

MARCH 31, 1953

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VOL II



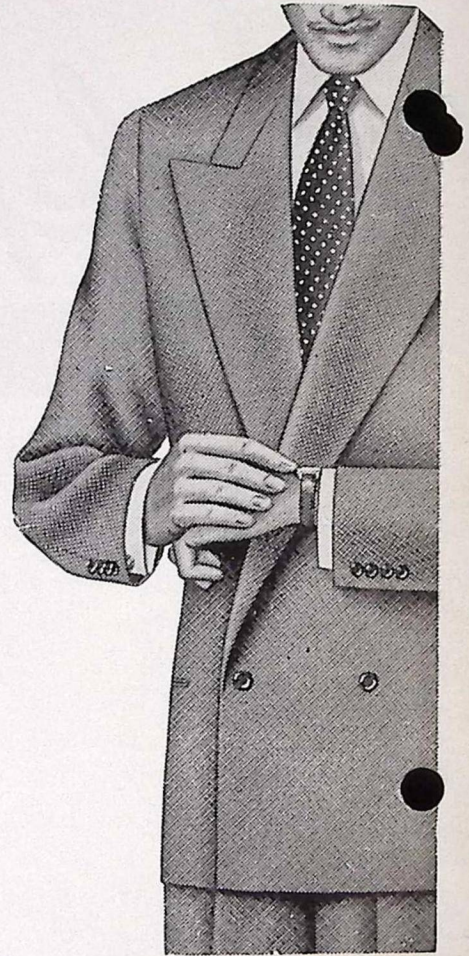
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FLASH BACK

by THE SPY

BURMA. This is a country which a great poet once romantically described as a place where "there ain't no Ten Commandments and a man can raise a thirst." Although ravaged by the Japanese, the natural beauty of the country remains unimpaired. Burma lies between India on the West and China and Thailand on the East. It was out of this last named country that the Japanese invaded Burma in 1942, moving up from the narrow and attenuated tail of Burmese territory which flanks lower Thailand. There was less than one division of British troops defending Burma at that time, (plus Errol Flynn) supported by some Burmese regiments and police forces. This small land Army received sterling support from the Royal Air Force, and the Flying Tigers who were then in China's Service.

Resistance to the Japanese along the Salween River line was one of the few bright spots in an otherwise black period. When the Japanese got over the Salween, the fate of Lower Burma was sealed and Rangoon had to be evacuated. The enemy had won the keys to the country.

The fight was continued in Upper Burma, and although the Japanese had already cut through the lower link in the Burma Road, via which China received military supplies from Britain and the United States, the second stage of the campaign developed around the effort to hold the railroad and the highway portion of

Burma Road. Defensive operations were carried out along the valleys of Burma's two other great rivers — the Irrawaddy and the Sittang. Chinese regiments, lacking in artillery, ammunition and everything but willingness to fight for the Allied cause, came down from the North and joined with the British. Britain could spare only meagre forces from the other theatres. Thus the campaign wore through to its inevitable conclusion. The defending forces did well to destroy the oil fields along the Irrawaddy, which, exclusive of the Middle East, were the major source of petroleum on the Asiatic mainland—and to save a few tired remnant of the two defending groups which, despite terrible losses, stayed game and retreated into the Indian state of Assam and the Chinese province of Yunnan.

The brief description given above of the Burma campaign at the start, shows how things stood when the Japanese invaded.

For two years the Japanese held the upper hand and it was only the undisputed spirit of the fighting forces in the lack of everything but the determination not to give in that saved India. Penned in at Imphal things looked black, but at long last came the order "Forward."

Details of all the battles fought are undoubtedly still fresh in the minds of everyone and in this article space

does not permit a full picture being given.

The hardships and suffering borne by the troops in the campaign down through Burma, will uphold the prestige of British fighting forces for many years to come, as will the brilliant work done by 221 and 224 Groups of the Royal Air Force, not forgetting of course, Transport Command and U.S. Air Forces.

The campaign was a tremendous undertaking brilliantly executed by the Supreme Commander, Viscount Mountbatten, and his very able Commanders, among them General Slim and Air Vice Marshal Vincent. Undoubtedly there will be many memories for the Forces who served out there, and like Kipling's soldier, they will remember "the wind in the palm trees, the monsoon, and perhaps the old Moulmein pagoda looking eastward to the sea." To give the reader an idea of the vast area covered by the campaign, it would be of interest to quote a signal received by the Supreme Commander from General Kimura, Commander-in-Chief of all Japanese Armies in Burma, saying, "I beg to inform your Excellency that I have to-day passed the order to 'Cease Fire' to all the Armies in Burma, except for certain units. If your Excellency will kindly indicate to me where the outlying parts of my Army are, I will pass the order to them also."

The war in Burma was officially brought to an end on the 28th August, 1945, when Lieutenant General Numatra, Japanese Chief of Staff of the Southern Army, signed the local agreement in Rangoon.

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A word about the people; Burma has been called a racial melting pot, and this is indeed true. The map shows that the country lies between two very great and ancient Empires, India and China. To the north are Tibet and the great Central Asian plateau, the founts from which most of the main migrations into Burma have flown. To the east and west are



F/L. C. Davies

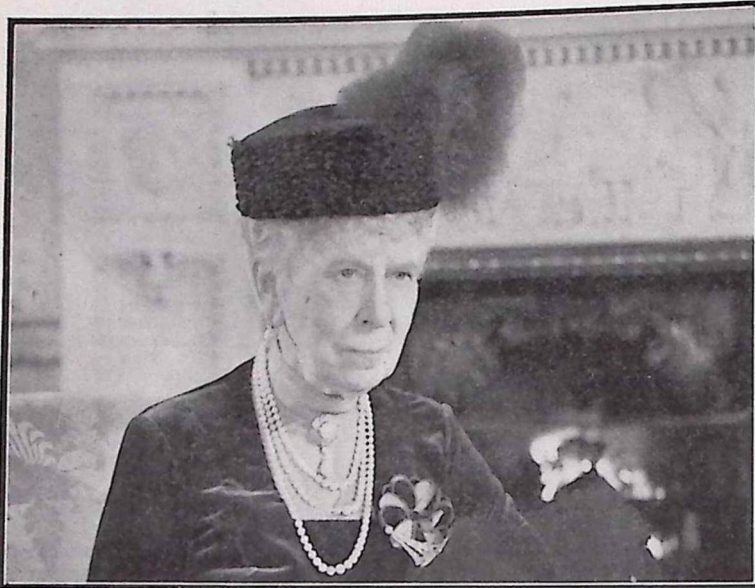
lesser kingdoms and states such as Thailand, French-Indo-China and Manipur. Most of these great and small states have in the past been at war at one time or another with Burma, and all have had their effect on the dispersal of the peoples of the country.

In ancient days, the whole of northern Burma and a large part of southern Burma were vast wildernesses of almost uninhabited forest land, an immense "Eldorado" waiting for colonisation, and therefore, quite naturally the envy of more populous neighbouring states. Only the central riverine area of the Irrawaddy, and a few other valleys, were occupied by populations worth the record of historians. The existence of these empty spaces facilitated large migrations, from the earliest known times, out of the mountainous territory in the north into Burma proper. The greatest of these migrations, in historical sequence, were the Mon-Khmer, the Burmese and the Shanli. All were on a considerable scale and out of them arose a series of bloody wars for possession of the rich plains. The "Great Kuki Invasion" of Tiperah in Assam in 1860 and the westward migration of the Lushais and other tribes in the belt of mountain country between Burma and Assam, arose out of the acquisition of flint-lock guns by the Haka tribes of the central Chin Hills. The new weapon upset the local balance of power so much that the Hakas were able to drive the Lushais and Tukis out of their ancestral lands and thus start the latter on the predatory land and head-hunting expeditions to the west and north, which eventually led them into contact with the plains of India and brought them under British administration.

Besides these important factors in racial movements and inter-mixture, lesser reasons also complicate the

Continued on page 17

Queen Mary laid to rest



AS all England mourned, Queen Mary was laid to rest in St. George's Chapel of Windsor Castle on Tuesday, March 31, 1953.

Her three surviving children, the Duke of Windsor, the Duke of Gloucester and the Princess Royal were among the thousand mourners who watched the Most Rev. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, conduct the services.

In the ancient chapel of St. George's, where Queen Mary was temporarily laid to rest, are the tombs of her husband, the late King George V, and the late King George VI, her son, and other monarchs going back to Edward IV, who died in 1483. She is to be buried for a few weeks in the royal tombhouse where lie King George III, King George IV and William IV. Thereafter she will be moved beside her late husband, whose tomb and covering effigy are on the chapel floor. Queen Mary's marble effigy has already been carved.

With the bright spring sun streaming through the ancient stained-glass windows and brightening the faded banners of the Knights of the Garter, for whom the chapel is a sanctuary, Queen Elizabeth II sprinkled earth on the royal coffin of her grandmother

as it was lowered slowly into the purple-draped tomb.

Having already sung "Abide With Me," the favorite hymn of the 85-year-old Queen, the congregation, including King Baudouin of the Belgians, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, King Hussein of Jordan, Crown Prince Olaf of Norway and Queen Frederica of Greece, closed the service by singing "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken."

In the front line of gentlemen mourners standing before the royal coffin were four royal dukes. On the right, in position of seniority, was the Duke of Edinburgh, consort of Queen Elizabeth II. Next to him, and also wearing the uniform of an admiral of the fleet, was the Duke of Windsor, who appeared to show great emotional strain.

The Duke of Gloucester, in military dress and the 17-year-old Duke of Kent completed the line behind which stood the Kings of Belgium and Jordan, Prince Olaf, Prince Georg of Denmark, Prince Chula of Siam, Prince Bertil of Sweden, Prince Felix

of Luxembourg and Prince Louis of Hesse. Ex-King Umberto of Italy also was in the congregation.

Queen Mary was taken to Windsor early this morning from Westminster Hall in the Houses of Parliament where she had lain in state since Sunday afternoon and where 119,959 of her former subjects had come to pay their last respects. The journey to Windsor was private and as unostentatious as the drives she used to make about London in the last 17 years of her life and widowhood.

Heavily veiled, Queen Elizabeth's only decoration was a pink ribbon on which was pinned a miniature portrait of her grandmother. One of the floral tributes near the tomb was a small cross of flowers bearing the inscription "in loving memory from her devoted children David, Mary, Harry and Alice and Marine." These are the family names of the Duke of Windsor, Princess Royal, the Duke of Gloucester, and his wife, and the widow of the late Duke of Kent, one of Queen Mary's sons.

Except for gentlemen mourners standing before the coffin, members of the congregation were placed in individual stalls which are allotted to Knights of the Garter—the most ancient of Orders of British knighthood, which is six centuries old. It was founded by Edward III, who dedicated the chapel to St. George, the patron saint of the Order.

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CUT AND THRUST

by P/O G. H. E. MOORE

WHAT'S this all about? The best answer is the explanation to another question, "how did all this begin"? It's really quite simple—even in the days of the cave-man political parties of one sort or another flourished.

Possibly you've read of the symbols in India or the Sudan used to indicate to illiterates which party they were voting for. An umbrella or a bicycle or a block of wood was adopted as a symbol by the party concerned. The true followers then all rushed about voting for blocks of wood, etc. Well most of our 1,000,000 year old ancestors couldn't read or write either. The two parties we're interested in used either a charpened stick or a large stone as their respective emblems.

There was a great rally of these opposing factions one fine day. One group met over Here, and one group met over There.

As is still wont to happen, some of the more hot-headed members of the group which met over Here proposed a program—victims to be the members of the party over There. True to the eternal form, one faction marched into the other's meeting and, not unnaturally, a grand melee ensued.

One group (being partial to large ones) began to crack a few crania. The other party had only sharpened sticks to fall back on. Antagonists were greatly surprised to find that these were every bit as deadly if used in the right manner at the right time. Indeed if you waited until Og or Bran or Mog had his heavy missile raised over his head, and then punched him in the tummy with a sharpened stick, the results were most gratifying!

The types belonging to the Stick Party won a great victory that day—and being wise, attributed it to their political emblem. They were even happier when a great new flock of converts signed up who were formerly stone men. In fact the popularity of their symbol grew as quickly as the story of the Great Election Meeting spread. People were quick to realize that Sticks were better than Stone any old time.

As the Party's membership grew, so did the requirement for more sticks to properly outfit the new recruits. The Supreme Praesidium of the Central Committee appointed a Stick-maker Extraordinary to ensure that everyone was properly supplied. When they decided that they needed someone to show the novices how sticks might best be employed (just in case someone else attempted to smoke up one at their rallies). This chap they named "The Master-of-Sticks." Then at the back of a disused cave, he was given some space

for an office, and an area to practice in. Since this Master-of-Sticks had recently migrated from ancient Gaul, he called this area "The Salle des Sticks."

The stickmakers went on manufacturing for hundreds and hundreds of years — then someone discovered copper. A clever young man began to fashion his products from this new material. Later he mixed tin with the copper. Eventually he set up an assembly line that utilized iron. Ever the individualist, he refused to refer to his output as "sticks" any more, but named them "swords" instead. He sold dozens—his "Swords" became la mode—anyone could see that Swords were better than Sticks any old time, and a new party was founded.

The men of this party (known as Swordsmen) have persisted in appearing all down through history. We find them in Assyrian text, Egyptian murals, Chinese tales, Greek and Persian plays. Roman and Carthaginian histories. The only slight change in all this time has been some slight alteration in their original symbol—some have sharpened its sides as well as the point. Some have made it heavier, or shorter, or added a fancy or protective handle.

This sort of gentle evolution went on right into the 19th century, and then three basic forms became evident. These were named "Sabre," Epee and Foil. This latter was used to practice with until one became proficient enough to handle the Sabre or Epee. The teacher was now called a "Master-at-Arms," and the arena had become "La Salle des Armes." The Swordsmith was now the one who fashioned the weapons.

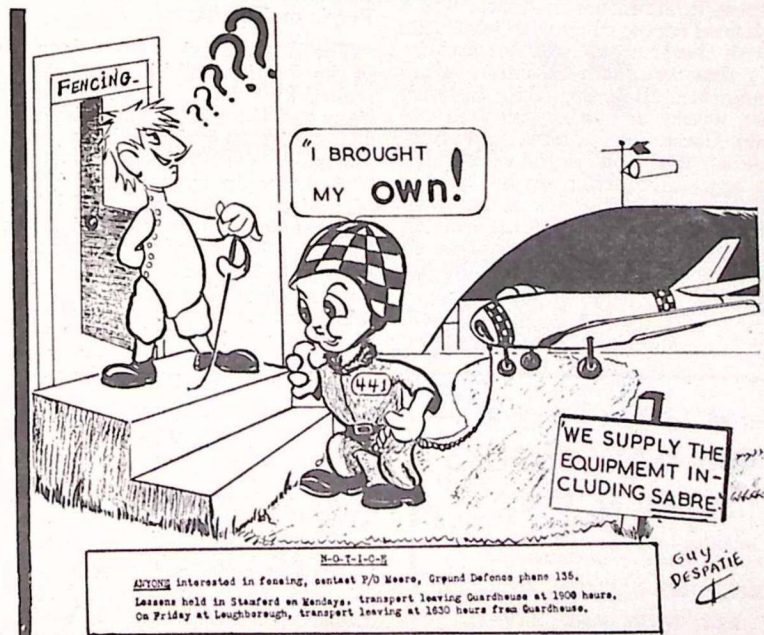
The greatest changes of all were apparent in the uses of the various swords. Some people liked cutting, and some liked thrusting, and some a combination. Consequently some liked sharp edges on their weapons, and some only used the point, and some "made sure" by having both.

The Hungarians developed Sabre fighting, then the Germans and Italians picked it up. Frenchmen preferred to thrust with the Epee, so they became the masters of that weapon, and then the Italians picked that up too.

When duels at dawn for a lady's hand went out of fashion, and men no longer had to carry personal swords about, many used to carry out their practices simply to keep physically fit.

In modern times these practices have been slowly but surely transformed into a fine sport. In common with all games, it has as its theme a battle, a fight between two opponents to decide which one is "the better." In fencing, the contest is short, sharp and individual. It requires a keen.

Continued on page 12



ANYONE interested in fencing, contact P/O Moore, Ground Defence phone 135. Lessons held in Stamford on Mondays, transport leaving Guardhouse at 1900 hours. On Friday at Loughborough, transport leaving at 1630 hours from Guardhouse.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN RETROSPECT

BY F/O H. CHALMERS

FEBRUARY 7-21

United Kingdom

President Eisenhower's announcement of the U.S. Government's decision to end the "neutralization" of Formosa, made in the President's first State of the Union Message to the new U.S. Congress, formed the subject of a statement made to the House of Commons on February 3 by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, who expressed the British Government's concern at the decision taken by the U.S. Administration.

President Eisenhower delivered his first State of the Union Message to the U.S. Congress on February 2. His most important announcement was that instructions were being issued that the U.S. 7th Fleet was no longer to be employed "to shield Communist China," thus ending the "neutralization" of Formosa which had been ordered by President Truman on the outbreak of the Korean war.

Mr. Eden said that H.M. Government had been informed in advance by the U.S. Government about its new policy in respect of Formosa; that it had at once made known its concern at this decision, which, it is feared, would have "unfortunate political repercussions without compensating military advantages"; and that this view continued to be held by H.M. Government. He went on to point out, however, that President Truman's original decision to "neutralize" Formosa, taken before the Chinese intervention in Korea, was a unilateral act of policy with which the British Government was not associated; that President Eisenhower, in announcing that the U.S. Seventh Fleet would no longer be used "to shield Communist China," had emphasized that this decision implied "no aggressive action on our part"; and that the President's action was, in consequence, "a unilateral decision by the new U.S. Administration to amend a unilateral decision by its predecessor."

(Times - Daily Telegraph
Manchester Guardian)

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Unesco

It was announced both in Paris and Prague on January 31 that the Czechoslovak Government had withdrawn from membership of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the grounds of the recent admission of Spain to that Organization, and because UNESCO had become what was described in Prague as "a tool of American imperialism." Czechoslovakia had been the last "satellite" country retaining membership of the Organization, following Hungary's recent withdrawal.

(Le Monde, Paris)

Persia

The Persian Government decided on January 29 not to renew the Soviet fishery concession in the Caspian Sea which had been granted under a 25-year Russo-Persian fishery agreement of 1927, and which was due to expire on January 31, 1953.

A Soviet Note accepting the Persian decision was handed to Dr. Mossadeq by M. Sadikov, the Soviet Ambassador, on February 2. Whilst accepting the termination of the concession agreement, it emphasized Persia's continuing obligation not to grant a new fishery concession to any other foreign Power for the next 25 years, not to employ foreign technicians during that period if she ran it herself. The management of the Caspian fisheries was accordingly taken over by Persia on February 1.

The Russo-Persian fishery company in the Caspian had hitherto been controlled by a joint board of three Persians and three Russians, with a Persian chairman and a Russian general manager to control operations. In 1951 the company produced 110 tons of caviare and more than 5,000 tons of sturgeon. Persia, in addition to her share in the company's income, was entitled to 10 per cent. of the total production of caviare and fish, and had sold two tons of caviare to France out of her share in 1951, in which year her share of the company's income amounted to over 5,000,000 rials.

(Times - Manchester Guardian
Soviet Weekly)

Eastern Europe

The British Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Nutting), in a written reply on February 14, gave the following estimates of the strength of the armed forces of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, as compared with the limits imposed

under the peace treaties with the countries.

	Peace Treaty limits	Estimate on July 25, 1951	Present Estimate
Hungary	70,000	100,000	175,000
Rumania	138,000	240,000	250,000
Bulgaria	65,000	150,000	175,000

In addition, security troops and armed police (not permitted by the treaties) were estimated to total at least 150,000 in the three countries. (Times)

Brazil-United Kingdom

Final details of the agreement between the Brazilian Government and the Gloster Aircraft Company were announced in London on February 10 by the chairman of the Hawker Siddeley Group (Sir Frank Spriggs). He stated that the sum involved in the exchange of the 70 Gloster Meteor fighters for 15,000 tons of Brazilian raw cotton was £4,261,700, and emphasized that, had it not been for the agreement, 2,000 of the Gloster Company's workers would have become redundant just at a time when they needed to keep its organization intact to start work on the Javelin all-weather fighter. Questioned about criticisms of the barter deal which had been expressed in the House of Commons, Sir Frank said that the contract had been negotiated "with the blessing of the Government" and could not have been carried through without the Government's consent.

(Times - Daily Telegraph)

United States

President Truman, in one of his last acts before handing over office to President Eisenhower, issued an Executive Order on January 16 which set aside the submerged land of the U.S. continental shelf as a "naval petroleum reserve," to be administered by the Navy. Mr. Truman said that, in view of the great demand for oil by the Government for defence purposes, it was of the "utmost importance" that the offshore oil deposits should be conserved and used for the national security. "It has been, and still is," he declared, "my firm conviction that it would be the height of folly for the United States to give away the vast quantities of oil contained in the continental shelf, and then buy back the same oil at stiff prices for use by the Army, Navy and Air Force in the defence of the nation."

(New York Times)

**ARMED FORCES NEWS
Royal Canadian Air Force**

OTTAWA, Feb. 26.—The RCAF is to have 10 Portuguese air force aircrew and the first group of trainees is scheduled to arrive in Canada next month, it was announced to-day by Air Force Headquarters.

The Portuguese will be the 8th nationality to be represented in Canada under the aircrew training aid extended to NATO nations. Aircrew from Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy and the United Kingdom have been trained, or are under training by the RCAF.

Six Portuguese student-aircrew are to begin training at RCAF Station London, Ont., March 23, and will be followed by arrivals of additional groups during the year. All of the Portuguese are to be trained as radar-observers. After completing the indoctrination course at London they will go to the RCAF's Air Navigation Schools at Summerside, P.E.I. or Winnipeg, Man., where they will take an abbreviated navigation course. From there they will go to a Radar Observer's School to be opened during the summer at Winnipeg, where they will receive training in radar techniques and techniques used in interceptor operations. It is expected that several other NATO nations already represented in Canada by aircrew trainees, will make use of the school's facilities.

The RCAF began training aircrew from other NATO nations in the autumn of 1950, and the first wings parades for the foreign students were held the following Spring. Since then more 1,600 students from seven NATO nations have received pilot or navigator training in Canada. At present there are almost 1,300 NATO aircrew undergoing training with the RCAF.

Under the terms of Canada's offer, NATO nations sending aircrew trainees here for instruction by the RCAF pay the costs of transportation to and from North America as well as the pay and allowances of the students. Canada assumes all other costs of training, including transportation within North America. Students are required to speak English, in addition to their native tongue.

King Monarch

First recorded English king was Egbert, King of Wessex and all England, who died in AD 829.

**CANADIAN ART SHOW FOR
EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA**

Ottawa—(CP)—Canada on canvas is going on an 18-month, 18,000-mile tour abroad.

Familiar vistas of 22 Canadian cities, painted by the country's best-known artists, are on their way to Central and South America and Europe.

The Exhibition, collected by a Montreal Distillery (SEAGRAM'S) is the work of 20 artists commissioned for the task through the co-operation of the Royal Canadian Academy.

Samuel Bronfman, President of the Company, outlined the aims and object of the project, the longest traveling exhibition of Canadian paintings.

He said :

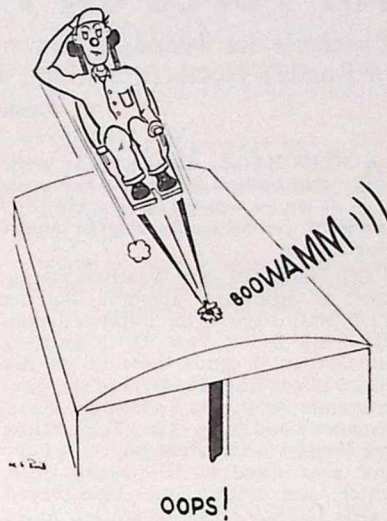
'We seek to bring to the peoples of the world some glimpse of the Canadian landscape and skyline. We hope, in this fashion, to establish abroad a familiarity with our urban civilization, and thus evoke a deeper understanding between ourselves and the people of other lands.'

The Exhibition made its debut in Ottawa March 12 at a special preview before embarking on the long journey, stopping in such countries as the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland, Sweden and Brazil.

Active Volcano

Highest of the world's active volcanoes is Llullaillaco in Chile, towering 20,244 feet.

SNAG



Ancient Expert

The Greek astronomer Hipparchus, of the 2nd century BC, is considered the founder of accurate astronomy.

Chinese River

Among the world's great rivers, the Yangtze in China flows 3,400 miles to its outlet in the North Pacific.

Great Lake

Lake Superior covers an area of 31,230 square miles, or 5,000 more than Lake Victoria in Africa.

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Air Force on Top of the World

Fletcher's Ice Island, a Frozen Floating Patch in the Front Yard of Russia's Northern Stations, Is U.S. Reply to Soviet Air Threat

BY ANSEL E. TALBERT

New York Herald Tribune Aviation Editor

A NCHORAGE, Alaska.—The world's northernmost inhabited outpost is a tiny United States Air Force weather station called Fletcher's Ice Island—or, on official charts, simply "Target 3." It is located atop 60 square miles of glacial ice floating in Arctic waters, less than 100 miles from the North Pole.

On March 19, the weather station and its adjoining airplane landing strip will have been inhabited continuously for a year by a shifting population of from three to 35 Air Force pilots and meteorologists, government scientists, visiting Navy personnel and plain GIs. This will be the longest occupation on record for any area close to the North Pole, which lies within the land-locked Arctic Ocean—5,440,000 square miles of open water partially covered with drifting ice.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have important air bases in the strategic territory grouped around the North Polar regions and bordering on the Arctic Ocean. Accurate up-to-the-minute weather information obviously is of tremendous importance to either nation.

Of the Soviet's known long-range bomber bases in the Arctic, Gen. Hoyl S. Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff, recently said: "Neither these bases nor the bomber force they are built to support would be required for an attack against any nation other than Canada and the United States. The threat is grave."

The Air Force has disclosed the existence of a huge new Danish-American air base at Thule, in Northwest Greenland, built secretly to counter the Soviet threat. It was from Thule that the first "colonists" arrived on Fletcher's Ice Island, in a ski-equipped Air Force C47 transport plane, and it is to Thule and other air bases in Alaska that they now send weather reports every few hours.

The establishment and maintenance of a floating weather station near the North Pole certainly is causing no joy to Moscow. The event proves that Americans have the equipment and the know-how to occupy the upper Arctic regions as well as explore them. It shattered a long-standing contention of Soviet propagandists that the Russians are the only people capable of doing this.

In 1937, the Red Air Force landed 44 persons in four ski-equipped bombing planes at the top of the world and set up a meteorological station there. The late Adm. Ivan

Papanin, who was one of the Soviet Union's chief Arctic experts, radioed back at the time that "the North Pole belongs to the nation with the most powerful Air Force." He also found the time to get off several long messages promising "We shall justify the confidence of our dear friend Stalin—the great moulder of human happiness" and demanding the immediate execution of "the bandits Nikolai Bukharin and Alexei I. Rykov," two old Bolsheviks then on trial for treason.

Most of the 1937 Soviet weather station personnel soon were flown back to Rudolph Island and to other bases from which they came but Adm. Papanin and three companions remained on an ice floe. While maintaining constant wireless communication with Moscow and making scientific observations, they drifted a distance of 1,300 miles from the North Pole down the great Arctic spillway along the eastern coast of Greenland during a period of 270 days and finally were picked up by the Soviet icebreaker Taimir.

Since then, Adm. Papanin supervised the building of a huge network of air bases and Arctic stations on the Siberian mainland and points in the Arctic Ocean which includes Franz Joseph Land, Novaya Zemlya, the New Siberian Island, the Bear Island and Bolshoi Island. He was made chief of the "Geart Northern Sea Route Administration," charged with supplying them.

Important Soviet Air Force long-range bomber bases, according to Gen. Vandenberg, also have been located in the vicinity of Murmansk.

above Eastern Europe, and on the Chukotski Peninsula, opposite Alaska

Right now the United States Air Force's "North Polar colonists" are closer to a greater number of Soviet Union's Arctic bases than any other group of Americans living anywhere. The idea appears not to bother them in the least. They keep extremely busy operating radio navigation aids for Air Force weather reconnaissance flights over the top of the world and return, collecting a variety of important scientific data each day and sending off radio messages every four hours.

There always is someone on duty at every hour of the day or night and, according to all the "colonists" with whom this correspondent has talked, "you never have to hunt something to do." The men aboard the ice island never experience any sensation of movement because the pack of salt-water ice around them moves with their own hunk of glacial ice.

The surface of their island home towers from 15 to 20 feet above the pack ice covering the Arctic Ocean's surface. Measurements which they have made indicate that the floating island is kidney-shaped, approximately nine by four and one-half nautical miles in surface area and 175 feet thick. The coldest temperature experienced has been 80 degrees Fahrenheit below zero and the warmest in the vicinity of zero. Ninety-mile-an-hour winds sometimes have been experienced.

Living quarters on the ice island consist of "Jamesway huts"—canvas superimposed on a timber frame and constructed so as to provide layers of dead air to act as insulation against cold. The island's inhabitants have also learned to build Eskimo houses out of snow blocks. These are used to reinforce the huts.

During the past 10 months, all sorts of equipment has been flown in by air including a baby tractor, two Arctic tracked vehicles known as "weasels," a drag harrow and other farming implements to level the landing strip, a power plant for electricity and many scientific instruments. Food and small items frequently are air-dropped. Ham, roast beef, fruit, many varieties of packaged breakfast foods and hot coffee constantly are available along with various types of standard and specially developed Arctic field rations.

When they can find time, "Polar colonists" show their American movies, or listen to radio news programs and broadcasts of sports events from the United States. During the recent Presidential election, brisk campaigns were conducted

Continued on page 14

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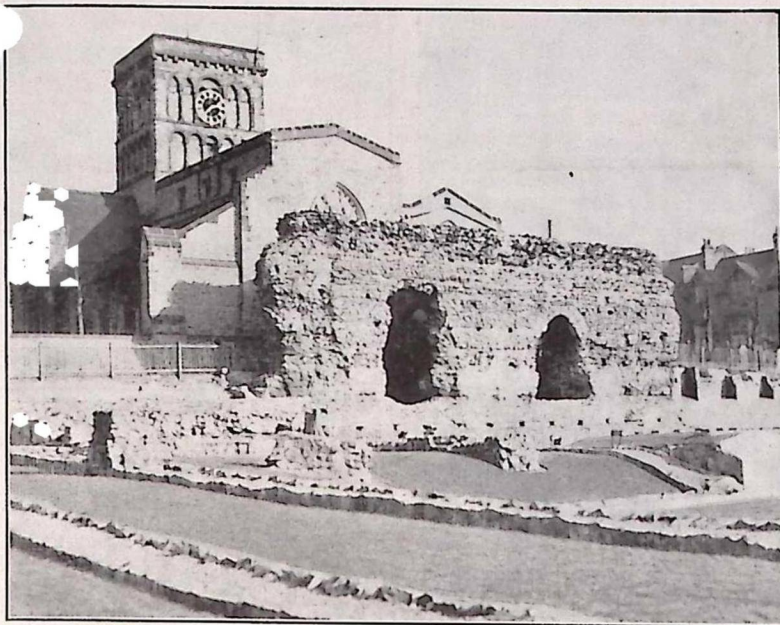
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*Rome for Empire far renown,
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Soon her pride shall kiss the ground,
Hark! The Gaul is at her gates."*

In 55 B.C. the great Roman soldier Julius Caesar made his first reconnaissance in force against the shores of Britain. This invasion was followed later by another landing and withdrawal. The purpose of these visits was not the conquest of the Island, but merely served to lay the foundation for the invasion and conquest which was to follow a century later. The tribes of England and Wales were then subdued and the Roman Legions set about the task of turning the Island into a Roman Colony.

The Roman occupation was to last for three hundred years, when, in the late 4th century, the Barbarians began to hammer at the gates of Rome and the far flung Legions were recalled to defend the Eternal City. Behind them the Romans left a flourishing civilisation, which was soon to be lost when the gloom of the Dark Ages descended upon the world with the fall of Rome. A careful study of a map of Britain will show the many remains of the Roman occupation that still exist today. Hadrian's Wall, built along the Cheviot Hills to repel the Picts and Scots, the great highways, the Ermine Way, Watling

Street, the Great North Way, which connected the Roman garrisons, the many townships ending in the suffix "cester" or camp, indicates Roman encampments.

The nearest Roman remains of any consequence are to be found at Leicester. Leicester in those times was a market town and administrative centre for the district inhabited by the British tribe of the Coritani, an area which included the entire County of Leicestershire and part of Lincolnshire. The beginning of Roman Leicester starts around the year 125 A.D. when the Basilica and market place were built, the former structure serving as the County Hall from which the district was governed. Of the Basilica, only the Jewry Wall remains, the main part of it now lies under the Church of St. Nicholas, and the complete plan is not known.

Shortly after the completion of the civic centre, it was decided to move the market place to another site which is as yet unknown. The level of the forum was raised by several feet and the public baths were erected on the site of the market. In 1936 the land west of St. Nicholas was acquired by the City of Leicester for the erection of public baths, it was then found that the Romans had anticipated modern intentions by some seventeen hundred years. The archaeological excavations were carried out under the direction of Miss Kathleen M. Ken-

FLYERS' SPACE SUIT DEVELOPED BY NAVY

WASHINGTON (U.P.) — The development of a space suit—nearest thing to interplanetary garb outside comic strips—has been announced by the Navy.

"The first full-pressure flying suit" will provide Navy pilots with their own earthly atmosphere when flying at extreme altitudes "or even in outer space," the Navy said.

Made of rubber with a plexiglass helmet, the suit encases the pilot in an "atmosphere envelope" complete with automatic oxygen and pressure systems.

The B. F. Goodrich Co., which developed the suit after almost 20 years' research, said a pilot could abandon his ship in space and his life would be safeguarded.

The suit has been tested successfully in altitude pressure chambers at simulated heights of 70,000 feet. That is on the verge of outer space in the airmen's view because conditions encountered are similar to those that will be met in true space flight.

Continued from previous column
yon, M.A., F.S.A. In view of the importance of the site it was decided to preserve the area west of St. Nicholas as an open space, and the site to be scheduled as an ancient monument under the Office of Works.

Our picture shows the Jewry Wall and the foundations of the public baths, together with part of the drainage system of the site.



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Rome Tour



On March 24, a group of RCAF Personnel and dependents left by bus for their continental tour, organised by our ever active Entertainment and Welfare office.

Arriving in the Eternal City during the Holy Week for a three day visit, they should culminate their tour by having an audience with the Holy Father after crossing France and the Riviera.

After a short visit to the glorious city of Florence, they will reach the Italian Riviera at San Remo on time for Easter. Then on their way to the Pyrenees where they will pay a short call at Lourdes (The Song of Bernadette). No doubt they will enjoy a

few pleasant moments at Monte Carlo.

The next item on their agenda would be Paris, where they will stay for three days before returning to England via Brittany and Normandy with an official visit at the Canadian Cemetery at Dieppe.

Picture left to right: Bus driver, LAC Arsenault, Sgt Devost, LAC Kennedy, N/S Harnett, F/O Gibson, Mrs. Croxford, F/O Potter, Cpl Croxford, Miss Bibeau, LAC Cote, LAC Mallette, Mrs. Bibeau, LAC Grimard, LAC Bibeau, Miss Bibeau, LAC Tremblay, LAC Hache, Mrs. Devost, Mrs. Dean, WO1 Dean.

WAR PILOT MUST BE SUPERMAN, EXPERT ASSERTS

By the Associated Press

LONDON.—An efficient bomber or fighter pilot must be almost a superman these days, says Dr. Denis Williams, civilian consultant in neurology for the RAF.

And once you have found your superman, you have got to keep him that way by boosting his morale, nursing him in his off-duty moments, and making sure he is happy, Dr. Williams wrote in the British medical journal "Medical Press" today.

"The physical problems of speed, the complexity of aircraft control, the small margin of safety out of contact with the enemy and the great hazards

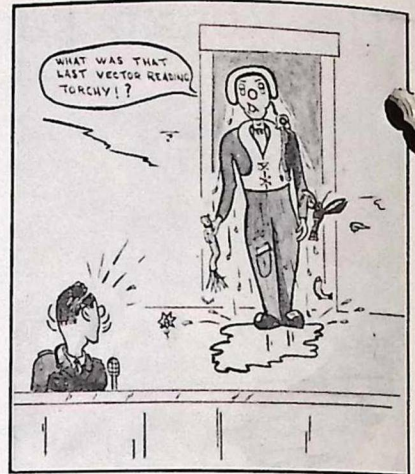
of contact with him call for the exercise of more qualities than most possess," he said.

For 'Pat on Back'

Most cases of neurosis among World War II flyers were due to fear—and once a man gets fear neurosis he is no good for any further flying, Dr. Williams said.

"Neurosis in a member of an air crew is, in time of war, more wasteful than death, and its treatment is prevention."

Give a man a pat on the back if he has done well, said Dr. Williams.



"The immediate decoration, the impromptu party, the high-level praise, all have their part to play in bolstering morale. Give the flyer plenty of rest from operational tours of duty—and don't let him get frustrated by frequent changes of plan or policy."

Royal Castle

Windsor Castle, 22 miles from London, was started by William The Conqueror, who reigned from 1066 to 1087.

Large Tribe

The Sioux Indians in past centuries were second only to the Algonquins as the most numerous tribe north of Mexico.

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Canadian Air Base in France Is Efficient and Comfortable

GROSTENQUIN, France.—The most comfortable North American air base in France is Canadian.

An airman gets up at 7 o'clock and decides at 8.30 whether he wants pancakes or eggs sunny-side-up for breakfast. At noon the officers and non-coms stop off at their club for a leisurely drink before lunch because they have an hour and a quarter. Normally, the day is done at 4.30.

The Canadians deny that the best-fitted fighting man in the world is the GI. They say he usually is Canadian. The RCAF at Grostenquin obtains its rations from United States channels, but manages to put a more attractive selection on its tablecloths, nevertheless.

Easy Chairs

Compared to United States bases in France, evenings pass more pleasantly. There are only two airmen to a room in the tile-floored, aluminium barracks, and they share an easy chair in which to relax.

If an officer or non-com wants a bottle of scotch, he buys it for 600 francs while his American comrades pay \$3.15.

When the Canadian flyers want to tease their American friends, they talk about their Sabre jets. The RCAF unit here, 2-Fighter Wing, has been the only Nato organization in Europe with F86s. Most American fighter units on the Continent employ the slower Thunderbolts, and the Sabres recently sent to Furstenfeldbruck are on temporary duty from England. When the Americans finally get their scheduled F86s, the RCAF probably will be boasting of new Orenda engines, giving more thrust, which they anticipate.

The chief fly in the ointment for the Canadians is that their government does not transport their families to Europe. Married personnel only stay here for one year, but many have brought their wives at their own expense and housed them in a trailer camp on base or in French quarters. Unmarried men have two-year tours.

Airmen complain about the slowness of recreational facilities, which were planned last. Movies are available, but the permanent theater won't be completed for two months. A PX connected with the American system, when open, however, and a snack bar will be ready in a few days.

The Canadians already have numerous (by American standard) pingpong and billiard tables. Eventually, they will have bowling alleys, athletics fields and even a separate club for corporals.

One reason for some of these apparent luxuries is that the Canadian government customarily takes good care of its men because its main limitation is man power, not money. Another reason is that the Grostenquin base has progressed much faster than the United States installations in France.

Last June, when the Canadians began contracting for their base, farmers still were reaping hay on the property. On October 11, when 2-Fighter Wing squadrons arrived, its airstrip was ready for operations, most roads were done, and its barracks were almost finished—complete with running water and sanitary facilities. Americans came to Toul-Rosière in January, 1952, long after initial planning had begun, and they still are living in tarpaper shacks.

There have been shortfalls and inconveniences at Grostenquin because of construction disappointments, but then the base has only been in progress for nine months. Temporary heaters were utilized until February. Sufficient voltage to run certain equipment is lacking but it will be obtained in another week. While mechanics perform their repairs under roofs, all hangars and the operations tower are not complete.

The secret of comparative success of the Canadians is difficult to pinpoint. A few of the Canadians will agree with some Americans that the French may have encouraged the Grostenquin development so they could say to the United States Air Force: Look the RCAF has gotten along with us all right, which shows that it is not all our fault that your bases aren't going up in a hurry.

Basic Reason

Even if this is true—and the Canadians frequently have been upset about construction lags and failures—it is, at best, a minor reason for the happier experiences of the RCAF.

A more basic explanation is that the Canadian Air Force is smaller, enabling it to make decisions more quickly. The men in the field, less encumbered by red tape, could take more responsibility and give a local contractor a speedy answer on a projected change. The French say, according to the Canadians, that the RCAF also has changed its mind less often about its plans.

In general, the Canadians like the French better than the Americans do. The men from north of the border have a cultural heritage which makes them more appreciative of Europeans. About 15 per cent. of 2-Fighter Wing speak the local language fluently. The French, for their part, tend to regard themselves as being a mother country to Canada.

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Cinderella in Coveralls



For pert, bright-eyed and Winnipeg born airwomen Jerry Campbell, the day had dawned like all other Mondays—just a date from which to move into another week of work on and around aircraft.

Jerry and her room-mate, Margaret "Scotty" Yates, of Dundee, Scotland, both instrument technicians had been friends since "Basic" at St. Johns. Now they were together in Aircraft Maintenance, working on everything from the angular heavy bombers of the late war fame, to the sleek swift fighters of this Jet-age.

That day it was, of all things, a Harvard, and undergoing its final inspection before transfer. The two girls working on the instruments, Scotty from the underside of the engine, and Jerry perched astride the top, her trained fingers struggling with some unseen problem in wire.

Paul Rockett, top ranking Canadian photographer covering the picture angle of a feature story in his magazine, had come to Trenton in search of a model.

Here there had been no scarcity of talent, for good looks and personality were found in abundance, and yet the choice had not been made. In the manner of all artists he was seeking more than mere figure and form, he was searching to find a medium.

Someone by which, through the lens of his camera, he could highlight the life and moods—even the loves—of all airwomen everywhere.

Then by the Harvard his search had ended. He chose the diminutive figure leaning over the engine, unruly

curls held captive in a borrowed cap and inquisitive eyes following hands that worked with confidence.

There it was that the magic of fate touched lightly on the shoulders of Jerry Campbell to whisk her away in a whirl of clicking shutters and unending film to play the role of model.

It began as simply as that.

Almost two days and nearly 300 pictures later the job was complete. Throughout it all, other airwomen helped by providing background material—playing the supporting roles whenever and wherever required. An example of co-operation and loyalty that is symbolic of the Service.

And so—when the March issue of *Chatelaine* goes on the newstands with her picture on the cover and many more inside, Airwoman Jerry Campbell will know that she has attained a certain measure of fame: Not as a glamour girl all sophistication and reserve, but as a heartwarming honest "Cinderella in Overalls," showing joy in her work and embodying in her role, the day to day life of all Airwomen. Girls, who have chosen the blue of the Royal Canadian Air Force—and wear it with pride.

Cut and Thrust

Continued from page 5

clear brain, excellent reflexes and co-ordination as well as strength and agility. One interesting thing about this game is that these qualities are developed by participation in it, and

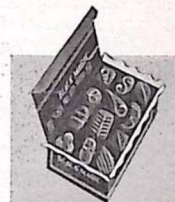
though it is a fairly strenuous pastime, one may pursue it (with regular practice) well into the years when other people of equal age have had to turn to golf. Indeed, the epee champion of the 1936 Olympic Games was 53 years old! He is, of course, unusual, but nevertheless this "carry over" value of a sport is an important thing to remember.

There is a sizeable group on this station who have been for some time now—and new members to their club are always welcome. They are hoping to be able to field a team for 1 Fighter Wing in the Britannia Shield Competition later in the year. The club has the services of an excellent instructor, and the free use of some very good equipment. If you'd like to come along and try your hand—and your blade—you have something of interest happening each Tuesday and Thursday evening in Barrack Block 57, Room 1. Don't just read and forget, come over at 1900 hours and join the fun!

Note Cover Photo.

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HOUSEKEEPING ON PARADE

Sgt. H. HART

Let's Check Our Store Cupboard

Most of us feel a great affection for our Store Cupboard. In fact, the sight of carefully chosen tins of food gives us such a nice cosy feeling that we come to a point when it is almost an impossibility to open even one of them.

Some kinds of foods keep for years and I have known of corned beef being in excellent condition when it was over 20 years old. Sometimes the tinned food does not go bad but it loses flavor and becomes useless in that way.

Quite a lot of the canned foods we get in the shops comes from thousands of miles away, and consequently some time elapses before the tin finds itself our shopping basket. That is why it might be a good idea for you to slip a date on each tin you buy, and to slip the new tin to the back of the shelf, and bring the older one forward to the front.

Not every cupboard is ideal for storing tins. Try to store yours in an airy cupboard that isn't too hot or too cold; see that air can circulate round the tins, and be sure to see to it that the cupboard is not damp in any way.

Don't store tins on their sides and don't crowd them too close together. A damp cupboard in a steamy scullery is the worst possible place, for in this sort of atmosphere the tins will rust quickly. If a tin shows signs of rust, open it quickly, for you know it will not keep much longer. Quite often the rusty tin develops a leak and goes bad.

Move the tins around and feel for the slightest bulge as that is the danger sign, and it shows that there is gas inside the tin. There is nothing you can do about it, so put the tin in the garbage and forget it!

Check up on dry stores as well—if you keep lentils, peas or beans much longer than six months, they will harden and become difficult to cook—besides, there is always the danger of these foods becoming insect infested.

Dried fruits become shrivelled and flavourless after six months. If this

happens, soak in hot water to restore the flavor and use up as soon as possible.

Spices and peppers should *always* be kept in airtight containers, otherwise they lose their flavor and potency. Breakfast cereals may become infested with insects, if kept more than six months. Oatmeal takes on a bitter flavor after nine months. Tea will keep fresh for a year, but flour should not be kept after three months.

Sauces—Do You Use Them as Shock Treatment for the Appetite?

Whilst I am fully aware that now, more than ever before, commercial sauces have become a "must" for a great number of us, I feel that, as a cook, too much attention is being paid to them. After all, it is the cook's job to PUT the flavor into roast beef, and nothing short of sacrilege, to plaster it with hot or sweet and flavor-destroying commercial sauces. I have seen folk smother fine looking "T" bone steaks with tomato sauce, and can imagine that that "taste sensation" is something "out of this world," as it so rightly should be—right out!

As most people know, hot sauces are not good for young folk's tummies;

tomato sauce is OK, but PLEASE keep it for the meats that require "building up," such as English sausages, meat loaf, etc., for there is no finer flavor in this old world of ours than that of honest to goodness *natural* roast beef or pork.

Pass the Salt, Please

A tale is told of a king who lived many years ago. He had two daughters, and one day he asked them what they thought was the sweetest thing in the world. One said Sugar, but the other said Salt. Now this perturbed the king so much that he owned a daughter who imagined that Salt was the sweetest thing in the world, that he banished her from his castle for ever. However, several years later, the king was invited to a wedding feast, at which no salt had been put into any of the foods by order of the bride. Now when the king tasted the meats and game without salt, he was horrified at the dull taste of the food, and exclaimed, that if he could only locate his long-lost daughter, he would tell her how right she was when she said that salt was the SWEETEST thing in the world. Whereupon the bride promptly threw back her veil and said, "Here I am, father." She had proved her point.

Almost every kind of food needs salt, and the world would be a very miserable place without it.

Salt has many uses apart from its value in bringing out the flavor of foods.

1. If a sink gets clogged up, boiling water and a handful of salt will

Continued on page 24



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WHAT'S COOKING

BY PINKY

It has been some time since there has been news from the Mess Section so I shall try my best to bring you a report each month, so here goes! This is the month that we all love so well. Spring is in the air and with it comes Trade Tests, First Aid Lectures, and weeping NCOs. The NCOs are weeping because they are not sure if their cooks will get back in time for their work after a spring trip to Notts. March is also the last of the year as far as the Air Force is concerned and the boys are trying to get their leave in before the hammer drops on them. Corporal Hammy Hamilton has his leave all planned for dear old Ireland, and also the same for Cpl Edgson and his family. Red Bowman of the Sgt's Mess has taken a few days of his leave in the Emerald Isle and returned for some more lectures then plans on going to Eire once more during his pass. Jerry O'Neil has plans for a spot of rest due him maybe Scotland, says he.

The time this comes to print we shall have one less Bachelor with us in the person of Cpl Seymour who is marrying a gal from good old Ottawa. The wedding between Cpl Seymour and Miss Lovina Soucie took place on Tuesday, March 17th at 2.30 p.m. The

best of luck to you both from all the guys. There could be other weddings in the near future and we are keeping our eyes on the suspects. Our esteemed Flight has three women on his hand now and the responsibility is shared by Sgt Lebrun who has left the Officer's Mess to take charge of the men and gals at the Airmens Mess. Cpl Pickett is the new host at the Sgt's Mess and Sgt McCrindle is over at the Officer's Mess as an assistant Mess Manager and is looking well after getting some good food for a change.

Irish, of the Officers' Mess bar is taking a few days' leave and Whitey will be back on the job once more. LAC Grant has been transferred to the Sgt's Mess and is missed by all, as also is Ray Beaudry, and Glen Parker has been transferred to the Airmen's Mess. Cpl Hamilton has moved down to the Officer's Mess.

What Cpl has trouble getting into Notts on Friday nights in his not so old or in-between aged car. The boys call it the Service Car as it is in the garage half the time for service. Well I guess I had better get this column finished or they will have to take another egg out of Sgt Hart's recipe, and I am not sure if it could stand it or not, so till next month cheers from What's Cooking.

AIR FORCE ON TOP OF THE WORLD*Continued from page 8*

by partisans of both candidates in order to carry the ice island.

Fletcher's Ice Island received its nickname from Col. Joseph O. Fletcher, of Shewnee, Okla., who used to command the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron flying "the North Pole milk run." He was one of the island's original inhabitants, along with Major Marion F. Brinegar, of Houston, Tex., and Dr. Kaare Rodahl, a civilian scientist attached to the Aero Medical Laboratories of the Air Force in Alaska.

The "island" originally was sighted and photographed as a piece of freshwater ice broken off from a glacial formation on Ellesmere Island, north of Canada, on April 27, 1947, by Squadron Leader Keith L. Greenway, of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

* * *

For many months its progress across the Arctic Ocean toward the North Pole area was watched by pilots of the 10th Air Rescue Squadron commanded by Col. Bernt Balchen, America's outstanding Arctic expert.

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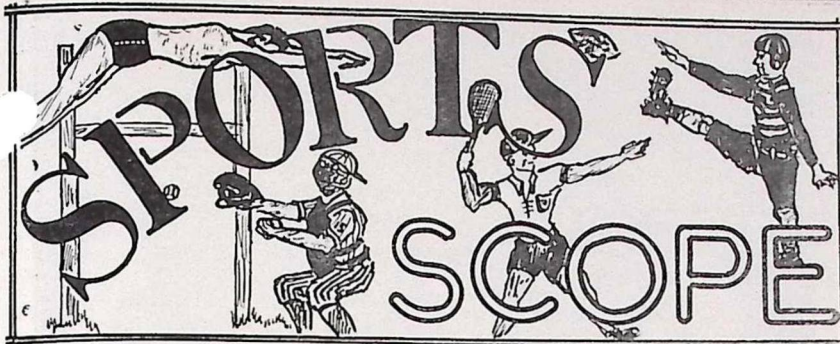
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BOXING

Opening Date for the Noble Art

With the kind permission of our Commanding Officer, the first great Boxing Show was held at 1 (F) Wing HQ on 19 March, '53 in the Airmen's Dining Hall and NAAFI.

It was a great show for all those attending, and the may people whose effort and overtime that went into this show deserve a great deal of thanks and instead of trying to name everybody, we, who attended, would like to thank you one and all.

The show opened with a good contest between two paper weights, who considering the amount of training, put up a good scrap, they were Peter Hight vs. Robert Hart, sons of two of our senior NCOs (now when their dads are in an argument they call their sons).

All of the Boxers were imported from the Royal Air Force and Royal

Army Service Corps except two of our own airmen.

LAC Raiche, RCAF v. L/Cpl Brown, RASC, boxing in the welter weight contest was one of the big surprises of the evening. Raiche, who has very little previous experience, opened up with lefts and rights revealing natural hitting power, soon has his opponent helpless and the fight being stopped by the referee to avoid unnecessary injury to Brown. It was a good fight while it lasted. Keep it up Raiche.

LAC Jim Logan, RCAF v. Craftsman Mackie of the RASC, boxing in a light heavy weight contest was less fortunate but being the first time in the ring it was a good effort on your part, at one time Jim looked as though he had been hit by a steel beam from the roof but it wasn't, it was just a glove, although trying to continue the referee had to stop the fight. We hope you aren't discouraged by your first

effort Jim, it was a good try. Keep it up and better luck next time.

Outstanding fights were between Cpl Rowe v. Cpl Fairley of RAF, boxing in a heavy weight contest with Cpl Rowe winning on points over his opponent with superior boxing and skill.

Another experienced pair of boxers was Cpl Hack v. AC Dempsey of RAF in a light heavy weight contest with Hack winning in a very skilful manner.

The top bout of the evening appeared to us to be between LAC O'Sullivan and LAC Lost of RAF in a middleweight bout with a lot of good fast boxing and LAC Lost just made it as the last bell went, he was out on his feet but wouldn't quit.

Other Results

Feather weight — Pte Spackman (RASC) beat LAC O'Hagen, RAF.

Flyweight—AC Hobson (RAF) beat Pte Spence (RASC) stopped in the third round.

Featherweight—LAC Ball (RAF) knocked out LAC Gordon (RAF) in the second round.

Welterweight—AC Eldridge (RAF) beat Cpl Lightfoot (RAF).

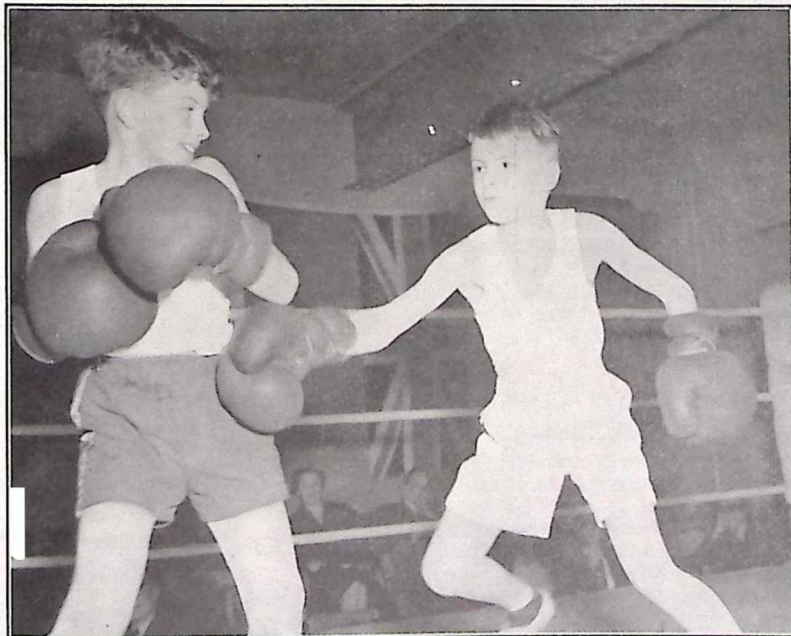
Bantamweight—LAC Moore (RAF) outpointed AC Williams (RAF).

Middleweight — Dvr Richardson (RASC) beat L/Cpl Chesledine (RASC).

Welterweight—LAC Atcock (RAF) knocked out Dvr Prior (RASC) in the first round.

The general opinion of the spectators was that it was a first-class show and hope that there will be another before too long.

We would like to thank the paying public for donating £16 19s. in the collection in aid of The National Institution for the Blind, Rutland and Leicestershire Branch; and The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.



Sluggar Hart v. Calgary Cougar Hight Paperweight Contest

BADMINTON

A "Bird's Eye" View

Congratulations to all those members who represented the club during the month of March. Games and scores were as follows :

- RCAF 8, Manton 1 (Home).
- RAF Spittlegate 5, RCAF 4 (Away).
- RCAF 5, RAF Spittlegate 4 (Home).
- RCAF 7, RCAF Langar 2 (Home).

Enthusiasm is still growing in the club, and we are glad to see it. Though our space is limited, we will always welcome a newcomer. Open playing nights every Sunday and Tuesday, 1900 hours to 2200 hours. Transportation from the guard house 1845 hours.

STATION DARTS TOURNAMENT

BY "BULLSEYE" H.D.

It was a sight to behold just to sit and watch the "Dark Horse" teams which each individual Mess and club brought forward to the Airmen's Recreation Hall to compete for the Station Dart Championship Cup.

Who was going to be the winning team? This was the *Question* asked by the many spectators who turned out to watch this competition. Time would tell!

The Officers headed by "Dead-eye" Jack Oliver, got away nicely, but had Lady Luck against them all evening. The Sergeants led by "Sky" Thompson just couldn't seem to get their usual standard. We understand a certain Senior NCO was trying to cut a new hole in the wall and nearly met with success, after using five sets of darts.

The new Champs, the Corporals, led by "Never Sweat" Belyea and followed by "Sure Eye" Sass, "Never Miss" Risely and one "One Dart" Horley, just couldn't be beaten all evening with their set of nine foot darts!!

The Airmen defending their championship Cup from last year's contest, showed the amazed and tense on-lookers, a few lessons on how darts should be thrown. LAC Thompson, their team captain and "Taffy" Williams an exhibition of dart throwing.

All in all fellows, a grand evening was had by everyone and we hope to have more of these competitions in the near future. In closing we would like to convey our thanks and appreciation to F/O Oliver for the wonderful layout of food and just at the right moment too.

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Cpl's Club Dart Tournament

BASEBALL

A meeting of all Baseball players took place at 1830 hours on Monday, 23 March, '53. In all 25 attended. Last season's play was outlined briefly for the newcomers and steps that had already been taken for the 1953 season. The station had applied for entry in the Nottingham League again this season and that station commitments allowing, exhibition games would be arranged with American teams, etc.

Nominations were called coach, assistant coach and team manager.

Coach elected—Cpl. D. Foley, Ex 78.
Asst. Coach elected—Cpl J. Knopick, Ex 181.

Manager—F/O R. Beer, Ex 48.
Conditioning, training and practices will have started on Wednesday, 25 March, but we need and want any of you fellows who feel they can play to come out and join the team. If interested, please contact any of the above members of the team. Join now—it's not too late.

SWIMMING NEWS—GLUB ! GLUB !

BY PETE DRUDGE

For those of you considering swimming for the warmer months ahead, here is a brief outline of what is in store for the coming season as discussed at our meeting held on the 23rd of March.

The main event of the meeting was the formation of our official water polo team for the station. Cpl D. V. Smith was elected captain of the team and it is hoped that within a short

while the team will be participating in outside competition. We are starting from scratch and anyone wishing to try out for the team may do so.

Something that I know will interest all of you is the procuring of a new pool in Northampton which is really the tops when it comes to pools. This rental, however, doesn't commence until mid-April, meanwhile I'll obtain complete details and information including photographs for our next edition.

F/L Joy, our representative for swimming, was also present at the meeting in an advisory capacity and I wish to express here the gratitude of the club for his interest and willingness to help.

I might add here that request has been made and will undoubtedly be approved for swimming including diving and polo be added to the annual station sports panorama held in the summer, so let's see more of you guys out getting into shape on our swim nights.

A 'bus leaves the guardhouse every Thursday evening at 1830 hours. For further information contact either myself, ext 85, or Al Ablett, ext 42.

SOCCER

RAF Wymswold—RCAF North Luffenham

The game started fast with North Luffenham on the defensive for the first ten minutes, then settling down on going to the attack, resulting in Forder collecting a pass from Hether-

ington who scored with a well placed shot. Shortly after receiving a pass from Robertson, Forder scored his second goal, but this was disallowed being called offside (much to the disagreement of the fans and North Luffenham players).

Wymswold now took command of the play again and after several tries finally tied the score. North Luffenham a few minutes later scored a second goal (this one counted) and the score at half time was North Luffenham 2, Wymswold 1.

After half time North Luffenham was all mixed up and had a time sorting themselves out and after ten minutes' play Wymswold had tied the score.

This goal seemed to settle the boys down and played good heads up both from then till the end of play. Ten minutes from time, Wymswold, making a brilliant passing play, scored their third goal which ended the scoring for both sides.

Final score : Wymswold 3, North Luffenham 2.

BASKETBALL

**Derby Tech. College v. RCAF
North Luffenham**

Our basketball team travelled to Derby on 25 March for one of the closest games of the season.

Due to the small court our boys were lost at first, but were able to hold on with the score 18-18 at half time. The last half was again a closely fought battle until the last three minutes when Derby went ahead and ended up with Derby winning 43 to 38.

Our boys played well and hard with Luker being the top scorer of the night for both teams with 16 points followed by F/O Found with 8 and Rainbath with 7.

A return engagement has been booked for the 8th April at Derby. Better luck next time fellows.

Flash Back

Continued from page 3

whole situation. On past occasions large numbers of captives taken in battle were settled in the territory of their conquerors, as happened in the case of the Manipurs transplanted in the Mandalay district and, in a lesser degree, the Portuguese and French, housed in Shwebo. There were the penal settlements such as Mogaung, to which recalcitrant subjects were sent by the Kings of Burma: the small groups who accepted the "protection" of more powerful immigrants instead of fleeing with the main body of their people, and finally the relatively modern influx of refugees from

Yunnan, escaping the unsettled conditions and internecine strife that have characterised that province in the past two decades. These racial "islands" or the traces of them, exist to this day to confound the ethnographer.

The main result of this confusion of external and internal strife, the search for empty space, and the feuds among the Kings and Princes of early Burma, is that the whole country is a mass of small pockets of mutually hostile people, speaking languages which vary from village to village within a single tribe, and having customs which differ in minor details to a bewildering degree. Much of this difference is due to the nature of the physical environment, since heavy jungle and mountainous country do not make for good communications, and isolation has had its usual effect of enhancing regional developments on individual lines. This development, is, for the same reason, along the lines of economic and social divergencies rather than along the lines of racial division. Thus those who possess firearms, means of irrigation, wheeled or animal transport and other aids to easy living, are far more advanced than fellow members of their race who have not acquired these material advantages.

Thus to-day in Burma you have the Chin, Naga, Kachin, Shan and Karen tribes, more or less related to each other and overflowing all the natural boundaries into Assam, China, French Indo-China and Thailand. During the war years records show that a small percentage of Burmese were willing to swallow the promises made by the Japanese, and actively aided them at the time the country was invaded. There was a Fifth Column which pillaged the cities, harassed the troops and made the retreat difficult, in marked contrast to the loyal action of the native military forces. In describing the general characteristics of the Burmese, it must be remembered that the women are more industrious and businesslike than the men, but their school education has been neglected. The Burmese women enjoy an amount of freedom unusual in non-European races. As a whole the Burmese are characterised by cleanliness, a sense of honour and a love of sport, but addicted to a life of ease and laziness. The Burmese are Buddhists, and their religion occupies a foremost part of their life, and is one of the chief reasons for the picturesque of the country, every town and village being marked by its own pagoda. The spiritual head of every village is the yellow-robed monk: Christianity has, however, made much progress in some tribes. In conclusion, it will be of interest to

TWINS BORN IN OFFICERS' QUARTERS

A rather startling but not altogether unexpected event occurred in the officers' quarters recently. One evening F/O Ken Mosher walked into his room and discovered two red-haired infants scarcely more than a few hours old in his closet. Anyone will admit that this must have been somewhat disconcerting. Ken reported the incident and it was obvious that Button's indiscretion had finally born fruit.

As yet there has been no decision announced as to what action will be taken but needless to say an investigation is taking place. Unfortunately the identity of the male involved is not known although the red hair may be a clue of sorts. This cannot be depended upon, however, as the mother herself has somewhat reddish hair. If the babies had been found in the rooms of a red haired officer one may have been able to draw conclusions but since such was not the case we can do nothing.

The most likely course will be that the small fry will remain in the Mess temporarily to be supported by the Mess Members until a suitable application for adoption is received. Anyone interested in obtaining a couple of cute red kittens should apply to F/O Mosher.

Continued from previous column
the reader to know that the Burmese think it polite to tell you what you want to hear. If you ask, "Am I on the right road?" they will smile and say "Yes," no matter if it is the wrong road.

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OAKHAM



F/L BLISS



BY F/O NORM MACKERACHER

With numerous presentations and a quiet party behind him, F/L Bliss is on his way to Korea, the presentations were all in fun, Bill, seriously we wish you the best of luck.

Our heartiest welcome is extended to our new Pilot—F/O Mike Bradley. I don't know how they managed to post you so close to home Mike (4 miles north of Oakham), but we're to have you with us and hope you enjoy your stay.

The general opinion since the party Friday the 20th, is that Rugby is much better if played with a ball and in a less confined space, check one sprained ankle and a cut eye.

I wonder who the guilty persons were that moved the Caravan Site the night of the party. F/O Gildner swears it took him an hour and a half to walk home. Did you check on the 'bus service, Ken?

Now that we are getting a few sunny days, the 439 pilots have all been out tossing the ball around and feel quite capable of taking on all challengers.

Continued on page 25

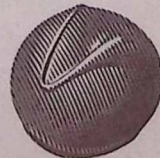
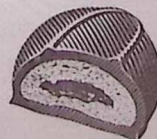
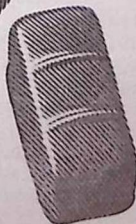
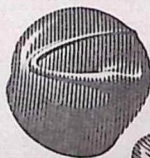
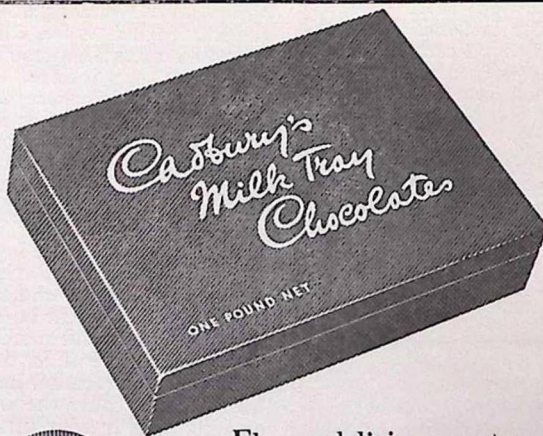
OFF TO KOREA

F/L Bill Bliss, above, left England recently on his way to Korea to do a tour of operational flying with the USAF. There he will probably meet F/L Grant Nichols of 410 Squadron who is also doing a similar tour.

Operational flying will not be new to Bill who completed a tour of ops on Spitfires during the war while stationed in England. On returning to Canada he tried civvy life for a couple of years during which time he did some bush flying out of Lakeland.

On re-entering the RCAF he was among the first pilots to be checked out on Vampires and joined 410 Squadron. With this unit he became a member of S/L Don Laubman's famed Aerobatic team. Bill flew the box position of the formation, or the slot, as it's sometimes known.

He next did a tour of desk flying as an Intelligence officer at ADC HQ before coming to 439 Squadron as a Flight Commander. He is the first member of this unit to be posted to Korea and although that particular fracas shows signs of fizzling out, we do hope he gets a chance to tangle with the MIG's.



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COUGAR Papers 410

BY F/O R. W. GIBSON



F/O Savereaux

Another member of No. 1 (F) Wing on his way to Korea is F/O Lew Savereaux of 410 Squadron. F/O Savereaux will do a six month tour of duty there to study the supply problems of a combat Wing.

Women Police

In 1951 there were 1,429 women police in England and Wales, and 149 in Scotland.

The pilots of 410 received bad news last week. We aren't going to be allowed to take part in April's Escape and Evasion exercise. The reason is that we must leave for our gunnery exercises at Acklington the day that the E and E exercise ends. Bad luck, eh?

During the past few weeks our squadron has been developing a new secret weapon down in Sun Valley. Our "ace in the hole" is none other than our flying Engineering Officer F/L "Wally" Maquire who has mastered the mighty Sabre. "Old Fairweather" spends his spare time these days breaking the sound barrier and boasting of his flying feats to his fellow "gnomes."

At last we have heard from F/L "Nick" Nichols in Korea. He hasn't had a crack at any MIGs as yet and complains that he isn't flying as much as he would like, but he is still hoping.

F/O Ralph Biggar is now spending a three month tour over at Wing Maintenance acting as our Wing Test Pilot.

F/O "Denny" Denouden has returned from his leave in Canada—still a single man but hopes to be drawing Marriage Allowance by the end of the Summer.

F/L "Johnny" Marion is on the sick list this month. He is spending a week or two at Ely Hospital where he is having his tonsils removed.

F/O "Lew" Savereux left last week for Korea where he is spending a six month tour with an American Squadron. "Lew" is the first Groundcrew Officer to be posted to Korea from this Wing.

If anyone has been wondering who burnt "410" into the ceiling of the bar see April's DROs.

Three greens and off.

410 ELECTRICAL SECTION

BY HOTWIRE

A new "Bloodhound of the press" puts in his two "Scents" worth as the regular make-a-statement-for-the-press reporter is on leave.

With the more frequent sunny days a mere promise of Summer to be brings new ideas to men's minds. These, of course, vary, but may be condensed thus:—

To Sgt Graves it means our immediate nerve centre or Section gets a new fleet of packing cases and paint which he is ably turning into new lockers, cupboards and drawers. Could this mean another crown in Coronation Year?

To Cpl Brenton who proudly passed the cigars and bottle it was the dawn of a new era—a seven pound nine ounce CANADIAN girl—a new potential W.D. electrician. Everything is reported 100 per cent. from Peterborough hospital.



F/O Gibson

Stan is back from two months TD in the Wing Battery Shop and under a new scheme of exchanges with 410 Maintenance we will bid LAC Gehring happy snag hunting up above, down to Sun Valley for the tourist season will come LAC Desrosiers.

Then there's the case of the 410 electrician who was kept late at work and when he went home to his wife she wondered why he was "Insulate."

And the "Sojak" of the week is about an ex-Quebec City Private Eye who has et problem, that being with a traffic officer over a small detail in the highway code of England.

Our recommended solution is that big red "L" plate means let your unlicensed buddy walk and your hit tune should be "Empty Saddles."

410 SERVICING

From the many tired airmen wandering around the dispersal area; among them your reporters, you wouldn't think spring was here, but according to the calendar it is.

What's this about LAC Talbot's ship coming in? We hear from a very reliable source that he is loaded with dough, in fact he's got piles. Perhaps the sale of his bike is at the bottom of this story.

Our boy Tollerton is going to make the big jump in the near future and we at Servicing all hope his shoulder heals by that time.

A large welcome to small Hopkins who is now among the chosen few out here in the valley. It seems they're thinking of posting the whole band out here. We wonder why?

The flying out here hasn't broken any records recently, but what's the difference, the ones that stand are ours anyway.

Well dear readers, the time has come so in parting we'll just say "Never put till tomorrow what you can do next week." "If at first you don't succeed, give up." (Copyright from Old Pineapple).

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S/L Gill, D.F.C.

S/L W. T. H. GILL, DFC

S/L Bill Gill took command of 441 Squadron on 1 March, '53, after having been Wing Weapons Officer for several months. He had formerly been with 410 Squadron as Senior Flight Commander.

Something New Dept.

Most interesting news of the month was the squadron's visit to the Martin Baker Ejection seat plant near London. To create further interest, F/O Bill Felhaber, with a number of cute facial expressions, tried out their mock seat and was airborne to the tune of 42 feet. He liked it so much that I understand he's talking about having an ejection seat fitted behind his desk in 441's orderly room. Johnny Gaudry's face after the seat was fixed so that it wouldn't work was a work of art also.

In this section we really can't forget F/L Slim Walker's noble gesture of buying a round on his birthday . . . In all his thirty years this is something new for Slim. Ditto Ken Branch although we realise Kennie had to go easy—Wedding bells will be ringing for him in May.

New Faces Corner

F/L Neil Burns finally arrived and we bid him formal welcome in this column . . . A triple welcome along the same lines goes to Mrs. Burns and the two kiddies . . . We hope you enjoy England.

Pundit "Beacon" Paquette has made the trip back to the fold after months and months of laying around doing nothing in hospitals. The "Rock's" influence of keeping the boys on the straight and narrow ??? is sorely needed ??? (Oh brother ! !)

March Leaves

F/L Dean Kelly claiming to know all the better places to go in Paris after spending five days of leave there.

Nothing heard of from the Messrs. Brine and Ecker now enjoying the bullfights in Sunny Spain.

Ralph Annis spent two weeks recuperating after the birth of a baby girl . . . Congrats, bouquets and all that to you and Marg, Ralph.

Murray Neilson spending a week (and lots of quids) in London with his Mrs. . . . Bet he doesn't take the wife to the same places he visited solo when he was there last year for a month on course ???

Johnny Gaudry pushing north into Belgium after seeing France. Hardly has time to do more than drop a quick postcard to the boys in England.

ACCOUNTS CHATTER

BY SGT T. H. RIDLEY

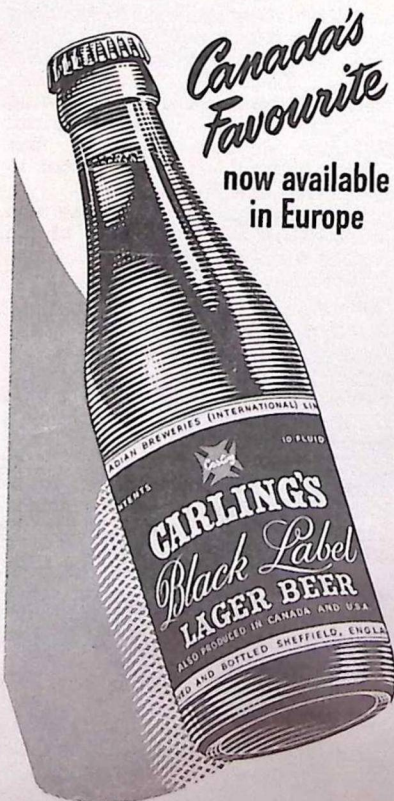
Greetings and salutations from the D.A.F./N.L. (Department of Accounts and Finances/North Luffenham branch) boys. That broadly outlines the duties and responsibilities of the human accounting machines occupying the second floor of the Admin. Bldg. The theme of this article will be to paint a verbal picture of what goes on in the inner sanatorium of your account section. This is not intended to solicit your sympathies but simply to acquaint you with the organization and duties of this essential cog in the air force wheel.

The head of the Accounts Branch, Air Commodore J. MacL. Murray, CBE, whose official designation is Director of Accounts and Finance, paid us a short visit recently in company with S/L W. L. Hodgson to discuss amongst other things the new clothing credit system.

According to QR (Air) S/L J. A. Brown DFC our Senior Accountant Officer must advise the Commanding Officer on all financial and accounting matters affecting this unit. In order to do this his unit accounting branch is divided into three departments. Supply Accounting comes under S/L Brown's direct supervision with W. "Jack" Hight as his WO i/c. F. W. W. Fink is our Pay Accountant Officer with Sgt "Paddy" Girvin as his NCO. F/O G. Hawkins looks after Mess and Institute Accounting with the able assistance of Cpl "Arnold" Roberts. Cpl Roberts incidentally has developed quite a roll to his Rs since returning from Scotland.

To give you some idea of the volume of work passing through the Supply Accounting section, a recent check shows that we have received and actioned well over 10,000 vouchers from No. 5 Supply Depot alone in 18 months of operation. The past 12 months have seen over 30,000 vouchers actioned in this office. If this sounds like a lot of work, it is, but we only handle the accounting end of it. Think of physical effort done by S/L Rosenthal and his staff in the supply section. It's well worth noting at this point that in order to accomplish this the supply boys have put in more man hours per head than any other section since this unit opened. Let's give credit where credit is due.

The pay staff have been far from idle in the past 12 months having TOS'd approx. 700 pay sheets and SOS'd over 300. This coupled with routine work such as pay parades, balancing, statements, etc., adds up



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Continued on page 25

INSIDE THE USSR

The State of The Union is Rotten

BY EDWARD CRANKSHAW

London

The whole performance in the Soviet Union, working up to a spy-hunt of monstrous proportions, gives a beautiful idea of the peculiar nature of the Soviet system. Thirty-six years after the revolution Stalin is reduced to the most public admission imaginable that the state of the Union is rotten. "The imperialist secret services try to use for their outrageous purposes," declared *Pravda* the other day, "the remnants of the broken anti-Soviet groups, all kinds of anti-Party elements, morally unstable and corrupt people infected with vestiges of capitalism and bourgeois nationalistic views."

That passage, and a hundred others like it, makes an interesting commentary on the Kremlin's claim to have produced the most stable, progressive and contented of societies.

It is still too early to say what lies behind this new terror: whether, that is, it has been called into being by a genuine fear of growing opposition to the Kremlin's rule or whether it is a reflection of a desperate struggle for power inside the Kremlin, or a mixture of both.

Probably it is the latter. The latest unofficial news to filter through the Iron Curtain suggests a grim state of affairs in many parts of the Soviet countryside. During the past 18 months things have been easier in the towns: there has been plenty of food and a better supply of clothing and consumer goods.

But to judge from all reports, this development is being paid for very heavily by the countryside. The new drive to amalgamate collective farms into even larger units, turning the workers into State-owned serfs, has met with bitter resistance.

Collective farms found guilty of inefficiency or of various malpractices of embezzling grain in-

tended for the State, have been forced this winter to deliver up even their seed grain to the State granaries.

This measure, intended to punish offenders and frighten others, appears to have got out of hand. To judge by the exceptional number of peasants who have crowded into the towns this winter, and the mobs of ragged youths on the railway stations of the Soviet Union—always a sign of hunger in the villages—whole areas are faced with near starvation.

Nor is life much happier for many others in the Soviet Union who still have enough to eat. Every official who has ever handled confidential information must be shivering with apprehension and sleeping with his prison bag packed lest he should be the next to be denounced for giving away State secrets: the Soviet Union, of course, is a country of officials; and in the Soviet Union all information is confidential.

Every Jew must be wondering whether he and his friends will find themselves implicated in a fresh aspect of the "Zionist conspiracy"—or, more simply, whether the local population may not suddenly take it into their heads to start a Jew hunt in the tradition of the Czarist programs while the police look on.

Every doctor must be waiting to hear that he, too, is a poisoner. Every scientist and technician who has ever taken an interest in the latest Western discoveries may sooner or later be accused of corrupting the wells of Stalinist science. Everyone of their colleagues who has ever published a technical paper must be fearing that he, too, will find himself accused of "divulging secret discoveries made in State laboratories."

Every official and intellectual in all the national republics who has ever exhibited the least awareness of the fact that the history and condi-

tions of life of, say, Kazakstan differ from the history and conditions of life of Moscow, must expect at any moment to be denounced for "bourgeois nationalist" agitation.

And behind all this looms the larger fear. What toruous ramifications of a giant conspiracy against the State will be unmasked and punished when the Kremlin at last gets round to public consideration of the case of the nine "doctor poisoners"?

For, although it is easy to forget it, the nine doctors with their murderous conspiracy have still not been formally charged, at least publicly. No evidence whatsoever has yet been brought against them. The peculiar nature of Soviet justice is shown by the fact that in spite of this the Press and the Party leaders take their guilt entirely for granted.

"Traacherous spies and assassins, concealed under doctors' masks, who sold themselves to the slave-owning cannibals of the U.S.A. and Britain," is the way Radio Moscow speaks of them—and it is now under attack for being backward in its denunciation of the Western conspiracy!

Deepest Spot

Deepest spot in the ocean so far recorded is 35,640 feet in the Pacific near Guam, discovered in 1951.

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MOBILE EQUIPMENT NEWS

Signs of Spring

There are certain signs of spring in the air around the M.E. Section lately, not the least of which is that sleepy, dreamy-eyed look reminiscent of a fish pole and a case of beer beside a babbling brook. Cpl. Ross (Green Thumb) Smalley has been bitten by the botanical bug and is at present greatly enthused with the idea of making great and startling changes in the M.E. lawns and flower-beds.

Spring has also struck another note in the M.E., for at 10.00 hours on Saturday, the 14th of March, Cpl. F. H. Hammond and Miss Jean Prohar were united in marriage in the church of St. Joseph's and St. Edith's at Oakham, Rutland. The former Miss Prohar hails from Rouleau, Saskatchewan, and Cpl. Hammond's home town is Montreal.

S/L Davignon, the R.C. Padre, solemnised the vows. Miss Prohar's bridesmaid was Mrs. R. F. Smalley, while Cpl. Hammond was given moral support by LAC W. P. Rowe, who was best man. The reception took place at the Crown Hotel in Oakham, with the happy couple leaving by train at 1400 hours for a week's honeymoon in London.

A large percentage of the M.E. personnel were present at the wedding and reception to drink the health of the newly-weds and to wish them every success in their future together. Among the guests present were the following:

F/O and Mrs. J. E. Reeves
 WO1 and Mrs. T. A. Wilkins
 F/S and Mrs. W. B. Sabourin
 F/S and Mrs. R. J. Walden
 F/S and Mrs. H. Sewell
 Cpl and Mrs. K. I. Gibson
 Cpl and Mrs. R. F. Smalley
 Cpl and Mrs. C. E. Pettigrew
 Cpl and Mrs. E. C. Beck
 LAC and Mrs. R. Guilbeault
 LAC and Mrs. F. H. Comtois
 LAC and Mrs. J. C. Paynter
 Cpl H. J. Pitts
 Cpl J. C. Harkness
 LAC P. L. Cote
 LAC W. P. Rowe
 LAC W. R. Wittaker
 LAC E. J. Nicholson
 LAC K. W. Powell

The bride and groom were presented with a pair of wool blankets and a carving set on behalf of all M.E. personnel.

Best wishes and congratulations to the happy pair from all their friends in the M.E. Section; may you be as happy with each other fifty years from now as you are to-day.

Laugh of the Month

The guy who drove a 4X4 all day and wondered why it would work in four-wheel drive only. The answer was — it had no rear drive-shaft!

The Big Kick

All of us at one time or another felt dejected or rejected, but to few has come the feeling of being ejected. Most of 1 Fighter Wing's pilots have had this — pleasure? — but it has remained to the M.E. Section to have its ordinary bods receive this phenomenal kick in the pants. To date three of our "types" have been ejected in the Martin-Baker ejection seat demonstration rig at the Martin-Baker factory near Uxbridge. Record to date by this section is held by one LAC Len (Atlas) Taylor, who zoomed to the phenomenal height of fifty feet.

With Baited Breath

If by chance you should see several M.E. bods going purple in the face it isn't because their shirt collars are two sizes too small, it's because they are holding their breath in anticipation of the results of the recent trade test.

Comments on this subject aver that "She was a real toughie," and it seems the opinion of all who wrote it that the exam papers could stand some revision.

Parting Thought

An accelerator is what some people die with their boots on!"



Pipe Major Robson instructing F/O Oliver in the handling of the "big stick."

STATION BAND NEWS

Since Lac Ireland's departure to Canada, this space has been left vacant. This does not mean that the Band has had to fold up, but that new sleuth (or reporter as they are better known as) had to take over the vacant chair of Band Newsy. Hence I will endeavour to keep you informed of the happenings in the Bandworld of our fair Station. Me? I am the lead drummer Lac (Hold that Flam) Hopkins.

Well, after long and tedious practices, meetings and the enlistment of Pipe Major MacKenzie, to whom we owe a great deal, the one time mass of squeals and bashes, has at last turned into a band which is well worthy of this Station.

This summer should promise many engagements, and possibly a spot in the competitions at White City in June.

Don't forget fellows, if you are interested in becoming a member of the Station Band, you don't have to be a "Hagas McBagas" or a potent "Krupa" as long as you are willing to learn, and spend a few hours of your spare time practicing, we can use you.

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WING MAINTENANCE REPORTS

by W. J. Wilkinson Sgt.

Wing Maintenance Orderly Room.
Well, Summer has been and gone again,

The sunshine is no more,
Thick clouds are gathered overhead,
There ain't no fun no mo.
They say subversive forces have
Been sending us this weather,
To me that's strictly for the birds,
The "Chirps" just love this weather.
What they can stand well we can stand,

Hardie Canucks will say,
But I'll take the Four Seasons
That we get in CAN-AD-A.

The verse above has been reproduced by kind permission of the author, who has never took a lesson in his life.

FLASHES FROM THE TELECOMM SECTION

With reference to the beautiful weather we are having, never let it be said that we do not suffer from spring fever, too. If the young man's fancy takes the usual turn, a few of the boys may have attractions of the female variety in many spots not too distant from the base. So let yea beware of an increase in the number of sorties to surrounding weak points, such as Leicester, Notts., Peterborough, etc. But you must agree that these lovely days do get you all started again after a dormant winter.

The improved condition of the streets on the base is most welcome. The ME boys in their Sweepers Mobile are doing a swell job of taking off the dust that was once gooeey mud a few weeks ago. Our section has emerged from the mud none the worse, and when the wind blows away the dust we shall again be visible and recognised as a building.

Is it another Ben Hogan or a Sammy Sneed that has turned up in the section recently ??? It would appear that we are doomed to always have a golfing enthusiast in the section. Well now is the time for all good golfers to get in their spring ploughing, and tear up the sod once again. (They say that the new sign at the local golfery instead of the usual "Please replace the Turf" is rumoured to be "Please Re-Turf the place").

WO2 Thompson is still in hospital at Ely. We have not had a report on his condition, but we are hoping that it is the very best under the circumstances.

Well this about sums up all the news for now, but we will be seeing you all in the next issue.

Sparks from the Electrical Section

Our Section of late has just been a shadow of its former self, with some squeezing in the last few days of leave, one away on a T.D. trip to Scotland, and one of the fellows who was on T.D. here from Gros Tenquin has been dragged back home.

Some of the boys who are still around are busy absorbing the necessary "Knowledge required to pass their trade boards. This intensified trade advancement programme has caused a drastic shortage of available "Slaves" resulting in the humiliating situation of some of the (We are here in advisory capacity only) Cpl's donning coveralls.

By the time this comes out in print, the exams will all be written, so the best of luck goes to all the boys who have tried.

Lac "Chess" Horne has landed a T.D. trip to Prestwick, where No. 3 Wing Kites are stopping on the way to the Continent.

Our Four Boys from Gros Tenquin have been informed that their stay here is almost at an end. Except for the "Grace" of the trade board and annual leave Lac's MacKenzie, Maahs and Blacquire would have left with Buttner last week. We hope their stay here has been an enjoyable one, and maybe if the right gears mesh we shall see some of them back here again.

The news of the extension of "Over-seas Tour" which applies to some of us has met with a variety of feeling. Some have welcomed it, others are resigned to it, and some are searching their souls for those illusive "other good reasons."

That about concludes the news that be printed in this column, so now we will get in a little back-patting at which the other Squadrons and Sections are so adept.

Did you know that if all the electrical equipment in the Sabre 2 were placed end to end, they would be a lot easier to work on?

The Squadrons seem to be doing quite a good job, but did they ever stop to think, that even a "Foo-Foo" bird can't fly without a Wing?

Cheers for now, be seeing you all soon.

Friggers and Fritters

Absent from the Hangar are F/L Cox and his able-bodied crew, on T.D. (or is it a "Butlin Holiday") at Prestwick, taking part in Leap Frog 3. Some of the older and enthusiastic will be trying the famous local Golf Course while waiting for the Aircraft. The young and still hardy shall no doubt keep in shape indulging in Weight Lifting in the local pubs. In this perfect weather can you blame them? And what an ideal place to

celebrate the "17th of Ireland" in bonny Scotland.

In this modern day and age the youth of to-day are definitely getting spoilt, for deviating from the old days of no machinery the boys in Wing Maintenance will be seen putting on extra weight due to the addition to their inventory of a Tow-Bar for the Expeditor. This wholesome exercise will be missed sadly by the Expeditor Attendants. Thanks to Workshops.

The arduous labour of a farmer's cow can not compare to the fetes accomplished by the Orderly Room staff of Wing Maintenance. This is in evidence if you care to drop into this bee-hive of industry.

A fervent old admirer of the sod, recently returned from the land of "Green," found difficulty in obtaining a family tie with his crest on it. Rumour has it that he is to have his name extended to suit a tie he purchased in Dublin.

Continental Mephan and Strandlund are doing up their leave in true French style, at the Gay Paris, and the Fabulous Riviera.

It is rumoured that, owing to the absence on leave of one Lover Lou, one bus has to be cancelled for the Sergeant's Mess Sat. nite's. Who will miss it the most, the girls, or the lover.

Well, that about winds things up for the present, readers. We shall be with you all once again in the next issue. So until the lots of luck at the "POOLS," and don't forget to keep smiling.

T.T.F.N

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WING HEADQUARTERS

Along with the sunny weather, the 1 April, '53, is fast approaching and the men of the Wing HQ OR are turning their eyes more frequently in the direction of the calendar. The GREAT DAY, it is hoped, will not prove a disappointing one for them.

Corporal "Gerry" Gagne longs to become a sailor once more, and is hoping to embark for Canada and civvy street before long.

LAC "Chuck" Stather now has ambitions of gaining undying fame in the motor-cycle world and is madly searching about for a pair of goodly goggles and a well-trained bike.

For the information of all concerned, a school for clerks is now in existence in the Wing HQ OR, and three contact trainees are busily engaged in pursuing clerical careers, namely, LAC "Joey" Brown, LAC "Louis XIVth" Cloutier and LAC "Billy" Sapsford—ARE THERE ANY OTHERS INTERESTED?

Corporal "Stan" Bendle having at last mastered the art of the pipes, is now devoting his time to marching like they do in the highlands. CARRY ON CORPORAL.

We must now take advantage of this excellent opportunity to officially welcome our new SWO, Flight Sergeant "Long Dart" Sewell. Harry is clearly demonstrating that he possesses as much skill at details as he has displayed at darts.

Sergeant "Bobby Jones" Golding is again making his way to the golf links these days, whilst his two stalwart colleagues continue to render outstanding service in the CR's. The golf ball industry should have no trouble in stepping up their sales this year. More later.

Largest Island

The Arctic Island of Greenland, long a possession of Denmark, has an area of 847,000 square miles.

Different Poles

The North Magnetic Pole moves in an area roughly 1,200 miles from the geographical North Pole.

Housekeeping on Parade

Continued from page 13

- usually disperse the trouble. It is also a good thing to put a handful of salt in your sink every now and then and let it melt slowly away. It will keep the drain sweet smelling and grease sediment will not accumulate in it.
2. A useful little wrinkle about cut flowers is to know that they appreciate a little salt in the water. Just a pinch you know—and they will last twice as long if you give it to them.
 3. When an egg is put on to boil, if you add salt and vinegar to the water, they will prevent any tendency of the egg white from coming out of the shell. A teaspoon of salt and a teaspoon of vinegar mixed together will be sufficient.
 4. After cooking, whilst the oven is still warm, you can clean it with salt. Take a wad of paper moistened with water and sprinkled with salt, and rub it over the oven. The wad of paper saves rags, for you can replace it as often as it is necessary.

5. As well as ovens you can clean and brighten your curtains, carpets and upholstery with salt. Put it on damp, and then brush it out well so that not a single particle remains on the fabric.

and lastly

Take a jar of salt with you into the bathroom sometimes and give your teeth a treat by cleaning them with salt. It may not taste so good, but it really does strengthen the gums and whiten and cleanse the teeth. It makes the best ever gargle too. (Saline Solution M.I.R.) Whenever you feel fit to drop, try a hot foot bath to which you have added a tablespoonful of salt. You will soon feel much refreshed.

That's all for now, Folks!

Tiny Republic

Andorra, ancient Republic in the Pyrenees between France and Spain, has an area of 191 square miles.

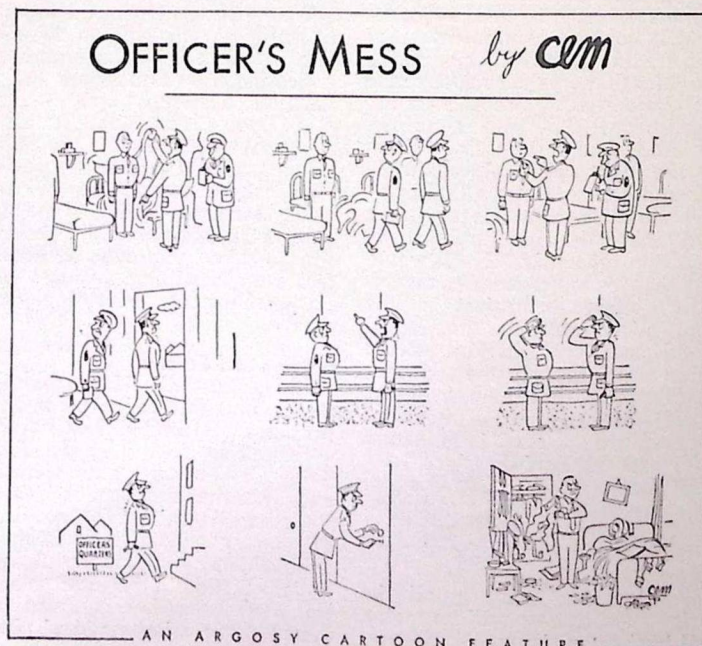
Endless Space

The sun is only one of millions stars that make up the universe.

Other Moons

Six of the nine major planets, including the earth, have satellites or moons revolving about them.

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Tiger Talk

Continued from page 18

F/O Ruecker the latest addition to our married strength, is back from Canada with his charming bride. Welcome to the gang Thyra. You must get the old man to bring you out to the mess sometime.

They always say trouble comes in three's, let's hope we've had our three. Our aircraft strength is rapidly getting depleted and we must put on a good show for the Coronation.

After all the plans being laid for a week-end trip to London, with reserved theatre tickets, etc., it seems we got the short end again, having to stay around for the practice Fly Pasts that were cancelled because of the weather. Let's hope it works out better next time.

I see a lot of new cars around nowadays, here's hoping they don't soak us too much extra in duties when we take them home.

The Talepipe editor has just returned from a spot of leave on the Continent. A log stop over in Germany, "you don't have to know the language, but it sure helps a lot." Whatsay Al?

439 TELECOM

BY W. VAN BLARICOM

Another month, and we again take pen in hand for the news, views, etc. of Telecom for this issue.

We now have LAC Garceau back from Wing for a stay with the Squadron. Welcome back, Bert, and may we not have too many week-ends of work.

Our postings-in have included AC1 Fraser, a com. man, and AC1 Robert, Radar type. They have already covered some of the English Country-side, and have tested the virtues and otherwise of the local Pubs. Anyway, with these new arrivals our establishment is almost (but not quite) filled.

We've been quite fortunate during the "short-handed" period in that

serviceability has stayed high, not that we hope for more U/S's now.

At present we have one man, LAC Brassard, on leave. He's taking in the wonders of "Paree," and from his postcard is enjoying it.

That seems to be all for now, so we'll fold the tent, and steal away 'til next month—so long.

439 SERVICING

BY A.S.R.

First of all I would like to express our best wishes to the "Boss," S/L Cal Bricker who has, I hope, finally returned after a long and spasmodic illness. Let's hope the surgeons have found all their tools this time Boss.

We all extend our congratulations to Keith Hird, who has finally taken the plunge. It must be LOVE when you bring a girl all the way over from Canada just to marry her.

I hear rumours that "Reg" is thinking about the fatal step too.

Understand that Sam was trying to crash the sound barrier in dive from wing to ground when he bust his ribs. Better luck next time Sam.

I guess by the time this gets into circulation most of our lonely married men will be sweating out their repat and posting gen. Hope you all get within a thousand miles of your preferences.

Saw Jack Pedlar studying the Chipmunk manual in preparation for his future heavy duties at Centralia. Going to be tough sledging Jack. Funny thing our boy piper went on leave and all the gunsights seem to work. Ask "Sherm" Hannah, he got twenty-seven hits the other day.

Did I hear idle chatter or are our "fly boys" exchanging there Sabres for swords for the forthcoming official events.

Rugged Surface

The moon, on which rugged heights are seen through telescopes, has a diameter of 2,160 miles.

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Accounts Chatter

Continued from page 20

to a lot of work. Travelling expense claims and moving allowance claims processed in the past year have exceeded the 3,000 mark. This task of course, has been made easier by the co-operation and efficiency of the administrative staff down stairs.

F/O Hawkins and his merry men have had their share in the J. A. Brown organization. A quick check through their books shows that approx. 1,700 cheques have been written on the three Mess and Institute bank accounts which have seen deposits approximating £104,000 sterling pass through them. These totals only reflect a small portion of the volume of invoices, cash collection, receipts etc., which go to make up these figures.

Your accounts staff do not suffer from the illusion that they are the only hard working section on the unit, but the fact remains that the volume of work going through this section could easily swamp us were it not for the co-operation that we are receiving from all flights and sections on the unit.

Cheerio for now.

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EDITORIAL

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This magazine is published bi-monthly by the personnel of RCAF 1 Fighter Wing, North Luffenham, England, with the kind permission of G/C E. B. Hale, DFC, CD.

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3 WING COMPLETES CROSSING

Number 3 Fighter Wing, under the leadership of W/C R. T. P. Davidson completed their journey to Zweibrucken, on Tuesday, April 7, after having left their home bases in Canada on March 9th. The twenty-nine day trip is as yet the longest Leapfrog movement in RCAF history although the weather for the flight was exceptionally bad.

Thus far well over one hundred RCAF Sabres have successfully completed the Trans-Atlantic flight without loss of a single Aircraft or pilot on the actual over water hops. Another Wing, Number 4, is due to make the journey sometime this summer. Considering the actual details of these ferry flights they are commonplace enough but flying a single engined jet machine over such great stretches of water can never be easy thing for pilots who realize the fallibility of any machine and the slim chances of survival in the North Atlantic if one

is unfortunate enough to go down.

However, it is a flight all pilots can look back on with pride when one realizes the accuracy of the navigation involved and the very small amount of leeway the Sabre has in reaching its destination on ETA. The Trans-Atlantic crossing also qualifies each pilot as a member of the "Short-Snorters' Club." The actual organization of said club is somewhat vague but it generally can be used as a means to scrounge free drinks, although on the evening of their arrival in Zweibrucken I feel sure the pilots of Number 3 Wing needed no further excuses to indulge in a few free drinks. Someone should have taken the trouble to count the hangovers in the morning. E.A.S.

Arab League

The Arab League formed at Cairo in 1945 consists of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi-Arabia, Syria, the Lebanon and Yemen.

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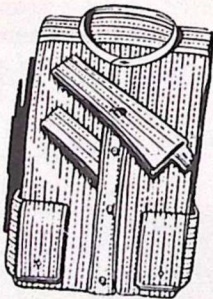
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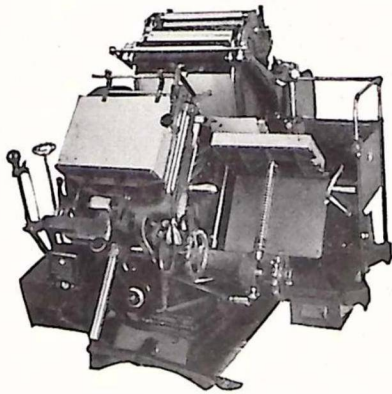
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