

# RCAF Station Comox

## TOTEM TIMES

Vol. 1

R.C.A.F. Station, Comox, B.C., Thursday, May 26, 1960

No. 6

## Old and New Nighthawks Gather

### Ceremony Invite by Indian Chief

Wednesday, May 18, Chief Andy Frank of the Puntledge tribe, Comox, arrived on the station in his colorful robes to invite the Commanding Officer and all station personnel to attend a totem pole raising ceremony to be held at Centennial Park, Courtenay, on June 4, at 3 p.m. This 12-foot pole is being dedicated to David Martin, a local tribesman, who worked for both the federal and provincial governments on Indian cultural projects. Before his unfortunate death by drowning, he had helped his famous father in carving the 100 foot totem for Queen Elizabeth.

Chief Frank thought it would be fitting to invite Airforce personnel and their families because of David's association with the federal government. He also mentioned that he would like to see people in uniform, since it would add colour to what already promises to be a very colourful ceremony.

In our next edition we will

### FORMER "CHIEFS" CONFER



Photo by Cpl. V. H. Maxwell

Two former O.C.'s of 409, W/C Evans and S/L Haley, join the present O.C., W/C Bridges, at the reunion barbecue.

cover the ceremony itself more extensively. Remember, everyone is invited, so bring your camera and enjoy the proceedings.

### 409ers Come from Afar for Re-union at Comox

Old timers and novices gathered together on the weekend of May 21-23 for a reunion of all 409 aircrew, past and present. Ex-members, war time and post war, from near and far, started to arrive on Friday morning, and by late afternoon they all gathered in the Officer's Mess for a giant barbecue of fried chicken. Later that evening, a hilarious skit was presented by the present members which dealt with the history of the squadron. Everyone laughed as the actors brought back memories and spoofed various incidents of the past.

Saturday, local tours, fishing trips and golf were on the agenda and the beautiful weather and sporting conditions combined to make it an enjoyable afternoon.

At 1930 hrs that evening, everyone once again gathered at the Mess. This time for a cocktail party with their wives, preceding a dinner. The highlight of the evening was the cutting of a colourful cake especially baked and cleverly

decorated by Mrs. Quinn. Following the dinner and speeches there was dancing.

After breakfast on Sunday, the members attended a special church service. Then that afternoon, a picnic was held on Goose Spit and was an understandable success with many hot-dogs and refreshments being consumed.

A tired but happy group started to leave Sunday evening to return from whence they came. The ex-members praised the present squadron personnel for the efficient pre-planned program and all said they had thoroughly enjoyed the weekend.



### Youth Rec Council Shows Achievements

Youth springs eternal; and with a little adult guidance it springs in the right direction. On the evening of Wednesday, May 25, the station and community had the opportunity of judging the worth of a bit of applied guidance, as the Youth Recreation Council gave us a comprehensive picture of the Youth Recreation activities and the scope of endeavour of this, one of the station's most worthwhile enterprises.

The programme of events took the form of what the Council described as a "Three Ring Circus", and a successful effort was made to keep something going all the time, and, where possible, all activities functioned simultaneously.

#### BASKETBALL CHAMPS LOSE HEROICALLY

Our own B.C. Midget Basketball Champions opened the proceedings with a game against a PMQ area pick-up team. The game ended in a score of 6 to 2 for the opposition, but this was in no way derogatory to our champs, since they were grossly out-

reached. It was noted that the champs improved as the game wore on, and looked much better at the end than at the beginning, an excellent yardstick of team courage in a losing squad.

#### DANCING CLASS PARADES MANNERS

Mrs. L. M. Wentzell's Dancing Class was, in many ways, one of the more intriguing scenes. There is, of course, something particularly appealing about a little girl in a pretty dress. This factor, multiplied by many little girls, made for an effect as fresh and optic-

Continued on Page 9  
See Youth Rec.



#### PLAY CANCELLED

Due to extenuating circumstances and production difficulties, the play "Sabrina Fair", scheduled for June 2-3, will not be shown.

### Mercy Flight for Injured Man

An airforce Expeditor left Station Comox at 5:05 a.m. Saturday, May 14th, on an emergency mercy flight in a desperate effort to save the life of a man.

Ted Glover of Union Bay, was run over by a truck shortly after 3:30 a.m. near Cumberland. He was attended by Dr. C. V. Montgomery who requested that the victim be taken to Vancouver immediately.

The airforce responded and F/L Wally Fink of 407 (M/P) Squadron and a stretcher crew flew to Vancouver. Dr. Montgomery administered blood plasma during the flight. An ambulance and a specialist met the aircraft and rushed Glover to the Vancouver General Hospital.

### Station Makes Preparations for ADC Rocket Meet

All is not quiet in No. 7 Hangar these days, as furtive groups of men are seen standing in corners and muffled cries of rage or joy filter through the inner walls. Small snatches of the conversation can be heard, such as "... turn the dial up," "a new resistor?" or "watch out for the C of G".

Why all the strain? The answer is relatively simple. The annual rocket shoot for all ADC squadrons is being held at Cold Lake next week, and the aforementioned mutters and curses are from the technicians assigned to care for the three aircraft which will fly there Saturday, 10 May, and the crews who will fly them. They do so in hopes of enhancing the name of 409 Squadron, and the technical reputation of the maintenance personnel of Station Comox.

This year, representing the Nighthawks, will be F/O Bill Fraser and his radar operator, F/O Tom Platt, in crew one, and F/O Dick Bentham and his observer, F/O Bob Burnie in the second crew. They will be ably assisted on the technical side with the maintenance crews under the supervision of WO H. K. Thompson and FS W. Alsopp.

The technical types have re-

tired to a secluded region of the hangar where they spend their time working and reworking every inch of the chosen aircraft. Every trade is represented and the group has become a self-contained maintenance and servicing unit divorced from the regular functions of the station.

Not all of their energies however, are devoted to technical duties. A mysterious banner mural bearing striking painted figures and legends, is in preparation for the "advertising campaign" to be carried out at Cold Lake and plans for various coups are being banded back and forth. Whatever be their success, the aircrew and ground personnel are certainly putting a great deal of effort into their preparations and they will certainly bear with them the good wishes of the entire station when they leave on Saturday.





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Subscription rates: \$2.00 per year. For advertising rates contact the editor. Advertising and news deadline the Thursday prior to publication date.

## Editorials

### Every Day is Air Force Day

One of the features of the public relations program of the post-war RCAF has been the establishment of an annual "Air Force Day," a day on which the facilities, personnel and equipment of the RCAF are on display to the general public.

The value of the opportunities presented by such a day is well established and recognized and Air Force Day has made a considerable contribution to the task of presenting and maintaining the RCAF in a favorable and interesting light in the view of our ultimate employers, the people of Canada.

But what of the other 364 days? Is it not equally important to ensure that the impression made on Air Force Day are enhanced and solidified by the actions and appearance of our personnel every day of the year? It is of little or no value to present to the public, on Air Force Day, a picture of the RCAF, which on comparison with their every-other-day impression of that service, is plainly a Sunday-go-to-meeting look which is not truly representative of the Air Force.

The answer, of course, is to raise the level of our day-to-day activities and appearance to something approaching Air Force Day standards. Personnel should remember that Air Force Day, far from being a specific calendar date, can be any day of any month when the personnel and equipment of the RCAF are in the public eye, in short, every day.

The day that a mercy flight is completed is Air Force Day. So is the day that an honor guard parades the colors, that an airman is presented an award for bravery, or ingenuity, that an RCAF aircraft accomplishes some record performance, and all these items can assist in the overall task of public relations.

On the other side of the ledger, however, it must be remembered that there are other days, which cannot be considered with the feeling of pride inherent in the above instances. These are the days on which a member of the RCAF appears in traffic court, or appears in public in a dishevelled or untidy uniform, or is uncivil to a station guest, or the day that an Air Force vehicle, through disregard of courtesy or safety, inconveniences or endangers other traffic. It is the day on which an RCAF aircraft causes danger or discomfort to other people, either in the air or on the ground. These too are Air Force Days.

It is a primary responsibility of every member of the RCAF to strive to eliminate as many of the latter instances as possible, in order that the day-to-day appearance of the Service is such that the official Air Force Day is a true reflection of a proud and well-adjusted fighting force. Only by diligent application to this task can all our Air Force Days be occasions of pride.



#### CATHOLIC CHAPEL

F/L R. G. MacNEILL  
MASSES  
Sunday — 0900 and 1100 hrs.  
Monday — 1200 hrs.  
Tuesday — Friday — 1640 hrs.  
Saturday — 0830 hrs.  
ROSARY and BENEDICTION  
Sunday — 1915 hrs.  
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION  
for Boys and Girls  
Sunday (May 29) at Mass — 0900 hrs.  
MAY PROCESSION  
Sunday (May 29) at 1930 hrs.

#### A Catholic Problem

In the past 10 years the Catholic population of North America has increased by 38 per cent. In that same period of time the number of priests has increased only by 21 per cent and the number of religious Sisters only by 16 per cent. There are two ways of looking at this problem. One is optimistic. It holds that the present shortage of religious vocations is almost a providential thing because it has been the instrument of awakening many of our fine, zealous, intelligent Catholic lay men and women to the acceptance of their role in the work of the Church.

Certainly this is something good. Everyone will admit that the work of the Church is not the exclusive responsibility of the religious and that there are many things that the dedicated layman can do, and can do better in accomplishing the work of the Church.

But we cannot discount the other side of the picture. We are familiar with the shortage of teaching and hospital Sisters, a shortage that promises to become much more serious before it improves. There are many parishes that should be started but cannot because of the lack of personnel.

Any priest engaged in parish work will tell you that his major efforts are spent taking care of the good conscientious Catholics who do not require much care, while the indifferent, the fallen away and the sincere outsiders are practically abandoned for lack of time.

What is the answer to this shortage of vocations? The first answer is prayer that the Lord of the vineyard will send workers. But where are these workers going to come from? They are going to come from those families in which a vocation to the religious life is regarded as something special, something desirable, something worth aspiring to.

They will come, too, from that family of families which we call the parish where the participating families draw

### Chapel Chimes

#### 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.

#### ON PRAYER

For the next few issues of the "Times" we will offer in this place, some thoughts on the exacting, but rewarding art of prayer. For today, let us begin with the observation that it is very difficult to feel two difficulties in connection with the saying of their prayers:—First, they would say that it is very difficult to feel that they are talking to anyone, and secondly, they would say that it is a job to keep their thoughts from wandering all over the place.

As a beginning, then consider this:—We are told that in the Cathedral at Copenhagen, there is a great statue of Jesus Christ. He stands at the end of a long aisle, and His head is bowed so that He is looking towards His feet. If a guide is there he will say

the graces that keep them close to Christ. The more we appreciate Holy Mass and the sacraments, the sooner the vocation problem will disappear.

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to you, "You can't see His face. If you want to see His face you must kneel at His feet."

And so it is, for if you walk down the aisle and kneel at the feet of the statue, and look up, you will see the face of Jesus. "If you want to see His face, you must kneel at His feet."

Here is a way to begin all prayer, and for many this has been found to be a first aid in keeping the thoughts from wandering. Our next article of prayer activity.

"Speak Lord, in the stillness, Whilst we wait on Thee: Hush our hearts—to listen—In expectancy."

AMEN.

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### MAGIC AND SONG AT CPL'S CLUB



Left to right: Roy Wheeler, magician and comedian; Cpl. W. B. Brown, chairman Corporals' Entertainment; Kay Bruzzisi, songstress and comedienne, and Cpl. D. Wilder, president of the Corporals' Club.

### Two Strippers Swing at Spring Frolic

On Saturday, the 14th, the Corporals' Club was swinging high, wide and handsome to the music of the Top Hatters.

The decorations for the occasion were extremely effective, particularly noticeable were the spring flowers on each table. Highlights of the entertainment were Roy Wheeler, who provided magic and comedy in generous portions; Kay Bruzzisi (Brulose Easy), who, in her own words, may not be good, but she sure was loud; Kay is a bouncy, busty, lusty gal who edified the audience with her song and commedienne-dances. The smorgasbord luncheon at 0300 was just the right topping for a wonderful evening.

All Single Officers are urged to attend a Meeting of the COBOC Sunday, 1900 hours, Officers Mess

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## Mother Talk

by "MOMMY"

For the past few days I have been thinking of "mother love"—can it be defined or is it made up of too many component parts to bear definition? I have heard it lightly defined as "what you feel after the kids are all in bed and asleep at night." My own personal feeling is that it is much more than that. It is the nebulous thing which keeps you going long after you would normally have dropped in your tracks; which lets you change dirty diapers on your own baby without batting an eye, while to change the neighbour's baby in the same condition nauseates you; which allows you to sleep so soundly that you may not hear the alarm and yet

never miss the first cry or cough of your child in the night; which keeps you picking up after and wiping up after the family, day after day with hardly a second thought; and which makes you recognize immediately your own child's cry outside even amidst several others. It is the thing that makes you realize that you wouldn't trade your child for any other in the world, even though he may be a regular demon; that makes you feel badly after losing your temper or when you have to punish your child for his own good when you aren't really cross with him; that makes you sacrifice personal feelings, desires, time and material possessions so that your child does not do without (although this can be carried too far); and that makes you want everything to go smoothly for your child all his life, even though you know that mature adult life is gained only through frustrations as well as successes. No doubt, the reader can think of more examples and may even disagree with me on some points.

While mulling these things over in my mind, I came across a column in another newspaper. (yes, Mr. Editor, there ARE other newspapers!). Several of the thoughts re mothers, expressed by own feelings so much better than I possibly could myself. They are not quite on the same train of thought as the above, but nevertheless pertinent and worth quoting. So with the kind permission of Mamie Moloney, I quote...

"Now that Mother's Day is past and gone I'd like to register a complaint. When are the advertising people, who deluged our newspaper with page upon page of ads urging us to go out and buy something for dear old Mother, going to drop that sweet, sticky, sentimental line of guff that is supposed to describe the typical mother?"

Not that we object to getting a couple of pair of stockings for Mother's Day. Heaven knows we can always use them. But we're not sweet, sticky and sentimental. If we were we'd never survive.

In order to adjust to the environment of children, a mother soon learns that the romantic notions she once held of herself (before she had any children), as the epitome of sweetness and light, soon gives way to a far more realistic picture.

Faced with the daily crises that arise from the time her children first start climbing out of their cribs, she develops a maternal personality that is compounded of love and indignation, patience and frustration, delight and chagrin, all of which is welded together with a wry sense of humor without which she'd never be able to get through the day.



### SCOUT CORNER

By BRIAN SIMMONS

Recently the Scout Troop was divided into two separate troops. They will meet on the same night until September, but each troop will conduct its own activities except for camp. Previously there were six patrols but the new troops will now have three with the hopes of forming two new patrols in the fall.

Scouter Hunter with Scouter Davis as assistant will lead the Antelope, the Eagle and the Nighthawk Patrols, while Scouter Weller with Scouter Toft as assistant will lead the Cougar, the Lynx and the Seagull Patrols.

The separation will now allow each troop to operate more efficiently. This also shows the increasing interest

The image of mother on a pedestal, like some sort of saint who is the repository of all the material virtues, only serves to give us a guilt-complex.

Most of us will admit we're not 'born' mothers—that we've had to learn as we went along, and that we can only hope we've done some growing up too—along with our children.

One more thing, before I go—we would like to know if you are enjoying the column and if you would like to see it continued. We can only find this out if you write us or tell us. We would also be glad to hear from any who would like a particular behaviour problem discussed. So let's HEAR from you!

there is amongst boys towards Scouting. Incidentally, Scouter Stephens hasn't left us but we will be losing him in June. The group committee and leaders were very pleased with the number of boys who turned out for the sale of light bulbs and collection of bottles. Badge Presentations

The big news of the troop is that David Hunter has received his Queen's Scout Badge and Gold Cord. Good work, David! Others to be congratulated are Jack Albrecht as he received his Pioneer Badge, Ken Hutt his Pioneer and Master-at-Arms, Peter Hutt his Stamp Collector and Brian Simmons his Electrician. David Hunter received his Master-at-Arms to qualify for his Gold Cord.

Bobby Sheard was appointed Second of the Antelope Patrol and was presented with his stripe at a recent meeting.

Word has been received that the Nighthawks, Cougars and Eagles were awarded "B" pennants at the Powell River Camporee. The troop were further rewarded when it was announced that the Nighthawk Patrol won the Powell River District Camping Shield. It must have been a tough camporee since no "A" pennants were awarded. Congratulations to Patrol Leader Jack Albrecht and the boys.

### Protestant Chapel Guild Meets

All members are invited to Open House on Wednesday, June 1st from 1 to 3 p.m. for dessert and coffee in honour of Mrs. Smythe, at the home of Mrs. E. Hyde, PMQ 92. Hope you can come.

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## DEMON DOIN'S

By GOSH

All the Flying Ossifer visages this day do appear either of a very happy, or a very sad expression. The F/O QE results having been received, we congratulate those who made it, and commiserate with those who were unfortunate who must try again. Since the Flight Loo is still in the machine, they are still in a state of expectancy, and, like a blossoming woman, they know it's coming but they don't know what. The Ugly Duckling Squadron had what they called a reunion, to their nite; it appears that some small part of the squadron got itself reunited, however, as two Totem Poles absented themselves from the proceedings; the fact that said Ugly Ducklings committed the error of inviting a few unattached 407 types to the do has more than a passing influence on the missing poles; from there to here. . . . Our own little Gussie Gauthier, having put in his contact training on the Mexican Border, now hies himself off to one of the world's biggest waterless beaches: Egypt. The seven sisters of the seven sisters, in their seven veils had better hang on tight to same if Gus gets hold of any fermented camel milk down there; we can't think of anything wilder than a Canadian Frenchman, with Mexican training, full of Egyptian Juice, with United Nations immunity. . . . Spring is sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where de boidies is? Some of our birds, at least, are accounted for: the Messrs Fox, Holland, Belec and Parker busily raising a crop of calluses, the planting of a garden from; and our Agitator, F/O Hugh Standing, goes the old saying, "A man should never put in more garden than his wife can look after". Better still by allowing the Standing offspring to put in as much as he feels they can look after—about 2 x 2 feet; S/L Chisholm, on the other hand, goes the other extreme, but if the industry of the digging be any yardstick, he diggeth not a garden patch, but more likely an H-bomb shelter. . . . A couple of Demons who aren't testing the greenness of their thumbs, nor yet worrying about the height of the grass, are F/L Wally Fink and F/O Dave Tomlinson who are engaged in the Fight for Survival at Jarvis Lake, where Edmonton is considered a southern paradise. . . . Our undercover agent from across the hangar, Sgt. Davidson's Triple-Threat Corporal, who has the bumps to prove it, reports that Cpl. Tony Larose took our advice re losing fat so seriously he's since been to the MO in an effort to find an easier way to accomplish the feat than cutting off his head, since he's over at Headquarters Building these days, taking a course from the SGTO on what makes corporals tick, we haven't been able to ascertain just how successful the MO has been in this direction, but hope Tony's equatorial perimeter is now allowed a little less latitude and shows a trifle more longitude. . . . Not sure whether FS Harry MacAulay thinks he's going to fool the RCMP or the Station Gestapo by painting his car a baby blue to match the innocence of his eyes. . . . That pall of viscous smoke overhanging the Officers' Mess is occasioned by some of our single types

yearning for a little home cooking and trying to compensate for same by incinerating good beef over the beer garden barbecue. . . . Reports from the returned SU detachment say that a familiar stamping ground of some of our more adventurous souls has gone by the board in the closure of "The Diner"; all is not lost however, since the Miscouche Dance Palace remains open for business as un-usual. . . . Our congratulations to LAC and Mrs. Bob Hott on their recent acquirement: a baby girl. As anyone can tell you, this is the only kind of girl you can trust, unless, of course, you're holding her in your lap. . . . An Open Letter to the C119 crew bringing our groundcrew back from "THE" Island: Operations thanks you, Orderly Room thanks you, Guardhouse thanks you, STechO thanks you. In fact, just about everyone with a squadron phone number thanks you for finally making it: never before in the history of mankind have so many women shown so much interest in so few airmen, and so often. . . . F/O Ernie Gordon made it back to duty from his honeymoon OK. Seems in pretty fair shape, too; only thing is, he won't talk about it. When you ask him how things went he just grins from here to here, gets a foolish expression on his face, and walks dreamily off. . . . Sometime you might try asking LAC Paul Corneau how fast a Volkswagen can go. Seems he tried to get away from the headlights of one shining in his mirror to other nite; just about the time he was wondering how many Volkswagens could do 95 this one passed him, with wailing siren, yet, and suddenly became a full-grown RCMP vehicle. . . . The Pilot Section acquire another Demon driver in the person of F/L W. D. Grice, transferred here from Summerside. . . . Cpl. Pat McKenzie, for the duration of the trout season, should put in a Change of Ad-

dress to our Records Section to read: Buttle Lake. Pat spends so much time up there, hauling monofilament in and out of the water that pilots returning to Comox base can use his moustache to take a bearing from, it's become a natural landmark. . . . Returning to the greener pastures of civilianville is LAC Russell Genest a ComTech(A) - boy. Rotsa Ruck Russ. . . . F/O Doug Kelly sporting a bashed-about head, got it playing ping-pong, he says, sure hope he doesn't play baseball. . . . Chasing the Rising Sun to the East Coast, F/L Smokey McLennan, F/L Don Cox, F/O Tom MacDonald, F/O John McWhirter, F/O Pete Philp, F/O Dan Gallacher and FS Howie Witwer use the excuse of ferrying a CAIR-worn Neptune from whence it came in order to sample the Haligonian hospitality. There'll be hot times in the Maritimes. . . . F/L Earl Smith, who leaves us in favour of a sojourn at the other Island was spotted surveying the housing situation at Summerside. Guess, like most stations, the survey will be the only reasonable aspect. . . . F/O Don MacDonald in Toronto visiting with his brother, an Engineering Officer, just back from 2 Wing. . . . F/L Timmie Huisman getting in a little cranial exercise in Saskabush at the Flight Procedure Trainer Skull Skool. . . . Cpl Bill Munn back from ROTP Selection at Centra. Seems they really gave him a working-over and Bill's in a state of flux awaiting the results. In the meantime Cpl J. W. Sutherland takes up the pen of progression at the same emporium. Good luck to both. . . . S/L Ed Hudson off to Commandland to discuss the relative merits of a half coconut shell full of H2O as the Command's mightiest navigators get together for a pow-wow at the teepee of the biggest chief. . . . Two aircraft

See Demon Doin's

Continued on Page 10

## DEBITS AND CREDITS

by JWJ

Too late for the last issue; our very popular and personable Civilian Pay Clerk, Mamie Aitken, followed Marg. Brown's lead and had a sniff of ether. However, she was back on the job in a few days as right as Comox weather.

As noted in our foregoing effort, we have F/O Thompson in Supply Accounts. When he's here, Chuck really brightens the joint, but he's most elusive. Did you ever drop a jar of mercury and try to collect the contents? That's our boy.

We welcome to drippy Comox a new arrival in M & I. . . . AW Joyce Jackson from Fort William. Joyce is one that Pay didn't get. By "Pay" we mean Sgt. Scott. Better mention Gordy by name and not hurt his feelings. For all his faults and shortcomings we love him still. He's a pretty good egg. . . . As eggs go. Of course, he'd stand a better chance of promotion if he'd read DRO—Pt. 1 occasionally, especially about the time he's due to be O.S. But then. . . oh, well.

Our last Alert occurred at a most inopportune moment. One F/O Baker was just starting his leave when some very inconsiderate joker stuck his finger on the button. Most annoying to say the least. However, when we met Riley in the A.M., we had to admit that he looked really sharp in rubber boots, pyjamas (?), an old web belt and 24 hours' growth of whiskers. He must have been a Boy Scout in his youth. . . . the motto, at least, has remained with him.

Also in M & I, for summer recreation, is F/C Wong from the UBC Sqn. Under the tutelage of that hard martinet, WO Moore, he is learning to make the cash balance with what the book says it should be. It's easier on the Warrant's teeth this way.

What's the use of having a

Met. Section on the Station? All we get is weather. Where is our vaunted climate? The boys with boats have the Gulf to mess around in. . . it's not necessary to try floating on the runways. PLEASE fellows, try to do better. After all, May is May and enough is enough. And the same goes for this column.

## OBSERVING OPERATIONS

By JACK

In view of our not having a column in the last issue, we find ourselves swamped with news and not enough space. The opposite is generally the case.

We have a new and pleasant face in the Ops Room, LAC John MacLean from COC, Vancouver. Welcome to the empire.

A farewell party is in order for three of our lads. This will consist of a wake being held tonight for LAC's Bob MacArthur and Bob Morgan who are about to be buried in Holberg, and Sgt. Jim Mercer who is leaving for Cold Lake on June 22. All the best to all of you.

F/O Gunhouse, who has a new scheme brewing every week, has as his latest, a compact trailer for compact cars.

## AIRWOMEN'S NEWS

by "ENID"

Friday the 3rd of June is the date we have set for our dance. It will be a Spring Frolic held in the Social Centre.

This year we have a baseball team and will be playing exhibition games in and around the Comox Valley.

Here on contact training is Joyce Johnson in Accounts. Beverley Gilmour is on leave at her home in Surrey. Cum is off to the wilds of B.C. for a week to look over a site for her chicken ranch when she takes the plunge into clvlye street.



## Nighthawk News

by "ANDY"

Last weekend 409 held its second squadron reunion since its post war regrouping. According to all former members the reunions are becoming bigger and better with the passage of time.

Festivities commenced at approximately 11 o'clock Friday morning when the first CF-100s began arriving from Cold Lake. Present members of 409 welcomed each aircraft as it landed. After getting settled in the barrack block various attractions took place in the afternoon including golfing and fishing.

The evening presented the first real chance for all the squadron and former squadron members to become better acquainted or reacquainted. The former OC's of 409 since 1954 were both present, S/L Haley and W/C Evans, and during the course of the evening S/L Haley has presented with a 409 baseball hat, to cover his golden curls, while W/C Evans was presented with a tiger bathing suit.

Many an hour passed between friends during the evening but not to be passed by was the barbecue which provided the final touch to a wonderful evening. Also not to be forgotten was the skit put on by present members of 409. A series of events which happened over the years were dramatically portrayed by a dedicated group of artists including F/O Bob Thatcher, F/O Terry Neill, F/O Bob Conn, and F/O Tony Cape. Narration was handled by F/O Rex Sutcliffe.

Saturday morning dawned bright and clear. Saturday afternoon the call of nature lured the 409ers past and present, to the golf links with F/O Bob Hornal handling the organization, and to the water with F/L Bruce Inrig in charge.

Meanwhile back at the station preparations were being made for the mixed dinner which was to take place in the evening. F/L Britt Johnston, a true artisan with great care and diligence prepared the "Nighthawk Nectar" to be served at the cocktail hour preceding the dinner.

The dinner took place in the evening followed by dancing. During the dinner former members of 409 were introduced including S/L Haley, S/L Hatch and F/L Joe Clark. Needless to say with the sparkling presence of the 409 wives the evening was a tremendous success.

Sunday morning dawned bright and clear. In the afternoon a picnic was held on the spit complete with hotdogs. A ferry service was provided from the dock to the spit by those old Comox mariners F/L Hugh Hamilton and F/O Norm McDonald. Although summer is not quite here and the weather was not the warmest several members of 409 showed the spirit which has made 409 famous by plunging in the surf. However, these hardy types cheated slightly by having their clothes on which no doubt provided insulation.

All good things have to come to an end however, and Sunday evening saw many of 409 personnel departing for sundry places. All agreed that the reunion was the best ever and are looking forward to the next gathering of the Nighthawks. "Canada's best all weather fighter squadron."

## CONTRAILS:

In the last issue mention was made of F/O Bill Brown attending the Rocket meet. Since this time F/O Bill Brown has changed his name to F/O Bill Fraser. Sorry Bill for the mistake but you should be more consistent. S/L Cameron has departed for duties at McChord and F/O Bob Conn will be leaving 409 for civilian life this week. F/L Ray Jolley is back again with 409 after having completed the UICP course in Saskatoon.

A good day to all and especially to 407 Squadron who helped make the reunion a success.

## TELE-TALK

By "E. C. GOIN"

The section would like to welcome LAC Floyd Bjerke, our latest addition from Clinton. His name, almost an echo of our stalwart, Lloyd Bjork, may later cause chaos when the two have the privilege of working together. Floyd, a native British Columbian hailing from Vancouver, is immune to our climate.

F/O Ernst was the proud father of a bouncing baby boy last week. The five pound fifteen ounce arrived by stork-way express on May 17. This being the third addition to the happy family and only boy, he's sure to follow in papa's footsteps and become another ardent fisherman.

This week sees LAC Calderwood bound for North Bay, where he will try his hand at the CF-100 course. Bob, one of the latest recruits, is well on his way to becoming a top notch tech.

A going away party was held for Cpl. Gingras at the home of F/O Ernst. The corporal was presented with a pewter glass bottomed cup inscribed with his name and section. The cup was presented along with a potent mix, believed to be drunk by the B.C. Sasquache. The partygoers would like to thank Mrs. Kronbauer and Mrs. Anderson who prepared and served the shrimp and oysters.

## ARMOURER'S ALLEY

by "Q"

As a result of a recent directive, a new position, that of field Service Representative, has been established in the Armament Systems section. This position, once held by a civilian from CAE (the late Taffy Lloyd) has become an airforce responsibility and involves a great deal of theoretical and practical knowledge of the MG-2 Fire Control System.

The senior NCO chosen for the job (in this case FS S. C. Withers) acts as a floating advisor to technicians who encounter snags in their day to day work and carries out sporadic spot checks for quality control. It is an exacting

task, and one for which FS Withers is eminently suited. The M&W section had a late call last week to Union Bay where a sharp-eyed civilian spotted a mortar shell lying on a garbage dump. The shell was quickly picked up, with all due precautions and brought back for disposal. This is another indication of the hazards which still exist in this part of the country and the section votes a pat on the back for Mr. Hamilton of Union Bay who notified them so promptly.

## FLYCON FLASHES

by GAVIN

Our reporter, Barney, is on the sick list this week so this is my first and probably my last column.

Flash — F/O Hawkins is back from the Approach Control course, and not only did he top the course, but he has been informed that he is transferred to 4(F) Wing, Germany. Lucky guy!

Bridge tournament finished with the team of Cpl. Griffith and Cpl. Cheesman taking the top honours. Stewart and Chapman were close seconds. In case anyone has been wondering, all the activity around the Tower has been

caused by voluntary (say again) labor putting in a new lawn and sun deck.

On the fishing scene Sgt. Mac has been spending all hours spare time up at Buttle and Lower Campbell—he must have a deep-freeze as no one family could eat all those fish. Also hear F/L Mealing and F/L MacKelvie hooked a couple of real whoppers in Comox Lake several weekends ago. Our blue back, F/L Lavin, has been chasing a few salmon around the salt chuck.

## STATION FLIGHT EXPLODERS

by BOB

We've been having a lot of Corporals down this way lately, pounding the pavement on their SSTs course. It's good to be able to watch Corporals do it rather than have them make us do it for a change. Remember Manning Depot? Our own Corporal MacKinnon was on the course and he seemed to be quite pleased with it. He tells us he found out a lot of mistakes he had been making in the past. We are now wondering whether this is good or bad.

Continued on Page 9  
See Exploders

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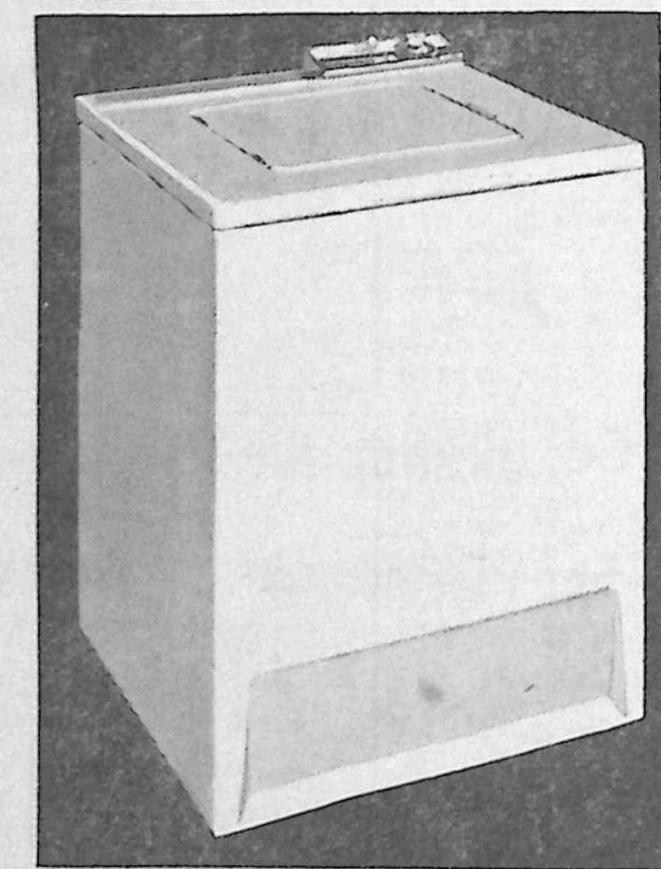
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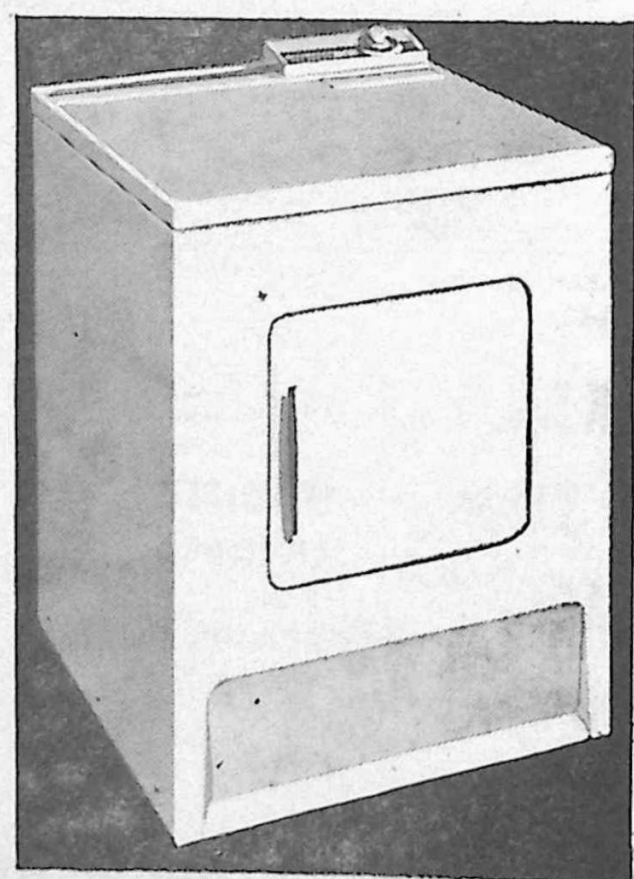
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LETTUCE	LARGE HEADS	2 for 25c



## NEWS IN Sports

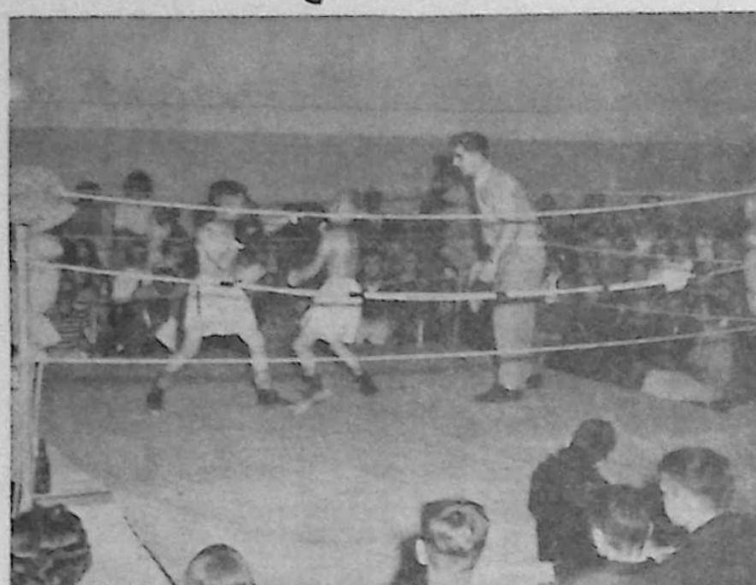


Photo by Maxwell

Under the aegis of LAC Joe Porkolab, the boxing club of the Youth Rec. Council, maintained a succession of bouts during the evening of display. These youngsters are all determination and seem to really enjoy themselves.

### Station Baseball Team Improves

With five games played to date, the local boys are finally putting together a winning combination. Sunday, May 15, saw the Air Force split a double-header with the hard-hitting Courtenay boys at Union Bay. In the first game, despite Red Dagley's 13 strikeouts Courtenay came out on top 6-0 mainly on Montgomery's timely and heavy hitting. The airmen managed to collect only three scattered hits in this game.

The evening game was called after seven innings because of rain but the locals managed to collect four runs on three hits, two walks and a hit batsman to end up on top 4-3. Stan Smith was the winning pitcher.

Wednesday, May 25, saw the first meeting with the C.R. Cougars. The local boys finally found their batting eyes and collected nine hits to lead 4-2 going into the 8th inning. Despite a downpour the umpire refused to call the game until two were out in the eighth with the Cougars leading 6-5. A protest has been lodged with

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## Recreation Ramblings

What! Still no sports field? Yes, that is the sad news. The target date for the field was the very wet spring, the grass has been expected. Therefore, the CE Section has asked us to stay off the field for another month. Actually, this is a reasonable request as it would be foolish to rush on the field and ruin some 18 months of labour for the want of another 30 days.

We had hoped to start the inter-section softball on the new sports field, but now due to this further delay, the schedule will commence during the first week of June on the Comox radar field.

## BINGO

Tuesday, May 31

Rec. Centre - 200 hours

\$600.00 JACKPOT

Also \$300.00 in prizes

\$1.00 Admission

50c Extra Cards  
Open to all Service Personnel and Employees and Dependents over 21.

### The Art of Golf For The Ladies

By MARK II

(This article is dedicated to all golf widows)

Being a widow on golfing days goes back as far as 1457, when the Scots women of that time had the same problem. In fact, the Scots were so interested in the game that King James II of Scotland passed a law forbidding golf, because the men were neglecting their archery. This was the primary weapon of war in those days and the king maintained that the country could not be defended with golf clubs!

In 1552, during the reign of an avid female golfer, Mary Queen of Scots, St. Andrews, one of the most famous golf courses in the world was laid out. The first fully organized tournament on record was held at Prestwick in 1860. This was the forerunner of the famous British Open.

Golf came to Canada in 1873 when it was introduced in Montreal. Soon after, Queen Victoria gave recognition to the Montreal club, which consisted of 11 holes on the lower slopes of Mount Royal, and was then called the Royal Montreal Golf Club. At that time you could buy a club for one dollar and a ball for eight cents. What a difference from today's prices.

So ladies, if you hear your husband say that he got a bogey or a double bogey, it means that he was either one or two strokes over par, and if he says he had a birdie or an eagle, then he was one or two strokes under par.

What is par you say? Well, par is the number of strokes that it should take to get from off the tee to the hole. In most cases, a hole 250 yards from the tee should take three strokes, while one 450 yards long should take four strokes. The par varies from course to course. If he gets an ace, or a hole-in-one, he may take a little longer on the 19th hole. Since there are only 18 holes on a golf course, I leave it to your imagination where the 19th hole can be found.

If you are starting to get interested in the game, here are a few tips on cleaning clubs and golfing shoes. For woods, use ordinary kitchen wax or clear shoe polish, and for irons just use soap and water. Remove all grass from the spikes of the shoes and polish them after every outing and they will keep very well. Then go out and swing a few of his clubs to get the feel of them. Next thing you know, he'll be staying home while you are out playing.

Bye bye ladies, see you on the golf course, and by the way... I don't play the game.

flights according to their handicap (maximum handicap will be 36 strokes). There is an entry fee of 50c plus your registered handicap as of 1st June, 1960, or a minimum of three cards to accompany your entry fee.

Example of Flights  
Championship Flight, 89 or under.

First Flight, 90 to 100  
Second Flight, 101 to 115  
Third Flight, 116 and up  
Flights must be limited to not more than 16 individuals.  
Entry fee, 50c. Phone the Rec. Centre. The deadline for entering is set for Sunday, June 5.

### ON THE BEACH

A Review - by J. D. Eggleston  
It's a story of waiting death of creeping death, of death by radiation sickness as radioactive dust slowly but steadily drifts south across Africa, South America, New Zealand and Australia. It's a story of the Grand Prix car races and the fishing season opening early in Australia because September will be too late. It's a story of the USS Submarine the Scorpion, the last American ship afloat, and her last trip northward, of her passage of death.

Continued on Page 10  
See "On The Beach"

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## Trail Treasures

with "ILES"

There is, in my opinion, nothing quite so sad to witness as a search for drowning victims. Slowly moving boats with heavy grappling hooks dragging the bottom of a lake, river or sea shore, presents a grim sight to those watching from shore.

Suddenly a soft-spoken command drifts over the water, one boat stops, and for the hundredth time the long rope is hauled in. Those on shore sense that this time they have been successful. They must have been for another man has moved to the back of the boat to help raise the heavy object which has been snagged by the grappling hooks.

What must be going through the minds of close relatives who are standing in a close group staring with horrified anticipation towards the two men struggling with their heavy load?

Their minds must be filled with mixed emotions, one minute hoping that at long last the body of their loved one will be brought up, thus ending the torture so oft repeated over the past several hours—the next minute hoping that through some miracle, the body which may come up will

be that of someone else—that their son, daughter, or husband will appear from the land side to explain that they had not, after all, been out in the boat. Thus do most of us cling tenaciously, not only to our own lives but to the lives of our loved ones.

Finally, the long wait is over—one of their hopes has been fulfilled—the torture of witnessing the oft repeated procedure of hauling in empty grappling irons has ended. There, lying at their feet, is the body of their loved one.

Belatedly they deride themselves for not having stressed more strongly, insisted more forcefully in obedience of the few simple rules of safety. But—it's too late now—all that is left is the grief.

Let us do everything in our power this season to ensure that this does not happen to us nor to our loved ones. Let us rid ourselves of our complacent attitude—of sympathizing with the survivors of those too remotely related to us to cause heartbreak and then, by completely ignoring the few rules of water safety, place ourselves or our loved ones in the same position.

The following rules appeared in a recent edition of "Front Page Detective" under "Common Sense Afloat" and were written by Tom Galloway. Since they make such good sense I am quoting them here.

When afloat, follow these simple rules:

- 1 Check for the recommendation plate on the transom and follow its instructions as to maximum weight and recommended horsepower to be used on the particular craft.
- 2 Never jump into a boat. Use caution at all times when boarding.
- 3 Centre your motor on the transom and make sure that bracket screws are secure.
- 4 Balance your load evenly. Keep passengers seated near the centre so as to counterbalance each other.
- 5 See that your motor is tilted for best performance of your craft. Motor tilted out forces bow up. Motor tilted in forces the bow down. Motor perpendicular to transom gives smooth, safe ride.
- 6 Remember, sail boats and row boats have the right-of-way over outboards.
- 7 Always head into the wake of other boats.
- 8 Reduce speed before making a turn.
- 9 Keep low in your boat. Avoid sudden movements.
- 10 Carry a fire extinguisher.
- 11 If your boat overturns (while wearing life jackets or not) stay with your boat. Don't attempt to swim to shore. Remember,



by CAL SMITH

It is next to impossible to talk of sea life without the aid of colored motion pictures. The limitations of verbal photography, when applied to such a colorful and wholly captivating world as the living sea, leaves the reader with a distorted, unreal and at best, sketchy impression of life underwater.

The uncountable shades of reds, greens and blues, applied in unimaginable combinations, allow no descriptions. The varied and complex life forms beneath the sea, bear no similarity to things familiar, in our own world, and thus give no reference for comparison.

A beach-comber sees nothing of this luxuriant fairy-land. Instead he walks in a graveyard, amid the stench of decaying corpses, spewed up from the depths. And yet, he stands and marvels at the myriad of creatures and plant life, living, even here.

Starfish are in abundance, feeding on the countless shellfish left in shallow pools by the receding tide. When this ravenous creature moves on, he leaves an empty shell which will become occupied, immediately by one of the many small crabs found in such places. These crabs are as varied in type as the shells they live in, ranging from hermits to fiddlers and spider crabs.

On the shore, under weeds and debris live tiny sand hoppers, looking like young deep-water shrimp left stranded by the outgoing tide. These and many other interesting creatures found on the beach afford only an inkling of the secrets of the sea.

A trip to the wharf is quite often a fascinating adventure, as the cargo of shrimp boats and drag netters nearly always contain some interesting deep-sea life, brought home to capture an awestruck audience. I have seen such interesting and terrible monsters as Octopi, Giant Squid and Wolf Eels aboard these ships, and beautifully strange creatures, that would capture the hearts of even the hardest of fishermen, such as the most adorable Ratfish. The octopus was all of 18 inches across and the Giant Squid were at least 9 inches

distances are deceiving over water. It's further than you think.

And, last but not least, "Wear Your Life Jackets." Let's have a happy boating and fishing season. Remember—"It CAN happen to YOU"

tip to tip. The Wolf Eel, however, was genuinely horrifying and vicious, snapping sticks put near its head, as easily as it could remove a finger, carelessly left lying near its razor-like teeth.

I have never encountered a Wolf Eel under water, but I feel sure that it would not attack. It is difficult to blame any animal, who is gasping its life away for snapping and biting at anything within reach. And it is hard to close your mind to the agony of any creature, even one as ferocious as the Wolf Eel.

Beach combing and wharf prowling really have little to offer and, only by actually going underwater and living with the cod and salmon, among the luxuriant sea grass and kelps can a true appreciation of the ocean be had. Submerging your head in the water reveals a world of intoxicating beauty. The bladder kelp's great strands joining the surface and sea floor, the sea grasses and ferns in their glorious shades of greens and reds, attached to the bottom and rising in great pillars toward the surface, with sunlight causing flashes of silver from the shining bodies of small fishes swimming in the marine corridors.

As the surface recedes, the dark spots on the ocean floor become beautiful, wine colored sea urchins. Brilliant spheres whose spines are prone to puncture unwary flesh, and, being brittle, break off to become festering, unhealing sores. Rock Cod crowd into crevices between rocks, and like frightened puppies, cower there, hoping not to be noticed. Ling Cod, more aggressive, watch as they are approached and attempt to outface their aggressor, but, when touched, abandon all courage, and flee.

The entrance to an underwater cave looms and gives the diver uneasy seconds as his eyes adjust to the gloom inside. There may be an octopus

curled and watching his every move, but, untrue to his reputation, not willing to engage this split-tailed creature in battle. Or possibly a shark lying still in the shadows waiting for the signal that will send him gliding away to feed on some dead or dying animal. More likely though, he will see beautiful reef fish or an ugly bullhead with belly distended from gorging on unfortunate visitors.

Every movement in this wonderland brings adventure and discovery unimaginable to the landlocked or surface-bound. Things that were mysterious above are now commonplace. The Sea Anemone so common to fishermen who think it ugly and vulgar, is beautiful when seen in its native surroundings. Actually, it is often the only spot of life on a dead and dreary landscape, especially around the wharves.

No wonder then, that so many men become so enthused about diving, that wives and children finally have to either join them or give them up completely to this most seductive and infatigable rival, and upon joining them, they too become slaves to the living sea.

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**Demon Doin's**

Continued from Page 4  
and crews hie themselves off to Uplands for Rockcliffe's Air Force Day. Sounds sensible, doesn't it? I mean at least smarter than going to Hull for Gimli's, or maybe to Swift Current for Lower Musquidobit's Air Force Day... LAC Jimmie Sykes walking around with a chest like a

pouter pigeon after teaming up with Mrs. Sykes on the production of a son, John Brian... And LAC and Mrs. Alden Nelson are no less proud of their own girlish addition, Katherine Eileen... Question of the week: On whose test flight did the MAD gear fail to check out, for quite some time, all because he'd lost his head? MAD head, that is...

2 Wing bequeathes unto our Photo Section LAC J. A. Cochran: a great, big, glossy, 8 x 10 welcome... At last a hero who has discovered the secret of how not to be asked to partake of Orderly Officer hardship. F/O Dan Gallacher found the answer to be quite simple: you just prang the ME vehicle. After that they're afraid to ask you... Not yet too old for games, F/L Marty Plumstead, F/O Eric Radcliffe, F/O Bob MacPhail, F/O "Wee Mac" MacDonald and Ernie, a radio type soon to arrive and whose surname escapes us, caught short in a game of "Cops and Robbers." Free evenings could be difficult to come by in the near future... Let us close with a toast and the usual congratulations to Cpl. and Mrs. Gordie McMullen on their authorship of another masterpiece, a son.

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ful since not only will the scouts gain personal pride in accomplishment, but they will be learning, through close attention to detail, many of the finer points of life under canvas.

District Commissioner Yaeger has developed an excellent program for this camporee, and we know that the RCAF patrols will live up to his inspirational leadership expectations.

**On The Beach**

Continued from Page 6  
through the Juan De Fuca Straits and into Puget Sound; of a crewman jumping ship off shore from his home town and spending his last 72 hours fishing rather than wait for September. It's a story of a unique love affair between the skipper of the Scorpion and an Australian lass. It's a story of dogs outliving their masters, cats outliving dogs, mice have it over the cats and the rab-

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**FOR SALE**—'57 black Chevrolet 4 door. Radio, 7 tires. Driven only to mass on Sundays by Padre. \$1550. Contact F/L R. G. MacNeil, local 54.

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**WANTED.**—Volunteers to assist at the annual Boy Scout Camporee on Denman Island, June 4-5. Meals and accommodation supplied. Scouting or outdoor experience is an asset, but not essential. Hard work. Contact WO Yaeger, Local 57 or F/O Hawkins, Local 99.

**WOULD** be interested in purchasing used camping outfit and cartop carrier. Ph. 1575L1.

bits are the last living creatures, but all are gone by the end of September.

It's brilliantly done and with very few minor exceptions is technically correct.

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**ANNIE GET YOUR GUN**

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**TUESDAY — JUNE 7**

**NIGHT OF**

**THE QUARTER MOON**

J. Barrymore - Julie London

**THURSDAY — JUNE 9**

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Geo. Nader - Maggie Smith

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**THE BIG OPERATOR**

M. Rooney - M. Van Doren

**Scouts to Meet at Camporee**

On Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th June, the Comox Valley Camporee will be held at Fillongley Provincial Park on Denman Island.

This Camporee will be a gala event for district scouts, and of course the Second Comox Troop, ably led by Scouter F. Stephens, will be well represented.

The program for the two-day outing is a remarkably full one and the boys will find themselves pressed for time in which to complete their projects. Scout patrols will be closely observed and marked on all phases of scouting and camping from care of personal equipment to leadership and menu preparation.

Patrols are expected to be entirely self-sufficient and the boys will gain much valuable experience in the essentials of practical outdoor life. The practice of giving marks to each group for behaviour and efficiency will be doubly use-

**FATHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 19**

**THE CHOICE IS GREAT! THE PRICE IS SMALL!**

**Gifts DAD Wants**

- ELECTRIC RAZORS
- SHAVING KITS
- WALLET
- CIGARS

**WOODLAND'S DRUG STORE**

**Get in the Swim!****Ladies' Swim Suits****By Jantzen:**

Here is the tops in fit and comfort for beach wear. Look your best in a Jantzen Velvure or Lastex suit. Wonderful selection of styles and colours.

Sizes 10 to 20. Priced from **9.95 up**

**By Catalina:**

The finest dyes available are used in "Catalina" swim suits. These well tailored suits in the latest styles are presented in a wide variety of colours.

Full selection of sizes. From **8.95 up**

**Girls' Swim Suits**

"Cute as a button," these girls' swim suits in a variety of styles and colours at prices to suit any budget.

Sizes 3 to 6X **1.98 up**  
Sizes 8 to 14 **2.98 up**

**Boys'****Swim Trunks**

Boys' trunks in plain and novelty patterns, cut to fit. Sizes 6 to 16.

**1.19 JANTZEN UP 2.95 UP**

**INFANTS' SUNSUITS**

Wash and wear without a care. Sun suit and bonnet to match. Size 1 - 2 - 3. **1.98**

**TODDLERS' SWIM SUITS:**

"Ladybird" quality swim suits for the little tads. Satisfaction guaranteed. Sizes 4 to 6. **79c**

**Men's Beach Coats**

Reversible terry cloth beach coats in attractive drip-dry fabric. Little or no ironing. Sizes S, M, L. **9.95**

**Beach Sandals**

Perfect for a dozen uses at the beach or around the house. Blue, green, yellow, white. All sizes. **ONLY 69c**

**Beach Toweling**

Terry towelling yardage in novelty prints, perfect for towels or beach coats. 36 inches wide **1.98**

**Ladies'****Slim Jims**

The latest styles and continental colours, these bedford cord slim Jims are the latest word in summer wear. Sizes 10 to 20 **3.98**

**Sun Tops**

By Rose Marx

Wonderful for lounging at the beach or at home. To be worn with shorts, pedal pushers or Slim Jims. Colours: white, sun beige, loden green and black and white. Sizes 32-44.

**1.98 AND 2.98**

**"Cary Middlecoff"****Golf Shirts**

For Canada's up-to-the-minute men. In addition to smart styling. Extra details and fine tailoring assures this garment of longer wear. Colours: olive, white, beige, brass. Sizes S, M, L. **5.95**

**Children's Thongs**

The perfect beach shoe or use them at home for the shower. All sizes and colours. **49c**

**Laver's Dept Store**

There's a reason most people on North Vancouver Island Shop at LAVER'S