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Talepipe

THE HOTTEST THING EAST OF THE ATLANTIC



VOL. III

NOVEMBER, 1953

No. 1



- ★ BRITANNIA SHIELD COMPETITION
- ★ RED, WHITE AND BLUE—AN UNPATRIOTIC ARTICLE

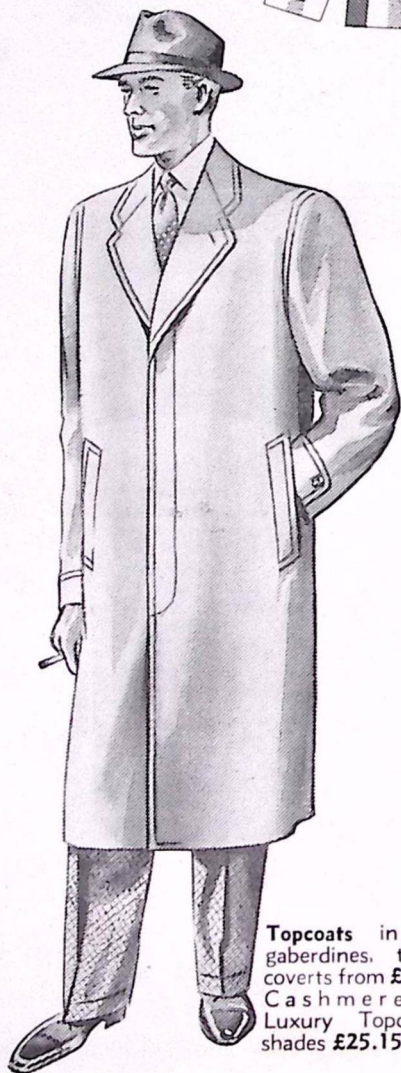
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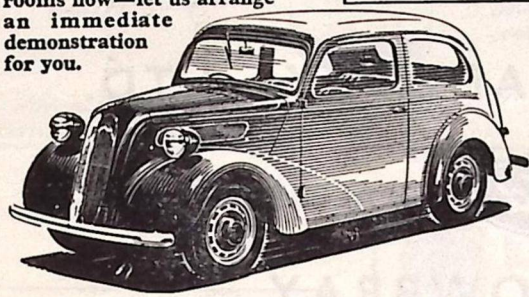
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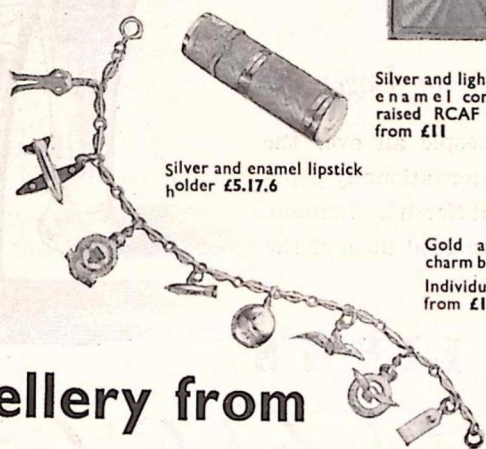
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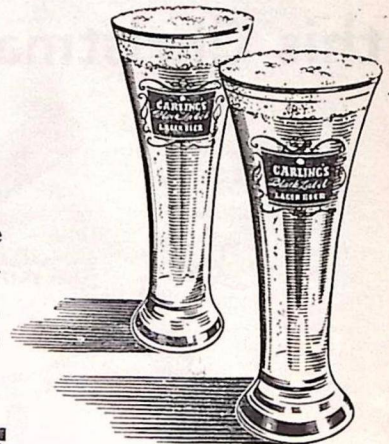
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EDITORIAL

The Christmas message is known to all. It is: Peace on earth, goodwill toward men.

We in the services believe implicitly in that message because having seen the weapons of war, which are part of our daily lives, we know their potentiality for destruction. We are probably more aware than most people of the ordeals that war can bring in sacrifice of life, in the stretching of economies, and in the ruination of the moral life of our people. We are not the military clique of warmongers that we are sometimes accused of being, although this accusation is rarely, if ever, levelled at Canadian service people. In short, we servicemen and women are active supporters of anything that will maintain peace on earth.

It follows that we bear good will to men, all men. Canadian contributions to NATO are in a way visible testimonials of our desire to create good will. NATO is an organization dedicated to the task of preserving our way of life against the onslaughts of persons who do not bear good will towards us but, if anything, malice. By contributing to its support we are saying that we believe in the righteousness of our cause which is peaceful and the fact that we have armed to fight, if necessary, for our beliefs in no way detracts from the good will we bear to all men. We have by our deeds to show that our good will is a tangible thing and not mere lip service. The isolation of our country and our lives from the countries and lives of men the world over is not our interpretation of good will.

In the Christmas season, therefore, we have the opportunity of restating a belief which we give force to in our lives for 365 days of each year. The manner in which we do so is traditional and Christian in origin. With no fear then, of using a trite phrase, I wish all ranks and their kin a Very Merry Christmas.

COMING EVENTS

- 9 Dec 53: Soccer game. RCAF vs Connington. Place: Connington.
- 15 Dec. 53: Party for crippled children at Burley Court Hall, Oakham. Sponsors: the Pipe Band. The children, about 42 in number, will get a full Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, toys, and a visit from Santa Claus. The cost of all this is to be shared by the

"The Talepipe"

This magazine is published monthly by the personnel of RCAF 1 Fighter Wing, North Luffenham, England, with the kind permission of G/C J. D. Somerville, DSO, DFC, CD.

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band members.

- 16 Dec. 53: Children's Party in Mess Hall. Time: 1330 hrs.
- 17 Dec 53: Carol Service in Edith Weston School (Provisional date).
- 18 Dec 53: Concert at Edith Weston School (Provisional date).
- 19 Dec 53: Variety show put on by Station personnel.
- 21 and 22 Dec 53: Special Christmas dinner in Edith Weston School for students who normally eat dinner there.
- 24 Dec 53: 1 Fighter Wing personnel are to be featured in a live TV show. More details later.
- 25 Dec 53: Officers and Senior NCOs get together between 1030 and 1230 hrs and then proceed to Airmen's Mess for useful duties.
- 26 Dec 53: Live TV broadcast of variety show from 1 (F) Wing, NAAFI Building.
- 31 Dec 53: Airmen's New Year's Eve Party.

OUR COVER PHOTO

Miss M. Ball and Cpl P. J. Roberts, respectively our librer and photograph editors, collaborated to produce Santa Claus in full regalia, escorted by 1 (F) Wing aircraft. There was no need for red-rosed reindeer because the red-rosed Sabres of 441 Sqn were thought sufficient.



A/V/M Hugh L. Campbell, C.B.E., C.D., being greeted by G/C J. D. Somerville.

VISIT OF THE AOC

On Thursday, 5 November 53, V/M Hugh L. Campbell, CBE, AOC, Air Officer Commanding the Air Division, visited 1 (F) Wing for the first time since it came under 1 Air Division for administrative purposes.

After inspecting the Guard of Honour and the Pipe Band he proceeded to the Officers' Mess and shook hands with the large number of officers present. Later he carried out a scheduled tour of the Wing.

Upon return to Air Division HQ, A/V/M Campbell sent the following message to Group Captain Somerville:

A76 dated 6 Nov 53
 "I was very pleased and impressed yesterday by the state of affairs at your Wing. Your method of presentation, your standard of efficiency and the results that you are achieving are of the highest standard. You have my heartiest congratulations."

In Memoriam

The sympathy of all ranks goes out to the bride, and kin, of 2809 LAC Keith F. Wilkings, who died at Oxford on the 12th November 53 as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident between Melton Mowbray and Nottingham on the 5th November 53.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ROYAL COMMAND FILM PERFORMANCE

On Saturday, 24 October, '53, the Pipe and Drum Band of 1 (F) Wing departed from the station for London. We were chosen to take part in the Royal Command Film Performance, "Rob Roy."

Arriving in London we found we were housed in a lush hotel, the Chevrons Club. Sunday morning at 1000 hrs rehearsal started and we were Johnny-on-the-spot for them as we left the Chevrons Club at 0900 hrs.

Rehearsals continued until approximately 1700 hrs when the producers figured it was enough and called it a day. Monday rehearsals began again at 1000 hrs and lasted until 1500. Then back to change into our band uniforms.

The big night had arrived. We had all the butterflies of a first night but these soon disappeared once we got to the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square.

The many stars arrived and having met most of them during rehearsal, we were put greatly at ease by them. Our part of the show was to parade on to the stage as a band. This was done by splitting the band in half, each half entering the stage from both wings simultaneously. We were followed by Richard Todd, Glynis Johns, James Robinson Justice and Finlay Currie the stars of "Rob Roy."

Jack Hawkins, the celebrated English actor was Master of Ceremonies and the band was given its cue from Gary Cooper who introduced the stars of the film.

Prior to arriving in London it had been requested that some of the pipers travel to Bournemouth and Bristol with the stars for the provincial premieres of "Rob Roy." After the producer saw and heard us it was decided that the band as a whole should go on this tour. This we did.

We all enjoyed the trip very much but when it was over we were glad as it was very tiring. We travelled to Bournemouth on Wednesday arriving about 1400 hrs. The band paraded to the Cinema and then we started rehearsal as each theatre has a different stage, and timing and positions are different also. Wednesday night we played a few selections outside of the theatre after parading from the hotel. We then formed a Guard of Honour for the dignitaries present. After the film was over we had to play at a ball given in aid of the Cinematograph Benevolent Fund. Bristol premiere on Thursday was along the same lines. This travelling and playing allowed about six hours' sleep per night and believe me, although there are a lot of people who say "Oh for the life of a star," for my part they can have it. Especially one night stands. The actors must always look their best, put on the appearance of being on top of the world, and be ready to sign autographs or have pictures taken. Calling it a hectic life is putting it mildly.

The band returned to camp on Friday about 1830 hrs tired but proud that we had taken part in such an important engagement.

CHRISTMAS AT CHURCH

Protestant Chapel

Padre: F/L A. J. T. Littlewood
 Sunday—20 December 53: A Carol Service will be conducted entirely by the Sunday School.
 Time: 1100 Hours.

Christmas Eve: 2330 Hours: Carol Service followed by Holy Communion.

Roman Catholic Chapel

Padre: S/L F. A. Halle
 Sunday—20th December 53: Holy Mass at 0830 and 0930 Hours.
 Christmas Eve: 2359 Hours: Holy Mass.
 Christmas Day: 0930 Hours: Holy Mass.



General L. Norstad, of the USAFE, presents Britannia Shield to G/C Chacksfield, team captain of the victorious RAF entry in the Britannia Shield Competition.



RCAF Swimming team, top to bottom: Cpl Hale, LAC Gallagher, F/L Marshall, F/O Bridges, F/O Thorleifson, (left to right) LAC Drudge, LAC Abbott-Brown and Sgt Perry.

BRITANNIA SHIELD COMPETITION

By S/L J. A. Brown

This very important annual international service competition has just been completed for 1953. For the first time Canada was represented by a Royal Canadian Air Force team which, considering the high calibre of the competition, acquitted itself very well. The fact that Canada was represented was greatly appreciated by the Committee and elicited favourable comment from Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur S. Barratt, K.C.B., C.M.G., M.C.

The object of the competition is to commemorate the comradeship and unselfish spirit displayed by all the various nationals who took part in the Battle of Britain and the historic assembly on British soil of the Allied Armed Forces fighting for the freedom and independence of their countries.

The original design of the "Shield" was produced by certain allied airmen and the trophy was made from oak from the Guildhall, London, damaged by enemy action. The shield was presented by Squad-

ron Leader E. S. Virpsha, late R.A.F.V.R.

All competitors must be amateurs serving in any of the Armed Forces of their country at home or abroad. The Shield is a perpetual Challenge trophy and to qualify to win it, each country must participate in all four sporting events, i.e., Boxing, Fencing, Shooting, Swimming. Canada this year did not have a boxing entry and therefore could not qualify to win the Shield, no matter how well she did in the other events.

The shield has been in competition since 1946, when it was won by Czechoslovakia. France, like the RAF, won it three consecutive times beginning in 1947. The RAF, this year's winner, also won it in 1951 and 1952. In 1950 the U.S. Military Forces in Germany were the winners. Czechoslovakia has not entered the competition since 1946 for obvious reasons, and France has not participated since 1949. The countries represented this year were: Norway, Belgium,

Netherlands, United States (U.S. Air Forces in Europe), Canada (RCAF) and Great Britain (RAF). Although the competitors can be from any of the armed forces of a country, to keep the competition as even as possible, Great Britain has drawn its competitors only from the RAF; likewise, the United States drew only from the USAFE. Due to the smaller size of the other countries' (Canada excepted) Air Forces, they drew from all services. The results of the 1953 competition were extremely close, the final standings being:

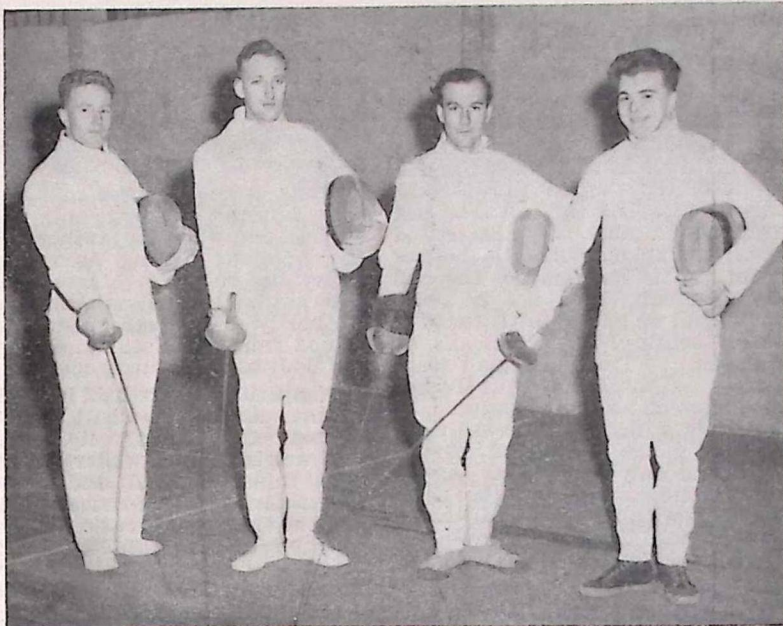
Great Britain 77, Netherlands 72, Belgium 69, Norway 62, USAFE 51, Canada 31.

Indeed, had the Netherlands taken a second place instead of third in the shooting, the Shield would have been theirs.

The idea to enter a Canadian team in the Britannia Shield Competition in 1953 was entirely a 1 Fighter Wing idea as a result of interest shown in the boxing finals on TV last year. With the full co-



RCAF Rifle team, left to right : (kneeling) Cpl A. W. Hodgins, Sgt J. E. Harley (standing) F/O T. W. Gregory and FS W. H. Wilkinson.



RCAF Fencing team, left to right : Cpl J. J. G. Despatie, LAC J. C. Gosselin, Cpl Gilles Gratton and LAC Walter Skomorock.

operation of the Commanding officer a fencing club was organised to train for the 1953 event. The Shooting Club was already organised; it only remained to get them an outside 600 yard range on which to practise. Swimming facilities were extremely limited and, due to the distance of suitable baths, the training problems were insurmountable. It was found that there was insufficient interest shown in boxing to attempt to train a team from our limited numbers. The Air Member of the Canadian Joint Staff, London, was requested to advise the Britannia Shield Committee of our progress to date and an invitation to enter the competition was presently issued by that Committee. The nucleus from North Luffenham was joined by swimmers from 3 (F) Wing and from 30 AMB, Langar, a shooter from 30 AMB and a fencer from 2 (F) Wing, who was in fact one of the first members of the North Luffenham Fencing Club.

The competing teams arrived at RAF Station Uxbridge on Friday, 6th of November, and the official opening ceremony was held at 1030 hours on Saturday morning, 7th of November. The competitors from all countries were arranged in front of the flag-staffs and the flags for Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, United States, Great Britain and Canada, were unfurled.

Air Chief Marshal Barratt welcomed the competitors, read a signal from the Queen bidding all competitors welcome, and introduced the Honorable George Ward, the Undersecretary of State for Air. In his address of welcome, the Honorable Mr. Ward gave a brief resume of the Shield Competition and again bid us all the best of luck in the competition. The RAF Coronation Guard of Honor was also on hand. In all it was a very stirring opening ceremony, and in particular it was very gratifying to see the Canadian flag flying on this occasion. Air Commodore Costello and Group Captain Harvey were present at the ceremony as representatives from the Canadian Joint Staff. They made a point of meeting the Canadian competitors and wishing them luck in their endeavours.

FENCING

This event was won by Belgium, with one of the strongest fencing teams ever to represent a country in this event. Our lads, with less than a year's training, acquitted themselves very well and gained valuable experience fighting against such high class opposition. All countries with the exception of the United States entered very experienced fencers. It was a fight between the US and Canada to take last place. The US managed to

win by a narrow margin. Second and third places were taken by the Netherlands and Norway respectively.

SWIMMING

Canada actually entered only four races: the Medley Team Relay with F/O Thorleifson, F/L Marshall and LAC Drudge, the 100 yard Free Style with LAC Drudge, the 100 yard Breast Stroke (Orthodox) with F/L Marshall, and the Four Man (66 2/3 yards each) Team Relay - Free style with LAC Drudge. F/O Thorleifson, F/O Bridges and LAC Abbott-Brown. After the first event it was apparent that lack of condition due to insufficient training was going to be our biggest handicap—for the first and sometimes two laps our lads were right up with the leaders, but as the race went on they could not keep up the pace. Here again the competition was of a very high standard. F/L Marshall, after being with the leaders right up to the last 20 yards in the 100 yard breast stroke, was just nipped out of third place, thereby missing one of the medals. Other highlights were the strong effort made by LAC Drudge in the 100 yard free style and the team effort in the free style relay. The competitive spirit displayed in a losing fight was very commendable. (This indeed applied equally to fencers). The winners of the

swimming competition were: First, Netherlands; second, RAF; and third, USAFE.

SHOOTING

Our team was capably led by one of Canada's finest shots, F/O Gregory, and we had high hopes that if it was their day, Canada would be represented in the first three. Alas, this was not to be, but after a bad start the lads settled down and stayed with the best of them. The handicap of the bad start, though, could not be overcome, and we had to settle for fifth place, beating the Americans by one point. The Norwegian team won this event, shooting as though they were on an indoor range. In the shoot, which was held at Bisley, no wind gauge is allowed on the sight and only the regular service rifle of the country can be used. Shooting without a wind gauge and also having a fire-with-movement event included, the Norwegian team shot a 736 out of a possible 800, which is exceptionally fine shooting for this type of event. The full match consisted of ten rounds per man at 200 yards—300 yards—500 yards and the run-down or fire-with-movement.

In the 200 yard shoot F/O Gregory shot a 49 out of a possible 50, for which he was awarded a silver spoon—a very excellent effort. The winning individual aggregate score was 186, with two shooters tying for second with 184, and F/O Gregory had a total of 182. At the completion of the 200, 300 and 500 yard shoots, there was only 12 points difference between the second place and fifth place teams, the scores being—Netherlands 533—RAF 531—Belgium 527 and Canada 521; the USAFE at this time had only 495. It can be readily seen that the final standings of the teams was going to be decided on the results of the "fire with movement" event. As previously mentioned the Netherlands needed second place to win the shield, no matter who won the boxing, and the pressure on all competitors was very high. Although all competitors were entirely capable of shooting a team total of 175 - 180 in this final event, the results were a bit disappointing for all teams. After the fire with movement the final standings of the teams were as follows:

First, Norway 736; second, RAF 699; third, Netherlands 697; fourth, Belgium 677; fifth, Canada 667; sixth, USAFE 666.

BOXING

Although the RCAF did not take part in the boxing event, from a

spectator point of view it was the most popular event of the Britannia Shield Program. The boxers taking part in this are the best amateurs in the world. This was noted from lists of rated amateurs in the "Ring Magazine," the official authority on World Boxing.

Bouts were of three rounds of three minutes duration and were carried out with the authority of the Amateur Boxing Association under the rules of "L'Association Internationale de Boxe Amateur." Authority to compete must be obtained from the National Governing Body of the country concerned.

Competitions were held in all the weight divisions with the RAF triumphant in the flyweight, bantam weight, light welter weight, light middle weight and heavy-weight divisions. Of those remaining, the Belgians won the feather-weight prizes, the USAFE the light weight, and Norway the light heavy weight. The RAF obviously stood first, followed by Belgium in second place and the USAFE in third.

The Empire Pool Arena, Wembley, was the scene of the final bouts, the elimination and semi-finals having been held previously at RAF Station, Uxbridge. The arena was sold out, which was a welcome happening since this event provides most of the revenue derived from the competition. Any surplus funds after expenses are turned over to the RAF Benevolent Fund. The popularity of the boxing contest was expressed in no uncertain terms by the applause of the large audience. As was natural, two or three of the bouts were exceptionally good, but none were displeasing, and anyone interested in watching amateur boxing is advised to watch for next year's contest.

The boxing finals on Wednesday night, the 11th of November, finished the competition, and the trophy was presented to the winners, the RAF, by General L. Norstad, Allied Air Commander in Chief. The presentation of the Shield took place in the ring after the final bout.

The presentation by no means finished the competition ceremonies. A final meeting of all the six countries' escort officers, together with team captains, RAF organizing officials and the liaison officers was held at RAF Station Uxbridge on the Thursday morning, 12th of November. At this meeting constructive criticism was asked for and the points raised will be discussed by the Britannia

Shield Committee for final decision, all in an effort to make each succeeding year's competition better. One of the main features of the organization was the appointment of a RAF officer as liaison officer to each team. This officer acted as the contact man for the escorting officers and as interpreter for the non-English speaking teams. These escorting officers were invaluable, and much of the credit for the smoothness with which the competition was run was due to their efforts. Their difficulties can well be imagined when one considers the different natures and language problems of the personnel from the various countries.

The final wind-up was a dance at the Lyceum Dance Hall in London, where competitors of all the countries were to be seen mingling with one another. The spirit of the competition was well displayed—fraternization of the best kind. If the Britannia Shield does nothing else, bringing Service men of the Allied Nations together in competition and play is worth all the effort. The spirit of competition has to be seen to be believed; there is no doubt left in anyone's mind that each competitor is out to win, not by any means but fair, and with strenuous effort. This competitive spirit was considerably relaxed at the dance and I am sure many fine friendships were made and invitations to visit various peoples and countries were issued.

It has been stated that in order to convert a civilian to a serviceman one of the most important factors is participation in competitive games where their membership in the Service gives reason for pride. Of all the competitive games that could be thought up for this purpose, none could reach the standard of the Britannia Shield. To win one event stirs pride of self and country, and to win the Shield must indeed be a fine feeling for everyone concerned with the winning.

A final word of warning to any airman who would aspire to compete and win in any of the events: He must be prepared to train to the peak of condition, otherwise his chances are slim. This is high class sport. It is the hope of the writer that one year Canada will be represented in the Britannia Shield by a winning team. However, congratulations are due to all those that competed in 1953 for a very fine effort and, it is hoped, started the march to a winning entry.

THE TRIESTE HEADACHE

Trieste has been very much in the news lately. To give our readers some idea about the facts in the controversy over this old city we are reproducing in part Mr. Matthew Halton's "Capital Report" broadcast of 18 October, 1953. Mr. Halton is the CBC's European Correspondent and his voice and writings are familiar to most Canadians.

"Somebody had a brainstorm about Trieste. Let Britain and the United States announce, out of the blue, that they will soon withdraw their garrisons from Zone A of the Trieste territory. The idea was that Italy and Yugoslavia must come to an agreement about Trieste someday, and that the logical thing is for Italy to have Zone A and Yugoslavia to keep Zone B, and that if the allied garrisons were withdrawn the two disputants would accept a defacto situation. Somehow Mr. Eden was persuaded to accept this wonderful idea; and the announcement was duly made: and the great storm broke at once.

"From Italy, a storm of applause, Zone A was given to her and she said they would now try to get Zone B. From Yugoslavia a storm of anger and protest. Tito said that if Italian troops went into Zone A, *his* would go in too. Two nightmares faced us at once; the nightmare of war between Italy and Yugoslavia; and the nightmare of the loss of Yugoslavia as a friend.

"How is it now that a seaport and a little rocky hinterland at the head of the Adriatic, with a total of only 300,000 people can be such a headache—or pain in the neck—or perhaps worse?

"The ancient Romans built the port, and it had a turbulent history until the end of its 200 years' war with Venice. But then for nearly 500 years, Trieste was Austrian. In the last century it was developed to become the chief port of the Austro-Hungarian empire. It was part of Slovakia. In the first world war Trieste was Italy's war aim. She broke her alliance with the Central Powers, joined Britain and France, was rewarded with Trieste, and pushed on later, in D'Annunzio's naked aggression, to take Fiume.

"At the end of the second war, when the Germans surrendered,

the Yugoslavis and the Anglo-American forces met at Trieste. Yugoslavia, who had fought a heroic war against Fascism, if anyone did, claimed the territory. So did Italy, who had changed sides again. At the Italian peace conference in 1946, after almost endless argument, a solution was found. Trieste and the coastal area and hinterland — where Italians and Slovenes are all jumbled together in a kind of ethnic nightmare—was to become the Free Territory of Trieste, an independent state under a governor responsible to the United Nations. Until that Governor was appointed Zone A would be occupied and run by the British and Americans. Zone A is the great handsome city and port of Trieste itself, and a bit of the coast, and a few square miles of rocky farmland. The farmers are Slovenes, but the great majority of the people are Italian. Zone B, farther along the coast, would be occupied and run by the Yugoslavs. The people are mostly Slovenes.

"It was very nice on paper—and very right that Trieste should be a free port. But Russia and the west could never agree on a governor, the Free Territory never came into being, and the temporary agreement just went on year after year. And then came the cold war, and our first big mistake. It was in the Italian elections of 1948. To help de Gasperi win the election against the Communists, Britain, the United States and France violated the peace treaty and declared that the whole territory, Zone A and Zone B, should go to Italy. Almost at that very hour Yugoslavia was breaking way from Russia. Expediency once more had turned round and kicked us in the teeth.

"But last week, when for the second time we broke our pledge and signed word about Trieste, it was not even expedient. Most people I've talked to think it was an almost inexplicable act of diplomatic blundering and cynicism. We need allies against Russia; this was a wonderful way of losing one of the best. Washington and London declared, out of the blue, without even informing the United Nations whose trustees they are in Trieste, that they would pull out—leaving Zone A to the Italians as a first step toward a settlement.

"There was the damage. Washington and London should have made it plain that the de facto division of the area into Zone A, for Italy, and Zone B, for Yugoslavia, was regarded as the final settlement of the whole question. They should have made it plain that their 1948 declaration, saying the whole territory should go to Italy, was now a dead letter. But they said nothing of the kind—and at once the Italians shouted that this was only the beginning; that having got Zone A they would try to get Zone B as well. The Italian imperialists were talking at once of recapturing other places on the Yugoslav coast where the Venetian flag had flown centuries ago. It was no wonder that Tito exploded. He declared that if Italian troops enter Zone A his own troops will march in too, even if the British and Americans are still there.

"But Tito also made a suggestion for a four-power conference. Everything now depends on Italy. What if Italy tries to hold Britain and the United States to their hasty, blundering promise? What if she refuses to join EDC till she gets Trieste?

"There's no danger, I think, that Yugoslavia will be driven back to the arms of Russia. Somebody's bright idea is not quite as disastrous as that. But it has got Mr. Dulles and Mr. Eden, and us, into a pretty mess."

Footnote: In a speech on Sunday, 15 November, '53, Marshal Tito said: "We do not ask for the city because we know the most of its population are Italians—and the West would never concede it to us. But we do insist that the rest of Zone A should be ours because it is part of our national territory. To hand over Zone A to Italy would be to give her a free hand for further attempts at penetration into Yugoslavia." He also stated that any attempt to solve the Yugoslav-Italian deadlock by the Anglo-American decision announced on October 8 (see first paragraph of Mr. Halton's report) would inevitably lead to conflict.

RED, WHITE AND BLUE

The above title does not refer to our patriotic colours but to the colours of a human body as it stands warming itself before an English fire-place. If you are sceptical read the article below, which is by Eric Nicol, a well-known correspondent of the Vancouver Province. This journal has kindly given its permission to reproduce the article in full.

"A recent article in *Life* about the perils of space travel mentions that interplanetary man is liable to be red hot in front and freezing cold behind, owing to solar radiation.

"If this is true, the English stand the best chance of surviving the rigors of space flight. The English, thanks to their system of heating houses, are fully accustomed to roasting fore while freezing aft. The small coal fire has conditioned them for almost anything space can whip up in the way of extremes of temperature.

"As a coddled Canadian who spent a couple of winters in England, I descend into the basement at the beginning of every autumn and kiss the furnace full on the damper; I do this because a series of flats and houses in London taught me that women are wonderful, money is more so, but there's really nothing like central heating.

"I learned that when the English wake up in the morning they expect the whole house to be the temperature of a butcher's cooler. This enables them to start the day with a stiff upper lip, not to mention a brittle beak.

Tea Technique

"I have lain in bed in an English house, afraid to move my hand from under the covers to see if my ears had fallen off, and have heard my host and his wife get up and go to their source of heat—the tea kettle. After a while they brought me a cup of tea, which is their version of central heating.

"After drinking a cup of tea in bed you are supposed to be warm enough to hold a razor without using both hands. The thermostat control is simple—two cups of tea for cold days, three cups for sub-freezing days, and four or more for days when you walk around like Charlie Chaplin, in circles, helplessly flapping your flippers.

"When forced to heat a room, the English put some coal into a tiny fireplace and cajole it into a glowing mass that sends out intense heat for as far as a foot in every direction. This foot is usually full

of cats or dogs or both. The people sit farther back, where the drafts and the antifreeze play, taking turns standing in the hearth and warming the back of their lap. The English are content to keep just warm enough to prevent frost from killing the fine green moss that grows on their flannels.

Very Patriotic

"Thanks to Britain's space-type, or unearthly, heating, if you stripped a Briton standing in front of his coal fire he would be seen to be, from the side, vertically sectioned red, white and blue. This perhaps explains the fierce national pride with which he defends his fireplace. It certainly contributes to the hardihood of the race. Other peoples may need special equipment to go to Mars, but the English will survive as long as they have plenty of nice thin bread and butter.

"I have English blood, which I took with me to England, but it had lost the knack of keeping the pipes from freezing by sheer hydraulic pressure. I tried coal fires, gas fires, electric fires, and a paraffin fire that I had to pump up. I kept fairly warm pumping but I never got the paraffin fire going. I lived in dread of having no sixpence for the gas fire. And I put on so many pairs of socks people thought I had elephantiasis of the ankle.

"I envied the robustness of the good people of England, just as I shall envy that of the men who rocket to the moon. But I am making no plans to visit either place until it's possible to keep warm front and rear at the same time. I'm nobody's Baked Alaska."

Notes from CAP 460

U/M is not a recognised abbreviation. (See Appendix "A.") The abbreviation "us" is not to be used in signals because it might be interpreted as United States, unserviceable, or the objective case of the pronoun, we.

WORDS FROM FLIGHT SAFETY

The Ten Commandments for an Instrument Pilot.

"By This We Live."

Set thyself well upon thy fifth vertebra; leaving not thy fingerprints on the controls, and chewing not on thy fingernails.

Know thy instruments, for they are the true and appointed prophets.

Follow the indications of thy instruments; and verily the airplane will follow along, even as the tail follows the sheep.

Do not stick out thy neck a foot; stay within the confines of thy ability, and thou shalt live to a happy old age.

Know the appointed words and approved methods so that if thy neck drapeth out, thou shalt be able even unto thyself to place same in its proper place—upon thy shoulders.

Follow thy radio beam, for their ways are the happy ways and will lead to the promised land—ing.

Listen carefully, yea verily, to the signal impinging on thy eardrums for sometimes they seem to have the tongues of snakes and will cross up thy orientation, to the sad state to where thou must ask Heaven for guidance.

Assume not, neither shalt thou guess that thy position is such, but prove to thine own satisfaction that such is the case.

Boast not, neither brag; for surely Ole' Devil Overcast shalt write such words in his book, and thou shalt, someday, be called for an accounting.

Trust not thy seat (of thy pants), but follow thy instruments, read and truly interpret the words as given from thine instrument board, know that the responsibility lies not with the hand that rocks the control column, but in and with the mind that directs the hand, and thou shalt be blessed with a long and happy life

WOLF CUB HOWLS

A good deal of water has gone under the bridge since the last "Howl" appeared in this magazine. F/O Harry Chalmers has returned to Canada leaving us without his valuable experience as Group Scoutmaster. Sgt T. H. Ridley has been tentatively appointed to take his place and Sgt Berube has become Cubmaster. These appointments of course are subject to approval by I.H.Q. in London. We have also been fortunate in acquiring the services of Mr. Dennis Owens and Mr. Brian Curtis, who are at present receiving training as Assistant Cubmasters. A group committee has been formed to look after the interests of the local Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies under the capable chairmanship of S/L "Tony" Morrison our SSO. I'm sure that you will all join with the writer in wishing every success to the above in their new appointments.

The picture shows the highlight of a presentation of a Totem Pole by the Tixover School Scout troop to our Edithweston Cub Pack. Our lads played host to the Tixover boys in the Airmen's ballroom on Tuesday, 17 November, '53. Group Japtain Somerville, the Commanding Officer, opened the meeting by extending a welcome to the guests, thanking the Tixover boys for their efforts on our behalf, and wishing us a successful evening. Among those present were the parents of the boys, Admiral S. L. Bateson, the County Commissioner for Rutland, Colonel H. I. Davidson, secretary for the Uppingham Local Association for Scouts and their wives, and other members of the Scouting family in this county. Mr. Lamb, headmaster of Tixover Grange School, was present with his wife and other members of his staff, all of whom have shown a keen interest in the Scouting movement.

The Totem Pole itself is truly a work of art and does credit to the lads in the Tixover group who made it. Its unusual design and the story behind it must have required a good deal of thought. Embodied in the Totem are the Ten Scout Laws, the names of the Scout patrols that worked on it, the happy relationship between Canada, shown as the beaver, and England, shown as the lion, the fact that we are all in the same boat, illustrated by a canoe, and serving under the same flag. The colours used are those of the four sixes in our pack which tell a little story of their own. Just as the proper mixing of these colours forms a

worthwhile picture, so the working together in harmony of the four sixes forms a worthwhile Pack. The converse of this needs no explanation. The dictionary says, according to Scoutmaster Jack Jones, that a Totem is a symbol of Friendship. This generous token of friendship will long be remembered by the boys themselves and all those present this evening.

The program which was designed to present a sample of Cub and Scout work went off well. Peter Hight was presented with his first star signifying that he had opened his first eye on his journey through the Cub Jungle. Gary Litke was officially enrolled as a wolf cub and member of the worldwide brotherhood of Scouts. Carl Christie left his pack by way of the going up ceremony to become a Scout. The Cubs put on a Jungle Dance for the benefit of the guests and the Scouts presented a much appreciated skit called "The Mannequin Parade." The evening ended with the traditional Camp Fire during which Miss Iris Jackson, a Girl Guide Lieutenant from Bermuda and London, recited a poem written by British Columbia Commissioner for Guides which, although written for Guides, illustrates the spirit of Scouting as well as Guiding. The County Commissioner said a few words in which he solicited the co-operation of the parents and all adults in the furtherance of the movement as a whole. S/L Morrison thanked the Tixover troop for their welcomed gift and hoped that everybody present had as good a time as he had during the evening. Miss Margaret Jones took everybody on a lion hunt that was thoroughly enjoyed by the boys and the adults. After the meeting the Girl Guide leaders served refreshments prepared by F/O Jack Oliver and his staff and a great big thank you is extended to all those who made this wonderful and memorable evening possible.

Until next time "good hunting" and remember the words of Rudyard Kipling in his famous jungle stores: "Ye be of one blood you and I."

Continued from column 3.

born to him and Mrs. Spear during their sojourn here were two boys, to balance off their family of two girls.

In bidding W/C Spear farewell, we extend to him and his family best wishes for a happy voyage and a bright future under clear Canadian skies.

AU REVOIR

Before our next edition of Talepipe is published, Wing Commander T. H. Spear, CD, Chief Administration Officer of 1 Fighter Wing since its formation, will be in Ottawa where he has been appointed to duties in the Director of Personnel Administration branch. All ranks, including those who were welcomed to England by W/C Spear in 1951, and all new arrivals will be sorry to see him go; the former because they know how much W/C Spear contributed to the station, the latter because they are enjoying many of the benefits of his work.

W/C Spear enlisted in the RCAF on the 14th November, 1927, as an airman, and for that reason, when he says "every airman is a potential officer," he is speaking from first hand experience. For he himself came through the ranks to become a Wing Commander by the age of 43, a praiseworthy achievement. His flare for organization has been apparent on more than one occasion. Not only was he chosen to head the advance party for the setting up of 1 Fighter Wing in 1951, but he also was amongst the first Canadians overseas in February, 1940, at which time the RCAF Overseas as a separate group was just an idea. In establishing 1 (F) Wing in England, W/C Spear was called upon to make many important decisions for which he deserves full credit. But, if you ask him what his problems were, he will reply that, because of his magnificent staff, there were really no big problems. Many privileges enjoyed by present members of 1 (F) Wing are directly attributed to W/C Spear's personal supervision; for example, the Commissary and Customs privileges. The problems of schooling were dealt with by him and the excellent schooling facilities now available to 1 (F) Wing children are the result of his interest. It was W/C Spear's responsibility to organize the Pipe Band which is now internationally known. He was the first PMC of 1 (F) Wing's Officers Mess, and was also in charge of the handing over ceremonies on the 14th November, 1951.

W/C Spear leaves with mixed feelings. He is happy to go home, but, on the other hand, he has made many friends here and is reluctant, naturally, to leave them. He particularly enjoyed shooting, and was well known for his prowess in that sport. Also contributing to his pleasant feelings for England, and 1 (F) Wing, is the fact that

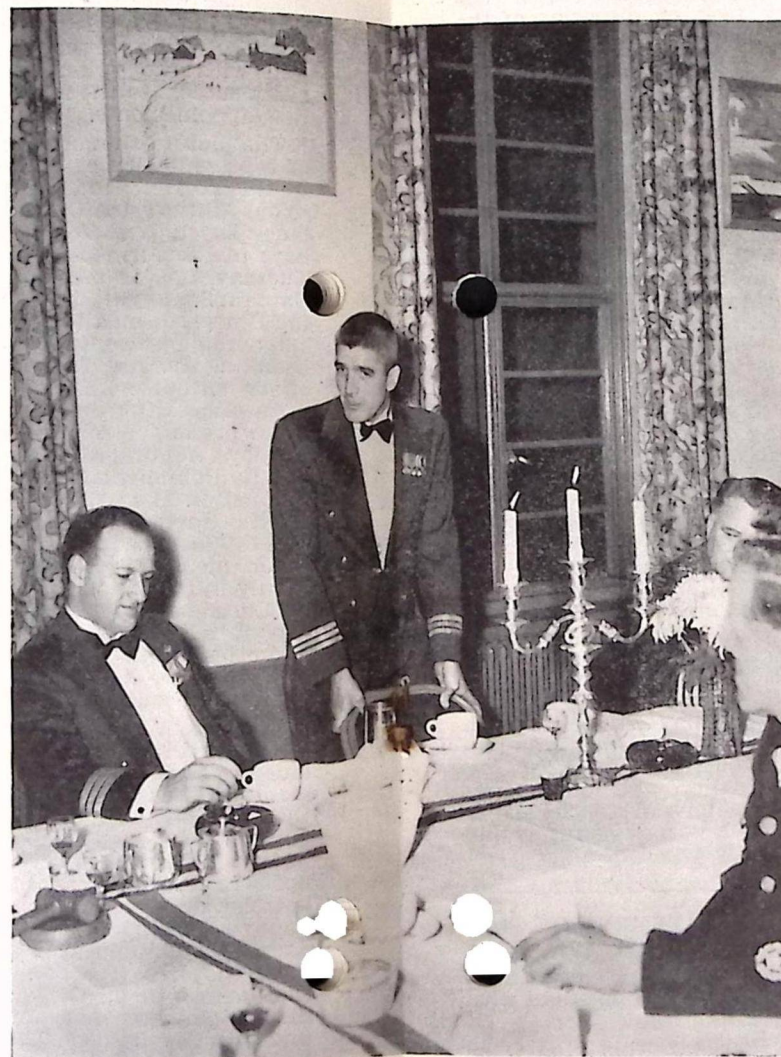


Patrol Leader Harry Lauder, of Tixover Scout Troop, presents Totem Pole to Sixer Carl Christie. Looking on from left to right are Admiral S. L. Bateson, Rutland County Commissioner of Boy Scouts; Scout Master Jack Jones, of the Tixover Boy Scout Group; Sgt J. B. Berube and G/C J. D. Somerville.

TALE PICS



Movie star Jeanne Crain and Cpl F. V. Ursich at premiere of "Rob Roy" in London. No comment.



W/C T. H. Spear is seen here delivering his address of thanks and farewell to members of the Sgts Mess, where he was guest of honour. He sails from England on 19 Dec 53.



G/C J. D. Somerville takes the salute as civilian and RCAF contingents march past during Remembrance Day parade in Edith Weston on Sunday, 8 Nov 53. North Luffenham personnel participated also in Remembrance Day parades at Stamford, Lincs., and Ketton, Rutland.



Left to right, at Airwomen's "Sadle Hawkins" Dance: Cpl J. D. Fortin, LAC F. Limoges, LAW G. Kolesar and Cpl G. Harris. Question: Who is Cpl Harris representing? Answer: See story inside.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO BRITISH ROLE IN MALAYA

By "THE SPY"—F/L C. DAVIES.

In the tumult of modern times and in an age of accelerated political and nationalistic development in Asia there is a possibility that certain fundamentals which underlie the whole course of British relations with Malaya in the past may become obscured. Understandable as this may be, it sometimes results in misunderstanding abroad and, to a lesser degree, within Malaya itself, so that there is confusion of thought as to Britain's role in Malaya and its relation to the political and social problems of today.

British relations with the Malaya States have always been founded on the partnership principle. From the earliest days of British interest in the Peninsula the record of constitutional negotiation and of mutual agreement between Her Majesty's Government and the Malay Rulers is in direct contrast to the course of events in other territories in Asia.

The treaty with the Sultan of Kedah which led to the establishment of the oldest British Settlement on the undeveloped Island of Penang in 1786 was the first of many treaties freely entered into between a Malay Ruler and the British Government. The treaty between Penang and Perak of 1819 which opened the latter to trade and a similar treaty between Penang and Selangor of that year led to an early appreciation of benefits attainable through the establishment of law and order.

The success of Sir Stamford Raffles' vision in the founding of Singapore was further testimony of the practical benefits of the rule of law. The progress and development in the political, economic and social fields which followed from the agreements between Malay Chiefs and Rulers and the British Government were in striking contrast to the anarchy and violence of those times.

When the States of Perak, Selangor, Megri, Sembilan and Pahang became the Federated Malay States in 1895, the Rulers and Chiefs of these States agreed that the Federation should be administered under the advice of the British Government without curtailing any of the powers and authority then held by them in their respective States.

To its early administrators Malaya owes a lasting debt for their skill and foresight. Without this solid groundwork the political developments that have taken place in the Federation would not have been possible. The constitution of 1948 exemplifies the continuance of the tradition of partnership. This is a fresh agreement between Her Majesty and each of Their Highnesses the Rulers of the Malay States, which are self-governing today in all their internal affairs.

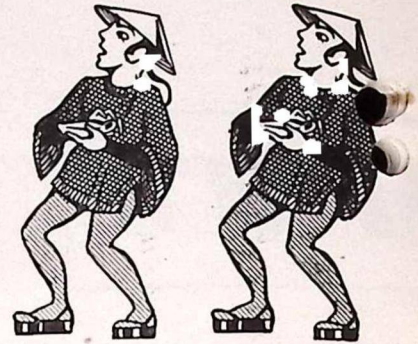
The responsibilities for defence and external affairs rest with Her Majesty's Government, but in all other respects the responsibilities belong to the Federation Government and the eleven constituent States and Settlement Governments. The Federation is not a Colony, nor a Protectorate nor a Trust territory. There is no recognised designation for it. It is a partnership.

In the Legislative Council of 75 members, sit men and women of at least five racial groups. They sit as Malaysians to consider and decide upon the country's problems.

Malaya is the only Commonwealth country to have suffered attack by militant communists—aliens under alien direction. In her defence British Gurka and African troops have played an outstanding part, but the largest share of the work of the security forces has been attained by the Malays in the Police Force, the Battalions of the Malay Regiment and auxiliary units.

Communism has tried hard to represent this dastardly attack on the lives and property of innocent people as a revolutionary nationalist struggle against "British Colonialism," but the patent falsity of this claim and the barbarity of the terrorists methods have brought home to the people of Malaya, as nothing else could have, the sorry plight of other people who exist under Communist domination and under the power of the lie. Throughout the conflict the citizens of the Federation have been fighting to preserve their national freedom from the blood-stained hands of an alien aggressor.

The impression which people abroad are apt to get from reading their news of Malaya is that the



whole scene is one of banditry and shooting. Perhaps rightly, certainly inevitably so. Rightly because there can be no attitude of "business as usual" until the priority task of disposing of the jungle bandits is finally accomplished. Inevitably, because it is not news that the production of rubber and tin and other exports, coupled with her entrepot trade, place Malaya fourth among all Commonwealth countries in the last few years in foreign trade.

The flag of the Federation flies over, a people who are determined to solve their social and constitutional problems in a progressive and independent spirit, and under Communist dictation.

What of the Malaya of the future? The essential non-Malay contributions—British, Chinese, Indian or other—to the process of attaining responsible government for Malaya must be made from within the country. As such they will be welcomed, they will be necessary and they will have much to offer. Political leadership in Malaya today means leadership of Malaysians in their interests as such and not of any racial community with divided loyalties. The British Government's aim is to instil and nurture a Malayan consciousness in all those whose home is there, so that they may be built into a strong national movement; and internal sources of weakness, whether they be manpower dodgers, communal suspicions or social injustice, may be firmly and permanently expelled.

CLASSIC STATEMENT OF THE MONTH

Overheard during a recent interception and ensuing dog-fight with Meteor VIII's.

Jitter Red Two - This is Red One - Would you like to get in some shots now? -
I'm tired !!! "

WOMEN'S PAGE

MAGAZINE FASHION REVIEW

We have been scrutinizing some American magazines with the idea of getting some hints for Christmas shopping. One thing that has impressed us is the accent on mink this year. Some very lovely coats of Russian mink or of a special blue mink are available for as little as \$7,000.00. Persian lamb is making a comeback too, and you may purchase them dirt cheap on Park Avenue for prices ranging from \$1800.00 to \$3000. If you, like so many of us, are flush with fur coats, you may be more interested in some of the diamond bracelets on sale in one of New York's more exclusive jewellers. For the almost unbelievably plebeian price of \$6,000.00, you have a most comprehensive choice of bracelets, watches and rings. Diamonds, as you know, are a girl's best friend, so get your boy friend excited about investing in one of those lovely bracelets.

Well, now that we have that off our—if you'll pardon the expression—chest, we'll stop being serious and talk about everyday clothes which the working girl is interested. Some people say that the desired silhouette effect is that of a triangle. We say it is not. It is the silhouette of a weiner with a head and feet. You see, in suits and coats the waist-lines are low, as are the shoulder seams, reminding you of those hideous pictures of your mother taken in 1928. (I don't mean that your mother was taken in 1928, but rather her picture). The waistlines in dresses are also low, but the dresses are designed to fit tighter.

Despite everything you and the males say to the contrary, Christian Dior's new look, as a result of shorter skirts, is here to stay for awhile. The new length is not much different from the old, the exact measurement being only two inches, or so. But, the attractiveness of the legs increases by the square of the area of calf exposed, and those shapely Canadian legs are going to get every break through the courtesy of Mr. Dior.

There is good news for the skirt book too, for, in keeping with the new accent on legs, there now exist 12 denier nylons of 72 gauge count which are supposed to be not only more sheer, but also strong.

Well, that is the works in fashion!

IN DEFENCE OF WOMEN

During the past eight years, there have periodically appeared, in many of our national and international magazines, articles about the superiority of men over men. All such items, for the most part, are mere reflections of empirical truths. Their gyst is greatly different from that of the thought expressed by an old German philosopher of the last century, Schopenhauer, who said: "Only a man guided by the sex instinct could call that narrow shouldered, wide hipped, short legged creature, the fairer sex." Recent authors have shown how much in error our past thinking of women has been, and point out how, even today, we still carry on some ancient prejudices.

One of the more recent authors on this subject is Dr. Ashby Montagu, chairman of the Department of Anthropology at Rutgers and Director of Research at the New Jersey Committee of Mental Health and Physical Development. His recently published book, "The natural Superiority of Women," has been commented upon by many periodical columnists, and editorial writers.

If you have missed these comments, this is your opportunity to get caught up!

Throughout the ages from the beginning of history to the end of the 19th century, women have been held in subjugation by their masters, men. This state of affairs has been upheld by men deliberately, and it is Dr. Montagu's belief that in doing so the world has been deprived of a great force for good. For women, says Dr. Montagu, are fundamentally superior, physically emotionally and at least equal mentally, to men.

The myth of feminine inferiority has been enforced by men because of their unconscious jealousy of the natural superior capacities of women. They, the men, have succeeded because of their greater muscular strength. Because of this one instance, and it is not a vital one, of male superiority, men and women too have come to accept a myth as a law of nature. It was a universally accepted belief that women had smaller brains, and were less intelligent, that mathematics were beyond them, and that they were incapable of facing emotional crises or handling a "man's" job.

All these claims are just as absurd as saying that the so-called

"inferior races" are destined always to be inferior, and that backward people could never attain the achievements of the so-called "superior races." But beliefs such as these, so common in the 19th Century have been shown to be false in the 20th. To-day's scientific evidence shows that women are superior in the most important test of all—they possess the traits which give longer life and greater resistance to disease. It is a statistical fact that more men than women suffer from the serious diseases which affect mankind.

That men do possess superior muscular strength is a questionable advantage for men pay for it with a higher metabolic rate: that is, men, in displaying their muscular power use up this energy more quickly than women, who have less muscular power to display. Besides strength of muscles is not a very special advantage in an age when most heavy work is done by machines.

As to intelligence, almost all tests demonstrate that women are superior to men. In most school subjects, girls are ahead of boys, and in college they can keep up with the best of them—with one exception, the men do show superiority in mathematical and mechanical ability.

Perhaps an unconscious admission by men of the mental and emotional superiority of women is shown by the fact that most men marry women two or more years their junior. How else would they be able to display superior mental powers?

It is in the highest form of human intelligence, love of humanity, that women possess a wonderfully superior faculty. It is the women of the world who evoke tenderness, sympathy, understanding, peace, and these are the forces the world needs so urgently today. Dr. Montagu is convinced that women, because of these feminine and maternal qualities, must take the lead in preparing the world for universal peace.

At the beginning of this article it is stated that women were held in subjugation until the end of the 19th Century. That is not to say that the thralldom has ended. But in this Century the two wars have dealt severe blows to the myth of male superiority. It was found that women were entirely capable of replacing men in the factories, farms and offices. Indeed, by the end of World War II., the first grudging acceptance of women in

"men's" jobs had changed to a natural acceptance of them, sometimes even to enthusiastic preference for them.

But these assaults on the myth of inferiority are just a beginning. Women must seek, not necessarily superiority, but at least equality in all fields — the arts, professions, business and politics. To those who ask why women have not achieved as much in these fields in the past as men, Dr. Montagu answers that women have never been given the same encouragement or opportunities as men.

Even today, men are more privileged than women. Both men and women must learn to realize the great loss suffered by society because of this prejudice.

We shall not have reached maturity till we accept superiority as a quality of the individual not of a group or a sex.

So there, you male so-and-so's! Put that in your pipe and smoke it!

AROUND THE STATION

Preparations for Christmas are already underway in the Airmen's Mess. To see what would be cooking on Christmas Day, we visited F/O Oliver whom we caught in the midst of putting the finishing touches on the menu before sending it to the publishing house. After swearing us to secrecy he told us what the airmen would be eating at the three meals on Christmas Day. With drooling mouths we read it over and noticed many surprises. We also learned that dress for Christmas dinner will be number fives; that breakfast will be served from 0830 to 0930 hrs.; that smorgasbord, which naturally is buffet style, will be from 1630 to 1800 hrs.; and that there will be liquid refreshments including tea and coffee. All of what we learned confirmed us in our opinion that there is no place that we would rather be on Christmas day than on an RCAF Station.

Leaving F/O Oliver, we visited FS T. Thomas who with FS Coen will be supervising the cooking of the Christmas dinner. This will be FS Thomas' first Christmas dinner in England, so we asked FS Coen, who will be preparing his second Christmas dinner overseas, what difficulties were encountered. There were none. The turkeys last year came from Ireland and will likely come from the same place this year. There is no magical way of cooking them, FSs Coen and Thomas told us. The turkeys are prepared, put in ovens and basted

just as you have seen your mother or wife do at home. To have the 75 turkeys of 15 to 20 pounds each ready by 1230 hours on Christmas day, the kitchen staff will put them in the oven between 0700 and 0800 hours. The traditional puddings and Christmas cakes have already been looked after and present no difficulty whatsoever to those in charge of the kitchen. Finding ourselves in the midst of a "scrubbing up" operation we left FSs Thomas and Coen who proceeded about their jolly work.

At the Commissary, we looked around for suitable gifts and found many. A pair of men's suede shoes with crepe soles caught our eye. Substantially built and attractive, they come in grey and brown. They are hardly suitable for Christmas gifts however, so we looked around for fleecy lined bedroom slippers. We were assured that some were expected in shortly and our attention was drawn to a pair of men's fleecy lined sports shoes. They looked very comfortable. Orders for rubbers and galoshes can be filled in a week. In this protective line, there are women's Wellington outdoor boots which give every indication of being durable.

In clothing, there are available some men's ready made suits, trousers and jackets. We were interested to note that grey flannel slacks can be purchased very reasonably and they are American styles, that is, they have belt loops and the top of the trousers is near your waist instead of up around your solar plexus.

In another end of the Commissary, we discovered items which are always suitable for gifts for men, namely: Shirts, ties, socks and pure wool sweaters. One particular item that has been selling in great quantities are the slipper socks which are on sale in blue, brown green, white and red. In Canada, they are occasionally known as after-ski socks. They will be ideal gifts for persons who you know live in draughty houses.

There is no need to send as presents non-perishable things only. A good suggestion might be one of the very decorative tins of biscuits which are available in the Commissary. They are priced from six to ten shillings, are a treat to the eye, and whet the taste buds. Puddings were not on display at the time of our visit but they will be by 5 December in either tin packages or in pottery. Tinned fruits will be on the Commissary shelves in quan-

tity, and in general, the whole inventory will be increased for the Christmas season.

From the Commissary we went to the retail outlet for spirit where we were told by a pleasant young lady that she *thought* effort were being made to increase the variety of spirits for the festive season but that we had better see the boss before saying anything. The boss was out looking after the station's interests so we are taking the young lady's word that the Christmas spirit has invaded Central Warehouse.

We returned to the office for coffee.

POSTING PREFERENCE

If, like us, you missed reading in the newspapers about the RCAF's new air firing range, you will be interested in this news release from RCAF headquarters, 27 Oct. 53, which is reproduced in its entirety.

"The RCAF's new air weapons firing range, now under construction at Grand Center, approximately 180 miles northeast of Edmonton, Alta., is expected to be ready for use by the summer of 1954.

"The first of 45 major buildings at the new air base—which is part of the air firing range—are near completion and will shortly be taken over by the Air Force. One fighter squadron will operate from it on a rotation basis to give all squadrons air weapon training.

"In addition, a completely self-contained townsite settlement is planned to provide living accommodation for approximately 2,000 airmen and technical personnel who will be training and working there.

"The range area, which extends over portions of Alberta and Saskatchewan, will be used to train pilots in air-to-air rocket firing. The new site is not a guided missile range insofar as ground-launched weapons are concerned.

"The site, which is easily accessible to railroad communications, will take care of all foreseeable developments in air weapons in the immediate future.

"Under the lease agreements with the Alberta and Saskatchewan governments certain provisions have been made for period exploitation of the natural developments of the 4,000 square mile area."

To give a Christmas flavour to this information, we wish only to say that getting a Christmas tree at Grand Center should not be difficult and that Christmas will likely be white.



HOUSEKEEPING ON PARADE

Sgt. H. HART

Soon it will be Christmas. In millions of homes across the country families and kinsmen will sit down together, eat a little more than is good for them, and generally make merry. There will be a slight, temporary, yet perceptible all round rising of the temperature of human kindness.

What does it all mean? For a minority Christmas is a religious commemoration. For a majority it is a feast and a holiday, and is kept by them because their fathers kept it, because their earliest memories of celebration and family reunion go back to Christmas Day.

Of course, the highlight of the Christmas festivities is the Christmas dinner, with the traditional turkey, goose or chicken. In connection with this, a good point to remember when roasting your bird is to place it in the oven bottom side up. When the underside is cooked, turn it with the breast uppermost, and baste well every fifteen minutes or so, until the bird is cooked. So many folks put the poultry or game into the oven the breast up, and after it has attained a beautiful golden brown colour, proceed to turn it over to cook the underside, thereby ruining the appearance of the breast.

By the way, try putting a couple of cut-up oranges around your festive bird before placing it in the oven. Note the improvement in flavour.

Now in conclusion, I would like to pass on to you a Christmas cake recipe that is different in that it requires no EGGS and no BUTTER. Try this mixture once and I am sure you will want to keep this recipe by you for future reference. Here then, are the ingredients required, and the method :

- 2 Cup Brown Sugar.
- 2 Cupfulls SOUR Cream. (To "sour" your fresh cream add tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice).
- 1 Cup Molasses.
- 1 Teaspoon Cinnamon.
- 1 Teaspoon Nutmeg.
- 1 Teaspoon Maize.
- 2 Teaspoons Card Soda dissolved in Hot Water.

Mix all together into a stiff batter and add the following :

- 2 lbs. Raisins.
- 2 lbs. Currants.
- 1 lb. Dates.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Teaspoon Salt.
- 1 Cup mixed chopped Nuts and Cherries.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Peel.
- 4 Cups of Flour.

Bake in a medium Oven for 4 Hours.

By the time you read this, I expect to be settled in at No. 3 Wing, so I would like to take this opportunity of saying cheerio to you all.

It's been a wonderful two years here, and I hate like blazes to go. Happy Christmas to you all and good eating to you.

placed in such a position as to obviate the aforementioned hazards and still be a reasonable distance from the fireplace.

- 3 The importance of mounting the tree properly is all too often overlooked. This should be done in the following manner: The butt of the tree is to be cut in a wedge shape with the distance from the top of the cut to the point of the wedge being not less than three inches. This cut must be a fresh one, i.e., cut at time of mounting. The tree should be placed in a common pail of about two and one half gallon capacity, three-quarters filled with lump coal, gravel or sand. The pail should then be filled to just above the ballast level with water and a constant vigil kept to maintain this water level. If possible, the tree should be anchored about half-way up by means of stout string to any suitable point on the wall behind.
- 4 Each day the tree should be checked for dryness. When the needles start to fall the tree must be removed to the outdoors.
- 5 When buying decorations for your tree, refrain from buying the celluloid type.
- 6 Before hanging the lights check all the wiring for fraying or hardening of the insulation and if buying new ones buy only the approved types and, of course, don't use candles or allow any other naked lights near the tree.
- 7 If you leave the house the Christmas lights must be turned out.
- 8 Personnel who will be decorating in the various messes at holiday time are asked to call the Fire Hall and have a competent airman help you to reduce fire risk at this time of year.
- 9 Christmas trees should be put up about the 23rd of December and taken down on the 26th, for safety.
- 10 REMEMBER THE A.B.C. OF FIRE ALWAYS BE CAREFUL.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, SEASON 1953/54

Following is a list of instructions and suggestions regarding Christmas trees and decorations in general. For the safety of all concerned, and to prevent Christmas from being marred by tragedy, these instructions should be carried out :

- 1 When choosing your tree, do not get one that is too large. A small, well-decorated tree can be just as

attractive as a large one, while creating only half the hazard.

- 2 When setting up the tree in your living room several aspects must be considered. The tree is not to be placed near any doorway where it is likely to be knocked over by merry makers. It is not to be placed near windows where, if it did ignite, the drapes would become added fuel. It should be

" Kiddies Korner "

On Christmas Eve when sleighbells ring,
Dear Santa's on his way ;
Bringing, Oh! so many things,
To you, for Christmas Day.
Now Santa comes but once a year,
So kiddies—wish him all "Good Cheer,"

For he'll bring candy and toys,
To all good little girls and boys.

M.A.B.

CARAVAN SITE NEWS

By Mary McKenzie

The last meeting of the Caravan Site residents, presided over by Cpl Scanlon, elected a new committee to office:—

President—F/O Balfour
Vice-President—Cpl Van Blaricom
Secretary—Sgt A. E. MacKenzie
Treasurer—LAC Sampson
Entertainment—Cpl Hill

Lady Member—Mrs. Gladys Edey.
Discussion during the meeting pointed up the facts that :

- (a) Electricity for the site can be considered a "dead" issue.
- (b) The surface drainage being put between "B" and "C" rows is not designed to carry sewage from sinks. The long range benefits of this drainage should more than compensate for the temporary (we hope) inconvenience of having a mud-spattered landscape.
- (c) The committee have every right to expect a larger turnout at the meetings to help them to help you. Come along and bring your complaints and suggestions that will help improve the site.

A number of residents are taking advantage of the golf lessons given by competent instructors, Sgt Hughes and Cpl Wiltzen, on Monday and Thursday evenings in BB 57. For those who don't know, these are open to anyone interested, male or female.

New citizens are Ronald Charles Thomas King, born October 25th, weighing 8lb. 10ozs., Ronald James Henry Riesig, born November 2nd, weighing 9lbs. (won the weight race) and Jane Wesly, born November 8, weighing 7lbs. 11ozs.

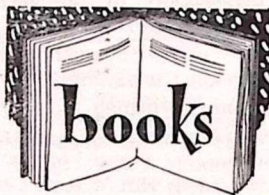
With the second anniversary of 1 Fighter Wing past, we say farewell to many old friends—among those returning to Canada are Sgt and Mrs. Graves, Sgt and Mrs. Balesdent, Cpl and Mrs. MacPherson, LAC and Mrs. Hinson. Also leaving to join her husband, who is posted to CE section, Air Division, Metz, is Mrs. K. K. Gildner. He says he knows why the special allowance in France is so much higher than here—they plan to live in Luxembourg and commute the 40 miles daily. Also moved to the Continent (4 Wing) are FS and Mrs. R. J. Walden.

We wish to welcome to the site Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. McKay (direct from Canada), and other new residents we don't know the names of.

Happy motoring to all the people with new (or old) cars.



As this will be the last issue off the press before the Christmas season, I would like to take this opportunity to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



LIBRARY LORE

A Thought for Christmas

Hello Readers,

A Happy Christmas to you all. May Santa bring you all those good things you wish for: including maybe, books for both children and adults.

For those of you who hope to enjoy a quiet hour or so over Christmas, may I suggest you select a book from our grand collection here at the Station Library.

- "Caravan to Xanadu" Edison Marshall
- "Rider in the Sky" L. A. Knight
- "Call me Lucky" Bing Crosby
- "The Georgian House" Frank Swinnerton
- "Honeymoon for Seven" Alfred Toombs
- "The Easter Party" V. Sackville West.

These are but a few from which to make your choice.

Again "A Merry Christmas to you all,"

Have Fun !

"Like" is a preposition and is incorrectly used as a conjunction unless followed by "as," i.e., "like as." Even then the discussion is clumsy.

NET RESULTS

By CPL D. McMURCHIE

The Badminton Club has enjoyed a very successful month of operation. Since the last article two matches have been played — one at Manton and one at Wymondham, Melton Mowbray. Our club put up some very good games even though we were beaten both times. Manton won by 5 sets to 4 and Wymondham by 7 sets to 2. This is a good showing considering the small amount of practice by our players owing to limited court space. Matches will be played with Oakham, Grantham, Stamford, Boston and Bourne Club and several R.A.F. stations in the immediate vicinity. These games are all "friendly matches" and every club member has a chance to play whether you consider yourself a good, bad or indifferent player. It's a lot of fun and good experience, and several excellent pointers have been picked up by the members.

The Club also sent a team to participate in the County Trials at Grantham on 31 October. Members were Cpls Chuck Horne and Mike Ryan, LAW Diane Rusaw and Mrs. Fran Lundin. One of our better players, Cpl Thad Lepas, was scheduled to play but unfortunately could not participate due to compassionate leave.

In addition to the regular Tuesday and Sunday nights at the Village Hall, Manton, the club now plays Wednesday nights in the "tin shack" on the station. There are two courts in the shack but the boys are using one to practice for the forthcoming Men's Knockout match against the Boston Club which will be played on 15 December.

Don't forget the regular run to the Village Hall, Manton, on Tuesdays and Sundays. The 'bus leaves the Guard House at 1845 hrs. on Tuesday and 1815 hrs. on Sunday.
ONE FOR THE BOOK—A good sport knows how to accept defeat.

TENNIS

By Sgt Mason

The final of the singles tournament between Sgt Louis Bergeron and LAC George Barker, of the RAF, was played on Wednesday, Oct. 21. In a game where no effort was spared by either player, Sgt Bergeron went on to win 6-3 and 6-4.

The tournament proved that we have some very useful tennis talent on the station, although it's a great pity this wasn't discovered at the beginning of the season. Altogether fourteen players competed and, although there were no real surprises in the first round, several games were very closely contested. The toughest game was between S/L Brown and Sgt Mason, the latter considering himself very fortunate to win 6-3, 4-6 and 9-7 in a game where not an ounce was given either way.

Sgt Bergeron played some very attractive tennis throughout the tournament and to reach the final he disposed of LAC Tupper and LAC Bates, both of whom play a very stout game. LAC Barker also did not exactly have a walk-over either in beating F/L Joy and LAC Blount.

Owing chiefly to players being on leave and also to the close of the season the doubles tournament will have to wait until next year. However, personnel interested can be assured of an early start next season, when we hope more people will show an interest in this grand game.

SOCCER

Although we haven't entered our soccer team in the Four Counties League this season, we are drawing up as full a schedule as possible against RAF and Army units. Even though our team leaves much to be desired, and our first two games almost reached double figures, we have at least the satisfaction of having beaten our chief rivals, Langar, by three goals to nil here at North Luffenham on Wednesday, Nov. 11. This game unfortunately was affected by the injury to LAC Devlin, who broke a leg and is now in Ely hospital. If you happen to read this article, Paddy, we all hope you are progressing favourably and working hard on your remedial exercises and getting the old leg mobile again.

The fact that we finished with ten men and still finished winners made our performance all the more creditable. Altogether we have about fifteen RCAF players

on our books, but due to working commitments, etc., we have from time to time to call on the RAF boys to help us out.

Our aim is to get as many personnel interested as possible. Not having played before doesn't mean a thing to us. Anyone who wants to have a go come along to sports stores and we'll see you get a game. Within the next week or two we are going to organize a game between officers and NCO's vs airmen, and maybe a game between those of the officers and sergeants. "Rule Book Robbie" has been heard discussing soccer with that familiar voice of experience, and if he puts as much punch into other games as he did into the maintenance base ball team he would be an asset to any team. So come on, fellers, let's see more of you running around that sports field on sports afternoon.

ALPINE TOURS

There can't be many amongst us who haven't at some time or other during our tour overseas contemplated spending a vacation in the beautiful Alpine country on the European Continent, particularly those of us inclined towards winter sports.

Since the war the RAF has been running winter sports tours at considerably reduced prices and the demand has been so great that they have formed their own Winter Sports Association. Similar facilities have now been made available to R.C.A.F. personnel at the winter sports resort of Kitzbickel in the Austrian Tyrol.

Two tours are offered, the cheapest at the ridiculously low price of 26 guineas for 16 days, which includes third class return fare from London and accommodation in one of the many inns which the Tyrol is noted for, plus three meals a day.

The second tour, which costs 36 guineas, also for 16 days, offers excellent accommodation in one of the noted Austrian castles, "Schloss Kaps," which was built around the year 1600. It has been completely modernized, with central heating, 6 bathrooms and an English speaking staff, which is used to serving British guests.

For the winter sports minded, Kitzbickel Ski School is probably to-day the leading ski school in the world, having developed many world famous skiers and Olympic champions. The ski circus is situated at 6,500 ft. and ensures snow from December to April. Every grade of skier, from the be-

ginner and complete novice to the racer and tower is welcome and skies and ski boots can be hired locally.

The night life of Kitzbickel doesn't leave a great deal to be desired either and amongst its many attractions are dances, yodellers, masked balls, cafes, etc.; with its international public all bent on enjoying itself Kitzbickel is as well known for its after-dark pursuits as for its magnificent skiing. Further details of these excellent tours can be provided by F/L Palmer, station sports and entertainment officer.

HOBBY SHOP

The Hobby Shop insofar as material and equipment are concerned is ready for operations. The Aircraft Model Hobby Shop requires only one thing — lights — before it can be used.

In the "Leathercraft" division the big requirement is trained personnel to instruct in leathercraft work. If any of the station personnel feel they are capable of administering a leathercraft inventory and of conducting classes in leathercraft, they are urged to see F/L W. R. Palmer in building 57.

A photo hobby section is in the process of being organized, and those individuals who are interested should get together, form their club, and prepare to take over the equipment that will be charged to this branch of the hobby shop.

—AND SHE DIDN'T GET HER MAN —

By Cpl B. Uens

Once again the Airwomen's Lounge was the scene of a laugh-provoking, bang-up party. This one was in honour of that gal who got her man the hard way, Sadie Hawkins.

All airwomen and guests were dressed in true Dogpatch style. Among the best dressed, in my opinion, were Grace Harris as Moonbeam McSwine, Pat Glover and Lou Gates in gunny-sack dresses, and "Toddy" in something I can't describe with "Maple Leaf Bacon" scrawled across the back.

Beer was drawn from a barrel and the food couldn't have been any better had it been made in Dogpatch by Mammy Yokum herself.

A "Minquire" message is sent before all other messages of the same precedence.

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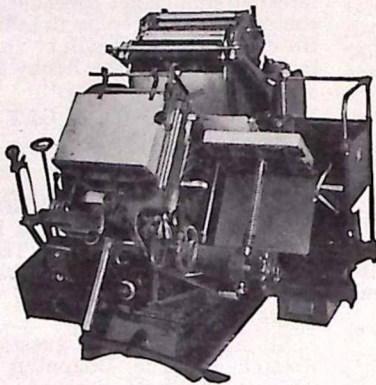
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NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

ACCOUNTS CHATTER

BY LAC PHIL ROBINSON

Once again we have changes of taff to report. LAC Al Hume departed for home on October 20th, flying in the C5 at rather short notice, having dashed like a rocket through the remainder of his clearances. This might serve as a tip to others to be prepared for sudden changes in schedule. LAC Harold Turner has recently arrived from Station Trenton, joining our NPF staff. Pay Accounts has been reinforced by the transfer from Equipment of Cpl Larry Litke.

S/L J. A. Brown has been on leave to the South of France; shortly after his return he accompanied the Britannia Shield Competition team to the London District. LAW Adele Tindall has had a week's holiday in southern England, though, unfortunately we hear the weather was not good. Cpl Gordon Lambert distinguished himself lately by being elected President of the Mess Committee, Corporals' Club. At the end of October, LAW June Barrett ascended from the Central Registry to occupy the typewriting desk in the Pay-NPF office.

With the approach of Christmas we ask you to watch for details of December pay parades. This request applies particularly to those of you taking Annual Leave consecutively with Christmas or New Year. Full information will be published in DRO's.

The departmental rate of exchange for November was \$2.76 Canadian to the Pound Sterling.

You can greatly assist us by reporting for payment of travel claims at the authorised times as soon as possible after you are informed that they are ready for settlement. In this way you will save the Claims Branch the job of converting a whole host of A42's when the rate of exchange alters at the beginning of each month.

An apology is due to Barclays Bank Ltd. In this column in the October number, the arrangements provided by this firm on the Station did not appear listed with those offered by another famous bank. This omission is regretted.

Banking facilities are available at the Guard House on the following days:

Barclays Bank Ltd. Wdnesdays 1200 to 1400 hours, Friday 0915 to 1030 hours.

Lloyds Bank Ltd. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1200 to 1400 hours.



By "Jeff"

The last few months Cupid has sure been getting around with Cpls MacNaughton, Red Hill and Harry Land all making the visit to the altar. Congratulations, and may all your troubles be small ones.

Rumour has it that "Squeak" Bailey, Doug Cole, Ben Tardiff and Steve Kuchma are all planning on taking the big step in the near future. Now the boys know why "Squeak" has been trekking to London every weekend off.

Sgt Lovejoy and LACs R. I. C. King and Bibeau were recently passing the cigars around. Both became proud papas of bouncing boys. Congrats. to them and their better halves.

Cpls Don Hammond and Tony Zabielski recently returned from spending leave in CANADA, the land of sunshine. Tony was looking over some oil prospects in Edmonton for when he wins the football pool.

Cpl Holmes' family recently arrived from Canada and now are getting settled down in Donker-ville.

Cpls Mattie, Warburton, Spenard and LAC Chartrand have attended the "Nene" Course at Derby and are all to be congratulated on the very high marks they made. Cpl "Knobby" Holmes is at present attending this course.

Glad to see that LAC Bibeau has been able to throw his crutches

A NEST EGG FOR YOUR NEXT LONG LEAVE



There's nothing like cash when you go on leave...

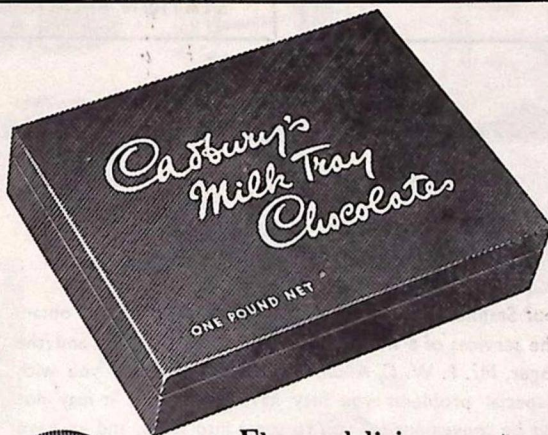
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Details from—
DAVIDSON'S
Winter Sports Parties,
5 New Bridge Street,
LONDON, E.C. 4. Tel. City 4815

Further details from—
STATION SPORTS STORE

away. LAC Stan Leece has been in the hospital over a month. Must be every time he looks at the nurses his temperature goes up.

Quite a few of the boys have recently been on TD to Defford. Heard how hard they worked, but what about the days it was "f-o-g-g-y"?

We wish Cpl Matthews and family Bon Voyage on his posting back to God's Country.



410's pilot department is going through one of those change-of-face phases—four more of the original crew have finally gone back to the New World. The pleasant grimaces on the faces of Gibby, Syl, Speed and Bill are plain signs that they'll be riding the back seat of the "Yellow Peril" very shortly. Training Command may as well resign itself to numerous bull sessions at 40,000 feet.

Fortunately, the empty slots are being reoccupied and the latest placements are here. F/O's Axcell, Cunningham, Drake, Johnston, McElmon, McLeod and Thorne have just arrived from Chatham to join the Squadron and are extended a hearty welcome to this fog-ridden isle. Here's to a pleasant stay.

Friday, the 13th, proved quite the effort—the free grog extended to all mess members by 410 on the occasion of their second anniversary over here was quickly absorbed. If the physical state of those present was a sign of a good thrash, the party was a good one. (It may be appropriate in the future to have boxing gloves available?)

The teachings of Sunny Haran (now in Canada) are still being carried on. 410 explosive experts, attending the 'mess formal,' made a darn good attempt to shatter the eardrums of everyone present. The explosion, although mild, reverberated throughout the mess, causing a hushed silence—those of weak hearts were soon revived with smelling salts and the party resumed its natural course. It is fortunate that certain members of the squadron cannot get a hold of the H-bomb.

The recent air to ground sorties have put 410 on top again. Without further comments, it may be stated "Where's the Competition?"

Visitors' Day

At our Stamford branch (46-49 Broad Street) you can obtain all the services of a world-wide banking organisation, and the Manager, Mr. F. W. C. Allen, will be glad to help you with any special problems you may have. However, it may not always be convenient for you to come into town, and we have therefore made arrangements to attend in the Guard Room on your Station twice a week. Meet us on Wednesdays from 12 noon to 2 p.m. and on Friday mornings from 9.15 to 10.30. We shall look forward to seeing you.

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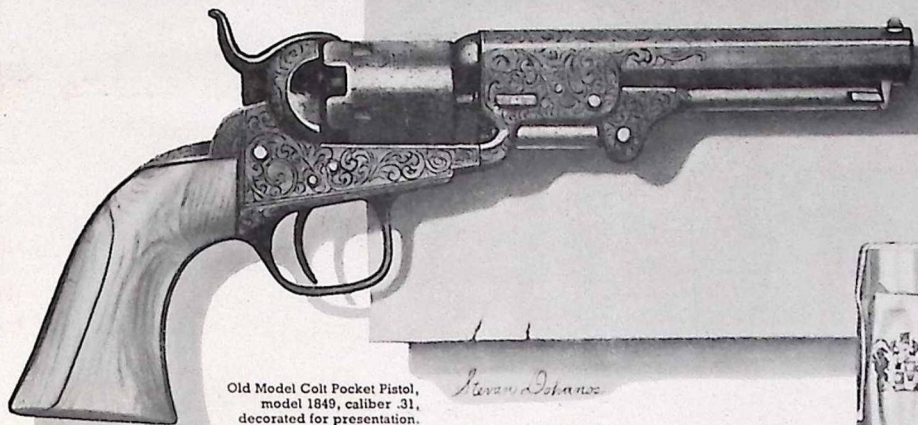
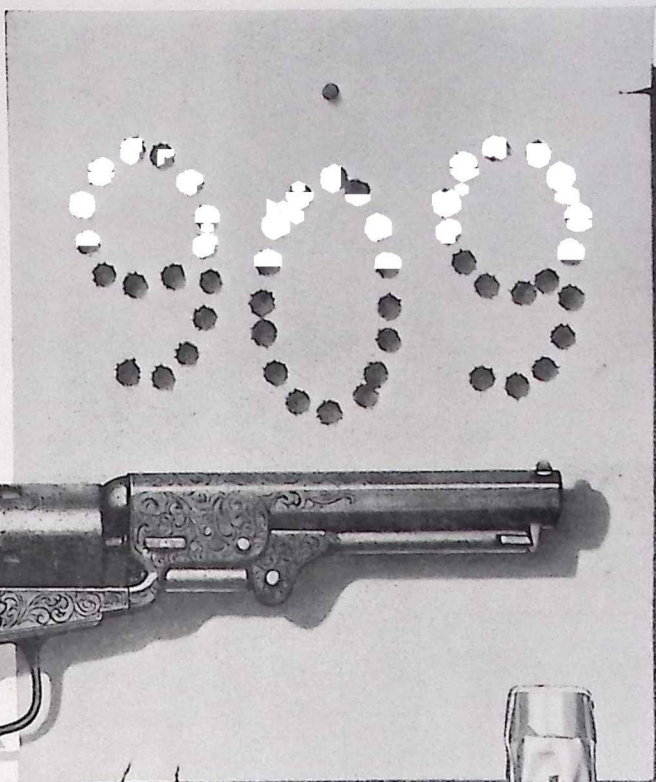
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