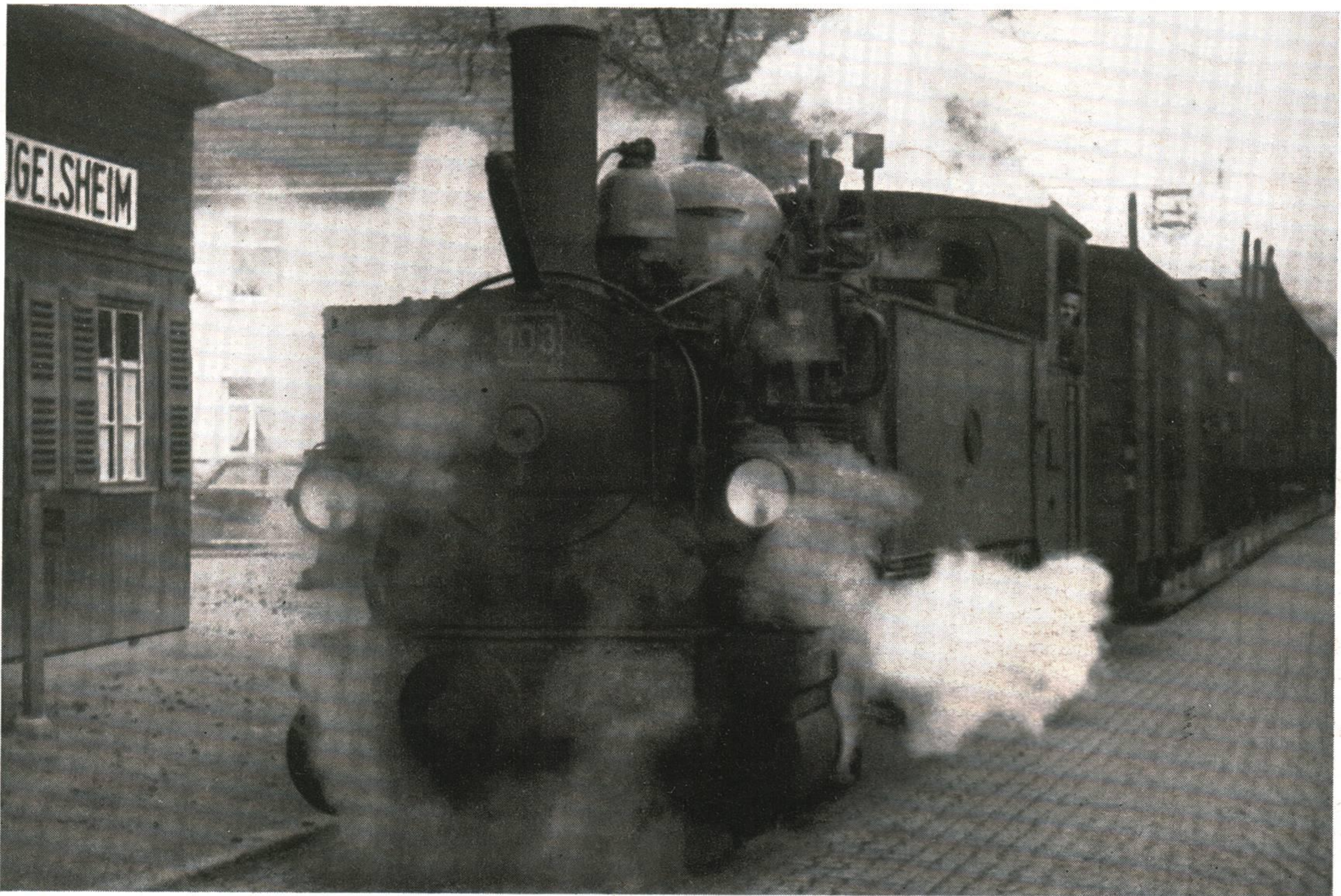


Schwarzwald- Flieger



HUEGELSHEIM EXPRESS (COVER STORY PAGE 1)

PUBLISHED BY
4 (F) WING RCAF



BADEN - SOELLINGEN
G E R M A N Y

VOLUME III · JANUARY 1956 · NUMBER 1



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COMMANDING OFFICER'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

I feel that this is a very appropriate time to express my appreciation to all ranks of 4 (F) Wing for the manner in which they have exerted themselves in contributing to our increasing operational efficiency and general success throughout 1955. This past year has been, in many ways, a very gratifying experience for those of us on this Wing, and I am certain that during the forthcoming year our efforts will be even greater in endeavouring to make our unit the best in Europe.

It is with regret that I must inform you that we have temporarily relinquished the Efficiency Trophy and the Air Firing Trophy to 3 (F) Wing. I know that you will give your all during the next period to ensure the return of these trophies to 4 (F) Wing. In the meantime we extend our heartiest congratulations to 3 (F) Wing.

At this juncture I should like to make mention of some of our praiseworthy achievements during this past year. In the field of athletic endeavour we have proved abilities in competition with other Air Division Units by virtue of the trophies we have on display. We have stood well to the front in the Rodeo Competitions. Our marksmen, as well as our pilots, have shown their ability to hit the center of the target. In our various institutes, from Central Warehouse down through our stores, snack bar, messes and canteens a noteworthy contribution has been made. I could go on through the technical, construction, armament, supply and administrative sections, and all the components that make up our Wing and point to a job well done. However, to mention each section individually would take endless time, and I can only say none is forgotten and all your effort and enthusiasm is appreciated.

As a final note, I would like to thank all those who contributed to our year end efforts, to give those in less fortunate circumstances than ourselves, a happy and joyful Christmas. The effort was tremendous, and I can assure



(Black Forest Flyer)

This magazine is published monthly as a Station Non Public Fund Activity through the kind permission of Group Captain B. E. Christmas CD, Commanding Officer 4 Fighter Wing, RCAF, Baden-Soellingen, Germany.

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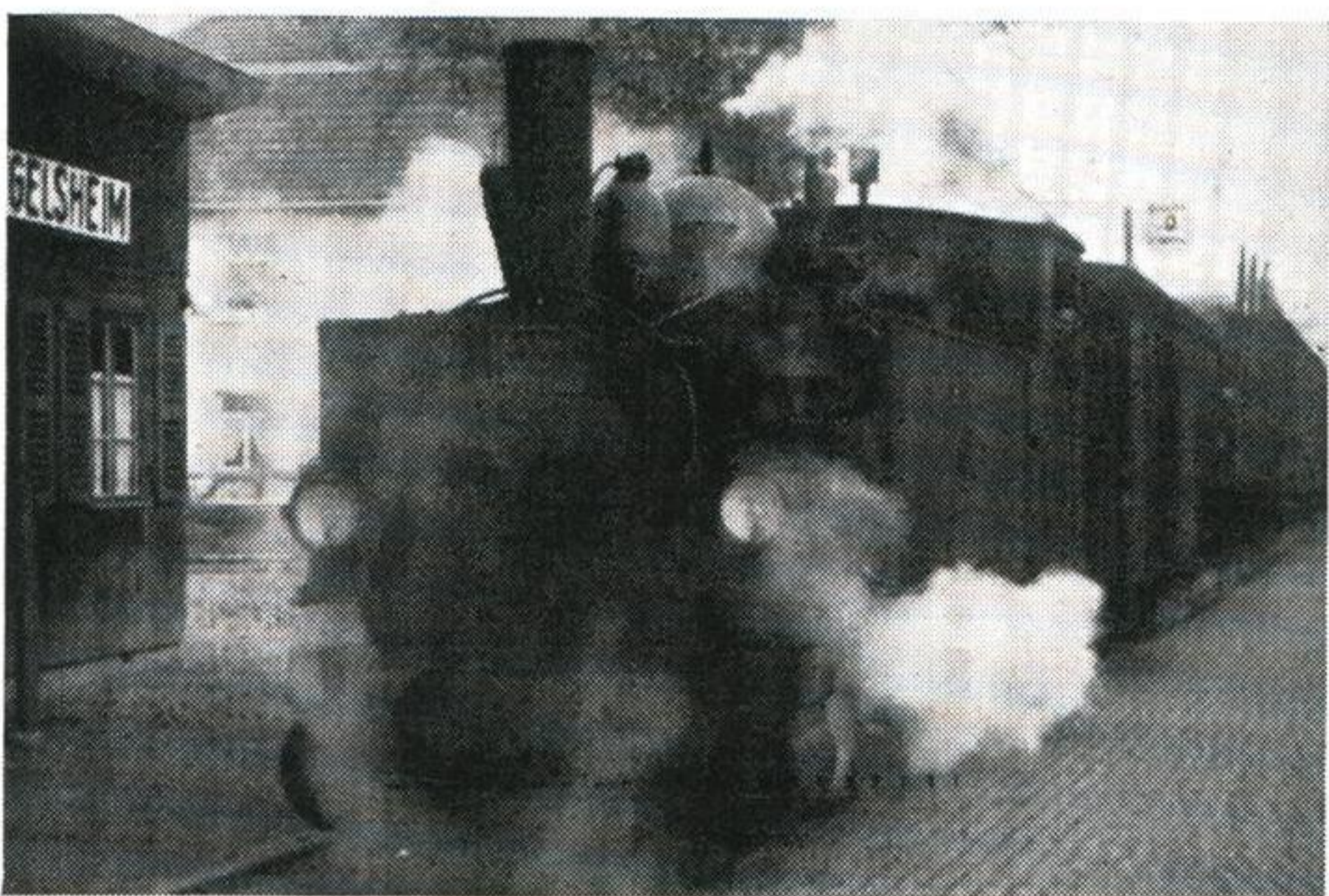
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you there have been many complimentary messages expressing the deep appreciation of the recipients. To all of you who put so much time and effort into making our "Christmas Cheer" ventures so successful I extend my warmest thanks.

May I extend to all personnel, Service and civilian, and to your wives and families, hearty good wishes for a prosperous and happy 1956.

B. E. Christmas, G/C
Commanding Officer



This Month's COVER STORY

Photo by
Frau MT Bauert

The "Hugelsheim Express"

The "Hugelsheim Express", or as the villagers call it, "S'Bimmel-Bähnle", which means in plain English, the little dingdong railway, is exactly that. Other names for it, their famous little train, are "Der Entenköpfer" which means "duck-killer", "Hasenköpfer" and "Rehköpfer", which mean rabbit- and deer-killer respectively.

The route for the "Hugelsheim Express" is from Rastatt

to Schwarzach, via Hugelsheim-Sollingen and Stollhofen. The railway took two years to build, and made its first run in 1909. It has continued to run daily since then, even during World Wars I and II. During World War II the French bombed and shelled the "Steaming Flyer", but failed to stop it. Since its inception, it has had only one fatality, even though it passes through the centres of most of the small towns on its route.

Due to the different gauge track, oil-cars bound for the Canadian airbase, are transported on a flat car by this little train. Besides bringing in fuel and other supplies to the station, this "village-flyer" carries the commuters back every morning and evening, except Sundays, to Rastatt.

When pulling into a village, the engineer makes the "little monster" make as much noise as possible, with ball and whistle, so that the tracks will be kept clear as it passes through the centres of the towns.

Even with its good train record, it would find it hard to compete with the CNR or CPR, were it back in Canada.

Spotlight on MESSING SERVICES AT (4) F WING

by Sgt W. Pigeon

"Let's Eat"

These are familiar words as Service Personnel enter the dining room at Baden-Soellingen Germany. As there are no Canadian Army Service Corps Depots on the Continent, our rations are drawn from the American Commissary in Karlsruhe. Most of the rations are shipped directly from the U.S.A., canned foods, fresh butter, frozen meats and vegetables and even California iceberg lettuce in January. The fresh vegetables are purchased by the Commissary from local European markets, but it is interesting to note that the Commissary has started its own vegetable garden to supply the installations with the fresh vegetables which are not available on the Continent, such as celery.

Cpl R. H. Dobson, Food Service Attendant, is responsible for transporting approximately 25,000 lbs. of food weekly from the Commissary to the station. He is capably and cheerfully assisted on these daily runs by the personnel from the ME section.

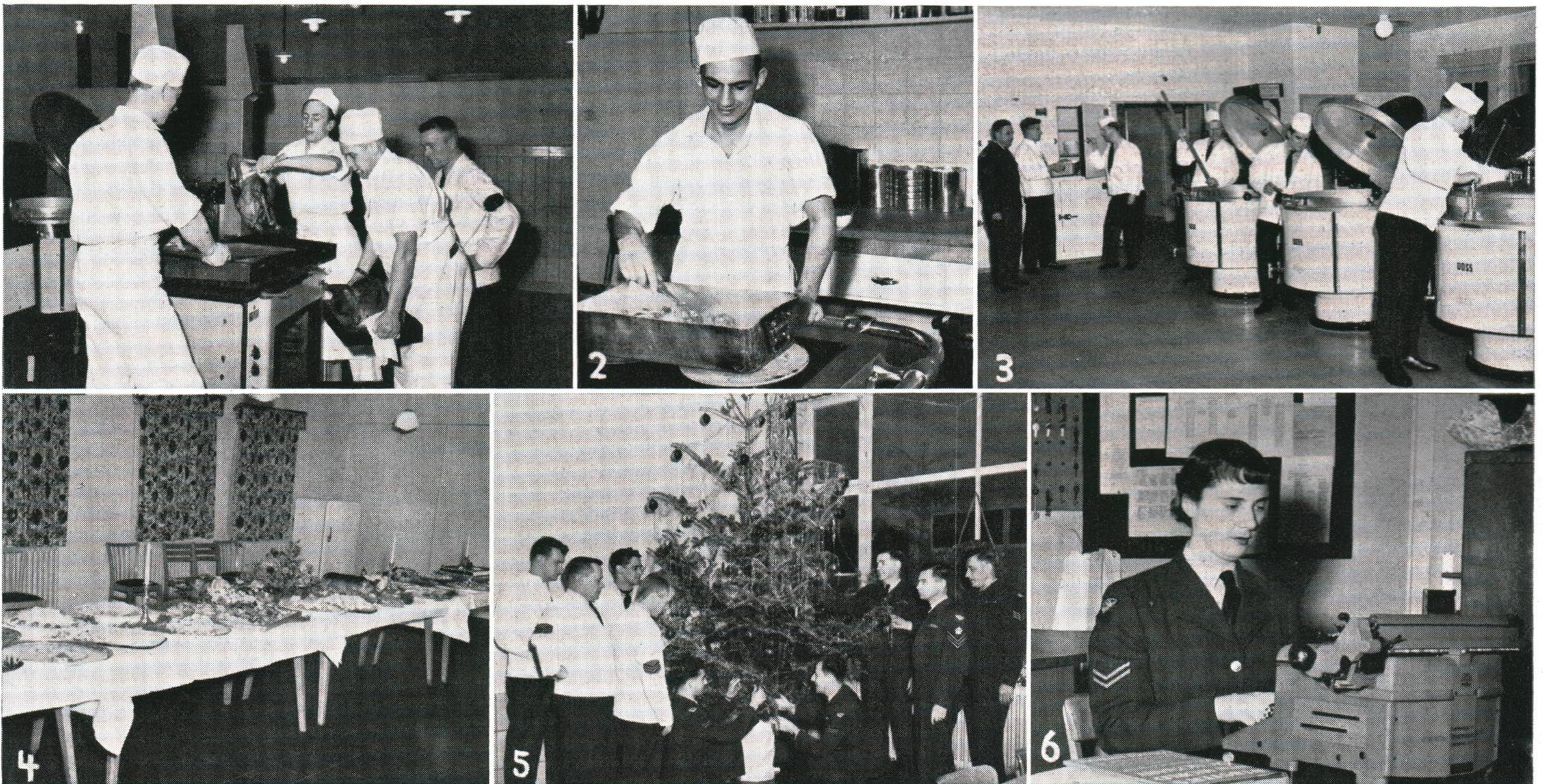
After arrival on the station, these rations are taken to the Airmens' Mess where they are divided into the

amounts required for the Combined Mess and Hospital. Cpl J. A. Roy and a newcomer to the station, LAC MacDonald, make short work of this heavy job.

To introduce you to personnel responsible for the efficient operation of these messes, we will start with F/L B. P. Ross. F/L Ross has been responsible for 4 (F) Wing messing for the last two years, and it is to her job well done that we owe the best food in the Air Division, which we enjoy.

F/S Harry Godin who wields the rod in the Airmens' Mess, assisted by Sgt J. A. Petty, Sgt K. V. Olson, Cpl E. A. Campbell and Cpl A. J. Webb, feeds 500 personnel daily as well as having numerous other commitments. In December alone, the kitchen catered for 15 section parties, three weddings, Christmas Eve refreshments, two New Year's Eve buffets for the airmen and corporals for 900 persons, and the purchasing and partial preparation of Christmas dinner for seven orphanages.

Cpl Marion Sheppard keeps the accounts straight here and the morale high while asking for words for her crossword puzzles and word games — she even invested in a five lb. dictionary the other day.



1 From right to left, Cpl Campbell supervising the cooking of Turkey, LAC Holbard holding the pan, two local Cooks.

2 LAC Lepitre, cooking, nothing but the best for Hospital Patients.

3 Combined Mess Staff at work. — From left to right, Sgt Pigeon, Cpl Pickett, LAC Sears, LAC Bullevnell, LAC Proctor, LAC Robertson.

4 Buffet Table — Combined Mess Party, one of the many.



5 Tree Decorating — LAC McDonald, Cpl Webb, LAC Moore, Cpl Campbell, Cpl Roy, Cpl Forgues, Sgt Jim Petty, FS Godin, Sgt Olson.

6 Cpl Sheppard our Clerk Typist taking time off from crossword puzzles to do a bit of typing.

7 Combined Mess Staff — Left to right, Cpl Pickett, LAC Robertson, LAC Proctor, LAC Sears, LAC Bullevnell, at the desk Sgt Bob Pigeon.

The Combined Mess kitchen looks after approximately 100 living — in officers and senior NCO's. Sgt J. H. L. Pigeon is in charge and with the assistance of Cpl C. W. Pichett, LAC "Red" Bullerwell, LAC L. L. Robertson, LAC G. L. Sears and LAC D. Proctor, he manages to keep their clients happy, some rotund and a few on diets to take off the few (?) pounds gained from Munchen Bier.

All the members of both messes appreciate the co-operation and excellent catering done from this mess for the many social functions held every month.

LAC LePitre supervises the diets of the hospital patients service personnel, dependents and babies.

Last, but not least, we would like to mention our Field Kitchen which operates in the summer in the forest at the end of the station. In the summer of 1955, we were joined by the Field Hospital, which was open for business for three weeks. Sgt Pigeon was in charge of this holiday kitchen, and LAC Hubbard's cheery face and delicious apple pie were some of the reasons why everyone ran when the words were called: "Let's Eat."



"The Black Forest Chow Line"

This photo was taken at the site of the Field Kitchen at 4 (F) Wing. The NCO in charge is Sgt JHL Pigeon. He is assisted by LAC DG Procter, LAC AN Bullerwell, LAC PD Impey, LAC GL Sears and LAC RC Moore. The Field Kitchen operated for the Field Hospital and served the boys from 414 Squadron.

The Cobra Squadron's Recently Approved Badge



When 444 (F) squadron was presented its newly-approved badge in November, it became the first RCAF squadron to have its badge approved since World War II. The squadron originated at St. Hubert, PQ, in early 1953, under the command of S/L ER Heggteit, of Ottawa. In June of that year, S/L Heggteit submitted to AFHQ a draft of the proposed badge design. Then began a long waiting period while ADCHQ, AFHQ, the Chester Herald, the Governor General and Queen Elizabeth II deliberated over the design. After the first year of waiting, enquiries were made and the squadron was informed that the badge had been approved but could not be used until the original was signed by Her Majesty and returned to the squadron. Amendments to AFAO's appeared, stating that 444 squadron had a badge depicting "a Cobra ready to strike", with the motto, Strike Swift, Strike Sure.

Finally, one year after the badge was listed as "approved", the original was returned to the present squadron commander, S/L JB Lawrence, of Toronto. The badge, initialled for approval by Queen Elizabeth, holds the place of honor in the office of the squadron's officer commanding.



Canadian Current Affairs



CANADIAN NEWS

POPULATION — The Bureau of Statistics reports that the Canadian population is getting very close to the 16,000,000 mark, and will probably reach that figure within the next year. The population figure was 15,792,000, an increase of almost one million since June 1952 when the last census was taken.

CEYLON SURVEY — A survey of Ceylon's resources by air photography has been started. The survey will cover 25 thousand square miles and is part of Canada's contribution to the Colombo Plan. A four-man team left in a Hudson aircraft to work on the survey and will fly eastward over the Atlantic to Ceylon.

A two-man advance party went to Ceylon a short while ago, and plans are being made to re-plan the city of Kandy, Ceylon's capital, with the help of the aerial photographs.

DEFENSE SPENDING — Canada's defense spending is running well ahead of last year. In November 1955, the government spent 152-and-half million dollars on defence compared with only 149 million dollars in the same month of the previous year.

ARMY AIR FORCE — The army is looking forward to having its own air arm and is going ahead with the training of its young men at Rivers, Manitoba. General Howard Graham, the Chief of the General Staff, reported that the army will ask the government for permission to operate its own air arm in a few months. He added that there would be no competition with the Airforce.

The training course consists of aerial movement of men and material by helicopter, and a large number of army personnel have taken a six-weeks course in light plane and helicopter operation. There are three instructors at the school, one of them being an Airforce instructor.

Pilots of light aircraft and helicopters are officers and take the same aircrew exams as the RCAF officers. They take their first flight training under civilian instructors at Brandon, Manitoba and later have three months training at Rivers before they earn their Army wings.

HEALTH — Paul Martin, Canadian Minister of Health, announced that all ten provinces will join in talks on national health insurance in Ottawa in late January. The main subject of the meeting will be the method of financing the health services program. The Federal Government has been reported to be willing to bear 50 per cent of the cost — within certain limits.

Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and British Columbia are most anxious to get a health insurance scheme in operation soon.

POLITICS — Canada's first citizen of Chinese extraction to enter the political arena will run in a provincial by-election in Vancouver-Centre this month. Douglas Jung, a 31 year old lawyer will contest the seat on the Progressive Conservative ticket against Social Credit, CCF and LLP contestants.

Mr. Jung is a native of Victoria who did special intelligence work in the Southwest Pacific during the Second World War.

The constituency of Vancouver-Centre includes the city's Chinatown section, and Mr. Jung has said he will try to make the 30 thousand Chinese in the city more aware of the role of government.

CANADIAN AVIATION

Mid-Canada Line — Eight Canadian commercial carriers and the RCAF have completed the first phase of the airlift of supplies and equipment to the sub-Arctic sites of the \$170,000,000 Mid-Canada radar warning line.

The Mid-Canada line will straddle the 55th parallel from the Labrador coast to the Peace River District of Alberta. The line will be 3,000 miles long with over 100 stations in it. Even though the majority of the stations will be manned by only two men, it will take over 1,200 men to operate the completed line.

The electronic equipment being used in the Mid-Canada Line is thought by experts to be superior to the equipment used in the Distant Early Warning (DEW) line being completed jointly by Canada and the United States. The Mid-Canada Line is being built by Canada alone.

Fundamentally the two systems of warning are the same, but the better equipment in the Mid-Canada line provides more accurate information and can distinguish between flocks of birds and aircraft. It also tells the number of aircraft, their height and direction of flight.

3-Nation Co-Operation — Canadair, along with Bristol of England and Convair of the United States, is making an unprecedented bid to produce a world leader in the turbo-prop airliner field. The three companies are combining their designing talents and production facilities to produce a new aircraft that will be "competitive with jet airliners in 1960 in airline operation." The aircraft will seat 120 tourist passengers in comfort, cruise at 460—500 mph and have range of 5,500 miles.

Marilyn Monroe — Canadair Limited of Montreal have incorporated the new wasp-waisted shape fuselage into an experimental model F-86 Sabre. The new design provides a way of greatly reducing the sharp drag rise which occurs at transonic speeds.

With the new fuselage pinched in where the wings are attached, the cross section of the fuselage and wing together becomes the same as it would be for the streamlined fuselage alone.

This Marilyn Monroe shape has already been incorporated by the British Aircraft industry into the Swift, Hunter, Javelin and Gnat fighters.

CF-100 Trainers — MacDonald Bros. Aircraft Ltd., has turned out its third CF-100 Mark III trainer, in accordance with an RCAF request for 48 Mark III trainers. The major part of the modification is ripping out all fire control and radar gunsight gear and the installation of dual controls with a full instrument panel in the rear seat.

Fockewulfe — Germany's first postwar plane will soon be produced by the Fockewulfe works. It will be a single-engine plane with a 140 hp engine which will give it a cruising speed of 134 mph and a range of 635 miles.

HIGH SPEED TORTOISE

What is claimed to be the world's fastest tortoise lives at the R.A.F. station at Oldenburg, Germany. He is a pet of No. 20 Squadron and recently broke the sound barrier as a passenger in a Sabre jet. Flying Officer Ralph Owen, his official custodian, said the flight had no effect on him.

NEWS BREVITIES

The Wing Orderly Room is due for a facelifting early next month, when work will start on enlarging the accommodation now occupied by the Orderly Room and Records staff. Following the trend pioneered by Accounts, a large general office will replace the various smaller rooms presently in use. While the work is being carried out, the administration staff will move to a temporary home in a still-to-be-decided location.

A new Flight Simulator for the Sabre 6 is expected in around January 15th. It will be operated by the Simulator staff as one of the components of the recently formed Training Flight. T-33 instrument training, Transient Flight, the Wing aerobatic Team and the Expeditors form the other units in Training Flight, which comes under the control and guiding hand of the CopsO.

Eighteen applications had been received up to press time from 4 Wing senior NCOs, who wish to be considered for commissioning under the terms of AFAO 14.00/01.

S/L Wooley is away at Air Division Headquarters sitting on another airmen's promotion board. The results of the board will appear as usual next April 1st.

With one hundred and fifty-five customers on the books for its first three weeks of operation, the Automobile Club Garage is booming. To help meet the flood of business, a fourth member of the staff was added a week ago, and the grease rack was expected to be in operation by the time this issue of the "Flieger" appears.

January 21st is the tentative date for the official opening of the Ice Rink. Suggestions for the ceremony include an exhibition game between the Air Division Flyers and a Swiss team. Exhibitions of figure skating and other turns have also been mentioned as possibilities.

4 Wing may soon have its own tailor shop. A firm of London tailors is interested in opening up a branch on the station premises, and would be able to offer tailoring facilities for men's and ladies' civilians suits, officers' uniforms

and many other much needed wares. The proposal is now being considered, and possible locations for the tailor shop are being looked into.

Work has been completed on the new Airwomen's Lounge in a converted Laundry Hut. As soon as suitable furnishings and drapes can be found from within station resources the girls will move into their new club. Their old premises will be taken over by the new mixed lounge for airmen and their wives.

The work on the swimming pool is moving along well now, after some delay on the structural steelwork. Barring further holdups we should be able to look forward to our first dip around April 1st.

An American professional vaudeville show is scheduled in the Station Theatre on the evening of January 26th.

An American repertory group from Heidelberg approached us recently to do a production of "Dial M for Murder" on January 21st. As this date conflicts with the tentative opening of the skating rink, it has been suggested that they stage their performance on the 22nd instead. Further word is now awaited.

Seven out of sixteen candidates passed their Group 4 Trade examinations, according to the results recently announced. Flight Sergeants Campbell, Doe, Ellery, Dove, MacPherson, Rootes and Martin put up the drinks.

Consideration is being given to the establishment of an American Express Bank on the station. Projected site is in the lobby of the station theatre, in the present cloakroom space. If the plan goes ahead, full banking facilities will be made available to 4 Wing staff and their families, and the Station Accounts Section will be relieved of at least one of their many headaches.

We extend our congratulations to Number 3 Fighter Wing at Zweibrücken, who are holding onto our Wing Efficiency and Air Firing Trophies for a short time while our Cabinet is being enlarged and strengthened.

DAIMLER BENZ A.G.

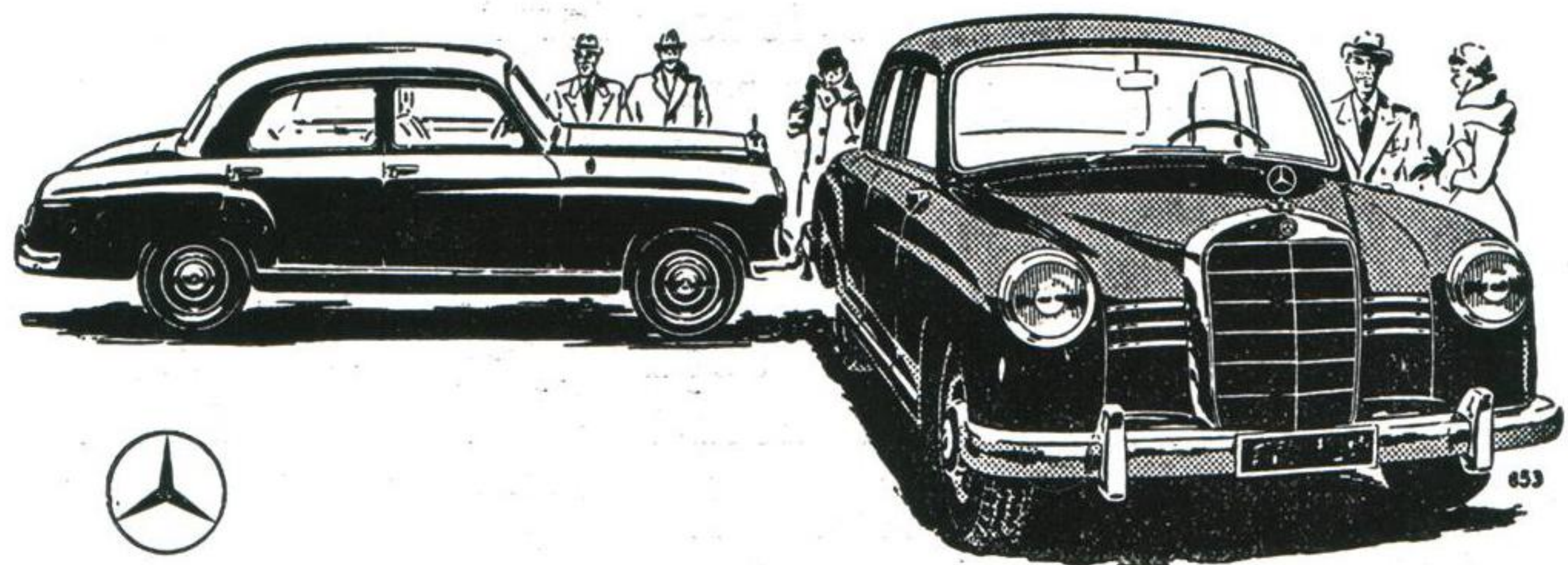
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Maintenance Memorandum

Cpl D. S. Chisholm

Now that 1955's festive season is over we can all look back and smile at those throbbing headaches we had the mornings after although they weren't too pleasant at the time. Our stag was a booming success, even though the party itself didn't last too long the spirit prevailed all evening. I join with many in thanking LAC "Tiny" Eyland for the commendable job he did as Santa Claus for our children at the Sports Palace. It's no easy job, but Tiny filled the position perfectly. (in more ways than one.)

Although Cpl. Marzelek isn't too grieved, we'll all miss his sparkling personality around the hangar. His premature transfer to Mount Hope, Ontario will leave a vacancy that will be extremely hard to fill.

LAC D. Miller had the misfortune to have his car badly damaged, and although both he and his passenger, LAC Larrett suffered cuts about the head, Larry's boy, Allan, who was in the rear seat, recieved no damage. So it could have been much worse fellows.

Our traveler, LAC Brandon put in a brief appearance here and will be leaving us again. Who knows, maybe someday he will learn to enjoy our company and stay on here for awhile.

A few of the boys tried their legs out on the Wing's newly opened ice arena. You can point out those who are in shape by observing the painful limp with which some of us walk.

A new arrival at 4 (F) Wing is LAC Pete Boyd who entered the scene amid the confusion of the season. He hails from Toronto and comes here from Station Downsview, Ontario.

The major portion of our Kipper population was missing late last month and were last seen participating in a minor evacuation to England. Maybe they had hoped to find a White Christmas there, something we didn't have here.

Wing Armament

Promptly on the hour of 1530 of the 22nd day of December 1955, the festivities began. The Systems Section, suitably decorated and with a maximum of floor space made available, came alive to the popping of corks, snapping of caps and many shouted greetings. Wing Armament's Christmas party had begun. Perhaps a few souls considered the pop of the first cork to be the starting gun for a race through the refreshments but, at least, no one exerted himself to the point of exhaustion before the deadline.

Names had been drawn previously for the exchange of humorous gifts and many laughs were enjoyed at the expense of the recipients. One practical joke backfired to the amusement of everyone. After much manoeuvring to hide Sgt. Whipple's Mechanized Roller Skate, it was discovered the wrong People's Wagon had been lifted (figuratively) and literally). Next time boys, check the licence number!!!

We were pleased to welcome visits by G/C Christmas, W/C Ball, W/C Allen, W/C Stabler and WO McConnell. We only hope that they were as well pleased with their reception. We tried our best to make them feel at home. The only criticism heard was one concerning the ratio of ingredients of a particular beverage.

We were happy to have Cpl Wright and LAC Ryan of "Photo" in attendance and joining in our fun but sorry that they were the only delegates from the ranks of the dark rooms.

In conclusion, it seems that a fine time was had by all and our deadline was observed. Here's to further Christmas parties! And may we all wish you a very Happy New Year.

Systems Section

We've had only two of our number away on leave this month and both applied for the same reason — to welcome into the family a new addition.

To LAC "Daddy" Jahraus and wife — on Nov 30, was born five pound two ounce Linda Marlene. This entitles Glen to a membership in the Order of the Midnight Stroll. And to LAC Zadow and family, on Dec 2, a shiny blue Volkswagen — Congratulations to both.

LAC Butler is combining two weeks annual leave with his New Year's leave and proceeding to Norway, Sweden and Denmark. It sounds like a lot of proceeding but we wish him luck and hope his time and finances allow him to complete his itinerary.

Our Christmas party also served as a farewell party to Jack Thursby who left on the following day for Lachine and Civvy Street. We all offer a wholehearted wish of good luck and hope to hear from him. It's Civvy Street's gain and a distinct loss to the section.

M&W Section

Well another Christmas has come and gone. Everyone in the Armament Section seems to have survived the holiday, although there were a few cases of "If you think my eyes look bloodshot from your side, you should try the view from in here."

The section Christmas party went over with a bang — an enjoyable time was had by all. Everyone present received a little gift, to name just a few — LAC (Combat) Mc-Isaac received a few comic books as his present and immediately retired to the nearest corner to catch up on the latest Gen.

LAC Lavoie's gift was a spring loaded gun which shot wooden arrows complete with suction cup — a shooting match was then held.

LAC Diver received a glass of wine which, it seems, no matter how hard he tried, it refused to be drunk. This is known to John as the "Height of Frustration".

Betty Duncan received a nice sewing kit. Dave Bishop wanted to give her a bell so he can hear her coming.

Along with the Christmas presents, two little souvenirs were given to the boys who are leaving us. LAC Impey who is going to Gimli and Cpl Ernie Wiens who has gone even further — all the way into the jungle of 414 Sqn.

The only person in the section on leave at present is Flight Sergeant Galley who is spending the holiday in Scotland with his wife and children. They're expected back on the 14th of January.

The boys who came in to work Saturday 24 December were informed that there was a box car in Soellingen waiting to be unloaded which pleased them no end.

Soellingen Sally Reports

by Cpl JM Chechotko

Greetings from the feminine corner. Although we are few in number we can certainly cause enough disruptions — can't we Ma'am?

A shower was held for Shelly Hart on the 8th of December in the Airwomen's lounge. Shelly Hart and LAC Don Page tied the knot on Dec 10, 1955 in the Protestant Chapel, with a lovely wedding reception later in the mixed lounge. Elsie McClanahan left us for 3 (F) Wing where she was to be married on 21 Dec 55. We extend our congratulations.

A dance was held in the mixed lounge sponsored by the committee to raise funds for the orphanage on 16 Dec under the direction of Flo Brucker. Needless to say the dance was a success and the children at the orphanage were able to have a lovely turkey dinner as a result. LAC Binns was director of entertainment and seemingly there was a shortage of gals, although the dancing girls were terrific. May we take this opportunity to thank Sgt Fortier and his five for the services of their band, and to Ed Kukuca and the waiters who did a wonderful job for a worthy cause. Thanks also go to the girls who helped the evening become a success, and especially those who sold tickets to all the eligible men.

The basketball season got under way on the weekend of the 10 Dec as the Raiderettes won their first game against the German girls from Karlsruhe with a close 23 — 22. Saturday night the 4 (F) Wing Raiderettes played host to the girls from Kaiserslautern, and although the girls rules were played and we are unaccustomed to them, the game was tied 18 — 18. Sunday afternoon the Raiderettes playing their rules put on a very good show with a 36 — 10 win over the American girls. Lorrie Garrison who is undoubtedly the star player of the team was credited with 18 points. Nice work Lorrie! Once again on the 18th the Eaglettes (from 2 Wing) were run ragged while 4 Wing tipped the score by a 41 — 27 win.

The airwomen held their Christmas party on the 21st, commencing with the wrapping of gifts for the orphans, cocktails, cold turkey dinner and dancing. F/L Ross made the mid-season bowling prize presentations with high single and high triple to Lorrie Garrison and hidden score to Ev Lucas.

Seven airwomen and two interpreters proceeded to the orphanage in Rastatt on the 23rd to present the kiddies with gifts and goodies. Whether or not the children usually put on a little concert is not known, but there were all 27 of them singing Christmas carols, reciting Christmas stories and all this time peering under the Christmas tree which hovered over the gifts in the centre of the room. The Mayor of



At the Airwomen's dance

Rastatt was also present with a few other dignitaries and with the help of our interpreter he thanked us for what we had done. After giving out the gifts and chatting with the children we were honoured as guests of the Mayor at the Pagodenburg for coffee and cakes. We proceeded home with a warm feeling. The Christmas spirit crept in when we saw all the happy children and made us all a little more homesick.

Christmas and New Year's leave saw many of the girls take the opportunity of travelling and also tasty dinners in homes of married personnel. Tessie Verreault said all the people in PMQ's had "measle toe" in their homes and although the MedA's were not aware of it they were sure there wasn't a thing to worry about.

Our wee Scotch lassie, Cpl Coutts has been transferred to 1 (F) Wing where she will take up her duties in the hospital. Best of luck Scottie.

Safety Equipment News

by Mike Bush

Seeing that yours truly was on leave most of the month, there may be errors or omissions.

LAC Gordie Law was back from Rabat in time for Xmas. Guess he was glad to get back to good German Coca Cola.

LAC "Red" Lanphier and "Benny" Benoit are at present on leave in England. This is their second attempt, so I guess they'll have fun. We shall no doubt hear more later.

LAW Pat Grubb went to England for Xmas and liked it so well she almost didn't come back.



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Wing Workshops

by Sgt Huston

The evening of Friday Dec 2nd, found the majority of workshops personnel attending the Tech Services party at Rastatt. All sections of Tech Services were well represented and all present had an enjoyable evening. The success of the party was due largely to the efforts of the Dance Committee, LAC's Meyers, Palmer and Cpl Tessie Verreault who spent a good deal of their own time in planning the party. LAC "Slim" Murphy went all out in decorating our smokeroom for the annual Xmas party. Just where the Xmas tree came from is anyone's guess. The only statement we could bet from "Murph" was "No names, no pack-drill". A buffet lunch featuring forty odd pounds of roast turkey was served, and the holiday spirit was very much in evidence.

LAC Bill Smith has taken two weeks leave which he will spend with his parents at Kilmarnock, Scotland. LAC Charlie Meyers is sporting a new car, while F/S Art Whiskin has two vehicles at present. Rumor has it that the second car is to be used for driving around the shop, — faster than rollerskates and much easier on grease & oil.

We in Wing Workshop extend to all, our belated, but nevertheless, sincere best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Instrument and Electrical Flashes

by LAC R. Binns

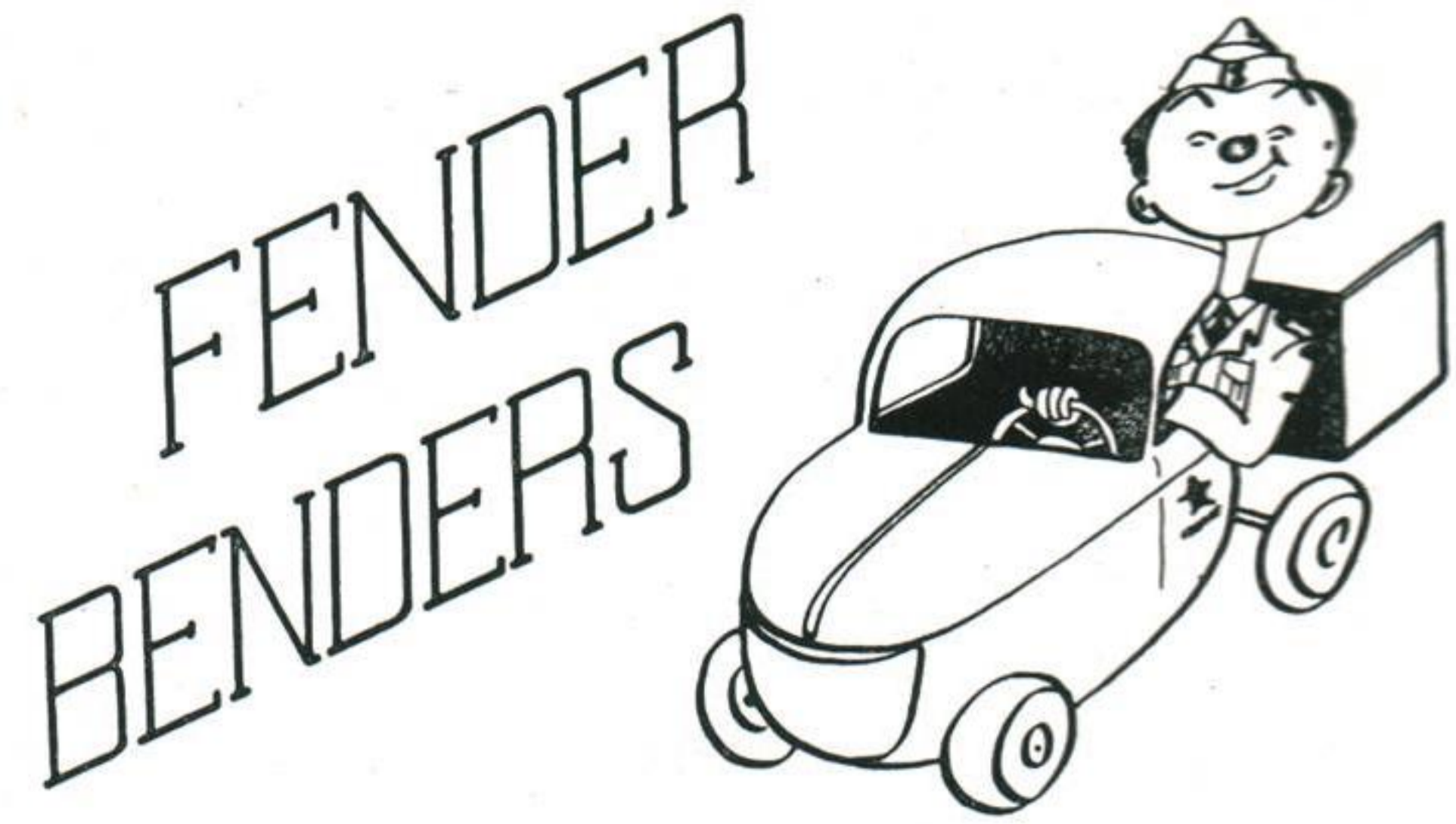
There must be many unfortunate individuals who have never passed through the portals of our section, and there are many others, even more unfortunate, who have. Nevertheless, this month, we would like to take you along with us and show you briefly the hazards and tribulations of "An Hour in the Life of a Technician", starring those inseparable twins E Tech and I Tech.

Scene I: Scene one takes place in the hangar, where we are regarded with such awe that we are given a parade of our own so that we don't have to mingle with the peasants. The parade is made up from the younger members of the sections. The older ones follow later in their wheelchairs. When roll has been called, and excuses noted, there is a quick fade out as the more alcoholically minded miraculously produce a popular brand of soft drink for the express purpose of regaining their power of speech and whittling down their aching heads to normal size.

Scene II: As Scene two opens we find most of the section wearing a different costume. It is a shapeless thing designed by Norman Hartless solely to distinguish workers from the drones. The dialogue at this time ranges from a vivid summary of the nights happenings in the city to a narrative on the background of a theatre usher. Meanwhile, drama is introduced when a dark stranger enters and speaks two words: "Kite" and "Work". These words are obviously disliked immensely because most of the cast disappears immediately leaving only one or two of the braver ones to make history by commencing work so early.

Scene III: In the final scene we find our characters assembled en bloc discussing bald Iggles, cars and cover girls. They are holding cold drinks, hot dogs, cigarettes and pawns. This is the grand finale and must be treated with the contempt it deserves.

So, as the barometer sinks slowly in the calibration room and the wheels depart rapidly to the mess, we end our saga of life. In closing, we would like to ask you not to call "Author" as he is hidden in a corner somewhere thinking up original excuses.



by 12345 Cpl RB Warke

We wish to open our column this month with a big hand to all other Wings, Sections, airmen and dependents who contributed to our Orphan's party by their time or by buying tickets. Special mention to; Cpl Ralph Wells, the tireless main cog who devoted so much time, effort and salesmanship to the party; Mrs. Audrey Knipe, who wrapped presents until the early hours of the Morning and every one an original; Saurerbaun Bus Co. who took the boys on a tour around the area; ME boys who contributed until it hurt; wives of the Section lads and quite a few of the boys who helped serve supper, acted as interpreters, decorated the hall, fixed up ping-pong tables, helped cook supper, wash dishes and the thousand and one things that made the party such a rousing success. The Director and Staff of the Orphanage were deeply touched as were most of us supposedly hardened characters and not a few eyes glistened as we listened to the youngsters sing Christmas carols and heard the speeches of the staff. I swear I've never seen boys eat like that; one little guy put away two full sized dinners and three helpings of dessert and when he got accustomed to the taste of Tomato juice there was no stopping him. To paraphrase a well known Statesman, "it is certainly rewarding to see so many with so little being helped by so few with so much . . .



OUR SECTION LADS "SANTA'S HELPERS"
Back row 1 to r — LAC Paquet, F/S Wright, Cpl Churchill,
Cpl Wells, F/S Martin.
Front row 1 to r — LAC Myers, Cpl Pyatt, LAC Legault,
LAC Charlebois, Cpl Barrett.

Thursday the 22nd of Dec was the day and the ME Section was the setting for a small party that we had for a few pre-season snorts. Lunch was put on and except for the night duty lads, we had quite a time. Paper hats were distributed and it was something to see our boss in a Beanie, and the WO in a sunshade. Small identity cards were passed out with drawings of each person's outstanding???? characteristics; Lac Demone's being the most appropriate



OUR KIDS "POTENTIAL FLEIGERS"

Our Secretary, Mrs. Brucher was presented with a small clock (maybe a hint to be at work on time) for her yeoman work during the year. The party was attended by all the top Brass and the CO was travelling around with a home-made collar on backwards for yearly sob-stories. Our driver tester was checking out the old RYE while our bolt and nut dispenser was busily dispensing foaming suds from 3 or 4 kegs of stagger water. Having only an 1800 hr pass from the wife, I lurched away early thus missing some of the ensuing excitement, but it apparently turned out alright as all and sundry were back to work the following day. Just one request, no more parties with a normal working day following, start them on the day before Christmas leave! Anyway we are all recovered now and looking forward to the next mixed party sometime in January . . .

Flying Control

by LAC Ernie Somers

We're a few weeks late, but HAPPY NEW YEAR anyway. This should have been in the last issue, but we'll try to be on time next year.

Ron Cuthbertson has left us for a visit to England. We understand that he will be buying a lot of civilian clothes. Does that mean that he won't be wearing Airforce blues much longer? In any event, have fun Ron.

The last two weeks in December were taken up with Pre-Christmas, Christmas and New Year's parties. F/O (Butch) Whalen had the gang from the Tower, Flight Planning and GCA over to his abode on the 18th of December for cocktails. Just a coincidence, but it was my birthday too. There was a good representation from all three agencies and while all made merry, our host spent his time mixing up new batches of "punch", which really "hit" us.

Thanks go to Sgt. and Mrs. Shakelton for the fine party on the 21st of December. I think Jimmie Cox (GCA) is thinking of buying Mrs. Shakelton a new set of drinking glasses.

Welcomes go out to F/S Joe Wright who is here for a short stay before going to Goose Bay for approach control, and also to Sgt. Rod Selby. Rod will be working in the tower for a short while before joining "God's Chosen Airmen" (GCA). We hope you both have a pleasant stay at 4 Wing.

F/L Johnson has returned from Bagotville with depleted bankroll. (Canada is expensive) It is rumored that he may go in for raising mink near an aerodrome if possible.

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Supply News

by F/O J. T. Third

As is the custom around Christmas, the staff party was held in the section on Thursday afternoon, the 22nd of December. Both the service and civilian personnel enjoyed the liquid, as well as the more solid refreshments provided by the entertainment committee. It was one of those rare occasions when all Supply personnel from the squadrons and sections, as well as HQ's get a chance to meet together socially. The singsong, however, was carried on mostly by the German civilians, who have an impressive ability for impromptu harmonizing.

Cpl Pyatt, the Supply tech at the M. E. section was chosen as chief tester for a "Supply Special" — a mixture of most of the common types of firewater. A lesser man would have been bowled over completely.

One new face around the section is that of Sgt Johnny Howard who now works in Tech Stores. He comes to us from AMC, and we hope that he will enjoy his tour in Europe.

A female member of Supply has succeeded in deluding a poor, unsuspecting male that marriage is THE thing. LAW Elsie McClanahan was married to LAC Lloyd Cannon at 3 (F) Wing on the 21st of December. The heartiest congratulations of the whole staff go out to both of them.

Cpl Gord Davis, the Major Equipment Mogul, recently returned from a three weeks trip to England. He flew BEA from Frankfurt to London. The entire trip from 4 Wing to London took only one afternoon, and is highly recommended by the corporal.

F/L Dave Davies, after a series of delays, finally managed to work in a few days TD on a liaison visit to the Supply Depot at Langar. He reports a successful trip, but was glad to get back to 4 Wing.

In closing, we hope that a few New Year's resolutions will be made about this routine:

Gaily Corrine
Gathered the mail,
The signals, the letters,
The bills of sale,
And the E42's,
All by the bale,
And placed them as neatly,
As one could ask it,
In F/L Davies'
IN basket.

F/L Davies,
Examined the lot,
Kept the ones
He was glad he got,
And dumped the others
He wished he'd not,
With a yawn so wide,
He could hardly mask it,
In F/L Davies'
OUT basket.

Cheerfully Corrine,
Gathered the pile,
And setting aside the
Ones to file,
She dumped the rest
With a tired smile,
Tonelessly humming
"A tisket, a tasket"
In File 13, her little
Wastebasket.

Wor Talk

by Cpl Reg Savoie

Comment Allez vous, after all those Christmas parties. All the orderly room staff seems to have recovered. The office party was good and tasty (for those who remember) thanks to the account's staff who came to the rescue at the end of the evening and enabled us to close with a little bit of dancing. I don't want to get any of you gentlemen in trouble. This writer is lucky. His wife can't read English. We would, however, like to thank the account's staff for their Bonne Entente. You gave us everything. Your refreshments, and even your girls. Thanks again.

Sgt Vic Ralph has completed his leave which ended after Christmas. Sarge, when are you coming back to work? LAW Bennet seemed to enjoy her leave working in the post office. Benny, are you going to remuster? LAW Lorrie Garrison is giving lessons to the boys and gals on how to bowl. Any one interested. Here is a good chance to improve your bowling.

LAC Jim Bourbouin was happy when he received a phone call from Paris. His father-in-law had just arrived from Canada (Quebec) and he wanted transportation to Rastatt. What a good excuse for Jim to spend a night on the Place Pigalle with the consent of his wife.

If any one would like to hear a good joke, just ask Joyce Burton about the bus driver.

After the New Year, everyone will be back in harness working at their best again, handling all your troubles and claims. We would like to wish everyone on the station a a Happy New Year. Bonne et Heureuse Annee.



Photo by "FOCUS"

The Combined efforts of the Choirs of our two Station Churches greet the New Christmas Season with Carroling through the PMQ area.

Hospital News

by Cpl A Lange

To start out our first article in the New Year, I would like to congratulate Mr and Mrs "Tim" Brown on the birth of a new future member for the AF Police.

It so happens that this little (6 lbs 10 ozs) bundle of joy was the first new arrival of 1956 in our Stn Hospital. Coming into the world when the New Year was only fourteen hrs. and thirty minutes old.

Speaking of new arrivals, we welcome Cpls Rene Latulippe and "Barney" Bernard to our Hospital Orderly Room.

We regret to say so long to Cpl "Scotty" Coutts who is reluctantly leaving the land of Schnitzel and Beer, to finish

out her tour at No 1 (F) Wing Marville. Watch out for those French Casanovas Scotty.

From all reports, all Scotty wants before she leaves here, is one more section party. Glad you enjoyed our last party Scotty, but I am afraid our finances will not stand another splash so soon after that last effort.

Speaking of parties; I think most of the members of our staff are glad that the Holiday season is a thing of the past and we can have a full shift on duty again.

Once again I have taken the pledge, (with a little persuasion from my dear Frau) and I hope it lasts longer than last year. But then, resolutions are made to be broken.

With that in mind, I would like on the behalf of the entire Hospital Staff, to wish one and all the very best for the coming new year.

Latest Gen From Telecom

by LAC Chris Black

As I begin my first article of 1956, Telecom would like to congratulate the Editor-in-Chief and the staff for making the Schwarzwald Flieger the outstanding success it was throughout the year. Thanks also to the various sections for their co-operation which has enabled us to help make 4 (F) Wing, THE STATION.

As a grand finale to the old year, the Christmas party was a smashing success (in the vicinity of 12 glasses) that sent cold chills up and down F/S's Johnson's spine, who had so thoughtfully signed for them. An abundance of Yuletide spirit was available for the thirsty ones who had gathered for this party of parties. A gift exchange was the order of the day and the following were some of the more humorous ones: for F/S Watkins, a can of tomato juice and razor should he need a shave in the Manitoba desert again; for LAC Leo McNiel, a sewing kit and a pair of corporal's hooks, no explanation needed; for Cpl Ebeltoft, a colouring book to keep him occupied when he is not compiling violation forms, and for Cpl Lowe, a children's jig saw puzzle titled "The Bird Lover". A good time was had by all and adding to the occasion was a farewell presentation to LAC (Gauch) Gauthier, who is by now a good Chathamite.

Lacking somewhat of news this month, a small survey was made by this journalist and the question presented was: "What would you like most for the year 1956?". WO Arsenault wants an annual fire picquet roster that would not be criticized. Cpl Wally Crawford wants shorter days and longer nights. Cpl Jenny Chorzempa wants a set of earplugs that would eliminate the roar of Sabres and would not interrupt the telephone work. LAC Ron Lane would appreciate a radio controlled floor scraper, sweeper, washer and polisher that could be operated in a sitting position. LAW Marie Vergouwen would like a loge installed in the theater to insure privacy.

In closing we would like to say farewell to LACs Pierre Langlois and Fred Eshpeter who have returned to Canada and will be missed about the section, and welcome to LACs Reg Garbett, Com Tech (A) and AC1 G. Loehr, Com Tech (G). We hope your stay here is a happy one.

News Item

Throughout this issue you may notice the odd photo credit given to "FOCUS" on pictures of various happenings about 4 Wing.

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Recent Weddings



- 1 Miss Anna Barbara Kimmelman, LAC Bert Delisle, 13 Aug 1955
- 2 Miss Ursula Maria Degler, Cpl Bryon Dale, 12 Aug 1955
- 3 Miss Dolores Blanche Atkinson, LAC Roy Mac Pherson, 16 Sept 1955
- 4 LAW Shelly Hart, LAC Doug Paige, 9 Dec 1955
- 5 LAW Laura James, LAC F. J. Walker, 12 Nov 1955
- 6 Miss Waltraced Lustig, LAC Ram Maharaj, 30 Dec 1955
- 7 Miss Pauline Maria Manglkramer, LAC Tomashiro, 26 Nov 1955
- 8 Miss Brigett Martha Marlitz, Cpl Bill McConnell, 28 Dec 1955
- 9 Cpl Connie Olson, Cpl Don Teed, 19 Nov 1955

Congratulations

In the New Year Promotions list, five officers from this Wing were included. The "Flieger" congratulates Squadron Leaders Cuthill and McManus and Flight Lieutenants Johnson, McGowan and Skinner on their January 1st elevations.

Fifteen officers were awarded Permanent Commissions on the same date;

Wing Headquarters	414 Squadron
F/O McDowall	F/O Mortimer
F/O Nelson	F/O McLarty
F/O Wallbridge	F/O Millar
	F/O Welters
	F/O Barger
	F/O Mohan
422 Squadron	444 Squadron
F/O Brennand	F/O Russell
F/O Carruthers	F/O Breffit
F/O Harvey	F/O Fitzsimmons

UNDERSEA START

An aviation specialist has claimed that the Russians have a guided missile that can be fired from 300 feet beneath the sea from a submarine to reach land or surface targets 140 miles away.



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The Black Knights

The foremost of the chatter is the return of "The prodigal son", F/O Blake Wyndlow to the sqdn. After being officially declared "missing in action" for two weeks, he finally showed up long enough to apply for two weeks leave, then back to jolly old Blighty. Wonder what's so attractive about that place? The second world shaking event was the restoration of F/O Barger's driver's licence, lost in the call of duty. The station windows shall once again vibrate from the mighty roar of the wild red Healy. F/O Bawtin — etc. woke up one morning to find himself in 4 Wing (or so he says) so he decided to spend the Xmas season here. We're sorry to hear that he is now ill and we wish him a speedy recovery. Wouldn't like to see him miss out on all that T. D. at Rabat. F/O's Mortimer and Brunette came home with disgusted looks on their faces, (obviously the Quebec Beer). Or could it be that they have to go back? The morning after the formal reception a dozen helpful souls were seen going through the gate toward Hugelshheim. The errand of mercy being to rescue F/O Davidson's poor auto from a ducking in a canal. I'm still wondering how it got there. Did he push, bounce or drive it there?

On the 20th of this month a tight schedule of social gatherings began and at the time of writing are still going on with the odd break for flying. The cocktail party in the pilot's room on the 22nd was a smashing success. I could tell by the enormous size of my head the next morning and by the fragrant odor of stale beer and old cigarette butts. The only thing is that it took us two days to find our Christmas tree. Then the usual Friday night when we tried to fill the other two sqdns. in with a rather potent mixture brewed by F/L McGowan and which he so fondly calls a punch. The punch didn't fill them in just made them climb the walls.

Word of the P. C.'s arrived on the 31st and was announced in the mess. We extend our congratulations to F/O's Millar, Mortimer, Barger, Mohan, McLarty, and Welters, who were all successful. Don McGowan received word of his promotion to F/L at the same time, so needless to say, the cups were filled to the brim for the better part of the night.

A closing word about the Xmas party at the Lahr orphanage. The affair went off very smoothly except for F/O Morrison's clown costume which rather scared the younger members. Must have been the red wig. Everything was coming along nicely until Santa started giving out the presents, then there was chaos. I've never seen so many noisy toys all going at once and each in a different direction with a small, squealing child closely following behind. It was a sight to warm the coldest heart or set the tender head throbbing madly. Unfortunately I was one of the latter.

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414 Ground Crew

by
 Esquire

In the little shack of 414, the boys were whooping it up!

For the records: 22 Dec — Smiling faces and unsteady feet.

23 Dec — DT's and aching heads.

What a season!!! The Sqn Xmas party went off with a BANG!!! Much revelment was the order of the evening as no one needed to be told. Many of the local Gasthauses did a roaring business as the party died off. Not mentioning any names, but one of the boys woke up in Baden-Baden reclining in the back seat of a Volkswagen, but that's not the end. He returned to work to crawl into a sleeping bag behind his desk and had a siesta.

Many thanks go to the Officers and NCOs who supplied the nectar.

The Sqn party for the orphans on the 19 Dec at Lahr was a great success with all the children receiving gifts presented by the good old Canadian Santa himself. There is a rumor going around that some of the airmen who went to entertain had more fun than the kids, but that's not quite true, fact is the kids had as much fun as the airmen. The turkey dinner was very much enjoyed with enough left over for another meal or some healthy snacks.

The Sqn has lost only one man lately, namely "Professor" Gedge, who is returning to civilization on a course at Clinton. Switching to the other side of the fence we gained four men to date. They are, Cpl Edwards and LAC Dent from Rockliffe, LAC Boyd from 411 Sqn, Toronto, and LAC Proctor from Chatham. To LAC Gedge we say "Auf Wiedersehen" and to the newcomers, "Prosit".

The question making the rounds lately, "When are we going to Rabat???" doesn't seem to have a definite answer as yet. What is it, boys? Do you want sunshine, relaxation, social activities or is it just the haunting strains of the exotic shores of Africa calling?

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TOMAHAWK

422

422 (F) Squadron

by F/O Bill Clare

There are several ways of getting through Christmas leave. One is to board a ship in Vancouver and sail for the Orient, arranging to cross the International Dateline midnight December 24. As a result, the next day on your calendar will be December 26 and Christmas will have been a total blank. Another way to make Christmas a total blank is to attend a squadron party a few days before.

The annual 422 squadron Xmas party erupted at about 1430 on the 22nd and the first hour was devoted to a few five minute speeches, flavoured with appropriate refreshments. Then the tempo increased and when the refreshments ran out few people were in any shape to notice. Anyway it was fun — if you like a roomful of idiots.



We're all very sorry to see the last of W/C C. C. Lee; our Officer Commanding for the last five months. The "Winco" has accomplished a lot in this short time and we've had fun working for him. S/L CC Magee takes over command of the squadron and it is heartening to know we have a good man to take the "Winco's" place.

It looks like we're going to lose an old original about every month for awhile. The latest posting out is F/O Verne Cottrell. Verne's given us a lot of laughs and we're losing a valuable man on the squadron. All the best to Lil, Vern and the kids.

They finally cornered F/O Gerry McDougall (frothing at the mouth) and hauled him away, not without a struggle, to Rabat Sale, North Africa, for a few months in that beauty spot.

Well that wraps it up. Happy New Leap Year.



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422 GROUND CREW NEWS

by LAC Alec Todd

Hello everybody! By the time this issue hits the print, we will all have over our hangovers and maybe broken all our good New Years resolutions. If not, the Fasching season festivities, which I believe, have already started, will account for the remaining strong willed people.

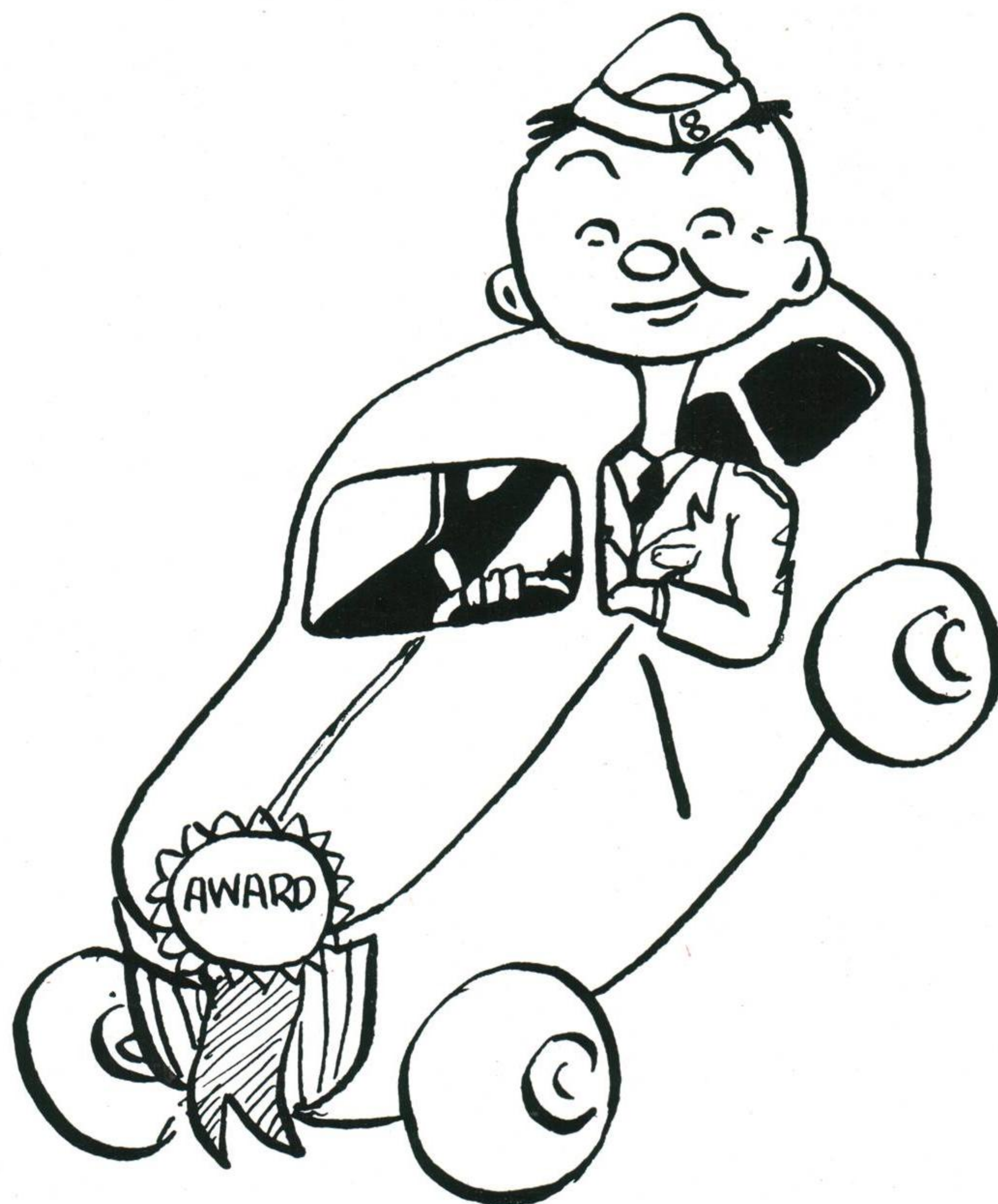
But for all our headaches and sore stomachs, it has been a really good Christmas and New Year. We should like to take the opportunity to thank all the pilots for the wonderful, though rather boisterous, party they threw for us in the Pilots Room. We're sure all the ground crew appreciated it, even though some of them got a wee bit wet.

We suppose most of you guys will know by now that our OC has been transferred to 3 (F) Wing. We are sorry to see him go. Best of luck, Sir. At the same time we would like to welcome S/L Magee as our new OC. He has been on the squadron some time now and we're sure we have all got to know and like him.

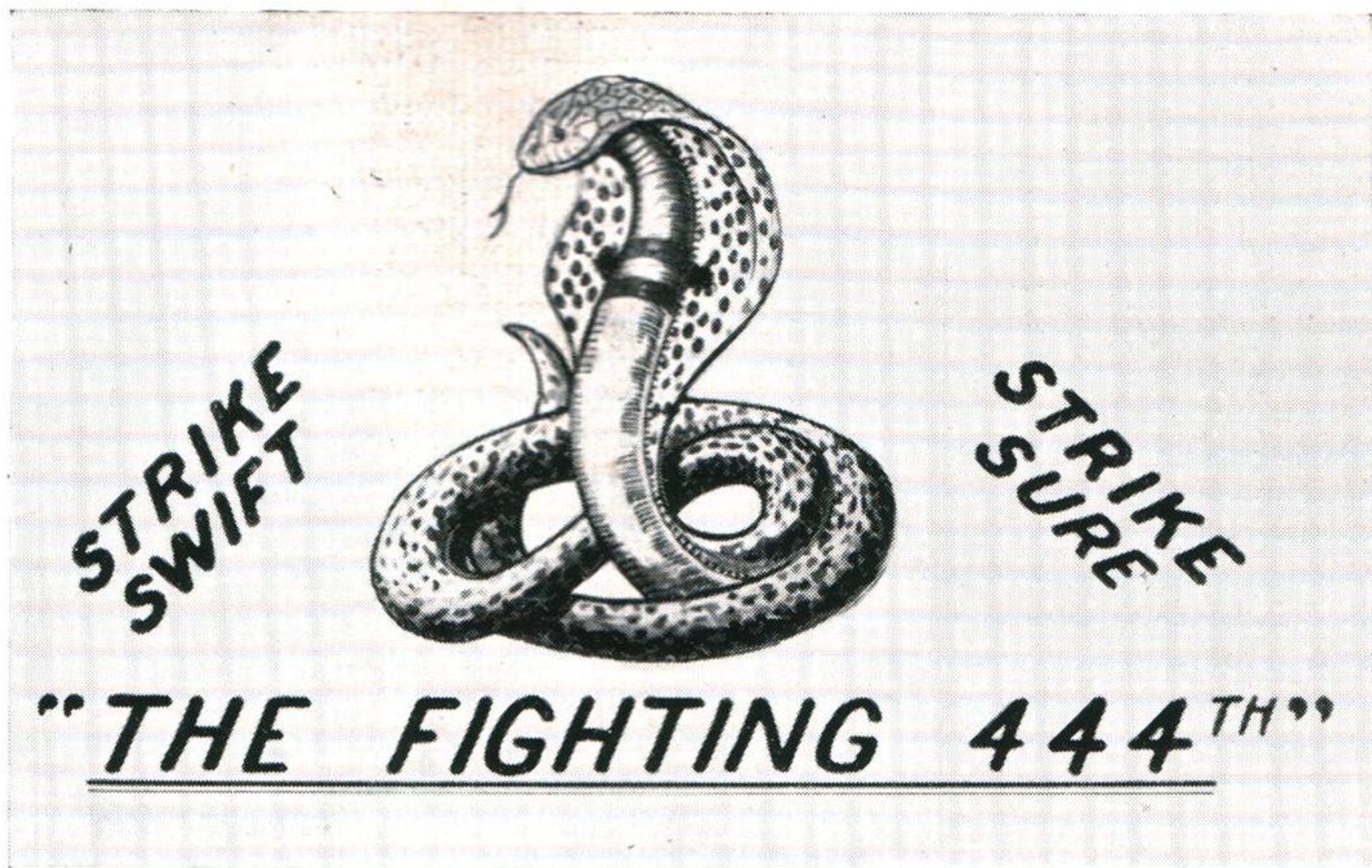
So, old Ram has got himself hitched at last, and the sweet young thing, is Fraulein Waltraud Lustig from Gernsbach. Congratulations Ram, we all hope you have many blissful years ahead.

Scotty, our singing Scotsman has taken some leave with Terry Hallet and gone to that heathen country north of the English border. We bet Glasgow know about it by now.

We are sorry to see Mike McNeil, our former scribe, leave but we bet he isn't. We'd like to thank him for all the articles he wrote for this magazine. Also gone are RF McDonald and Ted Robinson. Good luck to all of them. To take their place we have Doug Gow, Paul Hoffart and John May. Welcome to a good squadron lads.



Orchids to all those people who by good driving practices gave us an accident free Christmas.



by F/O Brian Bell

During December, the squadron has had a fairly quiet month, except for the abundance of parties which left most of our members wondering just what happened to the calendar during the last two weeks of the year. However, looking back on 1955, it was really a successful year for 444. To all our present and former personnel, we wish the very best in the New Year, and we thank them for their effort in 1955.



"THE SQUADRON WHEELS"

About the fourth day of 1956, F/O Sam Skinner and his Mrs. will be leaving the squadron (via the red M. G.) for sunny (?) Rabat to take up detachment PAI duties. Sam can expect to see us down there some time this spring. And congratulations are in order to Sam and to F/O Rig Stimson, who is presently labouring at Air Division, on their promotion to Flight Lieutenant rank. Also to be congratulated are F/O's Jack Breffitt, Len Fitzsimmons and Pete Russell, who received their permanent commissions during late December.

Sports Flashes: On December 28th, the new hockey stadium was initiated as the fighting 444th soundly thrashed a motley but courageous crew of hockey players (?) hastily formed from among pilots of the other two squadrons. The final was 16-6, but that by no means indicated the tenseness of the struggle. (It wasn't really as close as all that.) To begin with, 444 was handicapped by having Captain Ernie Saunders, of 422, playing with the Cobra team. Dusty (Ploughboy) Miller and Mel (Bullet) Henderson stood out, each scoring three brilliant goals on an overworked and baffled Newfoundlander named Howie, in the enemy nets. Al (Stonewall) Brown was a veritable tower of strength in for triple four, while Trev (Blackjack) White provided solid protection on the blueline. For the losers, Dale

(Slippery Joe) McLarty, Bill (Snarly) MacMurray and Bob (Bullmoose) Flynn, showed some promise, especially while they were on their feet. In the New Year, 444 plans to ice a young man's team (average age about 33) which, they feel, will be able to issue a challenge to any and all comers in 1956.

Exclusive: F/O and Mrs. Dusty Miller missed the New Year Baby Derby, when their second child was born on January 2nd. John's seven pound, four ounce brother was just 42 hours and 15 minutes too late to qualify Dad for a \$70 tax rebate in 1955

Ground Crew Report

by LAC Bill Mackinnon

Here we are into a New Year, parties and festivities all wound up and money all spent. Members of 444 were well represented at the New Year's Ball, and some sore heads were evident on the first day of 1956.

New arrivals this month seem to be (nearly) the exclusive right of the corporals. Congratulations to Dick Begg and Tony Tremblay who have gone on a cigar-buying spree this month.

Congratulations also to LAC McGaughy, but for a different reason. It has come to my ears he was seen wearing a pair of coveralls! Must be the effects of the season.

We say farewell this month to "Lightning" Rodgers who

is emigrating to Canada on course. Ed Eby has acquired Lightning's upholstered roller skate, complete with sterling silver shoe horn.

Our "hobby" is - FASHION

When ordering your next uniform, please come and see us together with your family. We have some **very fashionable models** in store and can show you a great variety of ready-made and tailor-made dresses which will certainly find the enthusiastic approval of your family due to their eloquent elegance and also meet with your approval for the very reasonable prices.

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OFFENBURG · STEINSTR. 22

January "Personality of the Month"



Probably one of the best known and certainly one of the best liked NCO's on the Wing is Sgt Howie Dahlgren of the Fire Hall. Howie first arrived on the Wing in May 1953 so he is now able to class himself as an "Old Sweat" around these parts.

Sgt Dahlgren first appeared on the world scene in 1925 at Woodlake, California, U.S.A. At the early age of two he began to assert himself, so much in fact that he convinced his parents that Canada was really a better place in which to live. They promptly moved to Stenen, Sask. After the normal practice of obtaining an education and trying to survive the tough Western winters he decided that the

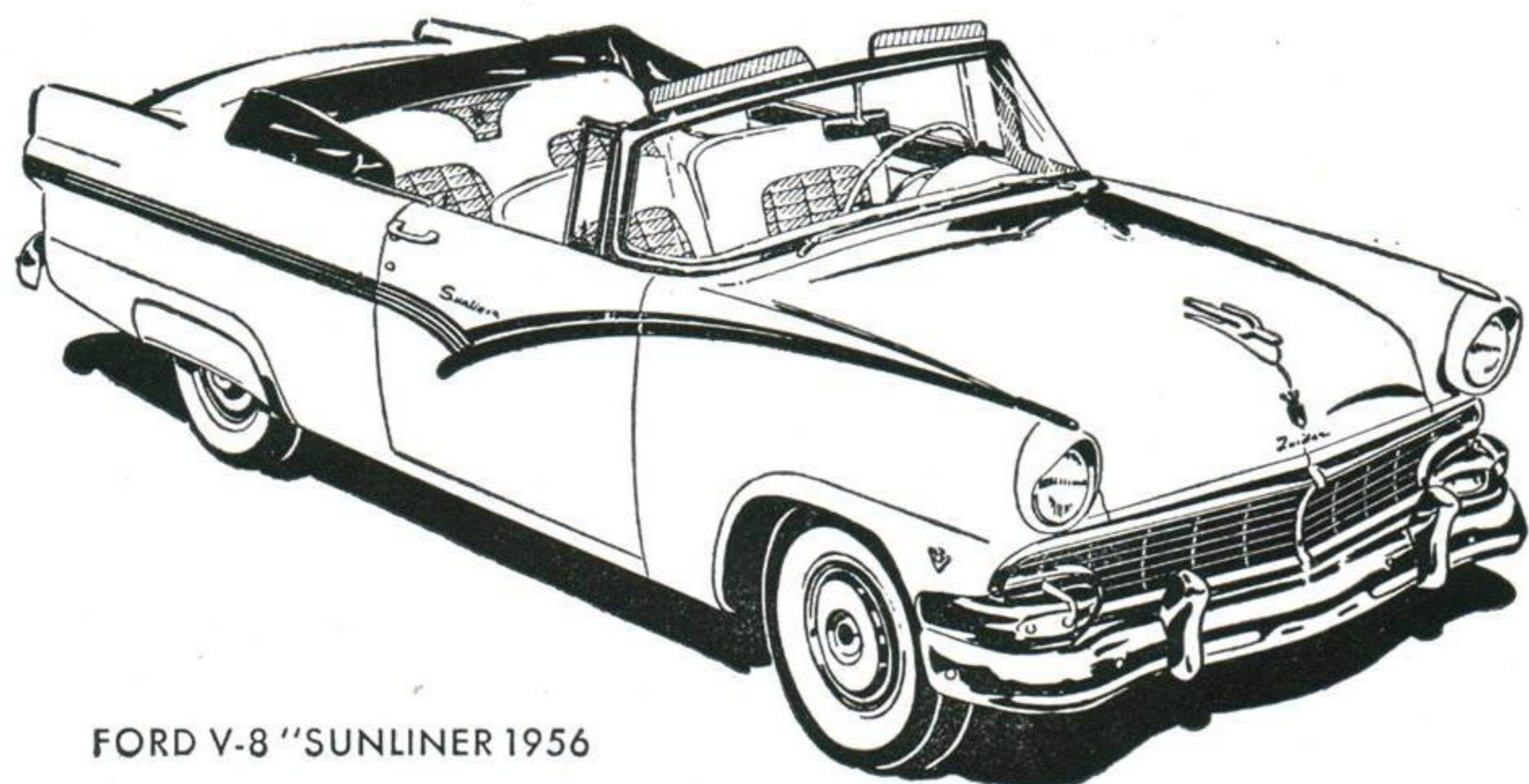
RCAF was for him and enlisted in 1942 as a Fire Fighter. In the spring of 1943 he found himself transferred to Goose Bay for a six month period. Eighteen months later he began to wonder if the service month was perhaps of different length than the one he was used to in the West.

Sgt Dahlgren, however, gained valuable experience in both Fire Fighting and Crash Tender Duties at Goose. Those were the days when Goose was the jumping off point for the infinite numbers of Libs, Lancs, Mossies and Forts that were making their way to Europe. Howie can relate one incident when a Liberator blew-up on take-off 500 feet off the ground. Five survivors were later found wandering in the bush after having somehow escaped a 500 foot fall into snow and bush sans parachutes. Then of course Howie will always remember Christmas 1943. That is the year the RCAF decided to fly in a few women and throw a Christmas dance for the lonely airmen. Howie claims the dance was most unsuccessful as the six women, a Nursing Sister and a female Messing Officer were hardly sufficient partners for the 1500 men on the station.

In 1954 Sgt Dahlgren arrived in England after an ocean voyage on a ship named the Athlone Castle. This ship, it is reported, was not seaworthy and was condemned after this trip. After stops in Bournemouth and Aldermaston he was transferred to 126 (Canadian) Wing then operating with Spitfires from an airfield near Hamburg. Howie says his stay there was really uneventful as Hamburg was just beginning to dig itself out of the debris left by the war.

In 1956 he was discharged but after two years the recruiting propaganda finally overcame his resistance and he rejoined the RCAF again as a Fire Fighter. Sgt Dahlgren claims that he is not sorry. He feels the service is now placing the proper emphasis on Crash Duties and Fire Protection and it's a happy change from the old days. With the modern equipment at their disposal together with highly trained personnel he claims the Fire Hall can at last fulfill the heavy responsibilities placed upon it.

In April 54 Howie travelled to Toronto and brought back Margaret Newman as his bride. Sgt and Mrs Dahlgren now live in PMQ 42 Apt 8 when they are not travelling around the continent. If young Steven Campbell Dahlgren who arrived on the 21 December 1955 (weight 8 lbs 5 oz) will allow it, they hope to see more of Europe before they return to Canada in April 1956.



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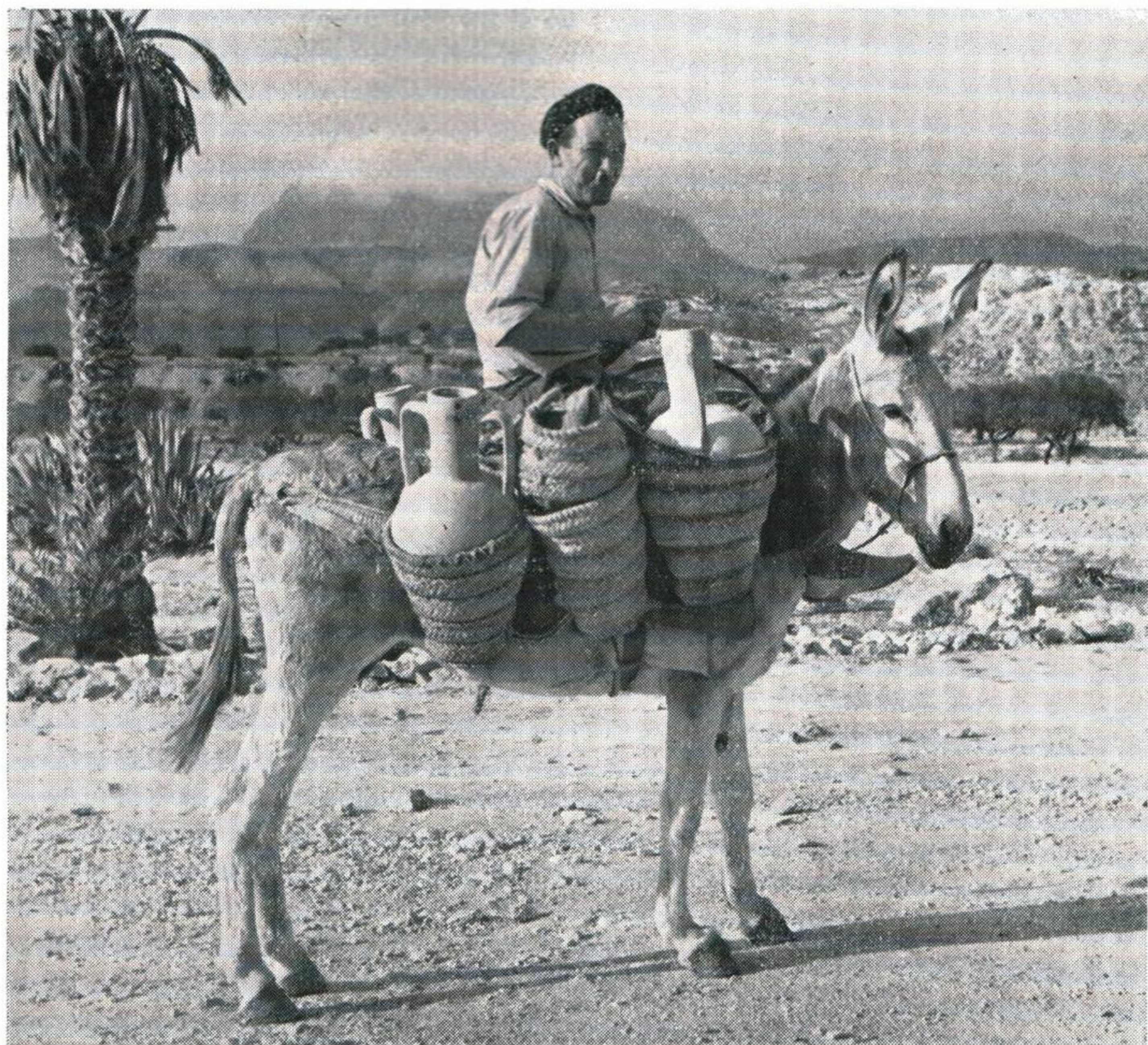
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READERS' PHOTOS — 14



The above picture was taken with a Rollie IV with Plus X film at 1/100 f11 with a medium yellow filter in the late afternoon, by W/C Winter.

This picture of a Spanish water boy taken at Benidorm just east of Alicante. The atmosphere was so bright and colors so light that the most satisfactory color (Kodachrome) slides were taken at F8 at 1/100 second.

The Spanish boy on his donkey hauled water up Mt. Benidorm to satisfy the thirst of a labour crew breaking rocks for road building. The rocks are hauled down the mountain side in pouches slung across the backs of donkeys. The men receive pay of about 38 pesetas (\$1.00 U.S.) per day.



Photo by "FOCUS"

At 2015 hours 31 December 1955 the runway was cleared at 4 Wing for the approach of a Stork MK. 55, where, upon landing successfully, the Pilot Dr. Craig delivered to the Hospital Branch of Air Movements Quantity one 6 lb. 2 oz. package labelled Mary Agnes for onward transmission to LAC and Mrs Joe McInnis.

Hard on the heels of this landing, the Ward Office Tower was warned by the Hospital Baby Control Approach that a Stork MK. 56 was in the circuit, and at 1430 hours 1 January 1956 Cpl and Mrs Bill Brown were richer by one package not labelled weighing 6 lbs 10 oz. Controlled approach by S/L Caroll.

Congratulations to both happy parents.

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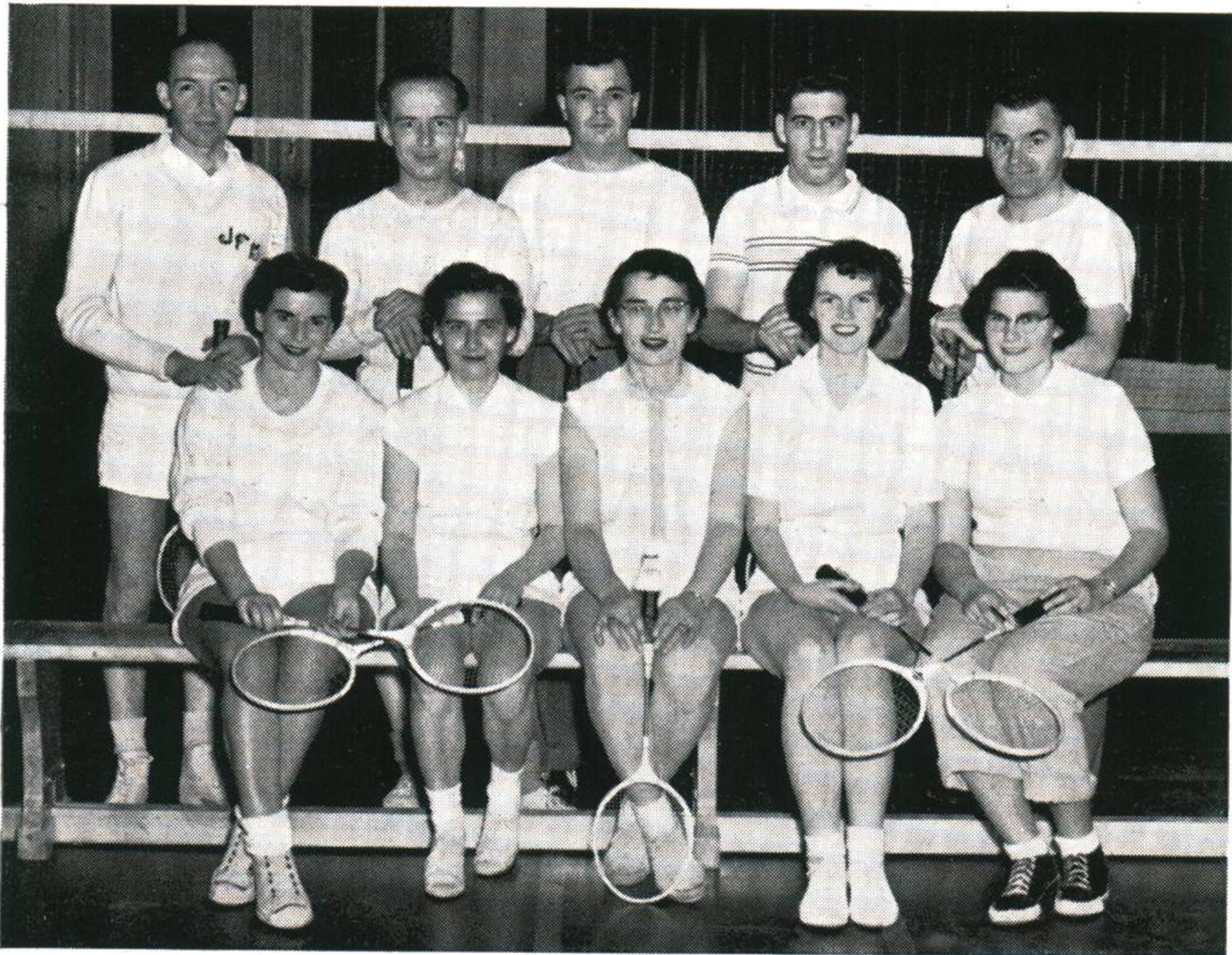
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Sports and RECREATION



Badminton News

On December 5th, 1955, the Badminton club held a tournament, and the following came out on top as the winners. In the Mixed Doubles event, Mrs. Elliott and Bill Smith took the laurels; Ladies Doubles went to Cec Klinowski and Grace Reid; and in the Mens Doubles Frank McIsaac and Mac McCormack emerged as the victors.

In the Consolation Group, Elaine Conquest and Laura Puurola took the Ladies Doubles, Barry Smith and Dave Gordon took the Mens Doubles, and Laura Puurola and Jack Little captured the Mixed Doubles.

After the tournament our Social Conveners lined up a nice lunch in the Mixed Lounge, and our thanks go out to W/C Lee for presenting the prizes to the winners.

We would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a Very Happy New Year and we hope to see you on the courts in 1956.

Recreation Ramblings

The big news for this month is the opening of the Ice Arena. Although the building is not fully completed as yet the ice sheet opened for skating on Christmas Day and if the crowd of enthusiastic skaters attending on the first day was any indication it will be one of the busiest places on the station this winter. The official opening is set for the 21 January and a full program is being planned for the big occasion. It is expected that the curling club will swing into action very shortly after New Year with the executive headed by President Thomson (Armament) and Secretary Hargreaves (Ground Defence). The intersection hockey will be opening their season on Tuesday night 24 January

and games will be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoon. The teams are busy at getting the kinks all worked out and it appears that there will be some very good hockey here this season.

RAIDERS AND RAIDERETTES

Mid-December saw the Raiders finally come to life by defeating the heavily favored 2 Wing Eagles by a score of 39—36 for their first Air Div league win. Prior to this the Raiders had lost two close games to 3 Wing and defeated the BCK team from Karlsruhe.

The undefeated Raiderettes continued to extend their unbeaten string by winning three games and tying one. Two games were played against an American team from Kaiserslautern, the first game under girls' rules and the second game under men's rules. Playing under the unfamiliar girls' rules the Raiderettes had to come from behind to gain a tie. Do Burkes basket with 10 seconds to go tied up this game. In the second game the Raiderettes won handily by a score of 36—10 with Lorrie Garrison getting 18. The BCK team from Karlsruhe were then defeated 23—22 on another late spurt by the locals. The first game of the Air Division league was played against the Eaglettes of 2 Wing and our gals won this one 41—27. The Raiderettes were led by some terrific rebounding by Barb Ross and the shooting of Lorrie Garrison and Isabel Lundstrom. Lorrie had 26 points and Isabel 11.



Basketball

The intersection basketball league has completed the first half of its league. 414 squadron is still in front and is undefeated but will be pushed in the second half as W/Main and HQ's are coming along fast.



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VOLLEYBALL

The volleyballers are also in the home stretch with the league due to end the latter part of January. The ME 1 Team has yet to taste defeat and hold a slim lead over the ME 2 team, and W/Main.

Bowling

The pre-Christmas league is now history with the Tech Services team proving their first place position all season was no fluke. They defeated the 422 Schwandivers to win the "B" League playoffs and then defeated the "A" League winners, the 422 Tomahawks to take the big one.

Variety Show

Variety Shows have been conspicuous by their absence lately as the calibre of shows available was nil. A good show has finally been found however and will be here at 2030 hours the 26 January in the Astra Theatre. The show is MC'd by a fine singing baritone Frank Reynolds and also features the versatile Lunds, Joe and Daphne, who were such a hit in their last appearance here. Adelio is a novel acrobatic accordionist while the Spalding twins in a duet dance and Vera in a solo number provide the eye appeal to the show. Altogether it adds up to a fast moving, well balanced show that is well worth seeing. Remember the time and date: 2030 hours on the 26 Jan.



Flug Platz Caller Bill Galley. Calling the "Catch All Eight" Square.



"Square Dancing is Fun" isn't it? Lots of smiles doing the "Allemande Thar" by the Flug Platz Flingers.

Square Dancing is Fun

by F/S Bill Galley

NAME OF CLUB — Flugplatz Flingers

JUST WHO IS A SQUARE DANCER

Time alone can't pass judgement on a person and say "You've been dancing now about three weeks and I therefore acknowledge that you have left the realm of the beginner and shall henceforth be addressed as a Square Dan-

cer (Junior Grade)". No, some folks go into Square Dancing business with every inch of vitality and vigor they possess. They spend eight evenings out of the week chasing from one club to another and when no such club seems available they take the action themselves, inviting a few of the neighbors into the living room putting some of the records with calls on the player and really cutting loose. Folks like this can learn most of the fundamentals in a minimum of time. On the other hand you may be one of those rare ducks who has other things to do part of the time and twice a month dedicated to square dancing may be your limit.

Therefore it's easy to see that there must be some sort of a scale to weigh the capabilities of the dancer. Of the several hundred squares being called today there are perhaps a hundred more commonly that might be classed as "Favorites". These so-called favorites are no more than special arrangements of a handful of basic patterns blended to smoothness and colored with catchy "patter". Once these fundamental patterns are learned a dancer need only be "walked through" a simple dance once or twice and he is ready to go. When the dancer has reached this stage of "Walk-through-intelligence", he has become a Square Dancer.

The past few weeks we had nine sets on the floor. Our club is growing to a stage where we are still with the beginners stage of square dancing. So don't be scared to come-on-out and see what fun square dancing is for you.

Every Tuesday evening at 20:30 hrs in the Mixed Lounge Watch your DRO's.

Open to All — "big and small"

Look for yours truly in the Flieger every month for latest news and views on Square Dancing — Above all remember "Square Dancing is Fun". This slogan or saying will be used wherever you see or hear square dancing by yours truly.

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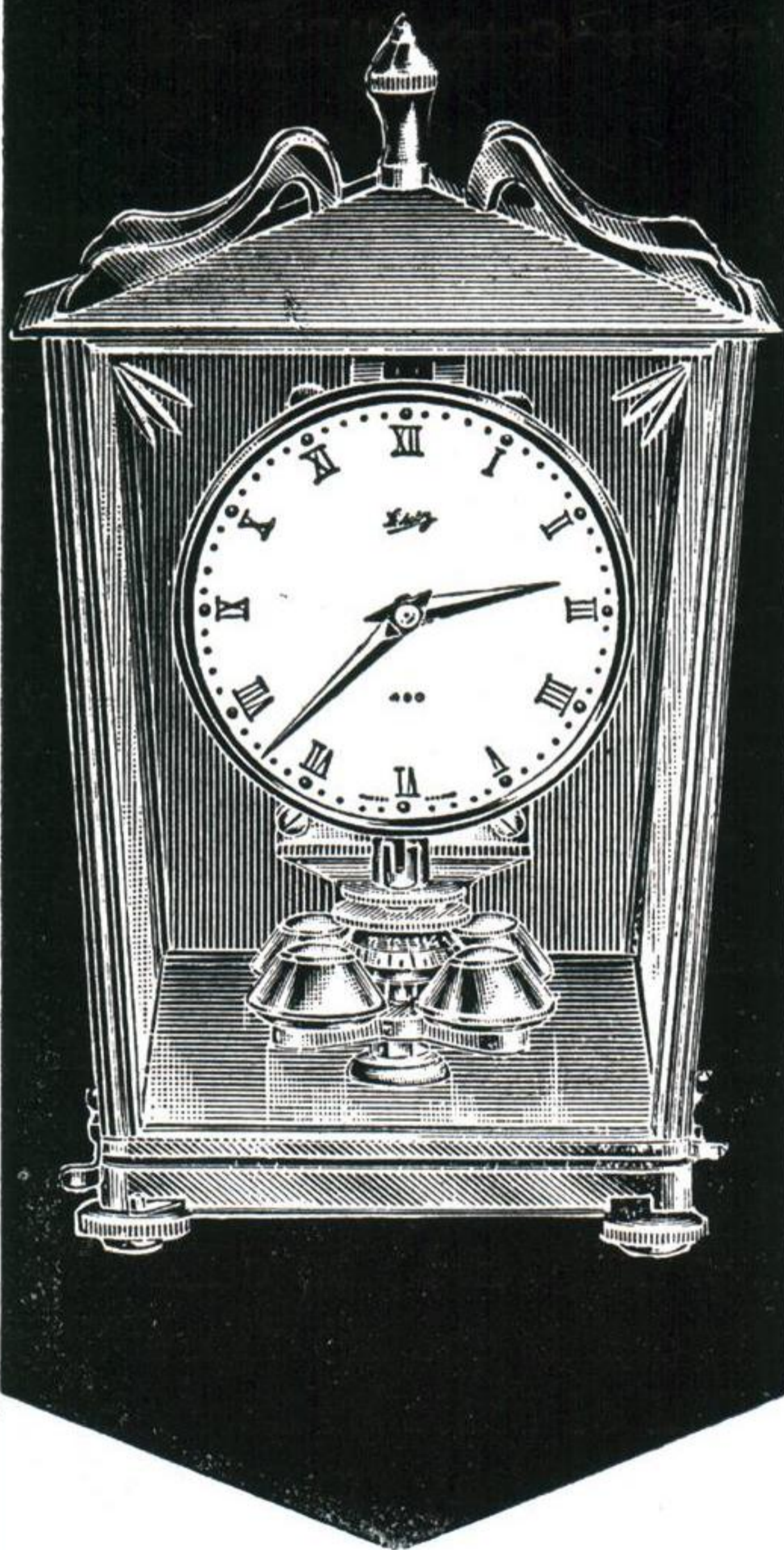
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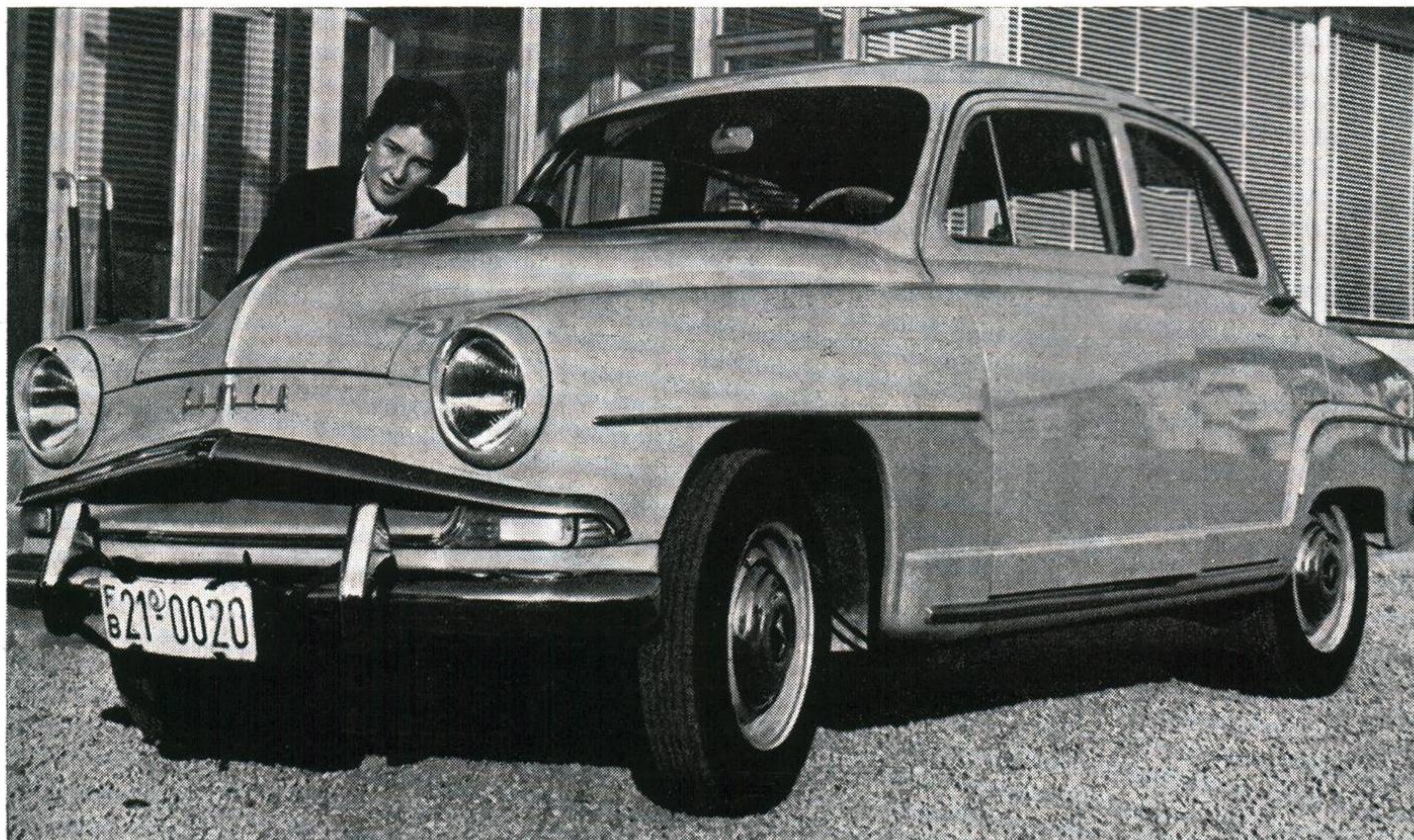
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DRIVING THE 1956 SIMCA

by F/O L. J. "Rocky" Redman

The name Simca has been boiled down from "Societe Industrielle de Mecanique et Carrosserie Automobile". So with this bit of gen, we are ready to move on to the car.

Wolfgang Tröndle from Autohaus Fortenbacher in Baden-Oos, supplied me with a well run-in 1955 Elysee for the fast driving run, and later with a '56 model on which I based this article.

Simca produces three models in the low priced range, beginning with the Deluxe at \$1,220.00, the Elysee at \$1,300.00 and the Grand Large (the hard top model) at \$1,520.00. They also produce a modified sports body and a convertible, but these will not be dealt with here.

The outside styling of the car is the same as in 1955, with the only changes in the grill, and in an extended rear deck giving a larger trunk space than before. Inside, the dash has been restyled, although they have maintained the central grouping of the instruments and the two glove compartments. A two-toned plastic upholstery is installed instead of the cloth of last year.

The driving position of the car is good, but for a short person, like myself, the front seat is a little high, and it might be uncomfortable on a long trip.

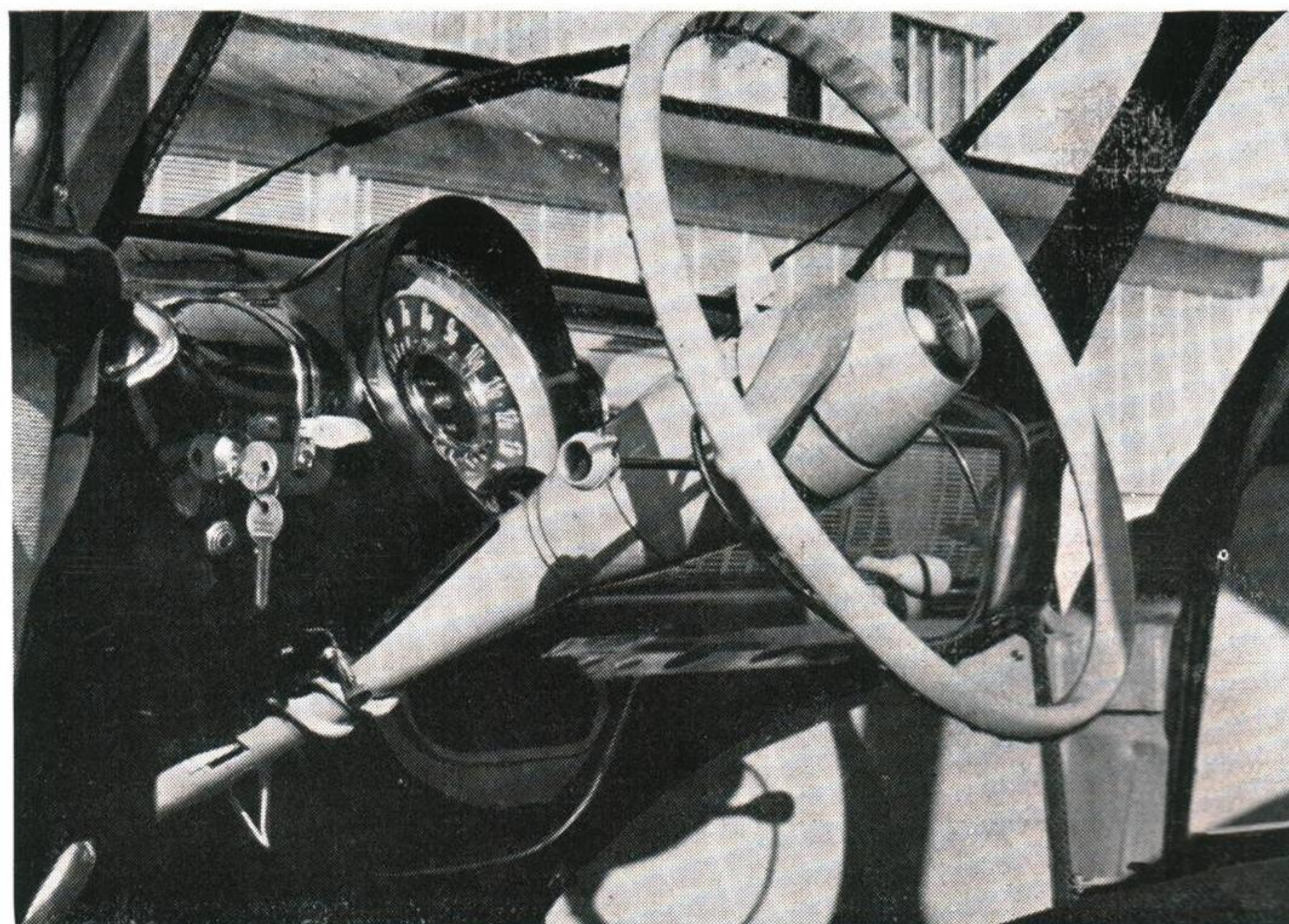
All electrical switches are placed on the steering column and are very handy to use.

The riding qualities of the Simca are excellent for a car of this size, and are certainly much better than several popular makes offered at the same price. I drove the car over some very rough going on several occasions and found that it took the bumps with ease. All passengers found the ride to be smooth and the seats very comfortable. There was a noted lack of road noise which seems to be standard equipment on many small cars.

Trunk space is ample, but the spare is set in a recess in the trunk floor, so that all your suitcases and what-have-you go on top of it. Real jazzy if you have a flat with the trunk full. Jacking is quite handy, and is carried out at four jacking points, located two on either side of the car.

The engine is a new design and produces 46 h. p. This gives a top speed of slightly over 80 m. p. h. Best driving speed for a car of this weight was found to be in the 50 — 60 m. p. h. range.

The gears are synchromesh in second, third and fourth, and are smooth and positive in their operation. Owing to the long wait in France for a new car, the resale value of the Simca has remained high. Fortenbacher in Baden-Oos will sell the car on a guaranteed take back basis, and they are able to pay a good second-hand price because of the ready market in France.



WING LIBRARY

by Miss Irene Cachia (Librarian)

Two years ago, this Wing had but a budding literary source, but now we can proudly say that it is flowering, even if its growing pains can be heard amongst those personnel who claim to have read most of our books. To these people, we are very glad to announce that we have a large selection of new books going onto our library shelves at the end of January.

Some of the books we have ordered and received for the library include "Not as a Stranger" by M. Thompson, a book much in demand after the movie was shown at the Station Theatre! "The Quiet American" by Graham Greene; "To Hell and Back" by Audie Murphy, the personal experiences of the most decorated American hero of World War II; "Taking Color Photographs" which is one of a type of book which seems to be very much in demand, and the first of many we hope to get for photography enthusiasts; "A Guide to Elegance" by Jacqueline du Pasquier for the ladies with clothes conscious minds; "A Book on German Idioms" which might help some of us to expand our German vocabularies; "The Call to Honour" by General Charles de Gaulle; "Cardinal Bernard Griffin" by Michael de la Bedoyers, a personal biography of this great English Roman Catholic; "History of Costume" by J. Laver which will assist you in selecting your costumes for the coming Fasching season; "No Time for Sergeants" by Nigel Hyman; "Italian Holiday" by P. Sutton; "The Wine of Genius" by R. Coughlan, the biography of Utrillo who died in Paris a short while

ago; "Jean Jacques Rousseau — A Critical Study of His Life and Writings"; "A Doctor at Dien-Bien-Phu" by Major Grauvin, which gives a terrifying description of the massacre during the French-Communist war in Indo-China. There are many other new books coming into the library including a number of books on television, and on many other subjects, which should please almost everyone.

Small changes to the Library atmosphere are to be made. Various potted plants will soften the scholastic surroundings, and a music appreciation hour is being considered. If YOU are interested in classical music let us know what you would like to listen to while you are in the Library with a good book.

Our Pocket Book section has increased by leaps and bounds in the last few weeks when it was operated on a "Bring two — take one" exchange. We are now considering reverting to the old "Bring one — take one" system, and would appreciate it if you could let us know what you think about it. Many people, who had an overflow of pocket books brought them into the library to get rid of them. We would appreciate it if you, too, could bring your old pocket books to us so that others might get a chance to read them, and so that the selection might be improved.

This is your Library, so make the most of it. Offer us any suggestions that might be beneficial to all users. The Librarian will listen to all you have to say, and then present these ideas at the next Library Committee Meeting.



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THE STORY OF RASTATT

by Frau E. Radetzki



The Stadtkirche and Johannes Fountain in Rastatt.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

To help those of us who are interested in places and happenings outside the airfield fence, our station translator, Frau Radetzki, has burrowed into the archives of the town of Rastatt and uncovered some facts and fables which help us to understand better the historical background of the locality in which we now find ourselves.

Archaeologists place the first human settlements in the Rhine Plains around Rastatt at the end of the bronze age, around 1,100 B.C. This estimate is based on important excavations made on the site of the **Heiligenbuck**, a small hillock 12 feet high, which was found just outside the village of Huegelsheim only a few hundred yards from our present perimeter fence. These excavations revealed that

an ancient king or tribal chief had been buried there with his war chariot and some iron implements. Close by was a second mound, apparently the burial site of a queen. All the items found are now exhibited in the Karlsruhe Museum. The mounds have long since been levelled and their sites are now covered with cornfields.

Further discoveries from a more recent period have been made in the Soellingen area, comprising mainly of bracelets, an iron knife and pottery.

Very little is known about the district's earliest inhabitants, however, around 500 B.C. some Celtic tribes moved into south-west Germany, and Baden Province was taken over by the Helvetians. They built strong fortifications to

protect their newly-acquired territory, and the **Batter Rocks** above Baden-Baden contain traces of these. The names of the rivers, **Murg** and **Oos**, are said to be of Celtic origin. The Celtic tribes were later defeated by the Teutonic tribes which took possession of the area. Baden was occupied by a tribe known as **Alemannen**, a word which is still used in connection with the population of this district.

As late as 50 B.C., the Teutons battled the Romans for control of the country on this side of the Rhine, until the Romans subdued their opponents and brought the district into their sphere of influence. The hot spas of **Aquae** (the Roman name for Baden-Baden) were one of the main attractions for the new conquerors.

Although there is no proof that Rastatt was founded by the Romans, this is quite probable in view of its location, and the neighbouring settlements of **Aquae** and **Saletio** (now called Seltz and formerly a large garrison post for the Roman legions). This belief is also supported by the excavation of an altar to the god Mercury underneath the **Bernhardus** church in Rastatt. The town's name is supposed to be derived from an old German word **Raststaette**, which means "resting place", although some attribute its origin to the **rasta**, a Roman lineal measure.

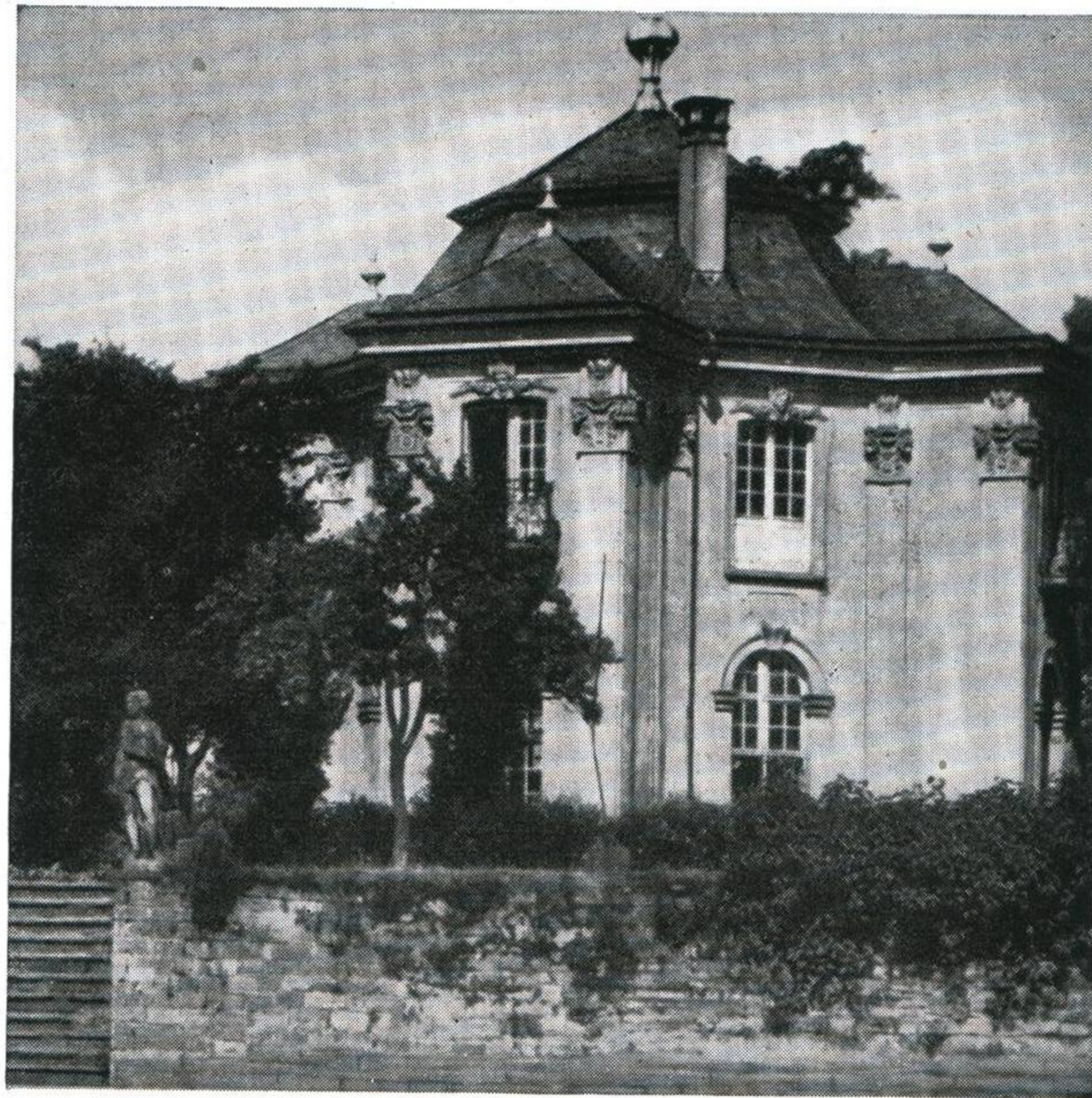
The oldest authentic documents concerning Rastatt date back to 1085. These mention a large navigable lake which existed at that time between Oos, Sandweier and Kuppenheim. In the middle ages, Rastatt was a prosperous community, a trading centre for salt, Alsatian wines and timber which was floated down the Murg River in rafts.

This evolution era came to a sudden end in 1422 when a feud broke out between the Markgrave of Baden and the south-Baden nobility. In the course of this dispute, Rastatt was burned to the ground.

In the Thirty Years' War, the town suffered great devastation by the victorious Swedish Army, and all trade and commerce were halted once more. Hardly had this conflict ended when another war broke out between Holland and France; the Rhine Plains were subjected to yet another invasion and the population forced to make substantial contributions in money and kind.

The Markgrave of Baden (the famous Turkenlouis) came into the picture about this time. He spent a good deal of his time on various battlefields during the wars against the Turks — something like twelve years altogether — and while he was away on one of his campaigns in 1688, the Palatinate War broke out. A year later the French marauders invaded the Markgrave's territory and Rastatt was again destroyed. The Markgrave's own residence (the Old Castle on the slopes above Baden-Baden) suffered the same fate during this invasion, and on his return the Turkenlouis decided to move his entire court to Rastatt and build a new residence there.

Built in the style of the Palace of Versailles, the main portions of the Rastatt Castle were completed in 1705. De-



The Pagodenburg.

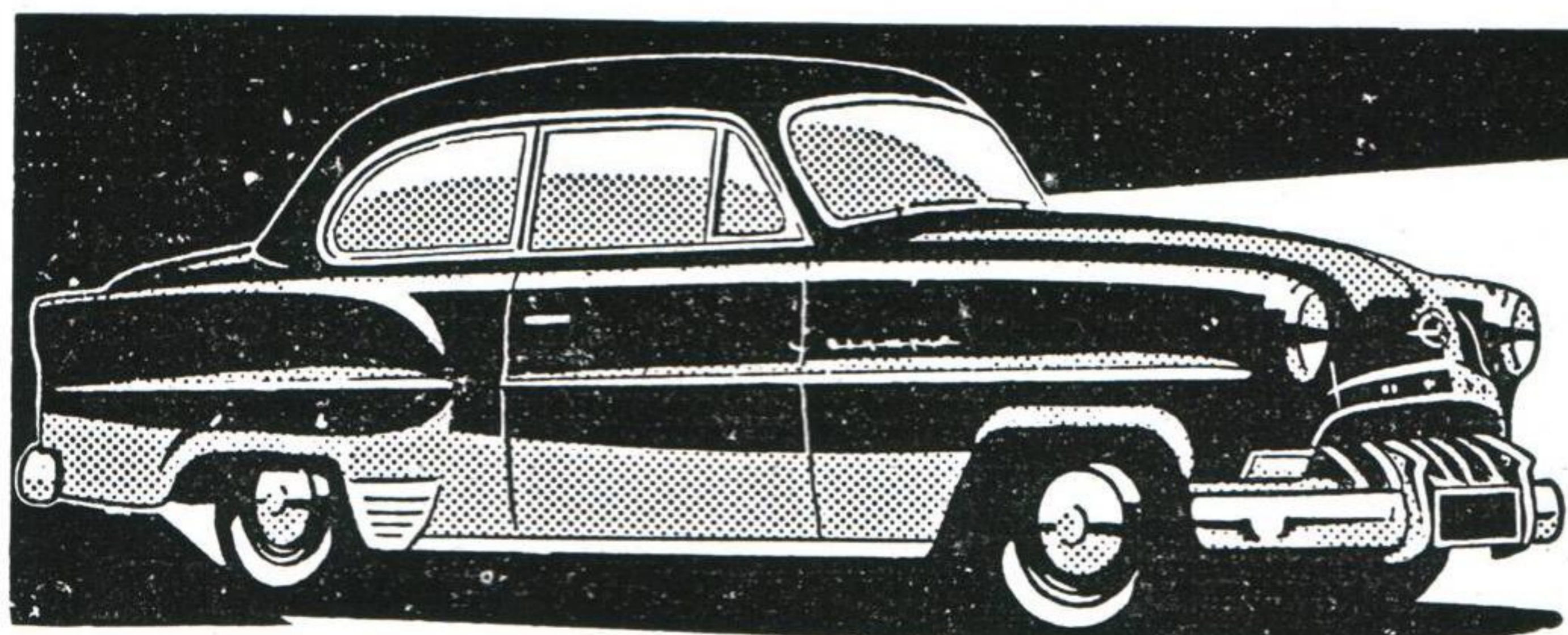
signed by the Viennese architect Rossi, it took six years to construct. It was the first of its kind to be built in Germany. The Markgrave's wife, Sybilla, took a great interest in the project and kept an eye on its construction while Turkenlouis was absent.

According to local legend, a dispute arose between the Markgrave and his wife over the symbol which was to crown the highest of the three castle towers. He was in favour of a statue of the god Jupiter, while his pious wife argued for a madonna with a cross. Emperor Leopold was called in to arbitrate in the domestic disagreement, and he decided in favour of the Markgrave. Jupiter appeared in due course on the pinnacle and as the "Golden Man" has remained the symbol of Rastatt ever since.

About the same time as the Castle was being built, The Franciscan Monastery was completed on what is now **Herrenstrasse**. The monastery is now the home of the county authority offices.

The Turkenlouis unfortunately did not live to see his castle in its final form. He came home from the War of the Spanish Succession a sick and wounded man, and died in the castle in 1707. His body was laid to rest in the vault of the **Stiftskirche** in Baden-Baden, and his heart was placed in a shrine at the **Fuerstenkapelle** in the Lichtental Convent. Work on the castle continued, and another wing was added to the structure. This was named the **Sybillenbau**, and became the residence of Turkenlouis' wife when the eldest son married.

The state rooms of the castle were reserved for special occasions, such as the negotiations in 1714 for a peace treaty between Prince Eugen of Savoy and the French Marshall Villars, who met in Rastatt to end the War of Succession. The room in which the conference took place is known as the "Peace Room."



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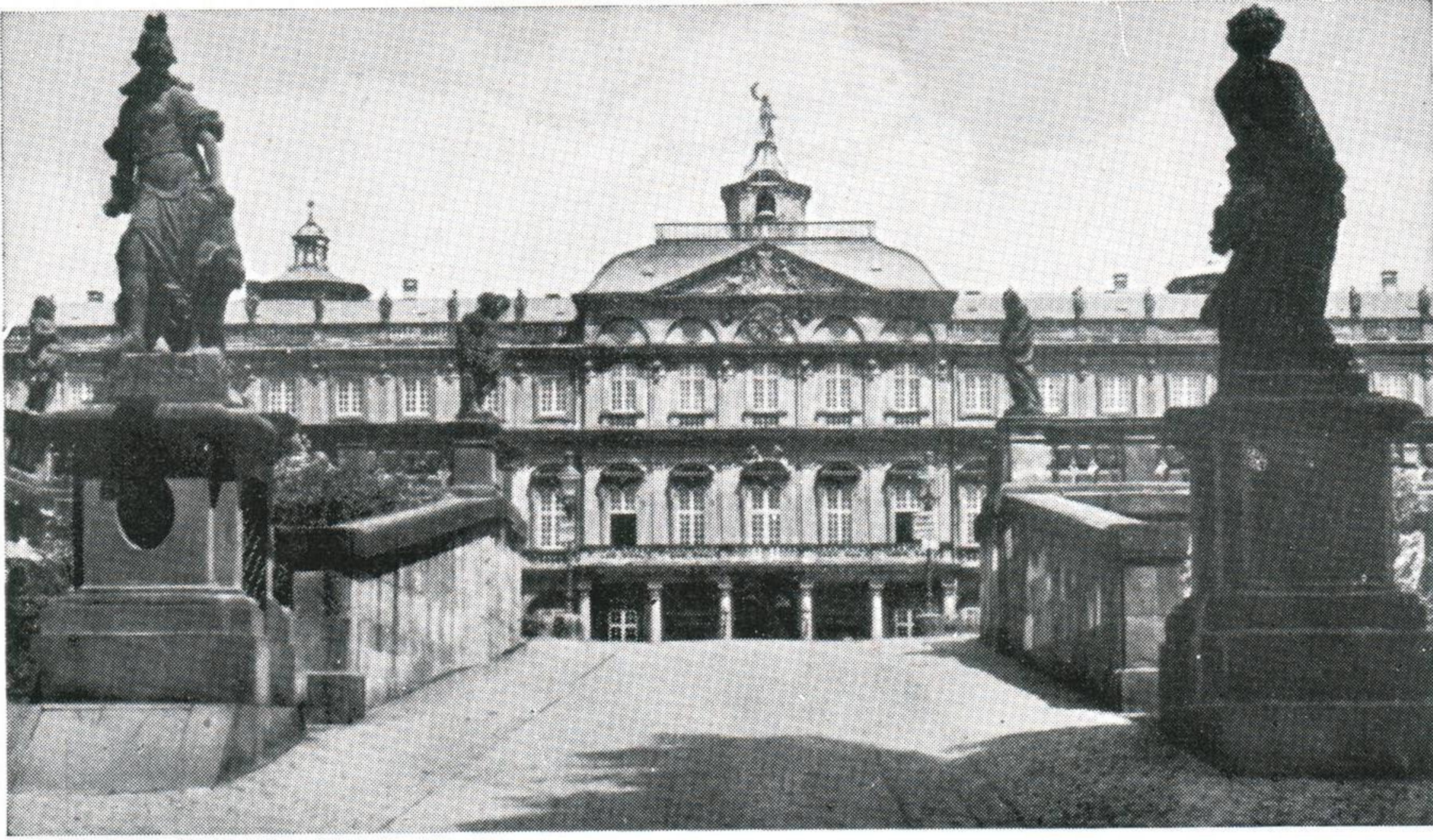
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The Rastatt Castle.

After the death of **Turkenlouis**, Countess Sybilla ordered construction of the **Eremitage** (Hermit's Chapel) and the **Pagodenburg** (the small baroque style structure in the flower exhibition area). Her summer residence, **Schloss Favorit** was also built during her period of regency which lasted until her son succeeded to his father's title.

The Rastatt Castle ceased to be a court residence when Sybilla's son died in 1771 without an heir. During the French Revolution in 1796, the revolutionary armies captured Rastatt after a heavy artillery bombardment. They pillaged the castle, and stole many valuable trophies of the **Turkenlouis** family.

Three years later in 1799, Rastatt was again chosen as the site for peace treaty negotiations between Germany and France. The sleepy little town of 4,500 residents became a booming centre of social activities as deputies and envoys arrived for the lengthy discussions. Even a gambling casino was set up for their entertainment. Napoleon himself came to Rastatt, but left for Paris before the negotiations began.

This so-called "Peace Congress" was rather a flop as peace conferences go, and adjourned after fifteen months. Three of the French envoys were attacked on leaving the town and two of them were killed. No motive for these murders was ever established. A memorial stone inscribed "In memoriam to the Envoys' Murder" can still be seen in the park close to the Murg dike.

Napoleon visited the town on two other occasions (in 1805 and 1809) during his various European campaigns, and the townspeople were forced to make heavy contributions to his army.

After the Markgrave's court had moved to Baden-Durlach, Rastatt became a garrison town, and a system of fortifications was constructed. This consisted of a wall around the town centre, with the three bastions **Leopoldsfeste**, **Ludwigsfeste**, and **Friedrichsfeste**, and some detached forts located in the outlying parts of town. Some of these forts

and bastions are still in existence; the **Friedrichsfeste** for example is now used as a refugee camp.

During the revolution of 1848/49, a mutiny broke out among the garrison troops, and had to be quelled by the Prussian army, which besieged the town for three weeks. The rebel ringleaders were sentenced to death, but some escaped to other countries. One of them, Carl Schurz, left the fortress through a sewer line and made his escape to America where he became quite famous. It is of interest to note that the revolutionary flag was black, red and gold — the colours of the present Federal German Republic.

After a relatively peaceful interval of twenty years. The Franco-Prussian War of 1870 broke out, and Rastatt became the main supply base for the Germans east of the Rhine. When Strassburg surrendered, the 17,000 garrison troops were marched to Rastatt as prisoners of war. At the end of the war the Prussian King became the first German Emperor, and ascended the throne as "Wilhelm I". Baden and Prussia signed a military alliance and the fortress town was taken over by Prussia.

In the new cemetery two monuments can still be found; one is to the French soldiers who died here in captivity, and the second is to the German soldiers killed during the Franco-Prussian War.

In 1877, on the occasion of the large scale "Emperor's Manoeuvres" which were held in the Rastatt/Eitlingen area, Wilhelm I visited the town with a large retinue. In honour of the event, a plaque of white marble was affixed to the Town Hall.

The fortress, which had hampered the commercial development of Rastatt, was finally torn down, and only a small garrison retained. In the years following new industries brought prosperity to the town, railway lines were constructed (the Murgtal line), and slowly Rastatt changed from a military town to a commercial one.

During the first World War no fighting took place in the district, and the only military establishment was a large camp which at one stage held 20,000 Russian prisoners of war.

Thirty per cent of the community's housing area was destroyed in World War II, with the damage centering around the railway station. On April 12th, the French Army moved into the town, which surrendered without resistance.

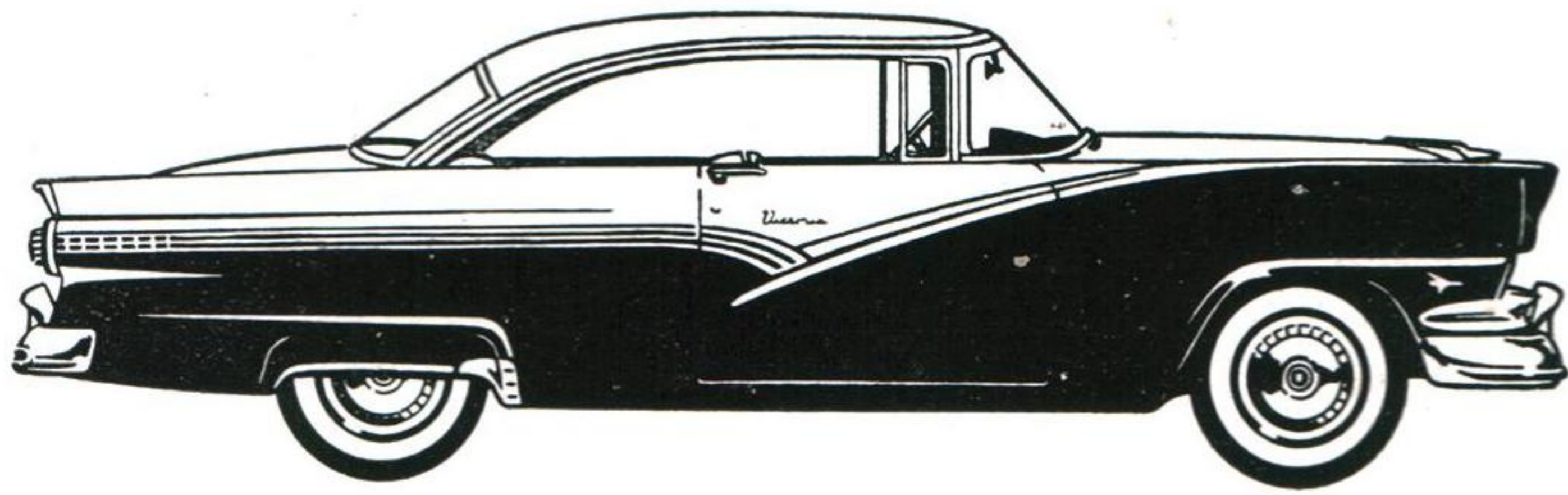
In the past ten years a great deal has been done to remove the scars of war; the rubble has been cleared away, and hundreds of new homes and commercial buildings constructed. Landscaping around the **Pagodenburg**, attractive flower beds and extensive repair and redecoration of many buildings are transforming the town's outward appearance, while the building of new factories and revival of others destroyed during the war are enabling Rastatt's 24,000 inhabitants to prosper under the booming industrial revival of recent years.

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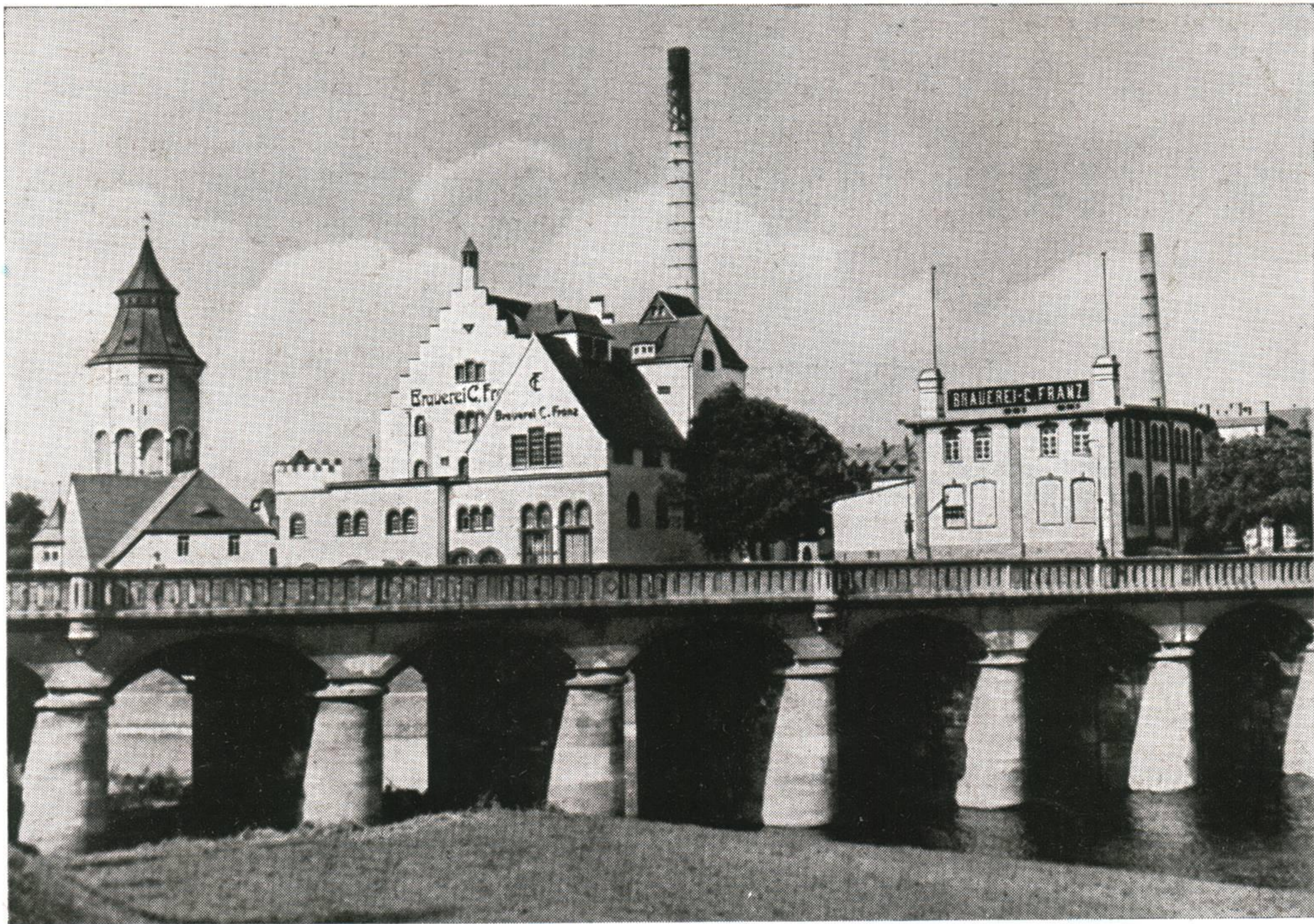
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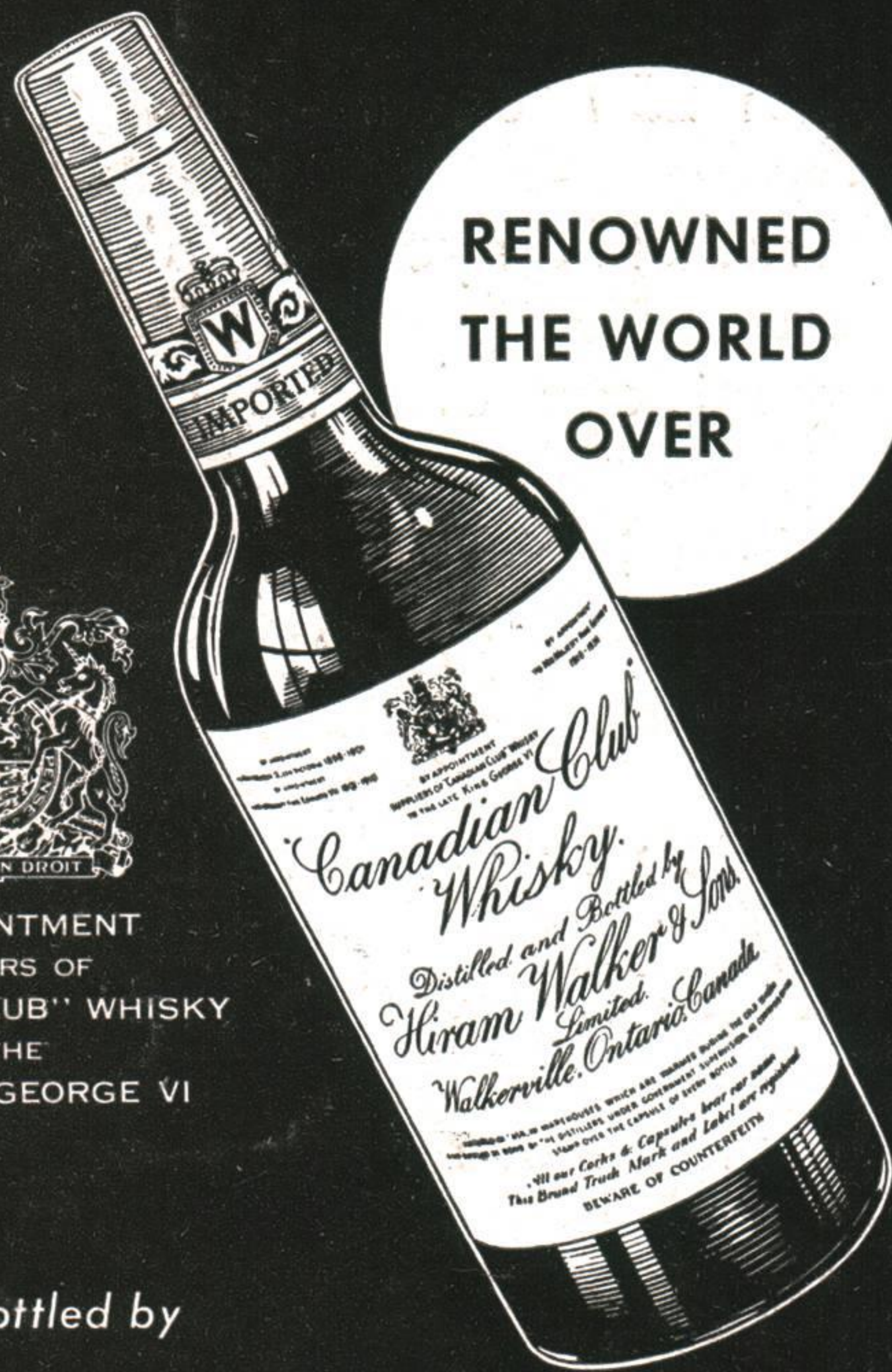
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