruses and scenes that appealed to us, because we enjoyed the whole production, but outstanding numbers were: "We are little orphans....", the song of the "Lazy Loafers", "Fly away, Kite", "Soldiers of the Netherlands", "When the Sun is aglow in the West", "The Flying Dutchmen", "A little bit of Cheese", "Tra-la-la", "Little Miss Wooden Shoes", "A Pink Petty from Peter", "Love is a Carnival", "Little Liqueur", and the final chorus "Cream of the Sky".

Music lovers should watch for and attend the spring production "The Quaker Girl" presented by the Society.

His Excellency The Earl of Athlone, K.G., Governor General of Canada, and Her Royal Highness The Princess Alice were present at the final performance.

STOP PRESS: F/L. "AJ" Meades posted to J T.C., H.Q. for an important post there. Every success Sir.



ROCKCLIFFE'S NEW CANTEEN

THE main purpose for having this new mixed canteen is to provide a pleasant meeting place for the boys and girls of this station so that they won't find it necessary to go off the station for each others company. This sensible observation was made by F/L W. J. St. Louis, the man responsible for all canteen facilities in this community. We found F/L St. Louis busy with a host of last minute details and as he assured us, there was still lots to be done in spite of the fact that business was actually under way. He seemed quite willing to talk about the new canteen and he spoke very complimentary about the personnel who had constructed it. We agreed that this building would form a combination home and GI night club for the citizens of this airport and that greater inclination for staying at home for a quiet evening would be formed by it.

The new lounge in the east wing of the building is filled with comfortable chairs that almost compel one to sink into their foamy softness. Lamps there are too and a radio and a phonograph with lots of records. Rugs hug themselves to the floor and curtains frame the windows. Something new and fascinating is the Panarama Machine, a miniature motion picture projector that plays for a dime. The programs are varied and the advantages of sound and vision are combined.

The new combination canteen and snack bar is to be the centre of local activity and for this reason the old Drill Hall Snack Bar and the men's Canteen were both closed and moved into the new building. Only the wet canteen remained as it was. Bell Telephone Co. has gone to a lot of trouble and expense to install a bank of five pay tele-

phones thus increasing the all round service to the subscriber. To be situated in a more convenient locality, the telegraph office will soon move into the same central building. The former site of the Snack Bar will be turned into a new and better game room and five pool tables and several ping-pong tables are to be installed. So you can see that this new institution is going to be a modern, compact club for the tired Airman and Airwoman. All facilities for their comfort are to be provided.

And who is responsible for this pleasure filled creation? Well, we found a lot of people who were directly responsible and almost every one of them passed the buck on to someone else. Certainly F/L St. Louis did all that he could to make the venture a success and more than once we found him wrestling with heavy equipment. W/C S. A. Sprange has had this canteen as his pet day dream for some time and he has been directly responsible for the arranging of construction. Works and Buildings have worked overtime providing the steam system and a good deal of technical ability was applied to this job. We found Cpl. J. E. Blais crawling under the floor of the building fixing pipes when the ceiling was definitely less than zero. The staff of both canteen and snack bar have been working nights and weekends-off on decorating, painting the tables and fixing the curtains etc. Many people spent a great deal of time on this job and more than the usual line of duty was put into it. To those people we wish to express the thanks that the entire station must be feeling for such a splendid job.

The staff of this night-life centre works hard. WO2 Laing of Halifax, who has been in the Airforce Canteen business for

nine years is in charge of all canteen personnel on this station. Sgt. Gluckstein of Toronto, who was posted from No. 5 ITS when it closed, is in charge of the local canteen staff. Other diligent members: Cpl. Tim Calder, very efficient smiling airman from Parry Sound; Cpl. Jim Campbell who was posted from Maitland, N.S. and whose home is in Cape Breton, N.S.; LAC Loyer from Hull who spent some time in Newfy and Dartmouth doing canteen work; LAC Marcel Neveu from Ottawa who was posted from Pembleton, LAC Williamson (Jim) who remustered from band and who used to be a familiar figure around No. 7 MD; LAC Tom Bones from Ottawa who has been working with Major Laing here for four years; LAC J. L. Marceau who was on this station before and was posted back from 11 PATS at Toronto; LAW Galley from Niagara Falls who works in the sub canteen (WD); LAW Frankie Wenet, from the west who also works in the WD canteen; Cpl. Alice Jenkins from Perth, N.B., who was posted from Lachine and LAC B. E. Tripanier who works on the station pool tables as well as his canteen work.

Milk Shake Sluggers of the Snack Bar are: Sgt. Elizabeth Davidson i/c of the Snack Bar, from Kitchener who has been in the service over three years; LAC John

Guisland who was posted from Maitland, N.S.; Cpl. E. K. Davison (Davy) from Halifax who was posted from Mountain View where he spent 34 months; LAC John Lauson from Ottawa who has worked here for a year and a half and who used to work at the No. 7 canteen; LAC Harry Davis, from Ottawa who was previously at Trenton; LAC Cameron Skeggs from Kingston who was recently married; LAW H. Saunders from N.B. who is waiting for her discharge and who was a familiar blonde personage at the old Drill Hall Snack Bar; LAW Millette (Louise) from Fort William who is described as very pleasant and a good worker.

F/S Fred Colclough, Sgt. Cor. Cpl. Nyburge (WD) and LAC Eno are situated at the Central Warehouse and do all the buying and distributing for all canteens on this station. Shortly they will move into the premises of the old canteen. In charge of the Wet Canteen is Roland Villeneuve who has worked here for three years and who was previously in the army. R.C.S.



EDITORIAL: *I would like to thank all those on the Editorial Staff and others for the splendid way in which they have cooperated in the production of Crosswinds, and although I am being posted to No. 3 Release Centre for staff duties here, Crosswinds will not be forgotten. If at all possible keep up this valuable magazine, and I will be ready to assist in any possible way.*

LAC CHARLES L. DEAN.
EDITOR.

Mr. Pat Rafferty, Star Comedian of Lifebuoy Follies, and Member of the famous Dumbells of the Last war was unfortunately hurt while setting up stage in our Drill Hall, Thursday, Dec. 14. Pat was rushed to our station hospital and at press time his condition is favourable. The show went on and a crowd of about 1000 showed its appreciation. The CO thanked the performers on the station's behalf.



THE BUSY BAND

November was a busy month at the band hut. A total of fifty-eight engagements were played, consisting of parades, concerts, bond rallies, dances, investitures, graduation ceremonies, funerals, and soup groups. Two parades were rained out, spoiling a neat two-a-day average. H.B.

LEARN TO LISTEN

BY S/L A. O. LLOYD, CHAPLAIN (P)

Have you ever wondered why the Shepherds were the only people who heard the song on that first Christmas night?

The only people who ever hear anything are people who are listening.

A Cambridge University professor once had to leave the town because of a plague. He was sitting on a chair in the quiet of his country garden, and saw an apple fall. The secret of the law of gravity was thus whispered to him and so one of the hidden mysteries of the ages was revealed to a man who was quietly listening.

At this Christmas Season you will hear only those things to which you are listening. You may hear only the commercial people reminding you that there are but five shopping days to Christmas. Or you may hear only a Government Bureau telling you to mail early for Christmas. Or again you may hear only your friends saying, let us

eat, drink, and be merry. If these are the things to which you are listening, these are the things which you will hear.

Your Padres hope that sometime in the season, you will pause long enough to hear a quiet voice, reminding you that this is the celebration of the Birth of Christ. Otherwise this will be a pagan celebration and a godless festival. Your Padres would suggest that out of your holiday period you take some little time to pause, grow quiet, and hear again a voice saying, "For unto you is born this day a Saviour, Who is Christ the King." Whatever your Church may be it will celebrate this event in its own way. We would like to suggest that you include in your holiday program some time for meditation, and worship, that to you there may come some revelation of the Divine Power that stands hidden beside each life.

We hope that a deep and an abiding happiness may be yours at this Christmas time.



The Hostess House (YWCA) was the scene of a wedding reception for LAW Jean Johnston (nee Evans) and her husband, LAC Bud Johnston, Repat. Depot, Nov. 23. Pictured above are the happy couple and friends. Present were: F/O Milton, S/O I. J. Douder, Cpl Alan Tadmán, LAW Ruth Galbreath, F/L J. K. Read, AWI C. Whitham, LAC Aberdeen, AWI Sylvia Nixon, LAW Bernie Quance, LAW Dodsworth, LAW Peggy Brown, LAW Langille, AWI Mabel Walker, F/O V. S. Stevens, LAC Gendreau, F/L Hoover, Sgt. G. Beatty, LAC MacLaughlin, Cpl Helen McKenzie,

AWI Eleanor Leitch, AC2 Granger, LAC Hodgkinson, Sgt Hay, AWI M. Christianen.

ROCKCLIFFE COUPLE MARRIED IN STATION CHAPEL

S/O Dixon Waine and F/O Frank Buchanan of the Repatriation Depot were married Saturday evening, December 2nd., in the Station Chapel, by S/L A. O. Lloyd, Protestant padre. Best man was S/L L. Austin, DFC & Bar; matron of honour, S/O H. A. Tilley.

Air Commodore G. S. O'Brien, Co. gave the bride away and proposed the toast to the bride.

PHOTO WING NEWS

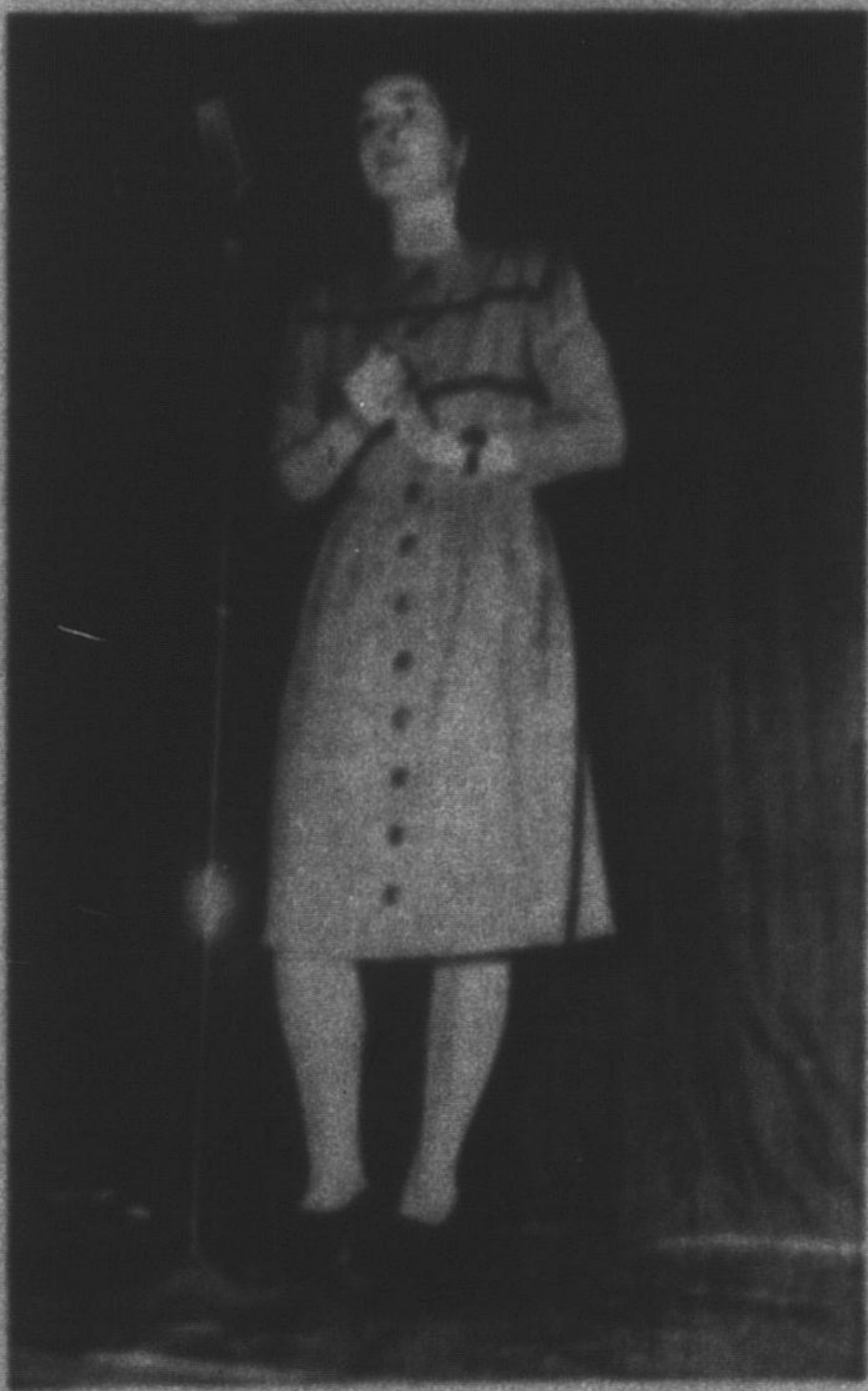
BY CPL. MILLIE EVANS

JJINGLE Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way! So arrived Santa Claus just about two and a half weeks early at the Photo Centre this year to take part in the party held Dec. 8. About 250 people, consisting of personnel with their families and friends, saw the popular man arrive in true Air Force style as he floated down from the heavens in a parachute to make a hard landing on the stage of the auditorium. A huge Christmas tree had been installed the night before by Santa's little helpers and from here he passed out presents to all the children. After lunch an enjoyable hour of entertainment was performed by our very own entertainers. The group was under the direction of LAC Stuart Callaghan, ably assisted by LAW Eileen Pratt. These people worked hard to put on a good show and we assure them that their efforts were not wasted. We would also like to thank LAC Callaghan for the fine decorations that transformed the auditorium. Music was provided by several members of the Central Band and brought a fine closing to a most enjoyable evening.

The bowling league is still rolling along in grand style and although team No. 3 is still in the lead, the individual scores have changed somewhat. LAC Harrison now holds the high single as well as high cross and LAC's Gordon and Harrison are both averaging the 190 mark which is quite consistent bowling in any man's league.

No. 14 Squadron has been added as another offspring of the ever-increasing Photo Wing. Photo is spreading over the station so much now with two squadrons, two schools and the Centre that we practically need an MT Section of our own to take care of all the necessary errands between the different buildings. The "surveys" are all back from their summer operations but are busy getting ready for another jaunt when next spring rolls around.

And so before the bells ring out the old and ring in the new, we of the Photographic Wing would like to extend to the other units of the station our best wishes for the Merriest Christmas ever and hope that the year 1945 will bring to all that long awaited day when peace is declared and we all return to civilian life for ever. No more parades! No more buttons to shine! No more asking for a pass! No more duty watches or station detail! It almost sounds like Utopia but they tell us such a life is awaiting.





STARS OF FLOOR SHOW AT CHRISTMAS DANCE DECEMBER 20

CCROSSWINDS presents in the special centre spread the stars of Rockcliffe's super floor show. The girls are under the direction of Cpl. Don Bailey, a former night club entertainer, and dance director of the now famous W Debs show overseas. We've watched Don work, and the talented way in which he coaches the girls and gives them that professional touch is a pleasure to behold. Don has also been a member of such famous organizations as the American Ballet Co., and Olsen and Johnson's road show company of Helza'poppin.

To draw to your attention some of the difficulties experienced in preparing and presenting this show we might mention a few facts. Due to heavy booking of outside shows, discharges of airwomen in the show, the committee and cast, after a very short time of rehearsal had to face the fact that the show would either have to be postponed until after Christmas, time of rehearsal shortened, and the show presented in the first week of December. However after weeks of sacrifice, and seclusion from station and outside activities, the cast decided the "show must go on," and that they would make this the best thing they had ever done in their lives in the RCAF, and despite dwindling numbers keep on.

This show is their very own, they have given themselves to it, they have worked late, composed music, learned new dance steps, practised lines, have the feel of the stage, all with unbounded enthusiasm. When it was decided that the show would go on, all members were overjoyed. Light heartedly LAW Eileen Pratt, composer of one of the show's hits: "In Just A Little While",

donned her dancing costume, and tripped gaily around the rehearsal hall. Laughingly she said: "I could dance over everything!" Such was the feeling of all. Arrangements were made for sewing of costumes. Nimble fingers worked over shimmering costumes, designed by LAC Stuart Callaghan.

This is then the story behind the show. Real artists are all of these young people. Success will be theirs in the future years if all difficulties are faced thus.

NOT only does the cast have eager and willing people in it, but most of the members have years of experience behind their performance. We introduced the dance director, Cpl. Don Bailey. With him in a "Dream Waltz" is LAW Eileen Pratt, an accomplished pianist, dancer, and composer. She composed "In Just A Little While", sung by LAW Mary Davis.

LAW June Galley, of Niagara Falls, has had 2½ years dancing experience; LAW Betty Brown of California and Toronto, is an accomplished tap-kick and ballet dancer; LAW's Mel Dial, Eleanor Palo, and Betty Ferguson, are taking part with the other girls and Don Bailey in "Shake-rag", and "College Rhythm."

AW1 Gloria Newman has her picture on this month's cover, complete with details about her experiences prior to enlistment, so we won't say more about her, but she too is taking an active part in the show, and we see a brilliant future for her.

LAW Mary Davis, our dramatic soprano, studied at Toronto Conservatory of Music. She studied and entertained at canteens in New York and Toronto, the Army camp at Newmarket, acted in plays in Toronto under Josephine Barrington, and received dancing instruction by Alison Sutcliffe.

STARS OF FLOOR SHOW AT CHRISTMAS DANCE

AC2 Fred Robbins, the funny man of the show, is our Master of Ceremonies. He's the kind of fellow—the regular, well-meaning acey-ducey who through no fault of his own finds himself in ridiculous situations, and brings trouble upon his head. His antics are side-splitting, his humour, occasionally of the silent gesture type, says more than a thousand words. Fred spent two years with Henry Duffy, 18 months with Fanchon and Marco, and played with Ballabian and Katz, Chicago.

P/O. John Poole, of the hospital, is the show's magician, master of sleight-of-hand, conjuring, and comical and just plain magic, who brings tears of laughter to your eyes.

Unfortunately Cpl. Bobby Hines, Repat. Pool, received his discharge, before the presentation of the show, but he has years of comedy and Master of Ceremonies experience behind him, and his absence is regretted.

LAC Laurie Moon arranged the musical score of the show, composed by LAW Eileen Pratt. Moon was organist at the Palace Theatre, Calgary, for four years. He gained most of his experience arranging for the theatre orchestra. He played the organ at No. 1 "Y" Depot, Lachine, Quebec, and No. 1 Wireless School, Montreal. He is our organist at the Station Chapel.

The fine vocal quartet of the show is under the able direction of L/C Bill Bounsall

formerly of the Rudy Vallee quartet and the Cushy Swingers. Bill's vocal arrangements will keep your feet tapping and a tune running through your mind for days after this show.



STATION EQUIPMENT SECTION

BY LAW JOYCE DETWEILER

GREAT sounds as of revelry by night were heard issuing forth from the Hotel Bellevue, which was the scene of the recent stores party. Vast amounts of nectar and ambrosia were consumed, the ambrosia in this case taking the form of an excellent chicken dinner, and the nectar, well, just the juice of a few flowers.

Cpl. Art Noonan was a very able master of ceremonies, and saw to it that not untoward events took place. Which reminds us, what was Cpl. Anderson doing on the balcony? Planning to remuster to the paratroops, Andy?

A toast to the WD's was proposed by S/L Vanderleek, and responded to by LAW Blanche Hertzberg. W/C Campbell complimented the "Conversion Squadron" on their turnout and Sgt. Gibson spoke brilliantly, though briefly, on the subject of the return of bottles, nectar, for the use of. They were returned!

Sports day was once again a howling success. Equipment personnel spent half a day shoving medicine balls along the ground with their noses, while sundry brass hats reviewed the proceedings, and photographers took some revealing shots. This, no doubt, is a manifestation of the good old "strength through joy" theory.

The new orders concerning the discharge of WD personnel has sadly depleted the ranks of both the Station Equipment Section, and the Flight Stores. Main Stores has lost Cpl. Win Browell and LAW's Doris Shiver and Lorna Greenway. Sgt. Ruth Carpenter, Lorna Daly and Doris McBride, and LAW Jean Cranfield; who were once winning the Battle of Rockcliffe in the fights, are by now concentrating on housekeeping instead of store keeping. We wish them all the best of luck in their remuster to civilians and fervently hope that they will be better able to adapt themselves to said occupation than LAW Gloria Rogers, who, when home on leave invariably answers the telephone: "Stores, Rogers here". Who ever said that rehabilitation was going to be a great problem was so very right.

F/O Dawes has his retirement, and is sorely missed by all stores personnel. Not only was he a tireless and unselfish worker but also he was always able to maintain beautiful sense of humour. We can remember counting thousands of boots and shoes during stock-taking at Clothing Stores in the heat of summer. Our sanity was saved by Mr. Dawes, who, in a crisis, would quote apt little moral tales (from the Greek.)

We bid welcome to two new officers, S/L D. M. Richards, and F/O H. Johnson, who are now integral parts in the "pulsating heart" of RCAF Station, Rockcliffe. Sgts. Levy and Stanton also are new acquisitions.

Cpl. Paula O'Keefe has got that other hook up and LAW Eva Sharpe has been promoted to Cpl. "Sharpie" is now working in Photo Stores, and doing a grand job in supplying the picture snappers with equipment. Congrats!

In signing off, we wish one and all a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

BY SGT. ISABEL G. MCTAVISH

"Island In The Sky"—*Ernest K. Gann*. A saga of a transatlantic flight that failed and a rescue mission that battled fog, ice and uncharted wilderness. It conveys, as no fiction before it, the mighty drama, the essential heroism of flight.

"Winged Peace"—*Air Marshall W. A. Bishop*. The story of aviation and the direction in which it is going is the story of our future—a future which will be written in terms of either winged peace or winged death. Here he tells the story of aviation from Kitty Hawk to the B-29 super-fortresses, much of it in terms of his own personal experiences.

"Pilots Also Pray."—*Lt. Tom Harmon*. This is an exciting, colourful book about a man who goes to war. It is also the personal story of one of America's greatest football players. It has touches of humour, and religion and pathos. There is tragedy and disappointment and love, but there is also something here more important than all these things.

"I Never Left Home"—*Bob Hope*. With his cheerful air of fluttering amateurishness, radio star Bob Hope has followed his turned up nose and Frances Langford—over the far flung battle fields of the world. Wherever they went they left a trail of good cheer. Hope's sincere and likeable personality shows up well in his writing.

For those who are planning to build after the war:

"Better Homes For Budgets"—*Wills*.

"The Book of 100 Homes."

"Popular Home Decoration."—*Gillies*

"All About Modern Decoration."—*Gillies*.

Novels with a Canadian setting:

"Earth and High Heaven."—*Graham*.

"The Hollow Men."—*Hutchison*.

"The Building of Jaina."—*De la Roche*.

"Carrying Place."—*Mowat*.

ON THE EASTVIEW BUS:

Driver to passengers: "Move back please. Ice-cream and soft drinks served in the rear."



VISITORS AT STATION DANCE:

*(L. to R.) Dorothy E. Clark, F O. G. J. Picken, Mickey Banks, Sgt. Larry Kirk, Wilma Warner, F/O. L. E. Reilly.
Civilian guests from DPAM 10, RCAF, Jackson Building, Ottawa.*

A record crowd filled the drill hall on Tuesday, November 28th., when Rockcliffites and their guests danced and jitterbugged to the fast tempo of the Central Band jazz kings. Walter Shea, YMCA, MC, says there were approximately 900 present.

Pictures by LAC William Powell.

Central Band Dance Band:

TRUMPETS: Cpl. Jake Park, LAC Nick Russo, Sgt. John Murdie.

TROMBONES: LAC. Tom Barton, LAC. Jim Hyatt, Cpl. Harry Stevenson.

SAX'S: LAC's Tommy Brooks, Ron Bodnar, Cliff Binyon, Eddie Coles.

RHYTHM: Cpl. Johnny Niosi, LAC Jim Cordell, LAC Carm Smith.

WINNERS SPOT DANCE: LAW A. M. Jeddrie, and LAC. L. J. Wingertu, of the Repat. Depot.

PERSONALITIES AT THE REPATRIATION DEPOT

The efficiency of a unit depends entirely on the ability and willingness of its working staff. When we interviewed Wing Commander Dowie last month he seemed very enthusiastic over the hard working staff that carry on the business of Repat Depot so well. To get an inside view of this top notch administration team we decided to talk to a few random members to get their stories and to record their impressions of service life. Like a hard training football team they had little time to spend on such things as newspaper reporters and although they were very willing to tell of their colleagues they had little to say for themselves.

We found Cpl. Estell Tupper working behind a large stack of records in the discip. section and although she was very busy at the time we managed to extract some information of her life in the airforce. She spent the first eight months of her two and one half years at Rockcliffe at Communications where she did approximately one hour's work each day. "I was so bored", said Estell, "that I asked for a posting and so they sent me here to the Depot where it seems as though I work at least twelve hours a day"! Cpl. Tupper explained that on most stations in Canada, clerks are bothered with few clearances but at the Depot, where personnel come and go all the time, a constant stream of clearances appear to confuse the staff. Estell comes from Penticton and worked in Vancouver before the war. She wishes she had more time for entertainment but now all she can do is bowl and play the piano. After the war she plans to take a refresher course at university on the govt. plan of rehabilitation.

Cpl. Alan Tadmán came to this station from Mountain View and Lachine and he has been here for a year now working at the equipment and stores section at the Depot. Alan tried to retransfer to PTI instructor but unfortunately the trade was closed. Alan is an ardent muscle builder and he is in charge of body improvement classes in the rec. hall, (building 119), at the Depot on Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at seven o'clock. Anyone interested in making a new physical being out of themselves is welcome at these interesting sessions of brawn. Alan and two army lads gave a weight lifting exhibition at the YMCA gym recently. "Weight lifting has become quite popular in Canada", says Alan.

Another busy disciple of speedy, efficient administration is Cpl. Phil Motley who comes from Westmount, Montreal where he used to play the organ of the 1st Baptist Church. "I've seen this staff grow from 25 to about 350 and there still aren't enough", said Phil. His general impression of things

was that working for the Depot was fine but there is little time for pleasure. Phil has been here two years in January.

LAW W. M. Leech has been working with records and central registry since Feb. 29, 1943 as a clerk admin. Next to Victoria B.C., her home, she likes Rockcliffe best. LAW Leech is happiest when she's roller skating and you can meet her at Rockcliffe's Rollodrome almost any night of the week.

AC1 Bill Sullivan knows the Germans first hand. Bill was amateur fly weight boxing champ of Canada and he represented Canada in the Berlin Olympics. At Rockcliffe he has spent 15 months as a stenographer and he likes this station because sometimes he is sent to New York on draft representation. Bill is a modest sort of fellow but one of the other clerks said, "Bill is just about the hardest worker we have here". Anyone posted here from Trenton will remember his exhibition boxing bouts that he fought there. At Rockcliffe he is actively interested in forming a boxing club and we wish him success in this endeavour.

Cpl. Bob Hinea, from Vancouver has had a life of adventure in the airforce that rivals those of the funny paper heroes. Bob spent two years in the RCAF Auxiliary before the war at Sea Island. After he realisted in 1940 he worked as an AEM at Trenton where he noticed the change over from such outdated aircraft as the Tutor Averils and Gypsy Moths to the present day craft. "It is unbelievable for such a short time" says Bob. After America declared war, Bob went to Alaska with the 111th Fighter Sq., RCAF, attached to the 49th American Air Force at Anchorage, Almerdor Field. He remembers well the adventurous visit of gagster Bob Hope to the Alaska theatre of war and he says that all the very recent motion pictures came to the station movie house before they reached the large American cities. He had the opportunity to examine a one man Jap sub captured at Kiska and was bombed by Zeros and Mitsubishi's. Bob spent seven months in England where he was born and where he has many relatives. After the war he expects to go into the exterior and interior decorating business. Bob is also a showman and he has written and directed his own shows. He intends to continue his study of singing after the war. R.C.S.

SCOOPED BY THE YMCA

"Arsenic and Old Lace" which played at the Capitol Theatre, December 6, 7, 8, played at Rockcliffe, December 11, a clever bit of arranging done by Walter Shea, YMCA. Another scoop is scheduled for Jan. 1, namely "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"—so for first run pictures attend the Photo Auditorium, and watch for listings of pictures in DROs and Crosswinds.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES STRESSED

From November 30th., to December 2nd., there was a conference of special service officers from all training commands in an effort to develop interest in handicrafts among members of the RCAF, and to promote recreational activities, so as to maintain morale and prepare service men and women for a period of possible inactivity while awaiting discharge and to assist in a rehabilitation programme.

During the period prior to the armistice of November 11th., 1918, there was a high peak of morale said F/L. M. Ferguson, (Eastern Air Command) then after the first exuberance had passed the morale of the people and especially service personnel sank very low. This was partly due to the release of the high tension caused by the war, and partly because minds formerly used to being active, now found themselves inactive. This must not happen this time. Hence recreational activities are being stressed by the RCAF, and various occupations of a therapeutic value, are being presented.

Recreation is defined as all things an individual chose to do in his or her spare time and socially acceptable. However people will not be forced into having a good time, and must be given a choice of activities. Hobbies may be divided into two classes: passive and active. Passive hobbies include stamp collecting, musical and artistic appreciation, reading, etc. Active hobbies are those in which the individual participates and brings out latent powers in himself. These hobbies include dramatics, cycling, writing, painting, etc. Handicrafts include those whereby self-expression is made possible, such as weaving, painting, sculpture, arts which man has developed throughout the ages. Music is one of the mediums for education, and may be used to good effect.

DENTAL

The Dental Clinic has several new staff members, namely: Capt. C. K. le Blanc, from France, now attached to the 39 Dental Company, Canada; Cpt. E. B. Clift, posted from South Maitland, N. S., at present operating in the new surgery; Pte. A. Girard, Laboratory Technician, posted from Mont Joli.

We regret very much the loss of Major Burton, officer in charge, posted to Lachine, Quebec. Capt. le Blanc takes his place. Welcome Sir.

The old Dental Clinic in building 105, Upper Rockcliff, is now in operation with



Top: F/L. Passmore, F/L. Jim Bates, S/L. George Whirter, Walter Shea, and others inspect work in the Craft Shop, operated by WO2 Ernie Bussiere.

Bottom: The CO, A/C O'Brian inspects some of the handicraft at the WD Craft Shop.

AN AIRMAN'S PSALM

*The Lord is my Pilot, I shall not fail,
He guideth me through the clouds,
He beareth me into lofty regions,
He exalteth my spirit,
He exaspireth me by His presence and His
fearlessness,
Yea, though "flak" engulf me, and death
draw nigh,
I will never be afraid whilst Thou art with me,
My strength and my Confidence
Thou dost preserve me in the presence of
mine enemies,
Thou speakest quiet words. I am content,
Surely sun and star shall guide me,
And save me through each flight,
And I will trust in the help of my God
forever.*

Capt. E. Ranger is in charge. A Dental Clinic will be part of 3 Release Centre, in Building 91, and will be staffed by two Dental officers and assistants.

COMMUNICATION NOTES

BY LAC G. MEDLAND

"How're you gonna keep them down on the farm"—that's what they're wondering over at the orderly room now that LAW'S Fay Eibel and Verna Jordan have returned from a week's leave in New York. From postcards they found time to scribble "they painted the town a deep dark red with the aid of the Army and Navy", including in their tour of the night-spots, Dempsey's Bar and the famed Stork Club. We only hope their debut in Cafe Society and Fay's cigarette-holder will not deprive them of the common touch. The girls must have had a good time since they just returned in time to report for work on Monday morning.

Standish Hall was the scene of the annual Fall buffet supper dance on November 9th. One hundred and sixty airmen, WDs, officers and their guests comfortably filled the mezzanine where the party was centered. Representing the OC., who was unavoidably absent, was Squadron Leader Tilley with

Mrs. Tilley and their guests were Air Commodore and Mrs. O'Brian and G/C Leigh of ATC and Mrs. Leigh. Under the able guidance of chairman Eric Magladry and his entertainment committee, the party ran smoothly and was an unqualified success. We noted LAC Adams engaged in earnest conversation with the CO on some matter of mutual interest and amusement judging from the broad smiles displayed. The sole and minor mishap occurred when "Doc" Nagle offered some neighborly advice to two fellow citizens and received a clout on the jaw for his pains. Anyway it was a darned good party!

The hottest question on the fire right now is the subject of discharges. Since the electricians have been asked to file "yes" or "no" on the matter, all trades have been set to thinking of the many angles and discussing the advisability of making the correct reply when their turn to answer comes. Civilian jobs, overseas service, and conscription measures by the government are a few of the factors entering the picture here, as they doubtless are elsewhere in the service. Remember the favorite gripe in Manning Pool, "I volunteered in and I'll volunteer

(Continued on page 23)



HEAD-TABLE GUESTS—Communication Squadron Dance

Seated: Air Commodore G. S. O'Brian, AFC, Mrs. G. S. O'Brian, G/S Leigh, Mrs. Leigh.
Standing: LAC Eric Magladry, CPL. Swedlow.

COMMUNICATION

out", well, here's your chance, and it may surprise you to know that the preliminary polls show a decided majority in favor of "no discharge".

ALONG THE SPORT TRAILS Toby Carisse is going about with that knowing look these days and exudes confidence all over the place when hockey is mentioned. He is coach of the hockey team and has all of his last year's championship squad back. The Myre-Miron-Foster line is a pre-season favorite and coupled with defencemen Alexander, Duval, Code and goalie "Zeke" Ziniuk, looks like a good bet to repeat.



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S IN THE STATION HOSPITAL!—too bad?—well, not too bad. For this year at Rockcliffe Station Hospital many plans are under way to compensate for our patients' enforced inactivity. These plans include an extra-special Christmas and New Year's dinner, with all the trimmings, arranged by our No. 1 Chef, Sgt. "Abe" Solomon; also there will be lovely women in the shape of the "Legionettes" (Women's Division of the Legion) who will be in the hospital on the 24th of December to present gifts and bring good cheer to the patients. On the 29th the lovely gals from the Metropolitan Life Assurance Red Cross Unit will be visiting the hospital to hand out cigarettes and more of the celebrated good cheer. (This is a repeat performance and we know whereof we speak when we say they are "tops.") Mrs. C. Karson of Ottawa has kindly donated a large sum of money to enable us to provide suitable gifts for every patient. The Air Force Wife's Association is supplying the hospital with several Christmas trees and is arranging to decorate in tune with the festive season.

The YMCA and the Messing Committee are donating sums of money to assist Sgt Solomon in his preparations. Add to the above the fact that there will be none of those depressing morning-after blues and we think that this Christmas will be one to be long remembered by the inmates of this, our Station Hospital.

HOSPITAL POSTINGS: The best wishes of the entire staff go with P/L H. V. Corbett, Adjutant for many months, who has just been posted to W. A. C., Vancouver. Another loss to the hospital comes with the posting of Sgt. W. J. Cross to No. 3 R. D., Vancouver. Sgt. Cross was official correspondent for *Crosswinds* and his ability as a reporter was shown in last month's and previous contributions. His excellent article in the December "Wings"—"Carole in the Wilder-

ESCADRILLE DE 168

We have de Lib, de Fortress too
With dis we fly the ocean blue,
They carry mail far overna
To boy in France and Italy.

Sometime we cross in one whole day
Sometime we only get half way.
Den de Fort or Lib return
By gar that make de groundcrew burn.

We plan all week on forty-eight
But nothing sure at one six eight.
Some guy dey never see dere wife
She tink dey lead de double life.

When everything we tink she fix
Along dey come with ninety-six.
When we feel we sure of dat
9205 she land damm flat.

Not much broke the boss he say,
We only work six night and day.
We so damm tired from changing prop
Because de undercarriage flop.

We work outside in one big tent
And wonder where de summer went.
The rain she come and fog and snow
But still dat engine she no go.

We change de plug, de harness too
To see what bloody good dat do.
At last she start, de trouble fix
And Discip he come with ninety-six.

We take no chance on fort return,
At 168 dat much we learn,
We rush like hell to reach main gate
In both hand a forty-eight.

Sometime we feel like get discharge
But Army catch all men at large.
This war we tink she nearly won.
168 she fine Squadron.

—Monsieurs JRB, WDS, WCL, OWS.

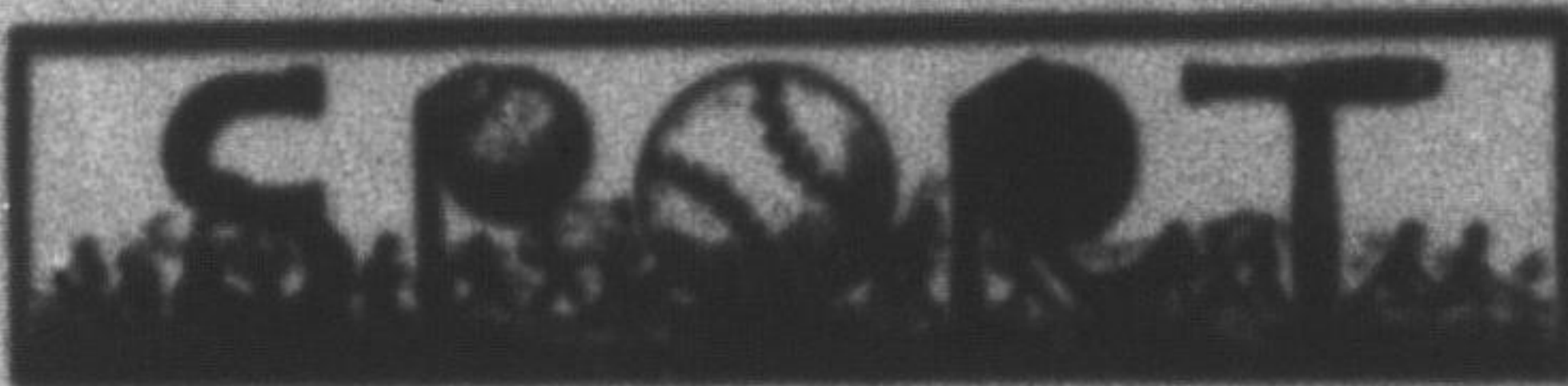
ness", proves his ability beyond any doubt. Good luck Sarge!

WELCOME: The hand of welcome is extended to S/O A. O. Coleman who has taken over the post of hospital adjutant. S/O Coleman was adjutant of the RCAF Wing at Deer Lodge Hospital, Winnipeg, and we will all benefit by the knowledge and experience she has acquired there. We hope you'll like it here. Ma'am! Coming back to see how we've been running the place is Sgt. Homer Tourangeau. Quite a change, eh Sarge! Know to a lot of the old timers when here last year, he's returned to take over the vacancy in Wards A & B, caused by the departure of Sgt. Cross.

We also welcome S/L L. A. Kane, our Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist who came to us from Gander to replace S/L Alexander who returned to civvy street, Winnipeg, last month. S/L Kane is a graduate of the U. of T., and took post-graduate courses in Pennsylvania, New York, London, and Paris. He practiced in Toronto.



SPORT STAFF—L.toR, *Lac Roy Henderson, Sgt. Tommy Fairbairn, F/L. Ken Hardy, WO2 Bob Fulton, Sgt. "Al" Silmer, LAC Harry Carson, Cpl. Lee Latreille, Cpl. Marion O'Reilly, Cpl. Doris Sansbury, LAC Doug. Langille.*



BY SGT. TOMMY FAIRBAIRN

Much has happened since we last wrote for *Crosswinds*. The sport activities on the station have increased in leaps and bounds. Inter-Service Basketball and Hockey Leagues have been opened; Inter-Unit Leagues are well under way; regular P. T. sessions for most of the units are operating daily in the Drill Hall. Most important of all sports on the station is our Inter-Unit programme. We'll deal with this first.

Inter-Unit Sports: Volleyball: This sport involves the most people. Eleven teams compose the loop, namely: Comm. (1), Comm. (2), Equip. H. Q., 168 HTS, Photo. (1), Photo. (2), Repats, W. & B., T. & D., S. P.'s. Many interesting games have been played, and from a spectator viewpoint the competition leaves little to be desired. Listed below are the league standing as 8-12-44:

Teams	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Comm (1)	6	6	0	12
Comm (2)	5	5	0	10

Equip.	6	4	2	8
H. Q.	5	3	2	6
168 HTS	5	3	2	6
Photo (1)	5	3	2	6
Photo (2)	4	1	3	2
T. & D.	4	1	3	2
S. P.	4	1	3	2
Repats.	4	0	4	0
W. & B.	0	0	0	0

As the standing indicates, Comm. (1) is ahead, but have played one more game than Comm. (2). A "grudge" game is scheduled for Dec. 14 when these two teams meet. Reports have it that the wagers are flying around—but no odds. Equipment aren't far behind the leaders, and are improving each time out. Much credit is due S/L Vanderlick, WO2 Magladry, F/S White and company for their fine showing. These boys are carrying the torch practically single-handed for Equip., and display an enthusiasm for the game that would pin any Club into a winning streak.

The remaining teams haven't really struck their stride, but we can be sure of keener competition as the schedule progresses. Photo., teams have always finished strongly.

and whoever heard of 168 HTS letting 12 Comm., beat them out. Sgt. Drysdale and his gang of HQ men are in there. We noticed our "ADJ" out the other night, and playing a fine game too. The proposed move of the Repat. Depot., to Lachine has somewhat dampened the Overseas boys, but they'll be punching away if they remain on the station. W. & B., are hindered by a manpower shortage, and may be forced to withdraw from competition. On top of that the weatherman plays his usual tricks and gives them extra work.

Basketball: Eight teams comprise this league: Comm., Equip., Photo, H. Q., Repats, T. & D., W. & B., and 168 HTS. League standing:

Teams	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Photo.	3	3	0	6
T. & D.	4	3	1	6
168 HTS.	2	2	0	4
Equip.	1	0	1	0
Comm.	1	0	2	0
H. Q.	2	0	2	0
W. & B.	1	0	1	0
Repats.	2	0	2	0

Photo, is in front, having played three and lost none. Next in line is T. & D. The T. & D., twosome of Hyde and Barker are playing well for their ball team. Photo, just nosed out the Boys from the Flats by 19-18—and a strong Photo, team it was. The new league ruling that players from station teams may participate in Inter-Unit Sports has bolstered the Photo, gang no end. Wansbrough, Jones and Morris come under that ruling, and have been playing for Photo, regularly. 168 HTS has a strong entry and in two starts have been undefeated. The remaining clubs are battling, and before the schedule closes the competition for the play-off sports will be very keen. Anyone with refereeing experience is asked to contact the Drill Hall, Sports Section, Local 232. We always need basketball referees and that is one way you can help your Inter-Unit programme. Games are played on Tuesday evenings at 6 and 7 p.m.

Floor Hockey: Someone once defined Floor-Hockey as "legalized mayhem." Well, if not kept in check it may develop into a rough and tough game, but up here at the Drill Hall, the boys of the Inter-Unit league play it hard and fast. This season we have seven teams operating in our League—Comm., HQ., 168 HTS, Photo., Repats, T. & D., and S. P. From the standing below one can see that in the few games played to date the boys are all out to remove the title and cup from the S. P.s.

—BASKETBALL CHAMPS—



SPORTS (Continued)

Teams	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Pts.
Comm.	4	3	1	0	6
S. P.	3	2	0	1	5
Repata.	4	2	2	0	4
168 HTS.	2	1	1	1	3
H. Q.	2	1	1	0	2
T. & D.	2	1	1	0	2
Photo.	2	0	2	0	0

Comm. are trying hard to keep ahead of the Policemen, but although there is a point difference S. P.'s have a game in hand. Repata have presented a fast aggregation, but again the proposed move to Lachine may interfere with their fond hopes of winning the championship. 168 HTS and H.Q. are not to be discounted. We urge everyone to come to the Drill Hall on a Monday evening and see the fun—"legalized mayhem" or "floor hockey."

STATION TEAMS

Hockey: Sgt. "Al" Silmer has rounded out a hard working group of hockey enthusiasts. From nowhere faces would appear in the Sports Stores, (Drill Hall), and inquire as to when and where the next practise would be held. Because of lack of ice facilities, actual practices amounted to an even three, but nevertheless no time was wasted, and Al gave the boys a three week conditioning programme. It paid dividends. In the opener against Canadian Postal Corps on December 6 the first score was 9-0 for the Flyers. Condition told a great story that night. At the end of the first period the score was 1-0, second period 4-0, and at the conclusion of the final frame 9-0. All in all, with the support of the station, Rockcliffe Flyers will be a going concern. The boys are eager to play a lot of hockey, and by the fine showing of several other teams in the loop they'll have to do just that. The C. M. S. C.—R. C. E. entry is very strong. Other top-notch teams are A.F.H.Q., Uplands, and 17 Equipment Depot, Ottawa. Season tickets are available to service personnel for the nominal price of \$1.00 obtainable from Sports Stores or the YMCA. Let's all support our hockey team!

Basketball: The big opener was held Tuesday, November 28. Two fair basketball games were followed by a big dance sponsored by the YMCA. Everyone had a grand time. Rockcliffe's "B" entry dropped one to Postal Corps 41-22. The Posties were good value for their win. Paced by Quinn they were just a shade too strong. Poor shooting didn't help the Rockcliffe cause either. From our seat, the work of

Dorais and Fisher was a pleasant surprise, and we predict these two lads will play a big part in this teams search for the championship.

In the second game Rockcliffe "A" took a close one from AFHQ. It was nip and tuck all the way, and the crowd didn't have a moment to relax. Close to 1200 spectators cheered wildly as George Medland practically staved off a last-minute AFHQ rally Single-handed. He dribbled, fought, argued, etc., like one possessed. In plain words he did everything that a good player should do with a minute of play remaining, and the boys just one point up. With 22 seconds to go, Jack Galitsky dropped in a long shot and put the game on ice. Final score: 39-36.

Tuesday, December 5 saw the WD team walk all over 12 Company (CWAC). The score was 65-2. The Army girls were no match for the red-ribbon kids, and the match was not at all interesting to witness. This was the opening game for the girls and they piled up the points. Doris Sansbury failed to make a basket, but turned in a good defensive game. Army's two points came from foul shots.

Thursday, December 7, the Wrens came to visit us, and showed us that 65 points in one game didn't scare them any. In a spectacular, close-checking contest, the Navy girls whacked out a 23-21 decision, and had the game lasted longer—well, we'll see next time! Capitalizing on the breaks, the Wrens were worth their win. Ten seconds to go and the score was tied, when Wren Elder sank a beauty. Then the whistle and "we had it."

Following the girls game, the rockcliffe "A" team played the Navy men to complete an all-navy programme. Rockcliffe won the contest 22-20, but were fully extended. At that, the victory was costly as Frank Wansbrough, ace center was forced out of the game early in the first half with a sprained ankle. Again George Medland was outstanding, and led the boys to their narrow win. Navy showed us a tall, well-balanced group, who will improve with practise.

Considering every thing, our three station basketball teams are away to a good start. We'd like everyone to come to the games and cheer the boys and girls. It's a tough game when there is no support.

P.T., and Sports Participation. Many people ask the sport's staff where the facts and figures come from, in regard to sports participation on the station. Cpl. Latreille keeps the diary and here are his findings: **PT Classes—each day:** Monday, a.m., W & B, p.m., M. T.; Tues, p.m., T. & D.; Wed, a.m., Equip. & Accounts, p.m., HQ & A/C Maint.; Thursday, a.m., P. R. U.; p.m., Comm.; Friday, a.m., Band; Saturday, a.m., Photo School.

SAX FACTS AND JAZZ

BY CPL. JOHN J. WEINZWEIG

(Theory Instructor—RCAF Central Band)

POINT an arrow Westward from the Atlantic seaboard and you can see in retrospect, America, carving out her history. It conjures up visions of pioneering Americans seeking out the land and tapping its wealth, selfishly perhaps, and with sharp elbows for manoeuvrability; but time has healed its wounds and has left a colourful history. Point an arrow from the deep South to the North and you see Jazz in the making. For jazz, too, has carved out its slice of history.

From its birth in New Orleans in 1900 jazz moved, none too glamourously, through back doors and smoky bars. It moved up the Mississippi and down again and overflowed its banks, carrying with it its typical medium of expression, the cornet, trombone, clarinet, banjo and drum.

Strangely enough, the saxophone was not included in its travelling paraphernalia, though it had already mellowed into a sexagenarian. Senior LACs with the short-cropped-mop might turn a memorable hair back to Nick La Rocca and the "Dixieland band, the "Original Creole Orchestra," and that "classical master," Louis "Satchmo" Jazz Band," King Oliver and his famous Armstrong. These, and many more, were beating at America's front door during the period of the first Great War.



But where was the saxophone? An occasional C-melody saxophone (shaped like a bloated clarinet) was used, but the sax was still outside the pale of jazz history in the making. The virtuosos in the business continued to give out with trumpet, trombone, or clarinet.

Although the saxophone was looked upon as a novelty, its inventor had conceived for it a long-haired role. Adolphe Sax expected his family of saxes to take their place



in the symphony orchestra and the concert band. And this came about. John Philip Sousa always used from four to eight saxophones, and composers in France and Germany occasionally wrote for them in large scale symphonic works.

Viewing its indispensable role in the dance band to-day, it seems remarkable that the



(Continued on page 28)

PHOTO SURVEY SQUADRON

By LAC KEITH HOWDEN

LAC Emile Paradis, "A" group fitter, is spending a 30 day furlough at his home in Montreal pending a discharge. Emile was well liked here and we wish him every success in civilian life. When his discharge becomes effective, he will return to his former position with the St. Lawrence Flour Mills, Montreal.

LAC Harold "Tommy" Tomlinson, "A" group fitter who was posted here several months ago while waiting to proceed with his pilot's training, was posted to Uplands but recently returned. Welcome back Tommy, we knew you couldn't leave "Lucky 13".

Congratulations to LAC Weldon Deslaurier, who is the proud father of a baby daughter, Marie Barbara, born in November.

LAW "Mickey" Baker, smiling stores clerk, is now down at the mouth as she has been posted to Equipment Stores. Sorry to see you go, Mickey. Good luck down there.

Congrats to Sgt. Lloyd Leadbeater, Cpl. A. G. E. Myland, Cpl. W. A. Fitzgerald, Cpl. M. Yourth, Cpl. A. E. Hayes, Sgt. J. B. O'Reilly, Sgt. C. P. Dunn, Sgt. E. S. Craig, Cpl. C. L. Misener, Cpl. J. B. Ames, Cpl. W. Segal, Cpl. R. MacKenzie, and Cpl. R. S. Bruce, who recently were promoted to the above ranks.

SAX FACTS AND JAZZ (Continued)

sax did not assert itself sooner. Perhaps it had to wait for that day when the darned thing got into the hands of over half a million amateurs between 1919-1924. Yes, America went sax-crazy during those post-war years, and so likewise, many an innocent neighbour. Remember the barnstorming days of Tom Brown and his "Saxophone Sextet"? They blew across the country and back again, gathering hordes of disciples, like the Pied-Piper of Hamelin Town. In their wake, jazz has reaped such compelling exponents as Coleman Hawkins, Chu Berry, Lombardo (now how did he get in here), Lester Young, Bennie Carter, Jimmy Dorsey (a white man) and Johnny Hodges, new stars in the kaleidoscopic history of jazz.

Perhaps Adolphe would not approve of his brain-child's swing away from the path of "legitimate" art. Let us not be too squeamish about it, however. After all, weren't we all civilians once upon a time? Now—look!

To date, twenty of our tradesmen have applied for their discharges, and when the time comes we will be sorry to see them leave; however, owing to the rather cramped surroundings here at No. 13, it would relieve the congestion considerably.

Our small orderly room is in somewhat of a confusion at times, with the various people all talking at once, our Engineer Officer and Cpl Harley being the centre of enquiries such as travelling claims, flying time, leaves, etc., mixed in with discussions on carburetors, hydraulics, oil tanks, Mitchells, Etc. O boy, O boy, what a noise!

By the way, in case it is not known by everyone, our happy No. 13 is now composed of two separate squadrons, 13 and 14, with S/L Wiseman and F/L Cherrington, respectively, as OCs.

HE DOOD IT! On November 6th wedding bells chimed in a little town not far from Ottawa, when Cpl. L. Laroche, rigger, and Miss Emma Farmer, of Sarsfield, Ont., were happily married. Nice going, chum, how about letting us meet the little woman?

What Corporal receives letters from a young lady in Chatham, N.B. calling him her "big hunk of man!" We also wonder why Doc was so happy to be back from the same town? Cpl. Cail hasn't had so much to say about Newfie since the detachment returned. Any special reason, Casanova?

Last minute news is that Cpl. Max Yourth left here on the double for Oshawa where his newly-arrived son is waiting to greet him. Congratulations, Cpl. and Mrs. Yourth.

YMCA CHRISTMAS CHEER

BY WALTER J. E. SHEA
(Senior YMCA Supervisor)

WHEN the Dean of Crosswinds asked me to write a Christmas article, he touched me. Luckily I was only carrying two bucks. However before Charlie could change his strategy or perhaps withdraw his request for "printed pearls of wisdom", I rushed for my typewriter forgetting that she is the nervous type. Datzell screamed and jumped out of the window. Left to do my own typing, I was later disturbed by a crowd of kids from the bowling alley downstairs. They were trying to discover who had been firing off the revolver shots. (Aren't some of those letter keys hard to find, but when you do: "Wham".)

Seriously and to get into my subject, whatever it is, there is nothing like Christmas cheer. It beats any college cheer or even Grandpa's "armchair". And to be asked by no less a person than the Editor, to write in the "lighter vein", is both an honour and an imposition on himself. I am happy to contribute this insignificant, ineffectual, though

not infinitesimal gem. It might not merit immediate acclaim, but eventually it might go down in the annals of history, or just down in a receptacle fixed to the floor.

Again, seriously, when I think back over my fourteen months at the "Show Station of the Nation", I realize that we never get what we deserve, but at least twice as much. Friendships are lasting possessions. They might tarnish a little, and require brushing up at intervals, but underneath the wear and tear effect, lie something solidly substantial, and priceless. Yes, many of us will go out of this Service life as comparative millionaires, because of the rich friendships that a kindly fate has allowed us, and this despite our having done so little to deserve the wealth.

Recently a group of airmen dropped into the office to beef, brag, but principally to try out my "shag." Before they passed out completely, we got to waxing, not the floors, but philosophical. It was admitted that while universal good-will might be at a low ebb, the "esprit de corps" and good-will among all service personnel was second to none, and "ne plus ultra" (6.20 the bottle). We took, for example, the 5 p.m., Rockcliffe crowd boarding the bus outside the Guard House. Never yet has anyone been completely unlimbed.

According to newspaper reports, many airmen and WD's will be returning to civilian life, ere long, and I am inclined to feel, (as well as hear, see, and smell) that during this Christmas, in addition to the natural reminiscence and nostalgia that automatically overtakes everyone at the Yuletide, we will be formulating many cherished memories for the future, of both intimate and new found friends. The only difference between the two types is that the latter refuse to help between pay-days.

Rockcliffe is perhaps the biggest melting pot of airforce personnel among Canadian stations. Every section of Canada is represented, not to mention countries beyond. I am again inclined to feel, not being numb, that any one stationed here for any reasonable length of time, cannot help developing a wider perspective, a tolerant attitude towards the other fellow's view point and, allowing for occasional arguments and spats (incidentally, I wear 'em) be in a position to carry forward on next year's balance sheet, a number of credit entries, which otherwise might have not been possible. All this and Hull too.

I wish I were capable of writing something worthwhile, or capable period, for Christmas and the New Year. I would compensate in some small way, the depth of gratitude I feel towards all of you at Rockcliffe for having made my term of office here such a gosh dinged pleasant one.

However, I can say, thanks a million and a Merry Christmas to everyone. In my second breath, may I urge you to maintain your fine adherence to the Golden Rule. Don't worry too much about, but plan a lot, for your future. Keep active in some sport and hobby. Attend your Church services. Keep doing your job as well as you can, and as a closing thought, try and read our notices in DRO's, also go easy on ping-pong balls, they are scarcer than hen's eggs. And Oh, yes, add "writing home to the folks", to your list of good intentions. Our new Christmas Stationery is out on the counters, free of charge. Sorry no nylon, or elastic wear.

Our thanks to Bryan MacDonald, Eddy Bush, Trixie, Ted Meza, Dina Atwood, Pattie Philippa, of the Ice Capades of 1945, for the splendid show Friday, Dec. 15, drill hall. The invitation was extended by Walter Shea, YMCA.

NOEL

BY ANDRE POULIOT

TOUT le monde fête la Noël.

Le 25 décembre est l'occasion de réjouissances universelles. Et il est certes une façon païenne de célébrer la naissance du Christ.

Mais ce qui semble inopportun, et inadmissible aux esprits sensés, c'est la venue de Noël en temps de guerre. Depuis cinq ans déjà, la guerre, l'absurde, futile et cruelle guerre, bouleverse la planète, chabute la géographie, arrache à leur douce intimité les êtres qui se chréissent et dévoue les hommes.

Et cette année, une fois de plus, tandis que les tendres bambins se groupent émerveillés autour du sapin enluminé et surchargé de présents, leurs pères, à cent lieues de là patageant dans la boue jusqu'aux épaules, devront sauter à pieds joints dans l'enfer, et se livrer au plus horrible des jeux de massacre.

L'allégresse sonnera faux dans notre terre privilégiée. Et toute cette tragédie est là, dont nous subissons la violence, parce que les hommes orgueilleux, dévorés de l'appétit du lucre et de la domination, sont restés sourds aux douces paroles du Christ, à ces paroles simples et sublimes, en lesquelles se trouve toute entière la formule du bonheur et de l'harmonie terrestres. "PAIX SUR LA TERRE AUX HOMMES DE BONNE VOLONTE".



**MEET THE PEOPLE WHO PROVIDE
YOUR FOOD**

**DISHES TO SUIT THE OCCASION
SUPPLIED BY EFFICIENT, HARD
WORKING OTHER RANKS STAFF**

"'Tis a far far better thing....."

The above quotation, borrowed to suit the occasion, is applied very appropriately to our Other Ranks Mess as compared to the O.R., Mess of yesteryear, or perhaps not quite so remotely, to other O.R., Messes.

A tribute to organization would perhaps be one way of saying it but this stilted phrase is hardly fitting in this particular case. Organization is a piece of cold machinery, whereas one gets the feeling in the O.R., kitchen that a warm, closely knit, friendly, efficient unit is operating with a minimum of friction under the guiding hands of the Station Messing Officers, S/O M. E. MacFatlane and in the Mess A/S/O E. J. Stewart and her able right hand man F/Sgt. John Alexander.

The days are gone (we hope) when eating was a hit and miss affair and eggs were a treat and milk an almost unknown commodity. The O. R., Mess is a model of dietary efficiency, the food is tasty, well cooked and plentiful and varied. You can drink your fill of good, fresh milk and look forward to an egg almost every morning. If you detect an elusive European fragrance in some of the dishes you may be sure that

F/Sgt Alexander is throwing his Russian ancestry around. His decorated cakes (but wait and see) are the work of a master. Did you know that 150 gallons of milk and 150 dozen eggs are used daily?

To elaborate slightly on friendly faces you see every day (or perhaps hostile if you can't produce that late meal chit): Cpl J. A. Leger and Cpl. J. A. L. Cote were both formerly on the staff at Parliament Hill and are politicians to the core; Cpl. J. T. Champagne's past experience shows a preference to resort hotels in the Laurentians.

The comely and good natured WD team behind the steam tables who are up at the crack of dawn to break the trail to the Mess, and put the coffee on, are soon to lose four of the original line up. LAW's Vi Ryan, Maddy Ledrew, and Jean Devaul are looking forward to a future of figuring out 1/2000 part of our favourite recipes. Gee, what a breeze!

LAW Celia Steinke, the healthiest looking girl in the RCAF, with rosy cheeks, is in charge of the bake shop. She wields a skilful spatula and makes banana cream pie that is something out of this world.

A compliment was recently paid to the working conditions that prevail at O. R., Mess when ten new arrivals on the station requested to be detailed to this particular mess. They're doing a good job too.

PERSONNEL COUNSELLOR

DISCHARGE BENEFITS BY F/O P. C. WARNICK

A discharged member of the RCAF is eligible for generous benefits under the Post-Discharge Re-Establishment Order (known to the boys in the back room as P. C. 5210). These benefits are outlined in the booklet "Back to Civil Life" which has been distributed to the various units on the station. If you have not obtained one of these as yet, drop in to Building 78 and pick one up at the Personnel Counsellor's Office. A careful reading of the booklet will give you a good idea of the benefits available to you after discharge. If your case presents a particular problem not covered by the text, make an appointment with your Personnel Counsellor and let him give you the gen on it. Here are a few of the benefits available:

- (1) *Out of work benefit*—for those unable to obtain suitable employment.
- (2) *Vocational Training benefit*—for those desirous of being trained for specific jobs.
- (3) *Benefit while waiting returns from business* to cover the period until returns come in.
- (4) *Benefit to assist those who are unable to work due to a temporary incapacity.*

(5) *Benefit to assist those if completing or continuing their education.*

There are several factors to keep in mind if you are desirous of entering or completing a University course after discharge.

(1) *Your entrance qualifications for admission to the University must be complete within 15 months of discharge. If you are in doubt about how you stand in this respect—check with your nearest Personnel Counsellor or Education Officer.*

(2) *Your application for a University Training Grant must be made within one year of discharge.*

(3) *Your length of service will determine the amount of government assistance given you. This grant is made on a month-for-month basis.*

(4) *Government assistance is provided only during the University years. No grants will be paid while you are vacationing during the long summer holidays.*

(5) *Grants will be discontinued if you fail a year's work.*

If you are planning on entering University it would be wise to consult the Personnel Counsellor or the Education Officer. If your qualifications are not complete they are in a position to advise you and help you get them complete while you are still in the RCAF. The person who plans ahead and follows through by taking definite action about his or her plans is the one who will ride the gravy train on civvy street.



"AFTER THIS WAR IS OVER"

**CARTOON FEATURE
BY LAC HUNT**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHINE
THOSE BUTTONS DEAR-
AND BESIDES-I DON'T THINK
YOUR BOSS WILL HOLD
AN INSPECTION THIS
MORNING!!**

