

# WINGS



R.C.A.F.

5c  
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On-the-spot Sketches

# LIFE AT GANDER

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FO RAY HART OF MIDLAND, ONT., JUST LOVES COCONUTS, ESPECIALLY WITH A NATIVE BOY TO GO AFTER 'EM.



A WAG LEADS A TOUGH 'LIFE IN WEST AFRICA, AND FS BILL NICHOLS OF CASTOR, ALTA., IS CRAZY ABOUT IT. WHILE ONE NATIVE PRESSES HIS PANTS ANOTHER KEEPS HIM COOL.



"WONDER WOULD THE WIFE LIKE A MONKEY'S SKULL FOR THE MANTLE?" PO DAVE BIGGS, TORONTO, GOES SHOPPING IN AN OPEN-AIR BAZAAR.

## Going Native

"The RCAF I presume?" exclaimed PO Jack Dalglish as his camera discovered these strange sights in darkest West Africa



WEST AFRICAN PIN-UP GIRL SMILES FOR A SMOKE FROM SGT ALEX DRUMMOND, MONTREAL, RCAF AIR GUNNER WITH AN RAF SQUADRON.



REHABILITATION MINDED, FO MURRAY PICKARD LEARNS HOW TO STRAIN PALM OIL IN CASE HE DECIDES TO SET UP BUSINESS BACK HOME IN VANCOUVER.

# Mech Factory

## Air Force mechs all over the world tab St. Thomas TTS their Alma Mater

by SGT ED HAYES

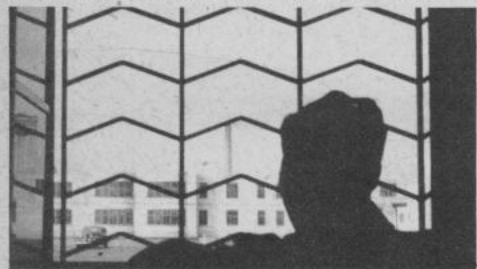
An Air Force mech and a young Army corporal stretched out in a double seat as the antiquated train coach jerked and swayed. The airman fiddled with a winter tea cozy as he talked.

"... And what a sprawling pile of gray stone building... bars on every window... endless corridors... place 'em end to end and they'd cover eleven miles or more... egad, sleeping quarters top anything you can imagine... chromium showers, baths, terrazo floors... a mass of technical equipment and aircraft..."

If you were an RCAF airframe mech, an electrician, an AEM or an instrument mechanic sitting across the aisle from this pair you wouldn't have had to guess what the gabfest was about. The mech was giving out gen on your old Alma Mater — St. Thomas Technical Training School.

And an Alma Mater it is to more than 35,000 Air Force ground crew technicians. Today you'll find TTS-trained mechanics in Iceland, Ceylon, England, India, Alaska, Australia, Africa and at training stations across Canada. No other school in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan has so many "alumni" on active service. And whether they liked the place or groused about it, no matter where they meet the bull sessions always wind up on TTS.

More than four years ago — just after the war started — a small group of AC2 instructors and NCOs jumped off the L&PS train at the shanty station at Crafts into a drizzling rain. They looked across the road and their eyes struck that



**THE BOYS AT ST. THOMAS TTS**, formerly a mental hospital, are used to peering out through bars. sprawling pile of gray stone buildings, bars and mud. They got that sinking feeling — then looked around but the train had pulled out. In the group were Mike Duszynski of Ituna, Sask., Bill Saunders of Calgary and Tom Hunter of Spruce Lake, Sask., all AC2s but qualified technicians sent to get production rolling at the new RCAF school.

These three Westerners, all flight sergeants now, are among the handful of originals still helping to turn out ground crew mechs. Cpl Tom Gilbert, an AEM out at 7 SFTS, MacLeod, Alta., who trained at TTS in 1940, probably remembers them — so will hundreds of others who graduated from St. Thomas during the past four years.

Those were hectic days in late '39 and '40 — FS Duszynski vouched for that. Instructional equipment was scarce but at that time trainees had to have previous technical or mechanical experience, and so gobs of theory with a minimum of practical training was common.

FS O. R. Alty of St. Johns, N.B. and Sgt C. E. Elliott of Ottawa were among the instructors. Alty is now a squadron leader and chief technical instructor at St. Thomas. Elliott is a flying officer and aeronautical engineer in charge of maintenance. GC J. H. Keens has been commanding officer during the greater period.

Life at TTS has changed since the early days but much of the routine and same idiosyncracies remain. Newly-arrived Joes still scrape their knuckles when they whip up a salute in the brick-walled corridors. Headdress must be worn in hallways. "Keep to the left" and "keep to the right" signs appear in the halls when civilian janitors wax the sound-muffling flooring.

Those long line-ups for meals are pretty well solved now; early and late shifts did the trick. For awhile back in 1940 the messing problem and lack of equipment necessitated a day and night shift; tin cups and plates were the issue for meals



PHOTOS BY CPL RUTH RALSTON

at the long, red lino-topped tables. Eric Hill, now a sergeant servicing aircraft for the RCAF in Iceland, will recall those days — and nights. He trained at TTS when the class numbers were in the 'teens. Now they're up to 200 and entries continue to come in and go out weekly.

One of the amazing things about TTS is the efficiency and speed with which trained ground crew are turned out. The school is organized for mass production on a large scale. The training system is like a huge assembly line with instructors the efficient mechanics who fit their respective knowledge to the trainee going by on the endless belt, until after entering the course as raw material, he reaches the other end of the line a completely finished product. He graduates a qualified technician in his trade... moulded by lecture and demonstration... finished and polished by practical training. Chief engineering officer of this organization is WC A. Marks.

The raw trainee fresh from Manning is amazed to see so many fellows with stripes — corporals in particular. But they form the nucleus of the instructing staff, many of them gold medallists who have been kept at TTS because of their exceptional qualifications. WINGS looked into the past of a few and found that their civilian occupations suggested little of technical wizardry. Cpl Harold Lando, a former Vancouver lawyer, is an airframe instructor; Cpl Angus MacLeod of near Ottawa, was a qualified undertaker; now he's teaching electricians. Sgt George Davies' radio voice used to be heard on Regina airwaves, before which he taught school, but for nearly two years he's been lecturing to instrument mechanics. Not long before he was to be ordained as a United church clergyman Jack Davies of Toronto joined the Air Force. He, too, wound up at St. Thomas on an AEM course, and remained to instruct.

But no matter what the trainee did on civie street, TTS intrigues him. Sleeping quarters are a revelation after Manning... music with meals... news broadcasts twice a day emanating from a TTS "studio" and reaching the boys in both mess halls. And everywhere in evidence — on carpenters, flight engineers, welders — was the "TTS duty uniform" — coveralls.

### OLD TIME DANCES

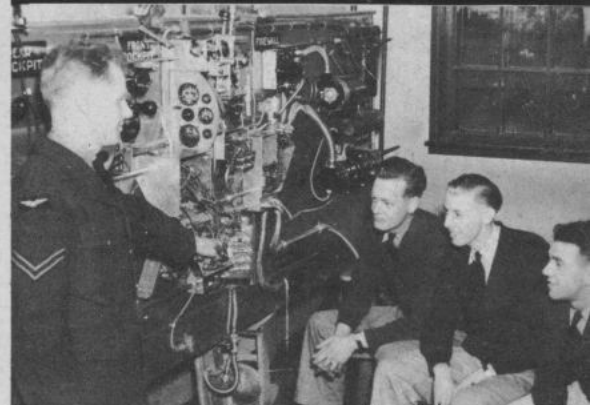
There have been changes made. Old grads who recall the barren canteen furnished with benches and boxes would find an ultra-modern "tuck shop". The old wet canteen is now a cozy tavern with a modernistic bar and murals on the wall. Wednesday night there's an old fashioned hoedown with violins and guitars. Saturday night squadron dances in the recreation lounge, a nine-hole pee-wee golf course and a seven-team station lacrosse league all help to boost morale.

As the course nears an end the inevitable posting rumors crop up. If you're from the West and want to go back, ask for an Eastern station and you're bound to go West. In the *Aircraftman*, the station magazine, lads awaiting posting eagerly read the gen on stations to which they may be sent. The paper is published by the Press Club, sparked by the "Y" supervisor.

Comes Thursday and the kit bags pile up at the doorway of One and Two Wings. There's pay parade, then a form-up outside the building. The band appears and strikes up a snappy air. They move off. SPs stand to attention as these TTS graduates pass through the gates, march across the road and up to the waiting train. They're full-fledged AC1s, qualified technicians launched on service careers which may eventually take them to Bombay, Britain or Bizerte.



THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY KITES to work on when Flight Sergeants Mike Duszynski, Tom Hunter, Bill Saunders, came to St. Thomas in the fall of 1939.



HARVARD INSTALLATION MOCK-UP explained by Cpl Bert Calder, Southampton, Ont., to Ken Curran, Montreal; Al Burrows, Toronto, Bob Harrison, Mimico.



INSTRUCTOR AT TTS SINCE 1940 Sgt Eddie Baggs, Toronto, gives gen on Curtiss electric prop to LACs George Woodrow, Windsor, Bob McMurdow, Vancouver.

## RETIREMENT PLAN MAKES ROOM AT TOP, SAYS MINISTER



HON. C. G. POWER, MINISTER FOR AIR

WINGS publishes herewith a statement on the RCAF retirement policy as delivered in the House of Commons on February 10 by Major the Honorable C. G. Power, M.C., Minister of National Defence for Air:

"There is a definite retirement policy in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

"When the war broke out the RCAF was a small organization. It comprised a number of excellent officers who had done magnificent service in the last war. These men were the backbone of the RCAF development and expansion. The principal job of the RCAF during the first years of the war was the organization, development, expansion and administration of the air training plan. The plan has produced results and dividends far surpassing our own expectations and frustrating those of our enemies.

"These officers, who gave of their time and experience to bring about those results, though comparatively young in years, were mainly too old to take an active operational part in this war. Besides, their experience, their prestige, their authority, made it necessary to retain them here or elsewhere in non-operational duties.

"The rapid expansion of the joint air training plan, the western hemisphere operations and the overseas Air Force brought increased responsibilities and with these accelerated promotion. There are now many officers of comparatively high rank

in our forces who have not seen operational service. They could not. But rapid promotion brings the penalty of early retirement, otherwise there would be stagnation at the top. The air war and the Air Force must be dynamic, not static.

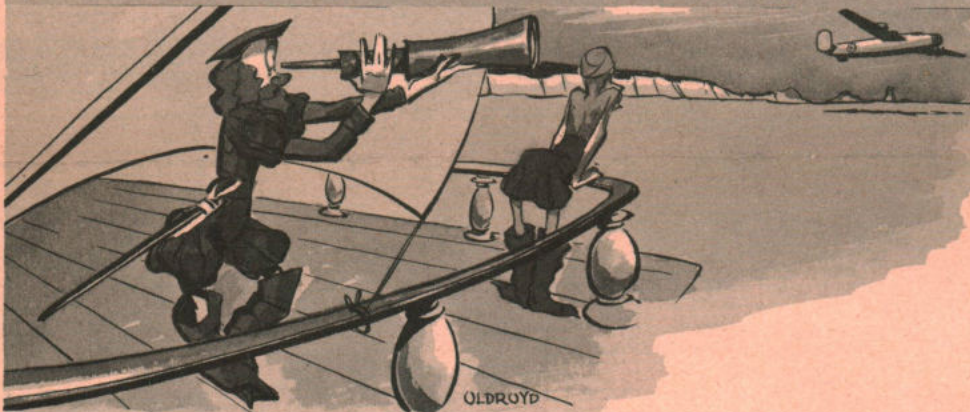
"The air training plan has reached its peak of development. From now on there will be contraction rather than expansion. The favourable war situation has brought about a shifting and contraction of our defensive home war establishments.

"If all these men were retained in their positions or promoted right up to their full retiring age we might be faced with a thick ceiling, a bottle-neck at the top, comprised entirely of men who, through no fault of their own, have seen no active flying service overseas in this war. Now, after five years of war, we have at our disposal, overseas especially, some younger men who have had actual fighting experience against the enemy in this war. More and more we are calling on overseas headquarters to send these men back to us.

"If we are to encourage the initiative, the ambition of these young men, we must show them that there is room at the top, that the ceiling is not closing in, but that the upward path will be made clear for them.

"This is the policy. There is no stigma, no reproach in retirement, but there is ruthless necessity if the RCAF is to continue during the war and after to be the young, virile, dynamic force which I am sure all Canada wishes it to be and has a right to expect from it in return for the sacrifices made on its behalf."

## NEWFIE BOUND



*or why bother the padre?*

by LAC RON REWBURY

"Heaven's to Betsy, I'm posted to Newfie! Where can I find an M.O. who will put a cast on my leg for twenty-five bucks; or shall I jump the fence at Y Depot and break my neck and the suspense at the same time?"

Well, don't be so grumpy, Bub, you're not being original at all. Airmen by the baker's dozen have abused their brains with such thoughts as these, and have lived long enough to "eat 'em mitt a spoon".

Anyway, if you are ever posted to Newfoundland don't take it too hard, because it's not such a bad place. Why, here we have no insurance collectors, tax collectors, taxes on cigarettes, candy or chewing gum; we have no glittering main streets, dance halls, variety nut shops, street cars, amusement parks, or A&Ps. Now don't ask me what we have got, because boys and girls, that's another story.

So that you won't be a green-horn when you arrive here, let's talk about history; the history of this rugged island. We know you feel a bit tarty about the subject, but even the early explorers experienced your fears and jeers. Why, when John Cabot in 1497 first sighted Newfoundland through his spy glass, his first desire was to pull the cork out of the bung-hole at the bottom of the ship and let nature take its course. However, after more serious consideration he decided not to terminate the voyage so suddenly, and set sail south to see

if he could see the new world through a more rosy colored glass at a different spot. Eventually Cabot landed at Bonavista, and claimed the rocky wilderness for Henry VII, who immediately developed a severe case of gout.

### VANISHING RACE

Well, at the time King Henry was having his troubles, this wild island was sparsely populated with a sturdy brown race known as Beothucks. They weren't Indians or Eskimos, because neither side would recognize relationship. However, the Beothucks tried hard, but by 1829 the last of their number passed out of the picture, and Newfoundland was handed over to the fisher folk of the old world, who, taking the bull by the horns, or their better judgment by the seat of the pants, settled along the coast.

For many years these settlers wrestled with codfish until they could stand it no longer, and according to orthodox history books, many migrated to the United States, settling in and around Boston. In fact, there are so many Newfoundlanders in Boston today, a special paper known as the *Newfoundland Gazette* is published for them. Their number in Boston is greater than the population of St. John's, Newfoundland's capital.

Newfoundland is the tenth largest island in the world, is one-sixth larger than Ireland (begorra t'is a lie), and one-fifth smaller than England (jolly good show, what?). Approximately one-third of the surface of the island is water, but you only

realize this fact when mud, bits of grass and twigs overflow into your collar while making your way to the mess hall on a typical dewy Newfie morning.

The people of Newfoundland are a friendly, hard-working folk, and today they are playing host to a new species of being. These new inhabitants wear blue uniforms, and are generally known as airmen. At various times they are known by many other names, depending upon the time and place. They dashed to Newfoundland when Hitler dashed to Poland. Apparently there must be some connection.

Most of the stations manned by airmen on the island are rather isolated spots. In spite of all this, the airmen lead a busy life. Most stations being on operational duty, means that there are times when excitement runs high. For instance it's quite the time for a "small shambles" when some of the boys battle it out with a Nazi submarine. The isolation also means that airmen must make their own fun, which they do with considerable dispatch and "bug-juice". However, we do have some luxuries. We have our rec halls, theatres, lounge rooms and libraries, as in Canada. Also the potential Daniel Boone has ample opportunity to tear off into the woods and get himself lost, looking for moose and caribou, no less.

### CO ON FATIGUES

No boys, things are not so grim. For instance on our station we have such a democratic CO that a short time ago he caused eyes to pop when he pitched in and helped clean up the admin building. "Good exercise," he called it. We called it King of Hearts without a club.

There is one great thrill the newcomer to an RCAF station in Newfoundland will experience after he has settled down to his appointed task. It will come gradually, without being noticed, until it finally blossoms forth. It is the thrill of genuine comradeship. It comes to all who are thrown together on their own resources in the hinterland. Simple pleasures suffice where once they were ignored. The music of an accordion, even through ineptly played becomes a sparkling gem, a game of badminton, pool, cards, checkers, or even an argumentative bull session, become all important pleasures. Life can be seen in a new perspective from our wilderness home. Newfoundland is doing much for Canada, for it is making us better Canadians for the peace to come.

When the old "Newfie Express" screeches through the spruce forests, clangs in the canyons, and over the rocky barriers to stop at our wilderness station, you'll be sure of a cheery, full-lunged hello. And we mean it. You're back will be heartily slapped until you are red in the face. Even the huskies will refuse to "mush" until they've barked a welcome.

Well, Bub, now you can see your fears of Newfie were unfounded. We're ready to welcome you when you get here, but definitely, 'cause boy, oh boy — we're looking for a posting, POSTING, POSTING . . . !

## 'Monty' the LAC

EDMONTON — 3 M Depot has its own "Monty". He is LAC Juan de Montezuma, great-grandson of fiery Brazilian revolutionary leader and descendent of the wealthy Mexican ruler of the same name.

While he never ferreted gold from a hidden aztec mine in the wild jungles down Mexico way or instilled the blood lust into a crowd of starving peons, Monty did more than his bit in the First Great War and is doing all his forty-five years will permit in this struggle.

He wears the ribbon of the Military Cross, having won it in the last war when he stormed a Turkish-held outpost and assisted in wiping out its defenders. He wasn't even old enough to vote then.

His great-grandfather was a lawyer from Bahia, Brazil, whose first attempted coup d'etat failed. The revolutionary, with his disciples, was placed aboard a ship and told to leave the country. Great-grandpa was no mean navigator and his little party eventually crossed the stormy Atlantic to France. After being honored by the French, he left for England where he and Lord Palmerston became friends. Through the influence of this great reformist, Montezuma returned to Brazil where he was swept into power on a wave of political popularity. One of his first acts was to abolish slavery in his country. For this legislation he was made a viscount by Brazil's last emperor Don Pedro II.

LAC Montezuma went to England with a sister after his parents and another sister died in Ecuador of the dread yellow fever. After the last war he came to Canada.

## Strong man hero

by FO J. A. BLOOM

EAST COAST — You may have heard of his prowess as a weight lifter and he's sometimes known as "Mr 5 by 5" but that only scratches the surface for Sgt James Evans, PTI at this East Coast RAF station.

Sgt Evans is holder of the highest award of the City of Edinburgh, has been honored by the King, holds the Royal Humane Society Life Saving certificate and has even received a congratulatory telegram from the world's arch enemy, Germany.

Evans had been a firefighter in civilian life for some time before he had an opportunity to use the prodigious strength for which he was noted. Then one day in June, 1937, an alarm sounded; two steeplejacks were imprisoned at the top of a chimney more than 180 feet high. One of them had a broken leg. The fire-truck ladder could reach only 100 feet.

A line was shot over the top of the chimney and the end was made fast. Then Sgt Evans made the perilous hand over hand climb, reaching the top exhausted. When he climbed over the edge of the stack, he found that he had to lower himself about ten feet to a narrow ledge inside.

Splints were applied to the broken leg, a rope cradle was made and Evans lowered the first man down the inside of the chimney. This feat brought Evans congratulatory letters and telegrams from all over the world. Subsequently he was awarded the Edinburgh City Medal for Valour. The following New Year's Day, 1938, he learned he was to receive the King's Police Medal for gallantry, the highest award obtainable by the Fire Service.

Later he left the Fire Service and returned to his old love, the stage, doing a weight-lifting act. At a Welsh coastal resort he was called from his dressing room and told that a man had fallen off the pier. Evans cycled to the scene, and, fully clothed, dived fifty feet into a heavy running sea to rescue him. For this he received the Royal Humane Society's Vellum on Parchment for Life Saving.

## More mags

Still they come! Every month more stations blossom out with their own news tabloid or magazine. Here are a few new ones to roll off the presses: *Flak*, at 4 ITS, Edmonton; *Depot Dope* at 7 Equipment Depot, Winnipeg, a mimeograph job; *Crosswinds* at Rockcliffe Station, edited by LAC Jack Marsters, former Montreal newspaperman; *Tenardee Review* at 10 Repair Depot, Calgary; *The Tuskan* at an East Coast Station.

Two RAF stations, 32 EFTS, Bowden, Alta., and an SFTS on the East Coast put out special souvenir numbers. The Bowden mag was a 72-page job, mainly pictorial. *Wings Overseas*, the East Coast publication, was an elaborate 86-page affair.



Photo by Cpl Gaston Côté

# Meet Barbara

by Sgt ROSS MASON

MONTREAL — If you're stationed at Bali-Bali, Newfie, in Italy or North Africa, there is a slight chance you haven't come across a picture of Barbara Brophy, WD corporal. A very slight chance. For it is suspected that her picture, torn from the *Jungle Journal*, or telegraphed by tom-tom, may even be decorating a houmfort or two in Haiti. (What's a houmfort, daddy?)

Barbara is probably the most publicized girl in the Women's Division. Servicemen have written her letters in English, Spanish and French pleading for pictures but she has only answered one of these palpitating pleas. Yet you'd never suspect her for a "popularity glamour girl" if you were to storm the equipment section at 3 Training Command Headquarters, and find her half buried in ledgers and files, her dark honey hair damp on her forehead, her pink cheeks smudged with dust.

Prior to her enlistment as an equipment assistant in June, 1942, she had been entertaining the troops as a member of the TNT Troupe, after office hours, and still found time to study fashion designing seriously.

The civilian suit which she had designed for herself, and had worn on arrival at Rockcliffe WD Manning Depot, attracted so much attention that it was used in a recruiting movie.

After a course at St. Thomas came a posting to 13 SFTS St. Hubert where she was quickly spotted attending a wings parade. In a short time a photographer had Barbara slipping into a flying

suit, and climbing into the cockpit of an aircraft. That picture is often used whenever one is requested of a "typical WD".

Barbara came to Montreal about the time the new WD uniform was being introduced. She was the first airwoman to wear it . . . and HOW she wore it. Her photograph appeared in newspapers from Haileybury to Hawaii. Letters to Barbara followed.

Wrote one young sailor: "Dear Miss Brophy. I seen your picture in a Tampa paper and I want to know if you ever get down this way. Because if you do, can we date or if I come up there can we date? If we can't can I have a picture of you autographed with something personal to show the boys? You look like a movie star."

Wearing the uniform, she has appeared at swank nighteries, luncheons, dinners, RCAF schools, appeared in movies and was introduced to such notables as Air Marshall Bishop, V.C. Her picture has probably stared at you from more than one billboard or streetcar advertisement. She was elected "Miss Victory, RCAF" in the most recent Victory Loan campaign. She was featured in an RCAF "how WDs keep fit" national rotogravure splurge. She has spoken in factories and provided background for campaigns by carrying a flag.

Barbara isn't interested in a movie career. A talent scout for Warner Brothers tried to sell her the idea of having a screen test in 1939, and she laughed at him! And she still feels that way about it. What she really wants after the war is a career in fashion designing.



A baby at the door and the week's wash are common in this B.C. isolated RCAF area where airmen can build own cabins and bring out their families.



One of the modernistic types is seen above. If an airman is lucky he can buy a house from an owner who has been posted for perhaps \$300.

# This is the life!

## RCAF pioneers build their own homes in B.C. bush

by FO J. P. O'SULLIVAN

WEST COAST — The Robinson Crusoes of this isolated island station have dug post holes, felled timber, split cedar shingles and built their own homes in the wilderness. And they've gone old Rob a big bit better by bringing in their wives and families to establish a work-filled but carefree existence a hundred miles from nowhere.

When the Air Force moved in local civilization comprised the new station and, nearby, a settlement of fifteen people. Now the settlement boasts 150, by unofficial census, not including RCAF personnel living off station. Of 120 families, ninety-six are those of Air Force men.

The old B.C. pioneers would feel right at home if they could move in today. These Air Force homes are of log and frame construction, having one, two or occasionally three rooms. Water is carried by the buckiful from community taps, coal oil or gasoline lamps supply light, and for heat the resident airman or officer chops down another tree. He generally chooses a fir growing near the water, topples it into the bay, tows it ashore near the village, saws it into firewood lengths and goes to work with an axe beside his cabin door. Building cupboards and shelves, and adding other improvements to his home, gives him plenty to do in the rest of his spare time.

The wives do all their own laundry — heating water on the stove, washing by hand in big tubs, pressing with an old fashioned "sad iron". With the homes so small, as one young wife described it they "live in every bit of it, all the time", so that the household chore of putting things to rights is unending. But the unanimous reply is "Yes" to queries as to their liking for the frontier life. Admittedly the main reason is that they are near their husbands, but cost of living comes to little more than grocery money, and the wilderness life they find refreshing after city existence even despite the shortage of modern conveniences.

The girls have afternoon bridge sessions, Red Cross work, and badminton twice-weekly on the station (followed by a shower for a treat), for enjoyment in their spare time. All entertainment — such as dances and movies, is centered in the station; despite the "boom", the village boasts no amusement spots.

When not tumbling tall timbers, the menfolk take to the bush hunting and fishing with game and fish both plentiful. Summer sports also include swimming, boating and beach parties. An ancient character known fondly as Old Billy has power boats and row boats for rent. Hunting highlight last year came when a regular posse was organized to rid the village of bears, which regularly raided garbage cans and had become a serious nuisance. The take: five big bruins.

If you are lucky you may acquire a house from an owner who's been posted, for perhaps

\$300. You sell it for the same price when you leave, which is one explanation for the low cost of living in these parts. If there are no for-sale signs hanging out, you rent a piece of land for a dollar a year from the local squire and merchant, Mr. A. E. Hole. Then you borrow an axe and a shovel and build a house in your spare time. One sergeant WAG set an all-time record when, with the aid of good weather and good friends, he completed a cabin in three days; usual time, however, is a month or two months.

Most popular type house is of frame construction, covered with shingles or "shakes". These last are home-made shingles, split from sawn-to-size cedar logs; more work to obtain, they are easier to put on and to waterproof. Cedar logs are found lying in the bush, left behind by logging companies, and are generally as sound as the day they were cut thanks to the natural oil in the wood. But if you want to do this frontier act up proper, you build yourself a real log cabin, with a shake roof.

One ingenious airman, with modern ideas about pre-fabricated houses, bought a shack in a neighbouring village, dismantled it and rebuilt it in the station village.

Mr. Hole, the local landowner, rates as the original pioneer of the district, and runs the general store and gas station. Formerly dependent on visiting fisherman and the few local settlers scattered over the region, he now makes a profitable living from the war-grown settlement—though he certainly does not profiteering in land rentals. While tiny, the village has a regularly elected mayor and council, responsible for laying down sidewalks, sanitation, etc. Any carelessness in garbage disposal brings prompt action. Just look what happened to bears. Photos by FS H. T. Garvin and LAC C. R. Maves.



WEST COAST—The burly bruin, above, used to grunt into this Western RCAF camp at 1630 hours for his daily quota of sweets until he went AWL. Here Cpl Summer watches while LAC Storey feeds the guest.

## Oldest bombaimer!

FINGAL — A grey-haired American, the father of three, is probably the oldest air bomber in the RCAF. He's Cpl Robert Stein, senior for Course 97, who will be 36 in August. Stein was the oldest man to complete aircrew training at 6 ITS, Toronto.

An insurance adjuster in Rochester before the war, he enlisted in January, 1941. From then on he tried for aircrew and finally was successful last July when the age limit for air bombers was raised.

Stein was formerly an equipment assistant at St. Thomas TTS.

## International flavor

by AC1 MAURICE LUCOW

MONTREAL — WDs at 1 Wireless School are all set to organized their own private little League of Nations. No, it's not a gag. There are so many non-Canadian girls attending the school, that some sort of international club seems inevitable.

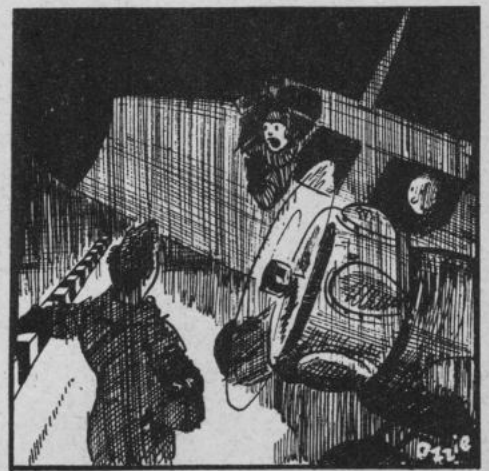
From Bermuda have come Lucy Benevides and Iris Jackson, who were members of the first contingent of Bermuda girls to join various armed forces. Jamaica's representative is Dorothy George. Enid Edwards, "I'm the first girl from my country to join up," hails from Trinidad. Then there is Pavlina Harija Smuk, who wears the shoulder badge of Yugoslavia. And from Great Britain comes Cpl Rose Mary Heseltine, who spent her life in Japan. The United States is represented by Kay Neil of Chicago.

For the girls from the Caribbean the first snowfall in Montreal was about the greatest event in their lives. The girls rolled gleefully in the snow . . . tossed snowballs at each other, and, to top it all off, wanted to come on parade wearing ear-muffs, but were rescued just in time by their Canadian sisters-in-arms.

AW Edwards said she has an especially soft spot in her heart for Canada because during the early part of the war "your country saved the people of Trinidad from starvation." AW Benevides has only one serious complaint against the Canadians, and that is that they persist in asking her about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor — the royal pair live in the Bahamas, not Bermuda. Miss Smuk has lived in Canada for eight years but at the time of her enlistment was not yet a Canadian citizen, so she has the distinction of

wearing the badge of her homeland, Yugoslavia. Cpl Heseltine was born in Yokohama, Japan, and spent the early part of her life travelling between the Far East, Canada and Britain. "Rusty" as she prefers to be known, left Japan for good just when that country went to war with China. Miss Neil came from the U.S. because she was too young for any of the women's forces in her own country.

The girls are all taking either WOG or RTO courses.



I said "The ceiling's low, so I came home by road."

## WHAT ABOUT

# Today and Tomorrow?

**Why a cook turned accountant, a WD look up sewing, and a certain SP studies economics**

**B**Y the flickering light of two oil lamps in a prairie guardhouse, a corporal SP sits up late nights waiting for the boys to turn in their late passes — and buries his nose in a solid-looking textbook, "A Social Approach to Economics."

At Camp Borden an LAC hustles out the gate and heads for Barrie, passes up the pubs and movies for the local high school, whose lights gleam through the winter night. Perched on a stool at a high, slant-topped desk, he gets busy with T-square and set squares, mastering the art of draftsmanship.

In the WD barracks at Vulcan, Alta., a pretty LAW provokes gasps of admiration from the rest of the girls as she models the bright and trim little sports dress which she finished. At last night's sewing class — just in time for the station dance.

In a grim, bare hut in Stalag Luft 1, via Stalag Luft 3, Deutschland, Prisoner-of-war 5975 bends over a table studying an exercise in a yellow booklet, "Soils and Field Crops". You may have known FS Don Hickson when he sported a white flash in his cap at 1 ITS, 4 AOS, 4 B&G or 2 ANS, before he got his navigator's wing and went overseas on ops. A prisoner now, but not content just to wait out the war behind barbed wire, Don is working towards the day when he'll get back to his farm near Wheatley, Ont.

To Canadians in prison camps have been sent more than 34,000 textbooks on a host of subjects. At more than a score of RCAF stations across Canada hundreds of airmen and airwomen hustle off the station two or three nights a week to study everything from refrigeration engineering to psychology and domestic science, in nearby schools and universities. At Goose Bay, Labrador, and on another isolated unit on Vancouver Island, hobby and craft shops compete in interest with discussion groups and art classes. And it all adds up to the discovery that the men and women of the Air Force have a double-barrelled purpose in life — to shoulder their share of winning the war, and to start fitting themselves now for what's to come after.

## YOUR OWN CAMPAIGN

Last month WINGS told how the RCAF is planning a pre-discharge program to help you prepare for the day when you're posted back to civvie street. Those plans are being rapidly acted on, but the whole program can't be accomplished overnight. Nor is there any need for you to wait another minute before launching your personal "rehabilitation campaign" because thousands of RCAFmen and women are already embarked on theirs.



In fact—you've probably made a start yourself even though you may not realize it. If you've made the most of trade-improvement classes simply as a means of advancing in rank and grouping, you've also upped your chances of employment in a similar civilian trade later on. For every Air Force trade has its civilian counterpart; the skills you acquire in it, with perhaps some slight adaptation, may fit you for any one of several post-war jobs.

But you can go beyond that. For instance, any mech could take a leaf from the book of FS R. W. Winnet, an airframe mech instructor at TTS St. Thomas, Ont. Winnet worked in a steam boiler factory before enlisting, and possessed a natural bent for mechanical tasks which his Service career has given him a chance to exploit. But his instructor's job and his crown-and-hooks didn't seem like the final goal in life to this flight sergeant, so he enrolled with the Canadian Institute of Science and Technology for a course in aeronautical engineering. He's an associate member of the Institute of Engineering Technology now, having gained the equivalent of a university course, and he's aiming for a teaching spot in a technical school after he hangs up his uniform.

At the same school there was a cook in the officers' mess who had always had a hankering to be an accountant but he'd never had the chance — till he joined the Air Force. He went to the Educational Officer, the E.O. arranged for him to take a Canadian Legion Educational Services course in bookkeeping, and he passed the exams. Now he has remustered to Clerk Accountant and he plans to make a career of balancing budgets instead of juggling pots and pans, when peace comes.

The ex-cook discovered the double key to unlock the lid on his ambitions — the RCAF's own Educational Services in conjunction with the Canadian Legion program of class and correspondence courses. Here's how they work, as seen in actual examples.

## NIGHT SCHOOLS OPENED

The Command Educational Officer in Toronto wondered why existing civilian night-school facilities couldn't be thrown open to Service personnel. Through the provincial department of education he contacted school boards all over Ontario and found them eager to cooperate. Nominal fees would be charged, fees which in most cases would be refunded if the Air Force students attended at least 80 per-cent of the classes. Now personnel from dozens of stations are learning to operate business machines, are studying journalism, machine drawing and dozens of other valuable and interest-packed subjects. Similar plans are in operation in B.C., Manitoba, Nova Scotia and the Montreal area.

That's one way, and here's another. The WD admin officer at 19 SFTS, Vulcan, found a great number of girls eager to learn to make their own clothes, to have someone show them how to knit and crochet and teach them the forgotten art of weaving. She arranged with the regional office of the Canadian Legion Educational Service to provide an expert instructor one evening a week, and to provide four sewing machines and a loom. There was no red tape and the class was going strong in two weeks. The girls purchased the materials for whatever they decided to make (that was the

only cost to them) and now they are proudly sporting slacks, tailored suits, pyjamas, shorts and other clothes of their own making.

Where it isn't possible to bring special instructors to the station, the ready answer is the correspondence courses. In the one month of December, 1943 (most recent for which figures are available), over 800 airmen and airwomen enrolled for such courses — making a total of 10,721 "mail order" classes now being conducted.

## EVEN ON AN ICEBERG

Even if you and three other Joes are stuck away out on some iceberg post by yourselves, without so much as an orderly sergeant in sight, the CLES correspondence courses are open to you at no cost whatsoever. Contact your Command HQ Educational Officer for application blanks. When you receive the textbook for the course you want you will be given the name of an instructor to whom to mail your exercise papers at each stage in the course — and though hundreds of miles away you will have his personal interest and attention. In the case of regular school subjects you may gain credits recognized by every provincial department of education, and through other courses provided by various universities you can start on a college career to be finished after the war.

There are nominal fees for the university correspondence courses and you may have to pay for certain textbooks. However, in almost all cases you can borrow the necessary textbooks through your station library.

The key man in all these activities is your unit Educational Officer. He has full information about all courses and even when these are taken by mail, he can organize study classes to help you with your work and will also supervise examinations. This is equally true Overseas — every RCAF unit has either a full or part-time Educational Officer who can get you started on any of these activities immediately or continue any course started in Canada. All courses are available to members of the RAF, RAAF and RNZAF while in Canada.



# Sketches from GANDER

By SGT DON ANDERSON



FLYING TO NEWFIE: IT'S A LOT FASTER THAN THE FAMOUS NEWFOUNDLAND EXPRESS. SGT DON ANDERSON SKETCHES CHILLY FELLOW TRAVELLERS IN RCAF TRANSPORT.



READY HUT. FIGHTER PILOTS OF THE FLYING LANCER SQUADRON SEE LITTLE ACTION BUT MUST ALWAYS BE READY FOR IT AND ARE VITAL TO THE AERODROME'S DEFENCE.



GANDER'S A BIG SPOT AND WORK PARTIES MAY FIND THEMSELVES A LONG WAY FROM HOT DRINKS ON A COLD DAY, BUT THE LEGION'S MOBILE CANTEEN TRACKS THEM DOWN.



GROUP CAPTAIN CLARE ANNIS, OBE, GANDER'S CO

Gander is the jumping-off place for the Ferry Command crews flying bombers to Britain, and the home of the ocean prowling Liberators that shoot it out with convoy-raiding U-boat packs. But because very little has been portrayed of the non-operational side of life at Gander, the RCAF Art Directorate sent Sgt Artist Don Anderson to Newfoundland to sketch for WINGS readers the scenes reproduced on these pages and on this month's cover.

The big Newfie station has gone far towards beating the morale problems that dog every isolated unit. There are bowling alleys, movies, occasional stage shows, swimming pool, a fine library and—since arrival of the WDs—even dances. Doing as much as anything towards making life livable is the friendly, informal efficiency with which the big station operates under command of GC Clare Annis, OBE. The CO's car decked out with ribbons and tin-cans might be startling on some stations, but everybody at Gander just chuckled understandingly when they saw the old man walking home from the station chapel as a beaming airman and his WD bride rolled by in style.

Still, a guy can become browned off at such a far away spot very easily — only at Gander you're "Ganderized", or "gomless". A gom is a jerk, joe-boy, an aircraft . . . anything; and almost anything can be described as gomless — the weather, the food, a gal . . . but particularly and always the weather, which among other things consists of a forceful, compass-boxing wind that never stops.

An evening at Gander starts with supper, then to the canteen (or American PX) for a coke or a beer, followed perhaps by a movie and then back to the hut for beans. Beans before bed is a sacred rite; canned beans heated under piping hot water in the wash-room sink and consumed on the edge of one's bunk between long drafts of coke. If a guy's lucky enough to get a date with a WD they go bowling, or skiing, or to a movie; but generally he ends up having beans with the rest of the boys.

He's lucky to get a date because there are so many airmen and so few WDs. Which is why it is said that a WD may break into tears on being posted from Gander — but any airman will yell fit to bust the barrack roof and rush off about his clearances roaring choice verses from Gander's station anthem, "The North Atlantic Squadron."



"NICKLES AND DIMES BADLY NEEDED — OTHERWISE BUY A STRIP OF TICKETS SIX FOR A DOLLAR!" SHOUTS CORPORAL DOORMAN AT RCAF MOVIE HOUSE. GIRLS ARE SCARCE AND AIRMEN IN STAGLINE TAKE DIM VIEW OF INFILTRATING YANKS WHO HAVE DATED A PAIR OF WDS. SHOW IS OPEN THREE NIGHTS A WEEK BUT RCAF PERSONNEL CAN ALSO TAKE IN MOVIES AT U.S. THEATRE WHICH RUNS FILMS NIGHTLY.



OVERALLED AND WINDBREAKERED CONSTRUCTION MEN, UNIFORMED AIRMEN AND WDS, CIVILIAN YOUNGSTERS, LEND MIXED ATMOSPHERE TO CIVILIAN GENERAL STORE. GANDER'S OTHER ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS ARE SWIMMING POOL, BOWLING ALLEYS, AND SKI TRAILS.

Art. David  
Rochester  
NEWFOUNDLAND

# LOG OF WINGS THE RCAF

VOL. 2

OTTAWA, CANADA, MARCH, 1944

No. 2

## Solution

"What a hope!" is the kindest thing to say to a guy house-hunting in Montreal, and a public relations photographer recently posted there had about given up. Returning to the dingy hotel room that "housed" his wife and baby one night, he became outraged at the state of things and banged off a pic of the babe — asleep in a trunk. The papers got hold of the picture, it was reprinted all over the place, and Montreal — mortified by this damning evidence — flooded the photog with offers of roomier accomodation.

## Moraley

Nobody'd ever heard the word before the war but by this time everyone knows that morale is the thing fighting men can least do without. As in all things American, the Yank Army's morale program is supercolossal — only they call it "moraley". (The "a" as in "ale", believed by some to be an important ingredient.)



According to a WD we know, who corresponds with a Tommy in the Mediterranean area, a keen but dusty young moraley officer is likely to come bounding up to the front on a

motorbike in the thick of battle. He scuttles about from gunpit to slit trench firing questions like this:

"How you doing, boys?" To which the doughboys of course say "Lousy!" ... "What's the trouble?" ... "Haven't hoid from de goil fren' fa'two weeks —our mail musta gon down wi' de Lusatiana."

The officer completes his Gallup poll as the bullets whistle by, then dodges behind a recumbent tank and does some rapid calculation on a chart. "Heavens!" he mutters, " — moraley down to fifty per cent!" — Away he goes to flash an urgent signal to moraley H.Q., the trouble scouts go looking for the postal bottleneck and in no time a whole truckload or maybe even a planeload of mail is rushed to the regiment.

If moraley drops to twenty five per cent, that's terrible, and up rumbles a mobile canteen with beautiful USO girls to hand out coffee and sinkers. And if moraley hits the skids towards zero, the GIs get Bob Hope and Frances Langford.

It works grand, too — on the Amerks. The Tommies just shake their heads, and wonder what war's coming too. Who in 'ell, asks Sam Small, ever heard now't o' this Bob Hope, now?

100%

Morale is soaring among the SPs on gate duty in the Vancouver area. It seems that MT drivers are required to shout their names as they pull under the barrier, something like station identification on the radio. And there's a new WD at the wheel these days who leaves the gestapo lads flushed but happy as she sails through with a cheery "Darling!"

## Sand-Dune Jive

We seem to be in this happiness movement ourselves, since we shipped those pictures of Kay Hausler to the Canucks of 36 Squadron, RAF, in North Africa. Their spokesman, FO Tom Masters, wrote to WINGS (December issue) asking that Kay adopt them, and now comes another letter hailing the arrival of Kay's first letter and the pix. Exactly what the gang wanted, says the FO and "you can be sure she will now have a full time job on her hands."



Between spells of Ops and staring at Kay's picture, the 36ers have been fighting for the North African world series with rival American and Aussie ball clubs. Starring Canucks are WO Les Lee and WO Rockie Visconte of Toronto, and FO Dick Farrington of Vancouver. "We taught some English lads the noble art," says Tom, "so that I'm very much afraid many a bowler now calls himself a pitcher."

There'll be the devil to pay when that gets back to the playing fields of Eton. The gang back home at the ski clubs to which these Canucks belonged will be happy, however, to hear that, despite desert sands, they've found snow atop some nearby hills and skis from someplace else and are hard at it, making a big impression on the camels. WO Pop Merrilles and FO Paul Hennell, Western reps, even found a chalet for rent.

The boys share a radio among them, passing it around. Its present duty is entertaining FO George Bowes, who is recovering from a crash. There's

also a phonograph and PA system, with PO Toby (the West will remember his shop talk on the big bands) as MC. Plans are afoot for live jive sessions, though, soon as the Canucks can pad out a swing group from the nucleus of Toby's hot trumpet and FO Doug Hall (Montreal) at the piano.

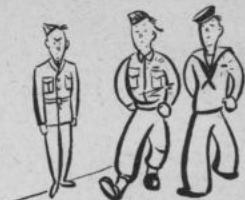
## Stuck

We beamed all over as reports came in from the East that Pat O'Lee's double-page pin-up beauty in the Christmas issue had received a terrific reception — two in every locker. Much better, reported our scouts, than the Hollywood photobabes. Then the West was heard from ... "pin-ups like your WINGS Calendar Girl go over much bigger than the O'Lee Girl art ... " That's the sort of thing that make us plead for an overseas posting.

Incidentally, we'd like to fill those individual orders for calendar girls you've been sending us but there just aren't enough to go around. One station asked for an extra hundred — and got ten. Sorry, Joe — you'll just have to feast your eyes on the face on the orderly room wall.

## Volunteers

The new Canadian Volunteer Service Ribbon blossomed on a thousand breasts in the East without causing



more than a lot of genial kidding about "Here's one that Goering ain't got." But in the west the wearin' o' the green-red-n-blue was for a time confined to Army and Navy chests due to an embarrassing break in the usually efficient AF supply lines. While there was fuming in high places and the teletype chattered bitterly to AFHQ, Air Force stalwarts strode the streets with a strange feeling of nudity and looks that just dared any beribboned pongo or Navy type to so much as whisper "Zombies!"

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# WOIN' THE MUSE

## SWITCHBOARD BLUES

Sing a song of PBX  
Of lights and plugs and things,  
Of miles of cables, poles and wires  
Of "Number, please" and rings.

Sing a song of flying hands  
Of cord and jack and key  
Sing a song of telephones —  
But far away from me!

All day I work quite cheerfully  
Say "Thank you", "Please" and such  
And "Operator" "Are you through?"  
That doesn't seem so much.

But when the clock hands point to five  
Black trouble then is mine.  
What pleadings, prayers and threats  
are heard.  
"Please, please. An OUTSIDE LINE."

"I want to call a taxi, quick."  
"I'm going out to dine."  
"My girl friend's waiting for my call"  
"Please, please. An OUTSIDE LINE."

The voices plead, the voices beg,  
In fifty different keys.  
A harder heart than mine would break  
"A town line, if you please."

They ask, demand, insist, cajole,  
Threaten and sometimes weep  
Until my strength gives way, and I  
Collapse into a heap.

So sing a song of telephones,  
Of cord and plug and key.  
Sing a song of PBX  
But sing it not to me.

Cpl. F. D. R. Tyrrell,  
Wings Overseas  
Newfoundland.

## AT KITTYHAWK

At Kittyhawk, remember ... U.S.A. ?  
It got about in whispers on that day—  
"Fellers named Wright, two brothers,  
goldurn fools  
Built a machine with wings, with  
carpenter tools,  
And meant to fly it, too!"  
"Imagine that!"

"If men wuz meant to fly, why they'd  
have wings,  
Not sticks and cloth, and wire and  
such things."

"Tain't practical!"  
"No?"

"Well then, they'd kill themselves."  
"Maybe good riddance, with ploughin'  
to be done  
Men — healthy fellers — should be  
about their share,  
Not trying to fly like birds around  
the air."

So flew Icarus, feathered toward  
the sun,  
Heedless of space and oceans under  
him.

Or even as melted wax began to swim,  
Could he foresee, the doomed  
exalted one,  
Quicken to fire one lost and lonely  
ember?

At Kittyhawk ... it did one day ...  
remember?

Sgt T. E. H. Farley,  
6 SFTS, Dunnville.



## PLAYING POSTMAN IS NO PARLOR GAME

The moment Joe Airman arrives overseas, another wild game of hide and seek begins for the RCAF section of the Canadian Armed Forces Postal Corps. The object: to keep him supplied with letters from home no matter how often or how far away he is posted. On arrival at the Canadian Base Post Office in Britain, mail is first sorted alphabetically (top left). Next, the hard working posties in blue prow through the Kardex files (top right) to find the address card of every airman or airwoman for whom mail has been received. The cards give the present posting, so that the mail can be dropped in the proper unit or squadron bag. Final photo shows the big moment when the right bag containing the right mail reaches the right spot, as Canucks of an RAF desert bomber squadron rush the mail truck for news and parcels from home.

# ON OPS

RCAF 'ROUND  
THE WORLD

## Airmen head for Calcutta to spend jungle savings

INDIA — Favorite leave spot for RCAF lads in eastern India is Calcutta, the Empire's second largest city weighing in at some two and a half million people including environs.

Prices are high but Johnny Canuck usually has money to spend after a couple of months in the jungle. His hotel costs him the equivalent of \$4 a day. At that he may have to sleep in a dormitory with four or five others. Meals are included, though, and it's worth staying in a hotel for the hot bath. In the jungle you are lucky to get a bucket of cold water to bathe in.

The airman who steps into the street is immediately beset by scores of shoe-shine boys and vendors of razor blades, newspapers, maps, shoe laces, cigarettes, handkerchiefs, flutes, socks and other items.

Cows get in the way too. They are sacred to many Indians, and you can't walk far without getting out of a cow's way or walking around a sleeping bovine.

Liquor is expensive in Calcutta, but you don't need to drink to see pink, blue and purple spotted goats. Herds of them graze in the park in the centre of the city. Often they are daubed with dye.

Prices? Rather unpalatable Indian rum costs about a dollar a drink, Scotch whisky sells at a price equal to anything up to \$30 a bottle. Second-hand cameras won't cost you more than brand new ones at home and film is practically unobtainable. A second-hand car worth \$500 back home will cost \$1,200 here. Taxis are plentiful and fairly expensive. A fifteen-cent tube of tooth paste sets Johnny Canuck back a dollar, Indian money, a two-cell flashlight \$5, a pair of Canadian silk stockings \$12. Many of the goods in the surprisingly well-stocked bazaars are Canadian, especially canned foodstuffs.

There are some good movie houses, often air-conditioned, and you may smoke. Cafes and bars are attached to each. Usually there are as many as three newsreels in each show, one Indian, one

British, and often the official American one, which is the most popular. The loges are the best seats at about \$1.25; the cheap seats, front downstairs, cost about 40 cents. There are one or two pseudo night clubs, and dances at the city's two principal hotels, but there's generally no one to take. The doughboys have an ironclad monopoly on the dozen unattached white women in town, and there are not half enough Indian or Anglo-Indian girls to go round.

Local newspapers print little about Canada. A provincial election is not mentioned; more serious, Canada's offer to supply wheat to starving Bengal gets a buried four lines in some papers, and at that the details are garbled. You buy an American magazine from a street vendor at the equivalent of half a dollar, read it and sell it back for thirty-five cents. It costs you seven cents in the land of the Maple, and 1941 and 1942 issues are commoner than this year's.

No Canadian in India has yet seen the rope trick. A few lucky ones have been shown a harem.

## MT mech makes doo-dads out of Luftwaffe scrap

GREAT BRITAIN — Bits of pieces of German aircraft shot down over the British Isles are not all written off. Some are still highly useful — but not to the Luftwaffe.

AC Paul Dugas of Alexandria, Ont., a motor transport mechanic attached to a Canadian fighter airfield in England, is just one of the many RCAF men who put said bits and pieces to good use. But Dugas is considered tops around his station at converting piston heads into ash-trays; perspex into rings and lockets; dural into rings, knives, letter-openers and model aircraft.

Dugas' main forte is the manufacture of cigarette lighters from used cannon and cartridge shells. At the moment he was working on one from a point-five casing, designed to ornament a table or desk. Set in an octagonal base of highly-polished perspex, it looked valuable enough to fetch a good price in any jewellery store.

## Billy scores a 'damaged' for cigarettes he ate

GREAT BRITAIN — It's been a long time coming but Group Captain Goat has finally been credited with a score against Jerry.

The GC, otherwise known as Billy, eats more cigarettes in a day than his crack Typhoon squadron can smoke. His toughness had never been disputed. And now, after many lean months, there's a victory notch in one of his horns.

"The other day," explained FO Art Ross, Montreal and Boston, "when we destroyed four Do. 217s in the air and three on the ground, another Do. pranged below us while landing, shearing one wing off. None of us could conscientiously claim the 'damaged' so we gave it to GC Goat, in recognition of long and meritorious service."

The groupie was not available for interview. When last seen he was trying to scrounge a smoke.

## Dinghy club popular though nobody's anxious to join

GREAT BRITAIN — "Dinghy, dinghy!" and the next thing you know you're a member of the Goldfish Club.

Well, maybe it is a bit more involved than that. It so happens that very few people are anxious to join the club before they have qualified. But once they have been in the drink and have made use of a rubber dinghy they are only too pleased to have as a souvenir the attractive Goldfish badge and card. For that matter, some guys have even come back for a bar to their badge.

The Goldfish Club has only been in existence since January, 1943. In that time it has built up a very healthy membership. This membership has a large percentage of Canadians as well as airmen from Britain, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, U.S.A., Belgium, Holland, France, Norway, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

To obtain a life membership in the Goldfish Club you have to save your life by means of an emergency dinghy. An endorsed membership is granted if you save your life by a Mae West. Applications have been received from all parts of the world. Some were received within a few days of the invasion of Sicily and Italy. About 250 applications have been received on prisoner of war correspondence cards.

# MOPPING UP

by SGT-BOMBAIMER IRV JOHN'S

This mornin' we are slated for kit-inspection, an' along with it is hut clean-up. In other words, we are expectin' a visit from some flat-hat who wants to know what we ain't got that we should have an' why.

So I will tell you about it, on'y I will start right from the time I wake up this mornin', which is about 5.30 a.m. Now I do not want you to believe I am one of these early risers. But Joe, who sleeps up above me is one of them stubble-jumpers. He comes crashin' down every mornin' like he is goin' to bring the cows home an' I can not get back to sleep again because I feel guilty like I am not doin' all I can to win the war.

The big slob who sleeps next to me is also up, an' he yanks his sackin' off his pit an' starts shakin' it in my face until I think I am back home on the prairie, the dust is so thick. Anyhow, I drag myself out from under the sheets an' reach for my shavin' kit in my locker . . . Dx!?!?! Like the guy on the radio says, I will have to get that locker straightened up one of these days.

## "WE WIN THE COUNT"

I start for the washup section an' run into a scrimmage which is just some of the fellas from my side of the shack debatin' the possession of the mop an' pail with the lugs from the other side. There is a shortage of materials I know, but some day I hope the guys in charge will have clean-up tools for both sides of the hut as it will save a lot of hard feelins'. We win the count this time an' before I go into the washup I tell Joe it is his turn to mop up our home lot.

Anyway I get in the washup an' start tryin' to fight my way into one of the lineups, either the one at the basins or the other one. I finally sneak into an' empty space, only I find there is no stopper in the basin, so I have to make a temporary one out of issue-tissue. When I get finished scrapin' an' look for my towel it is in



the wash bowl where the guy on the other side has accidentally knocked it. I wring it out an' wipe my face on my undershirt.

I gallop back an' start dumpin' my kit on my bunk, as I am runnin' a little short of time. I will not have time to put on the feedbag this mornin' if I am goin' to get all my work done, but I hear it is only ersatz eggs on the menu so I am not sorry. Now there is a certain way which this kit is supposed to be laid out but I cannot remember, so I figger I will wait till one of the other lugs have got theirs displayed an' I will copy it.

In the meantime I polish the heels of my extra boots an' line 'em up on the top of my locker, toes to the wall. I also shine the ones I am wearin'. I have just finished when Joe comes along on the other side of the bunk an' takes a long sweep under it with the mop. It goes over my shoes and they look like I have marched through a swamp. I have not got time to do them over again, so I just wipe the toes along the back of my pant legs, parade style.

The guy next to me has got all his issue laid out by this time, but he still seems to be lookin'

for somethin'. I figger I will keep an' eye on him, as there is usually a lot of things disappear at a time like this. I find I am already missin' one "shirts, cotton, summer," so I fold the other one over so it will look like two an' stick it at the bottom of the pile. Then I lay out two pairs of union suits, which are just like new. I can on'y find one glove. Joe is up the alleyway at the moment so I borrow one of his. By this time I am runnin' a bit short of space on my pit to get everything on. I still have a winter hat, which is sometimes called by other names, an' a few other odds an' ends, so I make a neat little pile of them so they will partly cover my socks which have not been to a laundry lately.

## NOT SO GOOD

Joe decides now he has to fix up the boots on top of his locker so he tromps on the head of my bunk an' upsets the nice pile of drygoods I have stacked there. They fall on the floor which is still wet from the moppin' an' they do not look so hot when I get them re-piled.

Somebody hollers that the officer is on his way, so I make a last minute rush to get everything scooped up. In the excitement I leave a few spare socks laying on the floor. I step back to take a glance at everything, an' it is then that it happens.

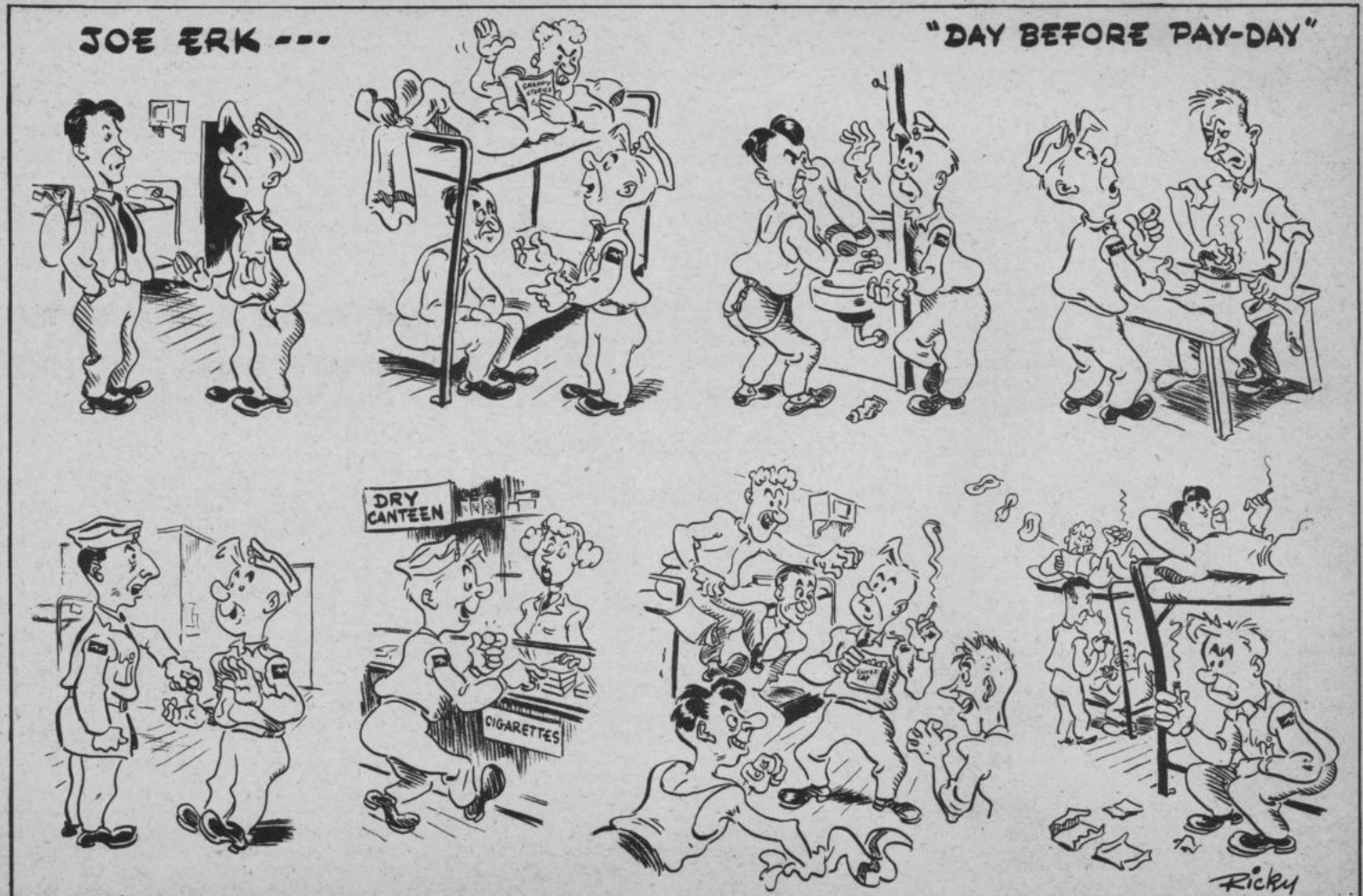
There is a noise like a truckload of ashcans turnin' over, and I wind up sittin' on the floor, with the mop pail over my head an' the mop around my neck . . . I suppose Joe didn't exactly set the pail behind me on purpose, an' anyway things like that are hard to prove. But if I think I have got most of that mop water, which ain't exactly clean, I am enlightened when I look at my layout. If the Russian Army had tramped across my bunk, with dirty boots on, it couldn't have been worse.

I am still sittin' on the floor in a pool of water when the inspection officer busts in. Everybody jumps to attention, an' so do I. I am standin' with one foot in the mop pail an' a couple spare socks wrapped around the other.

I did not have my kit inspected this mornin'. It is just as well, as I would have most likely got put on the peg for bein' short a shirt. Sure, I am CB'd for two weeks, but I know in my own mind I am innocent, so I will be a martyr for the cause. An' circumstantial evidence is hard to beat anyway.

## JOE ERK ---

## "DAY BEFORE PAY-DAY"





Holders of the 1943 national senior loop basketball title, RCAF Pat Boy Gremlins are not contenders this year because of an AFHQ ruling. But they have set an impressive record this season. Above L to R are LAC Jack Edmondson, LAC "Nerts" Parent and Coach FL Lou Shodat, former cage star. At right are LAC Norm Baker, rated Canada's No. 1 cager, who once netted 37 points in a game, and LAC Irwin Stout. Both are 6' 2".



## RAF Mountaineering Club spend 48s on summits

by ACI D. H. MARTIN

**WEST COAST RAF STATION** — Scenic and mountainous surroundings that abound in this part of Canada are being capitalized on by the newly-formed Mountaineering Club at an RAF station on Vancouver Island. FL R. Gallon, Unit Educational Officer, organized the club.

One of the first trips was to Mount Arrowsmith. It was at 0715 hours on a cold misty morning that eighteen members viewed with grim determination the signpost at the foot of Mount Arrowsmith laconically worded, "Arrowsmith Trail — don't be a fool!" Despite the warning the party succeeded in reaching its destination.

Another expedition was to Mount Seymour. Taking the midnight boat to Vancouver, they were met and conveyed to their objective by members of the Alpine Club. They were amazed at the scenic grandeur of the Rockies. Still another trip found the party on American soil, guided by the Park ranger up Mount Angeles, 6,200 feet, from the summit of which Mount Baker could be seen.

The club has about thirty-five members, English and Canadian, of which not more than twenty go on an expedition at one time. Expenses amount to about \$10 each for a forty-eight-hour trip and each man has a mountaineering kit.

## ROUND-UP

**LETHBRIDGE** — One of Canada's ace skiing instructors, FO Norman Wright, back from overseas operations, dislocated his shoulder skiing at his native Banff. He has taught such personalities as Kate Smith and Lowell Thomas. Wright held the Canadian Rockies' championship in 1937 and the following year captured the Western Canada title.

**EAST COAST** — Eighty-six teams are hooked up in inter-section sports competition here, exclusive of squads in basketball, hockey and badminton, inter-station affairs. The cagers are setting a fast clip averaging more than 60 points a game. New dressing rooms, showers and offices have been built onto the drill hall. FO McNaughton, PT and D officer, and Dick Jolliffe and Joe Brown, "Y" supervisors, handle the sports program.

**TORONTO** — Gordie Drillon is the latest NHL star to transfer from the Army to go aircrew in the RCAF.

**MACLEOD** — Three of last year's Western Canada semi-finalists basketball quintet are lined up with the 7 SFTS team. "Long John" Kamisky, 6'3" centre, is one of the best in these parts and with smooth working players like Doc Watson, captain, and "Chief" Buna, the team is a real threat. The posting of Bob McCance dropped the average height of the forward line from 6'2½" to 6'1½".

Along the snowy trail to Mount Angeles go members of a Vancouver Island RAF Mountaineers Club. Below, party unloads en route to Deer Park, Washington State.

These West Coast RAFmen get a panoramic view from a Deer Park lodge in Olympic National Park. Rescue work of a service nature was performed by one expedition.



# Home Town

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

White school children at **Monte Lake** enjoyed a lengthy holiday because no teacher was available after Miss K. Sullivan resigned to teach in Victoria, but school for Japanese children carried on as usual. Many Vancouver barbers have discarded their razors for the duration. Help shortage has forced them to stick to hair-cutting and let customers shave at home. Leonard Hornett of **North Vancouver**, said to be B.C.'s oldest automobile driver, died in his ninety-fourth year. He celebrated each birthday by driving his car around the city. A mallard duck with two perfectly formed hearts within one socket was shot by Sgt Lloyd Newby while he was on leave at **Chilliwack**. Provincial Agriculture Minister K. C. MacDonald told the B.C. Farmer's Institute that he is planning to turn badgers loose in certain areas of the province to exterminate gophers which are ruining many farm crops.

## ALBERTA

A skimobile built at the **Edmonton** air base of the U.S. Army Air Forces is to be used in rescue operations for fliers who crash or become lost in Canada's Northwest. It was made of materials from damaged aircraft and other "junk" in the salvage stock pile. Editor A. J. Jensen of the **Coronation Review** was faced with a shortage of help in the print shop just before deadline, but he didn't worry long. His nine-year-old daughter, Sylvia, and her friend, Marlene Short, same age, were given brief instructions on how to run the linotype and the paper got out on time. A rubber balloon filled with natural gas was released by **Medicine Hat** high school students and found by Ross Williams, a farmer, in Nebraska. Williams wrote the students of the find and said his reply was late because he couldn't find "Medicine Hat" in a United States atlas. Fred Boese, a teen-aged farm youth of **Oshkosh** used a kerosene lamp to see how much gasoline remained in a drum. He suffered arm burns; a garage caught fire and was destroyed; and a barn and chicken coop also were destroyed. Archibald Carter and Melvin Wakefield held the first winter horse race on the **Coronation** fair ground track to settle a dispute as to which owned the faster horse. The Carter entry won.

## SASKATCHEWAN

Calvin J. Sampson, 74, of **Lone Rock**, is no softy. He fell twenty-five feet from a window in a rooming house and is nursing only minor injuries — a stiff neck, bruised shoulder and sore ankle. William Farley, 57, of **Porcupine Plains** trudged eleven miles through snow and ice to enlist in the Veterans Guard of Canada when the mobile recruiting unit was there. Three horses belonging to Victor Acton of **Scotstown** ate themselves to death when they broke open a wheat bin in a field where they were grazing. **Lloydminster** town council is considering following the example of several other western towns in having the R.C.M.P. take over local police duties. **Regina** folk were startled the other day by a blizzard of paper money — fives, tens and twos — which blew through a subway around noon of a windy day. John Santalab had been driving to the bank with \$346 in his overcoat pocket when he opened the door of his car to signal a turn. The bills whisked out of his pocket and a wild scramble ensued; Santalab got it all back except \$21.

## MANITоба

If Bun Wong's son doesn't write often it is understandable; it cost him \$12.80 in Chinese money to send a letter from Kwon Tong, China, to **Flin Flon**, where his father operates a restaurant. There has been an outbreak of bears in this country. The wolves are thicker and more savage than ever before. Coyotes have even been shot right in hen houses and up north of **Minnedosa** somebody saw a mountain lion looking for a mountain. Now there are signs of wildcats. C. P. Brown and George Rankin of **Oakner** think that they have established a record for co-operation in farming operations. For twenty-seven consecutive years they have threshed together, using the same threshing machine. Mr. Rankin has run the outfit for every year with exception of 1940 when he was recovering from a broken ankle. Flavouring extracts are in demand in **Winnipeg** — but not for cakes. Shortage of liquor has created

the demand and Inspector Peter Gafferty of the **Winnipeg** police says he believes ninety-five per cent of the flavouring extract sold is being bought for liquid consumption.

## ONTARIO

Teeswater fox hunters are reaping a harvest. Herb Duffy, Teeswater sharpshooter, bagged his twelfth red fox of the season. After losing a wallet on the last day of his leave in **London**, Ordinary Seaman Albert Kirby had just about given up hope of returning to his **Halifax** station on time. But 13-year-old Doreen Field returned the wallet, containing a railway ticket and money, to city police and Kirby made his train with minutes to spare. Henry Russ of **Brantford** grows his own oranges, lemons, figs and limes. Set out two years ago, cuttings of the plants yielded one lemon (nine inches long and three inches around) eighteen oranges and four figs during the past year. The lime bush is bearing its second crop indoors. Charles Smeltz of **Aldborough** township stalked a deer twelve miles and a deputy game warden stalked Charles Smeltz. Smeltz didn't get his quarry, the deputy game warden did — \$20 and costs in county police court for hunting deer without authority. An alert telephone operator who heard the crackle of flames in a packing and cold storage plant at **Stamford Centre** prevented more serious damage when she summoned firemen. Mrs. Lena Reeve, the night operator reported the blaze after it had eaten through supports of a wall telephone, causing the receiver to fall.

### Letter From Home For

#### AC2 RAYMOND PITCHER 2 Wireless School, Calgary

Dauphin, Man.

Dear Ray:

Just when native Dauphinites figured Old Man Winter had gone soft, he started to make up for lost time with some honest-to-goodness snowstorms. Anyhow, record high temperatures with summery rains, the like of weather old timers can not remember, turned January into June and provided something for people to think of when March blizzards blow.

One bunch of fellows glad to see a bit of old-fashioned weather are the travellers. They've put the winter carnival back on Dauphin's entertainment calendar with everything from a carnival queen contest to displays of fancy skating.

Saw the February issue (first of the year) of the D.C.I. Echo . . . gives a good line-up on D.C.I. doings . . . maybe if you ask Jim Alexander nicely he'll pass his copy along . . . Speaking of the collegiate, the Air Cadets have received a Tiger Moth plane for engine and fuselage instruction . . . it's kept in one of the hangars at No. 10 . . . last time we saw Jake Lysecki he reported that a number of the boys had been out to see the aircraft, but not Jake — he'd heard it needed a good scrubbing and didn't intend to get Joed.

We've decided we were born about ten years too soon. The newly formed Youth Services Council provides organized recreation for 'teen agers' — skating, hockey, basketball, gymnastics, radio instruction, etiquette courses (believe it or not boys as well as girls are etiquette minded in your home town), and various classes in arts and crafts. Even the skating rink is to become a centre of activity this summer, the town fathers having consented to turn it over to the Youth Council for indoor athletics from May until September.

Sport shorts — No. 10 SFTS team looks like a sure winner of the Dauphin-Yorktown-Paulson hockey circuit . . . Ab Gowanlock, Archie Chute, Andy Newton and Bill Smilski are Dauphin's champion curlers.

Bill Marsh,

Manager, The Dauphin Herald & Press

Next month WINGS will print a 'letter from home' for another airman, written by the editor of his home town newspaper.

## QUEBEC

Sleeping accommodations in **Montreal** have reached the stage where it is likely that what an uptown hotel manager called "community sleeping" will become a reality if the present shortage of accommodations prevails. One of the largest uptown hotels has, on two occasions, asked two score of guests to sleep in one of its salons. But one of the hotel officials said "it was not a crowning success". Canadian weather was too tough for four Nazi prisoners trapped in a dragnet thrown out by provincial police a few hours after they escaped from a lumber camp near **St. Jovite**, eighty miles north of **Montreal**. They surrendered saying "It was too cold to be out." Fire gutted the fifty-room **Chateau Salaberry Hotel** at **Valleyfield**, causing damage estimated at \$100,000. Police in **Montreal** have started a drive against black market operators specializing in automobile tires and members of the automobile squad have been ordered to remove identified black market tires from any car.

## NOVA SCOTIA

G. V. Grimm, **Springfield** merchant, was in quite a stew over his ration coupons for a while. He missed a large quantity but eventually found them, chewed by a mother mouse and used as a soft bed for her young. **George A. Murray** of **Cove Road**, who observed his 103rd birthday recently attributes his age and remarkable health to the fact that he didn't sow wild oats when he was young. He's proud of being the oldest living member of the Independent Order of Good Templars in the world. Nine-year-old **Ronald Smith** of **Doctor's Cove** has quite a flair for newspaper work and each week gets out a little hand-written paper which he circulates among his friends. A neighbor's bulldog that accompanied him on his wanderings is credited with saving the life of the three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Crawford of **Amherst**. The dog kept the boy from falling in a creek and pulled the child out of several ditches. A member of the **Antigonish** rural neighborhood had to move fast recently when he discovered he had dropped his liquor permit into the church collection basket instead of his envelope. He recovered it. **Peter Gollivitz**, thirteen-year-old **West Paradise** lad, put it all over a wild cat the other day. Peter spied the large cat in a pasture, seized a club and dispatched it there and then to the Happy Hunting grounds.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

Women mail carriers may soon be delivering the letters in **Saint John**. They would substitute for absentee men carriers. **Moncton** Board of Trade is going to see that members of the armed forces get a square deal in post-war development by laying plans for a reconstruction program to cost an estimated \$46,070,000. Eighteen projects are planned, the largest a \$40,000,000 power development on the **Petitcodiac** River to ensure employment for 4,500 men over a three-year period. Newest and increasingly-important industry in **New Brunswick** is the sale of fish scales in **Maine** where they are made into a lacquer for manufacture of artificial pearls. Returns to **Charlotte** county fishermen in 1943 totalled more than \$100,000. The freedom of the city of **Saint John** has been conferred on **John L. Finley**, a member of the salvage corps and fire police for fifty years.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

**Charlottetown** residents appear to be developing a greater collective thirst. The city's water consumption has risen by 61,000,000 gallons since 1939. Claiming **Prince Edward Island** teachers are the lowest paid in Canada, a committee named to study the provincial education system suggested an independent board of education as the first reform step. Servicemen settled on farms after the war should operate on a centralized or group basis with help provided to assure their success, says Mr. Justice **Arsenault** of the **Prince Edward Island** Supreme court. Now even water is "rationed" in **Charlottetown**, a householder discovered when he was hauled into court and charged with letting his water tap run. There were few holidays for the stork — or the doctors — in **Summerside** in 1943 when the **Prince County** Hospital averaged a birth a day . . . Another **Island** industry, the new **Jenkins Bros.** canning factory, is open for business at **Summerside**.

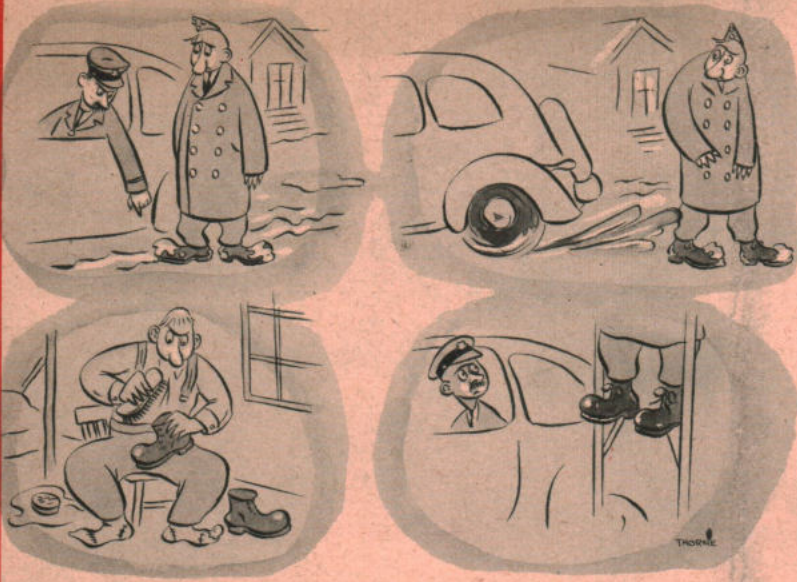
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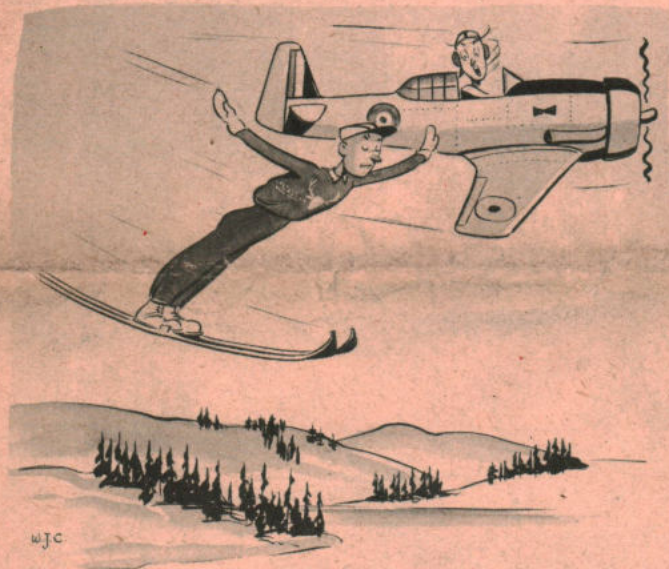
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FOR MARCH



WARNER  
BROS. **Joan Fontaine**



"I OFTEN WONDER HOW THOSE POOR GUARDS KEEP WARM"



"THAT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT WHEN I SAID SKELETON STAFF FOR THE WEEK-END"

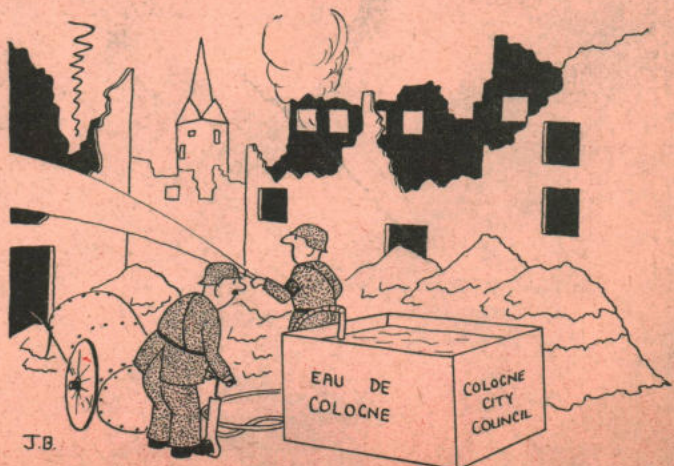
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# Fighting for a Future

That's everybody's war aim — a future that offers peace, security and opportunity for all. And every officer, airman and airwoman should know the provisions already made and plans underway for the re-establishment of Canadian Service personnel in civil life, as summarized in this WINGS supplement.

## What will I do . . . when the War is Won?

### 1. What will happen to servicemen after the war?

Even though servicemen are busy winning the war first, they want to know what will happen to them afterwards. Can they get their old jobs back, or new ones if they want them? Will there be enough jobs after the war? Can a man get help if he finds it hard to make a fresh start in life? Will provision be made for his dependents?

The answers to these and other related questions, so far as they can be given briefly at present, are contained in this pamphlet. The Government of Canada, through its various departments, is making extensive plans to assist every Canadian serviceman to re-establish himself.

However, the war is not over yet; and the conditions which will exist at the end of hostilities cannot be wholly foreseen by anyone. For this reason, the provisions described here must be considered as subject to change. This much is certain. The future plans for the re-establishment of ex-servicemen can only be fully realized by winning the war.

### 2. Does the government re-establishment program apply to all services and ranks?

Subject to the governing Acts and Regulations, it applies to ex-servicemen and ex-service-women including officers and all other ranks, who have given full-time service as members of the Canadian Navy, Army or Air Force; and the term "ex-serviceman" as used in this pamphlet refers to all of these. There are some necessary modifications regarding provisions for ex-servicewomen.

### 3. What takes place at the time a serviceman is discharged?

At the time of discharge, he will be given a thorough medical and dental examination, and if he is found to need any treatment it will be arranged for. All documents necessary for his discharge will be completed, and a certificate containing proof of his service will be issued to him.

His pay account will be settled, and if he has completed 183 days of regular service he will also be entitled to a rehabilitation grant. The rehabilitation grant provides for payment of (a) the equivalent of 30 days' additional pay

(less any assigned portion) immediately upon discharge; and (b) continuance for 30 days of any assigned pay, and for one month of dependents' allowances, if his dependents have been receiving them prior to his discharge. The purpose of the rehabilitation grant is to tide him and his dependents over for a period while he is seeking opportunities for re-establishment in civil life. Additional forms of assistance are outlined in the following pages.

While at the demobilization centre, other ranks will also be given a clothing allowance.

(The payment of Rehabilitation Grant and Clothing Allowance in the case of servicemen who are discharged while they are in hospital is made under different arrangements.)

Arrangements will be made for his transportation and travelling expenses home, in accordance with the financial regulations in force.

Before discharge, he will also be put in touch with the proper authorities to advise him in making his plans for the future.

Shortly after his discharge he will receive a War Service Badge, which only servicemen who voluntarily enlisted for general service in the present war, and who have been honourably discharged, are entitled to wear.

After discharge, the serviceman will become a free agent and full-fledged civilian again. The rehabilitation of ex-members of the Forces is the responsibility of the Department of Pensions and National Health and other civilian government agencies, but not of the Department of National Defence. However the Navy, Army and Air Force will continue to be interested in the welfare of their former members as civilians. Any measures which may contribute to the welfare of ex-service personnel will receive very active support from the Services.

## EMPLOYMENT

### 4. Will the ex-serviceman be able to get a job?

The next few pages will show that more is being done than ever before to fit servicemen for civil life, to assist them in finding jobs with reasonable living wages, and, as far as possible, the sort of jobs they want. Servicemen can rest assured that Canada feels a very definite responsibility to them in view of their service during the war. But no one knows better than the ex-serviceman himself what he would like to do. All of the plans for his re-establishment preserve his freedom of choice and encourage personal initiative. It is taken for granted that he will do his part in finding a job. The aim of the whole re-establishment program is to help a man to help himself.

### 5. Can the ex-serviceman be sure of getting his old job back, if he wants it?

Yes: where reasonably practicable the employer is required by law (The Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1942) to give the ex-serviceman his old job or one not less favourable to him, in accordance with the Act.

On his part, the discharged man must apply for his old job within three months after his discharge from service or from hospital treatment following discharge in Canada; or as otherwise provided, under the regulations.

### 6. What kind of assistance in getting a new job will the discharged serviceman be given?

It is expected that the great majority of ex-servicemen will have no serious difficulty in obtaining employment for themselves. However, the Dominion Government has plans for the assistance of those who may experience difficulty or delay in getting re-established. Below are some of the important provisions already made: Others are outlined in the following pages.

In the larger centres, employment offices have been set up which are clearing houses for many available jobs. In referring applicants to jobs, the employment offices will give serious consideration to the nature of a man's service, giving full weight to experience gained and skills acquired while in the Forces.

The Civil Service of Canada offers a most varied range of employment in the service of the federal government throughout the country. Under the War Measures Act, preference applying to ex-members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1918, in all appointments made by the Civil Service Commission, at present includes veterans of this war who have been granted pensions or have served in a theatre of actual war. Similar preference in employment is offered by most provinces and municipalities.

Certain contracts awarded by the federal government to private contractors now stipulate that a certain proportion of ex-servicemen are to be employed.

**NOTE** This supplement is an exact reprint of the booklet, "What will I do when the War is Won?" as issued by the Department of Pensions and National Health, last fall.

QUESTION 7: P2, Col. 2, lines 56-57: for \$145 read \$195, and for \$12 read \$16.

QUESTIONS 12 & 16: Hospital allowances for ex-servicemen under treatment have been increased to pay of rank and dependents' allowances, up to rank of flying officer.

WINGS will keep you posted on all future changes and amendments.

# FARMING and FISHING

Special supplement with WINGS, for MARCH, 1944

## 7. What about the serviceman who would like to take up farming or commercial fishing or establish a rural home or a semi-rural home near an industrial centre?

The Veterans' Land Act, 1942, makes provision for financial assistance to enable ex-servicemen to establish themselves permanently in one of the following three types of settlement:—

(a) *Full-time farming*.—Provided the ex-serviceman has had satisfactory practical agricultural experience and is otherwise qualified to engage in full-time farming, he will be helped financially and otherwise to acquire land, improvements, livestock, farm machinery and equipment.

(b) *Small holding settlement close to employment opportunity*.—Provided the ex-serviceman has steady employment or the definite prospect of such employment and is otherwise qualified for this kind of settlement, he will be helped to acquire a small acreage, a comfortable home, and the necessary equipment for a small establishment near his place of employment. His employment may be in a city, town or village, or of a purely rural nature. He may be employed in industry, commerce or agriculture. This type of settlement may also be made available to disabled men who will rely to a large extent on their pension income.

(c) *Small holding settlement coupled with commercial fishing*.—Provided the ex-serviceman has satisfactory experience in commercial fishing and is otherwise qualified for this kind of settlement, he will be helped to acquire a home and small acreage plus commercial fishing equipment which may include a seaworthy boat, engine and gear, so that he may engage in the fishing industry in Canada's coastal or inland waters where such ventures are likely to succeed. If two ex-servicemen wish to do so, they may go into the fishing business on a partnership basis. Each will have a home and acreage of his own, but their fishing equipment may be pooled between them. Only men of rugged health and physique who have commercial fishing experience and an appreciation of the hazards of the fishing business will be granted financial assistance under this plan of establishment.

Applications of honourably discharged ex-servicemen for financial assistance under the Veterans' Land Act will be considered if—

- the returned man has served in a theatre of actual war, or
- has had not less than twelve months' full-time service in the Armed Forces, or
- is in receipt of a pension following discharge from the Navy, Army or Air Force.

The various steps in getting established in one of the ways outlined above are as follows:—

First, the ex-serviceman must make application for qualification papers. He (and perhaps also his wife) will appear before the Regional Advisory Committee which functions in the district in which he proposes to become established. The function of this committee is to discuss the project with the ex-serviceman, advise him, and determine whether he has the experience and other qualifications which are necessary if he is to have reasonable prospects of success. These Regional Advisory Committees are all composed of practical men, the great majority of whom are veterans of the last war or have sons serving in the present war.

Qualification papers will state the type of establishment for which they are issued; and the ex-serviceman may then select a property and make application for financial assistance to become established. He may make a selection from the properties which have already been acquired by the Director of the Act, and held in reserve for servicemen after the war, or he may select some other property if the owner is willing to sell it at a fair price.

In general, the method of financing the undertaking is as follows:—

1. At the outset, the Dominion Government undertakes responsibility for all the original costs of settlement, provided these do not exceed \$4,800 for land and buildings, and \$1,200 for stock and farm equipment or for fishing equipment. If the costs are higher, the property may still be acquired if the ex-serviceman can provide whatever additional funds are necessary, above what the government is prepared to pay.

2. Then the ex-serviceman enters into a contract with the Dominion Government by means of which he is able to purchase the property for himself by paying only part of the total cost. The remainder of the original cost of the property is paid by the Dominion Government for the ex-serviceman, and therefore constitutes a grant of financial assistance to help him to re-establish himself.

The particular arrangements which have been made to enable the ex-serviceman to pay his share of the costs are as follows:—

1. The ex-serviceman must make a down payment to the Dominion Government of 10 per cent of the cost of the land and buildings; and this down payment must be paid at the time he applies for financial assistance under the Act. Therefore, his down payment will be \$480 if the land and buildings cost \$4,800, \$200 if they cost \$2,000, etc. Those contemplating settlement would be well advised to make provision in advance for the necessary funds to make this down payment, and to meet other expenses.

2. The ex-serviceman will then undertake by his contract to pay to the Dominion Government *two-thirds of the cost of the land and buildings*. Provision has been made to enable him to pay this sum by instalments over a period not exceeding 25 years. These instalments will fall due yearly, half-yearly or monthly, according to the arrangement made in each case. He will also have to pay interest at 3½ per cent on his debt; but each instalment will normally include both principal and interest charges, and in no case will annual instalments exceed \$145 per year, or approximately \$12 a month, which is not more than the equivalent of a very modest rental. Provision is made for varying this method of payment in individual cases, where the authorities think it advisable. The ex-serviceman is also responsible for annual taxes and fire insurance.

The following illustrations show how these financial arrangements work, and should be read carefully. (These are illustrations only: the actual costs involved would of course vary in individual cases):

### Full-time farming—

Total costs—	
Cost of land and buildings.....	\$4,800
Cost of livestock and equipment..	1,200
	<hr/>
	\$6,000

### Sale price to the ex-serviceman—

Down payment of \$480 (=1/10 of \$4,800) PLUS \$3,200 (=2/3 of \$4,800). Since the \$3,200 is normally paid by instalments, 3½ per cent interest must therefore be added.

(Share of costs paid by Dominion Government will therefore be \$2,320.)

### Small holding coupled with employment—

Total costs—	
Cost of land and buildings.....	\$3,600
Cost of tools, small equipment, and household equipment .....	600
	<hr/>
	\$4,200

### Sale price to the ex-serviceman—

Down payment of \$360 (=1/10 of \$3,600) PLUS \$2,400 (=2/3 of \$3,600). Since the \$2,400 is normally paid by instalments, 3½ per cent interest must therefore be added.

(Share of costs paid by Dominion Government will therefore be \$1,440.)

### Small holding coupled with commercial fishing—

Total costs—	
Cost of land and buildings.....	\$2,700
Cost of fishing equipment.....	1,200
	<hr/>
	\$3,900

### Sale price to the ex-serviceman—

Down payment of \$270 (=1/10 of \$2,700) PLUS \$1,800 (=2/3 of \$2,700). Since the \$1,800 is normally paid by instalments, 3½ per cent interest must therefore be added.

(Share of costs paid by Dominion Government will therefore be \$1,830.)

The foregoing illustrations show that the Dominion Government absorbs a larger part of the total cost of a full-time farming or commercial fishing establishment than it does in connection with a small holding coupled with employment. The explanation of this lies in the cost to the Dominion Government of the stock and machinery or fishing equipment required in such establishments in comparison with what is needed on a small place when the ex-serviceman has steady employment elsewhere.

The Government's grant (that is the share of costs paid by the Dominion Government, as indicated in the above illustrations) has as its purpose to assist a man to re-establish himself; and therefore it is made subject to certain conditions which are designed to encourage the ex-serviceman to continue his efforts for a sufficient length of time to give his settlement project a fair chance of success. For this reason the government's grant cannot be converted to the benefit of the ex-serviceman if he re-sells the property before he has fulfilled the terms of the contract for a period of at least 10 years. In the event of the ex-serviceman's death before completion of contract, his rights and obligations pass on to his legal heirs.

Provision has been made for ex-servicemen who have been out of touch with farming for some time to secure up-to-date experience by employment with selected farmers, or to be given practical instruction by other means.

The foregoing is a brief summary of the provisions of the Veterans' Land Act, 1942. For further particulars enquire for the handbook published by the Director of the Veterans' Land Act, under the authority of the Minister of Mines and Resources. It has been made reasonably clear, however, that the Veterans' Land Act is wide in scope and generous in its terms. Its fundamental purpose is to provide an opportunity for an ex-serviceman to acquire home ownership under easy terms and within a reasonable time. Ex-servicemen should not attempt to rush establishment under this Act, but to regard it as a means towards permanent future security for themselves and their families. They should not attempt to secure the first property that is offered, but to make sure that they choose the right type of establishment, in a district where they can settle down successfully and permanently.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**—At this stage of the war, actual settlement operations *in volume* will not be attempted. Building materials are needed elsewhere for the war effort, and the manufacture of farm machinery is very restricted. In addition, it has been decided that men returning from overseas at the end of the war shall not find their choice of good settlement is seriously limited because of extensive allotment to men discharged before the end of the war.

### 8. Is there any financial assistance for the ex-serviceman who already owns a farm?

Yes. The Veterans' Land Act also provides funds to pay off mortgages, effect improvements or buy livestock and equipment. Loans totalling up to \$3,200 may be obtained, provided that they do not exceed 60 per cent of the value of the land. If a loan for livestock and equipment only is desired, the total may not exceed \$2,500, or 50 per cent of the value of the land.

These loans will be covered by first mortgage security; and they will be repaid over a period of 25 years, with interest at the rate of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent per annum.

## TRAINING

### 9. Will the ex-serviceman be helped if he requires training for a new job?

Yes, vocational training will be provided for any discharged person who requires such training in connection with his permanent rehabilitation in a suitable occupation.

The Minister has authority to approve training, including maintenance grant and fees—together with appropriate allowances for dependents—to any discharged person, provided he has the aptitude and inclination, where:

- i. such person is pursuing vocational, technical or other educational training;
- ii. the Minister approves such training as being training which will fit him or keep him fit for employment or re-employment or will enable him to obtain better or more suitable employment, and
- iii. he makes progress in such training to the satisfaction of the Minister.

NOTE.—This vocational training is governed by the length of the man's service in the Forces, with a maximum of twelve months, and such training must be completed within eighteen months after the date of discharge. In determining whether it is in his own and the public interest for a man to pursue some such course, the Department will give consideration not only to his educational and other qualifications at time of enlistment, but also to any increase of his technical or educational fitness for civil employment during the time he was serving in the Armed Forces.

### 10. May a discharged serviceman be given assistance in taking a university course?

Yes.

#### I. Under-Graduate—

The Minister has authority to approve training, including maintenance grant and fees—together with appropriate allowances for dependents—to any discharged person who has the aptitude and inclination and who:

- (a) has been regularly admitted to a university before his discharge and resumes within one year and three months after discharge a course, academic or professional, interrupted by his service, or
- (b) becomes regularly admitted to a university and commences any such course within one year and three months after his discharge; or
- (c) because of ill health or because his admission to the University has been conditional upon his fulfilling some additional matriculation requirements or for any other good reason shown to the satisfaction of the Minister, delay resumption or commencement of such course beyond the aforementioned periods.

The opportunity for university training is governed by the length of service. Where progress is satisfactory, the assistance may be continued for as many months, in university, as the man served in the Forces. If the student's progress and attainments in his course are such that the Minister deems it in his interest and in the public interest, the payment of the grant may be extended beyond the period of service to permit the man to complete his course.

However, the grant shall not be continued to any such person who fails in more than two classes or subjects in any academic year, nor to any such person who, having failed in either one or two classes or subjects, also fails in either or both supplementary examinations next offered by the university in such classes or subjects.

#### II. Post-Graduate—

In case any discharged person

- (a) has entered upon a post-graduate course, either academic or professional, in a university before enlistment, or was about to do so at the time of his enlistment, or, having completed his under-graduate course in a university after his discharge, enters upon a post-graduate course as aforesaid, and
- (b) resumes or commences such post-graduate course within
  - i. one year from his discharge, or
  - ii. in the case of a discharged person who completes his undergraduate course after his discharge, as soon as may be after such completion,

if the Minister having considered such person's attainments and his course, deems it in the public interest that he should continue such course, the Minister may, subject to the provisions of this Order, authorize the payment to such person of a maintenance grant and fees for as many months as he served. The assistance may be extended if the progress and achievements are so outstanding that it is in the public interest that the grant should be continued.

## FINANCES

### 11. Will there be financial help for ex-servicemen?

- (a) if temporarily incapacitated?
- (b) if temporarily out of work?
- (c) if awaiting returns from crops or private business enterprise?

Yes. Subject to the provisions of the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order, these men will also be eligible to receive allowances. (See Section 12.)

### 12. What grants may be paid to ex-servicemen under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order?

Under this order grants may be provided for ex-servicemen while taking refresher courses, vocational training, university education, awaiting return from crops or private enterprise, temporarily incapacitated or out-of-work, if fit and capable of working. These grants cover:—

- (a) Tuition fees, student fees, athletic fees or other charges and costs of courses taken.
- (b) Living allowances of \$44.20 per month for a single man, \$62.40 per month for a married man.
- (c) Allowances for dependents, which may be paid during the time that ex-servicemen are receiving grants under this Order, in accordance with the regulations.

The various grants under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order are intended to provide for a man and his dependents, if any, during a period of training or waiting of such length as would normally be necessary before he is able to become re-established in civil life.

For this reason the maximum period for which the above allowances may be paid is one year or a period equal to the length of the serviceman's time in the Forces, whichever is shorter. They will not be available after the first 18 months following discharge, except as provided for ex-servicemen pursuing university courses and pensioners undertaking vocational training.

A grant under this Order will not be made during the one month following discharge if this period has been covered by an award of the rehabilitation grant. Moreover, benefits and grants under this Order will not be paid to ex-servicemen who take up residence elsewhere than in Canada.

Before discharge, servicemen will be informed of the proper persons to give them full information concerning details of this Order.

### 13. What will the ex-serviceman have to fall back on if he gets a job and later loses it?

Unemployment Insurance—which came into effect in Canada on July 1, 1941. Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, employers, employees and the federal government contribute to the Unemployment Insurance Fund. The contributions in respect of any individual will depend on the amount of his salary or wages.

Normally, any employee (whether ex-serviceman or not) who has made contributions for at least 30 weeks and becomes unemployed, can apply to his nearest Unemployment Insurance Office for insurance benefit, provided there is no suitable work available which he is capable of performing.

However, ex-servicemen have been granted special concessions with regard to Unemployment Insurance under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. Thus, if a man has completed 15 weeks in insurable employment within any 12 months after discharge, the Federal Government will pay all the necessary contributions on his behalf from July 1, 1941 (or from the date of his enlistment if subsequent to July 1, 1941) until the date of his discharge. This is to compensate the serviceman for loss of opportunity to accumulate paid-up insurance for the time during which he was away from civilian employment while serving in the Armed Forces. He will be permitted to count this accumulation towards benefit under the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Unemployment Insurance allowances, based in each case on wages received and upon the amount which has already been contributed to the fund, will be paid out of Unemployment Insurance funds. These allowances will range up to a maximum of \$12.24 per week for a single man, and up to a maximum of \$14.40 per week for a married man.

### 14. Will there be enough jobs after the war?

There are sound reasons to expect that there will be a high level of employment following the war. The war effort in Canada has resulted in the lessening of the supply of nearly all kinds of goods usually produced for peace-time use. In many lines scarcities have developed because men and materials have been employed in producing arms, ships and munitions of war. Building construction of all kinds has been greatly curtailed during the war. In addition, road construction has been kept to a minimum, and only essential repairs have been allowed for buildings, houses, machinery, highways and other such things that require continual upkeep. Many kinds of agricultural production, even though they have been expanded, have failed to keep pace with demand. Mining of the less essential war metals has been greatly reduced.

After the war, shortages must be made up, and extensive replacements and repairs will be needed all over Canada. In addition, Canada will be required to provide materials to assist in the reconstruction of allied countries, and for some

years great demands for food will be made by starving and semi-starving people all over the world. This in itself should be sufficient to maintain considerable activity on the farms, in the factories, throughout the railway and motor transport systems and in the merchant marine.

In the opinion of those competent to judge, plenty of employment is confidently looked for when industry gets on a peace-time footing again. However, it may well be that during the period of change-over from war industry to peace-time industry, there will be a period of time during which private employers, by themselves, will be unable to absorb all the men who require jobs. To meet such a situation, various authorities have now under consideration the inaugurating of important projects such as water power development, river control dams, reforestation, salvage of war material, agricultural schemes, housing programs, construction of needed public buildings, replacement and reconstruction of rundown or obsolete buildings, the repair of roads, bridges and public properties the replenishment of worn-out railway rolling stock, and a general overhaul of public transport facilities. Undoubtedly civil aviation will be widely developed after the war. In short, there will be plenty of work to be done.

This does not mean that every last man will be certain to get the job he wants at the very time he wants it. But it does mean that the prospects of employment after the war are based on solid grounds.

## DISABILITY

### 15. Can a discharged serviceman claim any special assistance if he is disabled?

His case will be considered by the Canadian Commission; and, if entitled, he will receive such payments for himself and his dependents as may be awarded under the provisions of the Pension Act. A special effort will be made to find him a good job which he can perform and, if necessary, to train him for it.

### 16. Will free hospitalization and medical treatment be provided?

General and far-reaching provisions are made for ex-servicemen who are in need of hospitalization and medical treatment; and these provisions may include allowances as indicated below. Because of many circumstances which may vary greatly in individual cases the regulations are necessarily somewhat complicated; but the following are the chief provisions and should be read carefully.

1. Treatment and hospitalization are provided in Canada for all ex-servicemen for any condition where necessary, within one year following discharge.

In this case, special hospital allowances for the ex-serviceman and his dependents may be paid within 18 months after discharge for a period equal to the ex-serviceman's length of service or for one year whichever is shorter. Normally these special hospital allowances are at the same rates as grants under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order (See Section 12); but they may be reduced if the ex-serviceman has income from other sources.

2. Otherwise treatment and hospitalization (including treatment and hospitalization which begin after one year following discharge) are provided in the following circumstances only:

(a) For a disability for which the ex-serviceman is or has been found entitled to receive a pension under the Pension Act.

During treatment the ex-serviceman's pension will be suspended, but in lieu thereof he will be paid the full hospital allowances as provided under Departmental regulations.

(b) For a condition which does not entitle the ex-serviceman to a pension, provided that this condition can be remedied by treatment and does not include tuberculosis and mental illness or chronic and incurable illness.

This treatment of non-pensionable conditions is only available to ex-servicemen who have had meritorious service in a theatre of actual war and who, for financial or other reasons, are unable to obtain treatment from some other source. The treatment is only given in Canada.

In this case, no hospital allowances are paid; but, if the ex-serviceman is receiving a pension, pension payments will continue while he is undergoing treatment.

(c) For a serious disability which does not ordinarily entitle the ex-serviceman to a pension provided that a pension has nevertheless been granted because of his necessitous circumstances.

In this case, no hospital allowances are paid, but pension payments will continue while the ex-serviceman is undergoing treatment.

The following additional regulations apply to treatment generally, for whatever conditions it may be given:

- (1) Treatment, when given, will be continued until the conclusion of the ex-serviceman's illness, but any hospital allowances during treatment will be subject to the limitations indicated above.
- (2) In the case of a single man, a fixed sum for maintenance in hospital will be deducted from any allowances he may receive.
- (3) Under special arrangements treatment and hospitalization may also be given to Canadian ex-servicemen who are or have been found entitled to pension and who are residing in the United States or in certain other countries after the war. In this case full hospital allowances are payable and pension is suspended during treatment.

Any ex-serviceman who has need of medical treatment should consult the nearest District Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health.

### 17. What pensions will be paid after this war?

Pensions may be paid in cases of disability or death. If a man has to his credit service overseas or on the high seas or service which is considered equivalent by the Canadian Pension Commission, it is sufficient that his disability (or its aggravation) or death was incurred during, or is attributable to his period of service. If he served in Canada only, his disability (or its aggravation) or death must be shown to have arisen out of or to have been directly connected with his service. A pension may be granted for a pre-enlistment disability, under certain conditions, if the Pension Commission decides that this disability became aggravated or grew worse during, or as the result of, a man's period of service.

However, in cases of service in Canada only, where a man has suffered serious disability or death but does not come under the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, the Pension Act permits that the award of a pension may nevertheless be made in case of necessitous circumstances.

Subject to certain exceptions, a pension may not be granted if the Pension Commission, after careful investigation, decides that a man's disability, results from improper conduct including wilful disobedience of orders.

Pensions for disability vary according to the seriousness or degree of the disability. The maximum yearly payments (that is, for complete disability) to all ranks below Lieutenant (Navy), Captain (Army), Flight Lieutenant (Air Force), and to dependents, are:

Man . . . . .	\$900
Wife . . . . .	300
First Child . . . . .	180
Second Child . . . . .	144
Each Subsequent Child..	120

Allowances for children are normally paid only until the age of 17 years for girls and 16 years for boys; but they may be extended in cases where a child is incapable of earning a livelihood, or under certain other circumstances at the discretion of the Pension Commission.

Pensions in case of death, for the dependents of all ranks below those stated above, are: \$720 for the widow, and the same amounts for the children as in the case of complete disability. Orphaned children may receive double the ordinary rates.

Because of the many differing circumstances out of which claims for pensions may arise, the Pension Act is necessarily complicated with details, exceptions, etc., which cannot be treated here. For example, pensions may also be paid to dependents other than wife and children (including dependent parents) under the conditions laid down by the Act. Moreover, the pension provisions for ex-servicemen differ in some respects from those which apply to men.

In order to facilitate the preparation and presentation of pension claims the government has provided a body of trained specialists to assist applicants for pensions without charge. These officials are known as Pensions' Advocates, and are located in all offices of the Department of Pensions and National Health throughout Canada.

The Canadian Pension Commission has sole jurisdiction in all matters respecting pension for death or disability, or related thereto; and any communications regarding such matters should be addressed to the Secretary, Canadian Pension Commission, Daly Building, Ottawa, Canada.

## ADDED AID

### 18. Where can the veteran go for expert advice concerning his rehabilitation problems?

The Department of Pensions and National Health has stationed Veterans' Welfare Officers in the principal offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission in all the larger centres. It is the function of these officers to know all of the laws enacted for the serviceman's benefit, and to give expert and friendly advice and help. A man discharged from the Forces will find their services invaluable.

### 19. Is this all?

By no means. The above provisions are not to be thought of as final. Their improvement in various details is being given continuous consideration. Additional proposals are being studied. Servicemen who return at the end of the war will benefit from Canada's experience in dealing with the problems of the thousands of discharged men who are already veterans of the present conflict. Moreover this pamphlet only gives a brief outline of the federal government's provisions for ex-servicemen. It does not attempt to describe the many arrangements and projects which the provincial governments, municipal authorities, citizens' committees, service associations and a large number of other public-spirited organizations are planning for the ex-serviceman's welfare. Most provincial governments now have rehabilitation and reconstruction committees working along these lines.

However, this pamphlet will have achieved its purpose if it provides helpful answers to some of the questions which servicemen are asking—plus the assurance that Canada is looking forward to their home-coming, and is preparing to give them opportunities for a new and decent start in life.

So, for the present, let's get on with the war.