

# RCAF Station Comox

## TOTEM TIMES

Vol. 1

R.C.A.F. Station, Comox, B.C., Thursday, April 28, 1960

No. 4

## Little People Make Lively Guests

### Air Cadets Visit Station; Gen Queries Stump Escorts

Wednesday, April 20, was a big day in the lives of some 300 Air Cadets and their officers and civilian instructors as they visited RCAF Station Comox. The visitors, representing all Vancouver Island squadrons, were first taken to their respective messes where they enjoyed a hearty meal prior to any of the other activities planned for the day.

Following lunch, the Cadets were formally welcomed to the Station by the Commanding Officer. An inspection followed and when the parade was dismissed, the boys and their leaders were formed into small groups, together with RCAF Escort Officers, for a tour of the station.

The tour, of great interest to some of the lads who were visiting an Air Force Station for the first time, was no less exciting for other more senior members of the Air Cadets. In addition to visits to various operational and technical sections they were also entertained by a flying model aircraft display.

Undisputed highlight of the visit was the opportunity af-

forded each of the Cadets for a first-hand close-up look at the cockpits and airframes of the various aircraft which were on display. The knowledge and grasp of technical matters and operational procedures and equipment displayed by the boys astounded some of the supervising personnel, and more than one Escort Officer found that his "General Service Knowledge" didn't produce for him the answers to all the questions he encountered.

After a day acknowledged by all to have been of great interest and value to the Cadet Squadrons, and no less to their hosts, the visitors were served refreshments by the Ladies' Auxilliary of No. 386 Air Cadet Squadron, Courtenay.



The Commanding Officer of RCAF Station Comox inspects cadets of 386 Air Cadet Squadron, Courtenay. Flight Commander is F/O Don Good, formerly of 409 (AW) Squadron and now an Air Cadet Officer with the local group. Photo by Nitschky

## Choir Performs Easter Cantata

### "Olivet to Calvary" Thrills Listeners

A capacity congregation in the Protestant Chapel thrilled to the chapel choir's presentation of J. A. Maunders' sacred cantata "Olivet to Calvary" on Good Friday evening. This cantata depicts, in music, some of the incidents in the life of Christ culminating in the last words on the Cross.

Directed by Irene Smythe and with Bernice Brooks at the organ, the musicianship of these two talented ladies was obvious throughout the presentation. Irene Smythe again displayed her wonderful ability to hold the choir together and get the most out of them while interpreting the music for the pleasure of those listening.

The soloists were headed by Evelyn Lannan, who, with her usual brilliant soprano, sang the difficult tenor part with obvious ability and feeling. Mr. Reg. Day, Cpl. Ron Beirnes, F/L W. A. Vradenberg and F/L A. V. Robinson were the male soloists.

This was the second annual presentation of a Cantata by the Protestant Chapel Choir, the first being last year when Sir John Stainer's "Crucifixion" was sung. It will be remembered that this choir obtained the highest marks in the Upper Vancouver Island Music Festival in Nanaimo last year.

The organization of a choir at an RCAF Base cannot in any way be compared to that in civilian life because the choir is continually afflicted with the loss of members through transfer. The ability of this choir to stick together and present music of the calibre mentioned above speaks much for the membership and is another example of the type of people we have living in our RCAF community.



### NO CONTEST

Contrary to rumor and in spite of appearances, this newspaper is not running a "Spot the Mis-spelt Headline" contest. Slips such as are found on page 10 of this issue (Winter Wonderland) are doubly chagrining to the staff since, due to our printing procedures, this page and three others (in 1200 copies) have been sitting around to haunt us since they were printed last week to await production of the other eight pages this week. We ask the forbearance of our readers as we outgrow this, not the least of our "growing pains."

## ... and the Devil take the Aircraftman

by GOSH

All was not well in Hades. The Devil, sunk morosely in his overstuffed throne, scowled dejectedly at the detailed mural of the Spanish Inquisition depicted on the throne-room wall and wondered, by no means idly, what was going wrong with the world. According to the promotion schedule he had recently formulated, things should never have been rosier; everything was working out fine, his Iron Curtain idea had been right on time, the Atom and Hydrogen Bomb deal was meshing exactly as engineered, all the little pools of unrest and dissension so carefully cultivated were bearing fruit, there was just one small fly in his ointment. For some time now, new arrivals of a certain class, in ever-increasing numbers, were curiously lacking in appreciation of all the little distressing factors which the Devil had so carefully designed to make existence in Hell unbearable. In fact, some of the more promising of these neophytes to Hades had even been so gross and impolite as to imagine that they had arrived in Heaven (If you'll pardon the expression).

Now the time had come for action. Research had uncovered the fact that all these poor, deluded souls had come from the same level of earth's society, all had worked for the same organization, in different jobs, perhaps, but under much the same conditions, environment, and fundamental subservience. All were ex-Aircraftmen, and all had the same story: "Brother, if you think this is Hell, you should have worked for the Sergeant I had before I died."

There was, of course, only one course of action left open to poor, frustrated Satan: He must appear on Earth, himself, and discover to his own satisfaction what this Super-Satanic breed could do to make a Heaven out of Hell. Now, as

we all know, old Mephistopheles is nothing if not a man of action; no sooner had the thought occurred than the deed was done, the usual puff of smoke, an acrid smell, and the throne was empty.

At the guardhouse of an RCAF Station 'somewhere in Canada,' a nondescript LAC appeared, suitcase in hand, somewhat travel-stained, bedraggled, and of somewhat uncertain behaviour. Walking into the guardhouse, he produced an "I" Card bearing the name "IM deVille" and requested directions to the Station Orderly Room. At the Orderly Room counter, he produced an A42 and informed the clerk who showed the least lack of interest that he was reporting in on transfer; even at that moment he was the subject of much discussion in the PAdO's office, between that official and his chief driver, the Orderly Room Sergeant, because only an hour before a message had come in with the

Continued on Page 12  
See ... and the Devil

Photo by F/L G. B. Wood



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Catholics Plan Mission

#### SPECIAL SERVICES START MAY 8

Roman Catholic personnel of Station Comox will once again have the opportunity to participate in the Annual Mission to be held this year in the Station Chapel starting Sunday, May 8, and continuing through Thursday, May 12. This mission is described by F/L R. G. MacNeill, Catholic Chaplain, as "Five days out of the whole year—and the most important."

The program for this year's mission is as follows:  
 Sunday: 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. — Mass and Mission Sermon.  
 7:30 p.m. — Sermon and Benediction.  
 Monday to Thursday — 10 a.m. or 4 p.m. — Mass and Instruction.  
 7:30 p.m. — Sermon and Benediction.  
 Children's Mission — Sunday — 2:30 p.m.  
 Monday and Tuesday — After 4 p.m. Mass

Father MacNeill goes on to answer the following questions about the Mission:

#### WHAT IS A MISSION?

It is a special time—never more than once a year—during which we review the basic facts of our relationship with Almighty God.

#### WHY DO WE HAVE A MISSION?

Even the best of us tend to run down without noticing it, while others have been really down for a considerable time. The Mission is the least a thoughtful person can do in having a checkup for his immortal soul.

#### FOR WHOM IS THE MISSION NECESSARY?

For all of us. Even monks and nuns have to make a retreat once a year. They live lives dedicated to God, but they realize that human beings can become casual even in regard to the most sacred things. We need a retreat or Mission all the more. Temptations are so much a part of our lives that we take them for granted.

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### Memorial Plaque Dedicated



Photo by Wood

In a simple ceremony held during the regular Sunday morning Service of Worship at the Protestant Chapel, April 24, the Padre, F/L W. H. Hewitt dedicated a plaque presented by 409(AW) Sqn. in memory of F/O John McLaren, who died 16 Dec., 1958, while on a squadron mission. Our photo shows the unveiling of the plaque, with S/L S. H. McFadden, left, of 409, looking on as F/L Hewitt makes the dedication.

The following information about the Mission has been issued:

Religious articles will be on sale Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings in the Parish Hall.

The morning Mass at 10 a.m. is primarily for the convenience of the ladies. Transportation can be arranged through Mrs. Lussler, phone 1397-L1. For the evening exercises, baby sitting will also be supplied where required. Contact Mrs. Hinderks, phone 805-X3.

Personnel working on the Station can attend Mass and a brief instruction at 4:00 p.m. However, all should make an effort to attend the evening Sermon also. Personnel working at night should attend at least the exercise during the day.

Services of the Mission will be conducted by the Rev. J. McCarthy, OMI, of Calgary.

### Protestant Chapel Guild Holds Tea

The Protestant Guild held a combination business and work meeting on Tuesday, April 19. During the evening tables were set up in preparation for the tea to be held the following day.

Mrs. J. C. Davis won a \$5.00 certificate donated by "Top O' the Hill", Courtenay, for selling tickets. It was decided to give a gift to Mr. Easterbrook, janitor of the Chapel, in appreciation of his work. Members were reminded to have their annual reports ready for the May meeting.

The Easter Tea was thoroughly enjoyed by the many who attended. Entertainment was provided by Mrs. Woodrow's dancing pupils, accompanied by Mrs. Ellis at the piano.

Mrs. R. F. Miller and Mrs. J. C. McCarthy presided at the pouring table.

Mrs. L. Wentzell was in charge of a table of cards, stationery and plants, while Mrs. A. Morton looked after the door prizes donated by Courtenay merchants.

#### GUILD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Guild I wish to thank all who have contributed to our successful tea by collecting door prizes, selling tickets, generous contributions of food and working at the school. Without such fine co-operation the tea could not have been successful.

I would also like to thank everyone who supported the Guild by buying tickets.

Sincerely,  
 —Novella Hyde



### Muses with Mal

by MAL HOGARTH

A trip last week to Campbell River to catch the finished product of the Campbell River Players. Both plays turned out well worth the time and effort spent to view them. These two delightful one-act comedies "Brothers in Arms" and "Everybody Comes to Mabel" as first productions of this group were very well chosen and competently directed.

Starting the evening off was "Brothers in Arms," directed by Ray Chalk. The story concerns an ex-major and his wife stranded in a backwoods cabin, and their efforts to get back to town. John Ross as the backwoodsman and Kevin Kinlin as the major managed to maintain the pace of the play throughout. They both made good use of the dramatic pause and stayed in character for the entire play, something not usually found in amateurs.

Also in the play were Helen Embury as the major's wife, and Ray Chalk who did a small part quite effectively. "Everybody Comes to Mabel" put a fine finishing touch to the evening's entertainment. This engaging comedy was given a great deal of spirit from the cast and good direction. At times it was felt that the pace of this fast moving play was slow and more attention could have been paid to same. Especially outstanding in the cast were Jean Sommers as Mabel, Win Douglas as Esther, the maid, and Penny Balmer as Daphne, Mabel's daughter. The play itself was well cast as evidenced by the fine blend of all the characters. The part of Desdemona taken by Mary Murphy was a difficult role and the enforced accent at times made it difficult to understand the lines. Also in the play were Myrna Boulding, Margaret Cameron and Lorraine Borgford.

Sets for both plays were quite adequate and a good first job was done by John Prinz, who also assisted Catherine Moir with the direction of the last play.

One of the most noticeable things found last week at Campbell River was the spirit of the group. This is the one commodity a community theatre cannot do without, and I am happy to find they have an abundance of it.



### SCOUT CORNER

By BRIAN SIMMONS

Phillip Dyke joined the Brotherhood of Scouts as he repeated the Scout Promise before the troop at a recent meeting. At this time he was presented with his Tenderfoot Badge. David Hunter was presented with his Missioner's Badge and Brian Simmons with his Winter Sportsman and Safetyman Badge. Ken Hutt was presented with his Camp Cook and Winter Sportsman badges, which are badges number 17 and 18, qualifying him to wear his Gold Cord, with which he was also presented.

The Easter Camp was advanced one week due to the fact that the majority of leaders couldn't be present at the scheduled time. The troop travelled to Denman Island on Thursday evening with a heavy rain falling.

Arriving at Chikadee Lake, campsites were chosen and tents pitched as the rain cleared. All patrols bedded down early after enough firewood was gathered.

Early next morning, the camp area was alive with action. After the breakfast dishes were scoured, the camp was officially opened as Patrol Leader David Hunter broke the flag and Scouter Toft read a morning prayer. During the remainder of the morning, the First Class Scouts started a pioneering project while the other boys were instructed on First and Second Class tests.

After lunch, frequent showers fell, halting the planned proceedings. Later the rain clouds passed away and by dinner time it was clear and a hearty meal was eaten. To close the day, a campfire song led by Scouter Toft was held. After this and many cups of hot cocoa, everyone retired to bed.

Saturday morning was cold and dull, even in the late hours. At this time everyone patiently waited for Scouter Wheeler to bring the weather report from the Met Section. After the morning's test instructions had been completed, it was decided by the Court of Honour to return home to the report of expected heavy rain for that evening.

A quick lunch was eaten and the camp was broken cancelling all further activities. Patrol Leader Eric Benediction slowly pulled down the flag after which the Lord's Prayer was said to officially close the camp.

Every boy enjoyed himself, and regretted the sudden closure. However, they were glad to have the opportunity to try out the new tents and find that they were quite satisfactory for their needs.

On Monday morning a hike was planned to Langby Lake, but it also was cancelled due to unfavorable weather.

Patrol Leader Jack Albrecht took his patrol on a week-end camp to Little River and has reported that it was a huge success.

On April 20th, the 2nd Comox (RCAF) Cub and Scout draw was held at the Father and Son Banquet. The first ticket drawn was held by F/L S. Coburn, however, since he was a member of the committee, he was ineligible and the re-draw made Cpl D. H. M. Robertson the winner.

## LOCAL TRIBE HAS COLORFUL HISTORY

### Chief Andy Frank Talks "Old Times" with "Totem Times"

By Robert A. Clarke

Every day that we drive from Comox to Courtenay along the Dyke road, we pass through a reservation of one of the most colorful Indian tribes in North America. This is the reservation of the Puntledge Indians, a tribe of four different groups that make up the remaining members of a once very large and powerful Comox Nation. Not all of them live here in Comox, some are in Campbell River and other places. Their chief, Andy Frank, told me that his people, who, within the memory of his grandmother, numbered in the countless thousands, were down to 30 persons 30 years ago. Today, happily, they have tripled that number.

and are on a sharp increase. What killed them off? Diseases, mainly, such as the mysterious malady that hit all North American Indian tribes a few years ago, but other natural causes as well. Since then these tribes have begun to increase again.

So rapidly were their numbers cut down, that the Puntledge people thought they were going to vanish completely and so lost all interest in their history and culture. It was mainly through the encouragement of the former mayor of Courtenay, Geoff Browning, and other aldermen, that Andy Frank took up interest and began to collect robes and other relics, as well as to delve into tribal history. Sgt. Nitschky and myself were very hospitably received into the house of the Chief and were shown these robes of spectacular colors and designs. The sergeant, who took the photographs, expressed regret that he didn't have color film. Mr. and Mrs. Frank not only displayed these gorgeous robes, but kindly posed in some of them and put on headaddresses for a picture. The Chief assured us that this was quite a common occurrence in his every day routine. He is often called upon to attend Cub and Scout meetings and other children's functions to show the younger fry how a real "Injun Chief" looks and from the twinkle in his eyes, I could tell that he enjoyed this almost as much as the kids.

During the Centennial Year, Andy and his people were very busy indeed. It was they who erected the totem poles and Indian Lodge at Lewis Park. They were also called upon to participate in pageants, show off their crafts and demon-

strate their dances. We all read about and saw pictures of these thrilling displays, and some of you may have been lucky enough to have attended them.

Andy Frank is the hereditary chief of the Puntledge Indian tribe. Before the coming of the white man, this position was held in great awe and respect by the people. The Chief was greatly revered and ruled supreme. These powers were, however, on the wane even before the whites put a stop to it altogether.

A certain amount of barbarity did exist. They were slave holders and their unfortunate victims were often sacrificed in special ceremonies. When erecting the totem poles, it was the custom to kill a slave and bury him on the spot where the pole was to be erected. Andy, displaying his ready wit, suggested to one of the aldermen who was watching them erect the totem pole for Lewis Park, that he had been chosen for the sacrifice. The alderman laughed good naturedly and declined the honour.

How many times have you driven by this spot and not even realized that you were near an Indian reservation? Probably many times, and the reason for this is that these people live in modern homes, and have modern cars parked in their yards. I was privileged to have seen the inside of two of these homes and was im-

pressed by the modern furnishings and the overall neatness of the households. This race is also attractive in appearance and dressing.

Their natural friendliness and hospitality was impressive, and it is felt that they are a definite asset to Canadian culture.



Photo by Sgt. G. M. Nitschky  
 Chief Andy Frank and Mrs. Frank model tribal garments for the "Totem Times" camera while reporter Robert A. Clarke admires another piece of Indian art.

### Sergeants Plan

#### Gala Evening

On Saturday evening the 30th of April, the Sergeants' Mess is planning to hold a gala program of entertainment, dancing and food.

The evening will commence at 2200 hours with dancing to Al Dixon's orchestra followed at 0030 hours by a full hour of professional night club style entertainment.

This program will consist of acts by three very talented and experienced performers: Fran Gregory, a vocalist of TV and movie fame from New York and Hollywood; "The Squeek-in" Deacon, a comedy vocalist; and Leo Squino, an outstanding accordion virtuoso.

The mess plans to offer all this plus food for the small admission price of one dollar. The mess committee is hoping for a good turn-out so forget your cares, and plan to be at the Sergeants' Mess on Saturday, April 30th, at 2200 hours.

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Pat Flynn





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## Editorials

### "Into the Valley of Death Rode the Brave Six Hundred"

To some of our readers the title of this opus will suggest a poem. To others, drivers who must daily travel the roads and streets of Wallace Gardens and Tyee Park, the lines bring to mind not cavalry, but children. Kids on bikes, trikes, wagons, roller skates; kids running, walking, crawling, into and across the path of oncoming traffic, with the reckless abandon instilled by an upbringing in the relatively protected precincts of service married quarters, and in our present situation, in a province where the pedestrian is king. It is realized that because of our lack of sidewalks, children must of necessity play with wheeled toys, bicycles, tricycles, doll carriages, wagons, roller skates, and so on, on the only hard surfaced areas available, the roads. It follows, however, that this necessity does not excuse the monopolizing of the streets by children not engaged in this type of play nor does it mean that tricycles, etc., should be left on the roads long after play is over and the children are in bed.

A child playing with blocks, or paper dolls, or sketching on the pavement with chalk, or playing hopscotch, can do all of these things on the driveway, the front sidewalk, or in the case of the very small, in a playpen, with no loss of enjoyment of the play, and to the benefit of those who must use the roads for the purpose for which they were intended—the safe and orderly passage of vehicles.

Although parental and community discipline are alike involved in this matter, the main consideration must remain, and rightly so, the safety of the children. In order to ensure this safety, it is hoped that the vehicle operators in Wallace Gardens and Tyee Park will do their part by observing all of the speed limits and other regulations laid down for their control, and by patiently taking avoiding action when confronted by a street full of children.

It remains for parents to do their part by instructing their children in proper conduct while on the streets, by supervision of the smaller children to ensure that they do not play on the roads, and in particular by seeing to it that the roads are cleared during rush hours, alerts, and fire alarms.

We have been indeed fortunate that so far we have not had any serious accidents or fatalities as have occurred in other PMQ areas. Only serious attention to the principles of traffic and pedestrian safety will ensure that the title of this editorial remains a joking reference and not a tragic fact.

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## LAMENT OF THE EX-AIRMAN

By CPL. L. D. HAWLEY



I stand here before you most sad and neglected,  
My clothing you'll note has been sadly neglected.  
The cause of my humble and pathetic plight  
Brought about by a person who's known as the Flight

He said my appearance and bearing were poor,  
That my uniform must have come out of a sewer,  
He said that my technical knowledge was rotten;  
Can you censure a person for what he's forgotten?

On my working with others he stated this fact:  
"He has always been known for his great lack of tact.  
I can find him a job that would suit his ability,  
But to get him to work is the height of futility."

On my service attitude, and this made me sad,  
He said that it was most terribly bad.  
When it came to potential and rising in rank,  
He hit where it hurt and was terribly frank.

He thought that there wasn't a chance in a million  
That I ever would make a half decent civilian.  
As you see now I'm out and I sadly suspect  
Each word that he said was exactly correct.



## Chapel Chimes

CATHOLIC CHAPEL  
F/L R. G. MacNEIL

Masses —  
Sunday — 0900 - 1100 hrs.  
Monday — 1200 hrs.  
Tuesday - Friday — 1640 hrs.  
Saturday — 0830 hrs.  
Stations of the Cross —  
Sunday — 1915 hrs.  
Wednesday — 1900 hrs.

## Musicians Practice To Beat the Band

by C. SHRUBSOLE

A brass and reed band has been organized on the station. A group of musicians is practicing at the station band room every Monday and Friday from 1230 to 1330 hours, preparing to play during the visit of a group of American NCOs early next month. Results so far are very encouraging and a move is afoot to get the group approved as an official station band. We can still use many more musicians who can supply their own instruments. Saxophone and trumpet or cornet players are particularly welcome. There are also a very few instruments available for musicians who do not own an instrument of their own.

The bugle band is, of course, still going strong and hopes to compete in the Abbotsford Festival on May 28. Training is underway for this event.

Sgt. J. H. Crebo left April 9 for a six week tour of Europe with an RCAF band. In his absence the band will be in the capable hands of Sgt. Bromley. Jack had to pack in a hurry, for he received his travelling orders Friday and had to leave on Saturday. Bon voyage, Jack.

PROTESTANT CHAPEL  
by F/L W. C. HEWITT

HOLY COMMUNION — 8:00 a.m.  
First Sunday of the month — 11:00 a.m.  
MORNING WORSHIP — 11:00 a.m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOLS — 9:30 a.m., Junior and Senior — 11:00 a.m. Primary.  
CHAPEL GUILD MEETINGS Every 3rd Tuesday at 8 p.m.

## LOW SUNDAY

"Low Sunday" is the name so frequently given to the first Sunday after Easter and in ancient days, it was called "Dominica in Albis" or "Post Albas Depositae," for it was on this Sunday that those who had been baptized on Easter Eve put off the white garments which they had worn during Easter Week. Some believe that "Low" is a corruption of "Laudes" which was the first word of the Sequence for the day. The French called the day "Paque Close" (Pascha Closum) for on that day the celebration of the Easter Festivities closed. The Greek Church uses the name "New Sunday" in allusion to the new life entered upon by the neophytes. Perhaps the most plausible reason for the phrase "Low Sunday" is that on the First Sunday after Easter the festal solemnities were continued to a lesser extent or a lower degree than on Easter Day itself.

It would be most fitting and spiritually helpful, if the Christian pilgrim would repeat

on "Low Sunday" that inspired and inspiring prayer in the heart of the Confirmation Service: "Defend me, O Lord, with Thy heavenly grace, that I may continue Thine forever, and daily increase in Thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until I come unto Thy everlasting kingdom." No slipping backward suggested there; only climbing upward and more!

The cause and cure of arthritis is unknown. It is the great crippler of all races, in all climates.

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# SQUADRON AND SECTION NEWS



## DEMON DOIN'S

By GOSH

Let's get the column off to a good start this time with the sound of bells—wedding bells: F/O Bob Cathiness pulled a swift and got himself hitched over the Easter Season all on the quiet and unbeknownst to all. At this writing we're not sure to whom, why, or how he did it, but, from here it would seem he's too grown up a chap to want an Easter basket that badly . . . LAC Rosie Rosadiuk, after a suitable ceremony at the Protestant Chapel, a roof-lifting at the Elks' Hall, took off for a honeymoon at Grande Prairie, Alta. We're given to understand he also took along the bride . . . And on Saturday, two new entries in the Matrimonial Stakes. LAC Butch Bouchard exchanges rings in a double ring ceremony at the Catholic Church in Courtenay with the most attractive asset of the Bank of NS. After the vows, a reception in the Church Hall, then the bride, with a ring on her finger, and the groom with a ring in his nose, will try to sneak off immediately for their honeymoon in Montreal . . . At about the same time all this is happening F/O Ernie Godon will be getting the knot tied in the Catholic Chapel. Possibly Ernie is a little unsure of himself, that may be why Gussie "Abdul l'Egyptien" Gauthier has agreed to supply any organ work necessary. A motor trip through the U.S. will supply the time for the usual 'getting-to-know-you' period for Ernie and his bride . . . And in the same vein, F/O Eric Radcliffe just back from a honeymoon in Las Vegas. He hasn't felt up to reporting in to work quite yet, but we're given to believe the understanding leaders have him tied up for an immediate Form Green, just to make certain he gets at least ten hours rest . . . When F/O Wayne MacKenzie, one of our 409 Ugly Ducklings of the Night, got himself married 't'other week it took 5 of our 407 boys to escort him to Edmonton. Probably at the bride's request since she had reason to doubt his intentions . . . While we're talking of our Brothers-in-Arms across the tarmac let's extend congratulations to the 409 Electrical who had enough sense not to ask for more after three consecutive thrashings of their volleyball team by ours . . . Open Letter to LAC Unger: According to our figures, that new Renault of yours should come to just about five thousand, two hundred and forty-two haircuts. Beats shearing sheep . . . Another squad out at Hazlett's Honey Haven this week. On a bridge-fixing expedition, they claim. Maybe, but it seems to us they should take something heavier than 6 lb. test monofilament for a job like that . . . Messrs Philips, McNabb, Fox and Miek back from Whidbey where they were teaching something to the Yanks. We can't print all the details, of course, but it would appear it had something to do with a gal named Julie . . . A big building spree underway in the boat-building section of our Auto Club. Question is: who got in on it and how? . . . Four crews of volunteered volun-

teers due off for Slumberside in the near future. They will have the advantage of the sage advice of an old native son of the Isle, since they're taking along LAC Spud Keenan, who claims to know all the best addresses, and the worst ones . . . F/L Ken Petch and F/O George Viner survived survival all right, though we're told there was one morning they had to cry 'Uncle' and go to the instructor's tent to thaw out their feet, as a matter of fact George is still counting his toes to make sure he has all twelve . . . LAC Charlie Blair took LAC Newell Coffield to Kelowna over the Easter-ly, in order to show that worthy the things that Newfoundland lacks. While they were at a drive-in movie there, the place was held up. After the show the duo were picked up by the RCMP as the most suspicious looking characters in town. They must have gotten rid of the loot first, however, since they're back at work now.

### Little Things

The squadron cracked so many eggs since last edition we had to make a separate department of this. Therefore, our very heartiest congratulations to: F/L and Mrs. Bill Stedman on the birth of a son, Ronald James; LAC and Mrs. Gerald Green who came up with a little girl, Sharon Lee; F/O and Mrs. Blair Wilkin-son, a son and heir, Douglas George; and Cpl and Mrs. Joe Haskuk, whose son, weighing in at 8 lbs. 5 ounces, was born only this morning, and whose name we haven't been able to get. All that, and not one little cigar for me.

Our Squadron Jack-of-All-Trades, Sgt. Ed Harder, one-time APTech, some-time typist, all-time Disciplinarian, now has a new job: since the new buzzer arrived in the hangar he may be seen at all hours, crouched in a ready position, one finger poised for the arrival of that incisive moment when the signal is sent to all and sundry that the time has arrived for work, or play, as the case may be. At just the proper instant the finger plunges, and never has he been known to miss. This finger, of course, is known as his "buzz-in" finger and may be differentiated from the others by the callus on the tip (This last by special request). Gotta go now. The TV Commercial is just starting and this may be the night Mr. Clean gets hurried Helen to slow down.

### C.E. NEWS

By "ALF"

Since the big change over, Bill Fidler can be heard singing "Home on the Range". This could be because of all the work he is doing on the stoves in PMQ's. Thanks go to all those who made application for remuster to Ck Eng, and congratulations to those who will be accepted. It was very gratifying to see the interest shown for remuster. We always have said it was the best trade. Just a note of sadness as we say farewell to LAC MT (Tony) Baginski. Tony has only been here a short time but it was long enough for us all to learn to appreciate his diligence and ingenuity. Good luck in Resolute Bay, we'll all miss you. Seems as how with the Trade Board all finished, that there would be more smiling faces, but no, just long ones. How come? It has been said that Sgt. Benny Shindell has asked his wife to sew his shiny new stripes on his pyjamas as well as his uniforms. We don't blame him for being proud of his promotion, but really . . .



## Nighthawk News

by "ANDY"

Ah, sweet terra firma! This was the cry of one of our Nighthawks when he became afflicted with a rare disease known as "undercarriage trouble." F/O Pat Patterson and S/L Bruce Cameron, two of our better known hawks, were the ones heard to give this mournful cry when the nosewheel of their aircraft became cocked while in the air. After a very successful emergency landing, S/L Cameron was heard to remark that he would certainly remember this day because, in addition to being scrambled, identifying two targets and landing on a foam strip, it was also his birthday.

COMINGS AND GOINGS: W/C Bridges and F/L Bob Cummings at Cool Pool for two weeks. F/L Charlie Leake off to Saskatoon on transfer to CFS; returning to the squadron after some time in hospital and on leave. F/O Norm McDonald and F/O Bob Horal: Arriving on the squadron from OTU. F/O Bill Tulloch and F/O Bill Shields.

Congratulations to F/O Dick Benham on his promotion to Deputy Flight Commander. Confidentially, this correspondent learned that Dick's success was due to the fact that he has promised to shorten the flying hours to a comparable level with 407 Squadron.

A good day to all and especially to King Neptune's mermaid crews who believe that log books are tally cards used by lumbermen.

### On Target With Armament Systems

by C. SHRUBSOLE

With a deep sigh of relief, sixteen of our group ones and group twos completed their trade board exams. Now the section can get back to normal for another couple of months while the candidates worry over whether or not they passed.

Al Watson's wife presented him with a baby girl. As this is written, they have yet to decide on a name. She is still a bit young to answer to it anyway. Al is trying his hand as a shipwright and has a 20-foot fishing boat on the ways at his home.

The plan to have NCOs as radar operators on Maritime Patrol aircraft has caused considerable excitement here. Just about all of our corporals descended "en masse" on the hospital to ask for medicals. They must have kept the medical staff pretty busy.

### ISSUED BY SUPPLY

by "MARIE"

Once again press time has crept up on us. The section welcomes back Cpl "Bernie" Horsfall. Bernie was one of our boys loaned out to the C&E section to help institute the new C&E accounting. Another new face in Stock Control is LAC "Bob" Dawson. Bob exchanged places with LAC "Bill" Mawson. Hope you like it down there, Bill!

Signs of Spring are showing in the Section. Several of the boys are limping around from practicing for the Station baseball team. Hope you all make the team.

There are some new faces in Clothing Stores too, Sgt. "Did" Price is now NCO in charge replacing Cpl "Roy"

## SAirSO's Sections

### WEATHER NOTES

by MET

Hourly weather reports are received at the Comox weather office from many weather reporting stations in western Canada and United States. These reports contain, in coded form, the important components of a weather observation, such as sky condition, visibility, precipitation if present, mean sea level pressure, temperature and dew point, wind speed and direction.

How are the components measured? The sky condition has to be determined mainly without the aid of instruments. Under some conditions measurements can be made. When there is very low cloud the height of the base of cloud is measured by the use of a hydrogen filled balloon. This balloon rises at a constant rate, the time it takes to enter cloud will reveal the height. At night time a ceiling projector can be used. This consists of a beam of light which shines on the bottom of the cloud. The angle which the spot makes can be measured and the height is calculated. Also reports of cloud bases are reported by aircraft.

The other components can be measured accurately with instruments. The atmospheric pressure is measured with a mercury barometer, which is one of the oldest meteorological instruments.

The air temperature is measured with an ordinary thermometer. The dew point is calculated from the difference in the reading of the thermometer with a moistened wick. The evaporation of water from this wick causes the bulb to cool. The amount of cooling is controlled by the amount of moisture in the air.

The wind speed is measured with an anemometer, a set of revolving cups which are set in motion by the wind. The speed of the cups is measured by a meter similar to a car speedometer. The direction of the wind is indicated by a weather vane.

Well that's all for this issue, so let's sit back and see what the editor can do to this.

### STATION FLIGHT EXPLODERS

by BOB

Ever since I started down here clowns have been making snide remarks about me not being as pretty as my predecessor. Oh well, at least I'm fatter.

The big blond, "Swede" Christianson, looked even whiter after emerging from the trade exam the other day. As is usual, everyone says it was rough and tough.

LAC Angell is down here from Servicing to temporarily

Hingley. Roy leaves for Stn Holberg at the end of the month. Make sure you take your fishing gear and plenty of rain clothes with you. There is more liquid sunshine up there. Also new in Clothing Stores is Cpl "Dick" Lewis. Dick comes from the land of ice and snow—Stn St. Margaret's.

Cpl "Arnie" Skarbo has just completed a tour in Germany. Also back from a tour is Sgt "Phil" Hunter. He has been touring Shaughnessy for the past two and one-half months. Take it easy Sgt., we don't want to lose you again.

A reminder to all those personnel who don't have their summer kit up to scale. The deadline is 16th May 60. Clothing Stores reports a sufficient stock of sizes.

replace Cpl Inglis who left a short time ago to go overseas. Cpl Estlem is slated to take over this position some time soon until Cpl Lamontagne takes it over permanently sometime in June.

### FLYCON FLASHES

by BARNEY

I see by the last issue of this chronicle that part of my column was scrapped again by our industrious editor. Maybe one of these days we'll get something in print just as it was "writ by hand."

News of great joy arrived the other day for F/L G. B. Wood of this section. It's overseas—2(F) Wing—for our congenial controller—and editor.

Flying Control played host to 300 Air Cadets recently and now we can sit back and take inventory. Please don't take me seriously as they are a good group of boys—curious, but OK—if everything is bolted down, you say? Well, as long as we've got the little gremlins visiting us, we can be sure there'll be less kids wandering the streets. (At any rate the Tower, GCA and RAPCON are still on their foundations).

All sections take note; Flying Control is putting out a baseball team this year that is said to be the best(?). We're out to take the station championship so beware.

We saw an old face today—that of Sgt. Arnold Grouette—a GCA controller from Greenwood, N.S. Naturally after six years at Greenwood he's going to take a while to become acclimatized, and if I remember correctly he's an avid fisherman—take care, my finny friends, for your days are numbered.

Two of our members are still cussing and discussing the latest trade board examinations, seems they always ask the wrong questions. After all, that's what makes life interesting.

Cpl Russel must have made good on some of his stocks as he switched cars and drives around in a much newer version in the Dodge class.

Well that's all for this issue, so let's sit back and see what the editor can do to this.

### Flight Simulator

This being our first showing in the station paper this writer felt that a run-down on the Flight Simulator would be in order. The CF-100 Operational Flight and Tactics trainer at Comox has been in operation under the guiding hand of F/L W. J. H. Smith for almost two years.

The CF-100 OFTT was designed and built by the Canadian Aviation Electronics Ltd. of Montreal. The combining of airborne radar and flight simulation into a single simulator had never been attempted. The success of this accomplishment by a Canadian company is worthy of high praise.

The OFTT in combining all aspects of AW operational work, has incorporated into its function flight and emergency procedures which enable the crew to encounter and correct any situation which could arise during an actual flight.

On arrival from OTU, a new squadron crew will normally spend 10 hours at the OFTT where squadron procedures, local airdrome rules, and instrument approach procedures are shown and practiced prior to becoming a fully-trained all-weather fighter crew. Normally, crews will receive three hours per month in the simulator as part of their never ending training program which is designed to produce the finest AW crews in NORAD.

Two months ago the general purpose trainer arrived at Comox. This trainer, manufactured by CAEL of Montreal, is basically a pilot trainer for instrument work and emergency training. At this time this new simulator is not in operation but shall be in the near future; therefore we shall wait another issue before going into more detail. It should, however, be noted that this general purpose trainer will be used primarily by 407 Maritime Sq.

## PILLS AND CHILLS

by VAMPIRE

Anyone volunteer for blood, X-rays, TABTD's, TB tests? Sorry, still no vaccine yet—Don't worry and fret please, we shall get to you soon. However, we are impatient as it's holding us up on our fun also.

There have been the usual staff changes. Dr. Garrity had another baby girl to add to his personal staff over the Easter Week, weight 6 lbs. 9 oz. That makes four on his staff now.

Nursing Sister MacDonald, civilian service nurse (doesn't make sense but it's right) has come to stay with us till the end of May as a replacement for Sister McNulty. Also Sister Babin arrived back from Naden. After the operation on her foot, she hobbles around and makes out fine. We hope you feel better and will be back to work soon, Sister!

LAW Bertrand will be leaving our establishment soon to sail the seas of matrimony, which brings to mind for a moment Cpl Tom McClafferty, we don't know whether he's still anxious to be married this weekend or whether he's getting cold feet. Just think, Tom, another 72 hours and your carefree bachelor days are over. It's tragic the way today's modern woman traps the happy, carefree bachelors—should be a law against it.

Two of our members are still cussing and discussing the latest trade board examinations, seems they always ask the wrong questions. After all, that's what makes life interesting.

Cpl Russel must have made good on some of his stocks as he switched cars and drives around in a much newer version in the Dodge class.

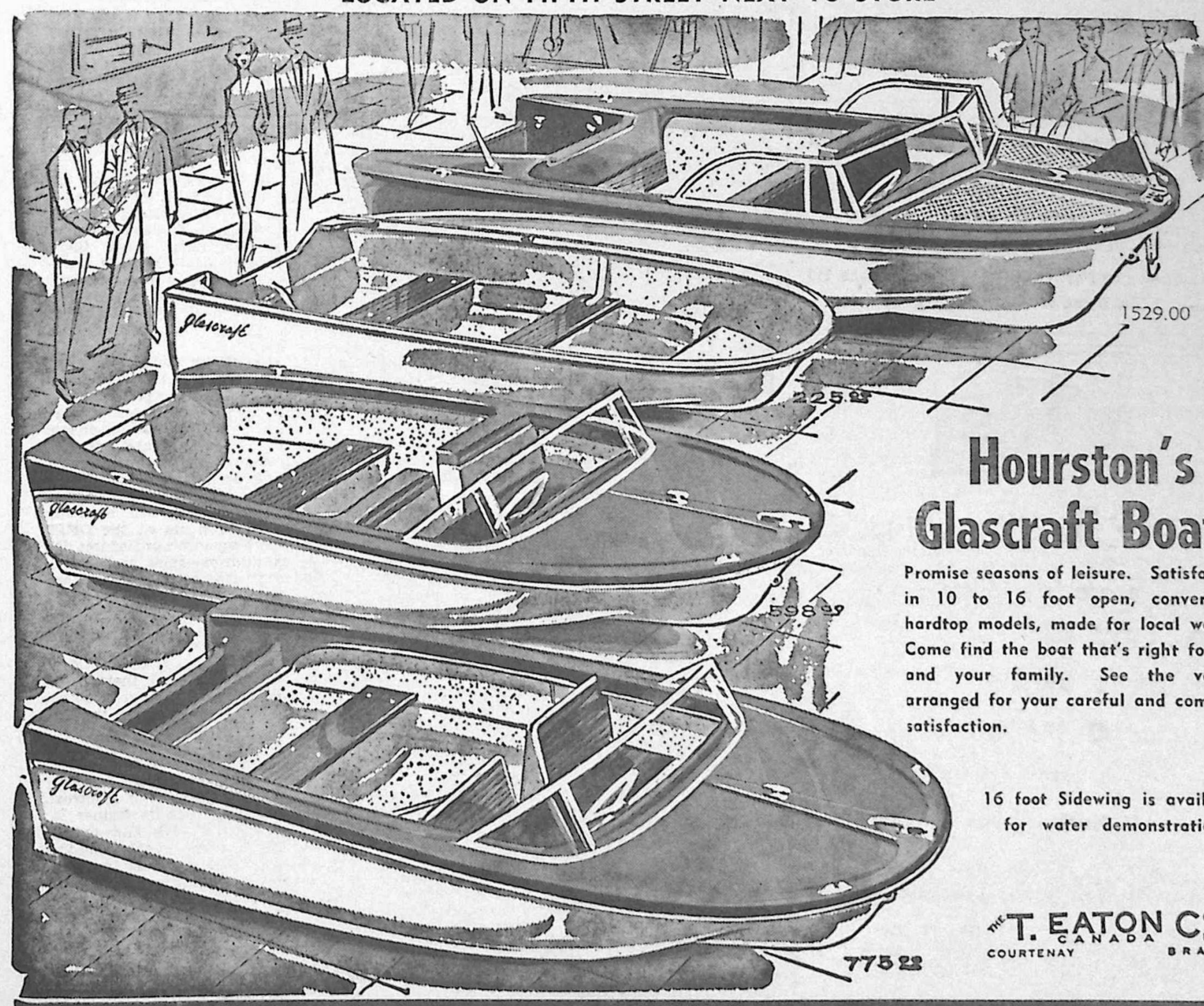
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Camp Fire Permits for Service Personnel will be obtainable at this Station's Fire Hall, from 1 MAY 60. Make sure you are in possession of a permit before lighting any fire after that date.

### CONSERVICING

by ROBERT A. CLARKE

As the editor so kindly let me get those anecdotes off my chest in the last issue, I guess I can go back to regular news.

Cpl Ditchburn drew Cold Lake for a transfer, which is fortunate, or unfortunate, depending upon the way you look at it. He was not as fortunate as LAC Mulse, who will be crossing the pond sometime in July.

Cpl Munro and LAC Sloan left last week for the T33 course at Stn Uplands. Let's hope they don't have to shovel snow when they get there.

Starting on their new fiscal year leaves are LACs Stykel, Welch, Phillips, Mills and Cpl Calderbank.

LAC Tetford is going to Camp Borden for the R Theta course in a couple of weeks. This is the opportunity for which Gordie has been waiting for some time. He plans to pack the whole family into his jalopy and visit his relatives and in-laws in New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Sounds like a wonderful trip—one I made myself a couple of years back—(to NB that is) and driving clear across this great wide continent of ours was a marvelous experience.

### KNOW THE RULES

IMPLICITLY OBEY THEM AT ALL TIMES.

Finally we have Sgt. Leckie going to Camp Borden on the STTS course. He will be replaced shortly by Sgt. Topping.

### (COMM —) GROUND HOGS

by FRANK

We are sorry to report the loss of another good Tech—LAC D. G. Ruffel remustered to Supply Tech and left us on the 13th April to report on course. LAC W. J. Kennedy departed on the 13th April to report at Clinton on a Field Maintenance Course. Best of luck to you fellows. Be back for news and happenings next issue.

### MESSAGE CENTRE FLASHES

by "MEL"

Last week, the Radio Room welcomed to its "quiet" chambers, Cliff Fairbank, an old ROP from way back. After two years on elvy street he again "heard the call" and entered the employ of the RCAF for five years. Cliff will probably become known to local "Ham" Operators as VO2GB/VE7. Radio Room and Message Centre personnel welcome Cliff to Comox. Our other Cliff, Smith, has decided Comox can do without him for a while and has submitted his application for Electronics Operator. What a guy won't do to get his third, eh? TTOP Don Comis has also decided to leave the ranks of the communicators and try his hand at C.E. duties via the Clerk Engineering trade. Something like trading an electric typewriter for a standard one, I guess. Yours truly was informed last week that Whitehorse in the frozen north is awaiting my services. This

is the third time I have been transferred there. Maybe this time I will make it. Dave Wright is also waiting for his dates for his tour in the "land of the midnight sun." Did you hear about the guy who joined the drama group to get his "acting hooks"? Seems like all the news around here is comings and goings. Well, all good things (and bad) must come to an end. Before I go, I must tell you of a strange thing that happened to me the other day . . . I went to the Supply Section—"What's so strange, you say?" . . . It was open. Bye now . . .

### WIRE COMMENTS

by STAN

During the active years of 51 Sqdn., the Wire Comm section held a large staff to maintain all communications, but with the closing of 51, the personnel of the section diminished slowly to a bare handful and the section bounced around and finally settled down in the Operations building on the station. Since this is our first news article for the "Totem Times", introductions are in order.

First we have our NCO i/c, Sgt. Ed. Liss, our one and only old timer. Although a big man, Sgt. Liss goes for small cars. He's the driver of the small green Lloydwagon you sometimes see whizzing by your feet. Ed has been here for almost three years and within a couple of months he will be leaving for Edgar, Ont. Lucky Ed., poor Lloydwagon.

Then we have our only bachelor, Cpl. Jerry Smith. Being a bachelor, he drives a big yellow and grey Ford. No wife, lots of money—lots of money. Continued on Page 12 See Wire Comments



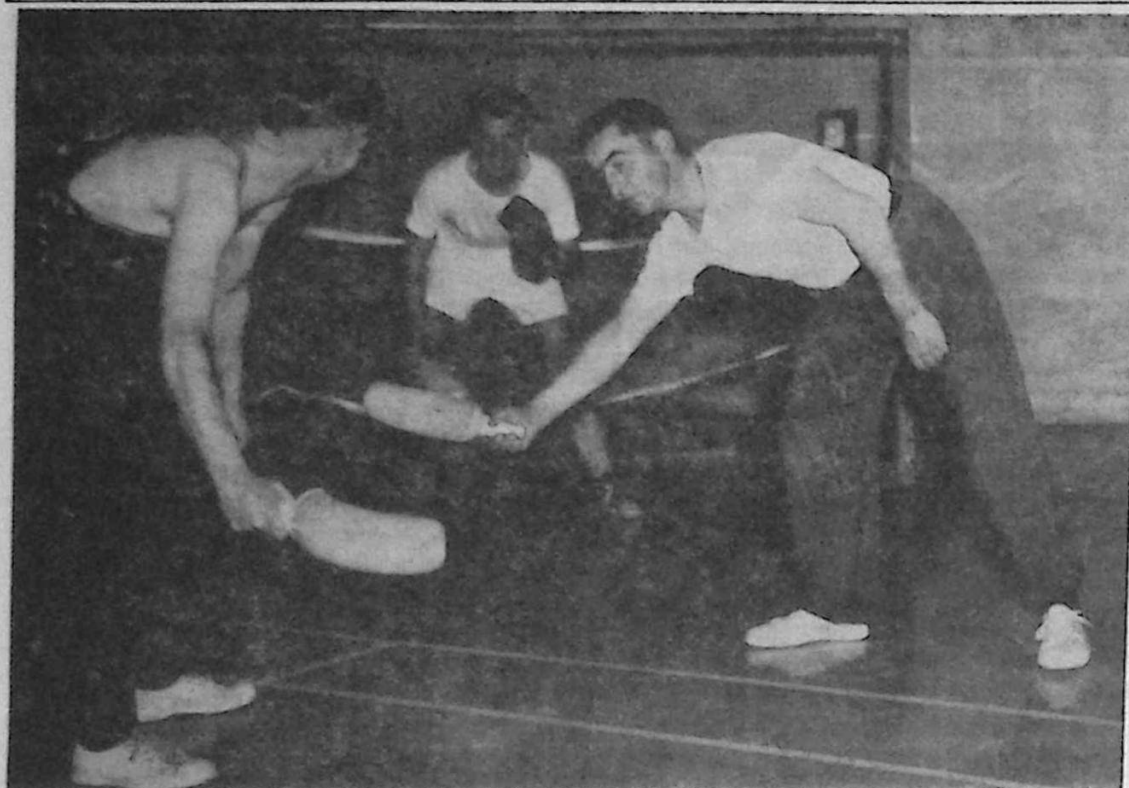


Photo by Cpl. V. H. Maxwell

## "Scoop Ball" New Station Sport

### Game is Test of Skill and Stamina

Scoop Ball, the newest form of sport for the station, can probably be best described as a cross between jai alai and lacrosse. There are six men on

each team, five forwards and a goalie. As in lacrosse, the object of the game is to pass the ball (plastic with a diameter of 4") to your team-mates in order that you may shoot on the goal (a net 5' high by 8' wide) and (if you're lucky) score. There are three periods

of play, each of 15 minutes duration with a 3-minute rest period in between.

The game requires muscular co-ordination, mental alertness, and a good physical condition. There is no body contact (it says here!) and although a player may move anywhere on the floor, he cannot enter the goalie's crease. The player is allowed only 5 seconds or 5 steps in which to pass the ball. This feature keeps the game lively and makes it very fast.

We invite anyone who wishes to keep in shape (or get into shape) to come around any time there is a game on, and try their hand.

If you are interested in playing baseball contact  
F/L Rac, Local 138

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## NEWS IN Sports

### Recreation Ramblings

Spring has finally arrived with Daylight Saving Time. A few of the summer activities are under way and the rest of them should be in full swing within the next ten days.

The baseball players are hard at it—when the weather permits. The station is having a baseball team after a lapse of a few years. The boys are entering in the Upper Island League and until such time as the new sports field is ready they are using the Union Bay diamond. F/L Jim Rae is coaching the team and if anyone is interested in trying out with the team be sure to get in touch with Mr. Rae in the Rec. Centre.

The Airwomen are planning to enter the Upper Island Ladies' Softball League and will be starting their practices shortly. All girls interested should contact Cpl. Bill Little in Movements.

As we reported in the last issue the Sports Field will not be ready yet for some time. The Comox Radar diamond is almost ready for use—just a little volunteer work is required to spread some top soil along the base paths. As soon as this is completed the section football teams will be able to start practicing.

The current rage during the last few weeks has been scoop ball. This game is a combination of indoor lacrosse and jai alai—we understand it is very hard on the constitution and not recommended for non-5 BX'ers. The wear and tear on the players is only exceeded by the wear and tear on the scoops.

The Youth Recreation Program is going along well—their bowling is all over, as are their other indoor team sports. Boxing, modelcraft, photo and stamp clubs are going strong and the Little League ball is getting organized. We understand the kids had a lot of fun skating at the Curling Rink during the Easter holidays. Watch for a jamboree of all

the youth activities in the gym some night in the near future.

The Duffers Golf is this Friday afternoon—April 29—starting at 1300 hours. We will see you all at the Comox Golf Club. Entry fee 25 cents—plus green fees. How about letting the Rec Centre know if you will be there?

This weekend will be a rather heavy one:

Thursday, 28 - 2000 hrs. — Stn. Bingo, \$500.00 jack pot plus \$30.00 in other prizes.

Friday 29 - 1300 hrs. — Golf Tournament, Comox Golf Club, entry fee 25c.

Friday 29 - Evening — Bowling Dance, Rec Centre, both Mixed and Service League—Dance and prize presentation. Saturday 30 - Cabaret Dance —with floor show from Vancouver in the Cpl's Club, Sgt's Mess and the Officers' Mess. Sunday Morning - We will see you all in Church.

## Come One, Come All And Putt That Ball

Friday the 29th April is the day set for the Station Golf Field Day. Not that this episode is scheduled to take place in a field; far from it. As a matter of fact the Comox Golf Club will be the course, the tournament is open to all Service personnel and DND employees, entry fee is twenty-five cents, coin of the realm only is acceptable, and of course let us not forget the green fees.

Eighteen holes of medal play is the route, registered handicaps will be used by those who have, the have-nots will be governed by Galloway.

All those planning on entering future tournaments are urged to play at this time in order to establish a score for use in future handicapping.

Prizes? Of course. Low Net, Low Gross - Registered, Low Gross - Galloway, Hidden Hole, and some mysterious others, will all reap their reward. Let's see all you club swingers there. The time — One o'clock on the afternoon of April 29th. The place—Comox Golf Course.

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TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU SAW IT IN THE TOTEM TIMES

## FOOD PLAN

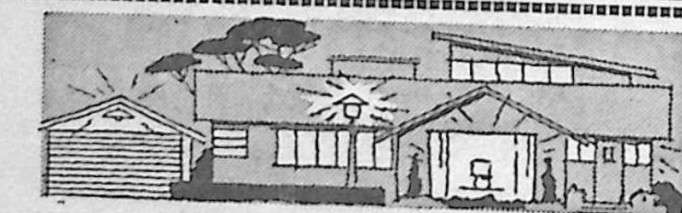
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## Trail Treasures

### with ILES

Trout here, trout there, trout everywhere. Over the past few weeks I have been hearing nothing but reports of terrific catches of trout in Buttle and Upper Campbell Lakes. Even I have finally clicked with eight lovely trout. Dolly Varden, Cutthroat and Rainbow were leaping for joy and hitting at everything thrown to them by everyone who ventured near the water. The week of April 3 to April 10 seems to have been the best so far.

Trout were rising all over the narrows between these two lakes, but, like the barking dog, these were not the ones biting. The best catches were made using worms and fishing deep. One of these days I'm going to take my boat up there and try trolling with large spoons for those trophy trout you hear so much about. This, I feel certain, will be the place to get them.

This area also has a generous share of deer. I drove as far as Buttle Lake on Sunday, April 10. Counted four deer on the way up and two on the way back.

## SPRINGS ON THE WAY IN?

Norman Frank of the Dyke Road was surprised Monday the 18th of April when he dipped his net into his herring trap which he has set at Comox dock. There were no herring. When he and Joe Miller from Courtenay checked more closely they found that a spring salmon had managed to get in through a hole in the trap, eaten all the herring and then couldn't get back out. The spring was a 16-pounder. This may be an indication that springs are on the way in.

## RCAF CANADA-WIDE FISHING CONTEST

Warrant Officer McConnel, after consultation with some of the most ardent fishermen of the Senior NCO's mess, has drafted an appropriate reply to the following signal which was received from Maritime Air Command. Quote AFHQ have indicated that a RCAF Canada wide fishing contest will be held this summer PD Advise recommendations types of fish and appropriate regulations by mail to this headquarters prior to 25 April PD Nil return required unquote. Apparently this contest will be open not only to 407 personnel but to all RCAF personnel. More details will be published as they become available.

EXTINCT ONCORHYNCHUS TACHAWYTACHA CAUGHT OFF B.C. COAST

"A report has just been received that an 'Oncorhynchus Tachawytacha' was brought aboard the Olympus (a fishing trawler operating off the coast of British Columbia). A special floating laboratory has been despatched to intercept the ship far at sea. Meanwhile a

supreme effort is being made to keep the fish alive until this specially equipped laboratory reaches the side of the trawler. While returning to port special equipment will be brought into play in an effort to revive the species.

The oncorhynchus tachawytacha, (or Spring Salmon), became extinct shortly after all efforts failed to convince the general public and responsible government officials of this possibility if conservation was not accepted as the personal responsibility of every individual in Canada. Prior to this time, the spring salmon was considered a table delicacy and an excellent sports fish."

Ridiculous? Impossible? Not according to a great many experts, including a very interesting old gentleman I chanced to meet at Comox dock Sunday the 3rd of April. He was quite concerned about the deterioration of salt water sports fishing in the Comox area. He's a native of B.C. and has been sport fishing in B.C. waters for the past 40 years. He was also a member of the fisheries branch for many years. He claims the fishing has been deteriorating rapidly over this period but more noticeably during the past 15 years. Some of the blame he places on so-called sports fishermen who take not only more than their quota of salmon but of grilse. He feels that catching and keeping grilse is very unsportsmanlike. I, after speaking with him, am inclined to agree to a certain extent.

Perhaps we should take a longer look into our motives for fishing. Are we fishing for food? Certainly we must realize that this is a most expensive method of filling our larder and that no matter how long we may stay at it, it is very doubtful that we will ever make sports fishing pay for itself, monetarily. Have you ever stopped to calculate the cost of your catches? Wouldn't it be better to look on sports fishing as just that—a sport? Most of us may feel that the little we take is as a "raindrop in the ocean," but multiply your catch by the thousands who also do the same thing and you will find that it means much more than that.

There is an indescribable thrill in the feel of a strike on your line and of landing a salmon, but only if that salmon is large enough to give you a good fight. Give the fish a chance. After all HE is fighting for his life. If you have fought him fairly and he is large enough to fight back, then, and only then, can you feel justified in keeping him. There are size and catch limits for salmon, but wouldn't it be fine if we kept only those which we felt we had fairly fought and beaten?

Another bone of contention with this gentleman is the building of dams on spawning rivers with inadequate facilities provided to protect the spawning run of salmon as well as the downstream passage of fingerlings.

One interesting book to read on this subject is "Salmon of the Pacific Northwest". This book was written by Mr. Anthony Netboy, a writer for the

Continued on Page 10

See Treasure Trails



by C. SMITH

The antagonism that a fisherman feels towards the skin divers who invade his fishing grounds is the most natural and understandable of feelings, and all divers appreciate this fact.

This persecution is undeserved, but trying to tell an irate fisherman that we don't frighten fish is like trying to set an underwater depth record; it accomplishes nothing. A diver underwater is just another fish to a trout. He may be queer shaped and larger, but he is still a fish, and all the trout must do is slip in behind and eat to his heart's content on the morsels that slip by the big fellow ahead.

If the diver is on the surface and splashes the water with his arms, he is indicating to the fish for miles around that he is mortally wounded. (This is the reason so many swimmers are attacked by sharks and barracuda). This will naturally scatter the fish in the immediate vicinity, but only briefly as death struggles are commonplace in the underwater world.

In one location, I became such a familiar figure to a particular school of fish that every time I entered the water I could depend on picking up an escort of 30 to 40 small trout. These fish swam just behind my flippers as long as I remained in the deeper channel in the centre of the river and followed like puppies up and down wherever I went. I experimented by dropping worms retrieved from hooks hung up on rocks, and not one morsel ever floated more than one foot past my fins before being gulped by grateful mouths.

I have not seen this school for two months and do not know what became of them. Perhaps they left to become next year's Steelhead.

Incidents like this convince myself and other divers that we do not disturb the fish. To a fisherman who is unable to know what occurs below the

surface, these examples usually are taken as attempts at pacification and probably serve no other purpose than to annoy him further. I am a familiar figure to most of the Puntledge River fishermen, and as many of them have been successful while I was in the water, they have gradually come to regard me with less hostility. Some have even taken advantage of the information and help that I am pleased to supply.

Any diver, if given the chance, can be more of a benefit than hindrance to the angler, supplying such information as fish location, size, quantity and type while performing such services as lure retrieving and snag removal for which, contrary to rumour, he asks no payment but good will.

Fresh waters are usually comparatively barren of underwater life. Extreme coldness of fresh water during the winter months causes growth, which could continue in the relatively warm ocean waters, to become suspended. Fresh water diving is comparatively dull and would not hold the attention of a diver for long if it were not for salvage opportunities. Most divers find lure hunting attractive. Also the greatest source of irritation for the angler is the loss of expensive lures. Thus another source of antagonism.

Although the diver will happily loosen a fisherman's hook or retrieve any specific lure for him, it is unreasonable to ask him to give away any lure

he finds to anyone who wants to say, "I lost one just like that."

If the diver is also an angler, he will be replacing lures that he himself has lost and if not, he will sell them for a nominal fee and thus help to allay the cost of his sport and that of the fisherman.

The Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society treats patients in their own homes on the doctor's advice.

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## Of Woods, Mountains and Lakes

### Ground Search and Rescue

#### Rehearses in Winter Winderland

It's a quiet world—a white world. Below me, under eight feet of snow lies Mt. Beecher. It doesn't seem possible that in a few months when I'm now standing will be a riot of alpine color. It's beautiful then, but it's beautiful now too. White, cool and so still. 4,000 feet below me lies the station. It doesn't look 19 miles away, does it? Off to the right is Comox Lake curling like a boomerang around a low range of hills. There's the Puntledge Valley, and there is the — no, I can't quite see the Cruickshank Canyon from here, but it is just beyond that high ground. There is the Comox Glacier and the Aureole Snow Fields and just beyond that is Buttle Lake. Seems funny that Buttle Lake should be so near and yet so far away—good fishing too, but you have to go 55 miles by car to get there. Ah, those rainbow, cutthroat and Dolly Varden.

Speaking of rainbow, off here to my left is the Plateau. Its undulating terrain hides a host of beautiful lakes. Mount Lake, where the rainbow are supposed to be so large that you have to take them on salmon tackle; and then there are the biblical lakes, Faith, Hope and Charity. They didn't really get their names from the Bible though, but were named by two fishermen. They saw the first lake and had Faith that they would get their limit. After all this is V.I. They went on to the second lake still hoping and when they hit the third lake they came across a starving fisherman who had packed in lightly, planning to live on fish. They were charitable and gave him enough grub to get his strength back so he could pack out again. I'm fooling, there really are fish there, beauties too.

We're on another GSAR exercise. I'll catch the devil for taking off on my own, but I love it here alone, for a little while it's all mine. Here comes the rest of the gang up the Beecher Trail, no—just a moment, there is one missing. Oh there he is away back. It's the Boss. Speaking of the Boss, has that man ever got guts. He really has, but a few more of

these trips and he'll lose it.

Two hours later and it's a tired bunch of fellows gathered around the stove. We're at the cabin on McKenzie Lake, and had to dig down to get into it, but it's warm and comfortable. We've had supper and now with steaming coffee mugs in hand the usual bull session gets under way. This is one of the best times of the day when we're out on GSAR training. "Remember that CF search a couple of years ago? Man, is that a wicked piece of country

north of the mouth of the Oyster?" "Do you think we could lay on an exercise in the Wolf River area—for about two weeks in the summer before the fire season starts?"

Coffee cups emptied and refilled and emptied again, as the target practise goes on. "Better hit the sacks fellows. It's a long day tomorrow. We will skirt to the north of Mt. Drabble, over the ridge between it and Mt. Washington and make camp at the cabin on Anderson Lake tomorrow night."

Oh yes, Ground Search and Rescue on the Island is a rough, tough business, but these exercises get us into shape and we do have a whale of a time on them. No it's not a closed circuit, anyone may join. If you wish to join the team and can be spared occasionally, have your section head confirm it in a memo to the O/C GSAR and you are out on the next exercise.



Members of a GSAR team at the cabin on Anderson Lake. Left to right: Cpl. Yerex, LAC Jessop, LAC LaChapelle, Cpl. MacDonald, Sgt. MacDougall (NCO i/c) and LAC Fleming.

#### Treasure Trails

Continued from Page 9  
Bonneville Power Administration from 1952 to 1956. He is also a well known author of books and articles on conservation. In this book he analyzes the fish versus dams subject and presents both sides of the story in an extremely interesting manner. He reveals the tremendous amount of money spent by the power companies and the governments in an effort to preserve the salmon fishing industry and indeed to prevent the ultimate extinction of this species of fish in the Columbia River.

\$7,800,000 was added to the cost of construction of the Bonneville dam on the Columbia River to provide an unimpeded path to salmon on their return trip to their spawning grounds. In addition to fish

ladders, screens, etc., four fish lifts were installed. These are huge tanks, which can be raised from the river to the reservoir as fast as they are filled with water and fish. At the top of their run the lifts are emptied and the salmon continue upstream. These elevators operate in pairs. While one is being emptied, the other is being loaded at the base of the dam. Each lift can accommodate 30,000 salmon a day.

\$36,200,000 was also spent on the Dalles Dam for the same purpose, to provide an unimpeded path for the upstream passage of salmon and for the safe downstream passage of fingerlings.

In spite of the extensive programs of conservation and the tremendous amount of money spent to ensure safe passage of salmon and steelhead, both upstream and downstream, the

loss is generally in the neighborhood of 15 per cent.

Presumably further damming of the lower reaches of the Columbia River can result in the ultimate ruin of the fishing industry in the Columbia River and its tributaries.

This is why the American government has approached the Canadian government for permission to dam the Canadian portion of the Columbia in the Arrow Lakes area. The USA wishes to pay Canada for the use of its power source in cash but Canada wants payment in power. There is a great deal of controversy on this proposed project at the present time. Many who know or live in the Arrow Lake area deplore the ruination of this most beautiful of areas.

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